

# ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE

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## Assessment 2

An Assessment of the Archaeology Recorded in  
New Phases 5, 6, 7(a & b), 9, 11 & 12 of Flixton Park Quarry  
(FLN 056, FLN 057, FLN 059, FLN 061,  
FLN 062, FLN 063 & FLN 064)

**Rpt. No. 2006/54**  
**Volume I: Text & Figures**

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**Roman Aisled Building (FLN 062 0490)**

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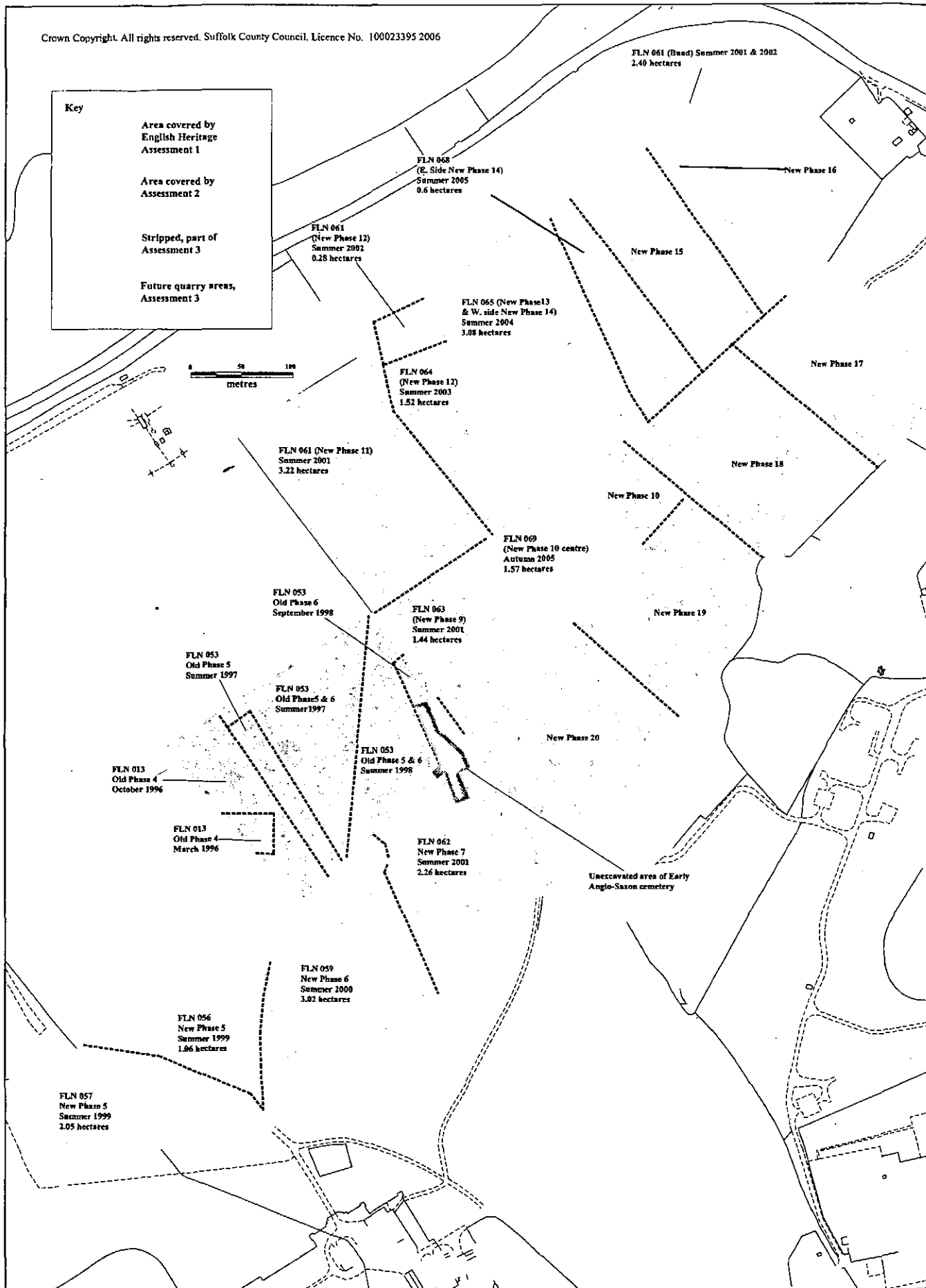


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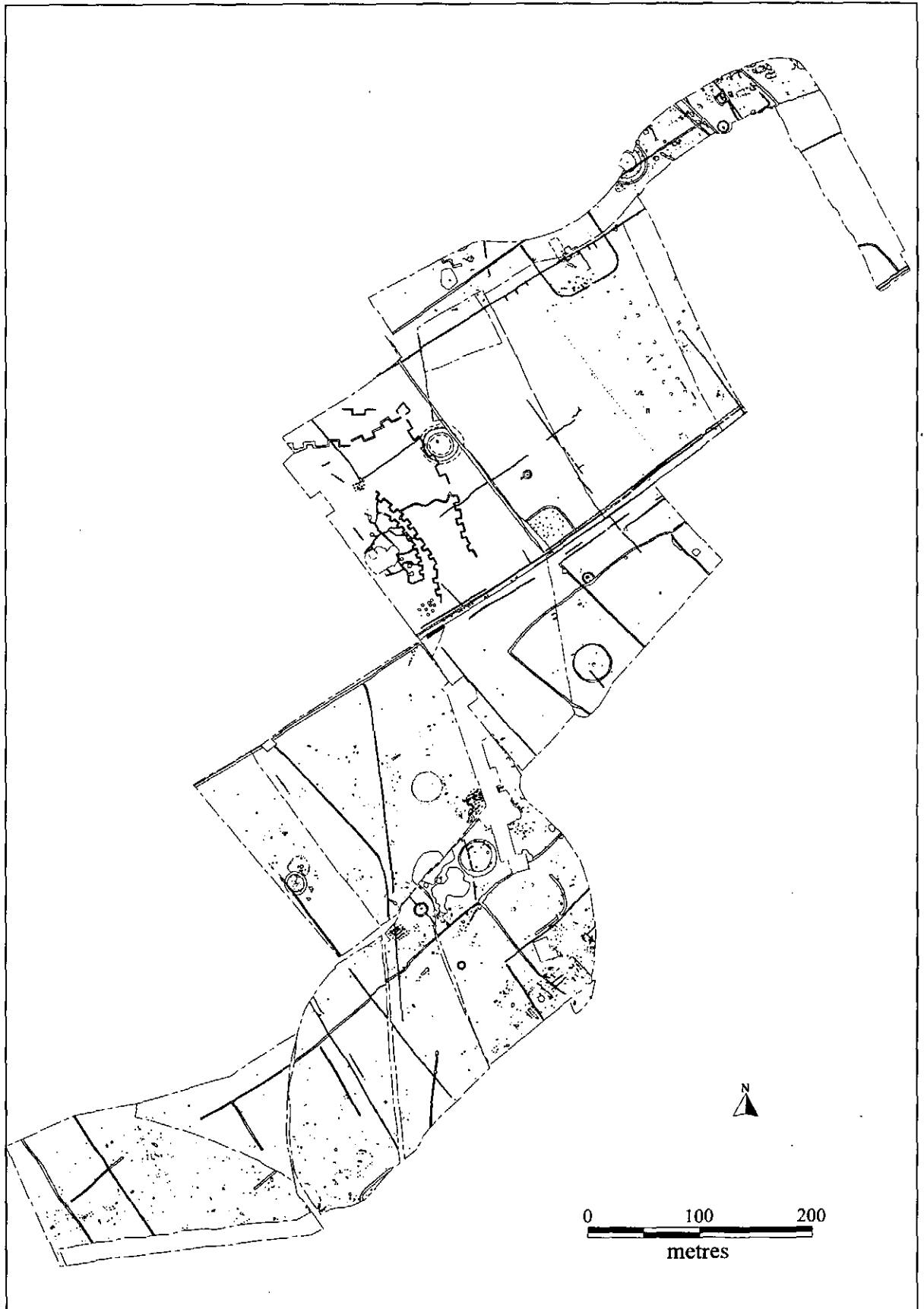
## Site Summaries

In the period between 1996 and 2005, a total of 26.6 hectares was stripped of its topsoil at Flixton Park to facilitate the quarrying of the underlying aggregate. Suffolk County Council Archaeologists were present throughout the soil stripping and were able to record the exposed archaeology. An overall plan showing all of the recorded features appears on the following page. The initial 4.1 hectares, excavated between 1996-1998 (see Fig. 2 in main text) has already been taken to assessment level (Assessment 1, Boulter, 2000a) and is now subject to an application for an Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund (ALSF) grant to cover full analysis and publication. A further 17.25 hectares was excavated between 1999 and 2003 and has become the subject of this report (Assessment 2), while the remaining 5.25 hectares, excavated in 2004 and 2005, will be included in a later assessment (Assessment 3), along with forthcoming quarry areas (see Fig. 2 in main text).

Significant features or finds were recorded from all of the major archaeological periods including:

- **Palaeolithic;** Two handaxes were recovered from the quarry gravels and one as a residual find in a later feature.
- **Mesolithic;** Limited residual artefactual evidence from later features.
- **Neolithic;** Early Neolithic pits and ring-ditch; Late Neolithic post-hole circle and pit deposits, a number of which may have been 'structured'.
- **Early Bronze Age;** Nine Early Bronze Age ring-ditches with evidence for varied burial traditions, an isolated burial and pit deposits were recorded.
- **Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age;** Occupation evidence including four and six post structures and other less well defined, but formally arranged groups of posts-holes and pit deposits.
- **Late Iron Age/Roman;** Evidence for a major episode of occupation included a rectilinear field system with two aisled buildings and two other more enigmatic structures, the first a palisaded post-hole circle and the second, a rectangular post-holed structure of indeterminate function. Two pottery kilns were also recorded. The small finds were suggestive of a relatively high status site with possible military connections.
- **Early Anglo Saxon;** A cemetery and occupation area were recorded, both appearing to be 6<sup>th</sup> century in date and, if not related, were certainly contemporary. Approximately sixty graves were excavated out of a total that could exceed two hundred and fifty, the remainder will now be preserved *in situ*. The occupation evidence included nineteen buildings, including Sunken Featured Buildings (SFB's), Halls and miscellaneous post-holed structures. One of the Halls was the largest yet found in Suffolk. In addition, a large rectilinear enclosure contained a small, square subsidiary enclosure with a large central circular pit that was interpreted as a possible shrine broadly contemporary with the occupation.
- **Medieval;** Artefactual evidence only, although some of the undated ditches may have been medieval while a number of the post-medieval boundary ditches have been retained from the earlier, pre-Flixton Hall landscape.
- **Post-Medieval;** Considerable evidence was recorded for features and structures associated with Flixton Hall and its surrounding parkland. Included were existing and redundant ditched boundaries, the metalled surface of the Homersfield – Flixton road before it was moved to its present location in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and tree-pits relating to small formally planted areas of woodland. Structural evidence included the brick footings of a barn with two associated wells and a brick-built drainage conduit relating to the hall itself. An extensive complex of World War I training features including trenches and latrine pits was revealed in the area known as School Wood. Two other 20<sup>th</sup> century features were recorded, both ceramic drains relating to the recent use of the surviving Flixton Hall buildings as a farmyard.

The following in-depth summaries detail the individual sites covered by this report and were written for inclusion in the Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History. Some alterations have been made where new information from the assessment analysis has significantly changed the initial interpretation or dating.



**Summary Figure 1:5,000 plan of all excavated Flixton Park Quarry sites (1996-2005)**

*Flixton*, Flixton Park Quarry (TM 303 861; FLN 056, FLN 057, FLN 059, FLN 061, FLN 062, FLN 063 & FLN 64) Individual site summaries.

**FLN 056 & FLN 057 (New Phase 5); TM 3017 8605:** A programme of continuous archaeological monitoring was carried out (summer 1999) during the soil-stripping over an area of approximately 3 hectares known as New Phase 5 (covered by planning application W/10999/10) at Flixton Park Quarry.

A moderate concentration of archaeological features was recorded throughout the site.

The earliest artefactual evidence dated to the Lower Palaeolithic and was represented by two handaxes recovered during the quarrying of the sand and gravel underlying the FLN 057 area. In addition, worked flints of possible Mesolithic date were recovered as residual-finds in later features.

The earliest recorded features, principally pits, were of Neolithic date, the majority Late Neolithic, although Early Neolithic examples were also present. While the Early Neolithic features were isolated and recorded throughout the site, the Late Neolithic pits were concentrated in a strip located towards the northern side of the FLN 057 area, adjacent to its boundary with FLN 056. Artefactual evidence included significant quantities of Grooved Ware pottery, struck flints (including tools) and heat altered flints. Similar features excavated elsewhere (including other areas of Flixton Park Quarry) have been interpreted as 'structured' deposits which may have fulfilled a ritual/specialised function rather than representing domestic activity.

Two pits were attributed to the Early Bronze age based on the presence of Beaker pottery in their fills.

A few features could positively be dated to the Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age. These were found in association with a series of post-hole structures, some of which were four or six posted. Structures such as these have been interpreted elsewhere as granaries and are suggestive of domestic activity in the immediate vicinity of the site. Artefactual evidence from this phase was limited to pottery, struck flint and heat altered flints.

A rectilinear ditch system was attributed to the Late Iron Age or Early Roman period.

The Roman, Early Anglo-Saxon and medieval periods were represented by four, unstratified, small finds located by metal detector in the intervening subsoil layer between the topsoil and underlying sand and gravel.

Positively dated post-medieval features were limited to a north-west to south-east orientated ditch forming part of a field system aligned with the present landscape features. The large number of undated and naturally derived features included a similarly aligned ditch which may also have been associated with this or the earlier, Late Iron Age/Early Roman ditch system.

**FLN 059 (New Phase 6); TM 3035 8615:** A programme of continuous archaeological monitoring was carried out (summer 2000) during the soil stripping over an area of approximately 3 hectares known as New Phase 6 (covered by planning application W/10999/10) at Flixton Park Quarry.

Two relatively concentrated areas of archaeological features were recorded within the c.3.25 hectare area. The first, towards the south-west corner of the site (predominantly Iron Age with some Neolithic) and the second towards the north-east corner of the site (Late Iron Age/Early Roman).

The earliest activity was represented by features, principally pits, of both Early and Late Neolithic date. Examples were identified throughout the site, but were concentrated towards the south, occasionally recorded in pairs of comparably sized features with similar fill characteristics. Artefactual evidence included significant quantities of Grooved Ware pottery, struck flints (including tools) and heat altered flints. Comparable features excavated elsewhere (including other areas of Flixton Park Quarry) have been interpreted as deliberately 'structured' deposits which may have fulfilled a ritual or specialised function rather than representing domestic activity.

The Early Bronze Age was represented by a ring-ditch (previously numbered FLN 055, but excavated within the FLN 059 context list) and its associated features, the former having previously been identified from aerial photographs. A large 'grave-shaped' pit within the area confined by the ring-ditch was found to contain a single un-urned cremation. As no artefacts were recovered from the ditch fill or

the cremation pit, the dating of the ring-ditch was based on typological grounds and the presence of similar, securely dated features (e.g. FLN 013) in the immediate vicinity. Three other pits were included in this phase based on the presence of Beaker pottery in their fills.

Late Bronze/Early Iron Age features, principally pits and post-holes were concentrated towards the southernmost end of the site and were associated with three post-hole structures and other small formal arrangements of post-holes. Similar four-post structures have been identified elsewhere (including in the adjacent FLN 057/New Phase 5 area) where they have often been interpreted as granaries and are suggestive of domestic activity. General finds associated with this phase included pottery, struck flint and heat altered flints. In addition, one shallow pit produced a complete top-stone from a rotary quern and a number of poorly-fired triangular clay loomweights. A gold quarter stater of Irstead type (*de Jersey, pers. com.*) dating to c.50-40 BC, and attributed to the Iceni, was located by metal detector.

Iron Age/Roman activity was represented by pits, small finds (all of 1<sup>st</sup> century date) and a unique rectangular post-hole structure. The latter measured c.12 metres by c.14 metres and comprised five parallel lines of post-holes. If representing a single-phase structure, the posts would have been relatively closely spaced. While there was no evidence that the structure was of more than one phase, the arrangement of post-holes suggested that two discrete elements were present. These were an internal group comprising three lines, each with six post-holes, with the exterior of the structure defined by rows of six post-holes, on the opposed longer sides, and five post-holes on the shorter sides. There was no obvious entrance. The limited artefactual evidence was recovered only from the post-pipes and, as such, is likely to be more representative of the dismantling of the structure rather than its constructional phase. The ceramic finds suggest a mid 1<sup>st</sup> century Roman date for the abandonment of the structure, suggesting that its construction date and main period of use were in the later Iron Age.

Only a small number of features dating to the later Roman period were recorded, almost all restricted to the northern end of the site.

Evidence for medieval activity was limited to unstratified small finds.

Post-medieval activity was represented by varied features including a series of north-west to south-east orientated ditches, all of which cut through the intervening layer of subsoil between the topsoil and underlying sands and gravels. In addition, there was a brick built soakaway and silt trap, constructed from locally made 'Elmham St. Cross' bricks with their characteristic cross-shaped frog, and probably dates to the c.19<sup>th</sup> century phase of Flixton Hall, and two ceramic drains of probable 20<sup>th</sup> century date.

**FLN 061 (New Phase 11); TM 3037 8667, FLN 062 (New Phase 7); TM 3048, 8630 & FLN 063 (New Phase 9); TM 3046 8650:** During the summer of 2001 an area of approximately 8 hectares was stripped of topsoil and subsoil. All soil stripping was monitored by Suffolk County Council archaeologists. Where feature concentrations were low, these were dealt with immediately after stripping, while denser groups were subjected to full open area excavation at a later date. The 8 hectares area represented three individual quarry phases, all of which were allocated separate Sites and Monument Record (SMR) numbers. The archaeological deposits recorded in each area are described below.

#### **FLN 061 (New Phase 11)**

The area excavated as FLN 061 formed part of a plot known as School Wood. The area comprised a 3.25 hectare block and a narrow strip measuring a further 1.25 hectares, the latter running from the south-west to north-east before turning towards the south-east along what will become the northern limit of the quarry.

The earliest activity recorded in this area was represented by a flint hand-axe of Lower Palaeolithic date. While recovered from the spoil in a later feature, an Early Saxon building, this find would originally have been deposited in the quarry gravels themselves. Other Prehistoric activity was represented by two ring-ditches. The first to be identified was located in the narrow strip against the northern edge of the quarry and comprised two concentric rings. The external ditch was 1 metre wide and if projected beyond the edge of the trench, would form part of a circle with a diameter in excess of 35 metres. The internal ditch was 5 metres wide and had a projected diameter in excess of 25 metres. As these features remained unexcavated, no dating evidence was recovered. However, on typological grounds alone, an Early Bronze Age date would seem to be a reasonable supposition. The second ring-ditch was recorded within the larger open area c.250 metres south-west of the double ring. The ditch was approximately 4 metres wide, c.1.5 metres deep with a V-shaped profile, and described a circle

with a diameter of 30 metres. A single grave was recorded to the north-west of centre in the area confined by the ditch. The grave was large measuring 3 metres by 1.5 metres with a depth of 1.8 metres. A hint of organic staining was recorded on the base of the feature along with a decorated pottery beaker which confirms the Early Bronze Age date of the burial. Marked variations in the colour of the naturally occurring sands and gravels in the area of the ring-ditch, caused by differential mineralisation, suggest that the ring-ditch originally had an internal mound with a berm and external bank, a type of feature known as a Bell-Barrow.

A single Late Bronze age pit was recorded.

A further concentration of archaeological features was identified in the narrow strip against the northern edge of the quarry (These were excavated in 2002 under the same SMR No. see following summary for details). The majority of the features remained unexcavated and, as a consequence, it was not possible to determine whether all related to one archaeological period. However, it was clear that at least three Sunken Featured Buildings (SFB's) and at least three post-holed buildings were represented along with pits, ditches and more isolated post-holes. These are likely to be of Early Anglo Saxon date and represent a significant area of occupation.

Other datable features belong to the post-medieval period. These comprised principally of ditches associated with Flixton Hall and its Park, which was established early in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. However, these clearly overlay an earlier rectilinear field system of unknown date. Other features relating to Flixton Hall and its Park comprised a large pit, thought to be a dew-pond associated with a deer park, and the wall bases and demolition debris from a barn.

In addition, a series of backfilled military trenches were recorded that related to training activities carried out during the First World War. Other associated features included latrine pits that had later been used to dispose of ash and rubbish.

A series of undated shallow ditches were also recorded forming a rectilinear field system with similar alignments to the modern landscape. However, stratigraphic evidence suggested that they may have had earlier origins.

#### **FLN 062 (New Phase 7)**

The area excavated as FLN 062 covered approximately 2.25 hectares immediately to the east of the phase excavated in the summer of 2000 as FLN 059. The area included a known ring-ditch (FLN 010) and was presumed to include the continuation of the Early Anglo Saxon cemetery that was discovered in 1998 in the south-east corner of the area excavated as FLN 053.

The earliest activity dated to the Neolithic Period. Early Neolithic features included a few isolated pits and a small annular ditch, 1 metre wide, 0.3 metres in depth with an external diameter of only 8 metres, was also recorded. The fill included a large number of frost shattered flint cobbles. Dating was provided by ceramic finds. No internal features were identified. Late Neolithic activity was represented almost exclusively by pits. Similarly to previously excavated areas at Flixton the pits were often well stratified, containing Grooved Ware pottery and flint tools. The repetition in character, form and dimensions of these pits is suggestive of a deliberately 'structured' deposition rather than their having a simple domestic function. In addition, an irregular shaped pit, which contained pottery and a polished flint axe fragment, was found to be central to a circle of post-holes. However, it was not possible to ascertain whether the post-hole ring and pit were contemporary and their juxtaposition no more than a coincidence.

The Early Bronze Age was represented by the full circle of the known ring-ditch (FLN 010) located towards the northern edge of the site. The ditch varied between 1 metre and 5 metres wide, due to partial truncation on its northern side by a farm track, with a maximum depth of 1.5 metres. The external diameter of the ditch measured 35 metres. Extensive manual cleaning of the area confined by the ditch failed to identify any contemporary burials, although eleven Early Anglo Saxon burials were recorded either internal to or cutting the ring-ditch. These burials appeared to form a discrete group isolated from the main cemetery to the east. The ring-ditch itself had clearly remained open as a feature into the Late Iron Age/Roman period when it appeared to have been used for the disposal of domestic rubbish.

The Early Bronze Age phase also included a dispersed group of pits, all of which included Beaker pottery in their fills.

A rectilinear series of ditches was found to represent a continuation of a field system previously identified to the east. At least two phases of ditch were identified, the first of later Iron Age/Early Roman date and the second of Roman date. Also recorded in this area was a relatively concentrated area of Roman archaeology dating from 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> centuries. Significant structures/features included two aisled buildings of Late Iron Age/Early Roman date and two pottery kilns. The results from the archaeomagnetic dating of their linings suggested that one of the kilns, that with a single circular pedestal, was last fired at the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> century or in the first half of the 2<sup>nd</sup> century, while the second kiln, that with a double pedestal, was last fired between the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> century and the first half of the 5<sup>th</sup> century. However, the included ceramic evidence suggests that the kilns were broadly contemporary, both dating to the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> century.

One other significant feature was a multiple burial cut into a Late Iron Age/Roman pit. Four bodies, three adults and a sub-adult, had been slacked within a relatively small grave. Detailed analytical examination has suggested that the individuals were related, and at least one exhibited evidence indicating that they may have met a violent death, with knife marks visible in the throat area. A radiocarbon determination suggests that the grave was also Late Iron Age/Roman in date.

The Early Saxon phase included the eleven aforementioned burials and a few isolated pits, the latter not appearing to be related to any major activity.

Post-medieval features were limited to a series of quarry pits thought to be related to the extraction of aggregate associated with the construction of Flixton Hall.

#### **FLN 063 (New Phase 9)**

The area excavated as FLN 063 covered an area of approximately 1.4 hectares immediately south of and adjoining FLN 061, to the north, and FLN 062 to the south. The recorded archaeology was limited to a few pits (Early Bronze age, Late Iron Age/Roman date) four ditches and one possible unurned cremation. Two of the ditches were undated and could be related to the Iron Age and Roman field system or the Early Saxon phase to the north-east. The fourth was associated with the pre-Flixton Hall road that followed the line of the extant field boundary separating the areas excavated as FLN 061 and FLN 063.

**FLN 061 (Bund); TM 3055 8696:** The removal of topsoil in 2001, along a narrow strip which would become the northern edge of the quarry, had revealed a double ring-ditch feature, presumed to represent a ploughed out Early Bronze Age round barrow, and an area of Early Anglo Saxon occupation. The features occupied a north-east to south-west orientated gravel ridge and included post-holed and Sunken Featured Buildings. These deposits were left until 2002 when a larger area, a further c.2.55 hectares, was stripped revealing more of what is a significant Early Anglo Saxon settlement and a further ring-ditch of indeterminate date.

Isolated pits of Early Neolithic and Late Neolithic date, the latter including significant quantities of Late Neolithic Grooved Ware and worked flint (including scrapers), represented the earliest activity recorded in the stripped area. The form and general character of these features was similar to many others excavated at Flixton which suggest a repeated formal deposition process which is not clearly understood, but does not seem to represent domestic activity.

The double ring-ditch was large, with an external diameter of 40 metres for the outer ditch and 27 metres for the inner component. The outer ditch was c.2 metres wide, with a depth of c.1 metre and a V-shaped profile, while the inner ditch was 5 metres wide, with a bottom that sloped gently towards the internal edge, and had a maximum depth of c.0.8 metres. The fill included a relatively large quantity of abraded pottery which included sherds of Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age and later Bronze Age date. One feature was recorded in the area confined by the inner ring-ditch. While located relatively centrally and exhibiting a shape and size that would be consistent with it being a grave there were no artefacts and no evidence for a body.

The second ring-ditch was located c.70 metres to the east of the first close to the most concentrated area of the Early Anglo Saxon settlement. The ditch was penannular, with opposed butt-ends to the north-east, with an external diameter of c.10 metres, a maximum width of c.1 metre and a maximum depth of only 0.2 metres and exhibiting a gently rounded bottom. No finds were recovered from the ditch fill, or from the rectangular feature confined by the ditch. While there was no evidence for a body, the internal feature was clearly regular in shape and it seems likely that it did represent an associated burial. However, dating the ditch and possible burial is problematic as it exhibited elements



that could place it in either the Early Bronze Age period, forming part of the dispersed group known to exist at Flixton, or the Early Anglo Saxon period, although its juxta-position with the settlement makes the latter less likely.

Two pits of Late Bronze Age date were recorded, one of which included a single large sherd of pottery placed towards its base and was cut into the side of the internal component of the double ring-ditch.

In addition to a number of ditches and pits, the Early Anglo Saxon phase of the site was represented by a series of buildings, of both Sunken Featured (SFB's) and post-hole construction, and an enigmatic small square enclosure. While the main concentration of buildings was located towards the eastern end of the stripped area, the overall area of occupation was far larger, extending approximately 320 metres from the south-west to north-east and in excess of 50 metres from the north-west to south-east.

A total of nineteen buildings were recorded which, with a certain amount of variation, could be assigned to one of three main types, all of which are represented at the other two excavated major Early Anglo Saxon settlement sites in Suffolk, those of West Stow and Carlton Colville (Bloodmoor Hill). Possibly the most significant were the rectangular post-holed structures described at West Stow as 'halls' (West, 1985). Six of these structures were recorded, three being characterised by their rectangular shape, closely spaced post-holes, weak corners and, usually, internal post-holes that may have supported a second storey or raised platform. Four of these halls exhibited uniform dimensions, measuring c.9 metres by c.4 metres, one was smaller, measuring c.7 metres by c.3.5 metres, while the other was larger, measuring c.13 metres by c.5 metres. However, the most numerous buildings were of the Sunken Featured type, seven in all, with five exhibiting two post-holes, one at each end, one with six post-holes, arranged down the longer sides, and one with no post-holes. All were approximately 4 metres in length with widths varying between 2 and 3 metres. Depths varied between c.0.1 metres and c.0.6 metres. The third type of building, of which there were five, were also constructed from earthfast posts, but were significantly different in character to the more formal 'halls'. Generally, these structures were smaller and squarer, commonly measuring c.5 metres by c.5 metres. The post-holes were not as closely spaced and the overall ground-plan was often less well defined than that of the 'halls'. One similarity, however, was the weak corners that were present in most examples. One other building was recorded that has not been assigned to any of the main categories as it exhibited structural elements of all three. The building measured c.4 metres by c.3 metres, with two large post-holes at each end (similar to the SFB's) and two lines of relatively widely spaced post-holes arranged down each side in two shallow slots. In addition, the majority of the area confined by the post-holes formed a shallow irregular depression.

The small square enclosure measured approximately 9 metres by 9 metres, and had been located overlaying, but respecting an existing ditched boundary. The ditch itself, was continuous, c.1 metre wide with a maximum depth of c.0.6 metres and a gently rounded bottom. The area confined by the ditch was heavily disturbed by tree-holes. However, when the natural disturbances were removed a large, 2 metres in diameter, circular pit was revealed with a c.1 metre square cut in its base and an overall depth of c.1 metre. Lying on the ledge above the square cut was a single line of flint cobbles. It seems likely that the square cut would have been associated with some form of lining, although no evidence for this survived. The upper fill contained a number of iron nails and a few sherds of pottery. The function of the enclosure and the internal feature remains unclear although its close proximity with the largest of the 'hall-type' buildings and four of the smaller post-holed structures may be significant.

Precise dating of the Early Saxon material is difficult. However, there was no Middle Saxon Ipswich Ware present and the indications from the 2001 work were that the ceramic assemblage, although limited, was dominated by 6<sup>th</sup> century material with only a hint of 7<sup>th</sup> century activity. Having suggested a relatively constricted chronological range for the settlement it is worth pointing out that there were significant, but mostly indeterminate, stratigraphic relationships between some of the buildings, ditches and the small square enclosure, all apparently of Early Anglo Saxon date.

Apart from numerous tree-holes of ancient and modern date and periglacial disturbances, the only other features recorded on the site related to the medieval and post-medieval landscape, particularly ditches relating to the Flixton Hall Park which appear on the early Ordnance Survey and Estate Maps.

**FLN 064 (New Phase 12); TM 3046 8671:** During the summer of 2003 an area of approximately 1.5 hectares was stripped of its topsoil. The recorded archaeology included a small ring-ditch, 8 metres in diameter with an enclosed feature which, although not exhibiting any evidence for a body, was thought to represent an inhumation burial. In addition, a single un-urned cremation was identified lying

external to but immediately to the south-west of the ring-ditch. While there was no direct dating evidence for these features it is thought likely that they are of Early Bronze Age in date and form part of the dispersed group which includes the majority of the other examples excavated within the quarry.

Other features revealed during the soil-stripping were limited to ditches forming the continuation of the undated rectilinear field systems previously identified in the adjacent areas. Also included were ditches that until the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century bordered the road linking Flixton village with Homersfield to the south-west. There was also evidence for a small ditched wooded area, known from early maps, which clearly represented a deliberate planting, probably relating to landscaping of the parkland associated with Flixton Hall.

(Stuart Boulter for Suffolk County Council & RMC Atlas Aggregates (UK) Ltd {now Cemex})

## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Planning Background

A condition of the planning consent on application (W/10999/10), covering the continued quarrying operations at Flixton Park Quarry, Flixton (Fig. 1), required that the applicant (RMC Aggregates (UK) Ltd, now Cemex) provide for a programme of archaeological works that would comply with Planning Policy Guideline 16, paragraph 30.

**N.B.** Due to changes in the numbering of the projected quarry phases, areas are prefixed with the word 'Old' or 'New' to allow for differentiation between the earlier and later phasing.

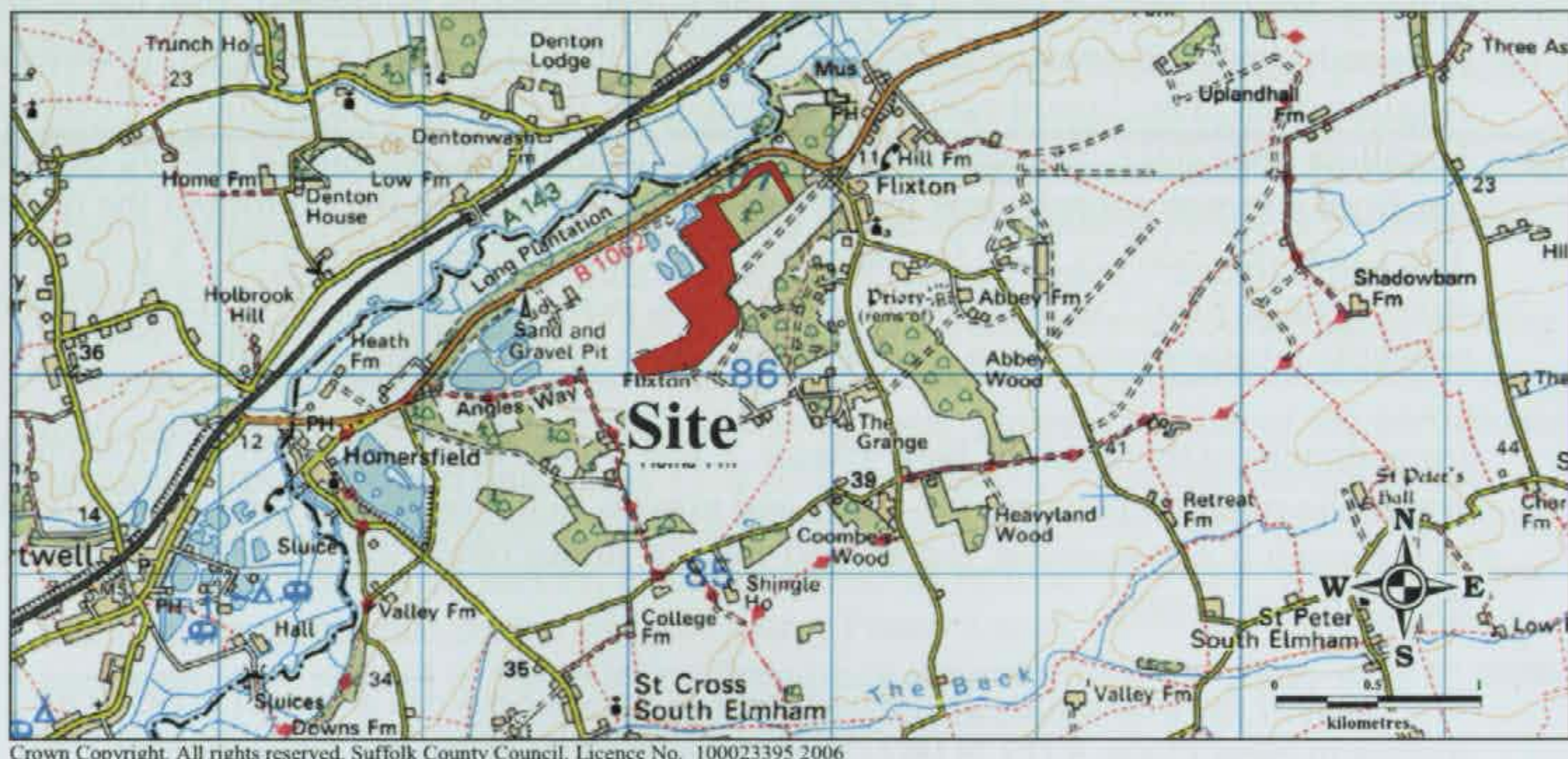


Fig. 1 1:50,000 scale OS map extract showing the location of the site

A Brief and Specification document (Appendix I {A}) had been written by the Conservation Team of Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service to cover the archaeological monitoring of topsoil/subsoil stripping in New Phase 5 (FLN 056 & FLN 057). Subsequently, it was considered, by Adrian Havercroft (Archaeological Consultant for the applicant) and Edward Martin (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team, hereafter SCCASCT), that this document adequately covered the general methodologies required for the archaeological works subsequently carried out during 2000 (FLN 059), 2001 (FLN 061, FLN 062 & FLN 063), 2002 (FLN 061) and 2003 (FLN 064). Any variations to these methodologies were agreed between all involved parties while the work was in progress.

Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service Field Projects Team (hereafter SCCASFPT) were commissioned to carry out the New Phase 5 programme of archaeological works, dependent on their submitting, and the subsequent approval of, a Project Design document.

As with the Brief and Specification, the original Project Design document (Boulter, 1999b, Rpt. No. 99/31), included as Appendix I {B} herewith, was approved by Edward Martin (SCCASCT) and, with minor amendments, was considered to be adequate for the subsequent archaeological works undertaken between 2000 and 2003.

## 1.2 Geology & Topography

Topographically, the site occupies a gently undulating, generally north-east to south-west orientated, gravel ridge on the south side of the Waveney Valley. Here, the river Waveney has cut through the a thick clay till layer (Lowestoft Till) revealing the underlying gravel terraces which, themselves, interleave with further layers of chalky till.

The depositional environment and date of the gravels have not as yet been ascertained with any degree of certainty. It has been suggested (Hamblin & Mortlock, 1995) that the pre-Anglian Bytham River followed a course and direction similar to that of the present, but unrelated, River Waveney. However, while deposits associated with the Bytham River Formation may locally underlie the area and represent a source of material for the gravels seen at Flixton, the faunal remains recovered from the quarry (presently under reassessment by Danielle C. Schreve) suggest a younger, probably Anglian date. This hypothesis is strengthened by one of the flint artefacts, a classic Levallois style flake, recovered during the archaeological monitoring which, although not from a secure context, was found in a track-side bund in the bottom of the quarry. The Levallois industry is so far unknown from deposits earlier than OIS 8 (oxygen isotope stage 8) (*c.*250,000 years old) (Schreve, *pers. comm.*), which at least provides a probable *terminis post quem* for the upper levels of the Flixton deposits.

Immediately to the south of New Phases 5, 6 & 7 (FLN 057, FLN 059 & FLN 062), where the junction between the sands and gravels to the north and the Lowestoft Till to the south is encountered, the ground surface slopes relatively steeply up towards the south/south-east.

The level of the undulating surface of the site varied between a low of *c.*14.5 OD metres in New Phase 9 (FLN 062) to *c.*19 metres OD at the southern edge of New Phases 6 and 7 (FLN 059 & FLN 062). The subsequent soil-stripping revealed that the troughs contained a significant thickness of secondary material, possibly a hillwash or colluvial deposit (up to 1 metre) which, judging by the included artefactual evidence, must be of post-Roman date. Prior to the deposition of these layers the undulations of the site would have been far more pronounced. Generally, the troughs coincided with areas where the underlying naturally occurring sands were virtually devoid of an aggregate component, while the highs were ridges comprising predominantly of gravel-cobble sized stone.

## 1.3 Archaeological Background

### 1.3.1 Previous Archaeological Works

Prior to the archaeological monitoring/excavation works undertaken by SCCASFPT in Flixton Park Quarry each summer from 1996 to 2001 (Fig. 2), the known archaeology of the immediate area was effectively limited to a series of ring-ditch features (FLN 008, 010-013, 045 & 055) which formed part of a dispersed group.

Excavation, in 1990, of one of these ring-ditches (FLN 008, TM 3020 8653), located in the neighbouring quarry, recovered evidence for the re-use of the Early Bronze Age ring-ditch for Pagan Early Anglo-Saxon burials dating to the 6th century (Martin, *et al.*, 1991, p.268). An additional phase of activity was indicated by a cross-shaped foundation that represented the further re-use of the site as a base for a medieval windmill. This later phase of activity had had the effect of displacing the centre of the mound *c.*10 metres to the north-west of the centre of the ring-ditch.

The results of a geophysical evaluation (topsoil magnetic susceptibility, magnetometry & hand-augering) (Johnson, 1996) which encompassed Old Quarry Phases 4-6, confirmed the presence of the ring-ditch FLN 013, but failed to identify any other major anomalies, although the possibility of features immediately north of the ring-ditch was noted. In retrospect, there did appear to be a concentration of ferrous responses in their survey area G (Johnson, 1996; p.16, 4.35), then interpreted as relating to recent agricultural activity. However, this concentration was subsequently found to broadly coincide with the general area of the Early Anglo-Saxon cemetery identified in the south-east corner of the Old Quarry Phase 6 area. Subsequent, attempts to reconcile the grave plans with known ferrous responses from a later survey (WYAS, 1997) failed to confirm a relationship and the original interpretation suggesting a more recent date remains the most acceptable.

In October/November 1996 (following the SCCASFPPT excavation of ring-ditch FLN 013 & prior to the FLN 053 excavations), a combined fieldwalking and geophysical survey (gradiometry & resistivity) was carried out by Archaeological Services WYAS. This survey encompassed the area subsequently excavated as FLN 053 (Old Quarry Phases 5 & 6) (Fig. 2). The results of the fieldwalking failed to identify any significant concentrations of finds within Old Quarry Phases 5 and 6. The geophysical survey results (WYAS, 1997; Fig. 8) were more encouraging, appearing to locate a number of curvilinear features and a straight linear feature running from the south-west to north-east across the survey area. However, none of the curvilinear features were identified during the FLN 053 excavation, while the straight linear feature was found to represent a post-medieval field boundary ditch. Similarly to the earlier Archaeotechnics survey, a concentration of ferrous responses were identified towards the south-east corner of Old Quarry Phase 6 area. However, in this case it appeared to be related to the existing farm track running from the south-west to north-east and marking the southern edge of Old Quarry Phases 5 & 6 (Fig. 2).

The excavation of the FLN 013 ring-ditch was carried out by Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Field Team in March and April, 1996 (c.1,100 metres<sup>2</sup>), with archaeological monitoring and excavation in October 1996, when the remainder of Old Quarry Phase 4 was stripped (c.8,900 metres<sup>2</sup>). The excavations confirmed the Early Bronze Age date for the ring-ditch with a radiocarbon date of c.3700 BP obtained from the single un-urned cremation recorded in the area enclosed by the feature. In addition, a hitherto unsuspected phase of activity was identified comprising a sub-circular post-hole enclosure (c.20 metres in diameter) with an internal post-hole/stake-hole structure and a number of contemporary pits. Artefactual evidence included a significant quantity of Late Neolithic Grooved Ware pottery, Indeterminate Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age pottery and worked flint, predominantly recovered from the pits and from post-holes comprising the structure itself. A radiocarbon date of c.4500 BP was obtained from one of the pits. The evidence suggested, with concentrations of artefacts within discrete layers, that these features were not associated with an episode of occupation, but had some ritual or ceremonial function which involved the deliberate deposition of pottery and flint tools in their fill. Subsequently, the post-hole structure was studied by Patrick Taylor who identified an axis of symmetry and suggested a geometrical progression for the laying out of the feature and proposed its former use as a lunar observatory (Taylor, 1997).

MAP2-type assessment reports (Boulter, 1996a & Boulter, 1996b) were produced for both phases of the FLN 013 excavation and a full archive report combining the results has since been written (Boulter, 1998a).

In July 1997 a *c.* 15 metres by *c.* 180 metre (*c.* 1,200 metres<sup>2</sup>) area immediately east of, and adjoining, the FLN 013 excavation was stripped of its topsoil under controlled archaeological conditions (Fig. 2). The Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) code FLN 053 was allocated to this area and the remainder of Old Quarry Phases 5 and 6. The only significant features recorded were a small group of pits and post-holes located towards the southern end of the strip. Finds recovered from the excavated fills of the features included pottery sherds of 1st-century Late Iron Age/Roman date which provided evidence for a hitherto unrecognised phase of activity on the site. The remainder of the features identified were either undated or post-medieval in date.

A limited assessment-type report was written covering the archaeology recorded in this phase of soil-stripping (Boulter, 1997).

In the July and August of 1997 a triangular shaped area (*c.* 14,250 metres<sup>2</sup>), covering approximately half of the remaining Old Quarry Phase 5 and 6 area, was stripped under controlled archaeological conditions (Fig. 2). A low density spread of features, predominantly post-holes and small pits, was identified across the area with a slightly higher concentration towards its southern end. The finds recovered from the excavated fills confirmed the presence of 1st-century Late Iron Age/Roman activity and also included a limited prehistoric (probably Late Neolithic) component. Work on the archive for this phase of FLN 053 was limited to processing of the finds, as it was anticipated that the remainder of the Old Quarry Phases 5 and 6 would be stripped relatively soon after, and combining the archive work seemed the most logical way to proceed.

Soil stripping began again in the August of 1998, covering a roughly triangular area measuring *c.* 9,700 metres<sup>2</sup> (Fig. 2). This did not take the area to the eastern limit of Old Quarry Phase 6 due to the presence of an overhead electricity cable which restricted the use of heavy plant in its vicinity. It soon became apparent during the site monitoring that while there was not a high density of features, there were a significant number of pits and post-holes, particularly towards the southern end of the stripped area.

At this juncture it became clear that the site contained a far more significant level of archaeology than that which could have been predicted from the earlier surveys. A metal detector search had identified Early Anglo-Saxon graves towards the south-east corner, close to the known ring-ditch (FLN 010) on the opposite side of the track. A total of forty-six graves were excavated with the cemetery certainly continuing beyond the eastern, beneath the electricity cables, and southern limits of the stripped area. In addition, surface cleaning in the vicinity of a group of pits had located a curving line of post-holes which were subsequently found to form a continuous circle of closely spaced features. Examination of the ceramic evidence suggested a 1st-century Late Iron Age/Roman date for the structure, probably contemporary with the previously identified pits and post-holes. A large quarry-like pit continuing under the southern edge of the site was, at the time, considered to be Roman in date, remaining open into at least the 2nd-century AD. However, subsequent excavation carried out during 2001 (FLN 062, New Phase 7b) provided artefactual evidence which suggests that the pit was excavated during the earlier post-medieval period and may have been used as a source of aggregate during the construction of Flixton Hall.

In September of 1998 a small area towards the north-east corner of the site (c.400 metres<sup>2</sup>) was stripped, using a loading shovel, up to the eastern edge of the Old Phase 6 permission (Fig. 2). Archaeological monitoring failed to identify any features.

The unexpected discovery of the Early Anglo-Saxon cemetery led to the involvement of English Heritage who provided a percentage of the funding. As a result a Project Design for an assessment report was written (Boulter, 1998b) and subsequently completed (Boulter, 2000a).

In the summer of 2003 a 2.7 hectares area within the adjacent quarry (Tarmac) was stripped of its topsoil (Boulter, 2004). Archaeological monitoring/evaluation was undertaken with funding provided by the Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund as the area was an old planning consent and not covered by PPG 16.

Deposits relating to a number of archaeological periods were recorded.

The earliest features were sixteen pits of Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age date. Superficially these features exhibited a similar character to others excavated at Flixton, although the included Grooved Ware pottery was of a different type (Clacton sub-style rather than Durrington Walls sub-style) which could be contemporaneous with or slightly earlier (c.2900 BC) than the previously excavated assemblages. These may represent 'structured' deposits, with flint tools and pottery sherds deliberately placed within their fills, although the worked flint assemblage did contain a relatively high proportion of general knapping waste, as opposed to worked pieces. It can, therefore, be argued that these deposits were generated by more domestic rather than specialised activities.

A second prehistoric phase, dating to the Late Bronze Age, was represented by four pits, although they did contain c.80% (by weight & number of sherds) of the whole prehistoric pottery assemblage. These features were located in the same general area of the site as the Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age features.

In addition, the presence of a relatively large quantity of worked flint and pottery within the topsoil and, more significantly, in pockets of surviving subsoil is suggestive of a generally high level of prehistoric activity. It seems likely, therefore, that some superficial deposits of this date have been truncated by agricultural processes.

While no actual features of medieval date were recorded, the alignment of the pre-mid 19th century route between Flixton and Homersfield was preserved by two parallel ditches that may have flanked a hedgerow on the northern side of the road.

The majority of the archaeological deposits, however, were of post-medieval date. The earliest phase of which included an approximately 30 metres by 30 metres square ditched enclosure and its internal building, the latter defined by a 6 metres by 6 metres square footing of rammed brick and tile. This feature was interpreted as a folly in the parkland associated with Flixton Hall and was probably erected in the 18<sup>th</sup> century although the dating evidence was ambiguous and an earlier, possibly 17<sup>th</sup> century, date is also considered as a possibility. Other features attributed to the earlier post-medieval phase were a small group of pits that were thought to represent formal tree-plantings and the redundancy of a ditch which itself appeared to relate to an earlier, possibly medieval, rectilinear field system.

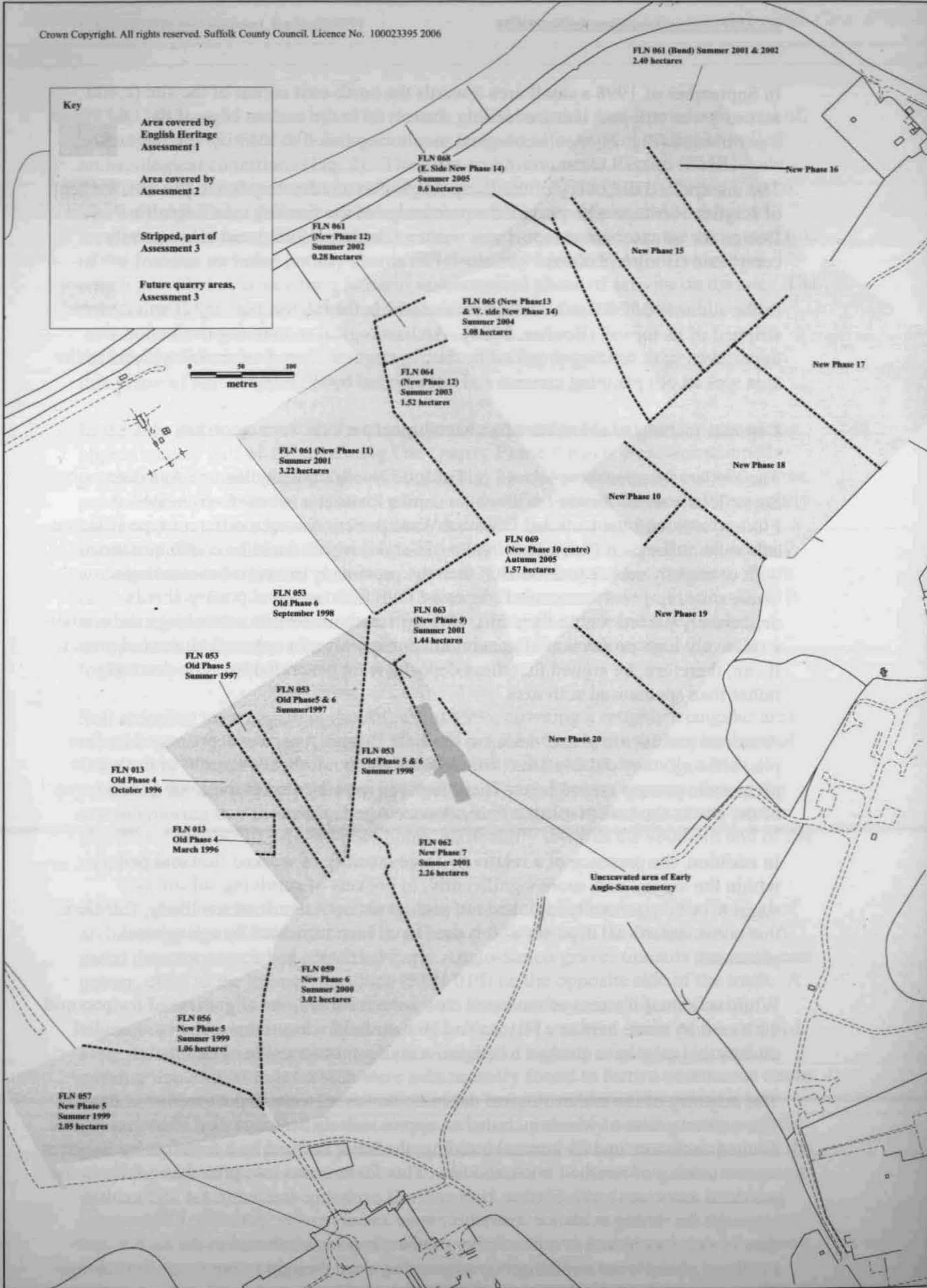


Fig. 2 c.1:5,000 scale OS map extract showing the areas covered by the archaeological assessments



A second post-medieval phase was associated with a major landscape upheaval in Flixton Park undertaken during the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century when the Flixton to Homersfield road was re-routed to the north to its present location. A tree-lined avenue was also planted at this time, the western side of which was recorded in the excavation area.

The third post-medieval phase related to the 1<sup>st</sup> World War when a large area of Flixton Park was given over to military training the surviving evidence for which is backfilled trenches and latrine pits.

### **1.3.2 The Aims of this Report**

The aim of this document is to assess the archaeological potential of the archaeology recorded in the areas of the quarry stripped between 1998 and 2003 (New Quarry Phases 5, 6, 7, 11, 12, eastern side of 9 & the area covered by the bund around the northern and north-eastern edges of the quarry), a total of c.17.25 hectares (Fig. 2). Effectively these are the areas not covered by the earlier English Heritage funded document (Assessment 1, Boulter, 1998b) which dealt with the archaeology excavated in Old Phases 4, 5 & 6 (Fig. 2), approximately 4 hectares.

The report will include a detailed listing of the minimum work that will be required to produce an acceptable archive as well as the potential for further analysis and publication as required by the planning condition.

A further assessment document (Assessment 3) will be written to cover the archaeological deposits recorded from 2004 (New Quarry Phases 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20 & the western side of 16, effectively the end of the current consent).

## **2. Methodologies**

### **2.1 Fieldwork**

The general methodology employed during the monitoring of soil-stripping is presented in the Project Design (Appendix I {B}).

Variations to this methodology, agreed with all involved parties prior to their implementation, were necessary when concentrations of features or significant individual structures were encountered.

Each quarry phase was allocated an SMR (Sites & Monuments Record) number (Fig. 2), with New Phase 5 having two, one for each side of an existing farm track. All features and their stratigraphic elements were allocated OP (observed phenomena) numbers within a 'unique continuous sequence' under its relevant site code (SMR number).

Site plans were usually drawn at a scale of 1:100 from a series of triangulated base-lines. These were only set as temporary fixtures as the subsoil surface was routinely run over by soil-stripping plant as soon as the archaeology was recorded. Where significant archaeology was identified and open piece excavation was required a more formal grid, tied into the more transitory base-lines, was inserted using an optical theodolite.

Significant structures, the Early Anglo Saxon occupation area of FLN 061 (Bund) and the whole of FLN 062 (New Phase 7) were planned at a scale of 1:50. Complex/significant features such as pottery kilns (in FLN 062), graves (in FLN 061,

FLN 062 & FLN 064) and a cremation pit (in FLN 059) had additional plans drawn at a scale of 1:10. Their sections and profiles were also drawn at a scale of 1:10 rather than the usual 1:20 employed for general features.

All site levels were taken from temporary benchmarks relating to a spot-height (16.8 metres) shown on the OS map at TM 3031 8622.

During the open piece excavation of FLN 062 (New Phase 7) in the summer of 2001, two site visits were made by specialists. The first, by Soil Scientist Richard Macphail (Institute of Archaeology, UCL), was made on the recommendation of Peter Murphy (English Heritage Regional Advisor in Archaeological Science) to examine and sample a buried soil horizon, particularly in regard to its relationship with two pottery kilns (see section 3.6 of this report). The second, by Mark Noel (Geoquest Associates), was made to collect samples to be used for archaeomagnetic dating of the two pottery kilns (see section 3.7 of this report).

## **2.2 Post-Excavation**

Finds assemblages were processed by in-house staff. Quantification and identification was carried out and the information input onto computer database, using Microsoft Access97 software (Appendices III & IV). Where necessary, external specialists were commissioned to provide assessments of certain categories of artefact/material (prehistoric pottery, worked flint & Iron Age coinage), other materials were assessed by in-house staff.

Bulk soil samples were sent to a Palaeoenvironmentalist (Val Fryer), for environmental assessment, the results of which are reproduced as Section 3.4.5 of this report. A full list of the contexts from which soil samples were taken is presented as Appendix V. In addition, Dr Richard Macphail analysed soil-samples associated with two kilns on the FLN 062 site (see section 3.5) and Dr Mark Noel took samples from the kiln lining for archaeomagnetic dating (see section 3.6).

Individual methodologies employed during the assessment of finds have been included in the relevant sections of the report.

Inked copies were made of the general site plans (1:100 and 1:50 scale), these were then photographically reduced in order to produce overall plans of each area. All contextual information was input onto computer database Microsoft Access97 (Appendix II). In addition, the 1:50 and 1:100 scale site plans were digitised, in-house, on a CalComp Drawing Board III A1 digitising tablet and Mapinfo (version 6.5) software.

The colour slides and monochrome prints taken during the excavations have been integrated with the Suffolk County Council' Archaeological Service Photographic Archive, the code numbers for which are listed as Appendix VI of this report.

## **3. Factual Data**

### **3.1 Introduction**

The following sections present the contextual information, revised site phasing and specialist assessments which also list tasks that need to be completed to fulfil the minimum requirements of a site archive and to undertake full analysis.

Table 1 summarises the revised phasing for the overall site. These revisions were made in light of the more detailed information which has become available as a result of carrying out the individual assessment reports. Further refinement may become possible after the analysis stage of the project. For example, it is already possible to subdivide Period V.b. into two: 'early' (17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> century) park features and 'later' (19<sup>th</sup> century) park features. The former are associated with the initial construction of the Flixton Hall and subsequent landscaping of the park during the 17<sup>th</sup> century and the latter relating to a phase of landscaping that occurred at approximately the same time that the hall was rebuilt (1888-1992) following a major fire in 1846. At this juncture it has not been considered necessary to separate these sub-phases other than descriptively in the text.

Where features appear to have chronologically spanned more than one Period or Phase they are only included in the phasing table within the Phase in which they were initiated with further information provided in the text. In addition, some of the phases overlap, this is particularly evident for the prehistoric period where the dating is based principally on artefactual evidence. For example, Grooved Ware and Beaker pottery are clearly different in style but their currencies are now known to overlap for a period of time. However, for the purposes of this report, with the absence of absolute dating, Grooved Ware contexts have been included in the Late Neolithic period, while exclusively Beaker contexts have been attributed to the Early Bronze Age. While this is a simplistic approach it does seem the most sensible way to deal with the data as it stands at the moment, but must be taken into account when reading the report. The date ranges stated for each phase effectively provide a broad chronological framework on which to base the development of the site.

Where a period/phase was represented by artefactual evidence only, this information has also been included in the table.

The description of features as post-holes or pits cannot be taken as a clear interpretation regarding the original function of the feature, more an indication of its size. All features with a diameter of less than 0.5 metres have been described as post-holes while those with diameters greater than 0.5 metres are called pits unless they can demonstrably be shown to form part of a recognisable building or structure.

Period/Phase	Basis for Dating	Identified in:	Total No. Features	
<b>Period I.a.</b> prehistoric: Lower Palaeolithic c.500,000 - 38,000 BP	Artefact typology & geological provenance	FLN 057, FLN 061, FLN 064	None	
<b>Period I.b.</b> Mesolithic c.8000 - 4000 BC	Artefactual evidence	FLN 057, FLN 061	None	
<b>Period I.c.</b> Prehistoric: Early Neolithic c.4000 - 3200 BC	Artefactual evidence	FLN 056, FLN 057, FLN 059, FLN 061, FLN 062	17	
<b>Period I.d.</b> Prehistoric: Late Neolithic c.3200 - 2400 BC	Artefactual evidence	FLN 057, FLN 059, FLN 061, FLN 062	37	+ 23 indet.
<b>Period I.e.</b> Early Bronze Age c.2400 - 1500 BC	Stratigraphic, artefactual & typological evidence	FLN 057, FLN 059, FLN 061, FLN 062, FLN 063, FLN 064	41	

Table 1; continued on next page

Period/Phase	Basis for Dating	Identified in:	Total No. Features
<b>Period I.f.</b> Late Bronze Age c.1000 - 650 BC	Stratigraphic & artefactual evidence	FLN 061	2
<b>Period I.g.</b> Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age c. 800 - 400 BC	Stratigraphic, artefactual & typological evidence	FLN 056, FLN 057, FLN 059, FLN 062	46
<b>Period I.h.</b> Middle Iron Age c.400 - 1 <sup>st</sup> century BC	Artefactual evidence	FLN 057	1
<b>Period I.i.</b> Indeterminate Bronze Age/Iron Age c.2400 BC – 43 AD	Stratigraphic, artefactual & typological evidence	FLN 057, FLN 059, FLN 062	146
<b>Period II.a.</b> Late Iron Age/Early Roman c.1 <sup>st</sup> BC - E.2 <sup>nd</sup> century AD	Stratigraphic, artefactual & typological evidence	FLN 056, FLN 057, FLN 059, FLN 062, FLN 063	117
<b>Period II.b.</b> Roman c.E.2 <sup>nd</sup> - L.3 <sup>rd</sup> century AD	Stratigraphic, artefactual & typological evidence	FLN 062	21
<b>Period II.c.</b> Roman c.L.3 <sup>rd</sup> - 4 <sup>th</sup> century AD	Stratigraphic & artefactual evidence	FLN 057, FLN 059, FLN 062	7
<b>Period II.0</b> Roman Unspecified date	Stratigraphic & artefactual evidence	FLN 059, FLN 062, FLN 063	108
<b>Period III</b> Early Anglo Saxon c.410 - E. 7 <sup>th</sup> century	Stratigraphic, artefactual & typological evidence	FLN 057, FLN 061, FLN 062	75
<b>Period IV</b> Medieval c.1066 - 1480	Unstratified & residual artefactual evidence	FLN 057, FLN 059, FLN 061	0
<b>Period V.a.</b> Post-medieval L.15 <sup>th</sup> - 17 <sup>th</sup> centuries	Artefactual evidence	FLN 062	1
<b>Period V.b.</b> post-medieval c.17 <sup>th</sup> - 19 <sup>th</sup> centuries	Stratigraphic, artefactual, typological & map evidence	FLN 057, FLN 059, FLN 061, FLN 062, FLN 063, FLN 064	98
<b>Period V.c.</b> post-medieval; c.1914 – 1918	Stratigraphic, artefactual & typological evidence	FLN 061	46
<b>Period V.d.</b> post-medieval c.20 <sup>th</sup> century	Stratigraphic, artefactual & typological evidence	FLN 059, FLN 061	5
<b>Period 0</b> Undated & naturally derived features	None	FLN 056, FLN 057, FLN 059, FLN 061, FLN 062, FLN 063, FLN 064	660

**Table 1: Summary of Overall Site Phasing**

## 3.2 Contextual & Phasing Information

### 3.2.1 FLN 056

FLN 056 represented the smaller, approximately 1 hectare, of two adjoining areas excavated in 1999, together forming New Phase 5 of the quarry (Fig. 2). Area FLN 056 was approximately triangular in shape with its edges defined by farm tracks to the east and west and by the then existing edge of the quarry to the north.

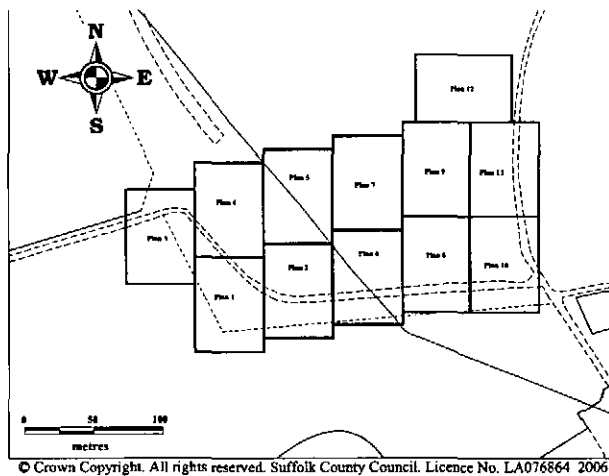
A total of thirty two context numbers were allocated to fifteen discrete features, their associated stratigraphic elements and a single unstratified small find (Appendices II{A} & IV{A}). A plan showing all of the excavated features appears as Fig. 4 of this report.

The tasks that need to be undertaken to produce an adequate site archive are included with those of the adjoining FLN 057 site. Phase plans are also combined (Figs 6-15).

The features and finds recorded in FLN 056 have been attributed to four archaeological Periods/Phases (see Table 2), these are detailed below.

Period/Phase	Basis for Dating	Features/Contexts
<b>Period I.c.</b> prehistoric: Early Neolithic c.4000-3200 BC <b>Total 2</b>	Artefactual evidence	<b>Pits: 0002, 0011 (Total 2)</b>
<b>Period I.g.</b> Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age c.800-400 BC <b>Total 3</b>	Artefactual evidence	<b>Pits: 0017, 0019, 0021 (Total 3)</b>
<b>Period II.a.</b> Late Iron Age/Early Roman c.1 <sup>st</sup> BC – E.2 <sup>nd</sup> century AD <b>Total 2</b>	Stratigraphic & artefactual evidence	<b>Ditches: 0004, 0025 (Total 2)</b>
<b>Period 0</b> Undated & naturally derived features <b>Total 8</b>	None	<b>Pits: 0006, 0013, 0015, 0023, 0029, 0031 (Total 6)</b> <b>Post-holes: 0008, 0027 (Total 2)</b>

**Table 2:** (FLN 056) Detailed Site Phasing



**Fig. 3** 1:5,000 scale OS map extract showing the area covered by each individual 1:100 scale inked plan sheet for FLN 056 & FLN 057

**Period I.c.; Early Neolithic, c.4000-3200 BC**

Two features, both pits (0002 & 0011) were attributed to this period based primarily on artefactual evidence (pottery & worked flint in 0002, pottery only in 0011) (Table 2 & Fig. 6).

Pit 0002 was an irregular oval in shape measuring 0.8 by 1.2 metres, with a depth of 0.3 metres and exhibited a rounded profile. The fill (0003) comprised brown silty sand, with some charcoal flecks, which was darker towards the centre of the feature.

Pit 0011 was also an irregular oval in shape measuring 0.6 by 0.8 metres with a depth of 0.3 metres and had a steep-sided, flat-bottomed profile. The fill (0012) comprised homogenous brown silty sand.

**Period I.g.; Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age c.800-500 BC**

Three pits (0017, 0019 & 0021) were included in this phase (Table 2 & Fig. 10) based entirely on artefactual evidence, both ceramic and worked flint although it was the former which proved to be diagnostic in providing a date for the features.

The pits were circular, approximately 0.6 metres in diameter, varying in depth between 0.15 metres (0017) and 0.4 metres (0021). The fills (0018, 0020 & 0022

respectively) comprised relatively homogenous brown silty sand with occasional charcoal flecks, although fill 0020 exhibited a darker component towards its base.

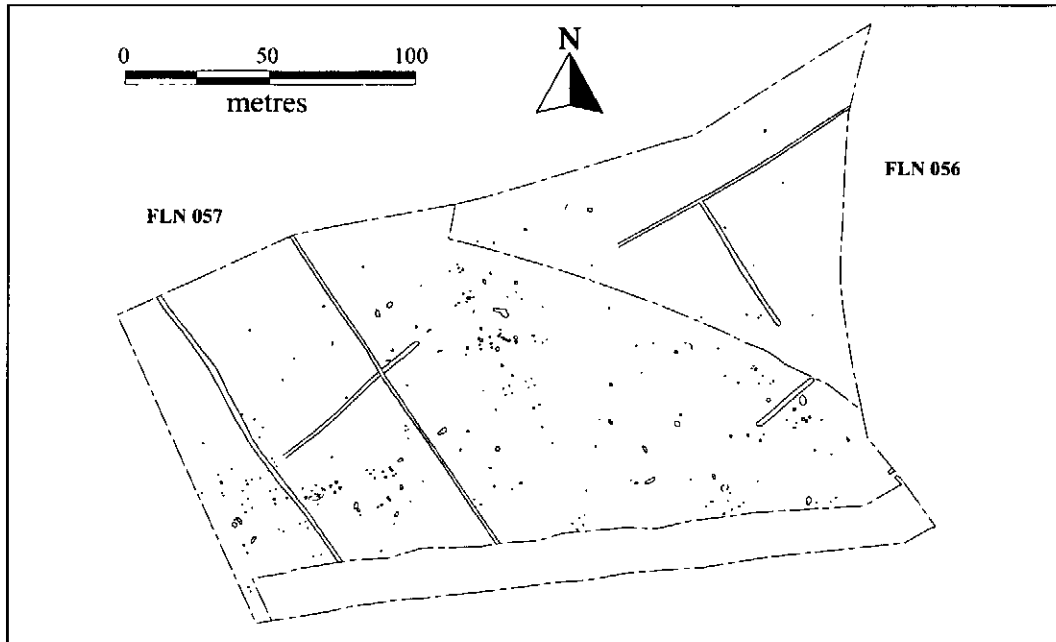


Fig. 4 1:2,500 scale plan of FLN 056 & FLN 057 showing all features

#### **Period II.a.; Late Iron Age/Early Roman, c.1 – 2<sup>nd</sup> century**

Two ditches (0004 & 0025) were attributed to this phase (Table 2 & Fig. 13) based on stratigraphic and artefactual evidence recorded in later phases of the quarry where 0002 was found to continue and form part of a wider field system.

Ditch 0004 was orientated from the north-east to south-west with 0025 joining it at right-angles on its south side forming a T-junction (Fig. 13). Towards the south-west, ditch 0004 appeared to peter out, but a ditch on a similar orientation in the adjacent FLN 057 area to the west continued the alignment (FLN 057 0225).

Both 0004 and 0025 were 1.2 metres wide in their excavated sections with depths of 0.3 metres (0004) and 0.5 metres (0025) with open V-shaped profiles and fills (0005 & 0026 respectively) comprising relatively homogenous brown silty sand with occasional pebble-sized stones.

#### **Period 0; Undated & naturally derived features**

A total of eight features were attributed to this phase: six pits (0006, 0013, 0015, 0023, 0029 & 0031) and two post-holes (0008 & 0027) (Table 2 & Fig. 15). None of these features produced any datable artefactual evidence although the relatively leached condition of their fills and the presence of heat altered flints in 0013, 0023, 0031 suggests that a prehistoric date is the most likely, although post-hole 0027 did cut the Period II.a. ditch 0025 and must post-date the redundancy of that feature.

#### **Pits**

The pits were all circular or sub-circular in shape, varying in diameter between 0.5 metres (0006) and 1.4 metres (0029) with depths varying between 0.1 metres (0031) and 0.6 metres (0013). Fills generally comprised relatively homogenous brown silty

sand with varying concentrations of pebble-sized stones and charcoal. Slightly darker central fills were evident in some of the features.

### **Post-holes**

Two features (0008 & 0027) were described as post-holes purely due to their relatively small size rather than any positive indication of function.

Post-hole 0008 was 0.3 metres in diameter with a depth of 0.6 metres while 0027 was 0.25 metres in diameter with a depth of only 0.12 metres. The fills comprised mid-dark brown silty sand with occasional charcoal flecks.

### **3.2.2 FLN 057**

FLN 057, with an area of approximately 2 hectares, was the larger of the two sites excavated during 1999 (Fig. 2).

A total of five hundred and eighty one context numbers were allocated to two hundred and seventy discrete features, their associated stratigraphic elements, spot-finds and small-finds (FLN 057 1000-1007 & three unstratified 0001) (Appendices II{B} & IV{B}).

The ten A1 size sheets of 1:100 scale original site plans have been inked (12 A1 size sheets, see Fig. 3) and digitised to achieve an overall plan (Fig. 4). There are six A1 size sheets of 1:20 scale section drawings that will need security copies (scanned) to form part of the site archive.

The features and finds recorded in FLN 057 have been attributed to fifteen archaeological Periods/Phases (see Table 3), these are detailed below.

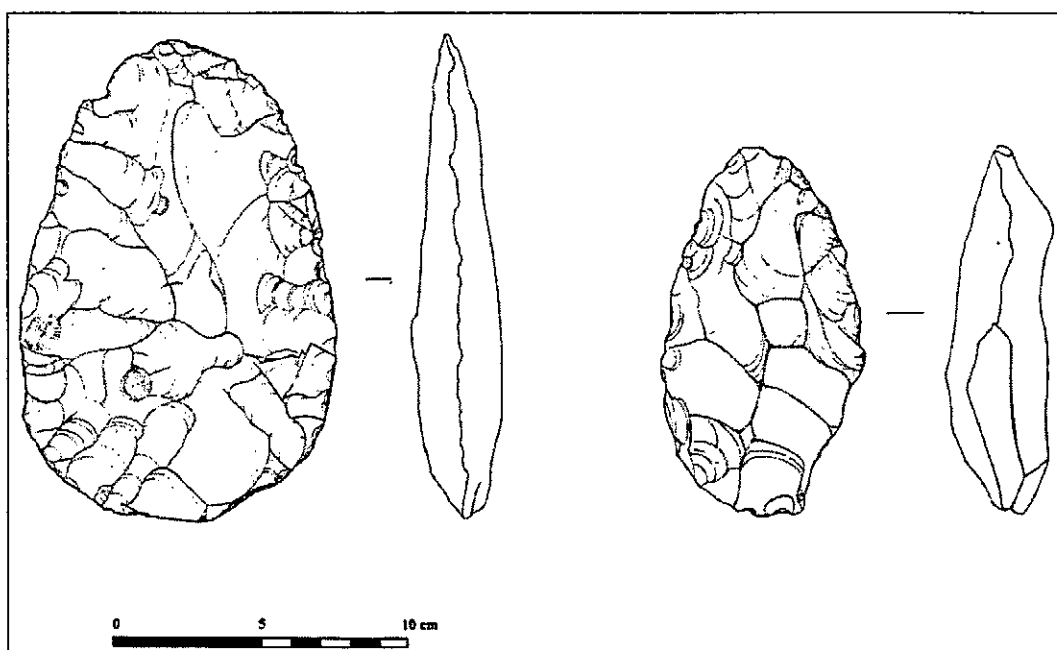
<b>Period/Phase</b>	<b>Basis for Dating</b>	<b>Features/Contexts</b>
<b>Period I.a.</b> Prehistoric: Lower Palaeolithic c.500,000 - 38,000 BP <b>Total 0</b>	Artefact type & geological provenance	<b>Unstratified Finds (two handaxes recovered from the quarry gravels): 0001</b>
<b>Period I.b.</b> Mesolithic c.8000-4000 BC <b>Total 0</b>	Residual artefactual evidence	<b>Two residual microliths in pit fill: 0381</b>
<b>Period I.c.</b> Prehistoric: Early Neolithic c.4000-3200 BC <b>Total 3</b>	Artefactual evidence	<b>Pits: 0381, 0515, 0549 (Total 3)</b>
<b>Period I.d.</b> Prehistoric: Late Neolithic c.3200-2400 BC <b>Total 11</b>	Artefactual evidence	<b>Pits: 0071, 0097, 0099, 0107, 0114, 0132, 0136, 0368, 0407, 0461, 0489 (Total 11)</b>
<b>Period I.e.</b> Early Bronze Age c.2400-1500 BC <b>Total 2</b>	Artefactual evidence	<b>Pits: 0142, 0319 (Total 2)</b>
<b>Period I.d. &amp; e.</b> Indeterminate Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age c.3200 - 1500 BC <b>Total 7</b>	Artefactual evidence	<b>Pits: 0134, 0138, 0144, 0383, 0385, 0411, 0459 (Total 7)</b>

**Table 3; continued on next page**

Period/Phase	Basis for Dating	Features/Contexts
<b>Period I.g.</b> Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age c.800-400 BC <b>Total 9</b>	Stratigraphic, artefactual & typological evidence	<b>Pits: 0056, 0259, 0263, 0519, 0533, 0535 (Total 6)</b> <b>Post-Holes 0269, 0303, 0545 (Total 3)</b>
<b>Period I.h.</b> Middle Iron Age c.400-1 <sup>st</sup> century BC <b>Total 1</b>	Artefactual evidence	<b>Pits: 0044 (Total 1)</b>
<b>Period I.i.</b> Indeterminate Bronze Age/Iron Age c.2400 BC- 43 AD  <b>Total 110 discrete features</b>	Stratigraphic, artefactual & typological evidence	<b>Post-Hole Pairs: 0002 &amp; 0004, 0031 &amp; 0038, 0040 &amp; 0042, 0116 &amp; 0118, 0194 &amp; 0196, 0344 &amp; 0346, 0373 &amp; 0375, 0447 &amp; 0449, 0491 &amp; 0493 or 0523, 0511 &amp; 0517 (Total 10 pairs, 21 individual post-holes)</b> <b>Post-Hole Structures: (0553) 0015, 0017, 0019, 0023, (0554) 0184, 0186, 0188, 0190, (0555) 0211, 0213, 0215, 0217, (0556) 0243, 0245, 0247, 0249, (0557) 0273, 0279, 0291, 0293, (0558) 0356, 0358, 0360, 0362, 0364, 0366, (0559) 0419, 0421, 0423, 0425, (0560) 0429, 0431, 0433, 0435, 0437, (0561) 0451, 0453, 0455, 0457, (0562) 0168, 0170, 0172, 0174, (0563) 0025, 0027, 0120, 0122, 0124, (0564) 0152, 0154, 0156, 0158, 0162, 0164, (0565) 0065, 0067, 0069, (0566) 0077, 0079, 0081, 0083, (0567) 0126, 0128, 0130, 0166, (0568) 0148, 0150, 0198, (0569) 0160, 0176, 0200, 0202, (0570) 0271, 0275, 0277, 0281, (0571) 0463, 0465, 0467, 0475, (0572) 0387, 0389, 0391, 0393, 0395, (0573) 0505, 0507, 0509, 0525 (Total; 21 structures, 89 post-holes )</b>
<b>Period II.a.</b> Late Iron Age/Early Roman c.1 <sup>st</sup> BC – E.2 <sup>nd</sup> century AD <b>Total 2</b>	Stratigraphic evidence	<b>Ditches: 0109, 0225 (Total 2)</b>
<b>Period II.c.</b> Roman c.L.3 <sup>rd</sup> – 4 <sup>th</sup> century AD <b>Total 0</b>	Artefactual evidence	<b>Small Finds: 1006</b>
<b>Period III</b> Early Anglo Saxon c.410 - E. 7 <sup>th</sup> century <b>Total 0</b>	Artefactual evidence	<b>Small Finds: 1002, 1003</b>
<b>Period IV</b> Medieval c.1066-1480 <b>Total 0</b>	Artefactual evidence	<b>Small Finds: 1007</b>
<b>Period V.b.</b> post-medieval c.17 <sup>th</sup> -19 <sup>th</sup> centuries <b>Total 1</b>	Stratigraphic, artefactual & map evidence	<b>Ditch: 0010 (Total 1)</b>
<b>Period 0</b> Undated & naturally derived features  <b>Total 125</b>	None	<b>Ditches: 0008, 0140, 0477 (Total 3)</b> <b>Pits: 0013, 0029, 0033, 0035, 0046, 0054, 0062, 0095, 0105, 0146, 0178, 0180, 0182, 0192, 0204, 0219, 0233, 0235, 0251, 0253, 0265, 0283, 0295, 0297, 0305, 0309, 0350, 0352, 0354, 0377, 0379, 0399, 0401, 0405, 0409, 0415, 0427, 0439, 0441, 0483, 0485, 0487, 0497, 0499, 0503, 0513, 0527, 0529, 0531, 0537, 0539, 0551 (Total 52)</b> <b>Hearth: 0413 (Total 1)</b> <b>Slot: 0221 (Total 1)</b> <b>Post-Holes: 0006, 0021, 0048, 0050, 0052, 0058, 0060, 0073, 0075, 0085, 0087, 0089, 0091, 0093, 0101, 0103, 0207, 0209, 0223, 0227, 0229, 0231, 0237, 0239, 0241, 0255, 0257, 0261, 0267, 0285, 0287, 0289, 0299, 0301, 0307, 0311, 0313, 0315, 0317, 0322, 0324, 0326, 0328, 0330, 0332, 0334, 0336, 0338, 0340, 0342, 0348, 0371, 0397, 0403, 0417, 0443, 0445, 0469, 0471, 0473, 0479, 0481, 0495, 0501, 0521, 0541, 0543, 0547 (Total 68)</b>

Table 3: (FLN 057) Detailed Site Phasing





**Fig. 5** 1:2.5 illustration of two Palaeolithic hand-axes from the gravel terrace beneath the FLN 057 area (drawn by Donna Wreathall)

**Period I.a.; Lower Palaeolithic, c.500,000 - 38,000 BP**

Two worked flint handaxes were recovered by the driver of the mechanical excavator during quarrying of the gravels in the FLN 057 area. Only an approximate location could be given towards the western end of the area and, as a consequence, these finds must be considered to be unstratified. The handaxes are described in more detail in section 3.3.1 (p.160) of this report with drawings appearing as Fig. 5.

**Period I.b.; Mesolithic, c.8000 - 4000 BC**

Two possible microliths were recovered from the fill of pit 0381.

**Period I.c.; Early Neolithic, c.4000 - 3200 BC**

Three features (0381, 0515 & 0549), all pits, were attributed to this phase based entirely on their included artefactual evidence (Table 3 & Fig. 6). Two of these (0515 & 0549), both dated predominantly from ceramic evidence, were located towards the eastern end of the site while 0381, included due to the presence of a diagnostic assemblage of worked flint, was relatively central.

Pit 0381 was irregular in shape, measuring in excess of 3 metres on its long axis and a maximum of 1.6 metres across with a depth reaching 0.6 metres in a circular lobe at its northern end. The fill (0382) had a small central component comprising brown silty sand with a more extensive outer fill of less silty sand and gravel/pebble-sized stones. The edge of the pit was hard to ascertain as worked flint was continually being found within material which had been considered to be natural subsoil.

Pit 0515 was circular, 0.6 metres in diameter with a depth of 0.2 metres and exhibited a rounded profile. The fill (0516) comprised brown silty sand with occasional pebble-sized stones.

Pit 0549 was irregular in shape measuring 2.5 metres from north to south and a maximum of 1.6 metres from east to west with a depth of 0.5 metres in a circular lobe at its northern end. The brown silty sand fill included both ceramic finds and diagnostic worked flint which together indicated an earlier Neolithic date for the feature.

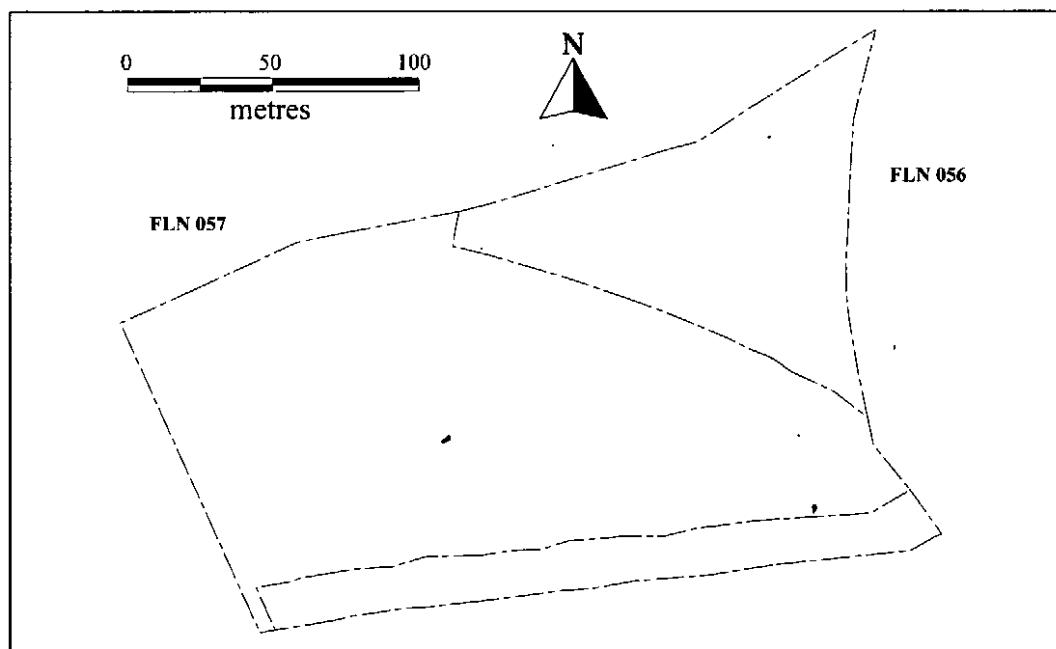


Fig. 6 FLN 056 & FLN 057 Phase Plan: Period I.c. Early Neolithic

**Period I.d.; Late Neolithic, c.3200 - 2400 BC**

Eleven features, all pits (Table 3 & Fig. 7) were included in this based primarily on the presence of Grooved Ware pottery in their fills. The pits were all located close to the northern edge of the site close to its boundary with the FLN 056 area and forming part of a loosely defined concentration which also includes Early Bronze Age (Period I.e.) and Indeterminate Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age features (Period I.d. & e.) (Figs 8 & 9 respectively).

The dimensions and character of these features exhibited a fair degree of variation, the smallest (0099) measured 0.65 metres in diameter with a depth of only 0.1 metres and the largest (0132), which was oval shaped, measuring 3.3 metres by 2.2 metres with a maximum depth of 0.6 metres. The fills generally comprised varying hues of brown silty sand with moderate to intense concentrations of gravel to pebble-sized stones. However, five of the pits (0071, 0107, 0136, 0368 & 0461) exhibited similarities in both size, characteristics of their fill and included artefactual evidence. These tended to be circular, approximately 1 metre to 1.2 metres in diameter, with a depth of c.0.4 metres and had rounded profiles. The fill was often stratified with a lighter brown upper and lower component with a darker intervening layer. Artefactual evidence was usually confined to the central fill component, with ceramic finds often concentrated at the interface between the central and basal fill. It is possible that these features represent some form of 'structured' or deliberate deposition. Pits were often arranged in pairs or small groups, sharing similar morphological characteristics (both dimensionally & in their fills). However, some of the possibly contemporary features did not provide dating evidence and have, as a consequence, been included in Period 0, while others had been attributed to Period I.e. or Period I. d. & e..

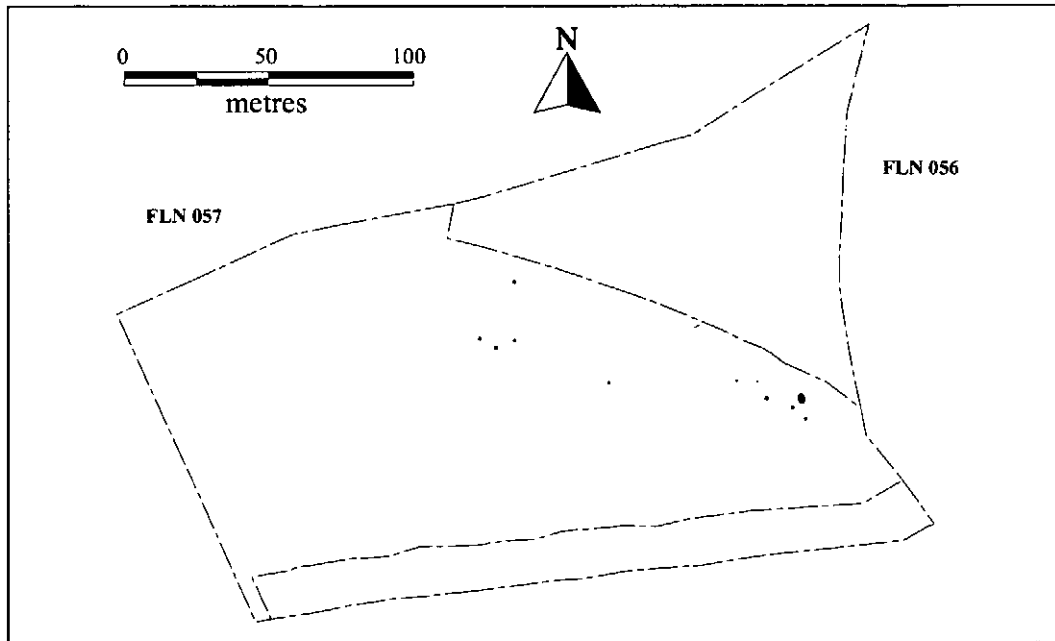


Fig. 7 FLN 056 & FLN 057 Phase Plan: Period I.d. Late Neolithic

**Period I.e.; Early Bronze Age, c.2400 - 1500 BC**

Two pits (0142 & 0319) were attributed to this phase based on the presence of Beaker Ware pottery in their fills (Table 3 & Fig. 8). These features were located towards the northern edge of the FLN 057 area close to its boundary with FLN 056 within a loose feature concentration of Late Neolithic (Period I.d.) and Indeterminate Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age (Period I.d. & e.) date.

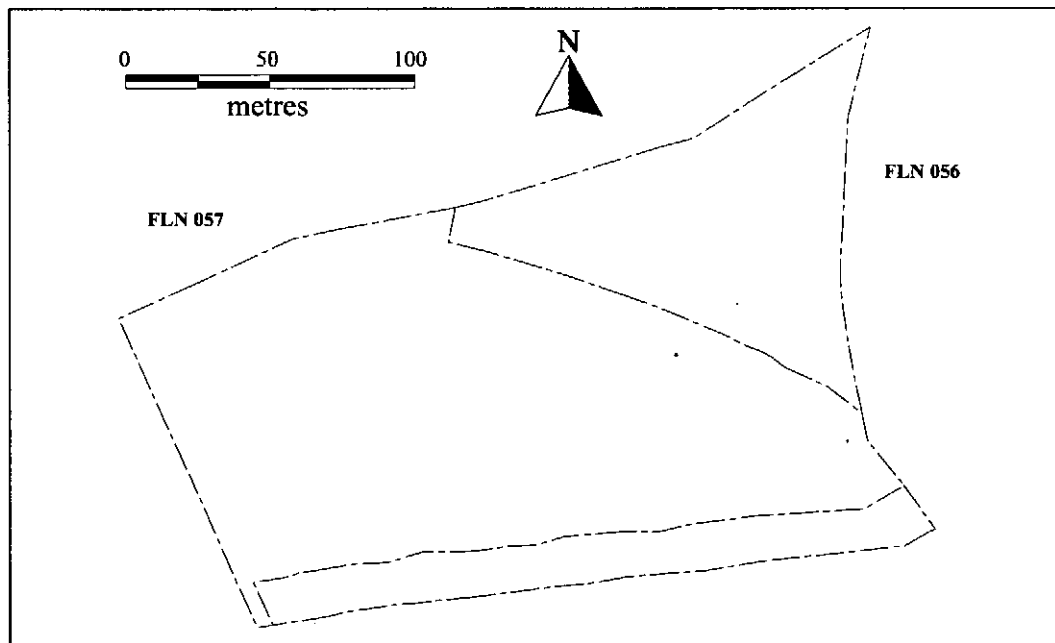


Fig. 8 FLN 056 & FLN 057 Phase Plan: Period I.e. Early Bronze Age

Pit 0142 was 0.7 metres in diameter with a depth of 0.3 metres and had a fill (0143) comprising homogenous brown silty sand. This feature appeared to be paired with the Indeterminate Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age (Period I.d. & e.) pit 0144.

Pit 0319 was oval in shape measuring 1.6 metres by 1.2 metres with a depth of 0.6 metres and exhibiting a stratified fill. The ceramic finds were all from the middle, darkest coloured, component (0321) of its three fills comprising brown silty sand.

**Period I.d. & e.; Indeterminate Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age, c.3200-1500 BC**

A total of seven features, all pits (0134, 0138, 0144, 0383, 0385, 0411 & 0459) were attributed to this phase based primarily on the ceramic evidence (Table 3 & Fig. 9). Similarly to the more specifically phased Period I.d. and Period I.e. features, to which in some instances they may be contemporaneously related, they formed small discrete groups and pairs, and in a wider context, were part of the loose concentration of pits located towards the northern edge of the FLN 057 area.

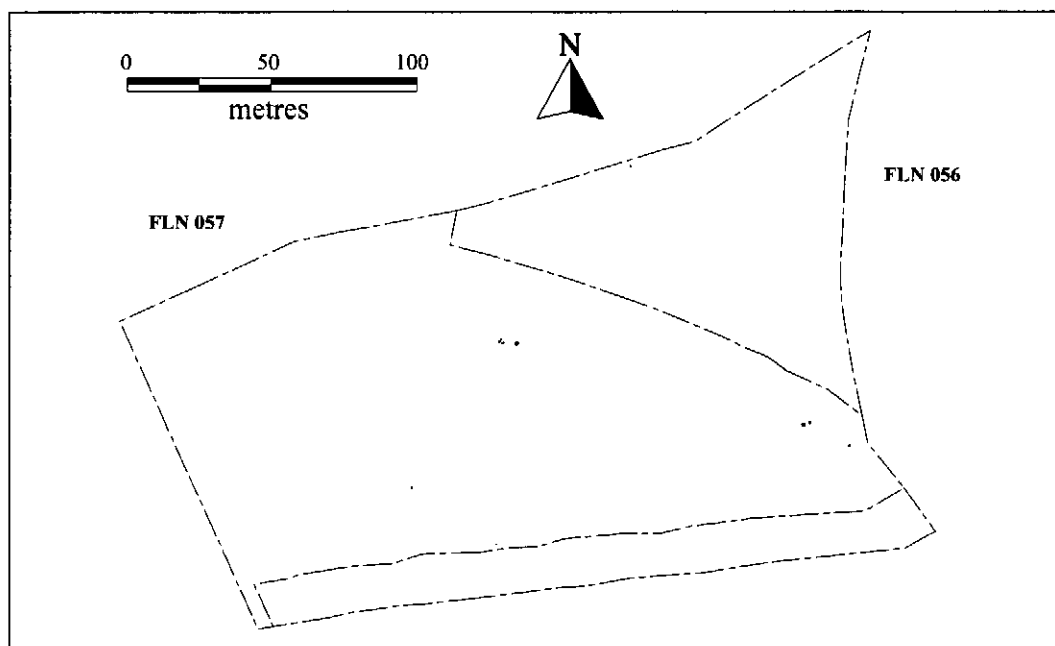


Fig. 9 FLN 056 & FLN 057 Phase Plan: Period I.d. & e. Indeterminate Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age

While all of these pits were circular or sub-circular there was some variation in the dimensions with diameters ranging between 0.6 metres (0411) and 1.2 metres (0134 & 0459) and depths of between 0.3 metres (0144) and 0.55 metres (0134). Fills generally comprised of brown silty sand with a darker central component evident. Artefactual evidence was concentrated within the central fill and similarly to the Period I.d. and Period I.e. may represent 'structural' deposition.

**Period I.g.; Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age, c.800 – 400 BC**

Only nine features, six pits and three post-holes (Table 3 & Fig. 10) produced artefactual evidence placing them within this phase. However, as will be discussed within the narrative for the Period I.i. features (Indeterminate Bronze Age/Iron Age, p.20) which, as a result of a lack of artefactual evidence have been phased primarily on their typology, there are grounds to suggest that they could be included in the more tightly dated Period I.g. phase. The Period I.g. features are located in two small groups towards the south side of the FLN 057 area with one isolated feature to the north. Given that many of the more widespread Period I.i. (Indeterminate Bronze Age/Iron Age) features and Period 0 (undated) may actually be broadly contemporary with those attributed to Period I.g. then the apparent spatial relationship of these feature clusters becomes less significant.

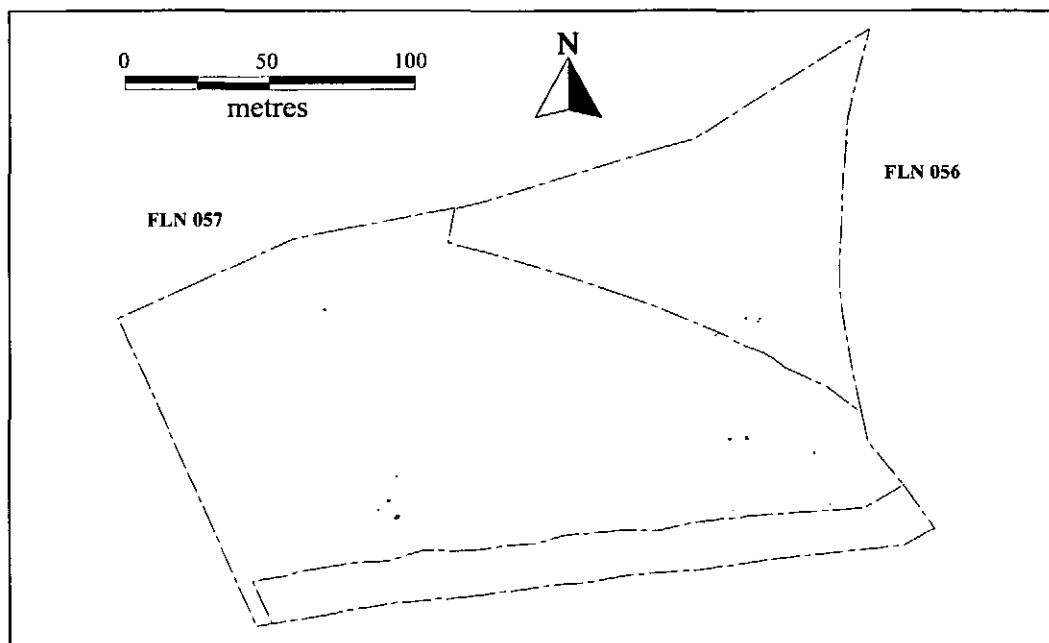


Fig. 10 FLN 056 & FLN 057 Phase Plan: Period I.g. Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age

### ***Pits***

The dimensions and character of the six pits varied considerably. All but 0259 were circular or sub-circular with diameters varying between 0.6 metres (0519) and 1.1 metres (0533) with depths ranging from only 0.1 metres (0535) and 0.4 metres (0533). Fills generally comprised brown silty sand with varying concentrations of gravel to pebble-sized stones with the one exception (0056) described in more detail below.

Pits 0056 and 0259 merit more detailed description.

Pit 0056 occupied an isolated location towards the northern side of the site. Circular, 0.8 metres in diameter with a depth of 0.2 metres this feature had a fill (0057) comprising almost entirely of heat altered flints overlying a thin clay lining that exhibited evidence for *in situ* burning. While described as a pit this feature may have had a more specialised function associated with a process involving heating.

Pit 0259 was rectangular in shape, measuring 1.6 metres in length and 0.9 metres across with a depth of 0.25 metres at one end and stepping down to 0.7 metres at the other. It was unclear whether the deepening constituted a separate discrete feature or was all part of the same thing. The fill (0260) comprised brown silty sand, becoming very stony in the deeper component at its western end.

### ***Post-Holes***

There was no evidence to positively suggest that the three features described as post-holes actually formed part of any structure and their inclusion was based simply on the size criteria (<0.5 metres in diameter).

Two of the three features (0303 & 0543) were 0.5 metres in diameter with depths of 0.3 and 0.25 metres respectively while the other (0269) was 0.4 metres in diameter with a depth of 0.2 metres. Fills (0270, 0304 & 0544) comprised relatively

homogenous brown silty sand with occasional stones and, in the case of 0303 & 0543, a slightly darker area central to the feature.

**Period I.h.; Middle Iron Age, c.400 – 1<sup>st</sup> century BC**

Only one feature, a pit (0044) was attributed to this phase based entirely on ceramic evidence (Table 3 & Fig. 11). However, it is stated in the pottery report (p.123) that this material needs further consideration at the analysis stage of the project and given that no other evidence of this date was positively identified the more detailed study may result in a change of phase for this feature.

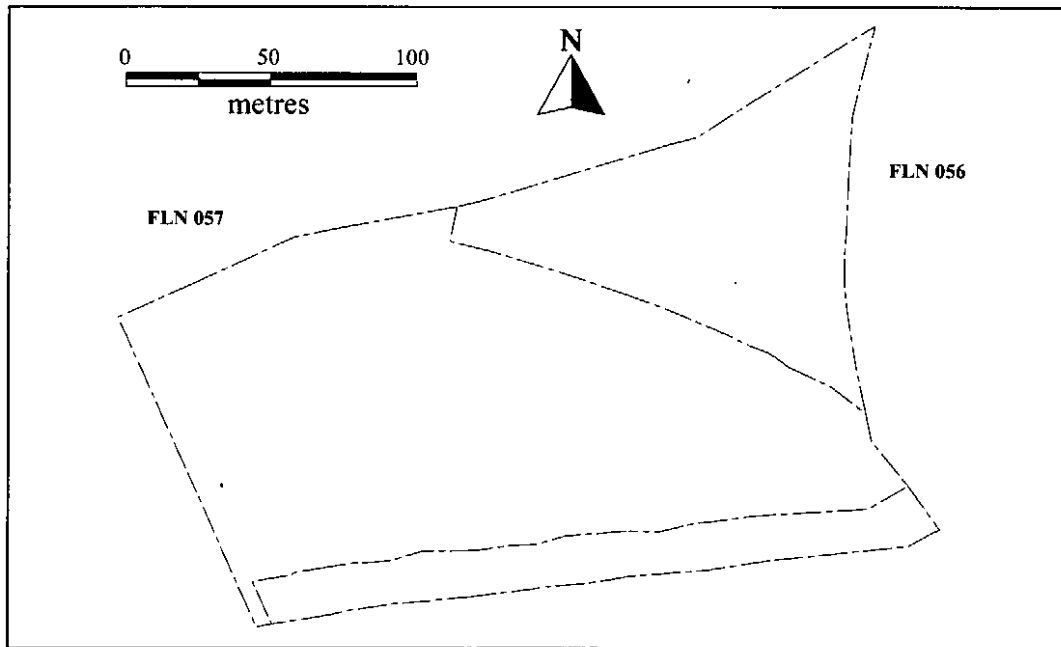


Fig. 11 FLN 056 & FLN 057 Phase Plan: Period I.h. Middle Iron Age

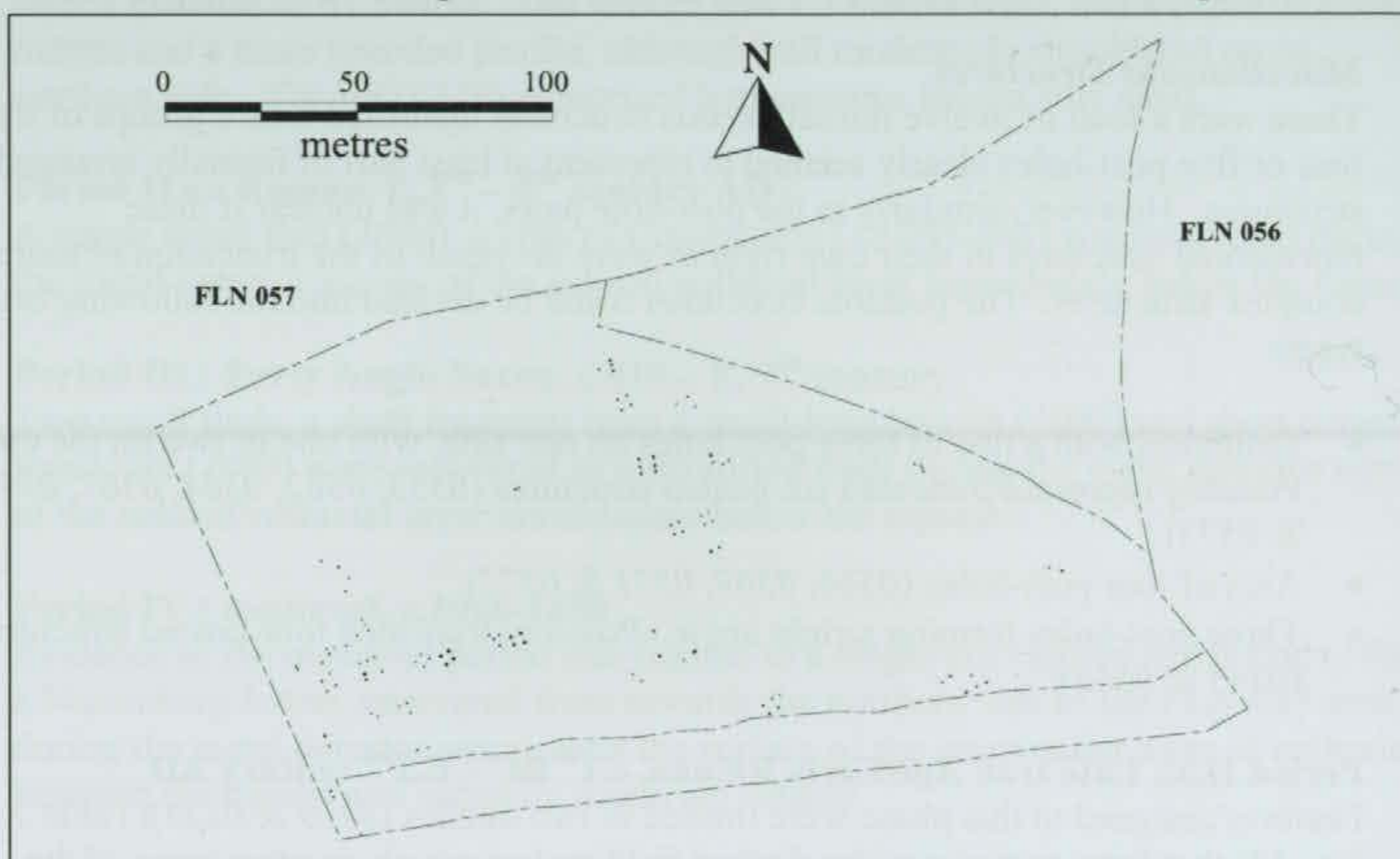
Pit 0044 was located close to the western edge of the site close to a number of the Period I.i. (Indeterminate Bronze Age/Iron Age) structures. The feature was oval in shape measuring 1.05 metres by 0.7 metres with a maximum depth of 0.2 metres and a fill (0045) comprising relatively homogenous brown silty, stony sand with occasional charcoal flecks.

**Period I.i.; Indeterminate Bronze Age/Iron Age (c.2400 BC – 43 AD)**

Included in this phase are twenty-one post-hole structures and ten post-hole pairs (Table 3 & Fig. 12). The main reason for such a broadly dated phase is the lack of artefactual evidence recovered from these features. The typology of the more diagnostic structures (four-posters) can only place them within the Bronze Age or Iron Age as examples are commonly known from both. However, given that the Middle Iron Age is only very poorly represented and the Later Iron Age/Early Roman activity is concentrated further to the east then it is probably fair to surmise that these structures are more likely to relate chronologically with the Period I.g. features which are found in the immediate vicinity. In addition, the spatial relationships between the structures suggest that while they may not all be contemporary, the majority were located respecting the same two alignments or boundaries of which there is no trace surviving in the archaeological record. Figure 12 clearly shows a relatively large blank area delimited by an east to west orientated line of structures to the south and a similar north to south orientated line of structures to the east.

### ***Post-Hole Pairs***

It was noted during the fieldwork stage of the project that there were a number of post-holes on the site that seemed to be arranged in pairs. A total of ten pairs have since been recognised, the majority of which were located within the same general area as the more obvious post-hole structures and their inclusion in this phase is based



**Fig. 12** FLN 056 & FLN 057 Phase Plan: Period I.i. Indeterminate Bronze Age/Iron Age

entirely on this spatial relationship. It is unclear at this juncture whether these are a class of structure within their own right or simply represent the vestiges of larger structures which have been partially truncated. The post-holes were generally similar to those within the more formal structures, usually circular with diameters of between 0.4 and 0.5 metres, depths reaching 0.4 metres and fills of brown silty sand with, in some instances, dark central fills which may represent post-pipes. The spacing between the post-holes was also similar to that between those in the four and six-posted structures which may be taken as evidence that these were originally larger structures which have been truncated. While ten pairs have been recognised, others may be hidden within the spread of unphased post-holes (Fig. 15).

### ***Four-Post & Six-Posted Structures***



**Plate 1:** Four-Post Structure FLN 057 0559

Eight square four-post structures (0554, 0555, 0556, 0557, 0559, 0560, 0561 & 0563) were identified, seven of which were located on the two aforementioned alignments (Fig. 12). In addition, there was one six-post structure (0558). The four-post structures were similar in character, all measuring approximately 3 metres by 3 metres with a post-hole at each corner (Plate 1) while the six-post structure had three post-holes along

each side and measured 4.1 metres by 4.3 metres. The individual post-holes measured between 0.4 and 0.5 metres in diameter with depths of up to 0.4 metres. The brown silty sand fills generally exhibited a distinct post-pipe. There have been various interpretations for the function of these structures, but the most universally accepted involves them representing granaries raised off the ground to protect the contents from vermin and damp.

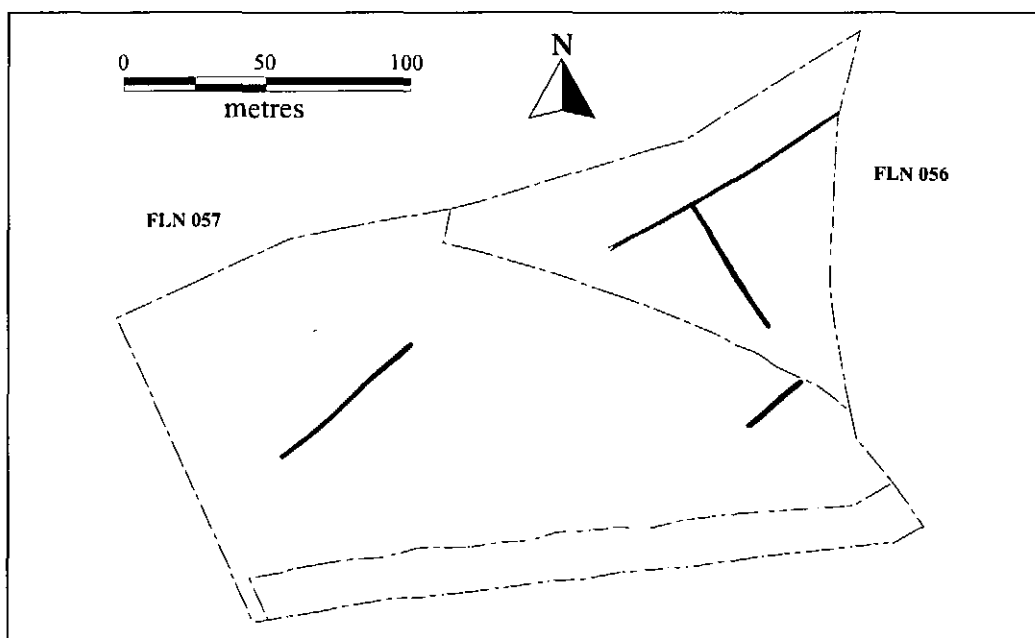
### ***Miscellaneous Structures***

There were a total of twelve miscellaneous structures identified where groups of three, four or five post-holes clearly seemed to represent at least part of formally arranged structures. However, similarly to the post-hole pairs, it was unclear if these represented structures in their own right or were the result of the truncation of more complex structures. The possible structures could be divided into the following broad types:

- Structures with a line of three post-holes on one side, with one or two on the other. Possibly represent truncated six-posted structures (0553, 0562, 0564, 0567, 0570 & 0573).
- Arcs of four post-holes (0566, 0569, 0571 & 0572).
- Three post-holes forming a right angle. Possibly truncated four-posted structures (0565 & 0568).

### **Period II.a.; Late Iron Age/Early Roman, c.1<sup>st</sup> BC – E.2<sup>nd</sup> century AD**

Features assigned to this phase were limited to two ditches (0109 & 0225)(Table 3 & Fig. 13) that form part of a wider ditched field system which, in other areas of the quarry, notably FLN 062, has produced datable artefactual evidence.



**Fig. 13 FLN 056 & FLN 057 Phase Plan: Period II.a. Late Iron Age/Early Roman**  
Both ditches were orientated from the north-east to south-west.

Ditch 0109 ran for a distance of c.22 metres, butt-ending to both the south-west and north-east. Its north-easterly butt-end coincided with the projected line of the Period



II.a. ditch 0025 in the FLN 056 area to the north and it was on this basis that it was included in this phase. The feature was 1.9 metres wide with a depth of 0.9 metres and exhibited a slightly shouldered V-shaped profile with a fill (0110) comprising homogenous brown silty sand with occasional gravel to pebble-sized stones.

Ditch 0225 had a butt-end to the north-east, but to the south-west simply petered out after a distance of 61 metres. The feature was 1.3 metres wide, had a depth of c.0.4 metres and a more rounded profile, although still moderately shouldered on its northern side. The fill (0226) comprised homogenous brown silty sand.

**Period II.c.; Roman, L.3<sup>rd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> century AD**

A single small find (1006), a coin of Constantius I (c.295-305) was recovered during the metal detector survey of the subsoil/colluvial layer immediately below the topsoil.

**Period III.; Early Anglo Saxon, c.410 – E. 7<sup>th</sup> century**

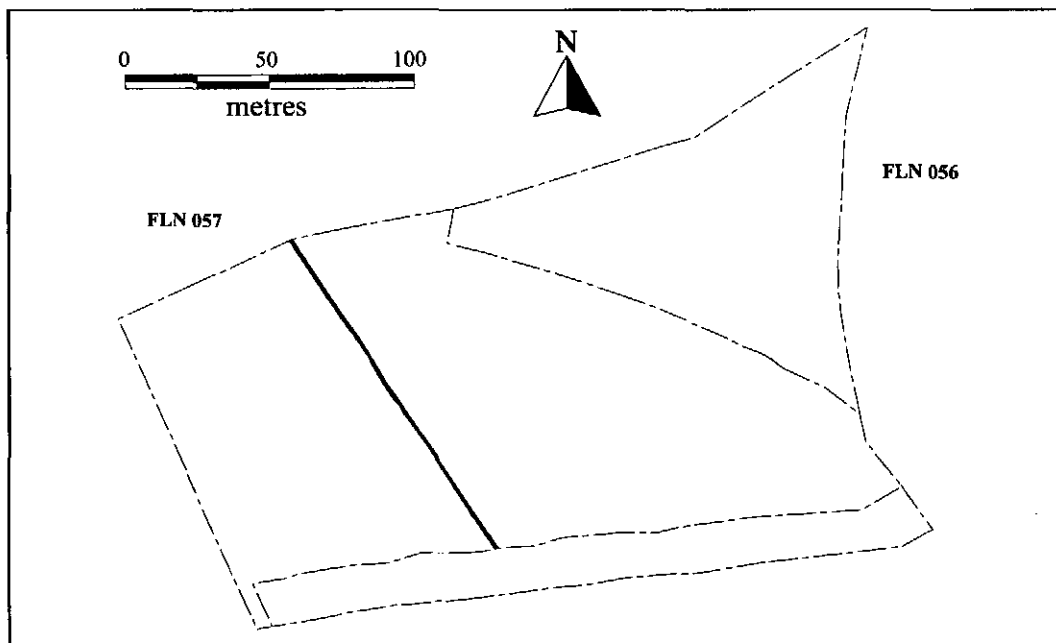
Two small finds, a shaft fragment from a small-long brooch (1002) and short tanged iron knife (1003) were recovered as unstratified finds during the metal detector survey of the subsoil/colluvial layer immediately below the topsoil.

**Period IV.; medieval, c.1066-1480**

Evidence of the medieval period was limited to a single unstratified small-find (1007), a Nuremberg Jetton, recovered from towards the northern side of the FLN 057 area during the metal detector search over the surface of the intervening layer of colluvium between the topsoil and naturally occurring subsoil.

**Period V.b.; post-medieval, c.17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> centuries**

One feature, a ditch (0010) was attributed to this phase based on both artefactual evidence (brick) and stratigraphy (Table 3 & Fig. 14).



**Fig. 14** FLN 056 & FLN 057 Phase Plan: Period V.b. post-medieval c.17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> centuries

Ditch 0010 was orientated north-west to south-east across the western end of the site. This boundary does not appear on any of the readily available maps (earliest of 1760),

which suggests that it had already become redundant by that time, possibly removed as part of the original park landscaping during the 17<sup>th</sup> century. The post-medieval brick fragments recovered from the excavated fill reflect the redundancy date of the ditch and the feature itself may actually have been associated with an earlier, possibly medieval, landscape. The ditch was parallel to and within 15 metres of the parish boundary between Homersfield to the west, and Flixton to the east and could have been associated with it. The feature itself was 1 metre wide with a depth of 0.3 metres and a relatively rounded profile. The fill comprised mid brown silty, stony sand. Stratigraphically, 0010 clearly cut the Period II.a. ditch 0225.

### Period 0; Undated & Naturally Derived Features

A total of one hundred and twenty five features (three, ditches, fifty two pits, sixty eight post-holes, a hearth & a slot) were attributed to this phase (Table 3 & Fig. 15) due to the lack of dating evidence.

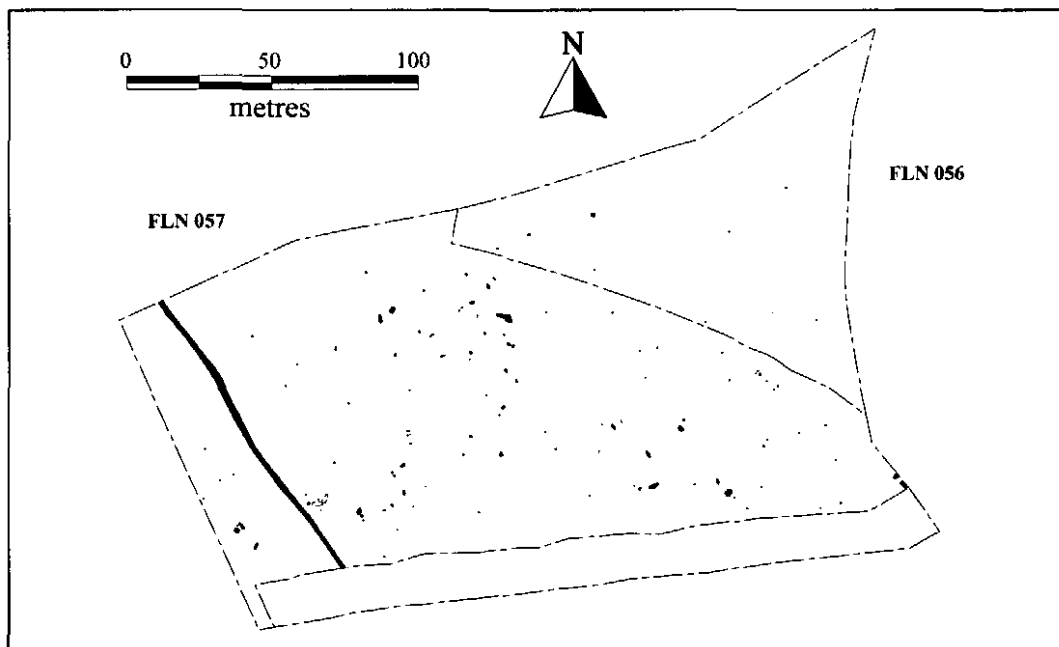


Fig. 15 FLN 056 & FLN 057 Phase Plan: Period 0 Undated & naturally derived features

### Ditches

Ditch 0008 was located 50 metres to the west of and parallel to the Period V.b. ditch 0010, but was slightly more sinuous. The ditch itself was up to 2 metres wide with a depth of 0.4 metres and a relatively rounded profile and fill of brown silty, stony sand. Artefactual evidence was limited to heat altered flints and meaningful stratigraphic relationships were absent. Given that the alignments of both the Period II.a. (Late Iron Age/Early Roman) and Period V.b. (post-medieval) field systems were similar, it is difficult to date individual isolated components accurately. The main reason for not including this feature in with the equally poorly dated Period II.a. ditches was the fact that it continued on to the north beyond what appeared to be the northern limit of that field system. However, it could be argued that as ditch 0225 appeared to peter out as it approached 0010 that it they could be considered to be contemporary and part of the same ditch complex.

The other two ditches (*0140 & 0477*) were represented by two adjacent butt-ends located in the south-east corner of the site.

Ditch *0140* was orientated from south-west to north-east, running under the eastern edge of the site. As it was not recorded *c.*10 metres to the east within the FLN 059 area it must terminate within the intervening area and its identification as a ditch must be questioned, although its V-shaped profile did not look very pit-like. In the excavated section, *0140* was 1 metre wide, 0.5 metres deep with a fill (*0141*) comprising homogenous brown silty sand with occasional stones.

Feature *0477* was orientated from the north-west to south-east, continuing under the southern edge of the site. In the excavated section *0477* was 0.8 metres wide, 0.6 metres deep with a V-shaped profile. The fill (*0478*) comprising homogenous brown silty sand with common gravel to pebble-sized stones.

### ***Pits***

A total of fifty two pits were attributed to this phase. While recorded throughout the site, Figure 15 does hint at a denser concentration coinciding with the area also occupied by the majority of the Period I.i. structures. This observation could be considered to be evidence that a fair proportion of the undated pits belong in Period I.i. and are Bronze Age or Iron Age in date. Others appeared to be closely associated with the earlier Period I.c., Period I.d. and Period I.e. features (Neolithic & Early Bronze Age) and probably belong in these phases.

The range in both size and character of the pits was considerable. Irregular features with very sandy fills were likely to have been natural tree-holes while there were also clearly defined circular features with charcoal flecks and heat altered flints which were almost certainly prehistoric in date but did not include any datable artefacts. Some even included scrappy undiagnostic worked flint that also favours an early date but does not provides enough evidence to be more specific.

### ***Hearth***

One feature (*0413*) described as a hearth was recorded. Effectively only represented by a *c.*0.85 metres in diameter area of heat-reddened natural subsoil located in an area close to one of the Period I.i. (Indeterminate Bronze Age/Iron Age) structures (*0558*) and earlier pits of Period I.d. or Period I.e. (Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age) date.

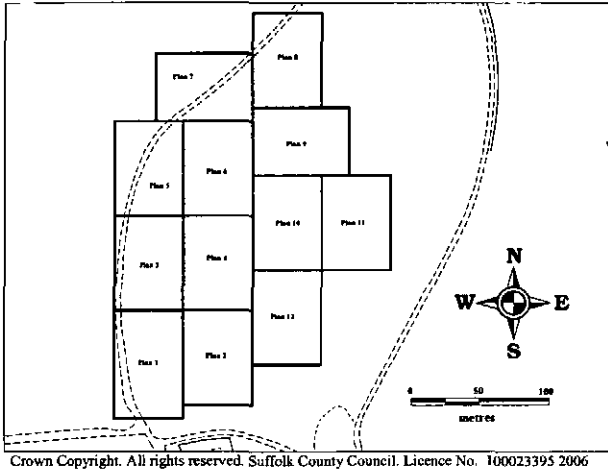
### ***Slot***

Slot *0221* was located towards the south-west corner of the site effectively forming an arc around the south side of the Period I.i. four-post structure *0555*. The feature was 6.9 metres long and had a maximum width of 1.4 metres and a depth of only 0.1 metres with indistinct edges and a fill (*0222*) comprising orange/brown silty sand. While it is tempting to think that the juxtaposition of *0221* and building *0555* suggests some form of relationship, it is more likely that *0221* was a naturally derived feature.

### ***Post-Holes***

A total of sixty-eight post-holes were attributed to this phase based on the lack of artefactual and stratigraphic evidence. While examples were recorded throughout the site, the highest concentration occurred in the general area occupied by the Period I.i. (Indeterminate Bronze Age/Iron Age) structures and it is reasonable to assume that a fair proportion of the undated post-holes actually belong in that phase.

The features exhibited a wide range of characters and dimensions with the majority providing no positive evidence that they had ever been utilised as post-holes with their inclusion under this feature type based entirely on size (less than 0.5 metres in



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**Fig. 16** 1:5,000 scale OS map extract showing the area covered by each Individual 1:100 scale inked plan sheet for FLN 059

diameter). Included are irregular groups of features, where formal structures could not be recognised, and isolated examples. Some may represent no more than discoloured subsoil caused by plant rooting, animal burrows or natural geological processes.

### 3.2.3 FLN 059

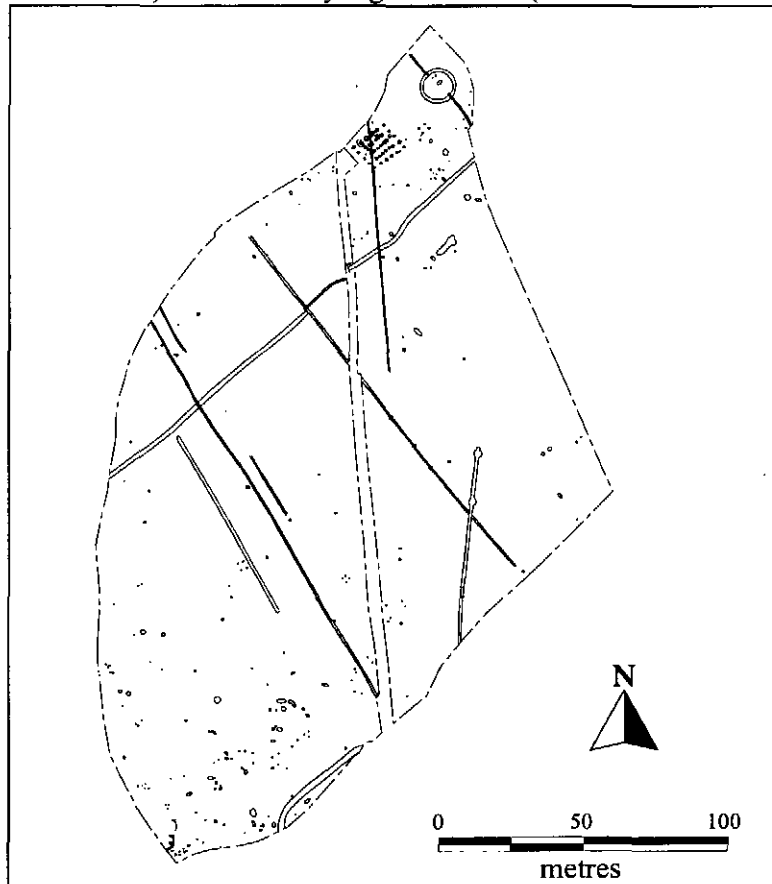
FLN 059 (New Phase 6) covered approximately 3 hectares to the north-east of and adjoining FLN 056 and FLN 057 (Fig. 2).

A total of six hundred and sixty one context numbers were

allocated to two hundred and ninety three discrete features and their stratigraphic elements (Appendix II{C}). In addition, a further forty eight numbers (FLN 059 1000-1047) were allocated to small finds (Appendix IV{C}).

A ring-ditch (FLN 055), previously identified from aerial photographs, was excavated within the FLN 059 context sequence.

The ten A1 size sheets of 1:100 scale original site plans have been inked (12 A1 size sheets, see Fig. 16) and digitised to achieve an overall plan (Fig. 17). In addition, a 1:50 scale plan of building/structure 0061 and another of ring-ditch 0480 (FLN 055) have been inked to archive standard. There are seven A1 size sheets of 1:20 scale section drawings and two 1:10 scale plans of cremation



**Fig. 17** 1:2,500 scale plan of FLN 059 showing all features

pit 0649 that will need security copies (scanned) to form part of the site archive.

The features and finds recorded in FLN 059 have been attributed to thirteen archaeological Periods/Phases; these are detailed below in Table 4.

Period/Phase	Basis for Dating	Features/Contexts
<b>Period I.c.</b> prehistoric: Early Neolithic c.4000-3200 BC <b>Total 7</b>	Artefactual evidence	<b>Pits: 0164, 0199, 0260/0295, 0287, 0613 (Total 5)</b> <b>Post-Holes: 0174, 0176 (Total 2)</b>
<b>Period I.d.</b> prehistoric: Late Neolithic c.3200-2000 BC <b>Total 15</b>	Artefactual evidence	<b>Pits: 0018, 0205, 0225, 0227, 0247, 0303, 0331, 0333, 0341, 0343/0360, 0345, 0362, 0364, 0377, 0453 (Total 15)</b>
<b>Period I.e.</b> prehistoric: Early Bronze Age c.2400-1500 BC <b>Total 6</b>	Stratigraphic, artefactual & typological evidence	<b>Ring-Ditch: 0480 (FLN 055) (Total 1)</b> <b>Burial: 0649 (Total 1)</b> <b>Pits: 0126, 0323, 0325, 0403 (Total 4)</b>
<b>Period I. d. &amp; e.</b> Indeterminate Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age c.3200 – 1500 BC <b>Total 5</b>	Artefactual evidence	<b>Pits: 0152, 0213, 0233, 0272, 0327 (Total 5)</b>
<b>Period I.g.</b> Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age c.800-400 BC <b>Total 27</b>	Stratigraphic & artefactual evidence	<b>Pits: 0084, 0092, 0099, 0112, 0118, 0138, 0162, 0180, 0184, 0195, 0215, 0237, 0262, 0280, 0317, 0319, 0339, 0375, 0389, 0391, 0421, 0615 (Total 22)</b> <b>Post-Holes: 0211 (Total 1)</b> <b>Slots: 0101 (Total 1)</b> <b>Spreads: 0194, 20197, 0402 (Total 3)</b>
<b>Period I.i.</b> Indeterminate Bronze Age/Iron Age c.2400 BC- 43 AD <b>Total 28</b>	Stratigraphic, artefactual & typological evidence	<b>Post-Hole Pairs: 0014 &amp; 0016, 0062 &amp; 0064, 0074 &amp; 0076, 0080 &amp; 0082, 0122 &amp; 0124, 0188 &amp; 0190, 0417 &amp; 0419, 0425 &amp; 0427 (Total 8 pairs, 16 individual post-holes)</b> <b>Post-Hole Structures: (0307) 0308, 0310, 0312, 0314, (0393) 0394, 0396, 0398, 0400, (0540) 0633, 0635, 0637, 0639 (Total 3 structures, 12 post-holes)</b>
<b>Period II.a.</b> Late Iron Age/Early Roman c.1 <sup>st</sup> BC – E.2 <sup>nd</sup> century AD <b>Total 63</b>	Stratigraphic, artefactual & typological evidence	<b>Building: (0061) 0002/0004, 0006, 0008/0027, 0010, 0029, 0031, 0033, 0045, 0047, 0049, 0051, 0053, 0055, 0057, 0506, 0509, 0511, 0513, 0515, 0518, 0520, 0523, 0526, 0528, 0531, 0533, 0535, 0541, 0544, 0553, 0557, 0560, 0563, 0566, 0569, 0572, 0575, 0578, 0581, 0584, 0587 (Total 41 individual post-holes)</b> <b>Pits: 0442, 0457, 0459, 0474, 0476, 0478, 0490, 0601, 0609, 0617, 0619, 0626, 0645 (Total 13)</b> <b>Ditches: 0068, 0254, 0291, 0413 (Total 4)</b> <b>Post-Holes: 0411, 0499, 0538, 0603, 0605 (Total 5)</b>
<b>Period II.c.</b> Roman c.L.3 <sup>rd</sup> - 4 <sup>th</sup> century AD <b>Total 1</b>	Artefactual evidence	<b>Pits: 0598 (Total 1)</b>
<b>Period II.0</b> Roman Unspecified date <b>Total 3</b>	Stratigraphic & artefactual evidence	<b>Pits: 0461, 0592, 0628 (Total 3)</b>
<b>Period IV</b> Medieval c.1066 – 1480 <b>Total 0</b>	Artefactual evidence	<b>Small Finds: 1010, 1012, 1025, 1030</b>
<b>Period V.b.</b> post-medieval c.17 <sup>th</sup> -19 <sup>th</sup> centuries <b>Total 5</b>	Stratigraphic & artefactual evidence	<b>Ditches: 0041, 0043, 0207 (Total 3)</b> <b>Drain: 0465 (Total 1)</b> <b>Pit: 0621 (Total 1)</b>

Table 4; continued on next page

Period/Phase	Basis for Dating	Features/Contexts
Period V.d. post-medieval c.20 <sup>th</sup> century <b>Total 2</b>	Stratigraphic & artefactual evidence	<b>Ceramic Drain: 0436, 0661 (Total 2)</b>
Period 0 Undated & naturally derived features          <b>Total 131</b>	None	<b>Ditches: 0096, 0630 (Total 2)</b> <b>Tree-holes: 0449, 0450 (Total 2)</b> <b>Pits: 0012, 0022, 0035, 0037, 0086, 0088, 0090, 0106, 0120, 0128, 0132, 0146, 0154, 0166, 0168, 0186, 0192, 0201, 0203, 0229, 0231, 0239, 0241, 0244, 0249, 0256, 0258, 0264, 0266, 0268, 0270, 0274, 0276, 0278, 0282, 0293, 0297, 0299, 0329, 0335, 0350, 0358, 0367, 0369, 0371, 0373, 0415, 0423, 0429, 0431, 0434, 0437, 0440, 0451, 0455, 0468, 0470, 0472, 0482, 0484, 0487, 0493, 0594, 0596, 0611, 0643 (Total 66)</b> <b>Post-Holes: 0020, 0025, 0039, 0059, 0066, 0070, 0072, 0078, 0108, 0110, 0114, 0116, 0130, 0134, 0136, 0140, 0142, 0144, 0148, 0150, 0170, 0172, 0178, 0182, 0209, 0217, 0219, 0221, 0223, 0235, 0252, 0284, 0305, 0321, 0337, 0348, 0352, 0354, 0356, 0379, 0381, 0383, 0385, 0387, 0405, 0407, 0409, 0444, 0446, 0463, 0495, 0497, 0502, 0607, 0624, 0641, 0647, 0651 (Total 58)</b> <b>Layers: 0024, 0246, 0251 (Total 3)</b>

Table 4: (FLN 059) Detailed Site Phasing

**Period I.c.; Early Neolithic, c.4000 – 3200 BC**

A total of seven features, all pits (0164, 0174, 0176, 0199, 0260/0295, 0287 & 0613) were assigned to this phase based entirely on artefactual evidence (Table 4 & Fig. 18) (NB one of these features, pit 0287 could not be found on the excavation plan).

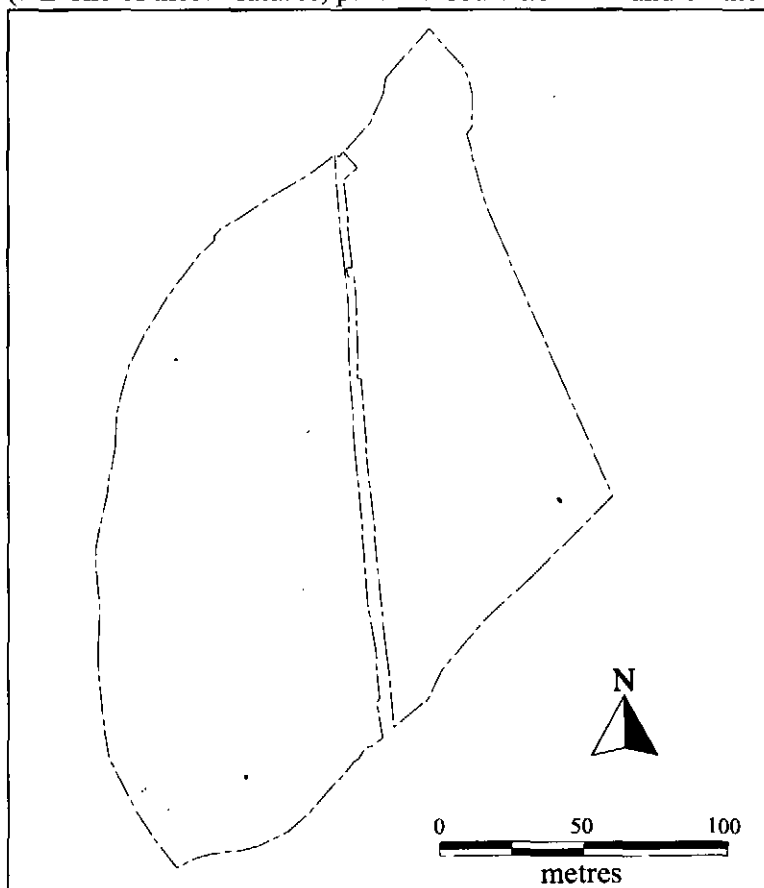


Fig. 18 FLN 059 Phase Plan: Period I.c. Early Neolithic

Four of the features (0164, 0174, 0176 & 0260/0295) were located towards the south-west corner of the site, close to a concentration of Period I.d. (Late Neolithic) features, while the other two 0199 & 0613 were isolated towards the western and eastern sides of the site respectively.

The pits varied considerably in both size and character, the largest (0613) was oval shaped, measuring 2 metre in length and 1 metre across with a depth of 0.5 metres while the smallest (0164) was 0.5 metres in

diameter with a depth of only 0.1 metre. With the exception of oval pit 0613 and irregular feature 0260/0295, the remainder were circular in shape.

Generally, the fills comprised relatively homogenous brown silty sand with some concentrations of gravel to pebble-sized stones. However, there was one exception, 0613, which had a darker outer fill and well developed iron-pan layers running through the feature and into the surrounding subsoil.

#### Period I.d.; Late Neolithic, 3200 – 2000 BC

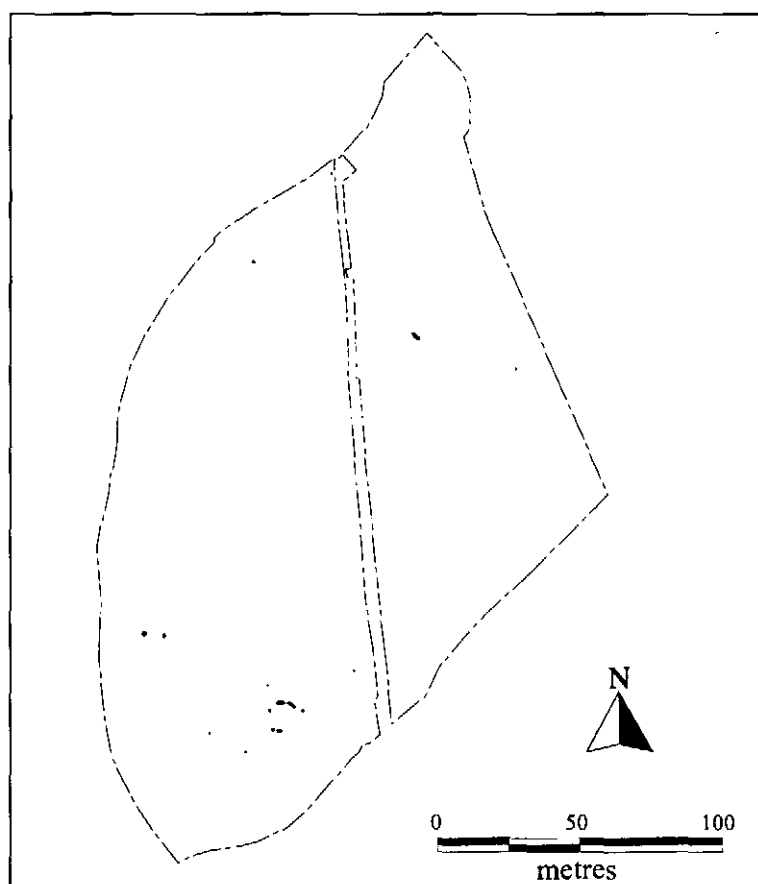


Fig. 19 FLN 059 Phase Plan: Period I.d. Late Neolithic

Fifteen features, all pits, were attributed to this phase based entirely on artefactual evidence, principally ceramics. With the exception of isolated pits 0205 & 0453, the features were located towards the southern end of the site and effectively continue the loose concentration of broadly similar dated features recorded in a band running across the northern side of the FLN 057 area (Figs. 7, 8 & 9).

The pits varied considerably, both in size and the character of their fills. The majority were circular or sub-circular with

diameters ranging from 0.4 metres (0345) and 2 metres (0333) with depths of between 0.2 metres (0345) and 0.8 metres (0205 & 0333). Four of the pits (0247, 0343/0360, 0364 & 0453) were more elongated or trough-like. Of these, 0453 was isolated towards the northern end of the site, with the remaining three located within the loose concentration to the south. Features 0343/0360 and 0364 were adjacent, arranged end to end and were possibly related.

The fills of the pits also varied considerably in their character, six (e.g. 0332 in 0331) had effectively only one component, comprising homogenous brown silty sand, while nine were stratified. Of these nine, five (0225, 0227, 0303, 0362 & 0364) were layered in such a way that might suggest deliberate 'structured' deposition.

Pit 0227 (Plate 2) was a good example of such a feature. Three fill components were commonly recognised. A basal fill comprising sterile orange stony sand, almost

certainly derived directly from the sides of the pit during a break in time between the initial excavation of the feature and the deposition of the middle fill component. This middle layer was always very dark in colour, with frequent charcoal flecks and in most cases included all of the artefactual evidence recovered from the feature. Larger sherds of pottery had sometimes been placed at the junction between this and the basal layer with the decoration side downwards. The third, upper layer generally comprised homogenous brown silty sand and could represent the slumping down into the feature of the overlying subsoil as the lower layers compacted and any organic content degraded over time. While the artefacts could be described as domestic in nature (ceramics, flint knapping waste & flint tools), it is the manner of their deposition which is not consistent with the simple disposal of rubbish. The interpretation of these features is discussed more fully in Section 5. (p.240) of this report.



Plate 2: Pit FLN 059 0227

**Period I.e.; Early Bronze Age, c.2400-1500 BC**

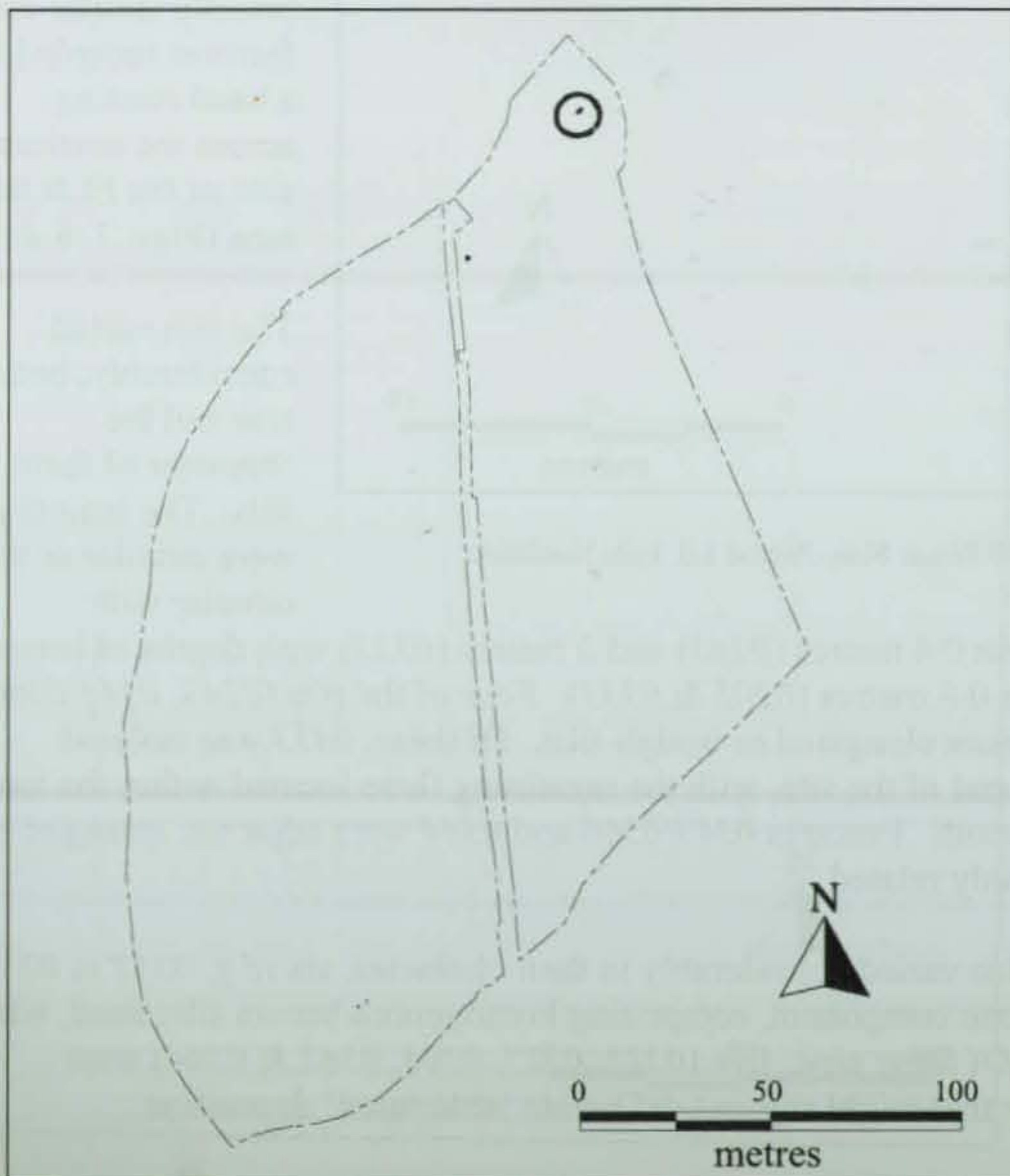


Fig. 20 FLN 059 Phase Plan: Period I.e. Early Bronze Age

A total of six features, a ring-ditch (0480), its associated cremation burial (0649) and four pits (0126, 0323, 0325 & 0403) (see Table 4 & Fig. 20) were attributed to this phase based on artefactual evidence, stratigraphy and typology. Ring-ditch 0480, previously tentatively identified on aerial photographs, had been allocated its own SMR code FLN 055 although it was subsequently excavated as part of the main excavation under the FLN 059 SMR code.

**Ring-Ditch**

A ring-ditch (0480) was recorded in the northernmost corner



of the FLN 059 excavation area (Fig. 20 & Plate 3). Describing a circle 12 metres in diameter, the ditch was 1 metre wide with a maximum depth of 0.9 metres and exhibited a V-shaped profile. While there was some variation within the stratified fills in the excavated sections, these were generally limited to two components: a primary fill comprising a relatively light orange/brown stony sand overlain by the upper fill comprising mid-dark brown silty, stony sand.



Plate 3 Ring-Ditch FLN 059 0480 & Associated Cremation FLN 059 0660

A north-west to south-east orientated ditch (0630) assigned to Period 0 (undated) approached and cut the ring-ditch on both its north-west and south-east sides, but did not continue through its interior. This provides evidence for the presence of a central mound/barrow still visible after the surrounding ditch had been backfilled or naturally silted up. The ditch had either been excavated to respect the barrow, or possibly continuing up and over it and since been destroyed along with the mound itself.

#### ***Cremation Burial***

Cleaning within the area confined by the ring-ditch revealed a single feature (0649), located north of centre and measuring 2 metres from north-east to south-west and 1 metre from south-east to north-west.

Excavation of the 1.2 metre deep, flat-bottomed, vertical sided feature revealed that it had primarily been used for the deposition of a cremation (0660). The cremation material formed a very distinct dome shape, suggesting that they may have originally been placed within a container, either leather, wood or textile, that has since rotted away (Plate 3).

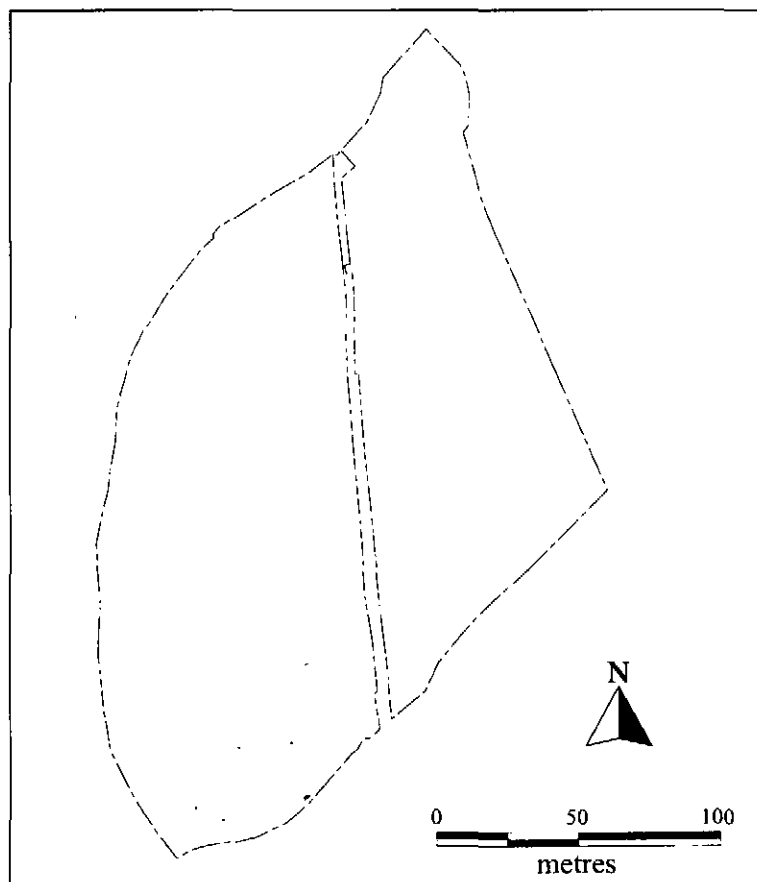
However, the presence of two levels of organic staining (0653 & 0659) recorded stratigraphically above the cremation, the lowermost (0659) more extensive than the uppermost (0653), may be significant. It is possible that these represent the remains of a bier, coffin or chamber indicating that the grave/pit had been used for two separate burials, one cremation and one inhumation, either contemporaneously or after reopening. The lack of evidence for a body associated with the organic stains does not preclude its presence. The sandy acidic soils encountered at Flixton have not generally proved conducive to the preservation of uncalcined bone.

**Pits**

Four pits (0126, 0323, 0325 & 0403) were attributed to this phase based entirely on the presence of exclusively Beaker pottery in their fills. Three of these (0126, 0323 & 0325) formed part of the loose concentration of Period I.d. (Late Neolithic) and Period I.e. (Early Bronze Age) features running through the north-eastern side of FLN 057 and into the southern end of FLN 059. These features were similar in size and character, all measuring c.0.6 metres in diameter with depths of c.0.2 metres and fills (0127, 0324 & 0326 respectively) of brown silty sand with varying amounts of gravel to pebble-sized stone inclusions. Pits 0323 and 0325 were adjacent, possibly forming a related pair.

Pit 0403 was recorded towards the northern end of the site approximately 40 metres to the south-west of ring-ditch 0480. This was a much larger feature measuring 1.3 metres in diameter with a depth of 0.6 metres. The fill (0404) comprised homogenous brown silty sand.

**Period I.d. & e.; Indeterminate Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age, c.3200-1500 BC**

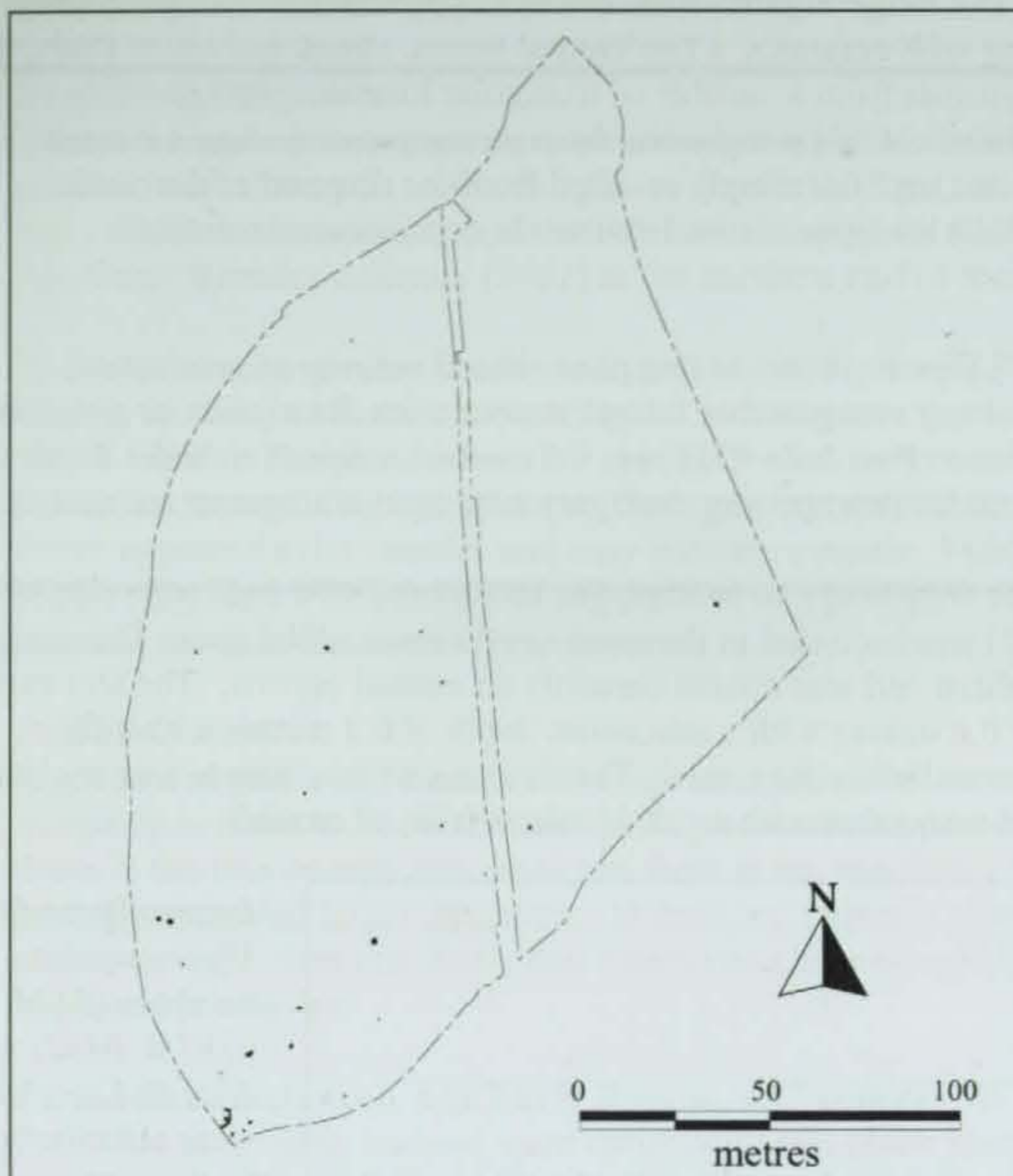


A total of five features, all pits (0152, 0213, 0233, 0272 & 0327) were attributed to this phase based entirely on artefactual grounds (Table 4 & Fig. 21). All of these features were located within the loose concentration of Period I.d. (Late Neolithic) and Period I.e. (Early Bronze Age) features occupying a strip running through the north-eastern side of FLN 057 and into the southern end of FLN 059.

With the exception of 0152, which was irregular in shape, measuring 2.4 metres long and c.1 metres across and interpreted as a

naturally occurring tree-hole within which finds had become incorporated, the pits were circular with diameters varying between 0.6 metres (0272 & 0327) to 0.9 metres (0233), all with depths of c.0.2 metres.

Fills comprised homogenous brown silty sand with varying concentrations of gravel to pebble-sized stones.



**Period I.g.; Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age, c.800 – 400 BC**

A total of twenty seven features were attributed to this phase, including nineteen pits, four post-holes, three spreads/layers and a slot (Table 4 & Fig. 22), based predominantly on artefactual evidence. These features were mainly located within in the southern half of the site with the highest concentration towards its southern end.

**Pits**

The twenty two pits exhibited a wide range of variation in

Fig. 22 FLN 059 Phase Plan: Period I.g. Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age

both size and their overall character. The majority were circular or sub-circular ranging from 0.5 metres (0375) to 1.5 metres (0184) in diameter with depths of 0.1 metres (0375) through to 0.7 metres (0339). Two exceptions were 0262 and 0215, the former was slot-like, measuring 1.6 metres by 0.4 metres with a depth of only 0.3 metres while 0215 had two lobes and may actually have been two separate features with no obvious cut. The fills generally comprised relatively homogenous brown silty sand, but there were some minor variations and varying concentrations of gravel to pebble-sized stones.

One pit, 0092, merits more detailed description. This feature was oval in shape, measuring 1 metre by 0.6

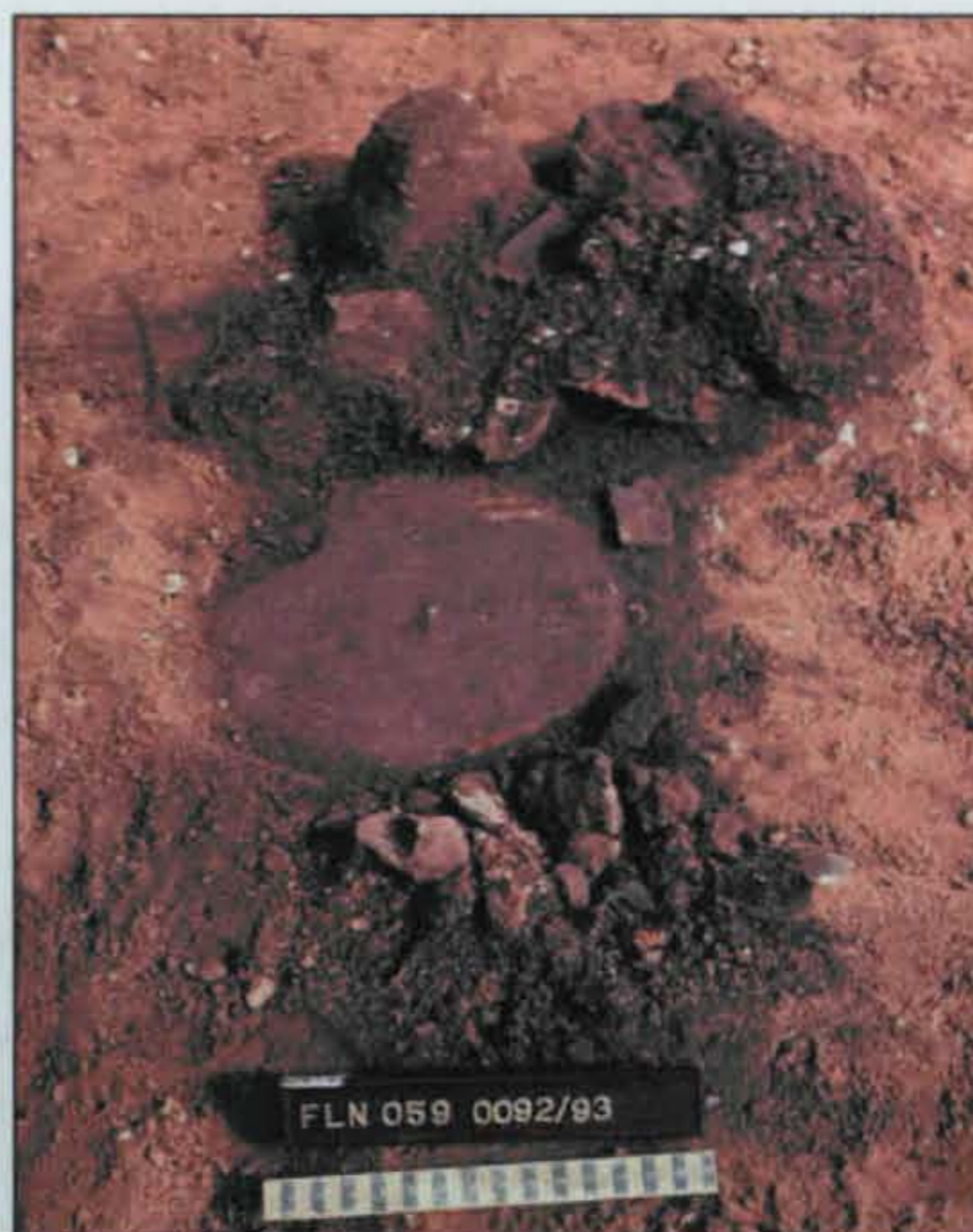


Plate 4: Pit FLN 059 0092

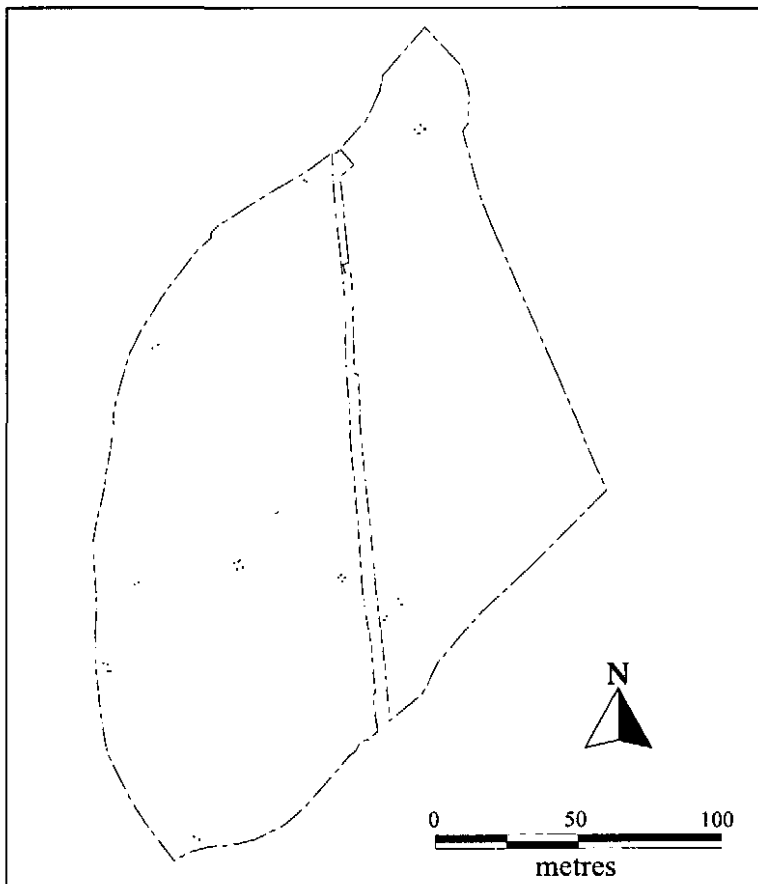
metres with a depth of 0.3 metres and a fill (0093) comprising dark grey/brown silty sand with common flecks of heat reddened clay (Plate 4). The unusual feature of this pit was the quantity and range of artefactual evidence recovered from such a small volume of fill. Along with ceramics, a few animal bones, struck and burnt flints, there were significant fragments from a number of triangular loomweights (possibly complete) and an almost complete top-stone from a rotary quern. Again it must be considered whether this material simply resulted from the disposal of domestic rubbish or represented a more specialised deliberate deposition of material.

**Post-Holes**

One post-hole (0211) was attributed to this phase based entirely on artefactual evidence. Not part of any recognisable formal structure, its description as a post-hole was based on size alone. Post-hole 0211 was 0.2 metres in diameter, had a depth of 0.3 metres and a fill (0212) comprising dark grey silty sand with gravel inclusions.

**Slot**

A curving slot (0101) was recorded in the south-west corner of the area. The irregular protrusion at its northern end was almost certainly an animal burrow. The slot varied in width from 0.3 to 0.6 metres with a maximum depth of 0.2 metres with a fill comprising homogenous, stony silty sand. The function of this feature was unclear, but it may have been associated with pit 0092 which it arced around



**Layers/Spreads**

Three context numbers (0194, 0197 & 0402) were allocated to what were effectively finds scatters either in very shallow ill-defined features disrupted during machining or in animal burrows.

**Period I.i.; Indeterminate Bronze Age/Iron Age, c.2400 BC - 43 AD**

A total of twenty eight individual post-holes relating to three four-posted structures (0307, 0393 & 0540) and 8 post-hole pairs (Table 4 & Fig. 23) were attributed to this phase. As with

Fig. 23 FLN 059 Phase Plan: Period I.i. Indeterminate Bronze Age/Iron Age

FLN 057, the inclusion of the four-posted structures was based on typology, whilst in the case of the paired post-holes it was their juxtaposition with more securely dated

features. It again seems likely that these features are actually of Period I.g. (Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age) date, but have been included in the more chronologically extended phase due to the lack of absolute dating.

#### ***Four-Posted Structures***

Three four-posted structures were identified, two (0307 & 0393) located towards the southern end of the site on the margins of the Period I.g. (Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age) feature concentration, and the other (0540) adjacent to the Period II.a. (Late Iron Age/Early Roman) structure (0061) at the northern end of the site (Fig. 23).

The three structures were similar to those recorded in the FLN 057 area, although slightly smaller, with sides measuring 2.5 to 2.8 metres from corner to corner rather than 3 metres. The post-holes were generally c.0.5 metres in diameter with depths of 0.3 to 0.4 metres, although those on the north-east side of structure 0393 (0396 & 0398) appeared to be doubles and may indicate a repair. Fills comprised homogenous brown silty sand with occasional suggestions of a post-pipe represented by darker material towards the centre of the feature.

#### ***Post-Hole Pairs***

Eight sets of post-holes have at this stage been identified as possibly related pairs. Similarly to those in FLN 057, the spacing between the post-holes was similar to those in the four-posted structures and there is the possibility that they represent partially truncated larger structures. If these are indeed a class of structure within their own right, then it is likely that others remain unrecognised within groups of unphased post-holes.

#### **Period II.a.; Late Iron Age/Early Roman, c.1<sup>st</sup> century BC – E.2<sup>nd</sup> century AD**

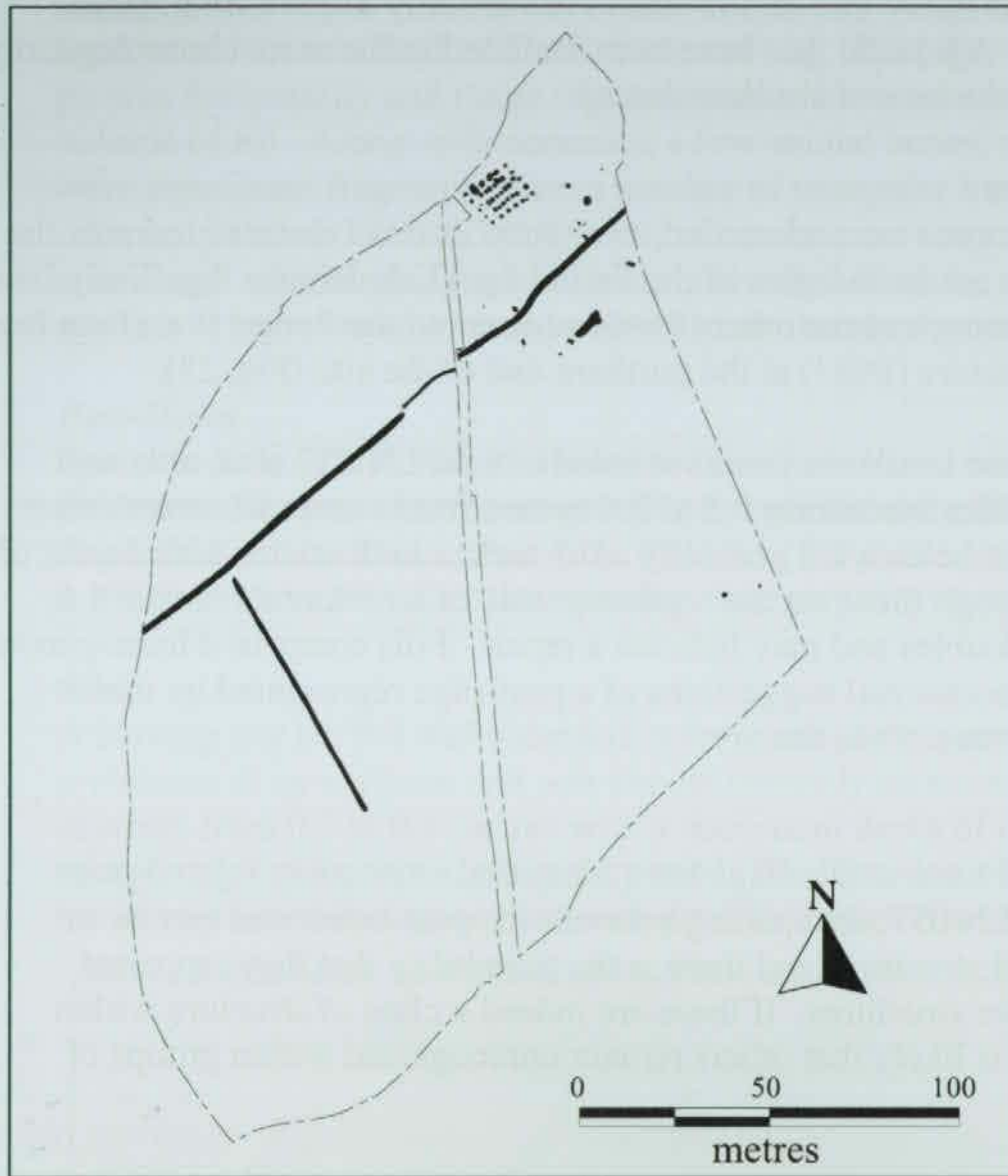
A total of sixty three features were assigned to this phase based predominantly on artefactual evidence, thirteen pits, four ditches and forty six post-holes, forty one of which comprised building/structure 0061 (Table 4 & Fig. 24).

The majority of the non-ditch features were located at the northern end of the site with the exception of only two isolated pits (0617 & 0626) recorded towards the south-east.

#### ***Building/Structure***

Enigmatic post-hole building/structure 0061 was recorded towards the northern end of the site immediately to the south-west of the Period I.e. (Early Bronze Age) ring-ditch (0480) (Fig. 24 & Plate 5). Forty one post-holes were attributed to the structure, although only thirty six appeared to fit the formal ground-plan, with the remaining five (0051, 0513, 0518, 0533 & 0553) either incidental to the structure or representing repairs and alterations. The structure/building was aligned respecting ditch 0413 which has also been included in this phase.

Rectangular in plan, measuring 14 metres from north-east to south-west and 11 metres from north-west to south-east, the building/structure was defined by eighteen external post-holes (six down each side & five across the ends) with a further three rows of six forming the internal aisles. There was no obvious evidence indicating the location of an entrance. The post-holes forming the internal aisles were closely spaced with respect to their neighbours (c.1.5 metres centre to centre) but the gap between the end post of each aisle and the external wall was larger (3 metres) giving the impression of a 'corridor' across each end. In addition, the six post-holes of each internal aisle



could be seen to fit within a distance of c.8 metres. Given that the end post-holes of the internal aisles lined up with the second post-holes along each external side it was clear that externally only four post-holes made up the same distance. While there was no reason to suggest that more than one phase of construction was represented the previously described arrangement of post-holes does suggest that two discrete elements were present. However, the problem with a single-phase structure is the close proximity of the post-holes with little room to move in-between.

Fig. 24 FLN 059 Phase Plan: Period II.a. Late Iron Age/Early Roman



Plate 5: Building/Structure FLN 059 0061

The external and internal post-holes varied considerably in size. The smallest of the external post-holes had a diameter of only c.0.6 metres and a depth of c.0.3 metres (0578), while the largest (0049) was oval in shape, measuring c.3 metres by c.1.75 metres, with a depth of c.0.5 metres. The largest internal post-holes measured c.2 metres by c.1.2 metres (0027) and the smallest was circular measuring c.0.75 metres in diameter (0526) with depths varying between c.0.5 metres (0566) to c.1 metre (0563). Almost all of the post-holes exhibited prominent post-pipes, the fill of which often contained a high proportion of clay, while the outer fills comprised homogenous, brown silty sand and gravel.

Very few artefacts were recovered from the post-holes; the external fills were sterile, with the finds exclusively recovered from the post-pipes. The ceramic evidence suggested an early to mid 1<sup>st</sup> century date; similar to the spot-dates obtained from the adjacent pits.

Small finds associated with this phase included nails from the post-pipes of structure 0061, a Colchester type brooch (1028) of 1<sup>st</sup> century date and a copper alloy mirror fragment (1040). The latter were recovered from an unstratified context close to the post-hole structure, the intervening subsoil layer that occurred between the topsoil and underlying sand and gravel. Their juxtaposition to the post-hole structure 0061 may have some significance.

### ***Pits***

Thirteen pits were assigned to this phase based on the artefactual evidence recovered from their fills (Table 4 & Fig 24). All, with the exception of pits 0617 & 0626 were clustered immediately to the south and south-east of building/structure 0061 on either side of ditch 0413.

There was considerable variation in both the size and character of the pits although four distinct categories were recognised:

- **Circular/Sub-circular:** Seven of the pits (0442, 0459, 0601, 0609, 0617, 0626 & 0645) fell into this category. The smallest (0442) was 0.5 metres in diameter with a depth of 0.2 metres while the largest (0609) was 1.8 metres in diameter with a depth of 0.8 metres. Fills generally comprised relatively homogenous brown silty sand with occasional stones.
- **Elongated (small):** Two pits (0457 & 0474) measured just over 1 metre in length, depths of 0.4 and c.0.1 metres respectively, with fills (0458 & 0475) of homogenous brown silty sand.
- **Elongated (large):** Represented by three examples (0476, 0490 & 0619) these features were distinctive in that they were trough-like with one rounded end and one square-cut end (particularly prominent in 0476 & 0619). All measured between 1.6 and 2 metres in length, widths of between 0.8 metres and 1 metre with depths of between 0.4 and 0.7 metres. The fills were darker in colour than the other pits, almost loamy in character with significant quantities of charcoal in 0476 (fill 0477) which also exhibited a stony central component. While the function of these features remains unclear, their similarity in form may be an indication of their association with a specific activity.
- **Irregular:** One large feature (0478), measuring c.8.7 metres by c.3.2 metres, was recorded with a maximum depth of 0.7 metres. While effectively forming an irregular trough, the lobed eastern end may actually have represented more than one feature that was not discernible in the excavated section. The fill (0479 &

0489) comprised relatively homogenous brown silty sand with a hint of stratification in one of the lobes. No obvious function could be suggested for this feature

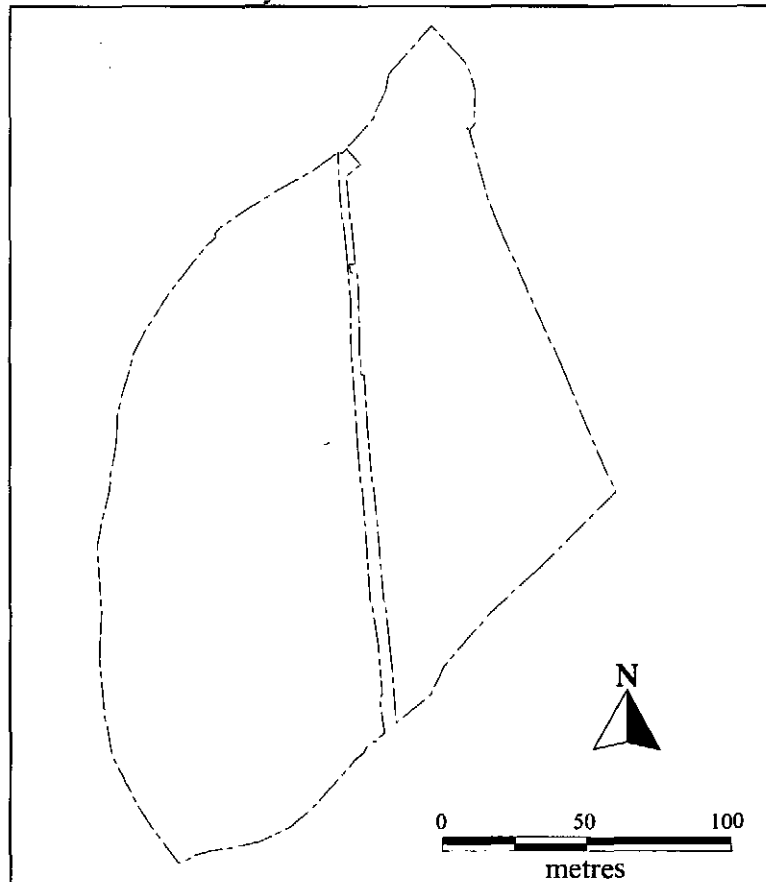
### **Post-Holes**

Five features were described as post-holes (0411, 0499, 0538, 0603 & 0605) based on their size rather than evidence that they actually performed that role (Table 4 & Fig. 24). All were located immediately to the north of ditch 0413 relatively close to building/structure 0061 in the same general area as the similarly dated pits. One of the features (0605) would certainly have been better off described as a small pit while another (0499), measuring 0.8 metres in diameter, was included due to its double-lobed base, possibly post-settings. The remaining three varied between 0.4 and 0.6 metres in diameter with depths of 0.1 to 0.3 metres and fills comprising homogenous brown silty sand with occasional gravel to pebble-sized stones.

### **Ditches**

Four ditches were attributed to this phase (0068, 0254, 0291 & 0413) (Table 4 & Fig. 24) based mainly on their apparent association with a field-system that in other areas of the quarry, most notably FLN 062, has produced datable artefactual evidence.

Both 0068 and 0413 were orientated from north-east to south-west and continue the alignment of FLN 056 0025 to the west and FLN 062 0305 to the east, respectively. They exhibited opposed butt-ends with an intervening *c.*20 metres gap. Narrower ditch 0291 effectively continued the line of ditches 0068 and 0413 in the area between



their two butt-ends and probably represents a subsequent blocking of the intervening gap between the butt-ends.

Ditch 0291 was orientated from north-west to south-east with a butt-end immediately south of and respecting 0068, running for 72 metres before terminating in a second butt-end to the south-east.

The four ditches exhibited considerable variation in their dimensions and character within the excavated sections.

Fig. 25 FLN 059 Phase Plan: Period II.c. Roman, *c.*L.3<sup>rd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> centuries



Ditch 0068 was 1.4 metres wide, had depth of 0.6 metres and a flat-bottomed steep-sided profile. The fill (0069) was well stratified with two major components; a lower stony fill derived naturally from the ditch sides and a homogenous upper component comprising brown silty sand.

Ditch 0413, which continued the alignment of 0068, was 1.2 metres wide, had a depth of 0.7 metres and a distinctly shouldered profile. Here the fill (0414) also had two main components, a light brown silty sand with iron-panning at the base with a darker brown silty sand with occasional gravel to pebble-sized stones above the level of the shoulder.

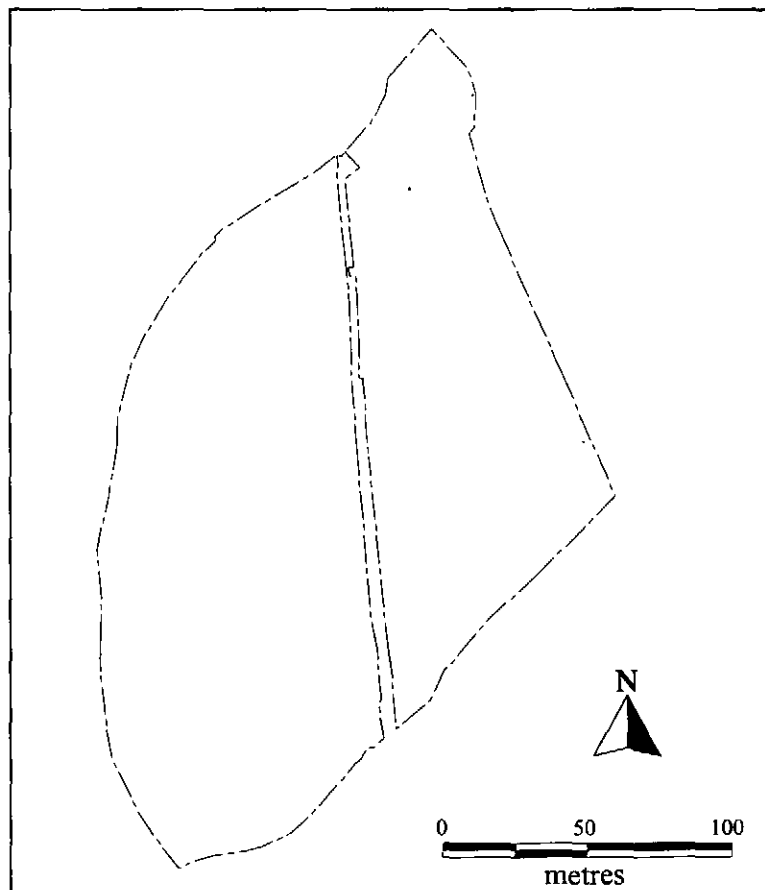
Ditch 0254 was 0.8 metres wide with a depth of 0.5 metres and a relatively steep-sided, round-bottomed profile. The fill (0255) was fairly homogenous, although some stratification was recorded in the form of stonier layers in the section.

Ditch 0291 was only 0.5 metres wide with a depth of 0.25 metres and a rounded profile. The fill (0292) comprised homogenous brown silty sand.

**Period II.c.; Roman, c.L.3<sup>rd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> century AD**

A single feature, a pit (0598) was attributed to this phase based entirely on artefactual evidence (ceramic) (Table 4 & Fig. 25).

Pit 0598 was located towards the northern end of the site, close to its eastern edge and within c.20 metres of two similarly dated features in the FLN 062 phase of the quarry



(FLN 062 0383 & 0405). The feature was small, with a diameter of 0.6 metres, a depth of c.0.25 metres and a fill (0599) comprising dark grey/black loamy sand with occasional gravel to pebble-sized stones.

**Period II.0; Roman, unspecified date**

Three features (0461, 0592 & 0628) were assigned to this phase based entirely on the artefactual evidence recovered from their excavated fills (Table 4 & Fig. 26). Two of these features (0461 & 0592) were located towards the northern end of the site within

Fig. 26 FLN 059 Phase Plan: Period II.0. Roman unspecified date

the general area occupied by the concentration of Period II.a. (Late Iron Age/Early Roman) features. The third (0628) was located close to the eastern edge of the site towards the south-east corner, also close to Period II.a. (Late Iron Age/Early Roman) features.

Pits 0592 and 0628 were small, measuring 0.6 and 0.7 metres in diameter, respectively, with a depth of only 0.2 metres. The fill of 0592 (0593) comprised dark brown/grey loamy sand with gravel to pebble-sized stones while that of 0628 (0629) comprised brown silty sand.

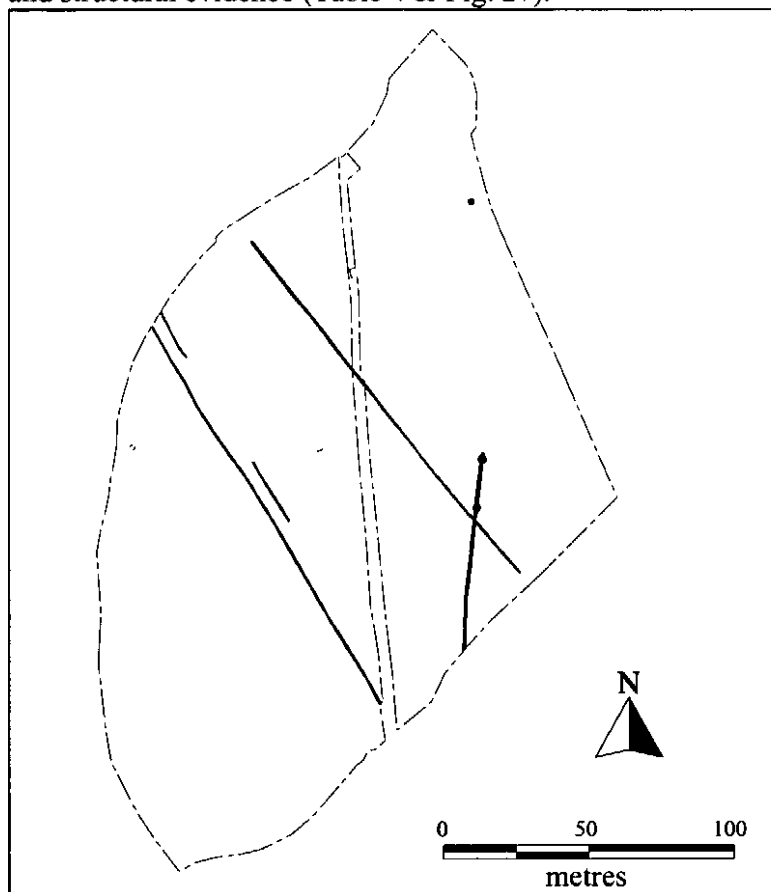
Pit 0461 was larger, measuring 0.9 metres in diameter with a depth of 0.5 metres. The fill (0462) exhibited hints of stratification with a darker silty sand central, with one large flint cobble, overlying a lighter brown silty sand

#### **Period IV.; medieval, c.1066-1480**

Four small finds, 1010, a long cross penny of Edward II (1307-1327), 1012, a folding strap clasp, 1025, a belt buckle & 1030, a circular disc mount, were recovered during the metal detector survey over the intervening layer of subsoil between the topsoil and the naturally occurring sand and gravel.

#### **Period V.b.; post-medieval, c.17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> centuries**

Five features, a brick-built drain (0465), a pit (0621) and three ditches (0041, 0043 & 0207) were attributed to this phase based on a combination of artefactual, stratigraphic and structural evidence (Table 4 & Fig. 27).



#### **Drain**

Drain 0465 ran in a north-easterly direction for approximately 70 metres from the southern side of the site, clearly from the direction of Flixton Hall. The pipe was constructed entirely in brick (0467) set in a hard cream coloured lime mortar with chalk lumps. The pipe described a full circle with a diameter of 0.7 metres, although somewhat flattened on its upper surface, possibly the result of post-construction subsidence. The locally made 'Elmham St. Cross' bricks with their

**Fig. 27** FLN 059 Phase Plan: Period V.b. post-medieval c.17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> centuries

characteristic cross-shaped frog had been used throughout and suggest that the feature dates to the rebuilding of the hall in the later 19<sup>th</sup> century after its destruction by fire. A circular, c.2.9 metres in diameter, clay-bottomed silt trap had been constructed beneath the drain c.20 metres from its northern end, with a similar sized soakaway built only two metres from its northern end. Also constructed from Elmham St. Cross bricks, these features had been dry-lain in a honeycomb pattern, to allow the passage of water into the surrounding subsoil. The clay bottom in the silt trap suggests that it had been constructed with a view to gaining access periodically to dig out the accumulation of material in its base.

### ***Pit***

One pit (0621) was assigned to this phase based primarily on stratigraphy (it clearly cut the subsoil), but also its character and similarity to more firmly dated features in other phases of the quarry.

The pit was circular, c.2 metres in diameter with gently sloping sides and a maximum depth of 0.3 metres. The majority of the fill (0622) comprised chalky clay with pebble to cobble-sized flints. A well-defined central fill, 0.6 metres in diameter with a depth of 0.1 metres, comprising brown silty sand was also recorded.

Features such as these have been recorded in other areas of the quarry including FLN 061 and FLN 064 and here clearly represent formal tree-plantings within Flixton Hall Park. The clay layer almost certainly intended to retard drainage in the sandy soil.

### ***Ditches***

Three ditches (0041, 0043 & 0207) were attributed to this phase based primarily on stratigraphy as there was no artefactual evidence (Table 4 & Figure 27). All three were orientated approximately north-west to south-east across the central part of the site.

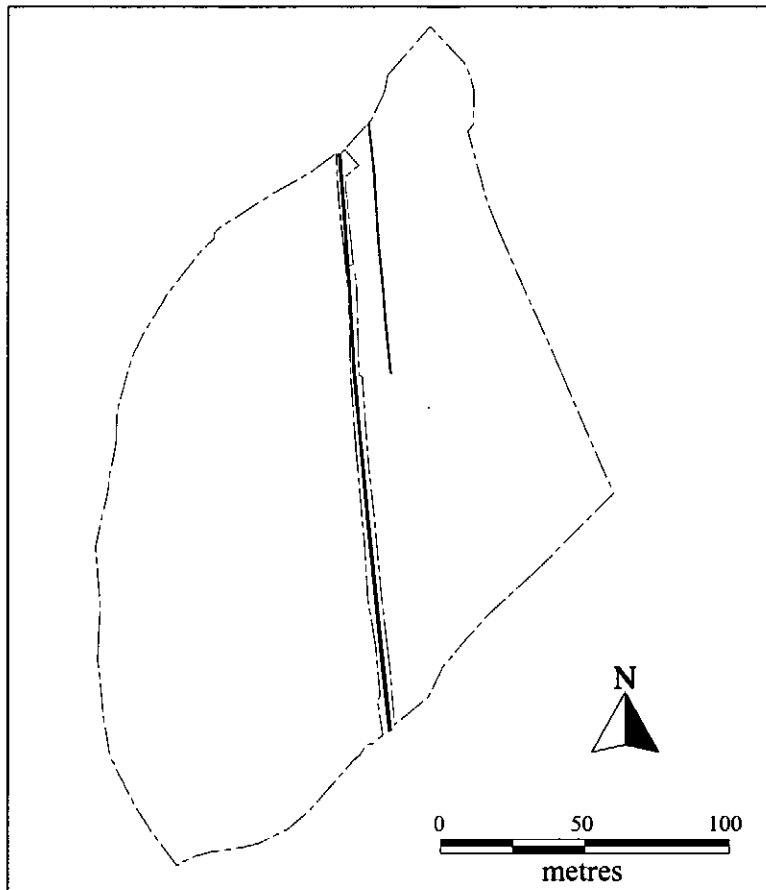
Ditches 0041 & 0043 appeared to be related, they were parallel (5 metres apart) and similar in character. Both were thought to cut the intervening subsoil layer between the topsoil and the naturally occurring sand and gravel. While ditch 0041 was recorded running right across the site, 0041 was only seen in two sections of c.20 metres and c.25 metres, possibly due to its being machined away in the subsoil. Where excavated, ditch 0041 was 0.3 metres wide with a depth of only 0.05 metres while 0043 was 0.6 metres wide with a depth of 0.2 metres. The fills of both ditches (0042 & 0044 respectively) comprised green-tinged slightly clayey silty sand with occasional stones. Ditch 0043 clearly cut the Period II.a. (Late Iron Age/Early Roman) ditch 0068.

Ditch 0207 was recorded on a similar alignment to 0041 and 0043 some 48 metres to the east. The feature was 0.6 metres wide with depth of 0.2 metres and had a fill (0208) comprising homogenous brown silty sand with occasional gravel to pebble-sized stones. Stratigraphically, ditch 0207 clearly cut the Period II.a. (Late Iron Age/Early Roman) ditch 0291, but ran under the Period V.b. drain 0465. In addition, this feature appeared to continue the alignment of a ditch previously recorded in an earlier quarry area to the north (FLN 013 0078) from which more secure dating evidence was recovered.

None of these ditches relate to boundaries shown on any of the readily available historic maps (earliest an estate map of 1760) and it seems likely that they were filled

in as part of the early park landscaping. While the lack of artefactual dating evidence is unhelpful, the fact that ditches 0041 and 0043 appear to cut the intervening subsoil layer between the topsoil and underlying gravel is crucial as generally this layer did not appear to have developed until at least the post-Roman period and probably considerably later (medieval tile had been recorded towards its base). In addition, the artefactual evidence from the adjacent FLN 013 site seems strong enough to include ditch 0207.

**Period V.d.; post-medieval, c.20<sup>th</sup> century**



Two features (0436 & 0661), both ceramic drains were undoubtedly of relatively recent date (either very late 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> century), running approximately from north to south away from Flixton Hall (Table 4 & Figure 28). Drain 0661 was still in use removing farmyard runoff/waste at the time of excavation and had to be replaced with plastic pipe by quarry staff. Both of these features had earlier been recorded in the FLN 053 area to the north.

**Fig. 28** FLN 059 Phase Plan: Period V.d. post-medieval c.20<sup>th</sup> century

**Period 0; Undated & Naturally Derived Features**

A total of one hundred and thirty one features, two ditches, sixty six pits, fifty eight post-holes, two tree-pits and three layers were attributed to this phase due to the lack of meaningful dating evidence (Table 4 & Figure 29). While scattered throughout the site, there was clearly a moderate concentration towards the southern end and a lesser concentration towards the north. The southern concentration coincided well with the area occupied by the majority of the Period I (prehistoric) features and it is thought likely that many of the undated features were of a similar date. By the same token, the lesser concentration to the north coincided broadly with the area occupied by the Period II (Late Iron Age & Roman) features and the majority of the undated features here were probably of that date.

**Ditches**

Two ditches (0096 & 0630) remained undated (Table 4 & Figure 29), although, arguably, there is some evidence with which a narrowing down of their chronological period can be achieved.

Ditch 0096 was located towards the southern end of the site and clearly formed the c.41 metre long northern side of an enclosure that continued on beyond the southern edge of the site.

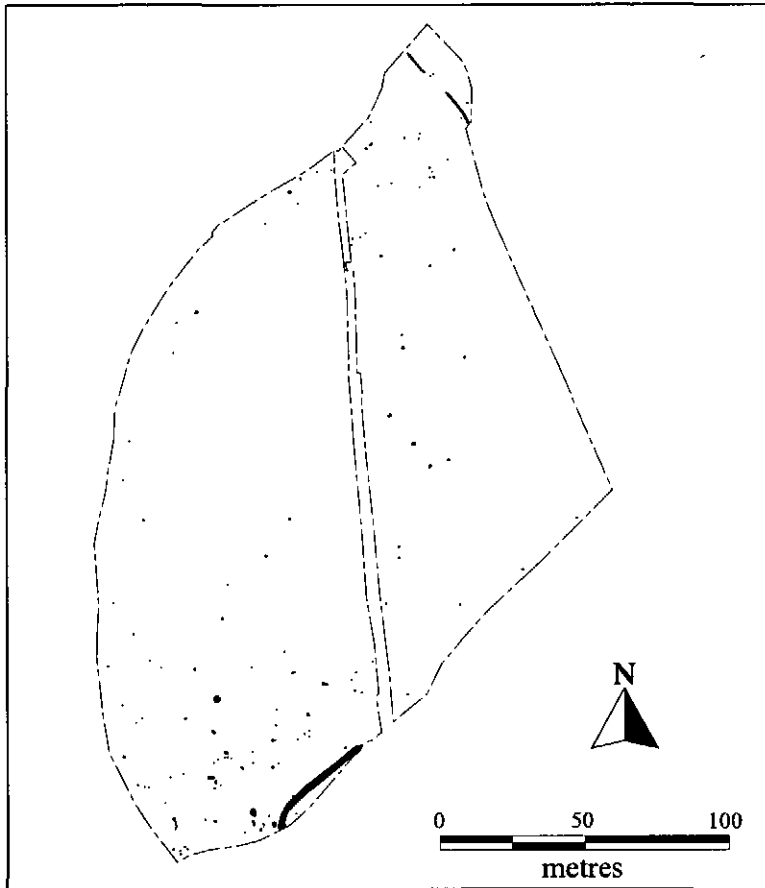


Fig. 29 FLN 059 Phase Plan: Period 0. Undated & naturally derived features

The feature itself varied in width between 1.8 and 2.8 metres in the excavated sections with a maximum depth of 1.05 metres and usually exhibited a distinctly shouldered profile. While there were marked differences in the fills of the three excavated sections, depending on the character of the adjacent natural sand and gravel subsoil, all effectively had two main components. A lower, primary fill (0157 & 0159) appeared to represent material derived directly from the sides of the ditch and varied accordingly between slightly silty

sand through to very stony sand. The second, upper, component (0156 & 0158) always comprised relatively homogenous brown silty sand with occasional gravel to pebble-sized stones.

The north-east to south-east alignment of ditch 0096 is in keeping with that of both the Period II.a. (Late Iron Age/Early Roman) field-system and the later, Period V (post-medieval) ditches and cannot, therefore, be used to firmly place the feature in a particular phase. However, the overall character of the ditch, its dimensions, it being part of a round cornered enclosure, its well leached fill (with locally well developed iron pan) and lack of artefactual evidence, could be said to favour a prehistoric date, but whether it was related to Period II.a. (Late Iron Age/Early Roman) or associated with the adjacent concentration of earlier prehistoric features is unclear.

Ditch 0630 was recorded as a two short north-west to south-east aligned lengths on both sides of and cutting the Period I.e. (Early Bronze Age) ring-ditch 0480. The ditch section to the north of the ring-ditch was c.10 metres long, butt-ending to the north and either butt-ending or truncated to the south. The ditch section to the south of the ring-ditch butt-ended or was truncated to the north and ran for distance of 14 metres before appearing to continue under the edge of the site to the south into the area later excavated as FLN 062. The later excavation of FLN 062 failed to identify this continuation. The ditch itself was 0.6 metres wide with a maximum depth of 0.2 metres and a fill (0631 & 0632) comprising orange/brown gravelly sand.

While no artefactual dating evidence was recovered from the fill it was clear that the ditch either butt-ended respecting at least a vestigial mound within the ring-ditch or could have continued over the top of a mound and only since become truncated. This suggests at least some antiquity for the feature almost certainly precluding a post-medieval date

#### ***Pits***

A total of sixty six pits remained undated. While recorded throughout the site, Figure 29 does show a concentration towards the south, in the general area occupied principally by Period I. (prehistoric) features. A further minor concentration can also be recognised towards the north in the area with Period II (Late Iron Age & Roman) features and it is reasonable to assume that a fair proportion of the undated pits recorded in these areas belong in these two periods.

The range in both size and character of the pits was considerable. Irregular features with very sandy fills were likely to have been natural tree-holes while there were also clearly defined circular features with charcoal flecks and heat altered flints which were almost certainly prehistoric in date but did not include any datable artefacts. Others included scrappy undiagnostic worked flint that also favours an early date but does not provide enough evidence to be more specific.

#### ***Post-Holes***

A total of fifty-eight post-holes were attributed to this phase based on the lack of artefactual and stratigraphic evidence. While examples were recorded throughout the site, the highest concentration occurred towards the south, in the general area occupied principally by Period I. (prehistoric) features. A further minor concentration was recognised towards the north in the area with a number of Period II (Late Iron Age & Roman) features and it is reasonable to assume that a good number of the undated post-holes recorded in these areas belong in these two periods.

The features exhibited a wide range of characters and dimensions with the majority providing no positive evidence that they had ever been utilised as post-holes with their inclusion under this feature type based entirely on size (less than 0.5 metres in diameter). These included both irregular groups of features, where formal structures could not be recognised, and isolated examples. Some may represent no more than discoloured subsoil caused by plant rooting, animal burrows or natural geological processes.

#### ***Tree-Pits***

Two features (0449 & 0450) were described as tree-pits. These were irregular features located on the line of ditch 0207 (along with undated pit 0434) with ill-defined edges and contained fills comprising of orange/brown silty sand. These were

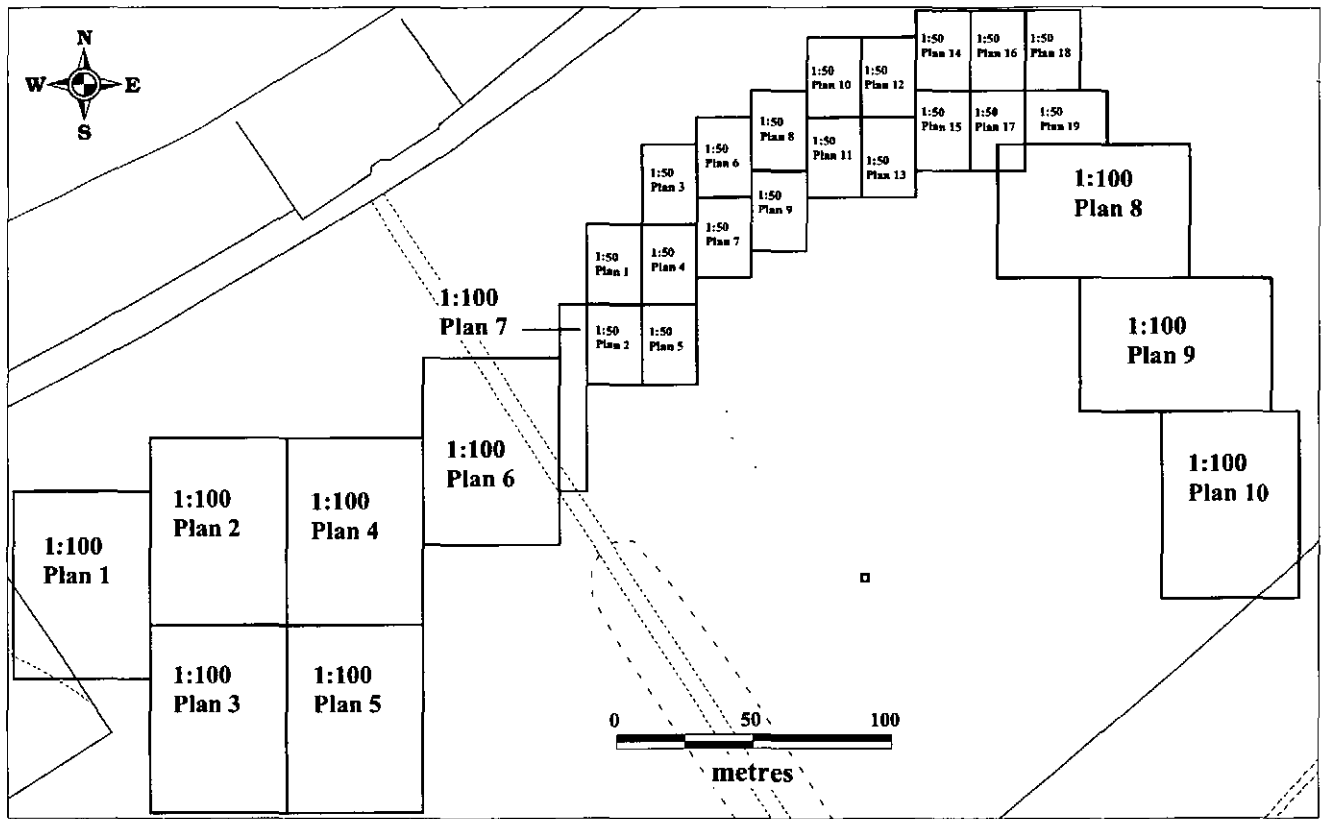
interpreted as possibly representing the location of trees standing along the boundary marked by ditch 0207.

**Layers**

The three features described as layers (0024, 0246 & 0251) were effectively irregular, poorly defined areas of heat altered natural, either representing the vestiges of hearths, burnt out tree-stumps or simply the site of a small fire at ground level which had affected the soil below.

**3.2.4 FLN 061**

The area excavated as FLN 061 effectively comprised New Phase 11 (excavated in 2001), a small portion of New Phase 12 (excavated in 2002) and a c.40 metre wide strip around the northern and eastern edge of the quarry, the topsoil from which was



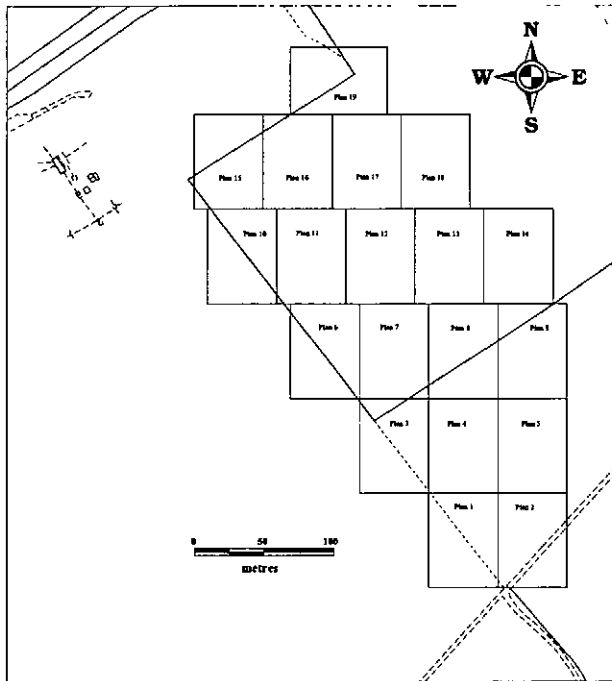
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**Fig. 30** 1:2,500 scale OS map extract showing the area covered by each Individual 1:100 & 1:50 scale inked plan sheet for FLN 061 (Bund)

used to construct the necessary safety bund (stripped in 2001 but excavated in 2002)(Fig. 2). The total area excavated as FLN 061 measured 5.9 hectares.

A total of one thousand five hundred and seven context numbers were allocated to three hundred and eight discrete features, multi-contextual structures/complexes and their associated stratigraphic elements (Appendix II{D}). In addition, ninety one numbers were allocated to small-finds (Appendix IV{D}).

For the area excavated during 2001, the thirteen A1 size sheets of 1:100 scale original site plans have been inked (13 A1 size sheets, see Fig. 31) and digitised to achieve an overall plan (Fig. 33). In addition, two A1 1:50 scale plan sheets covering a ring-



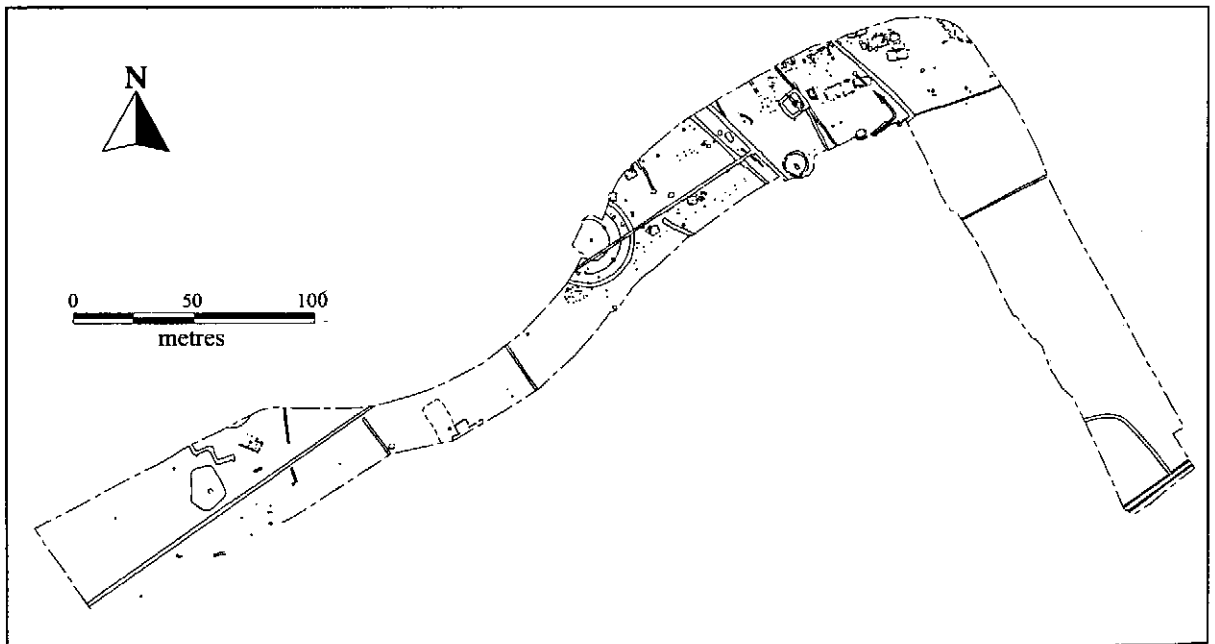
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**Fig. 31** 1:5,000 scale OS map extract showing the area covered by each Individual 1:100 scale inked plan sheet for FLN 061 (New Phase 11) & FLN 063

ditch (0202) have been inked to archive standard. There is one A1 size sheet of 1:20 scale section drawings and one A1 sheet of 1:10 scale plans/sections of grave 0468 that will need security copies (scanned) to form part of the site archive.

For the area excavated during 2002 (including bund plans from 2001) the 8 A1 size sheets of 1:100 scale original plans and 16 (A1 size sheets) 1:50 scale original plans have been inked (26 A1 size sheets, see Fig. 30) and digitised to achieve an overall plan (Fig. 32). There are 6 A1 sized sheets of 1:20 scale section drawings and 1:10 scale grave plans/profiles that will need copying as part of the site archive.

The features and artefacts recorded in FLN 061 have been attributed to ten archaeological Periods/Phases these are detailed in Table 5.



**Fig 32** 1:3,000 scale plan of FLN 061 (Bund) showing all features



Period/Phase	Basis for Dating	Features/Contexts
<b>Period I.a.</b> Prehistoric: Lower Palaeolithic c.500,000 - 38,000 BP <b>Total 0</b>	Artefact type	<b>Residual Find (handaxe) in Later Feature: 1027</b>
<b>Period I.c.</b> Prehistoric: Early Neolithic c.4000-3200 BC <b>Total 1</b>	Artefactual evidence	<b>Pits: 0818 (Total 1)</b>
<b>Period I.d.</b> Prehistoric: Late Neolithic c.3200-2000 BC <b>Total 3</b>	Artefactual evidence	<b>Pits: 0087, 0842, 0848 (Total 3)</b>
<b>Period I.e.</b> Prehistoric: Early Bronze Age c.2000-1500 BC <b>Total 6</b>	Stratigraphic, artefactual & typological evidence	<b>Ring-Ditches: 0202, 0218, 1494 (Total 3)</b> <b>Graves: 0468, 0724, 1497 (Total 3)</b>
<b>Period I.f.</b> Late Bronze Age c.1000-650 BC <b>Total 2</b>	Stratigraphic & artefactual evidence	<b>Pits: 0062, 0570 (Total 2)</b>
<b>Period III</b> Early Anglo Saxon c.410 – E.7 <sup>th</sup> century  <b>Total 54</b>	Stratigraphic, artefactual & typological evidence	<b>Buildings: (SFB's) 0276, 0278, 0605, 0810, 1319, 1346, 1501 (total 7); (Halls) 0093, 0612, 0613, 0901, 1200, 1350 (total 6); (misc.) 0225, 0710, 0717, 0900, 1120, 1523 (total 6)</b> <b>(Overall No. Buildings; 19)</b> <b>Ditch &amp; Pit Complex: (Outer Enclosure Ditches) 0296, 0314, 1303, 1398 (Inner Enclosure Ditch) 0836 (Central Pit) 1312 (Total 6)</b> <b>Pits: 0091, 0171, 0311, 0604, 0694, 0785, 0823, 0825, 0846, 0853, 0857, 0859, 1103, 1121, 1343, 1349, 1461, 1463, 1499, 1555 (Total 20)</b> <b>Post-Holes: 0173, 0175, 1111 (Total 3)</b> <b>Ditches: 0309, 0318, 0532, 0534, 0839, 1559 (Total 6)</b>
<b>Period IV</b> Medieval c.1066-1480 <b>Total 0</b>	Artefactual evidence	<b>Intrusive &amp; Residual Pottery</b> <b>Small Finds: 1028</b>
<b>Period V.b.</b> post-medieval c.17 <sup>th</sup> -19 <sup>th</sup> centuries  <b>Total 53</b>	Stratigraphic, artefactual, typological & map evidence	<b>Barn: 0178 (Total 1)</b> <b>Well: 0177 (Total 1)</b> <b>Post-Holes: 0182, 0184 (Total 2)</b> <b>Layers: 0130 (Total 1)</b> <b>Pits: 0085, 0486, 0488, 0490, 0492, 0494, 0496, 0498, 0500, 0502, 0504, 0506, 0508, 0510, 0512, 0514, 0516, 0518 (Total 18)</b> <b>Fence Line: (1563) 0422, 0740, 0742, 1324, 1534, 1536, 1538, 1564, 1566, 1568, 1570, 1572, 1574, 1576, 1578, (1580) 1581, 1583, 1585, 1587 (Total 19)</b> <b>Ditches: 0008, 0010, 0012/1301, 0056/0441/1199, 0065, 0067/0110, 0131, 0137, 0294, 0830, 1296 (Total 11)</b>
<b>Period V.c.</b> post-medieval; c.1914-1918  <b>Total 46</b>	Stratigraphic, artefactual & typological evidence	<b>Trenches &amp; Shelters: 0002, 0004, 0006, 0014, 0016, 0018, 0020, 0022, 0060, 0190, 0192, 0194, 0196, 0198, 0200/0206, 0478, 0480, 0482, 0520 (together forming complex 0536) 0079, 0254 (Total 21)</b> <b>Latrine/Rubbish Pits: 0024, 0026, 0028, 0030, 0032, 0034 0036, 0038, 0040, 0042, 0044, 0046, 0048, 0050, 0052, 0054, 0069, 0071, 0073, 0075, 0083, 0186, 0188, 0437, 0439 (Total 25)</b>
<b>Period V.d.</b> post-medieval c.20 <sup>th</sup> century <b>Total 3</b>	Stratigraphic & artefactual evidence	<b>Pits: 0728, 1416, 1459 (Total 3)</b>

Table 5; continued on next page

Period/Phase	Basis for Dating	Features/Contexts
Period 0 Undated & naturally derived features	None	<p><b>Pits:</b> 0077, 0081, 0089/0133, 0108, 0139, 0256, 0264, 0267, 0272, 0274, 0280, 0282, 0292, 0322, 0324, 0352, 0404, 0412, 0425, 0429, 0433, 0530, 0567, 0583, 0585, 0596, 0681, 0744, 0750, 0760, 0772, 0780, 0783, 0802, 0818, 0827, 0832, 0861, 0867, 0874, 0887, 1101, 1109, 1115, 1146, 1161, 1163, 1185, 1190, 1293, 1299, 1310, 1326, 1405, 1407, 1409, 1411, 1414, 1419, 1421, 1442, 1465, 1472, 1482, 1495, 1513, 1524, 1526, 1557, 1593, 1606, (Total 71)</p> <p><b>Post-hole group:</b> (0787) 0788, 0790, 0792, 0794, 0796, 0798, 0800, 0804, 0806 (Total 9)</p> <p><b>Post-Holes:</b> 0214, 0216, 0270, 0298, 0300, 0358, 0396, 0400, 0402, 0427, 0704, 0706, 0736, 0865, 0892, 1107, 1150, 1188, 1320, 1322, 1324, 1328, 1330, 1332, 1336, 1338, 1340, 1347, 1432, 1434, 1468, 1532, 1551, 1598, 1600, 1607 (Total 36)</p> <p><b>Possible Cremation:</b> 0302 (Total 1)</p> <p><b>Possible Structure:</b> (0266) 0258, 0260, 0262 (Total 3)</p> <p><b>Layers/Spreads:</b> 0210, 0269, 0619 (Total 3)</p> <p><b>Periglacial Gullies:</b> 0135, 0212, 0312/0408/0420, 0316, 0434, 0522, 0524, 0639, 0834 (Total 9)</p> <p><b>Ditches:</b> 0286, 0431/0598, 0431/0600; also ?related ditches 0058, 0112, 0204, 0208, 0443, 0484 (Total 9)</p>
<b>Total 141</b>		

Table 5: (FLN 061) Detailed Site Phasing

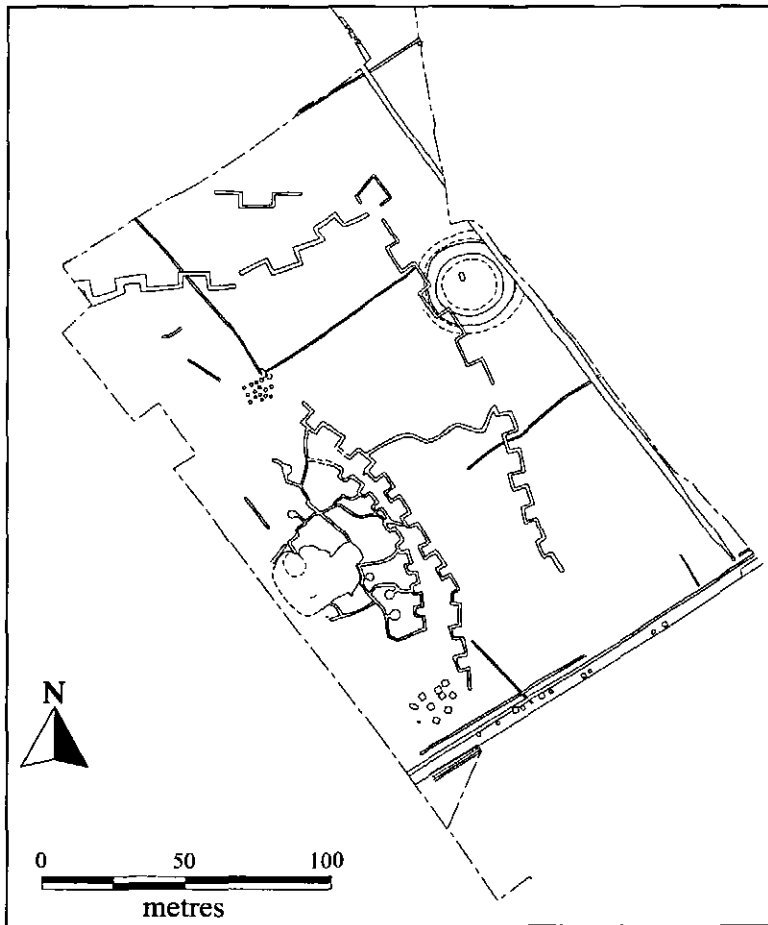


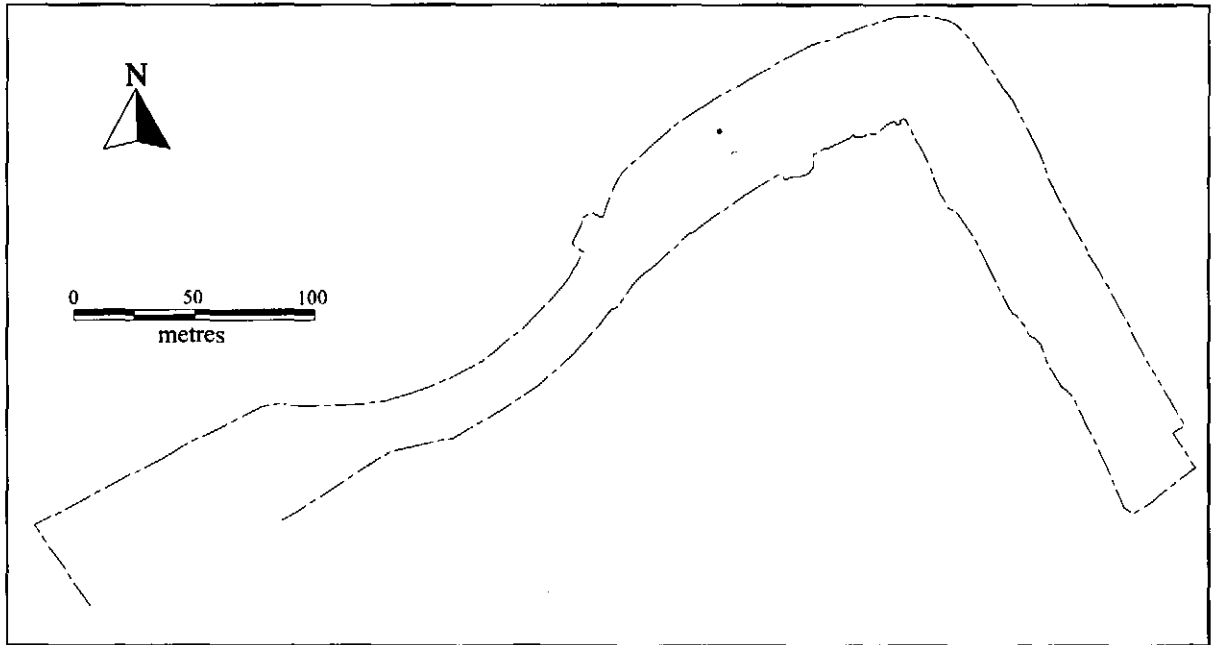
Fig. 33 1:2,500 scale plan of FLN 061 (New Phase 11) showing all features

**Period I.a.;**  
**prehistoric, Lower**  
**Palaeolithic,**  
**c.500,000 - 38,000**  
**BP**

A worked flint handaxe (small find No. 1075) was recovered as a residual find from the upcast spoil of the Period III SFB 0276. A more detailed description of the find can be found in section 3.3.1 (p.169) of this report. While the handaxe may simply have entered the SFB as part of the natural silting or backfilling, there is also the possibility that it had been noticed as a unusual object and kept as a treasured possession for a period of time before it was finally lost or discarded.

**Period I.c.; Early Neolithic, c.4000 - 3200 BC**

Only one feature, a pit (0818) was attributed to this phase based entirely on artefactual evidence (worked flint) (Table 5 & Fig. 34). The pit was located approximately two thirds of the way along the south-west to north-east arm of area stripped in order to construct the bund.



**Fig 34** FLN 061 (Bund) Phase Plan: Period I.c. Early Neolithic

Pit 0818 was roughly oval in shape, although slightly irregular on its southern side, measuring 2.1 metres by 1.75 metres with a maximum depth of 0.7 metres and gently sloping sides. The stratified fill was excavated as three distinct components; a central, upper fill (0819) comprising mid brown silty sand with occasional stones, a middle component (0821) of light brown silty sand and an outer fill (0822) comprising stony light brown sand. Originally thought to be a tree-pit, the retrieval of a significant quantity of worked flint resulted in a reassessment of this interpretation.

**Period I.d.; Late Neolithic, c.3200 - 2000 BC**

Three pits (0087, 0842 & 0848) were attributed to this phase based entirely on artefactual evidence (Table 5 & Fig. 35). All of the pits were located in the south-west to north-east orientated arm of the area stripped to construct the bund, one (0087) towards the southernmost end and the others (0842 & 0848) towards the northernmost end (Fig. 35).

Pit 0087 was irregular in shape, effectively forming a crescent 2.4 metres long and 0.7 metres wide with a depth of 0.3 metres and V-shaped profile. The fill (0088) comprised mid brown silty sand. Originally interpreted as a tree-pit, the significant quantity of pottery recovered from the fill suggested that this was not the case.

Pit 0842 was oval in shape, measuring 1 metre by 0.6 metres with a depth of 0.2 metres and a fill (0843) comprising dark brown silty sand with charcoal flecks.

Pit 0848 was oval in shape, measuring 1.6 metres by 1.25 metres with a depth of 0.4 metres. While heavily disturbed by a modern tree-hole, it was clear that the pit

effectively had two fill components. Although excavated under one context number (0849), all the artefactual evidence was recovered from the lower, darker brown silty sand fill rather than the upper, lighter brown silty sand component.

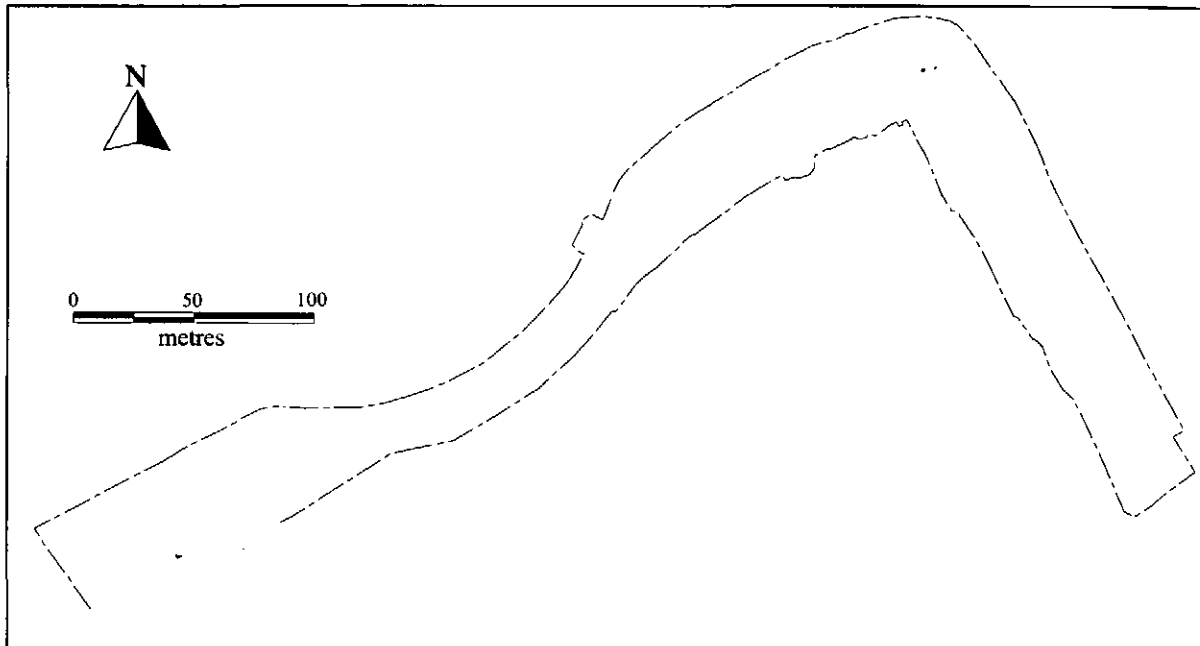


Fig 35 FLN 061 (Bund) Phase Plan: Period I.d. Late Neolithic

**Period I.e.; Early Bronze Age, c.2000-1500 BP**

A total of six features, three ring-ditches, with their associated graves, were attributed to this phase (Table 5 & Figs. 36.a. & 36.b.). Only one of the three ditch and grave complexes (0202) provided direct dating evidence in the form of a Beaker (see section 3.3.1, p.127 & Plate 7) deposited as a grave good within the central burial. The others

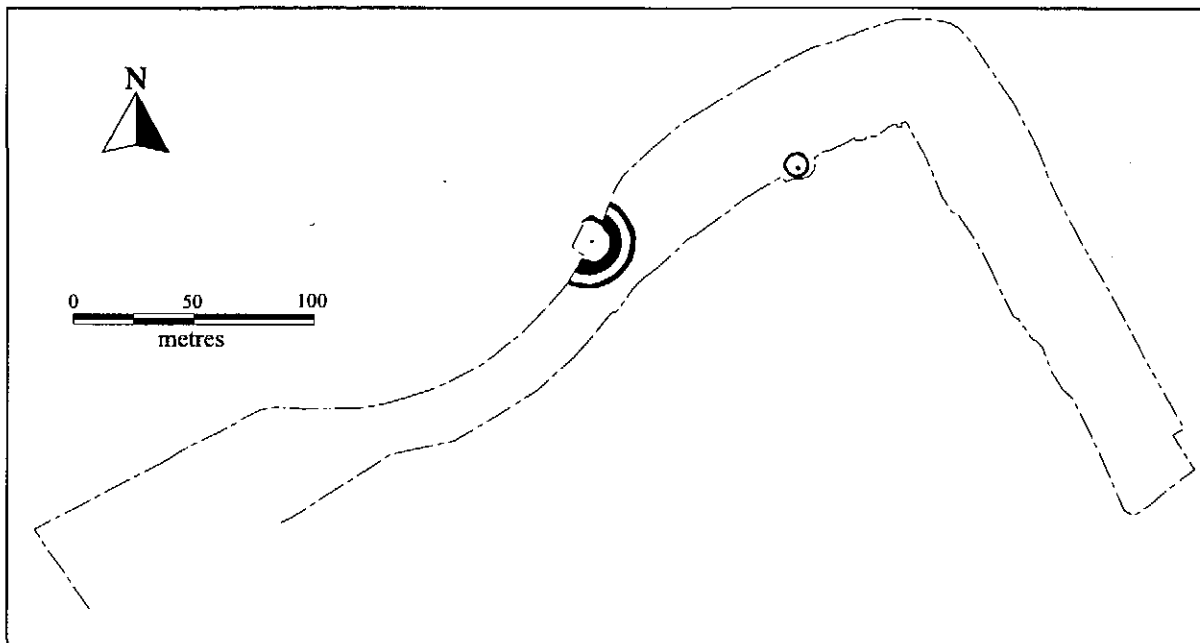
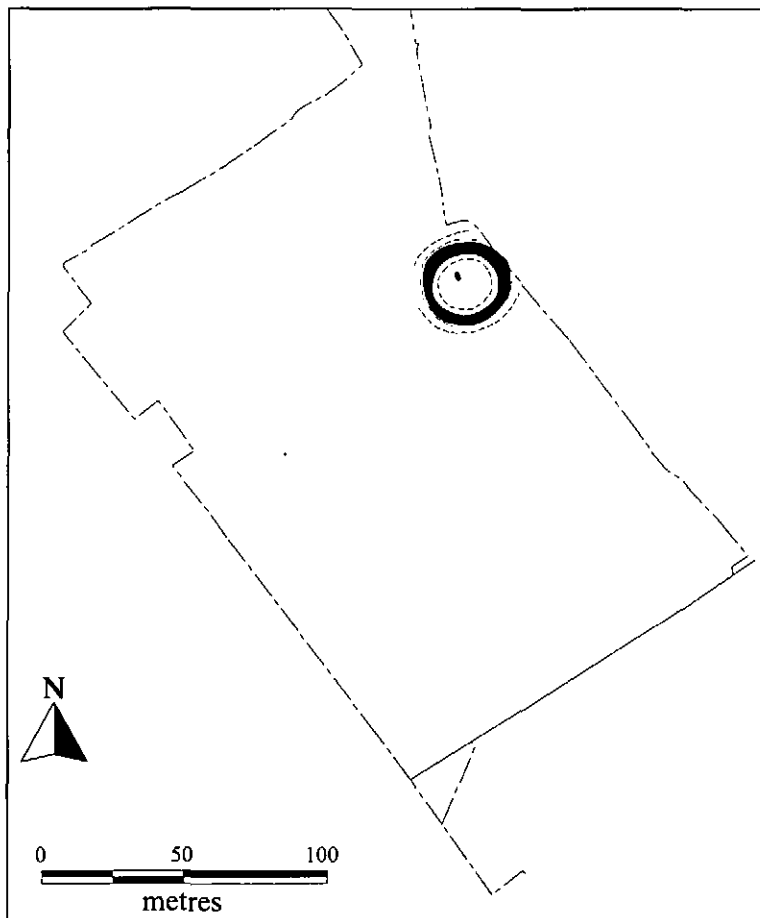


Fig 36.a. FLN 061 (Bund) Phase Plan: Period I.e. Early Bronze Age

have been included based on their typology and their location within a dispersed group of similar features, some of which have been more securely dated.

**Ring-Ditches & Graves**

Ring-ditch 0202 was located in the New Phase 11 area of FLN 061 (Fig. 36.b.). The ditch described a circle with a diameter of c.30 metres. Excavated sections revealed a feature with a width of c.4 metres, a maximum depth of 1.5 metres with a moderately shouldered round-bottomed profile. The fill generally comprised three distinct components: a primary element of stony sand underlying a central fill of moderately silty sand with some stones/gravel, with an upper component comprising darker silty sand with some stones/gravel.



Surface cleaning over the ring-ditch and surrounding area revealed a difference in the degree of iron-panning and mineralisation (Plate 6). Iron-panning was less well developed in a c.3 metres wide band external to the feature and within a circular area central to the ditch, with a 2.5 metres wide ring of heavy iron-panning adjacent to its internal edge. As the ring-ditch would almost certainly of once contained a barrow mound, it seems reasonable to assume that it was this which effectively

Fig. 36.b. FLN 061 (New Phase 11) Phase Plan: Period I.e. Early Bronze Age

protected the central area from the development of iron-panning with a gap (berm) between the internal edge of the feature and the mound. By the same reasoning, the band of poorly developed iron-panning outside the ditch was probably due to the presence of an external bank providing a protective mantle. Monuments of this type are known as 'Bell Barrows' or 'Bell-Disc Barrows' depending on the relative width of the berm compared to that of the barrow mound.

Surface cleaning within the area confined by the ring-ditch revealed one feature (0468) located to the north-east of centre. On excavation the feature was found to be a north-north-west to south-south-east orientated grave pit with a length of 3.1 metres, a width of 1.5 metres and a depth of 1.8 metres. The fill of the grave had two major

components: a central element comprising mid grey/brown to orange silty sand over a stonier, predominantly orange sand. An organic stain (0474) was encountered at approximately 0.2 metres above the grave base. The stain was curved in profile across the grave but was flat along its long axis with a lip at its southern end and



Plate 6: Ring-Ditch FLN 061 0202

probably represented a bier or hollowed out tree trunk. There was no skeletal evidence associated with the stain, although this does not preclude it being a inhumation burial, as the acidic soil conditions at Flixton are not conducive to good bone preservation.



Plate 7: Pot FLN 061 0473 in Grave FLN 061 0468

The only finds associated with the grave were sherds of a pottery vessel (0473, see section 3.3.1, p.127 & Plate 7), broken but complete, lying on the organic stain at the northern end of the grave. The pottery vessel had clearly been deliberately placed in the grave forming part of the burial.

Ring-ditch complex 0218, comprising two concentric ditches, was recorded in the area of FLN 061 stripped to

form the bund around the northern edge of the quarry (Fig. 36.a. & Plate 8). Only *c.*50% of the feature fell within the quarry permission and as a consequence it was considered necessary to extend the soil-strip in order to encompass the majority of the central area confined by the ditches.



Plate 8: Ring-Ditch Complex FLN 061 0218

The external ditch (0219) described a circle with a diameter of 38 metres while the internal ditch (0221) had a diameter of 28 metres. These ditches were markedly different in character with the external feature (0219) measuring 2 metres in width with a maximum depth of 0.7 metres and exhibiting a V-shaped profile, while the internal ditch (0221) measured *c.*5 metres in width with a maximum depth of 0.5 metres and a gently sloping bottom with angled sides. The external ditch generally had two fills, an orange/brown stony sand primary component overlain by a mid to dark brown silty sand. The internal ditch exhibited a relatively homogenous brown silty, stony sand fill with a hint of stratification towards the internal edge which suggests that backfilling material was generated from that direction, probably from a central barrow mound.

Manual cleaning within the area confined by the circle failed to positively identify any graves, although an oval shaped patch of slightly discoloured subsoil (0724) recorded central to the area was excavated. While no organic staining was present and no finds were recovered, the location of this feature was suggestive of it being a grave.

The inclusion of the 0218 complex in this phase was based entirely on typological evidence relating to the ring-ditch itself and its affinity with other more securely dated examples. However, the ceramic evidence recovered from the fill of the inner ditch (0221) included a significant quantity of Late Bronze age pottery and it seems likely that the ring-ditch, and more specifically the probable central mound/barrow from which the ditch fill was almost certainly derived, remained a focus of activity at that time.

The third ring-ditch (1494) provided no firm dating evidence and typologically would not have looked out of place in an Early Anglo Saxon cemetery. However, its location within an area of Early Anglo Saxon occupation and the lack of other burials of that date in the immediate vicinity combined with the presence of other, more securely dated, prehistoric ring-ditches all help to justify its inclusion within this phase.



Plate 9: Ring-Ditch FLN 061 1494

The ditch was penannular, describing a circle *c.*11 metres in diameter with two opposed terminals on its north-east side, with a maximum width of 1 metre, a maximum depth of 0.3 metres and exhibited a rounded to slightly flat-bottomed profile (Plate 9). The fill comprised homogenous mid-light brown silty sand with occasional stones.

Two features were identified in the area confined by the ditch. The first (1495), located centrally to the ring-ditch, was quite clearly a tree-pit of unknown date which has been attributed to Period 0 although the possibility of its being contemporaneous with the ring-ditch cannot entirely be ruled out.

The second feature, a rectangular pit (1497), measured 1.8 metres from the north-west to south-east and 1.2 metres from south-west to north-east with gently sloping sides and an irregular bottom. The fill (1498) comprised homogenous mid brown silty sand. Similarly to the feature recorded within ring-ditch 0218 there was no evidence, staining or finds, that would positively identify the feature as a grave. However, its location is highly suggestive of that interpretation and if the attributed Early Bronze Age date is correct, then its general dimensions would indicate a crouched inhumation burial.

#### **Period I.f.; Late Bronze Age, *c.*1000 - 650 BC**

Two pits (0062 & 0570) were attributed to this phase based solely on artefactual (ceramic) evidence (Table 4 & Figs. 37.a. & 37.b.). In addition, further evidence for



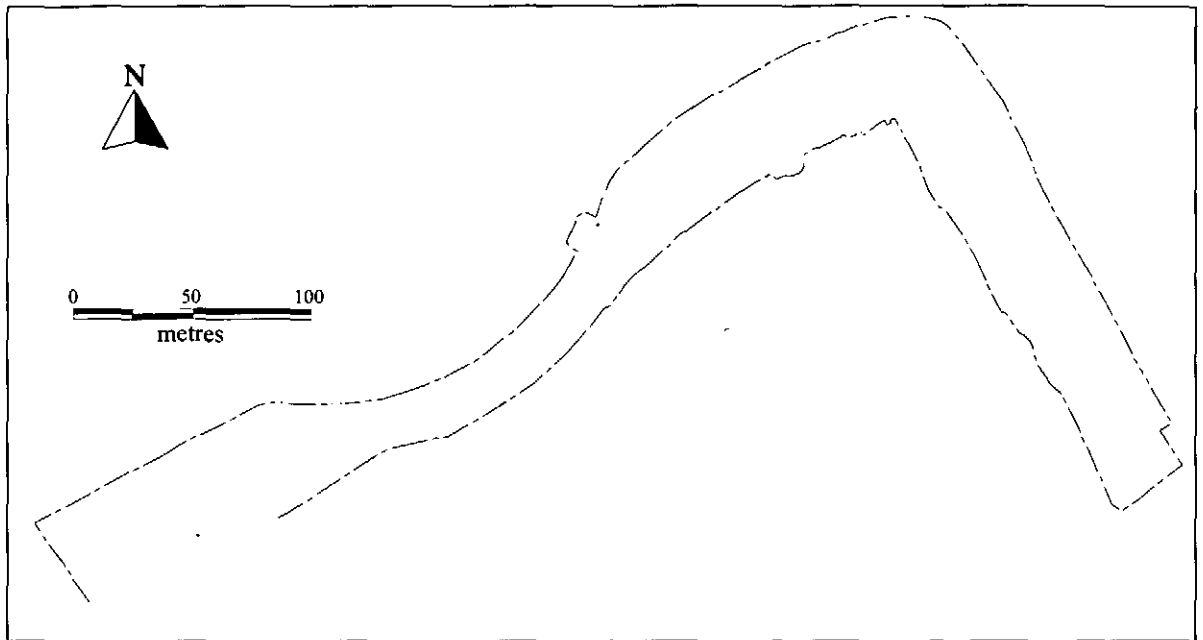


Fig 37.a. FLN 061 (Bund) Phase Plan: Period I.f. Late Bronze Age

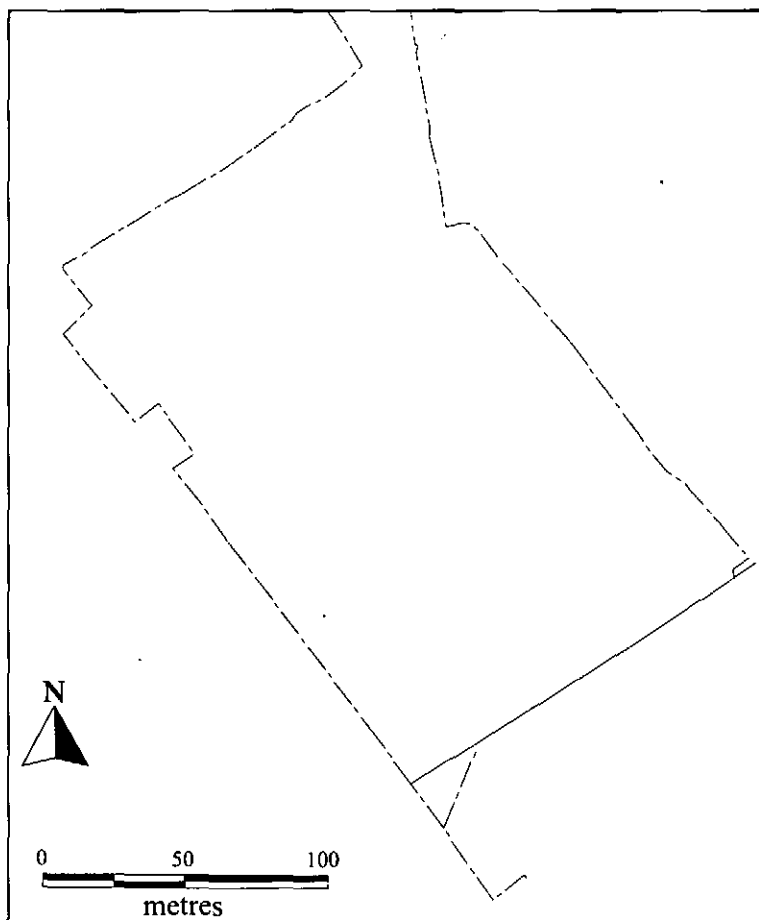


Fig. 37.b. FLN 061 (New Phase 11) Phase Plan: Period I.f. Late Bronze Age

activity of this date was provided by ceramic finds from the inner ring-ditch (0221) of complex 0218.

Pit 0062 was located towards the western edge of the New Phase 11 area (Fig. 37.b.). The feature was small, oval in shape, measuring 0.65 metres by 0.4 metres with a depth of only 0.1 metres. The fill (0063) comprised homogenous brown silty sand with occasional charcoal flecks. The ceramic finds recovered from the feature were all concentrated at the surface and more may have been removed during machining.

Pit 0570 was identified underlying the fill of the inner ditch (0221) of ring-ditch complex 0221, although the feature itself is likely to have been cut into the edge of the ditch prior to its filling. Initially, this feature was considered to be a possible grave, but on excavation no evidence was recovered to support this interpretation. The pit was oval in shape, measuring 1.4 metres by 0.8 metres with a depth of 1.2 metres and



Plate 10: Pot Sherd FLN 061 0580 in Pit FLN 061 0570

exhibited a vertically sided, flat-bottomed profile. The fill (0571) comprised very stony slightly silty sand. The artefactual evidence included a few struck and heat altered flints, but the most significant was a single sherd of pottery (0580), the only diagnostic dating evidence from the feature, which appeared to have been deliberately placed vertically in a central position towards the base of the pit (Plate 10). The prominence of this single sherd is suggestive of a specialised depositional event rather than primarily domestic activity.

### **Period III; Early Anglo Saxon, c.410 - E.7<sup>th</sup> century**

Early Anglo Saxon (at Flixton probably Late 5<sup>th</sup> to Early 7<sup>th</sup> century) features were identified within the 20 metres to 50 metres wide, area stripped to provide material with which to construct a bund around the northern edge of the quarry. It was clear that the only a proportion of an extensive occupation area was represented as the features continued beyond the northern edge of the quarry and, to a lesser extent, into New Quarry Phases 14, 15 and 16 to the south. While the Early Anglo Saxon archaeology was more concentrated towards the east, features/structures were identified over an area measuring in excess of 300 metres from south-west to north-east and more than 50 metres from north-west to south-east. Topographically, the settlement occupied a shallow gravel ridge, which overlooks the water meadows of the River Waveney immediately to the north and over a shallow north-east facing valley/depression to the south.

A total of fifty four features and multi-contextual structures were included in this phase based on artefactual, stratigraphic and typological evidence (Table 5 & Fig. 38).

For the purposes of this assessment, all of the features/structures dated as Early Anglo Saxon have been grouped together in one Period/Phase. However, there were clearly stratigraphic relationships between individual buildings and between the ditched enclosure complex and other ditches and also one of the buildings. These

relationships will be included in the text, but any attempt to divide the period into further, minor phases will be undertaken as part of the analysis stage of the project.

Given that the Early Anglo Saxon archaeology represented a significant area of occupation, the quantity of artefactual evidence recovered from features was relatively limited. Two possible reasons for this are; the refuse generated in the settlement was deposited beyond the excavated area, possibly as a midden, or, secondly, that post-medieval ploughing has destroyed surface deposits actually within the occupation area. Of these two scenarios, the former seems the most likely as very little unstratified material was recovered from the ploughsoil during machining.

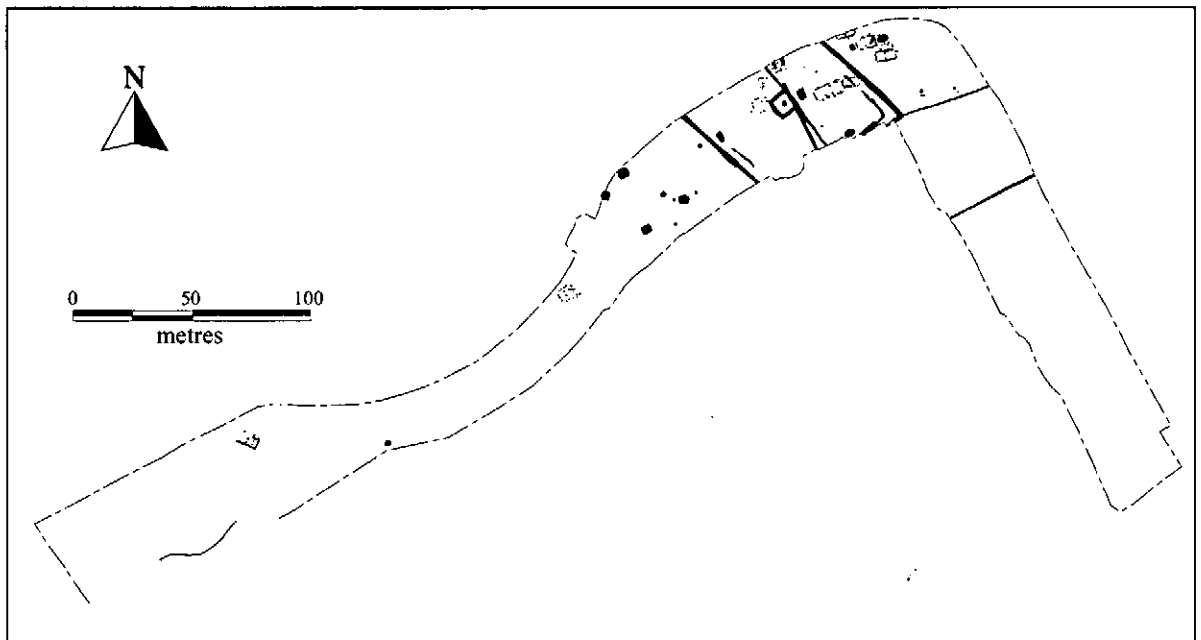


Fig 38. FLN 061 (Bund) Phase Plan: Period III. Early Anglo Saxon

### ***Buildings***

Nineteen buildings or structures were identified. These fell into three distinct categories: Halls, very well defined rectangular structures constructed using earthfast posts, Sunken Featured Buildings (SFB's), with their distinctive pit-like component, and a series of miscellaneous structures, constructed using predominantly earthfast posts, but less well defined than the halls.

A summary of each individual building's character and dimensions is presented in Table 6. Generally there was no obvious spatial relationship between different types of building that would suggest they formed contemporaneous groups, although three of the halls (0612, 0613 & 0901) were aligned in a stepped formation which suggested that they may have been contemporary. In addition, a two-posted SFB (0605) and a charcoal filled 'fire-pit' (0604) appeared to be related directly to the middle building of the three stepped Halls.

Building Type	Context No.	Length	Width	Depth	No. Post-holes	Notes
Hall	0093	>8.0 m	5.0 m	-	>28	Isolated structure, orientated NW-SE, very shallow post-holes, NW end lost. Some possible double posts, including SE end, possibly an entrance. Corner posts appear to be present.
Hall	0612	8.5 m	>2.0 m	-	>17	ENE-WSW orientated. One of three grouped together in a stepped formation. Weak cornered with two internal post-settings, entrance in centre of S. wall.
Hall	0613	8.5 m	5.0 m	-	34	ENE-WSW orientated. Central one of three in the stepped group. Not well defined, possible internal partition at E. end. Immediately W. of SFB 0605 & fire-pit 0604. Corner posts appear to be present.
Hall	0901	9.0 m	4.8 m	-	34	ENE-WSW orientated. S. most of stepped group of three. Weak cornered with two internal post-settings. Overlaps with misc. building 0900. Possible entrance in N. wall.
Hall	1200	13 m	6.0 m	-	42	ENE-WSW orientated. Largest of the Halls, overlaps with 1350. Weak cornered with two double posts on each long edge and two large internal post-settings.
Hall	1350	7.0 m	4.0 m	-	19	Orientated E-W, smallest of the Hall buildings, overlapped with 1200. Weak corners, no obvious entrance, but probably on the south side where disturbed.
SFB	0276	3.6 m	3.4 m	0.22 m	7/8	N-S orientated, post-holes beside long-edge, none central to ends. E. half squared, W. more rounded.
SFB	0278	4.6 m	4.0 m	0.32 m	2	ENE-WSW orientated, sub-rectangular, post-holes central to both ends. Some discrete patches of clay within fill, not thought to be structural.
SFB	0605	4.6 m	3.0 m	0.20 m	2	ENE-WSW orientated, oval-shaped, post-holes off set from centre of both ends.
SFB	0810	4.2 m	2.1 m	0.34 m	0	Orientated NW-SE, sub-rectangular.
SFB	1319	4.2 m	3.4 m	0.60 m	2	Orientated NE-SW, sub-rectangular, post-holes central to both ends.
SFB	1346	4.0 m	3.4 m	0.46 m	2	Orientated ENE-WSW, sub-rectangular, post-holes central to both ends.
SFB	1501	4.6 m	3.0 m	0.2 m	2	ENE-WSW orientated, oval-shaped, post-holes central to both ends.
Misc.	0225	7.6 m	6.4 m	-	c.22	ENE-WSW orientated group of relatively widely spaced post-holes, ill defined but almost certainly a structure. Possibly weak cornered.
Misc.	0710	4.0 m	2.6 m	-	12	NE-SW orientated, sub-rectangular group of relatively widely spaced post-holes.
Misc.	0717	4.0 m	3.0 m	-	10-12	N-S orientated, sub-rectangular group of post-holes, ill-defined but almost certainly a structure.
Misc.	0900	5.8 m	4.2 m	-	10	ENE-WSW orientated, sub-rectangular group of relatively well spaced post-holes, weak cornered, overlaps with Hall 0901.
Misc.	1120	5.0 m	3.2 m	0.2 m	9	Hybrid structure, NNW-SSE orientated, has sunken component with two post-holes central to each end with post in slot-construction for its long edges.
Misc.	1523	7.0 m	3.4 m	-	c.13	ENE-WSW orientated, sub-rectangular structure of relatively widely spaced post-holes. Possibly weak cornered.

Table 6: Summary of the FLN 061 Early Anglo Saxon Buildings

**Halls:** Six buildings of the general type that have been described at sites such as West Stow as “Halls” (West, 1985 p.112) were recorded. The accepted interpretation of these buildings suggests that each represent the living accommodation for a single family group.

Characterised by their rectangular shape and closely spaced post-holes, the Halls varied in size with the smallest (1350) measuring 7.0 metres by 4.0 metres while the largest (1200) measured 13 metres by 6 metres. The remaining four exhibited

relatively similar dimensions in the region of 8.5-9.0 metres by c.5.0 metres. Of the six, four were weak cornered, i.e. having no post-holes located at their corners. In addition, the largest (1200) exhibited two double post-settings on each of its long sides. Post-holes internal to the structures were also evident with a possible partition recorded towards the eastern end of 0613 (Plate 11) and a large paired post-setting seen in 1200, a scenario repeated in 0901 and possibly 0612. Probable entrances were indicated by larger gaps between the generally closely spaced post-holes and their location appeared to vary from building to building, although usually occurring on the long walls with only 0093 having a large gap between two double post-holes at its southern end. Most of the post-holes were relatively shallow, but this is likely to be the result of truncation due to medieval and post-medieval ploughing, a process that would also have destroyed floor surfaces and features such as hearths.



Plate 11: Hall Building FLN 061 0613

With the exception of 0093, which was recorded as an isolated feature towards the southern end of the area stripped for the bund, the hall buildings formed a reasonably tight cluster. Three similar sized Halls (0612, 0613 & 0901) were equidistantly set in a stepped formation. Only two of the Halls (1200 & 1350) encroached on the ground plan of the other, thus indicating that not all the structures were present contemporaneously. The five Halls forming the discrete cluster were all orientated approximately East-North-East to West-South-West, a trend also noted with the SFB's and to a lesser extent with the miscellaneous structures. Only the isolated building (0093) exhibited any variation with its north-west to south-east alignment.

**SFB's (Sunken Featured Buildings):** Seven SFB's were identified spread over a greater area than the Halls, although their alignment followed a similar east-north-east to west-south-west trend. One SFB (0605) was located immediately adjacent to one of the Halls (0613) and it is possible, although no means certain, that along with a fire-pit (0604) on the other side of the Hall, these structures formed part of a contemporaneous related group. These structures are generally interpreted as workshops or for storage.

A range of sizes and characteristics was represented, similar to those seen on other Early Anglo Saxon sites in East Anglia. These included an example with no post-holes, five with two and one with seven, although the latter probably originally had six posts with later repairs or disturbance. The dimensions of the building pits varied between 3.6-4.6 metres in length and 2.1-4.0 metres in width with depths of between 0.2 and 0.6 metres. The pits were either sub-rectangular or ovate in shape with their included post-holes located on the edge of the feature (1319) (Plate 12) or, less commonly, in the base of the pit (1501). Pit sides were generally quite steep, with no evidence for erosion or collapse, while the pit bottoms were relatively flat. Beyond the post-holes actually within the building pits there was no evidence surviving, in the form of sill-beam slots or external post-holes, for the above ground superstructure of the buildings. In addition there was no evidence in the form of slots or stake-holes in the base of the pit which could indicate the presence a lining, although the crisp, near vertical, edges to the features do suggest that the sides had been retained in some way.



Plate 12: Sunken Featured Building FLN 061 1319

The excavated fills of the building pits generally comprised fairly homogenous grey/brown silty sand, although a hint of stratification was recorded in the deeper SFB's (1319 & 1346). There was no evidence to suggest that any of the fills had been deposited while the buildings were in use and no floor surfaces were identified. Localised, ill-defined, patches of yellow/green clay (0588) were recorded in SFB 0278, but were not thought to be structural.

A relatively high proportion of the Early Anglo Saxon finds recovered on the site were from the fills of the SFB's, although the overall quantity of finds was small when compared to that from similarly dated sites such as West Stow (West, 1985).

**Miscellaneous Buildings/Structures:** Six structures have been included under this category, although one of these (1120) (Plate 13) did not fit the general pattern, but also did not fall comfortably within either of the other two identified building types.

Generally, these buildings/structures comprised discrete groups/clusters of post-holes defining a roughly rectangular area. The post-holes were usually relatively well spaced with three of the examples (0225, 0900 & 1523) exhibiting weak corners. The spacing between the post-holes made it difficult to positively identify gaps representing entrances.

All of these structures were smaller than the hall-type buildings, varying in size from 4.0 metres by 2.6 metres (0710) to 7.6 metres by 6.4 metres (0225). Due to their similar size it seems possible that these structures may have performed a similar function, storage or workshops, as the SFB's.

While the overwhelming concentration of features at West Stow made the recognition of small post-holed structures/buildings difficult, some groups of post-holes were identified that are comparable in size and character to those recorded at Flixton. Here it was suggested that the clustering of post-holes could represent the ongoing repair of smaller building structures (West, 1985, p.14).

The most unusual building recorded was 1120 (Plate 13), which exhibited structural elements similar to those found in both the SFB's and the post-holed structures. In addition, the post-holes on the long sides were set in a shallow trench, a structural technique not repeated in any of the other Early Anglo Saxon buildings on the site.



Plate 13: Building FLN 061 1120

Similarly to a number of the SFB's, building 1120 had two large post-holes, one central to each end, and had a shallow irregular shaped depression (maximum 0.2 metres deep) which covered most of the building footprint. The homogenous brown silty sand fill of this depression appeared continuous with that of two shallow slots/trenches running down the long edges of the building which accommodated four post-holes on the eastern side and three on the west. A larger gap between the north-

west corner post-hole the second post-hole along the western side suggests that there was an entrance at this juncture.

While clearly exhibiting construction techniques that do not entirely conform to those identified in the other buildings on the site, its dimensions (5.0 metres by 3.2 metres) and general character suggest that it would have functioned similarly to the SFB's and other miscellaneous structures.

#### ***Ditched Enclosure & Central Pit***

One of the more enigmatic group of features attributed to the Early Saxon Period was an enclosure complex and centrally placed pit.

The complex comprised an external ditched enclosure measuring *c.*60 metres from north-east to south-west and in excess of 60 metres from the south-east to north-west. In addition, there were hints of a second less substantial ditch parallel and internal to the outer ditch. Centrally placed within the centre of the external enclosure a smaller, 9 metres by 9 metres, enclosure was identified defined by a continuous shallow ditch, which itself confined a circular pit (Plate 14).



**Plate 14:** Part of Internal Enclosure Ditch FLN 061 0836 & Central Pit FLN 061 1312

The external enclosure was represented within the excavated area by two separate sections of ditch. The first (0296) formed part of the western edge of the enclosure while the second (0314) formed part of its eastern edge and south-east corner. Both sections were found to be a uniform in character with a maximum width of 2 metres, a maximum depth of 0.8 metres and exhibiting an open V-shaped profile, sometimes with a hint of a shoulder on both faces. Although minor variations were encountered within the fills of the excavated sections, generally a stony primary component was overlain by homogenous brown silty, stony sand. In one section excavated through the ditch, an articulated spine, later identified as equid, was recorded. The artefactual evidence from the enclosure ditch was exclusively of Early Anglo Saxon date apart from the initial section excavated through ditch 0296 (fill 0297) where a few sherds of



medieval and post-medieval pottery were recovered. However, on the basis of the apparent uniformity of dating from the other excavated sections this later material must be considered to be intrusive or was derived from a cutting feature not recognised during excavation.

In two areas, towards the centre of the western side and in the south-east corner, a second ditch (1398 & 1303) were recorded internal to 0296 and 0314. This feature was far less substantial, particularly 1398, with a maximum width of 1 metre, a maximum depth of 0.25 metres and a rounded profile. The fills generally comprised homogenous brown silty sand with occasional stones. One possible interpretation of the double ditches would have the three metre wide gap between the two features occupied by a hedge.

Central to the external enclosure a second, smaller, enclosure was recorded with its defining ditch (0836) measuring 9 metres by 9 metres (Plate 14). The ditch was continuous, 1.6 metres wide, a depth of c.0.4 metres and a rounded profile. The fill comprised homogenous brown silty sand with occasional stones.

The area confined by ditch 0836 had been heavily disturbed by tree roots. When these irregular features were excavated out it became evident that a large, 2.3 metres in diameter, pit (1312) was located at its centre. The pit had near vertical sides down to a depth of 0.6 metres, the base of the feature then stepping in before dropping down again into a c.1 metre square cut with a depth of between 0.1 and 0.2 metres. A single row of flint cobbles was found lying on the ledge around the square cut. The fill was well stratified with two main components in the upper portion of the pit, both exhibiting further minor stratification, comprising brown silty sand with some stony layers. The basal cut of the pit was also well stratified with alternate layers of brown, yellow and orange sand.



Plate 15: Central Pit FLN 061 1312

The interpretation of this complex relies heavily on the work of John Blair who has studied in depth Anglo Saxon Shrines and their development from earlier prototypes

(Blair, 1995). He was in no doubt when shown the plan of the Flixton complex that it represented a Pagan Anglo Saxon Shrine which although not exactly paralleled elsewhere, exhibited many of the characteristics common to this type of monument. Similar square enclosures have been identified associated with various Anglo Saxon contexts, many of which are associated with graves and often focused on earlier monuments. While no Early Anglo Saxon graves were associated with the Flixton feature, there is a small, undated, ring-ditch within the outer enclosure and a large Early Bronze Age double-ditched ring-ditch immediately to the west. Furthermore, the presence of articulated equid bones, apparently deliberately placed in the external ditch, suggests that the complex was of some significance.

However, the exact form of the monument is uncertain. No entrance was identified within the visible sections of the external enclosure, which may or may not have been hedged with a smaller internal ditch. In addition, the smaller internal enclosure was continuous with no obvious entrance points. The central pit was also enigmatic, but possibly functioned as the setting for a totemic object, such as a wooden pole, or could itself have been the focal point of the shrine.

It is also unclear as to the relationship between the enclosure complex, the Early Anglo Saxon settlement and the undated ring-ditch. The only surviving stratigraphic relationship suggested that the smaller of the external enclosure ditches (1303) was cut by one of the post-holes (1367) of hall building (1350), although this was by no means certain. Two of the hall buildings, two of the SFB's and four of the miscellaneous buildings/structures were located within the external enclosure, but it was impossible to tell whether they were contemporary with it. It was clear, however, that the dominant alignment trend of the buildings was offset somewhat from that of the enclosures, which is suggestive of a chronological break.

### ***Pits***

Twenty pits could be attributed an Early Anglo Saxon Date based primarily on their included artefactual dating evidence (Table 5 & Fig. 38). This is a relatively small number when compared to the Bloodmoor Hill site at Carlton Colville (Mortimer, 2000, pp 10-11) where a ratio of approximately seven pits was recorded to every SFB. However, the ratio of three pits to every SFB at Flixton is closer to that seen at West Stow where a maximum of ninety pits were identified for seventy SFB's.

There was considerable variation in the dimensions and character of the pits, but the majority were small with fills comprising brown/grey silty sand with only limited stratification. The smallest (0825) measured 0.6 metres in diameter with a depth of only 0.3 metres while the largest of the regular shaped features (0785) was 2 metres in diameter with a depth of 1 metre. A number of the features were irregular in shape (e.g. 0311) and would have been considered to be naturally derived if it had not been for significant artefactual evidence recovered from their fills. Three of the pits (0171, 1343 & 0604) merit further detailed description.

Pit 0171 was located approximately one third of the way along the south-west to north-east arm of the area stripped to construct the bund, close to its southern edge in an area where the natural subsoil comprised soft yellow sand (Fig. 38). Stripping the soil to the right level was, at this juncture, a difficult procedure. The feature was first seen as a smear of dark coloured sand which was manually cleaned to define its edges. It became clear that some of the feature had been almost totally removed during the machining. Recording what was left suggested that the feature had

originally measured 2 metres by at least 2 metres with a depth of *c.*0.2 metres and was associated with two post-holes (0173 & 0175). If these post-holes were related to the pit then there is the possibility that this was actually a small SFB (Sunken Featured Building).

Pit 0604 was located immediately west of Hall 0613 with its long axis aligned at ninety degrees with that of the building. The pit was rectangular, measuring 2 metres from south-west to north-east, 2.6 metres from north-west to south-east with angled sides a flattish bottom and a maximum depth of 0.42 metres. The stratified fill comprised mid brown silty sand with some pebble-sized stone and occasional charcoal flecks, over a layer of predominantly heat altered flints and charcoal. Towards the bottom of this layer there was a concentration of tiny heat altered flint fragments. On the base of the pit there was a very thin (*c.*1 centimetre) of black charcoal rich sand which lay directly on heat-reddened natural sand subsoil. It was clear that the heat altered flints, charcoal and heat-reddened natural subsoil were the result of *in situ* burning.

Similar features have been identified at West Stow (West, 1990, 27-30), the Early Anglo Saxon cemetery site at Snape (Pestell, 2001, pp 180-182 & pp 259-261) and, indeed, an example was recorded at Flixton in association with the Early Anglo Saxon cemetery partially excavated in 1998 (Boulter, 2000a, 21-22).

The dating for features of this type has proved to be somewhat problematic, but a combination of artefactual evidence, radiocarbon dating determinations and relative typology does seem to favour an Early Saxon date. The interpretation most commonly put forward involves their use as cooking pits, but other suggested uses include funeral pyres, when identified in association with cremation cemeteries, and as a sauna bath. It does, however, seem that in the settlement context of Flixton that the cooking pit option is the most likely scenario.

Pit 1343, located immediately west of SFB 1346 was circular, *c.*1 metre in diameter with a depth of 0.5 metres and sloping sides. The fill comprised an upper component of homogenous brown silty sand overlying a stonier sandy layer. Stratigraphically, pit 1343 was cut by the Period V.b. (post medieval, 17<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> century) ditch 0065. The finds recovered from the excavated fill included a complete ceramic lamp (see Section 3.3.1 & Appendix III{B.3}).

#### ***Post-Holes***

Three features described as post-holes (0173, 0175 & 1111) were attributed to this phase. Two of these (0173 & 0175) were recorded in association with the previously described pit 0171 which, together, may represent another SFB (Sunken Featured Building).

Post-hole 0173 was 0.3 metres in diameter with a depth of 0.4 metres while 0175 was 0.5 metres in diameter with a depth of 0.8 metres, both with fills (0174 & 0175) comprising dark brown silty sand.

Isolated post-hole 1111 was located within the general area of the Early Anglo Saxon activity but could not be attributed to an actual structure. It was 0.3 metres in diameter with a depth of only 0.1 metres and a fill of homogenous brown silty sand. There was no evidence to suggest that this feature had ever functioned as a post-hole with its inclusion in this category based entirely on its size.

### ***Ditches***

In addition to the previously described enclosure, a total of six ditches (*0309, 0318, 0532, 0534, 0839 & 1559*) were attributed to this phase based on a combination of artefactual evidence, stratigraphy and spatial relationships (Table 5). All were located within the major Early Anglo Saxon feature concentration towards the eastern end of the south-west to north-east arm of the area stripped to construct the bund (Fig. 38).

North-north-west to south-south east orientated ditch *0309* was only represented on the site by a 3.3 metre section running from the northern edge of the site before butt-ending to the south. The 0.9 metres wide feature was 0.45 metres deep with a rounded V-shaped profile and a fill (*0310*) comprising light-mid brown sand with gravel to pebble-sized stones.

Ditch *0318* was orientated from north-west to south-east across the site where it was cut by the internal enclosure ditch (*0836*) and ditch *0839*. The feature was 1 metre wide with a depth of 0.4 metres and a rounded V-shaped profile. The fill (*0319* etc.) comprised brown silty sand with occasional stones and a sandier component at its base.

Ditch *0532* ran in a south-westerly direction from the eastern edge of the site for a distance of *c.*44 metres before butt-ending immediately beyond where it was cut by outer enclosure ditch *0314*. The feature was 0.9 metres wide with a depth of 0.3 metres and a rounded profile. The fill (*0533* etc.) comprised brown silty sand with occasional stones.

Ditch *0534* had a similar north-east to south west alignment to that of *0532* some 45 metres to the north. The ditch was 0.9 metres wide with a depth of 0.4 metres and a fill (*0535* etc.) comprising homogenous brown silty sand.

Ditch *0839* ran in a north-north-westerly direction from the southern edge of the site for a distance of thirty-two metres before butt-ending immediately to the north of the cutting internal enclosure ditch *0836*. Stratigraphically, ditch *0839* was considered to cut ditch *0318*. The feature was up to 1.2 metres wide with a depth of 0.4 metres and a relatively rounded profile. The fill (*0830* etc.) comprised homogenous brown silty sand with frequent stones.

Ditch *1559* was located immediately north of and respecting the south side of the internal component (*1303*) of the main enclosure ditch. The feature ran for a distance of 9 metres in a north-easterly direction from the southern side of the site before butt-ending to the north-east. Ditch *1559* was 0.9 metres wide with a depth of 0.3 metres and relatively rounded profile. The fill (*1560* etc.) comprised homogenous brown silty sand with occasional stones.

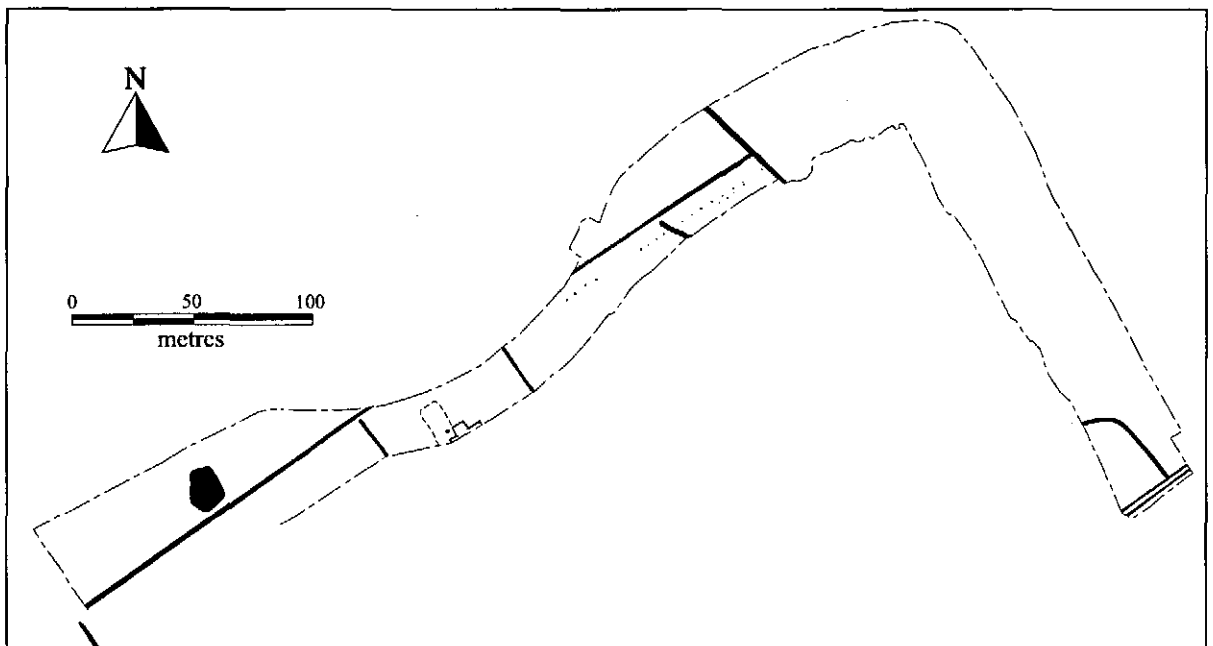
### **Period IV; medieval, c.1066-1480**

Evidence directly attributable to the medieval period was limited to unstratified small finds and residual or intrusive finds recovered from later or earlier, respectively, contexts. In addition, it could be argued that some of the undated ditches and the former line of the Flitton to Homersfield road, the latter marked by post-medieval ditches, may be medieval in origin.

A layer of rubble (0130) adjacent to the north and west sides of the brick footings for the Period V.b. (post-medieval, Late 17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century) barn (0178) included blocks of tooled limestone masonry the diagnostic pieces of which suggest a later medieval or Tudor date (see section 3.3.1). It is likely that these were brought to the site as part of a building or refurbishment project or simply as hardcore to consolidate the yard surface adjacent to the barn. A potential source for the blocks is the ruined Augustinian Priory some 1.2 kilometres to the south-east, although there are other possibilities, including it being derived from a medieval phase of Flixton Hall.

**Period V.b.; post-medieval, c.17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> centuries**

A total of fifty three features were attributed to this phase (see Table 5 & Figs. 39.a & 39.b) the majority of which effectively relate directly to the landscape of Flixton Park. Within this period there is artefactual, stratigraphic and map evidence that will allow further subdivision of this phase at the analysis stage of this project.



**Fig 39.a.** FLN 061 (Bund) Phase Plan: Period V.b. post-medieval c.17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century

***Barn & Associated Features***

Prior to soil-stripping along the bund area of FLN 061, map evidence indicated the presence of a barn (0178) dating from the mid 18<sup>th</sup> century or earlier. The brick-built wall stubs for this building, which included bricks consistent with a 17<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup> century date, were subsequently identified on the site. The barn measured 15 metres from north-east to south-west and 7.5 metres from north-west to south-east (the width measurement taken from observations made during the FLN 065 soil-strip in 2005). On the north side of the barn, a 5 metre wide entrance was flanked by two large clay post-holes or post-pads (0182 & 0184), an opposing entrance was recorded in 2005. At some stage (probably during the later 19<sup>th</sup> century) the barn had been extended to the north with a 4 metres by 5.8 metres rectangular structure (0180) built around the entrance. The brick plinth for the extension abutted that of the main barn.

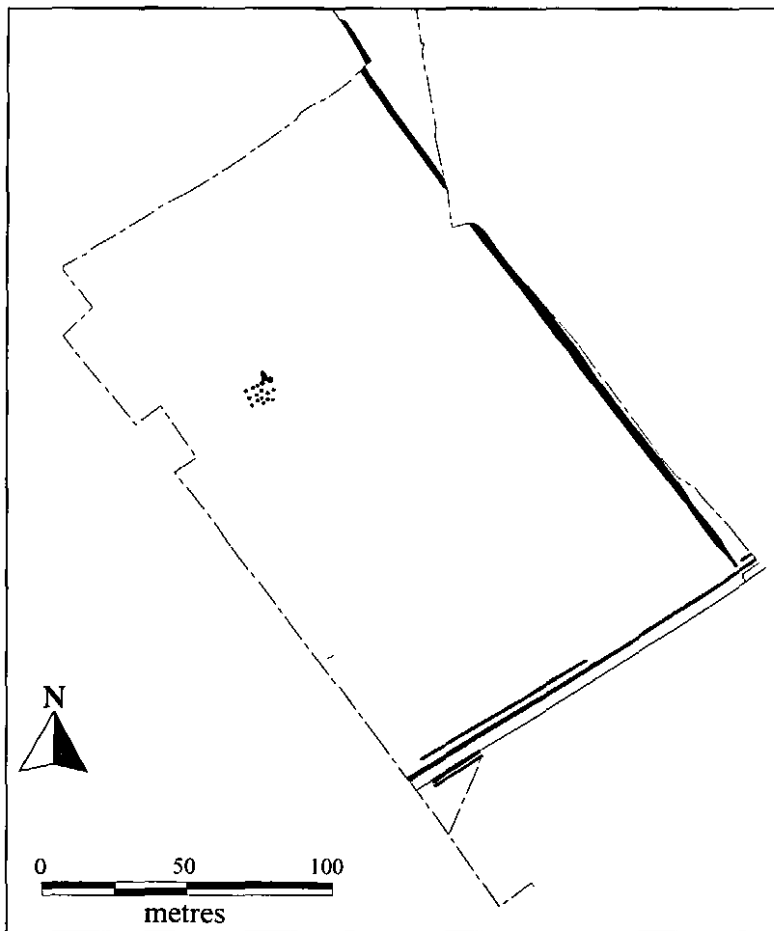
Two other features were directly associated with the barn: a rectangular shaped spread of mixed rubble and stones (0130), measuring c.16 metres by c.8 metres, extended out

from the north-west corner of the barn. Included in this layer was a significant quantity of medieval limestone masonry blocks (see section 3.3.1), clearly imported from elsewhere. Within the area of spread 0130 a well (0177) was encountered with its lining constructed from the locally made Elmham St. Cross bricks exhibiting their characteristic cross-shaped frog.

Dating evidence for the barn and its associated features suggests that the barn itself was constructed during the 17<sup>th</sup> or early 18<sup>th</sup> century, possibly part of the initial park landscaping undertaken following the construction of Flixton Hall in the early 17<sup>th</sup> century. However, the extension to the barn and features such as the well are clearly later, probably towards the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century date and must be associated with a later programme of landscaping and construction.

**Pits**

A total of eighteen pits were attributed to this phase (Table 5 & Figs. 39.a. & 39.b.). Of these, the majority (seventeen) were the result of formal tree-planting, one 0085 was reputed to be a 'dew pond' for watering of deer.



Towards the western end of the area of FLN 061 stripped for the bund a depression (0085) was visible prior to soil-stripping with a depth of c.1.5 metres. This feature had previously been identified in a field survey (WYAS, 1997) and had been interpreted as a possible quarry pit. However, local knowledge suggested that it had originally been excavated to provide a watering hole for deer (a 'dew pond'). This interpretation seemed reasonable as mechanical removal of the base of the feature

**Fig 39.b.** FLN 061 (New Phase 11) Phase Plan: Period V.b. post-medieval c.17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> century

revealed a grey/brown silty clay layer (0086) that would have acted as a lining to retain water. In addition, in the Tithe Map of 1844, this area of the park was known as Game Preserve.

Pit (0085) was irregular in shape, although having five relatively straight edges, with the lined component measuring approximately 18 metres by 14 metres. The natural subsoil sloped down gently towards the pit from a point c.4 metres outside the formal lining.

A group of eighteen markedly similar pits were recorded as a group immediately south of the junction of ditches 0204 and 0484. From the surface, these features looked remarkably uniform and only one (0514) was excavated archaeologically as a post-medieval date was not in doubt. The excavated example was circular, 1.3 metres in diameter with a depth of 0.22 metres, exhibiting relatively steep sides and a flat bottom. The fill (0515) comprised almost entirely of green/brown clay with a small central area of brown, silty clayey sand. These features almost certainly represent the location of trees planted as part of the formal landscape of Flixton Park. However, it is not entirely clear whether they were part of the initial landscaping scheme or part of a later phase. Clay is deliberately added during the planting process on well drained soils to help retain moisture around the roots.

### ***Ditches***

A total of eleven ditches have been attributed to this phase (see Table 5 & Figs 39.a. & 39.b.) based on a combination of stratigraphic, artefactual and map evidence. Ditches are notoriously difficult to phase as by their nature they can represent boundaries that can persist through more than one recognised chronological phase and the finds recovered from their fill may only help date the redundancy of the feature.

Those recorded at Flixton are no exception and they can effectively be placed in the following categories:

- Ditches representing boundaries which appear on the earliest available map of 1760, possibly representing the continuation of 'pre-park' land divisions. The two ditches attributed to this phase were in fact maintained throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century and were still visible as surface features at the time of soil-stripping.

Ditches: 0110/0067, 0294: ditches delineating the western and eastern sides of the field with barn 0178 at its centre (1760 estate map). These were significant features, 0110 was up to 3 metres wide with a maximum depth of 0.7 metres while 0294 was 2.2 metres wide with a maximum depth of 0.7 metres. The fills comprised stratified sands and gravels. Prior to soil-stripping, ditch 0110 was visible as a shallow depression and bank, while 0294 was marked by a shallow bank only. As could be expected with features with a currency of at least three hundred years, there was some evidence for re-cutting.

- Later park boundaries which appear for the first time on mid 19<sup>th</sup> century maps, although some may have followed earlier established features in the landscape. Generally these had become redundant by the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, although in three instances survived as a vestigial banks up until the time of soil-stripping.

Ditches: 0008, 0010, 0012/1301, 0056/0441/1199, 0065, 0131, 0137, 0830, 1296: varied between 0.5 metres to 2.2 metres in width and between 0.3 to 0.7 metres in depth. Their fills comprised stratified sands and gravels, some of which were relatively unconsolidated. Includes (0012/1301 & 0056/0441/1199) the double ditch on the north side of the pre-late 19<sup>th</sup> century line of the Flixton to Homersfield road, a ditch (0065) marking the southern side of the Game Reserve and three small

enclosures; one (components 0131 & 0137) around barn 0178 and two (0830 & 1296) surrounding small areas of formally planted woodland.

#### ***Fence-lines***

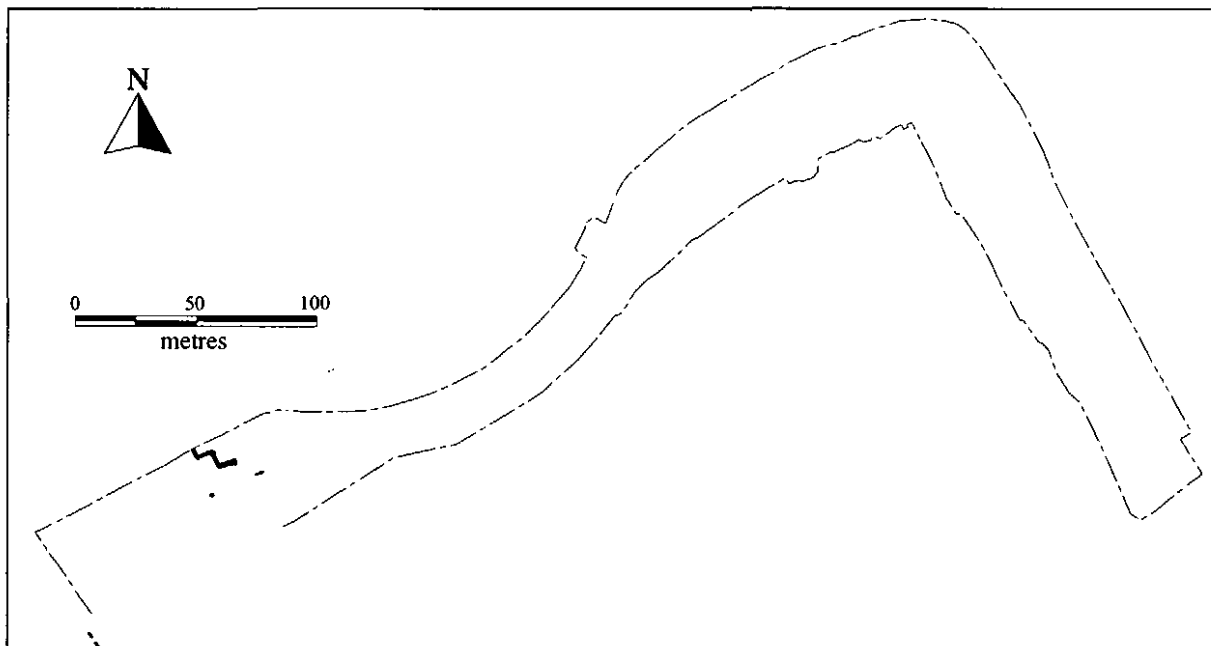
Two lines of post-holes (1563 & 1580) were recorded (Fig.39.a.), the most persistent of which (1563) comprised fifteen recognised features running parallel to and c.7 metres to the south of the similarly dated ditch 0065. The second line (1580) of only four features was recorded immediately south of 1563 towards its eastern end.

It was clear at the time of excavation that the features were of no great antiquity and only a representative sample was excavated. The post-holes were all c.0.5 metres in diameter with a depth of 0.4 metres and fill comprising homogenous brown silty sand.

These features almost certainly mark the line of a fence that when combined with ditch 0065 and its associated bank would have formed the boundary to the deer-park to the north.

#### **Period V.c.; post-medieval, c.1914-1918**

One of the most unexpected phases of activity identified on the site was a series of infantry trench systems and latrine/rubbish pits which clearly indicated that an area of Flixton Park had been given over to Military exercises during World War I (Table 5 & Figs. 40.a. & 40.b.). The Survey of Suffolk Parish History (Goult, 1990) mentions that The Shropshire Yeomanry were stationed at Flixton Hall in 1914 and it seems reasonable to assume that the trenches and pits were at least in part the result of their activities.



**Fig 40.a.** FLN 061 (Bund) Phase Plan: Period V.c. post-medieval c.1914 - 1918

A major trench system (0536) which was identified in the New Phase 11 area of FLN 061 was confined to the west of the north-west to south-east orientated park ditch (0110) and by the existing north-east to south-west aligned fenced boundary to the south. No features of this date were identified in FLN 063 immediately to the south and FLN 064 to the east. A lesser concentration of trench features and pits were



recorded at the western end of the FLN 061 bund excavation north of the north-east to south-west orientated park ditch 0065. In addition, an open section of 'zig-zag' trench had previously been identified in School Wood, beyond the bounds of the proposed quarry,

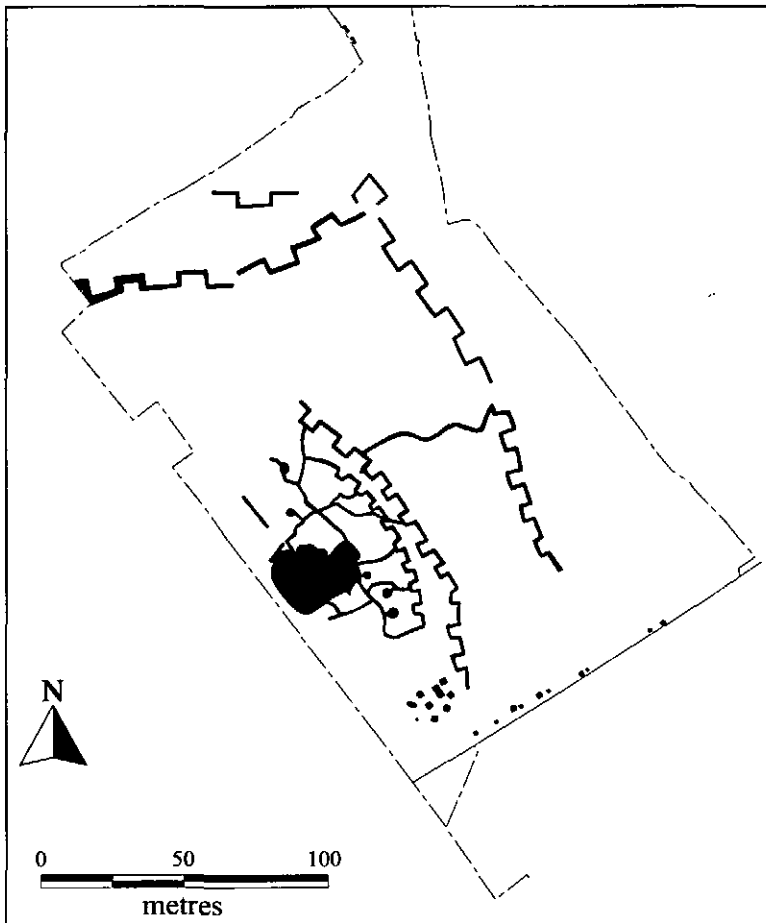


Fig 40.b. FLN 061 (New Phase 11) Phase Plan: Period V.c. post-medieval c.1914 - 1918

had previously been identified in School Wood, beyond the bounds of the proposed quarry, during a walkover survey (WYAS, 1997a, Fig. 31 & p.35).

The full extent of the Military training area is likely to have been more extensive as similar features were recorded in the SCCAS excavation in the adjacent Tarmac Quarry some 500 metres to the south-west (Boulter, 2003, p.56). There are also reports from quarry staff of pit-like features seen close to the north-east to south-west aligned boundary

between the two quarries which included artefacts which clearly identify them as World War I in date.

### ***Trenches & Shelters***

The extended trench system (0536) had clearly been excavated with a view to familiarising the troops with the full range of construction techniques and layouts they would require. The following descriptive terms used for various elements of the feature complex recorded at Flixton were taken from a contemporary War Office publication S.S. 196 comprising field diagrams. Normal frontline 'Traverse-type' trenches (0520) with a 'Flanking Redon' (0478) were linked by a curved 'Communication Trench' (0192) to a fallback frontline system (0006 & 0014). These, in turn, were linked by a network of communications trenches, with 'Shelters' (0018, 0192, 0194, 0196 & 0198) to a major 'Redoubt' (0020) to the rear. A possible 'Passing Place' (0002) was also recorded.

The trenches varied in width from 4 metres (western end of 0520) down to 0.8 metres (0478) with most at approximately 1.2 metres. Manual excavation was limited to only a few test sections in which it became clear that there was a variation in the depth of the trenches from only 0.2 metres (0200) through to 0.9 metres (0079). However, this does not take into account the variable depth of the mechanically removed topsoil

overburden. The trenches would originally have been excavated to a depth of between 0.8 metres and 1 metre which, when combined with the thickness of the upcast spoil, would have provided adequate cover for training purposes.

The fills comprised stratified layers of dirty sand, gravel and loam. Concentrations of loam towards the bottom, especially well developed in 0060/0064 may represent trample contemporary with the use of the trench. The angle exhibited by the tip-lines suggest that the trenches were backfilled from one direction in a single event, a clear indication that the upcast spoil had been formed into a bank on the side of the trench facing towards the enemy lines.

Trench complex 0536 included four circular pits joined to the communications trenches by a short length of trench. These are similar in character to features shown on the War Office field diagrams (S.S. 196), labelled as Shelters, Officers Shelters or Bombers Pits. The pits were all c.3 metres in diameter with vertical sides and a depth conforming to that of the adjacent communications trenches.

One of the communications trenches (0002) exhibited a rounded protuberance on one side interpreted as a possible passing place.

The communications trenches to the rear of the frontline trenches in complex 0536 all connected back to a large, irregularly shaped pit (0020) thought to represent a redoubt or command area. Prior to soil-stripping this feature had been identified as a relatively small, c.8 metres in diameter c.0.7 metres deep circular depression, partial backfilling having reduced its size from its original c.20 metres by c.35 metres with a depth of c.1 metre (measured from the machined surface of the naturally occurring subsoil). The fill of 0020 comprised a mix of yellow/brown clay, sand/gravel and loam with common inclusions of brick and tile.

#### ***Latrine/Rubbish Pits***

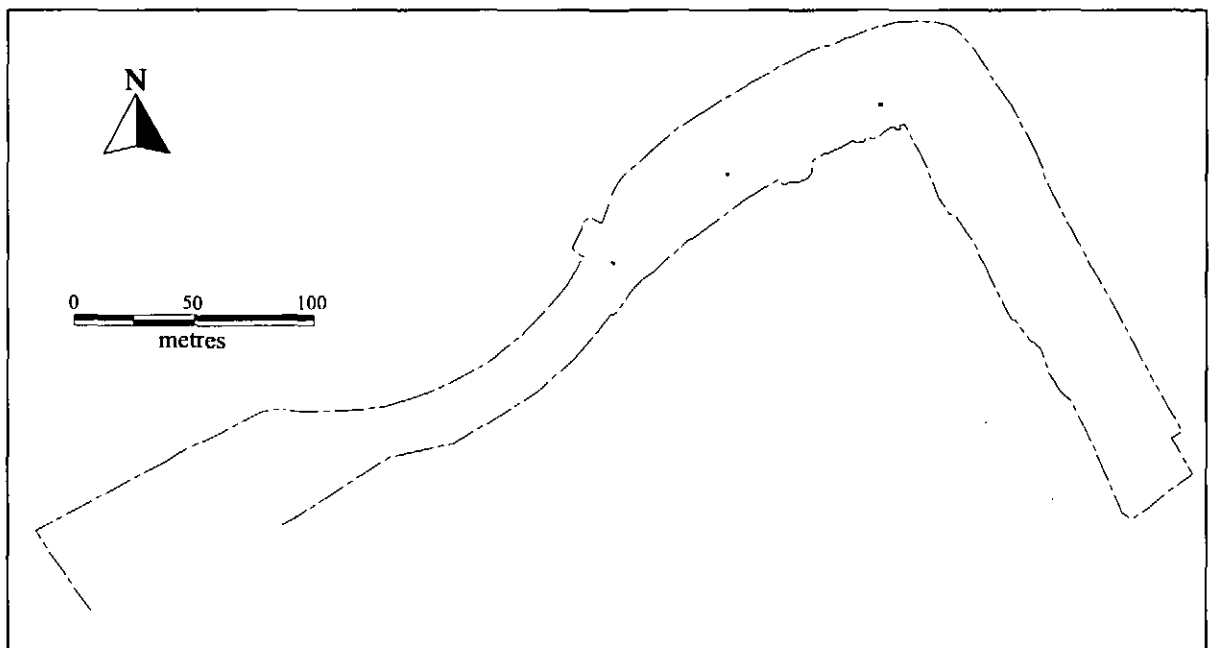
A total of twenty five pits (Table 5 & Figs. 40a. & 40.b.) were attributed to this phase based almost entirely on artefactual evidence. A group of ten were recorded forming a cluster immediately to the south of the 0536 trench complex with a further ten located close to the existing fenced boundary between School Wood and the cultivated field to the south. Another group of four pits were lined up against an existing field boundary where it now forms the division between the RMC quarry to the east and Tarmac to the west, continuing as north-west to south-east orientated ditch 0110 on the eastern side of the FLN 061 area. One other pit was identified, an isolated feature excavated into the bottom of a large depression (0085) at the western end of the area of FLN 061 excavated to create the bund around the northern edge of the quarry.

Generally, the pits were square in shape, with the exception of 0028 which was oval and 0083 which was indeterminate, measuring c.2 metres by c.2 metres or c.1.5 metres by c.1.5 metres. The regularity of their size and shape suggests that they were originally excavated to conform with a military standard of either 6 feet by 6 feet or 4 feet by 4 feet. None of these features were formally excavated as artefactual evidence recovered from the surface was adequate for dating purposes. However, in mechanically excavated tests it was clear that the pits had vertical sides, a flat bottom and had been excavated to a similar depth to the length of their sides (including the mechanically removed topsoil overburden).

The pit fills were well stratified, comprising layers of relatively unconsolidated ash, sand/gravel and loam. The sheltered location close to field boundaries exhibited by many of the pits suggests that their primary function was as latrines. However, it was clear that they had subsequently been used to dispose of general rubbish which commonly included bottles, jars, tin plates, tin mugs, food tins and spent cartridges. Other less common finds included horseshoes, ceramic candlesticks and fragments of boot leather.

#### **Period V.d.; post-medieval, 20<sup>th</sup> century**

Three pits (0728, 1416 & 1459) were attributed to this phase, all of which were clearly modern tree-holes that were only recorded due to their juxtaposition with earlier archaeological features (Table 5 & Fig. 41).



**Fig 41** FLN 061 (Bund) Phase Plan: Period V.d. post-medieval c.20<sup>th</sup> century

#### **Period 0; Undated & Naturally Derived Features**

A total of one hundred and forty one features were either undatable, due to a lack of artefactual stratigraphic and typological evidence, or were considered to be naturally derived (Table 5 & Figs. 42.a. & 42.b.). Overall, the majority of the undated features, with the exception of the ditches, were concentrated within the general area of the Period III (Early Anglo Saxon) occupation and it is reasonable to assume that many of these relate to that period.

#### ***Ditches***

A total of nine ditches remained undated (Table 5 & Figs. 42.a. & 42.b.) of which six (0058, 0112, 0204, 0208, 0443 & 0484) appeared to be related, forming a rectilinear complex which continued into FLN 064 (this assessment) and FLN 065 and FLN 068 (future Assessment 3).

While not closely datable at this juncture, stratigraphic evidence proves that the ditch system predates both the brick-built barn (seen in FLN 065), the ditches on the northern side of the former Flixton-Homersfield road (seen in FLN 061 & FLN 068)

and was also recorded running under the metalled surface of the road itself (also in FLN 068). While the orientation of the ditch system is similar to the post-medieval park boundaries they also approximate to the Period II.a. (Late Iron Age/Early

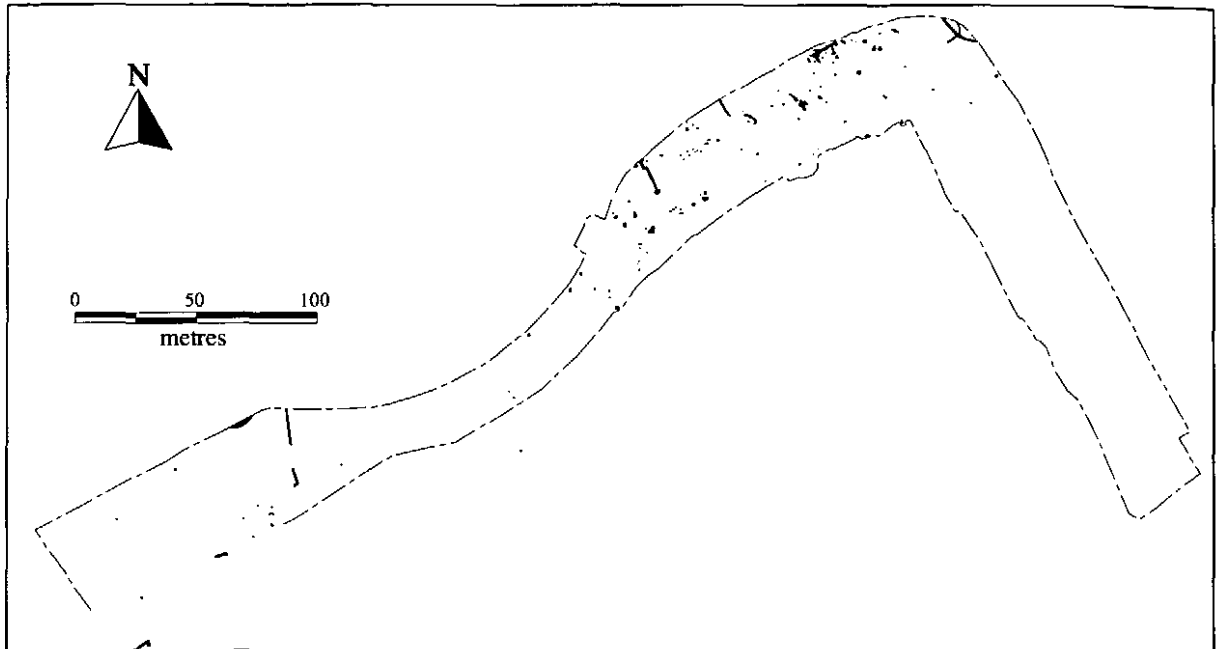


Fig 42.a. FLN 061 (Bund) Phase Plan: Period 0 Undated & naturally derived features

Roman) alignments recorded in other quarry phases. It is then clear that similarities in alignment alone cannot be used as sound dating evidence. In this landscape it would have been the contours of the valley that were the main influencing factor and successive phases of field ditches follow a similar pattern.

Future soil-stripping in New Phase 10 will address this problem as it will provide the chance to see whether the Period II.a. ditches identified in FLN 063 are associated with those recorded in the quarry phase to the north. However, it is equally possible that these features relate to Period III (Early Anglo Saxon), IV (medieval) or early 'pre-park' Period V (post-medieval).

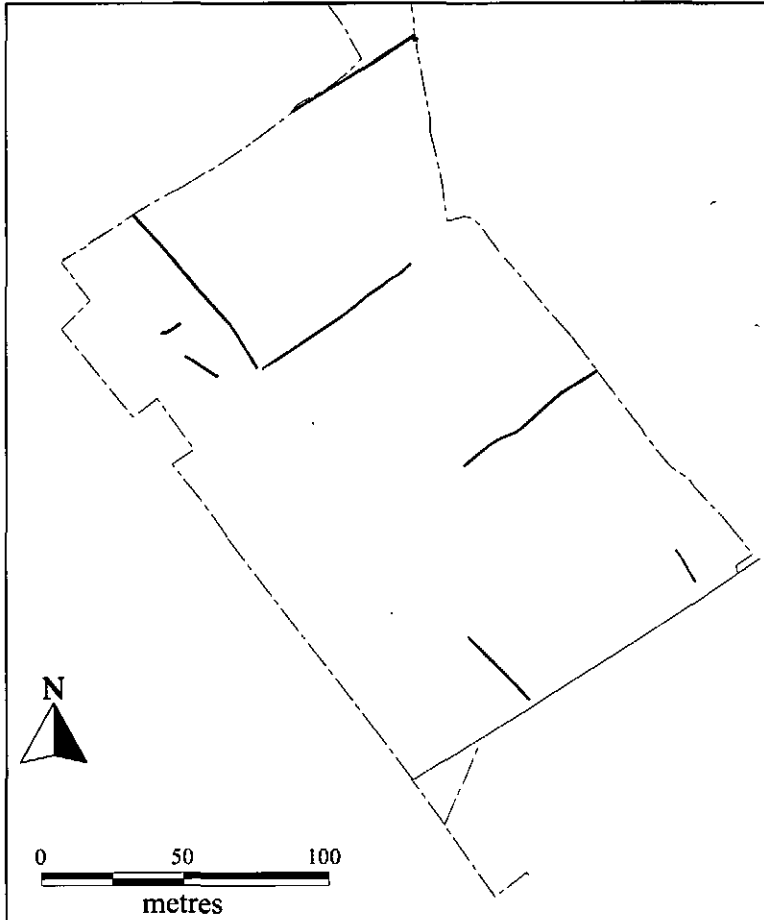
Generally these features were between 0.2 and 0.5 metres wide, c.0.1-0.3 metres deep with a fill comprising homogenous brown silty sand.

The remaining three features described as ditches were clustered immediately to the east of Period III (Early Anglo Saxon) SFB (Sunken Featured Building) 0278. These effectively formed three butt-ends. However, while these were not as irregular as features identified as being naturally derived periglacial gullies, the difficulties with edge definition during excavation suggests that these may also not be genuine.

### ***Pits***

A total of seventy one pits remained undated all of which were located in the south-west to north-east orientated arm of the area stripped to construct the bund. It is also clear that the majority form a concentration within the general area occupied principally by Period III. (Early Anglo Saxon) features (Fig. 42.a.).

The range in both size and character of the pits was considerable. Irregular features with very sandy fills were likely to have been natural tree-holes. However, there were also more clearly defined circular and oval features with fills which did not provide any diagnostically datable artefactual evidence, but did include fragments of fired



clay, charcoal, heat altered flints and scrappy struck flints in their fills. While the latter were definitely manually derived features they cannot be attributed closely to any phase.

**Post-Holes**

A total of forty-eight post-holes were attributed to this phase based on the lack of artefactual and stratigraphic evidence (Table 5 & Fig. 42.a). Included were a cluster of nine (collectively 0787) possibly related features with no obvious formal layout and a group of three (0266) also interpreted as part of a possible structure.

Fig 42.b. FLN 061 (New Phase 11) Phase Plan: Period 0 Undated & naturally derived features

Similarly to the undated pits, the

post-holes were concentrated within the area of Early Anglo Saxon occupation and it is reasonable to assume that a good number of the undated post-holes recorded in these areas belong to this period.

The features exhibited a wide range of characters and dimensions with the majority providing no positive evidence that they had ever been utilised as post-holes and their inclusion under this feature type was based entirely on size (less than 0.5 metres in diameter). In addition, some may represent no more than discoloured subsoil caused by plant rooting, animal burrows or natural geological processes.

**Cremation**

Located in the centre of the Early Anglo Saxon feature concentration, a small circular pit (0302), measuring 0.5 metres in diameter with a depth of only 0.2 metres was recorded with calcined bone throughout its dark grey/brown silty sand fill (0303). As there was a small possibility that this was a cremation burial, the entire fill was retained as a soil sample.

**Layers/Spreads**

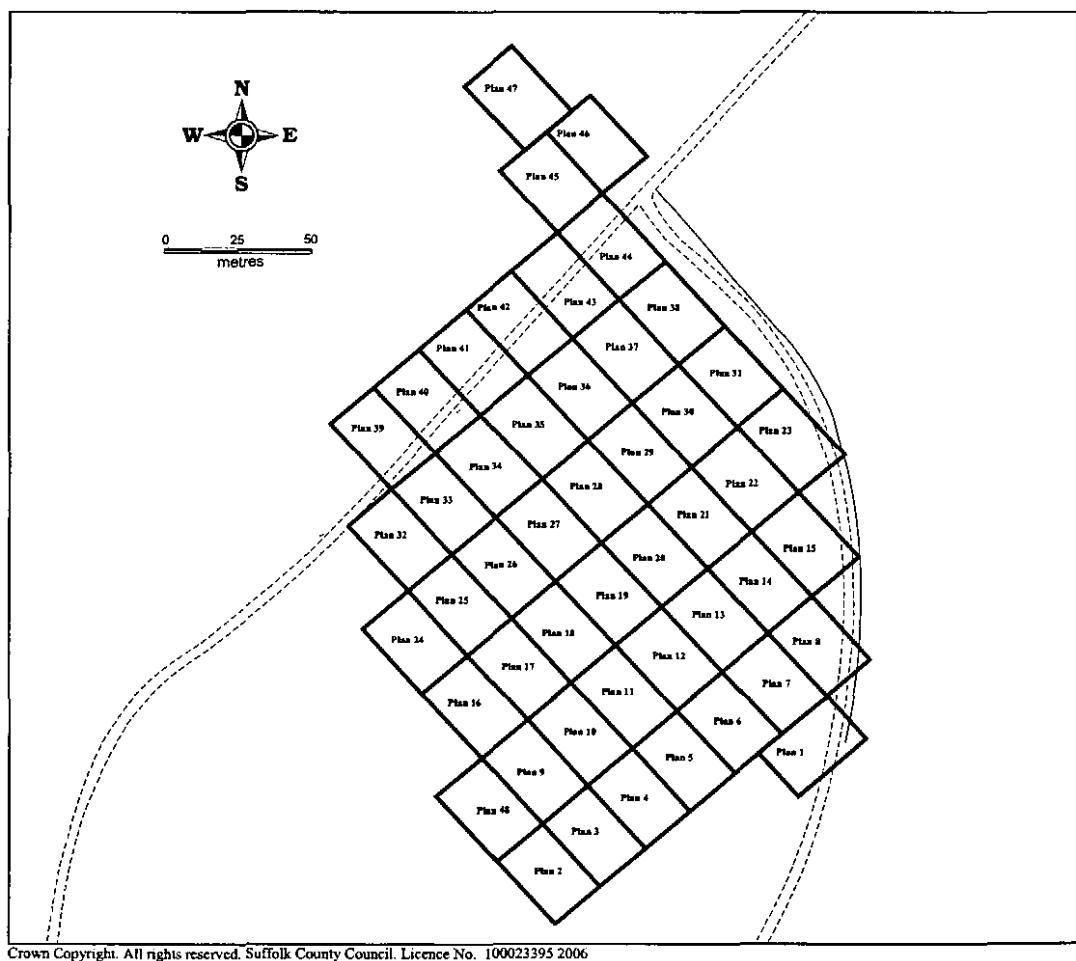
Three features (0210, 0269 & 0619) were described as spreads (Table 5). Of these, 0210 was initially thought to be a feature, but was found on excavation to represent no more than a slight deepening in the subsoil. The remaining two were effectively areas of heat altered natural subsoil. Layer 0269 was isolated away from any concentration of features with which it could be related, but 0619 was recorded immediately north of and external to the Period III (Early Anglo Saxon) hall building 0613.

**Periglacial Gullies**

Nine features (Table 5 & Figs. 42.a. & 42.b.) were considered to have been generated by periglacial processes. Generally these took the form of shallow branching, irregularly shaped, linear features with fills comprising stone-free slightly silty sand. These were often thought to be genuine features until the excavation of sample sections proved otherwise. Occasional finds recovered from the excavated sections were almost certainly intrusive as the soft sand fills would have been more conducive to intervention by burrowing animals and tree roots than the surrounding subsoil, the latter often comprising almost entirely of pebble to cobble-sized stones.

**3.2.5 FLN 062**

The area excavated as FLN 062 comprised New Phase 7 of the quarry and covered an area of approximately 2.25 hectares immediately east of and adjoining FLN 059 (New



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**Fig. 43** 1:2,500 scale OS map extract showing the area covered by each individual 1:50 scale inked plan sheet for FLN 062

Phase 6) (Fig. 2). The area included the known ring-ditch (FLN 010) and was thought likely to contain the continuation of the Early Anglo-Saxon cemetery recorded in the south-east corner of the area excavated as FLN 053.

A total of one thousand three hundred and ninety one context numbers were allocated to five hundred and six discrete features, multi-contextual structures and their associated stratigraphic elements (Appendix II{E}). In addition, three hundred and eighty four numbers were allocated to small-finds (Appendix IV{E}).

The forty eight (A1 size sheets) 1:50 scale original site plans have been inked (48 A1 size sheets, see Fig. 43) and digitised to achieve an overall plan (Fig. 44). There are seven A1 size sheets of 1:20 scale section drawings that will need security copies (scanned) to form part of the site archive. In addition, there are three A1 sheets of

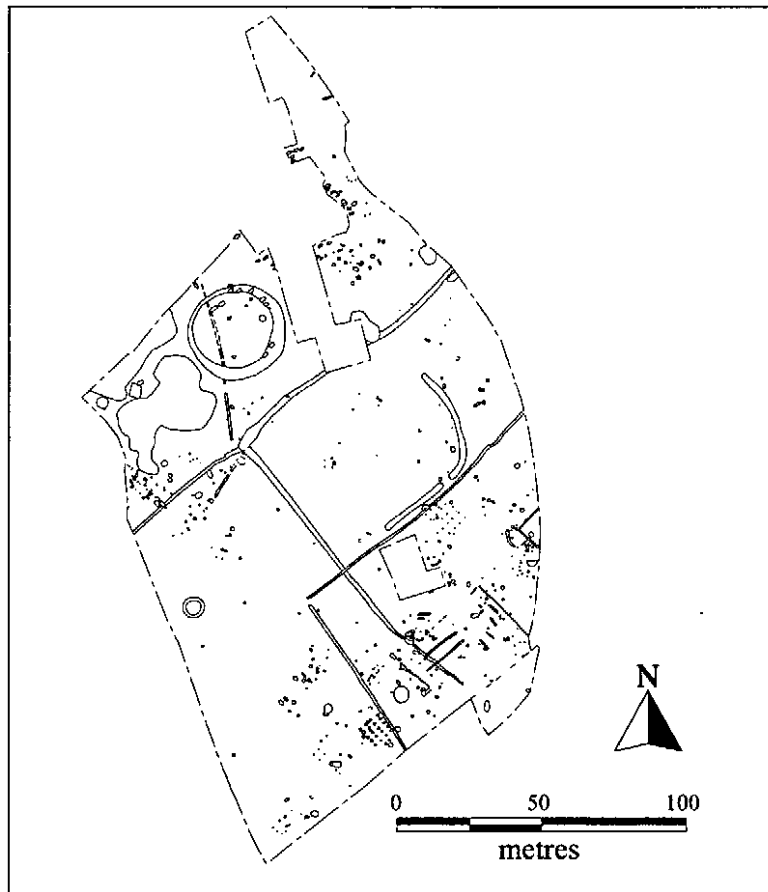


Fig. 44 1:2,500 scale plan of FLN 062 showing all features

1:10 scale plans/sections of two pottery kilns that will need inking or scanning as part of the site archive. Also, there are two A1 size sheets of 1:10 scale profiles and fifteen A4 sized sheets of 1:10 and 1:1 scale plans of the Early Anglo-Saxon graves and the single, but multiple, Roman grave. The Early Anglo-Saxon graves do not form part of this assessment (with the exception of the minimum conservation requirements of the grave goods & a basic catalogue) and will be dealt with the remainder of the cemetery.

The features and finds recorded in FLN 062 have been attributed to fourteen archaeological Periods/Phases these are detailed in Table 7.

Period/Phase	Basis for Dating	Features/Contexts
<b>Period I.c.</b> prehistoric: Early Neolithic c.4000-3200 BC <b>Total 4</b>	Artefactual evidence	<b>Ring-Ditch: 0300 (Total 1)</b> <b>Pits: 0022, 0097, 0984 (Total 3)</b>
<b>Period I.d.</b> Prehistoric: Late Neolithic c.3200 - 2400 BC <b>Total 8</b>	Artefactual evidence	<b>Pits: 0216, 0419, 0421, 0860, 1740, 1748 (Total 6)</b> <b>Post-Holes: 0024 (Total 1)</b> <b>Spread: 0030 (Total 1)</b>
<b>Period I.e.</b> prehistoric: Early Bronze Age c.2400-1500 BC <b>Total 23</b>	Stratigraphic, artefactual & typological evidence	<b>Ring-Ditch: 0808 (FLN 010) (Total 1)</b> <b>Pits: 0035, 0076, 0111, 0218, 0221, 0417, 0574, 0745, 0862, 1530, 1539, 1543, 1589, 1592, 1594, 1613, 1629, 1633, 1668, 1729 (Total 20)</b> <b>Post-Holes: 0202, 1623 (Total 2)</b>
<b>Period I. d. &amp; e.</b> Indeterminate Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age c.3200 – 1500 BC <b>Total 11</b>	Artefactual evidence	<b>Pits: 0063, 0079, 0427, 0775, 1528, 1822 (Total 6)</b> <b>Post-Holes: 0147, 0210, 0212, 0828, 0830 (Total 5)</b>
<b>Period I.g.</b> Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age c.800 - 400 BC <b>Total 7</b>	Artefactual evidence	<b>Pits: 0018, 0031, 0048, 0478, 0770, 0787, 0979 (Total 7)</b>
<b>Period I.i.</b> Indeterminate Bronze Age/Iron Age c.2400 BC- 43 AD <b>Total 8 discrete features</b>	Typological evidence	<b>Post-Hole Structures: (0149) 0150, 0152, 0154, 0156, (1891) 1548, 1550, 1583, 1585 (Total 2 structures, 8 individual post-holes)</b>
<b>Period II.a.</b> Late Iron Age/Early Roman c.1 <sup>st</sup> BC - E.2 <sup>nd</sup> century AD <b>Total 46</b>	Stratigraphic & artefactual evidence	<b>Buildings: 0490, 0650 (Total 2)</b> <b>Pits: 0008, 0012, 0055, 0118, 0256, 0258, 0260, 0276, 0290, 0307, 0316, 0337, 0392, 0394, 0407, 0439, 0455, 0591, 0594, 0648, 0844, 0867, 0871, 0877, 0905, 0907, 0930, 1500, 1572, 1609, 1664, 1760, 1790, 1813 (Total 34)</b> <b>Post-Holes: 0067, 0365, 0431, 0789 (Total 4)</b> <b>Ditches: 0039/1785, 0071, 0305, 0441, 0445 (Total 5)</b> <b>Grave: 1776 (Total 1)</b>
<b>Period II.b.</b> Roman c.E.2 <sup>nd</sup> - L.3 <sup>rd</sup> century AD <b>Total 21</b>	Stratigraphic, artefactual & typological evidence	<b>Kilns: 0014, 0016 (Total 2)</b> <b>Pits: 0399, (0623) 0629 &amp; 0635, 0639, 0700, 0729, 0752, 0816, 1635, 1692 (Total 10)</b> <b>Linear: 0955 (Total 1)</b> <b>Post-Holes: 0447, 0485, 0603 (Total 3)</b> <b>Ditches: 0041, 0043 (Total 2)</b> <b>Slots: 0057, 0767, 0797 (Total 3)</b>
<b>Period II.c.</b> Roman c.L.3 <sup>rd</sup> - 4 <sup>th</sup> century AD <b>Total 6</b>	Stratigraphic & artefactual evidence	<b>Pits: 0185, 0234, 0405, 1520, 1537 (Total 5)</b> <b>Post-Holes: 0383 (Total 1)</b>
<b>Period II.0</b> Roman Unspecified date <b>Total 104</b>	Stratigraphic & artefactual evidence	<b>Pits: 0002, 0004, 0006, 0020, 0053, 0128, 0160, 0176, 0180, 0191, 0224, 0230, 0244, 0246, 0248, 0250, 0252, 0282, 0284, 0286, 0294, 0318, 0401, 0403, 0450, 0562, 0572, 0587, 0642, 0644, 0646, 0653, 0657, 0741, 0749, 0783, 0790, 0858, 0869, 0875, 0879, 0887, 0932, 0943, 0958, 0966, 0977, 1505, 1526, 1566, 1576, 1619, 1621, 1670, 1688, 1725, 1727, 1738, 1751, 1762, 1766, 1786, 1802 (Total 63)</b> <b>Post-Holes: 0059/1652, 0122, 0195, 0198, 0236, 0254, 0264, 0272, 0278, 0292, 0298, 0313, 0324, 0326, 0332, 0361, 0385, 0415, 0443, 0488, 0550, 0566, 0601, 0613, 0615, 0637, 0812, 1654, 1686, 1698 (Total 30)</b> <b>Troughs: 1615, 1637, 1646, 1733, 1756/1758 (Total 5)</b> <b>Slots: 0911, 0935, 1511, 1770, 1672/1684, 1796 (Total 6)</b>

Table 7; continued on next page



Period/Phase	Basis for Dating	Features/Contexts
<b>Period III</b> Early Anglo Saxon c.410 – E.7 <sup>th</sup> century <b>Total 21</b>	Stratigraphic, artefactual & typological evidence	<b>Graves: 0893, 0897, 0901, 0903, 0993, 0997, 1546, 1824, 1828, 1842, 1844, 1855, 1859, 1862, 1865, 1872, 1887 (Total 17)</b> <b>Pits: 0124, 0183, 1587, 1774 (Total 4)</b>
<b>Period V.a.</b> Post-medieval L.15 <sup>th</sup> - 17 <sup>th</sup> centuries <b>Total 1</b>	Artefactual evidence	<b>Pit: 0390 (Total 1)</b>
<b>Period V.b.</b> post-medieval c.17 <sup>th</sup> -19 <sup>th</sup> centuries <b>Total 5</b>	Artefactual evidence	<b>Quarry Pit: 0359, 0397, 1522, 1541 (Total 4)</b> <b>Pits: 1878 (Total 1)</b>
<b>Period 0</b> Undated & naturally derived features	None	<b>Pits: 0037, 0046, 0051, 0081, 0085, 0091, 0099, 0101, 0126, 0130, 0132, 0158, 0161, 0163, 0165, 0174, 0193, 0228, 0232, 0266, 0268, 0270, 0330, 0335, 0339, 0357, 0367, 0387, 0409, 0433, 0458, 0464, 0480, 0539, 0576, 0583, 0585, 0596, 0696, 0702, 0709, 0711, 0721, 0723, 0731, 0733, 0772, 0777, 0779, 0781, 0785, 0792, 0799, 0826, 0834, 0848, 0850, 0852, 0854, 0856, 0865, 0873, 0883, 0885, 0889, 0891, 0947, 0981, 0983, 1502, 1507, 1509, 1524, 1533, 1535, 1554, 1560, 1574, 1596, 1604, 1611, 1627, 1644, 1650, 1656, 1658, 1665, 1674, 1690, 1696, 1700, 1702, 1704, 1708, 1722, 1743, 1746, 1753, 1768, 1788, 1798, 1808, 1811, 1847, 1868, 1880, 1882, 1607 (Total 108)</b> <b>Post-Hole Structure/?Circle 0914: 0915, 0917, 0919, ?0921, 0923, 0925, ?0927, 1706, 1710, 1714, 1716, ?1720 (Total 12)</b> <b>Post-Holes: 0026, 0028, 0033, 0074, 0087, 0089, 0103, 0114, 0116, 0120, 0134, 0137, 0142, 0144, 0170, 0172, 0178, 0200, 0204, 0206, 0208, 0214, 0274, 0280, 0288, 0296, 0309, 0311, 0320, 0322, 0328, 0341, 0343, 0345, 0350, 0352, 0354, 0369, 0371, 0373, 0375, 0377, 0379, 0381, 0413, 0423, 0425, 0429, 0435, 0437, 0452, 0471, 0474, 0542, 0552, 0556, 0558, 0560, 0599, 0605, 0607, 0609, 0611, 0693, 0726, 0735, 0743, 0747, 0795, 0814 0820, 0822, 0824, 0837, 0839, 0841, 0909, 0937, 0940, 0949, 0960, 0964, 0970, 0972, 0975, 1556, 1558, 1562, 1564, 1568, 1570, 1599, 1602, 1625, 1640, 1642, 1660, 1662, 1676, 1678, 1680, 1682, 1694, 1712, 1718, 1781, 1783, 1792, 1794, 1806 (Total 110)</b> <b>Layers: 0069, 0070, 0096, 0699 (Total 4)</b> <b>Ditch: 0810/1884 (Total 1)</b> <b>Hearths: 0062, 1800 (Total 2)</b> <b>Slot: 0363 (Total 1)</b> <b>Tree-Holes: 0065, 0083, 0468 (Total 3)</b>
<b>Total 241</b>		

Table 7: (FLN 062) Detailed Site Phasing

**Period I.c.; Early Neolithic, c.4000-3200 BC**

A total of four features, a ring-ditch (0300) and three pits were attributed to this phase based exclusively on artefactual evidence (Table 7 & Fig. 45). The pits were all isolated and none were close to the similarly phased ring-ditch 0300. Residual artefactual evidence was recovered from a number of later features.

***Ring-Ditch***

Ring-ditch 0300, located on the western edge of the FLN 062 area, described a circle c.7.5 metres in diameter (Plate 16). The ditch itself was 1 metre wide with a maximum depth of 0.4 metres and rounded profile. The fill comprised a mix of brown silty sand and large flint cobbles, the latter exhibiting a high degree of frost shatter indicating a protracted period of exposure to the elements. The naturally occurring subsoil in the immediate vicinity did not include material of this type and the cobbles had clearly been deliberately brought in, either to form part of a central mound or cairn or, at a later time, to fill the ditch.

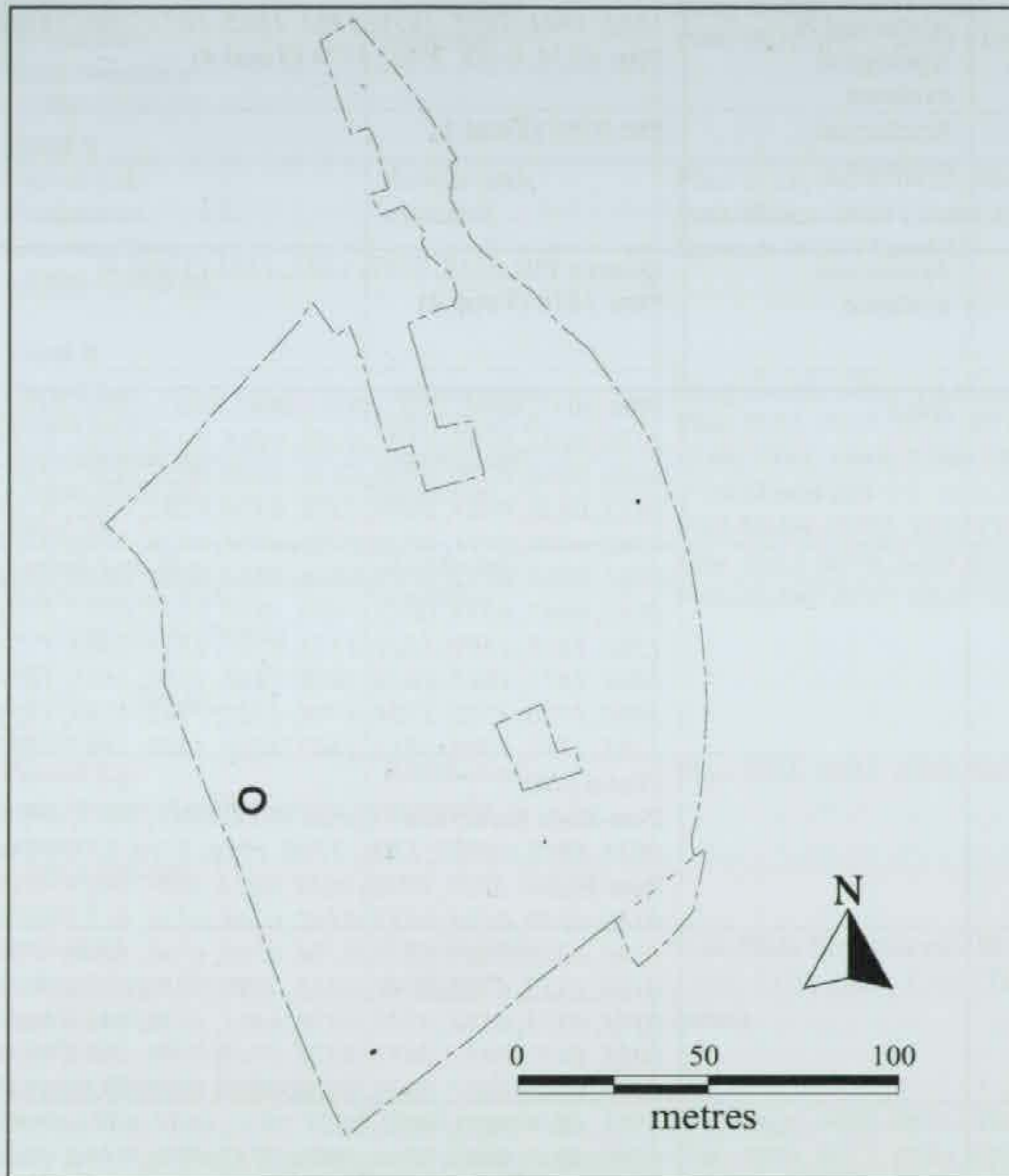


Fig. 45 FLN 062 Phase Plan: Period I.c. Early Neolithic

Artefactual evidence, worked flint and ceramics, were recovered from the excavated fill, but only the pottery was closely datable and suggested that the feature belonged to the Early Neolithic period.

Manual cleaning of the area confined by the ditch failed to identify any internal features.

**Pits**

Three pits were attributed to this period based entirely on ceramic evidence (0022 & 0984) and worked flints (0097).

Pit 0022 was oval in shape, 1.8 metres in length with a width of 0.8 metres and a maximum depth of 0.4 metres, stepping up to 0.2 metres at one end. The fill (0023) comprised relatively homogenous brown silty sand with just a hint of stratification in the shallower end of the feature.

Pit 0097 was circular with a diameter of 1.1 metres, a depth of 0.4 metres and rounded profile. The fill (0098) comprised homogenous, slightly silty sand with occasional gravel sized inclusions.

This feature was assigned to this phase based exclusively from the diagnostic flint 'blade' assemblage recovered from the fill.

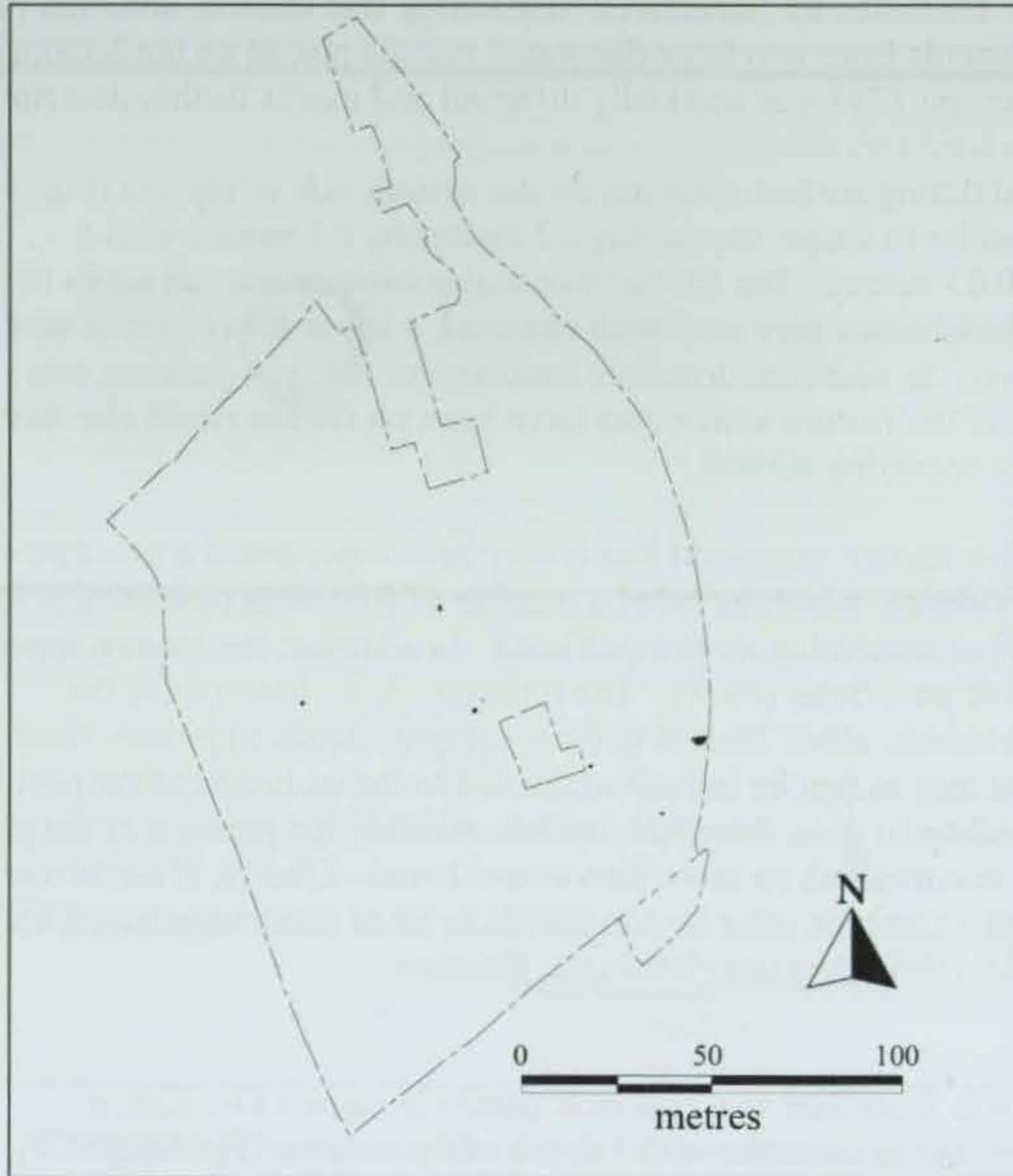
Pit 0984 was circular, with a diameter of 0.7 metres, a depth of 0.3 metres with a steep-sided flat-bottomed profile with a lip on its north-east side. The fill

(0985) comprised dark brown silty sand with some clay lumps.



Plate 16: Ring-Ditch FLN 062 0300

**Period I.d.; Late Neolithic, c.3200 – 2400 BC**



Eight features, six pits (0216, 0419, 0421, 0860, 1740 & 1748), a post-hole (0024) and a spread (0030) were attributed to this phase based entirely on artefactual evidence (Table 7). While not forming a tight cluster, the Period I.d. features were located within a loose concentration towards the centre and south-eastern side of the site (Fig. 46).

**Pits**

Five of the pits, with the exception of 1748, were circular with diameters ranging between 0.6 metres (0421) and 1

**Fig. 46** FLN 062 Phase Plan: Period I.d. Late Neolithic



**Plate 17:** Post-Hole Circle FLN 062 0914 & Pit FLN 062 1748

metre (0216) and depths of 0.1 metre (1740) 0.35 metres (0419). The fills generally comprised relatively homogenous brown silty sand with varying amounts of gravel to pebble-sized stones. Evidence for 'structured' deposition was limited, although pit 0860 did have base sherds from two large decorated vessels placed on the bottom of the feature. However, pit 1748 was markedly different and merits further description.

Pit 1748 was defined during surface cleaning on the eastern side of the site (Fig. 46). The feature was irregular in shape, measuring *c.*2 metres by *c.*2 metres with a maximum depth of 0.85 metres. The fill had two major components; an upper fill (1749) comprising dark brown silty sand with charcoal, a lower fill (1750) of mid brown sand and gravel. In addition, disturbed sand/gravel and iron-panning was recorded at the base of the feature which may have been pit fill but could also have represented naturally occurring subsoil.

The irregularity of this feature suggested that it may have represented a tree-throw, but the artefactual evidence, which included a number of flint tools (see section 3.3.1), may be an indication of something more significant. In addition, the feature appeared to lie within a circle of post-holes (0914). The difficulty here, however, is the conflicting dating evidence, albeit limited to three scrappy sherds of pottery from two of the post-holes that may in fact be intrusive; this led to the inclusion of the post-hole circle in Period 0 (undated). It is, therefore, unclear whether the position of the pit within this circle of features was no more than coincidental. Clearly, if the two are contemporary then this complex must be considered to be of some importance and to have performed a specialised, possibly ritualistic function.

#### ***Post-Hole***

One feature (0024) was described as a post-hole purely because of its size; it measured only 0.4 metres in diameter with a depth of 0.1 metres. The fill (0025) comprised homogenous brown silty sand.

#### ***Spread***

Spread 0030 was effectively no more than a concentration of pottery identified at the interface of the topsoil with the naturally occurring subsoil with no discernible feature present.

#### **Period I.e.; Early Bronze Age, c.2400-1500 BC**

A total of twenty three features (see Table 7 & Fig. 47), were attributed to this period based on artefactual evidence, stratigraphy and typological grounds.

#### ***Ring-Ditches***

One ring-ditch (0808) attributed an Early Bronze Age date was recorded within the area excavated under the FLN 062 site code (Fig. 47 & Plate 18). This feature had previously been identified on aerial photographs and allocated the SMR number FLN 010, but was subsequently excavated under the FLN 062 SMR code.

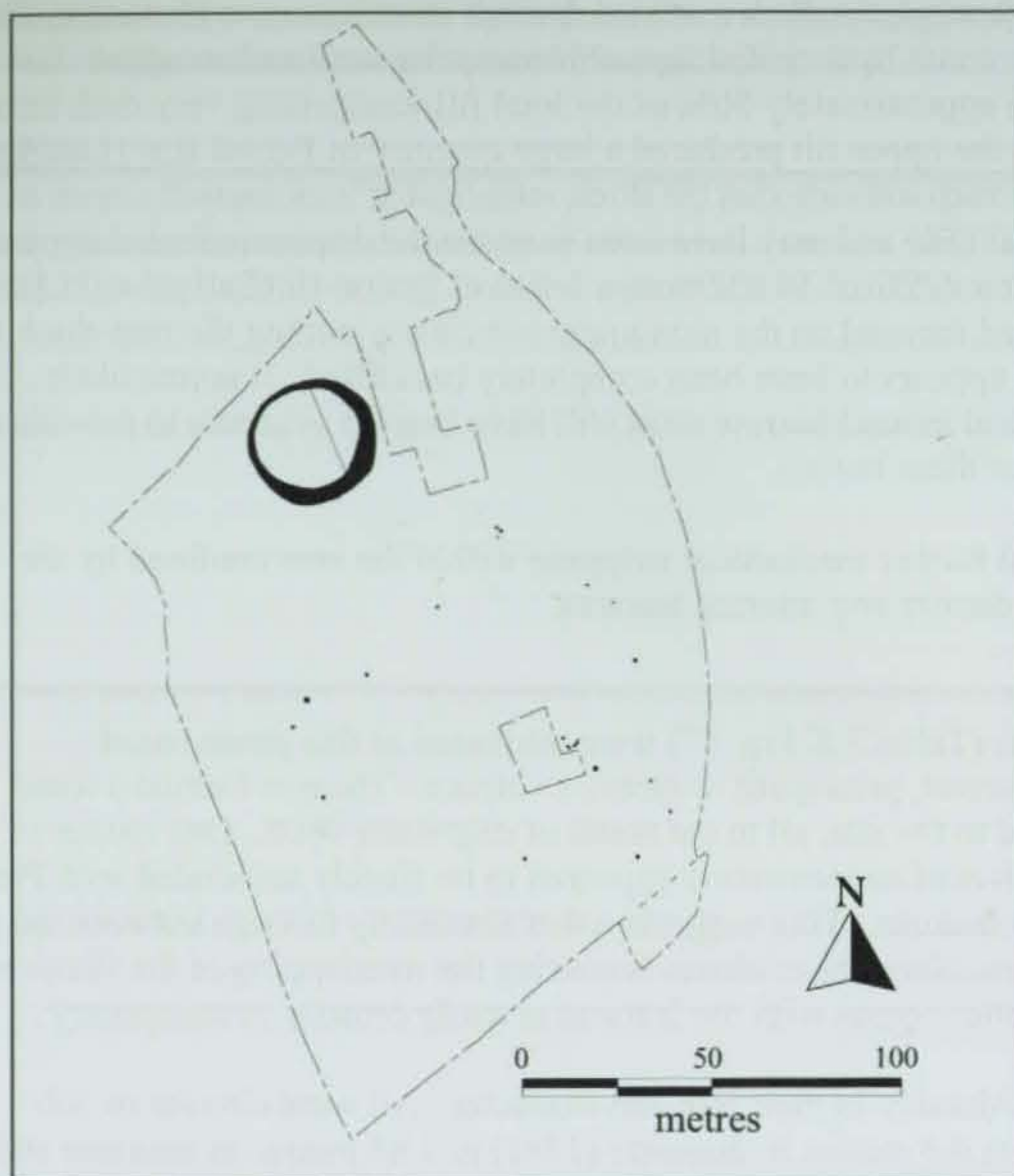


Fig. 47 FLN 062 Phase Plan: Period I.e. Early Bronze Age

Ring-ditch 0808, located towards the northern end of the FLN 062 area, described a circle c.35 metres in diameter with a maximum width of 5.6 metres, on the south and east sides, reducing to only 1 metre to the north and west where it had been truncated by a post-medieval farm track. A maximum depth of 1.4 metres was recorded in an excavated section on its southern side. The profile of the feature varied considerably, possibly as the result of the variable susceptibility to erosional processes of the contrasting

natural subsoils which formed the edges of the ditch. Profiles varied from rounded to open V-shaped with a slight shoulder to a more pronounced shoulder, the latter almost with an 'ankle-breaker' profile.



Plate 18: Ring-Ditch FLN 062 0808 (FLN 010)

Excavated sections through the ditch revealed distinct stratification with a stony sand primary fill, often overlain by a central lens of brown silty sand and an upper component, forming approximately 50% of the total fill, comprising very dark brown silty sand. Notably, the upper fill produced a large quantity of Period II.a. (Late Iron Age/Roman) finds which indicate that the ditch remained at least partially open as a surface feature at that time and may have been used for the disposal of what appeared to be general domestic rubbish. In addition, a series of Period III (Early Anglo Saxon) graves were identified focused on the monument but clearly cutting the ring-ditch fill which, by that time, appears to have been completely backfilled. It seems likely, therefore, that a central mound/barrow must still have been in evidence to provide a visible focal point for these burials.

Manual cleaning and further mechanical stripping within the area confined by the ring-ditch failed to identify any internal features.

### ***Pits***

A total of twenty pits (Table 7 & Fig. 47) were attributed to this phase based exclusively on artefactual, principally ceramic, evidence. The pits formed a loose concentration central to the site, all to the south of ring-ditch 0808. One cluster of features within the overall concentration appeared to be closely associated with Period I.d. (Late Neolithic) features. This suggests either continuity through between the two periods or may be considered as evidence favouring the overlapping of the Grooved Ware and Beaker pottery types with the features actually broadly contemporary.

The pits varied considerably in their size and character. All were circular or sub-circular, ranging from 0.5 metres in diameter (1592) to 1.45 metres in diameter (0218) with depths of between 0.1 metres (1592 & 1668) through to 0.8 metres (0862). However, the majority of the pits were within the middle of this range. The pit fills fell into two distinct categories:

- Those with relatively homogenous brown silty sand fills (0076, 0111, 0202, 0417, 0574, 0745, 0862, 1539, 1594, 1613, 1633 & 1668).
- Those with stratified fills, usually two or three components, with the artefactual evidence in the darkest layer which was often central or middle component (0035, 0218, 0221, 1530, 1543, 1589, 1629 & 1729). The second category may be considered as evidence for 'structured' or deliberate deposition of material. This was certainly the case with pit 1530 which included a complete undecorated beaker bowl in its fill.

### ***Post-Holes***

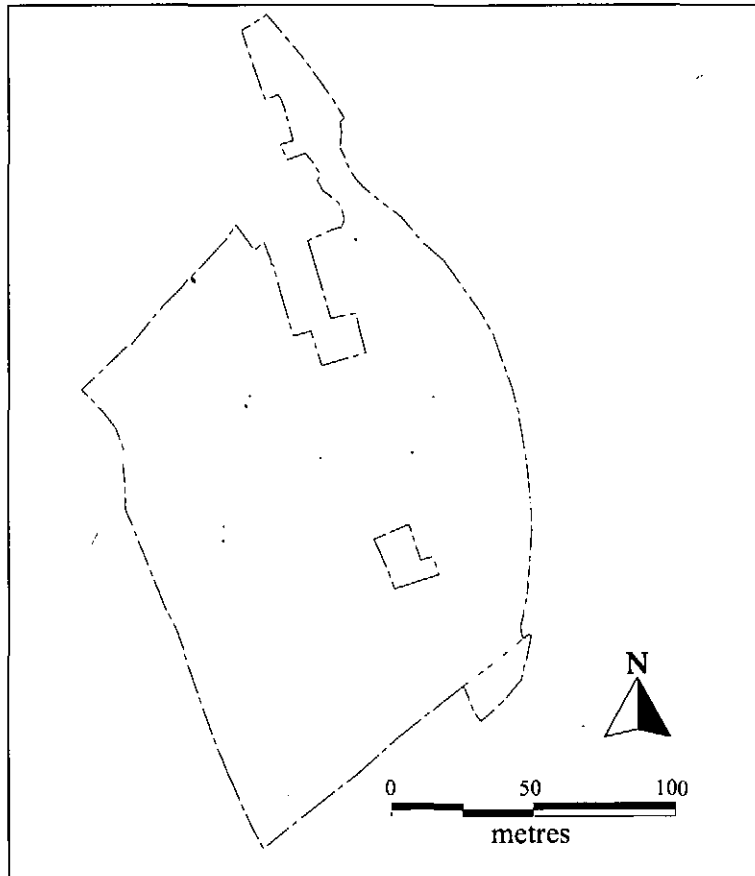
Two features (0202 & 1623) were originally described as post-holes and while they have been left in this category, they would better have been described as pits. Post-hole 0202 was 0.8 metres in diameter with a depth of 0.6 metres while 1623 was 0.6 metres in diameter with a depth of 0.3 metres. In both instances the fills (0203 & 1624 respectively) exhibited a degree of stratification.

**Period I.d. & e.; Indeterminate Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age, c.3200-1500 BC**  
Eleven features, six pits (0063, 0079, 0427, 0775, 1528 & 1822) and five post-holes (0147, 0210, 0212, 0828 & 0830) were assigned to this phase based exclusively on artefactual, primarily ceramic evidence (Table 7).

The features were scattered throughout the site although there was one group of three and another of two closely spaced examples (Fig. 48).

### **Pits**

With the exception of trough-like pit 1822, the other five pits were circular or sub-circular in shape with diameters of between 0.5 metres (0427) and 0.8 metres (0079, 1528) with depths varying from 0.2 metres (0079 & 1528) and 0.5 metres (0063).



**Fig. 48** FLN 062 Phase Plan: Period I.d. & e. Indeterminate Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age

Fills generally comprised relatively homogenous brown silty sand with variable stone content. Pit 1822 was 2.3 metres long, 0.95 metres wide with a maximum depth of 0.2 metres and a homogenous brown silty, stony sand fill (1823).

### **Post-Holes**

Five features were described as post-holes based on size alone and using that criteria, at least two of these (0210 & 0828) should have been called pits.

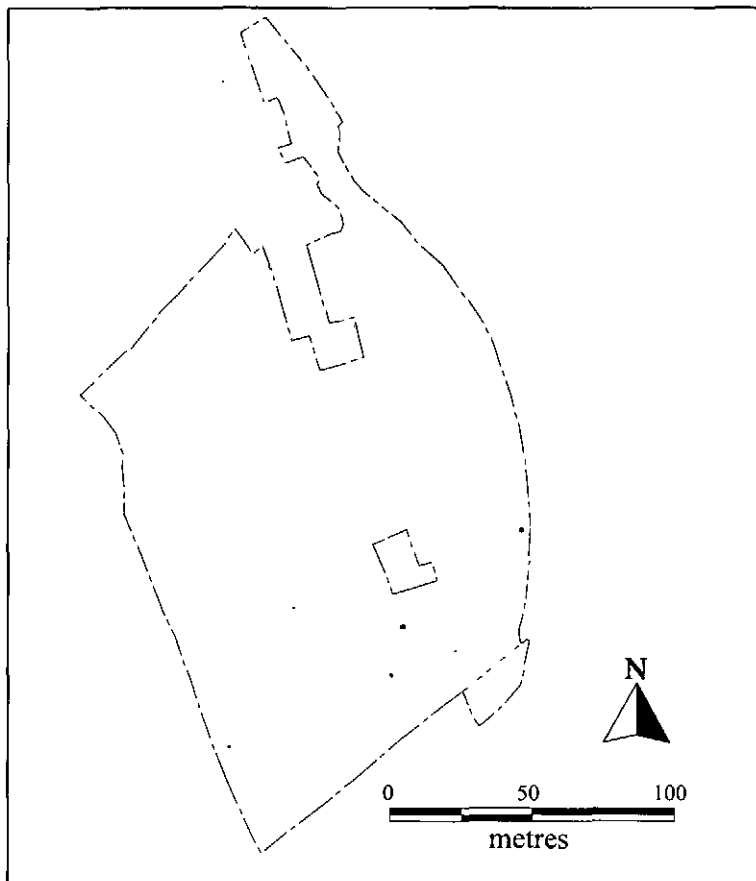
These features were circular with diameters varying between 0.2 metres (0147) and 0.8 metres (0210 & 0828) with depths of

between 0.15 metres (0147) and 0.45 metres (0830). Fills generally comprised brown silty sand with varying concentrations of gravel to pebble-sized stones.

### **Period I.g.; Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age, c.800 – 400 BC**

A total of seven features, all pits (0018, 0031, 0048, 0478, 0770, 0787 & 0979) were attributed to this phase based primarily on artefactual evidence (Table 7). These features were all located within the southernmost third of the site (Fig. 49). In addition, residual artefactual evidence was commonly recovered from later features. This suggests that the original activity represented may have been more intense with the deposits then disrupted during subsequent phases of occupation.

With the exception of pits 0048 and 0979, which were oval in shape, the remaining pits were circular or sub-circular with diameters of between 0.5 metres (0787) and 1.6 metres (0770) and depths of between 0.1 metre (0478) and 0.4 metres (0770). Fills generally comprised relatively homogenous brown silty sand with varying amounts of



gravel to pebble-sized stones. Fill 0479 in pit 0478 included a significant amount of heat altered flints and charcoal and clearly had been associated with burning.

Pit 0048 was 2 metres long and 1 metre wide while 0979 was 2 metres long by 1.5 metres wide, both with fills (0049 & 0980 respectively) comprising homogenous brown silty sand with occasional stones.

Fig. 49 FLN 062 Phase Plan: Period I.g. Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age

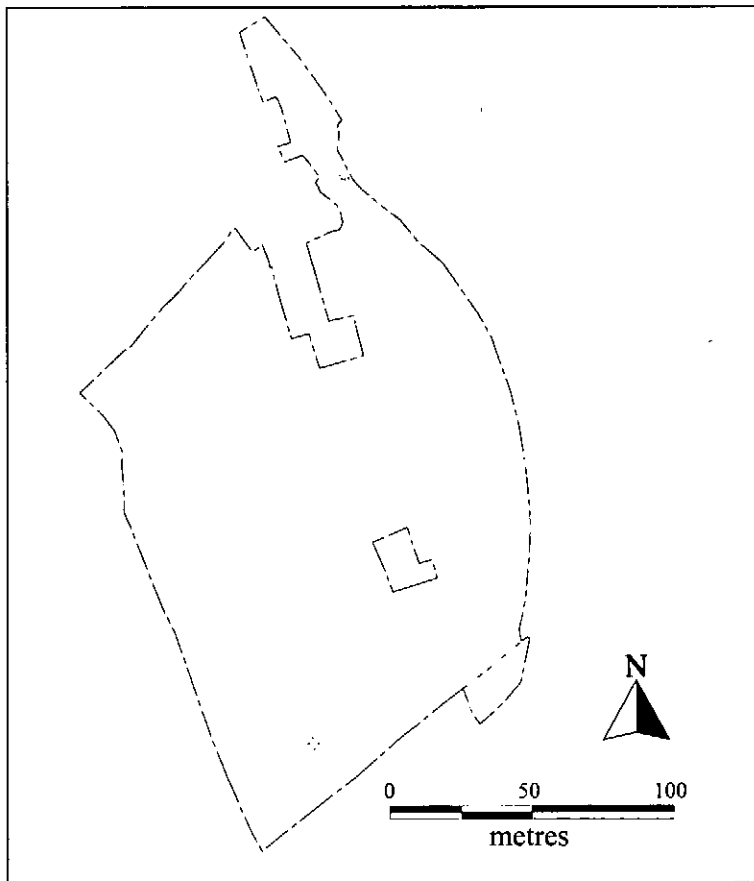
#### Period I.i.; Indeterminate Bronze Age/Iron Age, c.2400 BC – 43 AD

Two structures (0149 & 1891), each consisting of four post-holes, were attributed to this phase based on both typology (0149) and artefactual evidence (1891) (Table 7 & Fig. 50). Both of these structures shared marked similarities with structures previously recorded in FLN 057 and FLN 059. However, in this instance they were not associated with a significant concentration of Period I.g. (Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age) archaeology.

Structure 0149, located towards the southern end of the FLN 062 area (Fig. 50), consisted of four post-holes (0150, 0152, 0154 & 0156) forming a square with sides of approximately 3 metres by 3 metres. The individual post-holes were circular, 0.5 metres in diameter with depths of c.0.2 metres and fills comprising homogenous brown silty sand.

Dating this feature is somewhat problematic. Examples of this type of structure have been recorded on sites where they have been dated as Bronze Age and Iron Age. In FLN 057 there was evidence to suggest that the structures there could be placed in the earlier part of this range. In FLN 062 this is less certain, although by no means impossible as there are Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pits in the vicinity and also residual material in later features. The most significant features in the immediate vicinity, however, date to Period II (Late Iron Age/Roman) and 0149 could be contemporary with these.





Structure 1891, located on the extreme north-east side of the FLN 062 area (Fig. 50), comprised four post-holes (1548, 1550, 1583 & 1585) arranged in a closely spaced arc. Three of the post-holes (1548, 1550 & 1583) were all 0.45 metres in diameter with depths of 0.25 metres while 1585 was 0.35 metres in diameter with a depth of 0.2 metres. The fills comprised orange-brown silty sand with common inclusions of gravel to pebble-sized inclusions.

**Fig. 50** FLN 062 Phase Plan: Period I.i. Indeterminate Bronze Age/Iron Age pottery was recovered from fill 1549 in post-hole 1548.

A single sherd of Early Iron Age

**Period II.a.; Late Iron Age/Early Roman, c.1<sup>st</sup> BC – E.2<sup>nd</sup> century AD**

A total of forty six features and multi-contextual structures, two buildings, thirty four pits, four post-holes, five ditches and a multiple grave were attributed to this phase on artefactual and stratigraphic grounds (Table 7 & Figure 51). Features relating to this phase were recorded throughout the whole area although blank areas were present.

***Buildings***

Two buildings (0490 & 0650) were attributed to this phase based primarily on the limited artefactual evidence recovered from the fills of their post-holes.

Building 0490 (Plate 19) was located towards the southern edge of the site. Measuring approximately 8.5 metres square, with its sides aligned north-west to south-east and north-east to south-west with a possible entrance to the south. The structure had two internal rows of post-holes making it what is usually termed an ‘aisled’ building. Two external post-holes central to the south side of the building were thought to represent a porch-like structure and, therefore, provide evidence for the location of the entrance. A Period 0 (undated) pit (0539) recorded immediately south of and central to the two post-holes of the porch may also have been associated with the building.

Effectively, the structure comprised four north-west to south-east aligned, 2.4 metres apart (centre to centre), rows of post-holes with a spacing of 2 metres (centre to centre) between the individual post-holes within a row. The post-holes themselves

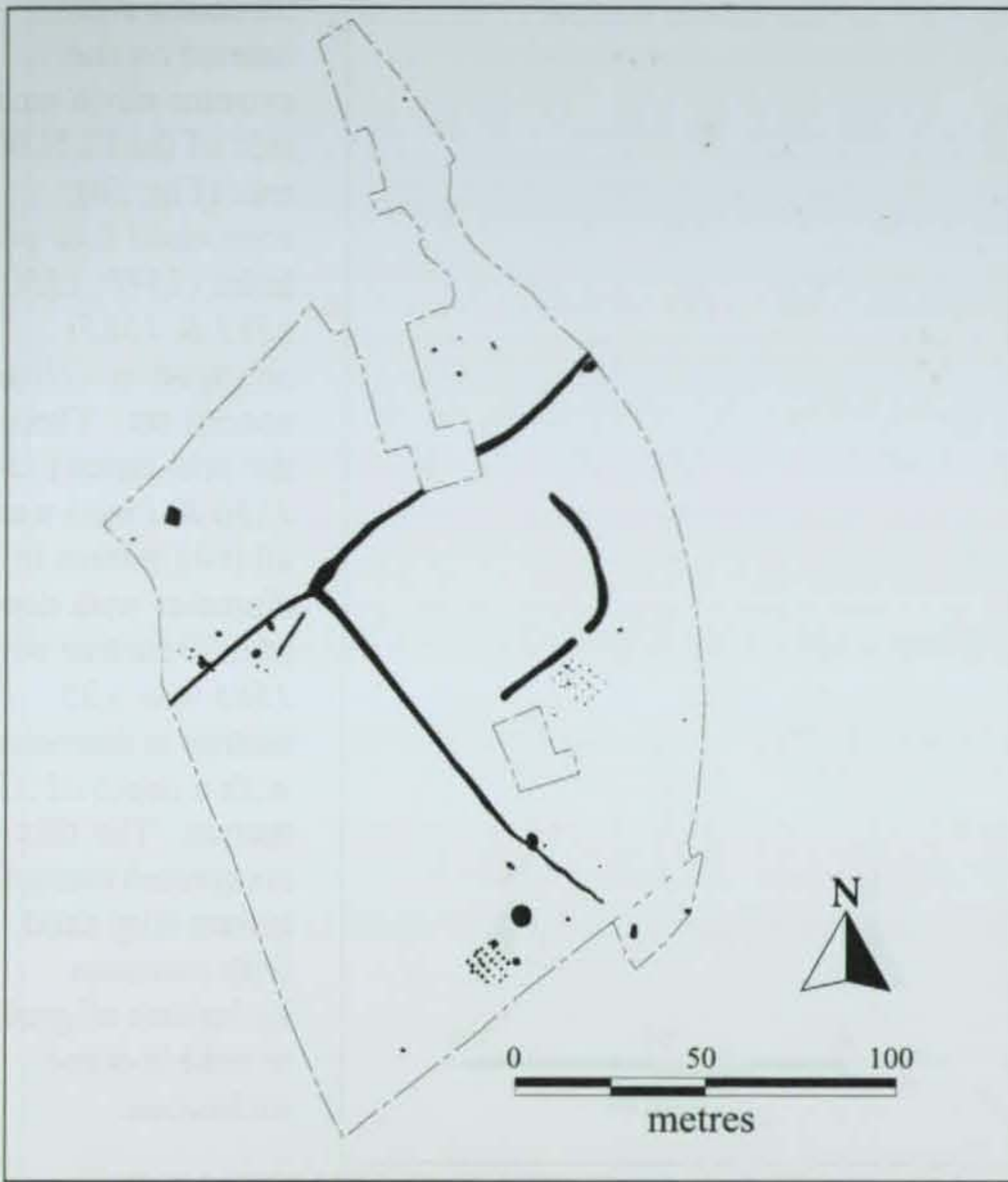


Fig. 51 FLN 062 Phase Plan: Period II.a. Late Iron Age/Early Roman

rectangular rather than square, measuring *c.*11 metres from north-west to south-east

varied only marginally in their size and character. Generally, they were circular, *c.*0.8 metres in diameter with depths in the region of 0.4 metres. The fills comprised mid grey/brown silty sand with no obvious post-pipes. Other post-holes recorded within the building may represent repair or alteration to the original structure.

Building 0650, located *c.*75 metres to the north-east of 0490, was also 'aisled' and lay on a similar orientation. However, there were some significant differences between the two structures. Building 0650 was



Plate 19: Building FLN 061 0490

and only 8 metres from north-east to south-west and there was no porch-like structure that positively indicates the location of an entrance. Each of the four rows comprised five post-holes and the spacing between the rows (c.2.6 metres centre to centre) was the same as that between the individual post-holes within a row. The variation in post-hole size and character was again negligible, but they were smaller than their counterparts in 0490, only measuring c.0.4 metres in diameter with depths of approximately 0.3 metres. The fills comprised homogenous brown silty sand, although there were hints of post-pipes in some.

### ***Pits***

A total of thirty-four pits were attributed to this phase (Table 7 & Fig. 51) based primarily on artefactual evidence. Two main clusters were identified; the first towards the southern end of the site, in the vicinity of building 0490, the second towards the north-west close to the similarly phased ditch 0305 (Fig. 51). There was no obvious function for any of these pits.

The pits exhibited considerable variation in both size and character; the main types of listed below:

- **Circular or sub-circular:** Twenty examples were recorded (0008, 0112, 0118, 0256, 0290, 0316, 0337, 0392, 0407, 0439, 0591, 0648, 0867, 0877, 0905, 0907, 0930, 1572, 1760 & 1790). The smallest (0316) measured 0.5 metres in diameter with a depth of only 0.1 metres, while the largest (0012) was 5.4 metres in diameter with a depth in excess of 2 metres. Fills varied from homogenous brown silty sand to well stratified complex examples such as that seen in 0008 and 0012 with multiple layers including clay, charcoal and ash.
- **Oval & rectangular:** Twelve examples were recorded (0258, 0260, 0276, 0307, 0394, 0455, 0594, 0844, 1500, 1609, 1664 & 1813). The smallest (1609) measured 0.7 metres by 0.45 metres with a depth of only 0.1 metres while the largest, rectangular pit 0394, measured 4.8 metres by 4 metres with a depth of 0.7 metres and 0307 measuring 2.2 metres by 1.60 metres with a depth of 2.2 metres. Fills varied between homogenous brown silty sand through to complex stratified examples, such as 0307 which included layers of clay, ash charcoal sand and gravel.
- **Trough-like:** Two examples were recorded (0055 & 0871). Pit 0055 measured 3.8 metres by 1.7 metres with a depth of 0.6 metres and a fill of relatively homogenous dark grey/brown silty sand with occasional gravel to pebble-sized stones and charcoal flecks. Pit 0871 measured 2.2 metres by 0.55 metres with a fill (0872) comprising homogenous dark grey/brown stony, silty sand with charcoal flecks.

### ***Post-Holes***

Four features, other than those comprising buildings 0490 and 0650, were described as post-holes (0067, 0365, 0431 & 0789). None of the features could be associated with a formal structure, indeed only 0067 provided any evidence, in the form of flint cobble post-packing, that they may have been used as post-holes.

Post-holes 0365, 0431 and 0789 were approximately c.0.5 metres in diameter with depths of c.0.2 metres and fills of homogenous grey/brown silty sand. Post-hole 0067

was 0.8 metres in diameter with a stepped profile and depth of 0.5 metres. The fill comprised homogenous brown silty sand with flint cobbles.

### **Ditches**

Five ditches (*0039/1785*, *0071*, *0305*, *0441* & *0445*) were included in this phase based on limited artefactual evidence and their clear association as part of a related field system (Table 7 & Fig. 51).

Ditch *0305* was the eastward continuation of south-west to north-east aligned feature previously recorded running across the FLN 056, FLN 057 and FLN 059 areas. In the FLN 062 area ditch *0305* continued for a distance of 49 metres to the point where it was cut by the right-angled corner formed by ditches *0039* and *0445*, the latter continuing the alignment of the earlier feature. While included in the same phase and considered to have been broadly contemporary, it is clear that these features related to a dynamic, developing landscape. The two components that made up ditch *0071* effectively combine with the right-angle formed by ditches *0039* and *0445* to make a square enclosure with sides measuring *c.*60 metres. While the small gap between the two opposed butt-ends of the *0071* ditch components appears to be an entrance, there was also a larger gap (*c.*20 metres) between *0071* and ditches *0039* and *0445* which forming the north-west and south-west sides of the enclosure. There was no dating evidence from *0071* and its inclusion in this phase is based entirely on its apparent relationship with *0039* and *0445*. Ditch *0441* was recorded as a short (*c.*15 metre) length of feature in the angle formed by ditches *0039* and *0305*.

Ditch *0305* was approximately 1 metre wide with a depth of 0.25 metres and a rounded profile. The fill varied between the excavated sections. In one, a homogenous brown silty sand with occasional stones (*0454*) was encountered while in another the fill (*0306*) comprised two distinct components, a green/brown silty clay overlying a brown silty sand. Stratigraphically, *0305* was cut by a number of similarly phased features, both pits and ditches, and on that basis belongs to the earlier end of the date range, probably Late Iron Age.

Ditches *0039/1785* and *0445* were continuous, running in a north-westerly direction for a distance of 120 metres from a butt-end to the south-east before turning to the north-east and continuing for a distance of 100 metres to the eastern edge of the site. The ditch varied in its dimensions but was typically 1.5 to 2 metres in width with a depth of 0.4 to 0.6 metres and exhibited a moderately shouldered open V-shaped profile. The fill comprised brown silty sand with variable concentrations of gravel to pebble-sized stones and hints of stratification, usually into two components.

Ditch *0071* was consistently 2 metres wide with a depth of 0.6 metres and a relatively rounded profile. The usually two component fill comprised brown silty sand with varying concentrations of gravel to pebble-sized stones depending on the composition of the surrounding naturally occurring subsoil.

Ditch *0441* was approximately 0.9 metres wide with a depth of 0.15 metres and a rounded profile. The fill comprised brown silty sand with occasional stones. The definition of the feature became less clear towards the north-east and it disappeared completely as it approached *0039*. If it were not for the presence of ceramic finds in the fill this feature would have been considered to be naturally derived.

### **Grave**

While excavating Period II.a. (Late Iron Age/Early Roman) pit 0844 a multiple burial was encountered. Careful excavation revealed four skeletons stacked in a single grave cut (1776) which had been excavated through pit 0844 (Plate 20). Total removal of the pit revealed the bottom of the grave cut measuring 1.42 metres by 0.65 metres with its long-axis on a north-west to south-east alignment similar to that of the pit into which it had been excavated. Although not recorded extensively at a higher level, the grave cut was clearly larger at that juncture, up to 1 metre wide with a length of c.2 metres, suggesting that it had sloping rather than vertical sides. Good preservation of bone, animal or otherwise, is unusual at Flixton and in this instance it seems to have been the environment provided by the pit fill into which the grave was excavated that protected the skeletal material from the acidic subsoil.



**Plate 20:** Multiple Burial in Grave FLN 062 1776

The four skeletons were arranged as follows:

**0951** Juvenile (c.15-16) unknown sex, head to south-east, feet to north-west.

Over

**0952** Middle-aged female, head to north-west, feet to south-east.

Over

**0953** Middle-aged+ male, head to south-east, feet to north-west.

Over

**0954** Middle-aged+ female, head to south-east, feet to north-west.

A more detailed description of the skeletons was written by Sue Anderson and can be found in Section 3.4.2 (pp.214-218) of this report.

The evidence for dating the burial is somewhat contradictory. During excavation it appeared clear that the grave cut through the fill of pit 0844. Given that the pit fill produced extensive ceramic evidence of Early Roman, probably early to mid 1<sup>st</sup> century, date, this should have provided a '*terminus post quem*' for the burial. However, a radiocarbon dating determination (SUERC-1190 {GU-11481}) undertaken for use in a television programme (made by Brighton Films) gives a Radiocarbon Age BP (before 1950) 1985  $\pm$  35. The calibrated date for this sample falls between 60 BC and 90 AD with a 95.4% confidence (see Fig. 71). While the lower end of this range is perhaps too early based on the ceramic evidence, the dates are presented with a statistical probability of their likelihood of accuracy and it is entirely possible that the actual date falls towards the more recent end of the range.

### Period II.b.; Roman, c.E.2<sup>nd</sup> – L.3<sup>rd</sup> century

A total of twenty one features, two kilns, ten pits, three post-holes, two ditches, three slots and one linear feature were attributed to this phase based on artefactual and

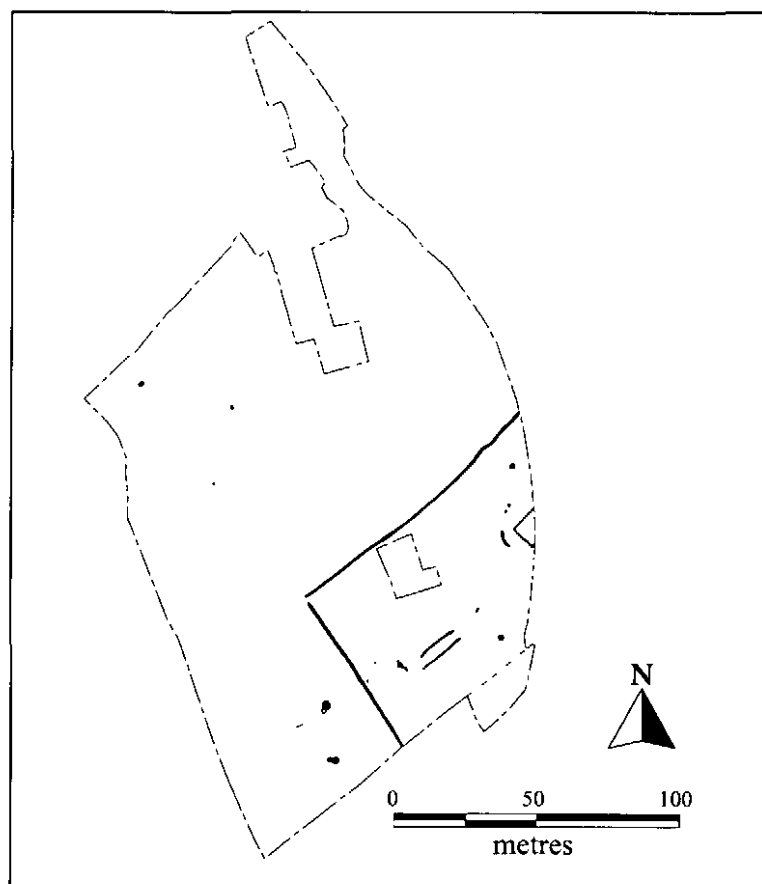


Fig. 52 FLN 062 Phase Plan: Period II.b. Roman, E.2<sup>nd</sup> – L.3<sup>rd</sup> century

stratigraphic evidence (Table 7 & Fig. 52). The majority of these features formed a concentration towards the south-east corner of the site with the remainder located towards the north-west. The locations of the Period II.b. features coincided well with the main concentrations of the Period II.a. features which suggests a degree of continuity between the two.

#### **Kilns**

Two pottery kilns (0014 & 0016) were recorded on the site. The kilns were c.17 metres apart located external to and west of the enclosure

formed by ditches 0041 & 0043 (Fig. 52). Archaeomagnetic analysis was undertaken to help in the dating of the features (see section 3.6, p.235). The results suggested that kiln 0014 had last been fired between 285 and 450 AD while kiln 0016 had last been fired between 90 and 150 AD. Neither of these results concur with the ceramic evidence which strongly suggests a mid 2<sup>nd</sup> to mid 3<sup>rd</sup> century date for both kilns.

Kiln 0014 comprised two main components; a stoke pit to the north-east linked to a firing chamber to the south-west (Plate 21). The stoke pit was roughly circular, c.3



Plate 21 Kiln FLN 062 0014, Overall Shot & Detail of Pedestal

metres in diameter with a maximum depth of 1 metre, exhibiting a flat bottom and relatively shallowly sloping sides. Adjoining the stoke pit, immediately to the south-west, was the circular, 1.7 metres in diameter, firing chamber with its *c.*0.15 metres thick clay lining. The internal structure of kiln 0014 was less well preserved than 0016, the arch/flue through from the stoke pit had collapsed and the internal supporting pedestal, which in this instance comprised two symmetrical elements, was also damaged. The external face of each pedestal component was curved, reflecting the shape of the chamber, while their internal face was straighter leaving a gap of *c.*0.15 between the two elements in line with the arch/flue through to the stoke pit (Plate 21).

A section cut through the chamber lining revealed that it had been constructed in two stages; a *c.*0.1 metres thick layer (0757) packed directly against the excavated pit edge and base, and a finer internal *c.*0.06 metres layer (0756) comprising clearly defined

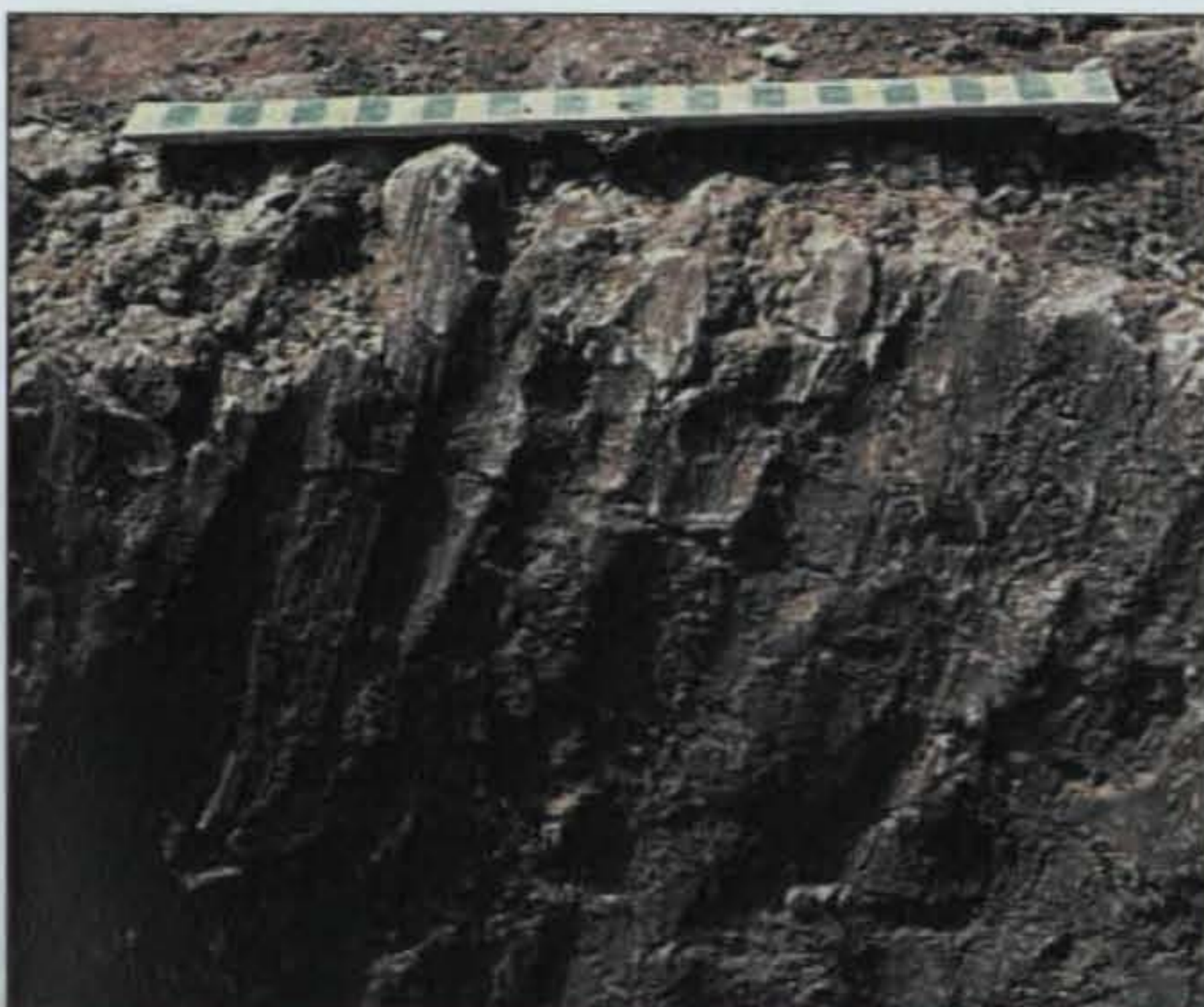


Plate 22: Kiln FLN 062 0014, Detail of Firing Chamber Wall

strips of clay that was restricted to the chamber sides (Plate 22). The former was heat-reddened towards the chamber but progressively becoming less effected towards its junction with the subsoil. The internal layer (0756) had effectively been fired and was hard and grey in character and sloped down steeply to the base of the chamber.

The fill of the kiln could broadly be divided into two major components.

Stratigraphically, the earliest of these (0484 etc.) was recorded exclusively within the stoke pit and comprised very dark grey, almost black silty sand. Overlying this was a more extensive layer of dark brown silty sand (0462 etc.) which filled the firing chamber and included a large quantity of broken kiln lining and disrupted pedestal towards its base in what could arguably be described as a separate layer.

Kiln 0016 was similar to 0014 in that it comprised a single stoke pit and adjacent firing chamber (Plate 23) but structurally exhibited some important differences. In contrast to 0014, kiln 0016 was orientated from east to west with the firing chamber to west. The stoke pit was, in this instance, oval in shape measuring 2.5 metres on the long axis of the kiln, 2 metres across with a maximum depth of 0.8 metres and exhibiting relatively gently sloping sides with a flat bottom. Immediately to the west was the circular, 1.7 metres in diameter, firing chamber with the arch/flue through into the stoke pit surviving intact along with its circular, single component, pedestal (Plate 23).



Plate 23 Kiln FLN 062 0016, Overall Shot & Detail of Pedestal

The fill of the kiln could broadly be divided into two major elements; the upper fill of the stoke pit (0190 etc.), characterised by dark brown silty sand with occasional clay and charcoal lumps, and the lower fill of the stoke pit (0223 etc.) which effectively continued through the arch/flue filling the firing chamber. The latter, while appearing to be one discrete element was not homogenous throughout. In the stoke pit and flue the lower layer was very dark grey/black in colour with significant quantities of charcoal, while in the firing chamber it comprised dark brown silty sand with less charcoal, but included pieces of clay lining.

The firing chamber walls were 0.25 metres thick with a hard grey fired vertical inner surface (2 or 3 centimetres thick) then c.0.1 metres of red heat altered clay which graded into unaltered yellow clay. There was an intervening gap between the external face of the lining and the edge of the excavated pit that was filled with brown silty sand (0803 & 1517). While about half of the material within the pedestal was clearly continuous with the base and sides of the firing chamber, its final shape had been modelled from a second layer of clay. Whether this represents a remodelling of the pedestal after initial firings or simply a construction feature associated with the original structure is unclear.

Further description of the kilns and recovered kiln furniture can be found in section 3.3.1. (p.154) of this report.



### ***Pits***

A total of ten pits (0399, 0629, 0635, 0639, 0700, 0729, 0816, 1635 & 1692) were attributed to this phase based entirely on artefactual evidence (Table 7 & Fig. 52). Of these, all but three (0399, 0447 & 0816), that were located towards the north-west corner of the site, were recorded within the enclosure bounded by ditches 0041 and 0043 in the south-east corner of the site.

The pits varied considerably in size and character. Four were circular or sub-circular (0700, 0729, 0752 & 1692) with diameters ranging from 0.7 metres (0752) through to 2.2 metres (0700) and depths of between 0.4 and 0.6 metres.

A further four of the pits were oval in shape with the smallest (0816) measuring 1.4 metres by 1 metre and the largest (0399) 2.5 metres by 1.4 metres. Depths varied between 0.1 metres (0399) and 0.7 metres (0816). Pit 0639 comprised two lobes which could indicate the presence of two features, although this was not discernible in the section.

The remaining two features (0629 & 0635, together numbered 0623) were probably part of one larger, irregular feature. Measuring 3.4 metres by 0.8 with projecting lobes and a maximum depth of 1.1 metres, 0623 may actually have represented more than two features, but these were not readily identifiable in the sections.

Generally the pit fills comprised relatively homogenous brown silty sand with varying concentrations of gravel to pebble-sized stones. Some limited stratification was recorded, particularly in pit complex 0623.

### ***Linear***

One feature (0955) was described as a linear, as it could not really be defined as a ditch, slot or gully. Located immediately west of slot 0767, 0955 was c.6.5 metres long, c.0.9 metres wide with a depth of c.0.2 metres, describing a gentle curve with a bulbous pit-like end to the north. The feature appeared quite distinct during soil-stripping and surface cleaning, but on excavation the edges proved hard to follow. The function of this feature was not clear.

### ***Post-Holes***

Three features were described as post-holes (0447, 0485 & 0603) although none formed part of any obviously recognisable structure. The inclusion of 0447 and 0485, both of which measured over the usual threshold diameter of c.0.5 metres, was based on the presence of a distinct post-pipe in 0485 and their association with a cluster of Period II.0 (Roman unspecified date) and Period 0 (undated) post-holes with which they could be related.

The post-holes varied in size between 0603, measuring 0.3 metres in diameter with a depth of 0.3 metres, through to 0485 with diameter of 0.8 metres and a depth of 0.25 metres. The fills comprised brown silty sand with varying concentrations of gravel to pebble-sized stones.

### ***Ditches***

Two ditches (0041 & 0043) were attributed to this phase based on a combination of stratigraphic and artefactual evidence. These features appeared to form the north-west corner of a rectilinear enclosure located towards the south-east corner of the FLN 062

area (Fig. 52). A high proportion of the other features assigned to Period II.b. were located within the area enclosed by these ditches.

Ditch 0041 ran in a north-easterly direction, from a butt-end at the corner of the enclosure, for a distance of 100 metres before meeting the edge of the site. The feature clearly cut the Period II.a. (Late Iron Age/Early Roman) ditch 0039 but respected the similarly phased ditch 0071. This suggests a degree of continuity between the two phases. Ditch 0041 was 0.8 approximately 0.4 metres wide with a depth of c.0.4 metres and shouldered profile. The fill (0042 etc.) comprised homogenous brown silty sand with varying concentrations of gravel to pebble-sized stones.

Ditch 0043 ran for 62 metres in a south-easterly direction from a butt-end at the corner of the enclosure and continuing under the southern edge of the site. The feature was generally in the region of 1 metre wide with a depth of c.0.5 metres and exhibiting a more rounded profile than 0041. The fill (0044 etc.) comprised homogenous brown silty sand with variable concentrations of gravel to pebble-sized stones.

### **Slots**

Three features (0057, 0767 & 0797) were described as slots, although all could equally well be called ditches.

Parallel slots 0057 and 0797 were both orientated north-east to south-west and were located within the similarly aligned enclosure defined by ditches 0041 and 0043.

The southernmost of the two (0057) was 17 metres long while the other (0797) c.4 metres to the north was 15 metres long. Widths varied between 0.5 to 0.8 metres with a depth of approximately 0.35 metres and a rounded profile. Fills comprised relatively homogenous mid to dark brown silty sand. The function of these almost certainly related features remained unclear.

Slot 0767 formed three sides to a probably rectilinear enclosure measuring in excess of 10 metres from north-east to south-west and 9.5 metres from north-west to south-east. The feature was located towards the eastern edge of the site internal to and aligned with the enclosure formed by ditches 0041 and 0043. The feature itself was 0.4 to 0.5 metres wide with a depth of c.0.4 metres and a rounded profile. The fill (0768 etc.) comprised homogenous grey/brown silty sand.

### **Period II.c.; Roman, c.L.3<sup>rd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> century**

Only six features, five pits (0185, 0234, 0405, 1520 & 1537) and a post-hole (0383) were attributed to this phase based exclusively on artefactual evidence. While there was no clear focus regarding the location of these features they did all occur within the two main concentrations of Roman activity, towards the north-west and southern sides of the site (Fig. 53). Even though this later Roman phase was obviously limited in its extent, it must be considered to be indicative of at least a degree of continuing activity through into this period.

### **Pits**

The character and dimensions of the pits varied considerably. With the exception of 0405, all were circular or sub-circular, the smallest (0234) 1 metre in diameter with a depth of 0.3 metres and the largest (1520) 1.9 metres in diameter with a depth of 0.7

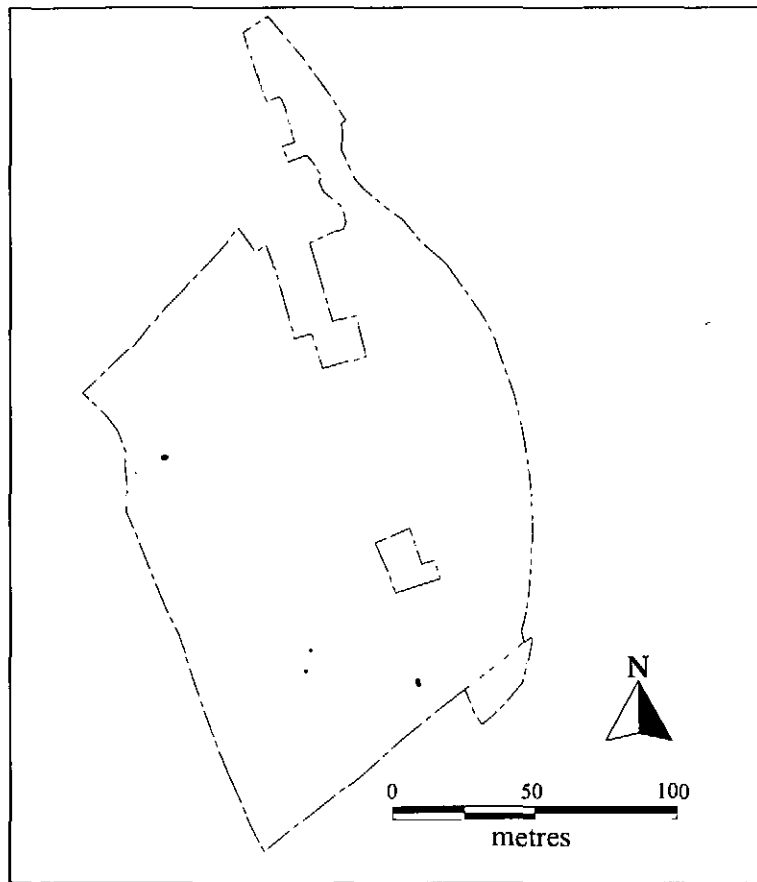


Fig. 53 FLN 062 Phase Plan: Period II.c. Roman, L.3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> centuries

metres. Pit 0405 was rectangular, measuring 2.2 metres by 1.8 metres with a depth of 1.5 metres. Fills generally comprised relatively homogenous brown silty sand with gravel to pebble-sized stones, although there was some stratification recorded in fill 0406 of pit 0405.

**Post-Hole**

Post-hole 0383 was circular, 0.3 metres in diameter with a depth of 0.1 metres and a fill (0384) comprising dark brown silty sand. While there was no direct evidence to suggest that this feature had ever functioned as a post-

hole, it was located within a concentrated group of similar features of which the majority were undated with the remainder either earlier Roman (Periods II.a & II.b.) or Roman unspecified date (Period II.0).

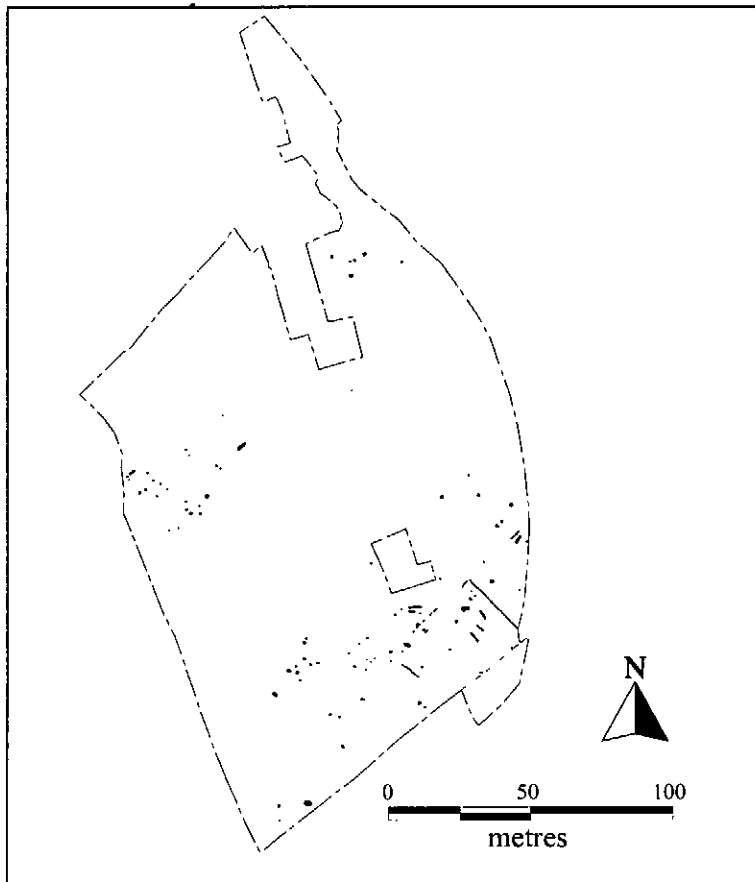
**Period II.0; Roman, unspecified date**

A total of one hundred and four features, sixty three pits, thirty post-holes, five troughs and six slots (Table 7 & Fig. 54) were allocated to this phase based primarily on the presence of undiagnostic Roman ceramic finds in their fills. The locations of these features coincided well with concentrations of the more securely dated Roman features, notably towards the southern/south-eastern side of the site and also towards the north-west.

**Pits**

Sixty three features were described as pits. While there was a considerable range in the character and dimensions of these features, they could all effectively be placed within the following five categories:

- **Circular/Sub-Circular:** By far the most numerous (forty one examples) were features which could best be described as circular or sub-circular (0002, 0004, 0006, 0160, 0180, 0191, 0230, 0244, 0246, 0248, 0250, 0252, 0294, 0401, 0403, 0450, 0562, 0572, 0587, 0642, 0644, 0653, 0657, 0741, 0749, 0783, 0790, 0858, 0875, 0887, 0932, 0966, 0977, 1526, 1688, 1725, 1727, 1738, 1751, 1766 & 1802). These ranged in size between 0252, measuring only 0.4 metres in diameter



with a depth of 0.2 metres, probably should have been called a post-hole, and 0002 which was 2.5 metres in diameter with a depth of 0.5 metres. However, the majority measured between 0.7 and 1.2 metres in diameter. Fills generally comprised relatively homogenous brown silty sand with varying concentrations of gravel to pebble-sized stones, although some stratification was recorded with, occasionally, clay and charcoal also present in significant quantities.

Fig. 54 FLN 062 Phase Plan: Period II.0. Roman unspecified date

- Oval:** Fifteen pits were oval in shape (0020, 0053, 0128, 0176, 0282, 0284, 0286, 0879, 0958, 1505, 1566, 1576, 1619, 1621 & 1762). Similarly to the circular and sub-circular pits, the oval features exhibited a wide variation in both size and character with the largest (0020) measuring 2.6 metres by 1.3 metres, with a depth of 0.4 metres, and the smallest (0284) 0.95 metres by 0.5 metres with a depth of only 0.2 metres. Again, the fills generally comprised relatively homogenous silty sand with variable concentrations of stones. Obvious stratification and multiple fills were the exception rather than the rule.
- Trough-Like:** Three features (0646, 0943 & 1670) were described as trough-like in that the ratio of length to width was greater than that which could comfortably still be called oval in shape but not so far divorced that they could be placed in the separate 'trough' category. The largest (0646) was 3.7 metres long and 1.2 metres wide with a depth of c.0.1 metre with a fill (0647) comprising homogenous dirty brown silty sand, while the smallest (1670) measured 1.4 metres in length had a width of 0.6 metres, a depth of 0.3 metres and exhibited a fill (1671) comprising mid-brown silty sand.
- Rectangular/Square:** Only two features (0318 & 0869) were angular enough to be described as square or rectangular in shape. Pit 0318 was 0.9 metres square with a depth of 0.45 metres. The presence of a possible post-pipe within the brown silty sand fill (0319) suggests that this may actually have been a large post-hole rather than a pit. Pit 0869 measured 1 metre by 0.7 metres with a depth of 0.3 metres and a fill (0870) comprising homogenous brown silty, stony sand.

- **Irregular:** Two features (0224 & 1786) were irregular in shape. Both were relatively small with a maximum length of 1 metre and depths of 0.3 and 0.1 metre respectively. The fills (0225 & 1786) comprised brown silty sand with varying densities of gravel to pebble-sized stones. Both of these features may have been naturally derived, possibly tree-throws, and the inclusion of artefactual evidence just the result of their being present in the adjacent topsoil.

### ***Post-Holes***

A total of thirty post-holes were recorded with undiagnostic Roman finds in their fills (Table 7). While not appearing to be arranged as part of recognisable formal structures, many were clearly associated within concentrations of similar, although often undated or earlier Roman features. They exhibited a wide range of characters and dimensions with the majority providing no positive evidence that they had ever been utilised as post-holes and their inclusion under this feature type based entirely on size (less than 0.5 metres in diameter).

### ***Troughs***

Five features (1615, 1637, 1646, 1733 & 1756/1758) were recorded as troughs. The difference between a trough-like pit and a trough is for the purposes of this document defined by the ratio of length to width. In both cases the length is greater than the width, but for troughs considerably so with the feature actually resembling a short length of ditch. This definition was considered necessary, as the five examples identified appeared to represent a discrete feature type concentrated within a relatively limited area of the site. In addition, similar features were identified on the eastern side of FLN 053 (Boulter, 2000a, p.19) and as such, may be considered to have been associated with a specific, although as yet unidentified, activity.

While there was some variation within the features it is the similarities which should be emphasised. The lengths vary between 2.5 metres (1758) and 5 metres (1733) with widths of 0.5 to 0.75 metres and depths of 0.4 to 0.5 metres. The features tended to have almost vertical sides and a flat bottom with fills of stony, silty sand. All five of the troughs and a sixth Period 0 (undated) example (1665) were located in close proximity within the Period II.b. (c.E.2<sup>nd</sup> – L.3<sup>rd</sup> century) enclosure defined by ditches 0041 and 0043. This could be considered as evidence that they may be contemporary.

### ***Slots***

Six features (0911, 0935, 1511, 1770, 1672/1684 & 1796) were described as slots (Table 7). All were located within the enclosure formed by Period II.b. (c.E.2<sup>nd</sup> – L.3<sup>rd</sup> century) ditches 0041 and 0043 and may well be contemporary.

Slot 0911 was orientated from north-east to south west on the same alignment as the four feature components given the overall number 1770. Each slot component of 0911 and 1770 measured between 1.2 and 3.3 metres in length with widths of 0.2 to 0.3 metres and depths of 0.1 to 0.2 metres. The fill comprised homogenous brown silty sand.

Both 1511 and 1672/1684 were orientated from north-west to south-east appearing, along with 0911 and 1770 to define a rectilinear area. Both were slightly sinuous, 1672/1684 was in excess of 25 metres long while 1511 was 8.3 metres long, both with a width of 0.3 metres and a depth of only 0.1 metres. Fills comprised homogenous brown silty sand.

The function of these features was unclear, although the spatial relationships between some elements, particularly 0911, 1511, 1672/1684 & 1770 suggest that they are in some way formally defining an area within the larger enclosure.

The remaining two slots (0935 & 1796) did not appear to be directly associated with the formal arrangement of those already described, although their north-east to south-west alignment followed the general trend of the others.

Slot 0935 was located towards the eastern edge of the site where it had an indeterminate relationship with the Period II.b. (c.E.2<sup>nd</sup> –L. 3<sup>rd</sup> century) slot 0767. The feature was c.4.5 metres long, had a maximum width of 0.35 metres, a depth of 0.2 metres and a fill comprising mid brown silty sand.

Slot 1796 was 1.3 metres long with a width of 0.45 metres and a depth of 0.1 metres with a pronounced deepening at its centre that may have been a post setting. The fill (1797) comprised homogenous mid brown clayey sand with frequent charcoal flecks.

### Period III.0; Early Anglo Saxon, c.410 – E.7<sup>th</sup> century

A total of twenty one excavated features, seventeen graves and four pits, were attributed to this phase based mainly on artefactual evidence (Table 7 & Fig. 55). In addition, a further twenty three graves were recorded on a surface plan only (those marked in red on Fig. 55) and were then covered over with spoil.

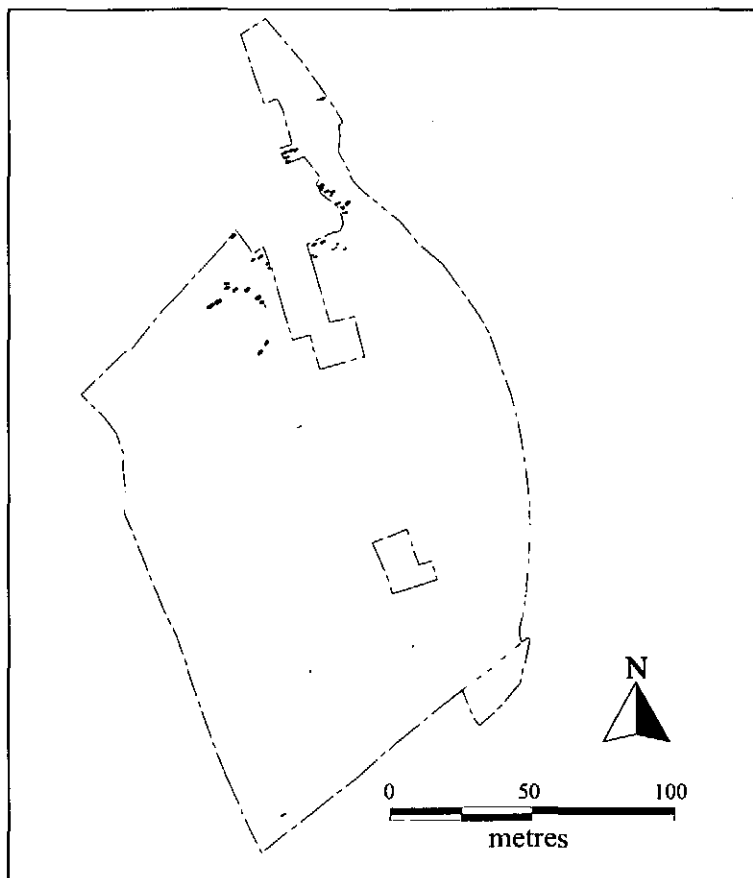


Fig. 55 FLN 062 Phase Plan: Period III. Early Anglo Saxon

### Graves

It had previously been known that the Early Anglo Saxon cemetery recorded in the quarry area excavated as FLN 053 (Boulter, 2000a) extended to the south into the FLN 062 area. Consequently, it had been agreed that during the stripping of the FLN 062 an attempt would be made to define the full extent of the cemetery, but no formal excavation would be undertaken, partly due to the presence of a high voltage overhead cable. The soil stripping revealed that the main cemetery area was approximately

rectangular in shape, measuring *c.*45 metres from north-west to south-east and *c.*40 metres from south-west to north-east. Given the relatively regular concentration of burials in the FLN 053 excavation it was possible to estimate that a further *c.*150 remain to be excavated, approximately three quarters of the overall total.

In addition to the main cemetery, a further group of burials (eleven graves) were identified which, although only *c.*10 metres from the main area, formed a discrete group. These graves were focussed on the Period I.e. (Early Bronze Age) ring-ditch 0808 (FLN 010), or more precisely, a mound or barrow that must have been present within the area enclosed by the ditch and described an arc of features around its eastern side (Fig. 55 & Plate 24). The presence of the mound/barrow can be demonstrated by the fact that the ring-ditch itself had been completely filled during the Roman period and would not have been visible as a surface feature when the graves were excavated. Furthermore, the graves clearly cut through the ditch fill. These, along with six graves on the periphery of the main cemetery, were excavated.



**Plate 24:** FLN 062, Early Anglo Saxon Graves Cutting Early Bronze Age Ring-Ditch

With the exception of 1887, which was aligned north-west to south-east, all of the graves excavated and recorded on the surface plan were orientated from south-west to north-east with, where possible to determine, the head to the south-west. The acidic soils found at Flixton had not been conducive to the preservation of bone and only very small amounts of actual skeletal material had survived, but was so fragile that removal from the ground in any recognisable form was found to be impossible. The few scraps that were recovered have not been included in this assessment. However, the attitudes of the bodies were often possible to determine due to the preservation in the soil of a stain which retained the general shape and position within the grave of the original burial. In addition, the location of the grave goods provided further evidence for both the disposition and probable sex of the burial. Three representative examples of the recorded grave types are shown in Plate 25. For the purposes of this assessment the grave goods have not been studied in any great detail, but have been x-rayed and catalogued (Appendix IV. {E}).

At least five of the graves (0893, 0897, 0901 & 0903) in the main cemetery and 1887 in the divorced cluster to the south-west appeared, based purely on their size, to represent infant burials (Plate 25, 0897). Those in the main cemetery were particularly interesting as they appeared to form a discrete cluster in the south-east corner of the cemetery, possibly as the result of deliberate zoning.

A summary of the dimensions and character of each grave is presented in Table 8.

Grave No.	Location	Length	Width	Depth	Sex	Misc. Observations
0893	Main cemetery	0.90 m	0.60 m	0.35 m	?	Infant? Pottery vessel as grave good
0897	Main cemetery	1.00 m	0.50 m	0.25 m	?	Infant? Pottery vessel as grave good
0901	Main cemetery	0.70 m	0.40 m	0.10 m	?	Infant? No stain or grave goods
0903	Main cemetery	1.30 m	0.60 m	0.25 m	?	Infant? No stain or grave goods
0993	Sub-cemetery	2.80 m	1.20 m	0.55 m	M	Internal to ring-ditch, grave goods include spearhead & shield boss
0997	Sub-cemetery	2.30 m	1.35 m	0.50 m	M	Internal to ring-ditch, grave goods include spearhead & shield boss
1546	Main cemetery	1.5 m	0.50 m	0.10 m	?	No stain, pottery vessel as grave good
1824	Sub-cemetery	1.85 m	0.90 m	0.20 m	?	Knife & buckle are only grave goods
1828	Sub-cemetery	2.10 m	0.95 m	0.40 m	M	Spearhead included as grave good
1842	Sub-cemetery	2.20 m	1.10 m	0.50 m	M	Spearhead included as grave good
1844	Sub-cemetery	2.10 m	0.95 m	0.50 m	?	No diagnostic grave goods
1855	Sub-cemetery	2.00 m	1.05 m	0.60 m	?	No diagnostic grave goods
1859	Sub-cemetery	1.60 m	1.10 m	0.35 m	F	Grave goods include glass beads
1862	Sub-cemetery	2.00 m	1.05 m	0.45 m	?	No diagnostic grave goods
1865	Main cemetery	2.20 m	1.20 m	0.45 m	F	Well furnished grave, amber beads were included amongst grave goods
1872	Sub-cemetery	2.30 m	1.20 m	0.70 m	?	No diagnostic grave goods, contains two bodies in same grave cut
1887	Sub-cemetery	1.00 m	0.50 m	0.15 m	?	Infant? No stain or grave goods

Table 8: Summary of the FLN 062 Early Anglo Saxon Graves



Plate 25: FLN 062, Early Saxon Graves; 1828 (Male), 1865 (Female), 0897 (Infant)

### Pits

Four pits (0124, 0183, 1587 & 1774) were attributed to this phase based entirely on artefactual evidence (ceramic) recovered from their fills. Three, 0124, 0183 and 1774, were located towards the southern end of the site while 1587 was recorded towards the north-east c.18 metres north-east of the main cemetery area. The three



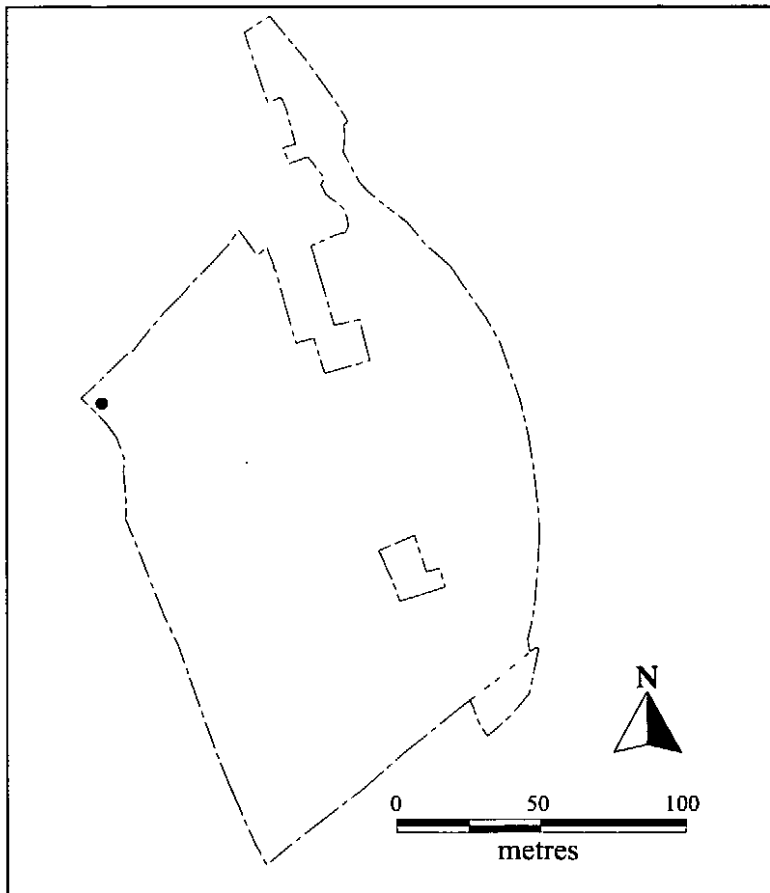
pits towards the south of the site were located within one of the areas where Early Iron Age/Roman archaeology was relatively concentrated. However, only in pit 1774 was the Early Saxon pottery limited to a single sherd and in two cases (0183 & 1774) later Roman pottery was also present, while in 0124 the Early Saxon pottery represented the only ceramic finds recovered. This does not prove beyond reasonable doubt that the Early Saxon ceramic finds are not intrusive or residual, however, it does make these scenarios more unlikely. While there is clearly no major Early Saxon activity/occupation occurring within FLN 062 comparable with that in FLN 061, the association of the finds with later Roman material may be of significance.

Pits 0183 and 1774 were both circular, measuring 0.7 metres and 0.5 metres in diameter respectively with depths of 0.2 metres (0183) and 0.25 metres (1774). Fills (0184 & 1775) comprised relatively homogenous brown silty sand with occasional stones.

Pits 0124 and 1587 were more trough-like, the former measuring 2.05 metres in length with a maximum width of 0.5 metres and a depth of 0.25 metres while the latter was 3.25 metres in length with a maximum width of 0.75 metres and a depth of 0.45 metres. Fills (0125 & 1588 respectively) comprised homogenous brown silty sand with varying concentrations of gravel to pebble-sized stones. There was no evidence to suggest a function for either of these pits.

**Period V.a.; post-medieval, L.15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> century**

One feature, a pit (0390) was assigned to this phase (Table 7 & Fig. 56) based on



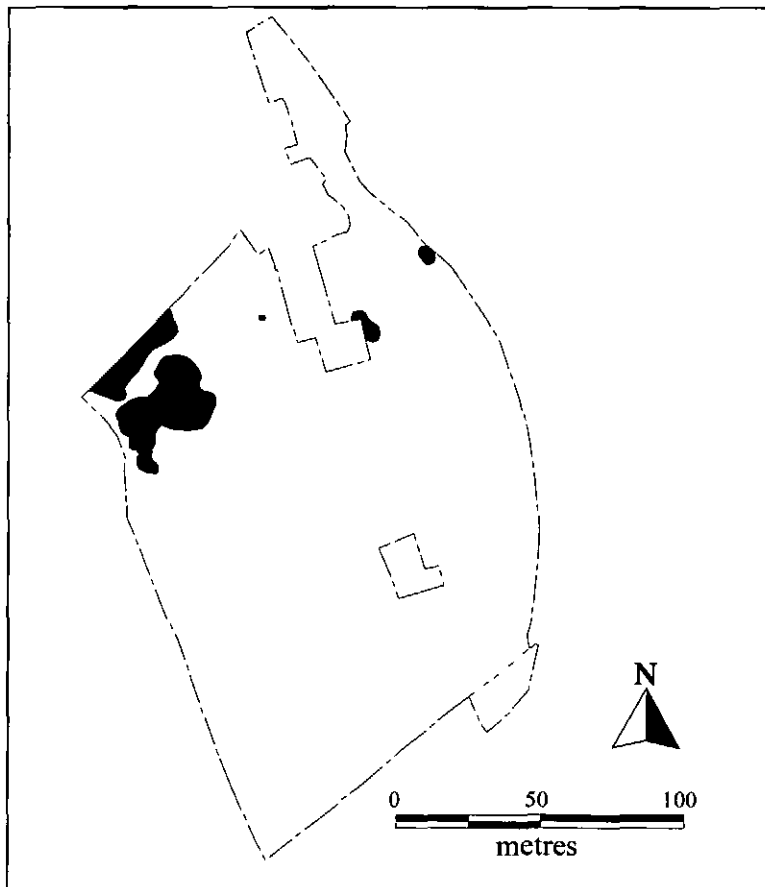
limited artefactual evidence, a single sherd of LMT (late medieval transitional) pottery of 15<sup>th</sup> to late 16<sup>th</sup> century date. Given the location of the feature adjacent to the extensive Period V.b. (post-medieval, c.17<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> century) quarry pits 0359 and 0397 and the absence of any other evidence of this date, it is considered likely that the finds from 0390 were residual with the pit belonging to a later phase. Further evidence for this was the presence of post-medieval brick seen in the upper fill during soil-stripping, but not retained.

Fig. 56 FLN 062 Phase Plan: Period V.a. post-medieval L.15 – 17<sup>th</sup> centuries

The pit itself was circular with a diameter of c.4 metres, a depth in excess of 0.8 metres and fill (0391) comprising mid brown clayey sand.

**Period V.b.; post-medieval, c.17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> centuries**

Five features, four quarry pits (0359, 0397, 1522 & 1541) and a tree-pit (1878) were attributed to this phase (Table 7 & Fig. 57).



**Quarry Pits**

Two large (0359 & 0397) and two smaller pits (1522 & 1541) have been interpreted as quarry pits probably excavated to provide aggregate for the original building of Flixton Hall. The bulk finds dating evidence was relatively sparse, being limited to a few pieces of CBM, but the metal detector small finds from 0359 and the loamy/clayey, relatively unconsolidated character of all the fills are evidence for a relatively late date.

Fig. 57 FLN 062 Phase Plan: Period V.b. post-medieval 17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> centuries

Pits 0359 and 0397 were both irregular in shape, 0359

having already been identified in the FLN 053 quarry area to the north as feature 0805. Both were large, in excess of 35 metres at their widest point with a maximum depth in the region of 2 metres (the features were not fully emptied during the machining of the site).

Pits 1522 and 1541 were smaller and more regular, both oval in shape, the former measuring 7 metres by 5.5 metres and the latter 13 metres by 6 metres and of indeterminate depth as they remained unexcavated.

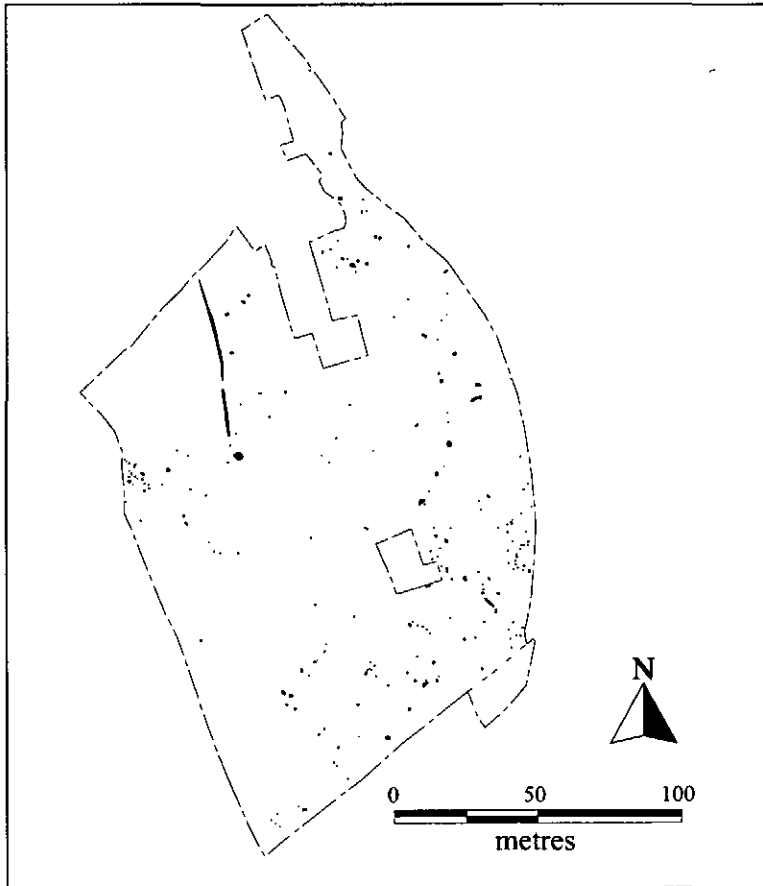
**Tree-Pit**

Pit 1878 was located within the area confined by ring-ditch 0808. The feature described a perfect circle with a diameter of 2.25 metres and a maximum depth of 0.2 metres with a fill of relatively unconsolidated grey silty sand. Artefactual dating evidence was limited to a single fragment of CBM and its inclusion in this phase is

based more on its location which coincides with a stand of trees, probably formally planted as part of the Flixton Park landscaping, shown on late 19<sup>th</sup> century maps.

**Period 0; Undated & Naturally Derived Features**

A total of two hundred and forty one features were either found to be undatable, due to a lack of artefactual stratigraphic and typological evidence, or were considered to be naturally derived (Table 7 & Fig.58). While undated features were recorded throughout the FLN 062 area, there were clear concentrations towards the southern



and northern ends of the site corresponding with the general area of Period II (Late Iron Age & Roman) activity. It is, therefore, reasonable to assume that many of the undated features relate to that period.

**Pits**

A total of one hundred and eight post-holes were attributed to this phase based on the lack dating evidence (Table 7 & Fig. 58). While there was some variation in the dimension, shape and character of the pits, the majority of these features were circular or sub-

**Fig. 58** FLN 062 Phase Plan: Period 0 Undated & naturally derived features circular, relatively small with diameters of between 0.5 metres and 1 metre with depths of between 0.2 and 0.5 metres. Fills generally comprised homogenous brown silty sand, but some stratification was evident on occasion.

One exception was pit 0468 which was irregular in shape with a maximum width of 3 metres, had a depth of 0.8 metres with a rounded profile. The fill (0469) comprised stratified brown and black, the latter possible heat altered, silty sands.

**Post-hole Structure/?Circle**

An apparently formally arranged arc of twelve post-holes (0914) was one of the more enigmatic feature complexes recorded in the FLN 062 area (Table 7, Fig. 58 & Plate 17). The post-holes appear to have been arranged around the more securely dated Period I.d. (Late Neolithic, c.3200 - 2400 BC) pit 1748. If this were found to be a genuine contemporary relationship, then this would represent a significant complex of features with a specialised, almost certainly non-domestic, function. However, the

dating is contradictory and the post-holes may represent a later, unrelated, structure that coincidentally had been constructed around the earlier pit.

The post-holes were spaced at intervals of between 1 and 2 metres. However, in some instances it was not always clear which features were actually part of the structure as there were additional post-holes slightly offset but still fitting within the overall curving alignment.

Dimensions of the post-holes varied considerably. All were circular with the largest (0915 & 0927) 0.8 metres in diameter with depths of 0.4 metres and the smallest (0921) 0.3 metres in diameter with a depth of 0.2 metres. Fills generally comprised mid to dark grey/brown silty sand with occasional stones. The datable artefactual evidence was limited to three very small sherds of Roman pottery, one from fill 0924 in post-hole 0923 and two from fill 0928 in post-hole 0927. While the ceramic finds may genuinely reflect the date of the post-holes, their size and limited quantity means that they could just as easily be intrusive and it is on this basis that the structure has been included in this phase.

### ***Post-Holes***

A total of one hundred and eight post-holes were attributed to this phase based on the lack of artefactual and stratigraphic evidence (Table 7 & Fig. 58). While no obvious buildings or structures were identified, the post-holes often occurred in clusters, short alignments or pairs, sometimes associated with more securely dated features assigned to discrete chronological phases.

The features exhibited a wide range of characters and dimensions with the majority providing no positive evidence that they had ever been utilised as post-holes and their inclusion under this feature type was based entirely on size (generally less than 0.5 metres in diameter). In addition, some may represent no more than discoloured subsoil caused by plant rooting, animal burrows or natural geological processes.

### ***Layers***

Four of the undated features (0069, 0070, 0096 & 0699) were described as layers.

One of these (0096) was simply an area of heat-reddened natural subsoil indicating that fierce heating had occurred in the area immediately above, possibly in a hearth, the structure of which had since been truncated.

The remaining three context numbers were allocated to specific areas of the intervening occupation layer between the topsoil/plough soil and the naturally occurring sand and gravel subsoil. Context number 0070 was given to the layer where it continued below a discrete area of clay seen during the soil-stripping, 0699 was given to the layer where it was sampled for soil analysis (see section 3.5 of this report) and 0915 was allocated to artefacts recovered while cleaning over post-hole 0916 which may have been derived from the subsoil rather than the feature itself.

### ***Ditch***

Ditch 0810/1884 was an enigmatic feature that may actually have represented a natural derived periglacial gully. The evidence for this was based on the difficulty in ascertaining the edge of the feature, the relatively clean and sterile fill and the fact that it was clearly cut by the Period I.e. (Early Bronze Age, c.2400 – 1500 BC) ring-ditch 0808.

The feature had two separate components, both orientated approximately north to south with a maximum of 1 metre wide, a maximum depth of 0.4 metres and a profile that varied between V-shaped and rounded. The fill (0811 & 1885 etc.) comprised slightly silty stony sand which tended to grade down into clean subsoil.

### Hearths

Two undated hearths were recorded (0062 & 1800), neither obviously associated with a building structure.

Hearth 0062 was represented by a patch of yellow clay with a heat-reddened surface, seen and recorded in section only during machining, overlying an area of heat altered natural subsoil.

Hearth 1800 had been initially disturbed by animal burrowing and again during machining. The feature was represented by an area of fill (1801), oval in shape measuring 0.8 metres by 0.6 metres, comprising charcoal, ash and sand overlying heat altered natural subsoil.

### Slot

One undated feature (0363) was described as a slot. The 1.7 metre long, 0.35 metre wide, 0.2 metres deep feature was gently curved and cut at its eastern end by the Period V.b. (post-medieval, c.17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> centuries) quarry pit 0359. The fill (0364) comprised homogenous brown silty sand. While occurring close to a cluster of possibly structural post-holes, it was still considered more likely that this was a naturally derived feature.

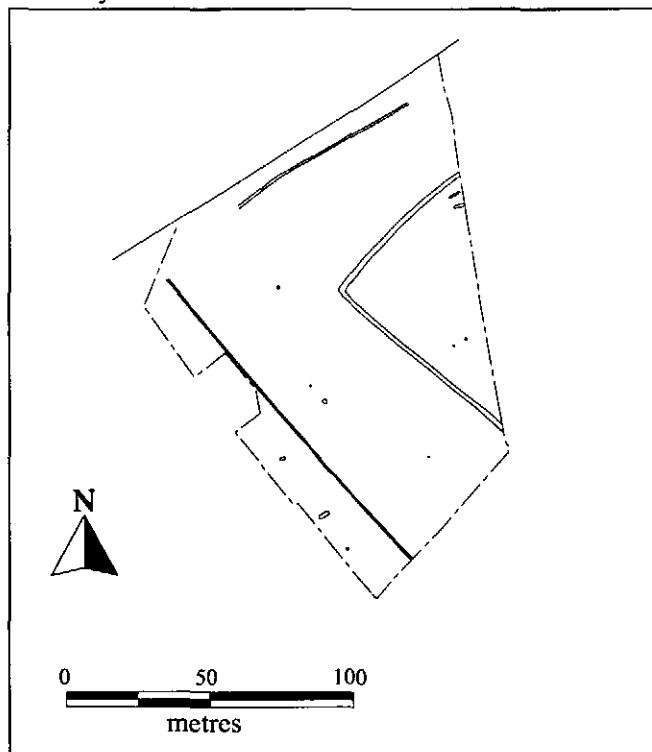


Fig. 59 1:2,500 scale plan of FLN 063 showing all features

### Tree-Pits

Three of the undated features (0065, 0083 & 0468) were interpreted as tree-pits. All were irregular in shape with poorly defined edges and included heat altered sand and flints within the fill, the latter suggesting that the tree stumps had been burnt out *in situ*.

### 3.2.6 FLN 063

The area excavated as FLN 063 comprised New Phase 9 of the quarry and covered approximately 1.5 hectares to the south of and adjoining FLN 061 (New Phase 11) to the north and FLN 062 to the south-west (Fig. 2).

A total of thirty four context

numbers were allocated to fifteen discrete features and their stratigraphic elements (Appendix II{F}). In addition, a further twenty one numbers (FLN 063 1000-1020) were allocated to small finds (Appendix IV{F}).

The five 1:100 scale original site plans (A1 size sheets) have been inked (6 A1 size sheets, see Fig. 31 with those from FLN 061, New Phase 11) and digitised to achieve an overall plan (Fig. 59). There is half an A1 sized sheet of 1:20 scale section drawings that will need security copies (scanned) to form part of the site archive.

The features and finds recorded in FLN 063 have been attributed to seven archaeological Periods/Phases (see Table 9), these are detailed below.

Period/Phase	Basis for Dating	Features/Contexts
<b>Period I.e.</b> prehistoric: Early Bronze Age c.2400-1500 BC <b>Total 1</b>	Artefactual evidence	<b>Pit: 0025 (Total 1)</b>
<b>Period II.a.</b> Late Iron Age/Early Roman c.1 <sup>st</sup> BC - E.2 <sup>nd</sup> century AD <b>Total 4</b>	Artefactual evidence	<b>Troughs: 0006, 0008 (Total 2)</b> <b>Pits: 0021, 0027 (Total 2)</b>
<b>Period II.0</b> Roman Unspecified date <b>Total 1</b>	Artefactual evidence	<b>Pit: 0033 (Total 1)</b>
<b>Period IV</b> Medieval c.1066 – 1480 <b>Total 0</b>	Unstratified artefactual evidence	<b>Small Finds: 1000, 1002, 1003, 1006</b>
<b>Period V.a.</b> Post-medieval L.15 <sup>th</sup> - 17 <sup>th</sup> centuries <b>Total 0</b>	Unstratified artefactual evidence	<b>Small Find: 1009</b>
<b>Period V.b.</b> post-medieval c.17 <sup>th</sup> -19 <sup>th</sup> centuries <b>Total 1</b>	Stratigraphic & artefactual evidence	<b>Ditches: 0017 (Total 1)</b>
<b>Period 0</b> Undated & naturally derived features <b>Total 8</b>	None	<b>Ditches: 0002, 0010, 0023 (Total 3)</b> <b>Pits: 0012, 0019, 0029, 0031, (Total 4)</b> <b>?Cremation: 0014 (Total 1)</b>

**Table 9:** (FLN 063) Detailed Site Phasing

#### **Period I.e.; Early Bronze Age, c.2400-1500 BC**

One feature, a pit (0025) was attributed to this phase based entirely on artefactual evidence, a single sherd of Beaker pottery from the excavated fill. The pit was located just to the south-west of the centre of the FLN 063 area (Fig. 60).

Pit 0025 was circular, 1.5 metres in diameter had a depth of 0.2 metres with a flat-bottomed profile. The fill (0026) comprised relatively homogenous brown silty sand with occasional concentrations of gravel to pebble-sized stones. The inclusion in this phase, based on the single sherd of pottery, could be considered to be suspect as a fragment of CBM was also recovered which, although it could be intrusive, brings the prehistoric date into question. On balance, however, the character of the fill and the presence of a significant quantity of heat altered flints favours its interpretation as a prehistoric feature.

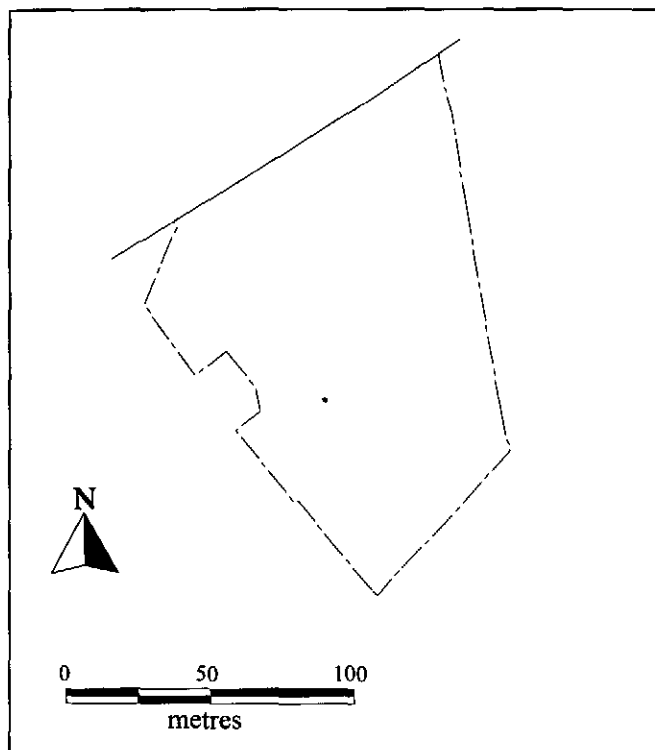


Fig. 60 FLN 063 Phase Plan: Period I.e. Early Bronze Age

**Period II.a.; Late Iron Age/Early Roman, c.1<sup>st</sup> century BC-E.2<sup>nd</sup> century AD**

A total of four features, two troughs (0006 & 0008) and two pits (0021 & 0027) were attributed to this phase based entirely on artefactual evidence. The trough-like features were located towards the north-east of the area while the pits were recorded towards the south-west (Fig. 61).

**Troughs**

Trough-like pits 0006 and 0008 were similar in their orientation, dimensions and character. In addition their juxtaposition suggests that they are related and if not contemporaneous would at least have performed the same function.

Trough 0006 was 4.3 metres long with a width of 0.8 metres, a depth of 0.2 metres with an open V-shaped profile. Similarly, 0008 was 4.2 metres in length, 0.8 metres in width with a depth of 0.25 metres and exhibited an open V-shaped profile. Both features were orientated from north-east to south-west and had fills comprising homogenous brown silty, stony sand.

**Pits**

Pit 0021 was circular, 1 metre in diameter with a depth of 0.3 metres and a round-bottomed profile. The fill (0022) comprised brown silty sand with a slightly darker central component.

Pit 0027 was rectangular, 3.5 metres long by 1.2 metres wide with a depth of 0.4 metres, the fill (0028)

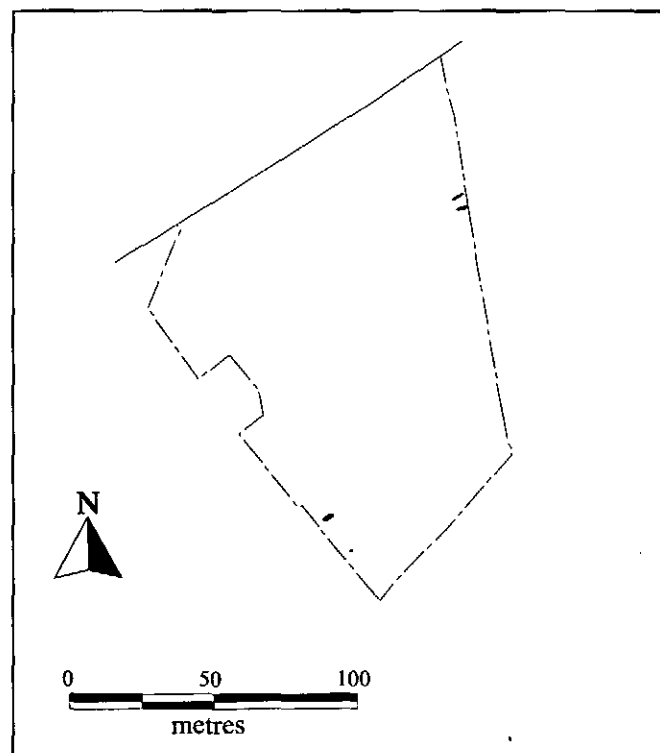
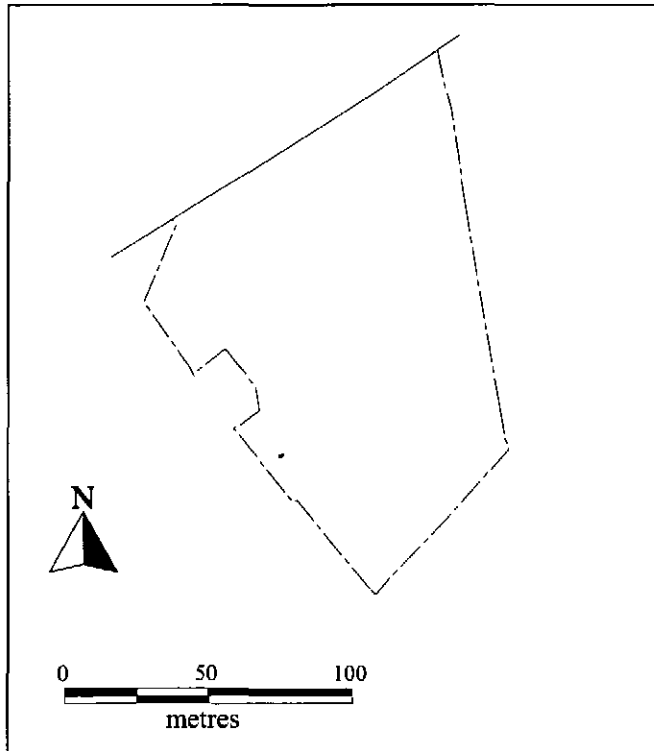


Fig. 61 FLN 063 Phase Plan: Period II.a Late Iron Age/Early Roman



comprised brown silty stony sand with a darker central component.

**Period II.0; Roman, unspecified date**

One feature, a pit (0033) was attributed to this phase based on the presence of undiagnostic Roman pottery in its fill (Fig. 62).

Pit 0033 was sub-rectangular, measuring 1.6 metres by 1 metre with a maximum depth of 0.25 metres and a fill (0034) comprising homogenous brown silty sand.

**Period IV; medieval, c.1066 - 1480**

Four unstratified metalwork small finds were recovered with the use of a metal detector; a brooch (1000), a

Fig. 62 FLN 063 Phase Plan: Period II.0 Roman unspecified date

fragment of a hand punched thimble (1002), a buckle (1003) and a strap end (1006). While all of these finds were unstratified, they may have been associated with the early route of the Flixton to Homersfield road which effectively coincided with the northern edge of the FLN 063 area until it was made redundant during the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

**Period V.a.; post-medieval, L.15<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> centuries**

A single unstratified small find, a coin of Elizabeth the first (1009) was recovered with the use of a metal detector. Similarly to the medieval metalwork, this may have represented a stray loss associated with the early road.

**Period V.b.; post-medieval, c.17<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> centuries**

One feature, a ditch (0017) was attributed to this phase based on stratigraphic

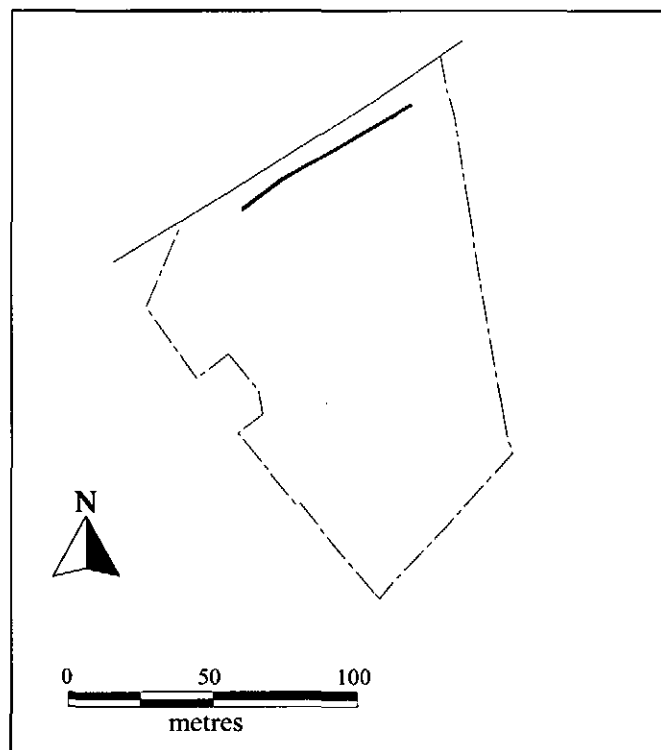


Fig. 63 FLN 063 Phase Plan: Period Vb. post-medieval 17<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> centuries



evidence and its location within the known historical landscape, coinciding with the southern side of the early road route between Flixton and Homersfield (Fig. 63).

The ditch could be seen to cut the intervening subsoil layer between the topsoil and naturally occurring sand and gravel. The feature was hard to follow towards the east and west, almost certainly present but completely removed during machining. Where recorded 0017 was approximately 0.8 metres wide with a depth of 0.2 metres and exhibiting a rounded profile. The fill (0018) comprised homogenous brown silty sand.

#### Period 0; undated & naturally derived features

Eight features remained undated, three ditches (0002, 0010 & 0023), four pits (0012, 0019, 0029 & 0031) and a possible cremation (0014) (Table 9 & Fig. 64).

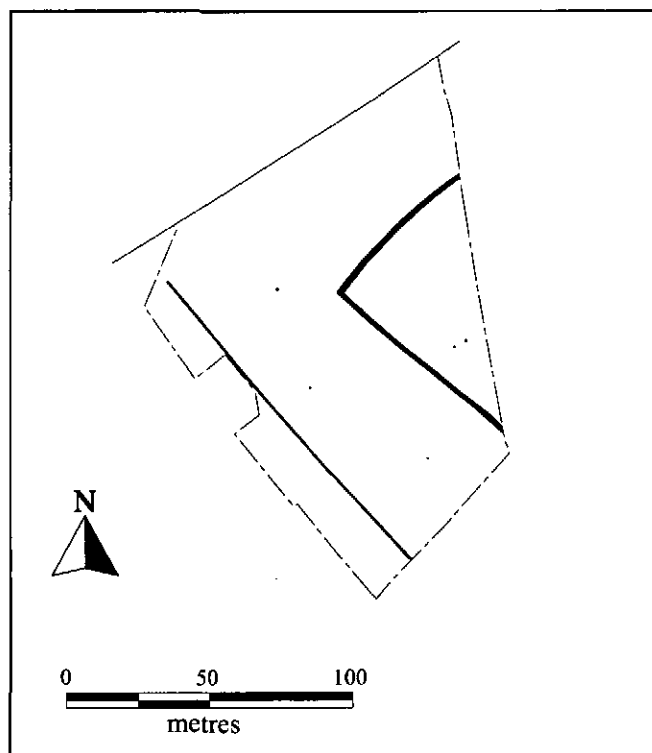


Fig. 64 FLN 063 Phase Plan: Period 0 Undated & naturally derived features

section through ditch 0010 was markedly different with a width of 1.2 metres, a depth of 0.4 metres with a more rounded profile and a fill comprising homogenous brown silty sand.

Ditch 0023 was orientated from north-west to south-east running for a distance of c.130 metres close to the western edge of the FLN 063 area. The ditch was only 0.5 metres wide with a depth of 0.1 metres and rounded profile and a fill (0024) comprising homogenous brown silty sand. This feature was similar in character and alignment with the series of undated ditches recorded in the FLN 061 area immediately to the north (Fig. 42.b.).

#### Ditches

Two of the three undated ditches (0002 & 0010) formed the north-west corner of a field or enclosure which continues under the eastern edge of the FLN 063 area. Ditch 0002 was orientated from the south-east to north-west, running for 75 metres before turning at right-angles to the north-east for a distance of 60 metres as ditch 0010. Sections were excavated through both 0002 and 0010 revealing that the former was 1.8 metres wide, had a depth of 0.6 metres an open V-shaped profile and exhibited a stratified fill (0003, 0004 & 0005) of brown silty sand with varying concentrations of gravel to pebble-sized stones and well developed iron-panning. However, the

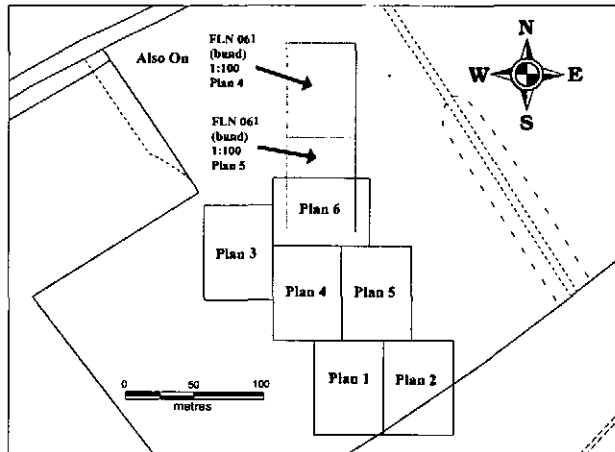
**Pits**

Three of the four pits (0012, 0019 & 0029) were circular with diameters of 0.6 metres to 0.8 metres with depths of between 0.2 metres and 0.3 metres and fills comprising relatively homogenous brown silty sand. The only exception was 0031 which was

sub-rectangular, measuring 0.9 metres by 1.2 metres with a depth of 1 metre and a fill (0032) comprising a central element of brown silty sand with an outer component of stonier material.

**Cremation**

A small pit (0014) was thought to be a possible cremation due to the presence of calcined bone in its fill.



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**Fig. 65** 1:5,000 scale OS map extract showing the area covered by each Individual 1:100 scale inked plan sheet for FLN 064

The pit was circular, 0.5 metres in diameter with a depth of 0.2 metres and a fill (0015) comprising brown silty sand

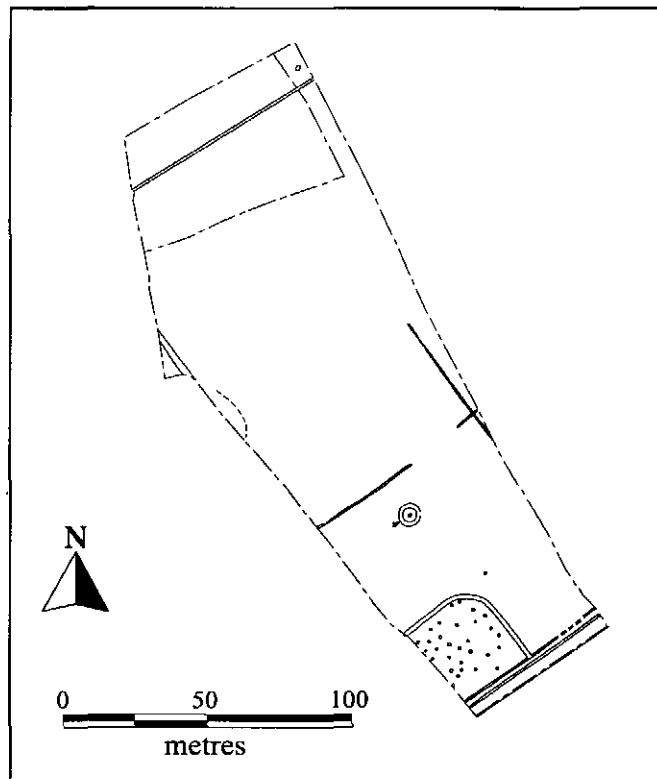
with common charcoal inclusions, particularly concentrated towards the central, upper area.

**3.2.7 FLN 064**

The area excavated as FLN 064 comprised New Phase 12 of the quarry and covered approximately 1.5 hectares to the east of FLN 061 (New Phase 11) and south of FLN 061 (Bund) (Fig. 2).

A total of thirty six context numbers were allocated to thirteen discrete features, groups of features and their stratigraphic elements (Appendix II {G}). In addition, a further eleven numbers (FLN 064 1001-1011) were allocated to small finds (Appendix IV {G}).

The five 1:100 scale original site plans (A1 size sheets) have been inked (6 A1 size sheets, see Fig. 65) and digitised to achieve an overall plan (Fig. 66). A narrow strip on the western side of the area had been included on the edge of FLN 061 (bund)



**Fig. 66** 1:2,500 scale plan of FLN 064 showing all features

plans 4 and 5. There is also half an A1 sized sheet of 1:20 scale section drawings and one c.A4 sized 1:50 scale plan of ring-ditch FLN 064 0010 and its associated features that will need security copies (scanned) to form part of the site archive.

The features recorded in FLN 064 have been attributed to three archaeological Periods/Phases (see Table 10); these are described in more detail below.

Period/Phase	Basis for Dating	Features/Contexts
<b>Period I.e.</b> prehistoric: Early Bronze Age c.2400-1500 BC <b>Total 3</b>	Typological evidence	<b>Ring-Ditch: 0010 (Total 1)</b> <b>Grave: 0023 (Total 1)</b> <b>Cremation: 0011 (Total 1)</b>
<b>Period V.b.</b> post-medieval c.17 <sup>th</sup> -19 <sup>th</sup> centuries <b>Total 33</b>	Stratigraphic & artefactual evidence	<b>Tree-Pits: 30 features collectively numbered 0030 (Total 30)</b> <b>Ditches 0028, 0032, 0034 (Total 3)</b>
<b>Period 0</b> Undated & naturally derived features <b>Total 6</b>	None	<b>Ditches: 0004, 0006, 0008 (Total 3)</b> <b>Pits: 0002, 0025 (Total 2)</b> <b>Tree-Pit: 0021 (Total 1)</b>

Table 10: (FLN 064) Detailed Site Phasing

**Period I.e.; prehistoric, Early Bronze Age, c.2400-1500 BC**

A total of three features, a ring-ditch (0010), a grave (0023) and a cremation (0011), forming a discrete group towards the centre of the FLN 064 area, were attributed to this period based on typological grounds alone as no artefactual evidence was recovered (Table 10 & Fig. 67). The only other ring-ditch of similar size recorded at Flixton, 0300 in FLN 062, provided ceramic evidence which suggested an earlier

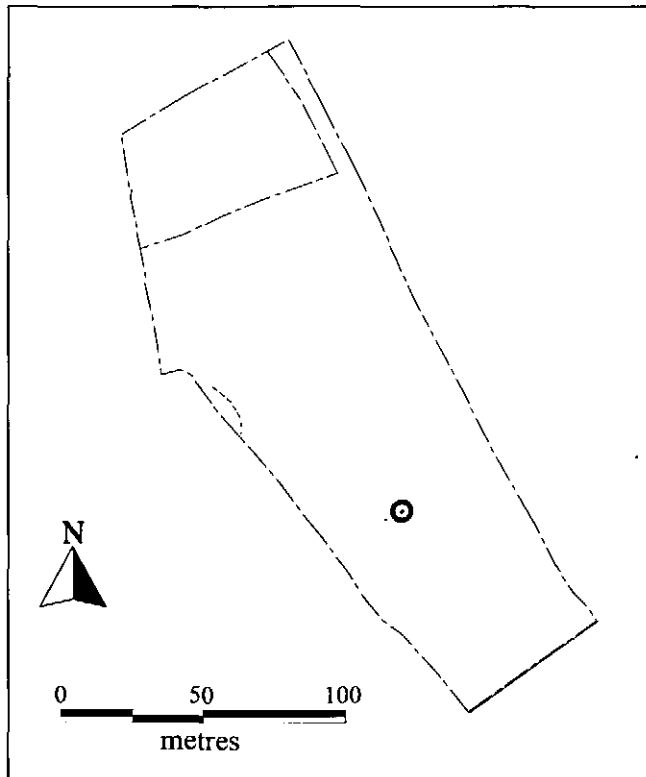


Fig. 67 FLN 064 Phase Plan: Period I.e. Early Bronze Age

Neolithic date (Period I.c.) for the feature. In that case, however, there were no associated graves or cremations and their presence in the FLN 064 example was considered to be evidence which favoured an Early Bronze Age date. This interpretation is by no means certain and if the bone or charcoal from the cremation were found to be suitable, a radiocarbon determination could be justified to resolve the dating issue.

The group of features comprised a small ring-ditch (0010), a central grave (0023) and an outlying cremation burial (0011).

Ring-ditch 0010 described a circle with a diameter of 8 metres while the ditch itself was 1.4 metres wide with a

maximum depth of 0.5 metres and exhibiting a rounded profile (Plate 26). The excavated sections revealed that the ditch fill generally comprised two distinct components; a lower primary fill of slightly silty gravel and sand with an upper component comprising a darker brown silty sand with a variable concentration of gravel/stone inclusions.



Plate 26: Ring-Ditch FLN 064 0010 & Grave FLN 064 0023

Manual cleaning of the area confined by the ring-ditch revealed an oval shaped feature (0023) defined by slightly darker/siltier material (0024) than that of the surrounding naturally occurring subsoil. On excavation, the feature was found to be sub-rectangular in shape, measuring 1.7 metre from north-east to south-west and 0.9 metres from north-west to south-east with a maximum depth of 0.35 metres and exhibiting a relatively rounded profile. There was no direct evidence (artefactual or staining) to positively identify the feature as a grave other than its location central to the ring-ditch. However, its dimensions are consistent with it representing a crouched inhumation burial.

Two metres to the south-west of the ring-ditch a small circular pit (0011) was recorded which from the surface could clearly be seen to include calcined bone and charcoal (Plate 27). As this feature almost certainly represented a cremation burial its entire fill (0012) was retained for analysis (see section 3.4.5). The cremation pit had been somewhat

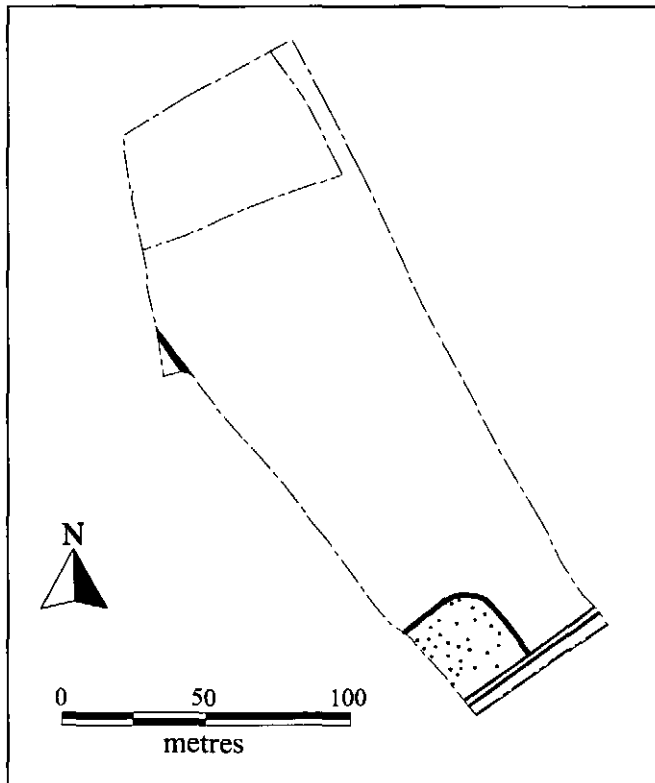


Plate 27: Cremation FLN 064 0011

disturbed by tree roots or animal burrows, but the section suggested that the majority of the calcined bone and charcoal were towards the top of the feature with a stonier, sandier fill at the base. The pit itself was circular, with a diameter of 0.6 metres, a depth of 0.18 metres and a rounded profile.

**Period V.b.; post-medieval, c.17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> centuries**

Features attributed to this phase comprised three ditches (0028, 0032 & 0034) and a cluster of thirty tree-pits (collectively numbered 0030).



**Fig. 68** FLN 064 Phase Plan: Period V.b. post-medieval 17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> centuries

**Ditches**

The three ditches were all recorded towards the southern end of the FLN 064 area (Fig. 68). Two of these (0032 & 0034) represented the continuation of ditches previously recorded in FLN 061 (Fig. 39.b.). These features were orientated from north-east to south-west and followed the line, on its northern side, of the early road route between Flixton and Homersfield that became redundant during the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The third ditch (0028) was continuous with 0032, forming the north-west and north-eastern sides of a c.35 metre square enclosure that was bounded by 0032 on its south-eastern side, and on its south-eastern side by ditch FLN 061 0110 in the

adjacent area. This enclosure first appears on maps during the 19<sup>th</sup> century where it was presented as being occupied by a stand of trees.

Ditch 0028 was 1.2 metres wide with a depth of 0.6 metres and exhibited a moderately shouldered, round bottomed profile. The fill had two distinct layers; an upper component (0029) comprising dark brown silty sand with a stonier lower fill (0036).

Ditches 0032 and 0034 were often entirely within the thick layer of intervening subsoil encountered between the topsoil and underlying naturally occurring sands and gravel. Where measurable, 0032 had a maximum width of 0.75 metres, while 0034 had a maximum width of 1 metre. Depths were indeterminate, but did not exceed 0.75 metres. Fills (0033 & 0035 respectively) comprised relatively homogenous dark brown silty sand

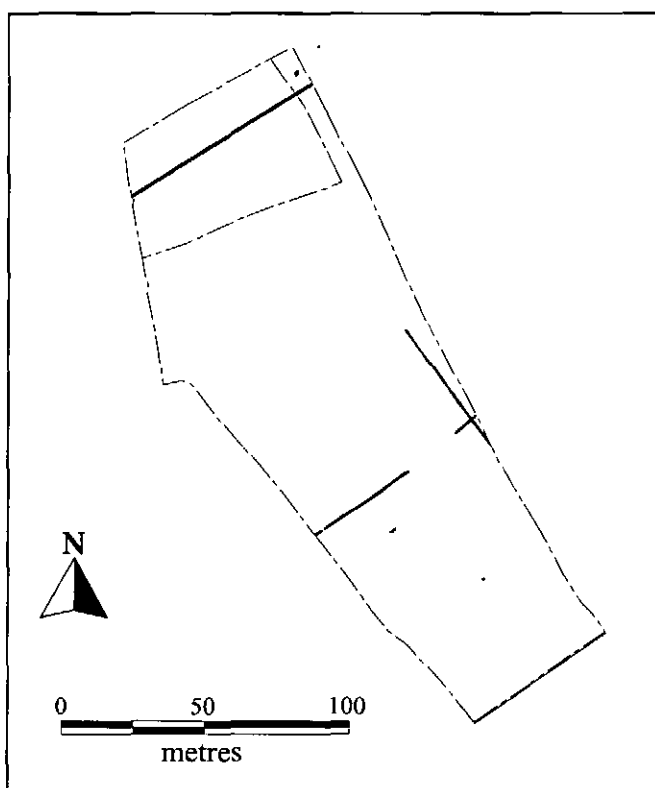
**Tree-Pits**

The thirty features recorded under the composite number 0030 were all confined within the square enclosure defined by the above ditches. These features were similar in size and character, all describing perfect circles of c.1 metre diameter. Their fills (collectively 0031) comprised a mixture of silt, sand and clay. The interpretation of these features as a deliberately planted stand of trees within the ditched enclosure was

informed by the map evidence. Clay components within their fills were almost certainly imported to aid in moisture retention.

### Period 0; Undated & Naturally Derived Features

A total of six features remained undated, three ditches (0004, 0006 & 0008), two pits (0002 & 0025) and a tree-pit (0021) (Table 10 & Fig. 69).



### Ditches

Four ditches/linear features were attributed to this phase (0004, 0006, 0008 & the continuation of FLN 061 0112 which was not re-numbered) (Fig. 69). All four ditches were either the continuation of, or were similar in size and character to ditches associated with the undated rectilinear field system described in more detail under FLN 061 Period 0. (pp.73-74).

These ditches were c.0.6 metres wide, had a maximum depth of 0.25 metres with rounded profiles. The fills generally comprised homogenous brown silty sand with varying concentrations of gravel to pebble-sized stones.

Fig. 69 FLN 064 Phase Plan: Period 0. Undated & naturally derived features

Ditch 0008 represented the eastward continuation of the south-west to north-east orientated FLN 061 0208 and ran for a distance of c.40 metres within the FLN 064 area before butt-ending to the north-east. Ditch 0006 re-established the line of 0008 after a break of 20 metres and continued for a distance of c.10 metres to the edge of the site.

Ditch 0004 was orientated from north-west to south-east, running southwards, from a butt-end, for distance of 50 metres before running under the eastern edge of the site. Stratigraphically, 0004 appeared to be cut by ditch 0006, although this was by no means certain.

### Pits

Two of the undated features were described as pits, one (0002) located towards the north-east corner of the area and the other (0025) towards the southern end of the site (Fig. 69).

Pit 0002 was irregular in shape, approximately 2 metres by 1.4 metres with a depth of 0.4 metres. The fill comprised brown silty sand with areas of black sand rich in charcoal. While described as a pit, this feature was probably a tree-pit with the roots burnt out *in situ*.

Pit 0025 was circular, c.1metre in diameter, a depth of 0.3 metres with shallow sloping sides and a flat bottom. The stratified fill comprised an upper component (0026) of brown silty sand with occasional stones over a lower component (0027) characterised by the presence of heat-altered flints and charcoal with evidence for *in situ* burning.

***Tree-Pit***

One feature (0021) was recorded as a tree-pit. This irregular feature would normally not have been recorded as it was clearly naturally derived. However, its juxtaposition with cremation 0011 resulted in it appearing on plans and photographs and for this reason it was treated as a genuine feature.

Tree-pit 0021 was trough-like, 2.6 metres long by 0.7 metres wide with a depth of only 0.1 metres. The fill (0022) comprised homogenous light brown slightly silty sand.

### 3.3 The Artefactual Evidence

#### 3.3.1 Bulk Finds

##### Introduction

Table 11 shows the quantities of bulk finds recovered from all seven of the excavations at Flixton Park Quarry. Full catalogues of this material are also presented by individual site separately in Volume III, Appendix III.

Find type	No.	Wt/kg
Pottery	10309	109.171
CBM	478	51.056
Worked stone	14	-
Mortar	2	0.073
Fired clay (non kiln)	2164	47.111
Kiln fired clay	-	295.220
Post-med bottle glass	23	1.746
Quernstone	584	56.782
Worked flint	5953	69.743
Burnt flint/stone	10619	231.421
Slag	128	2.803
Iron nails		
Animal bone	5942	32.786
HSR		
Cremated human bone	-	(Weight of total residues) 4.289
Burnt bone (human and animal)	60	0.131
Shell	32	0.538
Charcoal	172	-

**Table 11:** Total Quantities of Bulk Finds from All Sites

- \* These totals do not include material which has been recovered from the residues of environmental processing.
- \* Some additional non-Post Roman sherds were found in the ceramics returned by SA.

In nearly all cases the finds and environmental material has been fully catalogued from each site and is included in the appendices provided in Volume III of this report. The assessments include statements of potential and recommendations for further work. Separate assessments have been provided for the prehistoric, Roman and Post-Roman ceramics

#### Pottery (Sarah Percival, Cathy Tester & Sue Anderson)

##### Introduction

A total of 10395 sherds of pottery weighing 112.48kg were recovered from Flixton Park Quarry, from all major periods.

Period	No of sherds	Weight (kg)
Prehistoric	2930	26.717
Roman	6579	74.209
Early Saxon/?E Saxon	800	8.245
Medieval/Late medieval	16	0.120
Post-medieval	70	3.196
<b>Total</b>	<b>10395</b>	<b>112.48</b>

**Table 12:** Pottery Quantification by Major Ceramic Period

#### Prehistoric Pottery (Sarah Percival)

The following report summarises the results of assessment analysis of prehistoric pottery from six of the seven sites excavated at Flixton Park Quarry that are covered by this assessment (FLN 064 did not produce any prehistoric pottery). The data and



results for each site are discussed separately and recommendations for further work are offered at the end of each section. A summary statement of potential for the whole assemblage is presented at the end of the report.

Site Code	Quantity	Weight (g)	Date range of pottery
FLN 056	29	338	Earlier Neolithic, Later Bronze Age Earlier Iron Age.
FLN 057	639	7544	Earlier Neolithic, Later Neolithic Early Bronze Age, Later Bronze Age Earlier Iron Age, Middle Iron Age.
FLN 059	1244	11052	Earlier Neolithic, Later Neolithic Early Bronze Age, Later Bronze Age Earlier Iron Age.
FLN 061	382	1207	Earlier Neolithic, Later Neolithic Early Bronze Age, Mid to later Bronze Age.
FLN 062	629	6534	Later Neolithic Early Bronze Age, Later Bronze Age Earlier Iron Age
FLN 063	7	42	Later Neolithic Early Bronze Age, Iron Age
<b>Total</b>	<b>2930</b>	<b>26717</b>	

**Table 13:** Quantity, Weight & Date Range of Pottery by Site

**Methodology:** The prehistoric assemblage was analysed using the pottery recording system described in the Norfolk Archaeological Unit Pottery Recording Manual and in accordance with the Guidelines for analysis and publication laid down by the Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group (PCRG 1992). The total assemblage was studied and a full catalogue was prepared (Appendix III. {B.1}). The sherds were examined using a binocular microscope (x10 magnification) and were divided into fabric groups defined on the basis of inclusion types present. Fabric codes were prefixed by a letter code representing the main inclusion present (F representing flint, G grog and Q quartz). Vessel form was recorded; R representing rim sherds, B base sherds, D decorated sherds and U undecorated body sherds. The sherds were counted and weighed to the nearest whole gram. Decoration and abrasion were also noted. The pottery and archive are curated by Suffolk Archaeological Unit.

**FLN 056:** Excavations at FLN 056 produced a small assemblage of earlier Neolithic and Later Bronze Age Earlier Iron Age pottery comprising twenty nine sherds weighing 338g. The pottery was recovered from the fills of five pits (Table 14) and was generally well preserved with an average sherd weight of 11g.

Pottery Date	Feature Type	Cut No.	Fill No.	Quantity	Weight (g)
Earlier Neolithic	Pit	0002	0003	8	58
	Pit	0011	0012	1	3
Later Bronze Age/Earlier Iron Age	Pit	0017	0018	2	9
	Pit	0019	0020	10	86
	Pit	0021	0022	8	182
<b>Total</b>				<b>29</b>	<b>338</b>

**Table 14:** FLN 056: Quantity & Weight of Pottery by Period & Feature

**Earlier Neolithic:** Nine sherds of pottery weighing 61g were identified as being of earlier Neolithic date. The sherds were recovered from the fills of two isolated pits (0002 & 0011) one of which also contained Worked flint (pit 0002). No rim sherds were found. The only diagnostic sherd was found in pit 0002, and comprised a body sherd with sharp angular shoulder. The sherd is broken along the join where two coils had been fused together during the construction of the pot. Two fabrics are present, F12, which contained abundant small angular burnt flint, and F11, which contained flint and numerous voids indicating the former presence of a second tempering agent perhaps grog.

### *Discussion*

The similarity between the angular shouldered bowls of the earlier Neolithic and earlier Iron Age make exact dating of the sherds difficult, especially when diagnostic rim or base sherds are absent. The use of the vacuous fabric F11 is paralleled at the Neolithic site at Broome Heath Ditchingham (Wainwright, 1972) which lies some 7km to the north east of Flixton on the other side of the Waveney Valley (TM 3430 9115). The earlier Neolithic date for the pottery from pit 0002 is supported by the presence of a small quantity of diagnostic worked flint of contemporary date. Further contemporaneous sherds and flint have been identified on other sites within Flixton Park Quarry indicating a low level of earlier Neolithic activity, principally deposition of sherds and other material within pits, across a wide area of the site.

**Later Bronze Age/Earlier Iron Age:** Twenty sherds of Later Bronze Age Earlier Iron Age pottery weighing 277g were recovered from the fills of three pits which formed a loose cluster towards the northern edge of the site.

The assemblage comprises a minimum of eight small to medium size vessels with sharp angular or rounded shoulders. Only two rims are present (pit 0019), one is plain and has a flattened rim ending which rises straight from the shoulder. The other is slightly out-turned and ends in a rounded terminal decorated with a single row of tool impressions running around the outer edge. With the exception of this rim decoration is absent though several sherds exhibit a distinctive surface finish produced by heavy vertical wiping using the fingertips and applied to the lower body of the vessel below the shoulder (pit 0021). The angular form and lack of decoration suggest that the pottery can be classified as a plain ware assemblage containing class I and II jars (Barrett, 1980). All the pottery contains burnt crushed flint temper. Six sherds are of fabric F14, which contains a moderate quantity of large coarse flint pieces, the remainder are of fabric F15 which is finer with numerous small flint inclusions.

### *Discussion*

The small Earlier Iron Age assemblage is part of a larger spread of contemporary activity present on all the sites. The decorated rim can be paralleled with material from West Harling, Norfolk (Clark & Fell, 1953, fig. 16, 81) and from Darmsden, Suffolk (Cunliffe, 1991, A: 11, 1-6). Both of these sites are, however, decorated assemblages (Barrett 1980) whereas the pottery from Flixton FLN 056 is plain. A closer parallel may be plain ware assemblage from Lofts Farm, Essex which has an associated radiocarbon date of 2680±70 BP (905-805 cal BC) suggesting that it was in use around the 8<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> centuries BC (Brown, 1988).

**Recommendations for Further Work:** Both the earlier Neolithic and Later Bronze/Age Earlier Iron Age pottery should be considered within the overall assemblage from all the sites excavated within Flixton Park. Earlier Neolithic pottery was also found at FLN 057, FLN 059 and FLN 061. Later Bronze Age Plain Ware pottery was recovered during earlier excavations at FLN 009 and at FLN 057, FLN 059, FLN 062 and FLN 063.

**FLN 057:** The assemblage from Site FLN 057 comprised six hundred and thirty eight sherds weighing 7539g. The pottery is of a range of dates beginning in the earlier Neolithic and covering the Later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age to Later Bronze Age/Earlier Iron Age (Table 15). The majority of the assemblage was recovered from the fills of pits and post-holes with a smaller quantity coming from spot finds and

unstratified contexts. The sherds are moderately well preserved with an average sherd weight of 11g.

Pottery Date	Quantity	Weight (g)
Earlier Neolithic	54	360
Later Neolithic Early Bronze Age	474	5475
Later Bronze Age Earlier Iron Age	67	920
Middle Iron Age	42	772
Indeterminate prehistoric	1	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>638</b>	<b>7539</b>

Table 15: FLN 057: Quantity & Weight of Pottery by Period

**Earlier Neolithic:** Fifty-four sherds of pottery weighing 360g were identified as being of earlier Neolithic date. The sherds were recovered from the fills of two pits (0515 & 0549). Pit fill 0516 contained ten sherds (73g) and pit fill 0550 forty four sherds (287g) of which seven were rims. The rims are either out-turned or externally thickened and along with several slightly angular body sherds suggest shouldered bowls of the type found at Broome Heath, Ditchingham (Wainwright, 1972). Two fabrics are present, F12, which contained abundant small angular burnt flint, and F11, which contained flint and numerous voids indicating the former presence of a second tempering agent perhaps grog.

#### Discussion

The earlier Neolithic pottery is paralleled within the assemblage from the Neolithic site at Broome Heath, Ditchingham (Wainwright, 1972). Pit 0549 (context 0550) contains a large assemblage but does not appear to be part of a larger group of contemporary features but is instead somewhat isolated.

**Later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age:** Three hundred and thirty one sherds of Grooved Ware were recovered from eleven pits and one post-hole (Table 16).

Feature Type	Cut No.	Fill No.	Quantity	Weight (g)
Pit	0071	0072	14	44
Pit	0097	0098	3	14
Pit	0099	0100	9	68
Pit	0107	0108	91	1825
Pit	0114	0115	26	111
Pit	0132	0133	2	24
Pit	0136	0137	1	54
Pit	0368	0370	7	97
Pit	0407	0408	116	1214
Pit	0461	0462	14	134
Pit	0489	0490	42	187
Post-hole	0019	0020	1	4
U/S finds	0001	0001	5	28
<b>Total</b>			<b>331</b>	<b>3804</b>

Table 16: FLN 057: Quantity & Weight of Grooved Ware by Feature

Two of the pits (0132 & 0489) contained Grooved Ware sherds within a concentrated band of darker burnt or organic material at the base of the feature. These seem to represent a single deposition of pottery, flint and other material and rapid backfilling of the feature. Other pits do not contain these 'structured' deposits but have remarkable assemblages of sherds. Pit 0136 contains large rim sherds from three

Grooved Ware vessels within homogenous dark brown grey silty sand. The vessels are each medium sized closed jars. One is plain, one has pierced lugs and the third has panels filled with incised chevrons and is pierced just below the rim. Pit 0407 also contains large rim sherds but these are highly decorated with cord impressed and incised geometric motifs and raised decorated and undecorated cordons. Pit 0107 is also of interest and contains large body sherds from at least two vessels including the rim of a substantial jar with deep channels around the rim and impressed decoration on the body, perhaps within vertical panels. The vessels appear to be barrel shaped and this along with the decorative techniques present suggests that the assemblage is of the Durrington Walls substyle (Longworth, 1971).

Thirty-one sherds of Beaker (476g) were recovered from three contexts. Pit 0142 contained six small, abraded sherds (41g) some with fingertip impressed decoration. Pit 0319 contained twenty-four sherds (430g) including comb impressed and fingernail impressed body sherds and a rim from a large jar with deep cordons below the thick, flattened rim. The remaining Beaker sherd was unstratified.

#### Discussion

The Grooved Ware assemblage is found in a mixture of contexts some of which may suggest 'structured' deposition was taking place, whilst others contain large and highly decorated sherds, from highly distinctive vessels. The Grooved Ware is of the Durrington Walls substyle (Longworth, 1971) and probably dates to around 2900-2100BC (Garwood, 1999, 161).

**Later Bronze Age/Earlier Iron Age:** Sixty-seven sherds of Later Bronze Age/Earlier Iron Age pottery weighing 920g were recovered from nine pits and four post-holes dispersed across the site (Table 17). Of these two, pit 0259 (fill 0260) and pit 0525 (fill 0526) contained large assemblages, the remainder contained only a few sherds.

The assemblage comprises small to medium size vessels with sharp angular or rounded shoulders. Four rims and three base sherds were present. The rims have flattened rim endings being plain and out turned or straight. Decoration is restricted to rough vertical wiping to the lower surface. Rim decoration is absent. The angular form and lack of decoration suggest that the pottery can be classified as a plain ware assemblage containing class I and II jars (Barrett, 1980). All the pottery contains burnt crushed flint temper.

Feature Type	Cut No.	Fill No.	Quantity	Weight (g)
Pit	0025	0026	2	10
Pit	0056	0057	1	12
Pit	0259	0260	25	418
Pit	0263	0264	1	8
Pit	0517	0518	2	13
Pit	0519	0520	6	31
Pit	0525	0526	17	293
Pit	0533	0534	3	32
Pit	0535	0536	2	42
Post-hole	0213	0214	1	3
Post-hole	0269	0270	1	16
Post-hole	0303	0304	3	16
Post-hole	0545	0546	3	26
<b>Total</b>			<b>67</b>	<b>920</b>

Table 17: FLN 057: Quantity & Weight of Later Bronze Age/Earlier Iron Age Pottery by Feature

*Discussion*

The pottery from Flixton FLN 057 is a plain ware assemblage similar to that found at Lofts Farm, Essex, which was in use around the 8th to 7th centuries BC (Brown, 1988). The Earlier Iron Age assemblage is part of a larger spread of contemporary activity present on all the sites.

**Middle Iron Age:** Forty-two sherds weighing 772g were identified as being of possible middle Iron Age date. The sherds were recovered from two pits. Pit 0044 (fill 0045) contained twenty sherds weighing 393g comprising seventeen rim and body sherds from a single large vessel with rounded shoulders and flattened rim with external lip, plus two sherds from two other vessels. Pit 0505 contained twenty-two sherds in sandy fabric Q1 with scored surface finish. Similar vessels have been found at Park Farm, Silfield and were dated to the 3rd to 1st centuries BC (Percival, 1996).

*Discussion*

The dating of these sherds is provisional and may need to be reviewed during further analysis.

**Recommendations for Further Work:** The earlier Neolithic, Later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age and Later Bronze Age/Earlier Iron Age pottery should be considered within the overall assemblage from all the sites excavated within Flixton Park. Particular attention should be paid to the deposition of the Grooved Ware especially the possible 'structured' pit deposits.

The larger Later Bronze/Age Earlier Iron Age assemblages from pits 0259 and 0525 should also be examined further. It would be of interest to see if the pit deposits with the larger assemblages can be located within groups or clusters or can be related to other contemporary activity identified over the site.

**FLN 059:** Site FLN 059 produced an assemblage of 1244 sherds weighing 11052g. The pottery is of a range of dates beginning in the earlier Neolithic and covering the Later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age to Later Bronze Age/Earlier Iron Age (Table 18). The majority of the assemblage was recovered from the fills of pits and post-holes with a smaller quantity coming from pottery spreads and ditch fills. The sherds are generally well preserved with an average sherd weight of 9g.

Pottery Date	Quantity	Weight (g)
Earlier Neolithic	192	3293
Later Neolithic Early Bronze Age	519	3143
Later Bronze Age Earlier Iron Age	525	4882
Earlier Iron Age or earlier Neolithic	2	31
Prehistoric (Not closely datable)	6	26
<b>Total</b>	<b>1244</b>	<b>11375</b>

**Table 18:** FLN 059: Quantity & Weight of Pottery by Period

**Earlier Neolithic**

The earlier Neolithic assemblage was recovered from seven pits (Table 19). Pits 0287 and 0613 also contained earlier Neolithic flint and these produced the largest quantities of pottery.

The large assemblages from pits 0174, 0287 and 0613 contain out turned, rolled and thickened rim forms similar to those found at Broome Heath, Ditchingham

(Wainwright, 1972) and at Hurst Fen, Mildenhall (Clark, Higgs, & Longworth, 1960). Vessel shapes are hard to reconstruct, as most of the sherds are small and undiagnostic, however they appear to be large open shouldered bowls with rounded bases. The sherds are found in a range of flint tempered fabrics, some with vacuoles suggesting that they had once contained an organic material.

Feature Type	Cut No.	Fill No.	Quantity	Weight (g)
Pit	0166	0167	6	106
Pit	0174	0175	25	284
Pit	0176	0177	2	20
Pit	0199	0200	4	100
Pit	0260	0261	1	6
Pit	0287	0288	33	284
Pit	0613	0614	121	2493
<b>Total</b>			<b>192</b>	<b>3293</b>

**Table 19:** FLN 059: Quantity & Weight of Earlier Neolithic Pottery by Feature

The pits and post-holes containing the earlier Neolithic sherds are filled with homogenous brown silty sand sometimes with flint pebbles and charcoal. This suggests that they may represent the rapidly backfilled pits which are highly characteristic of depositional practice in the earlier Neolithic in East Anglia (Thomas, 1991; Healy 1996).

#### *Discussion*

The forms and fabrics found parallel those from the Neolithic site at Broome Heath Ditchingham (Wainwright, 1972, TM 3430 9115). The earlier Neolithic date for the pottery from pits 0287 and 0613 is supported by the presence of diagnostic flint of contemporary date. Further contemporaneous sherds and flint have been identified on the other sites within Flixton Park indicating a low level of earlier Neolithic activity, principally deposition of sherds and other material within pits, across the whole southern area of the site.

**Later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age:** A large and interesting assemblage of Grooved Ware was recovered from fifteen pits (Table 20).

Feature Type	Cut No.	Fill No.	Quantity	Weight (g)
Pit	0018	0019	3	138
Pit	0205	0206	30	677
Pit	0225	0226	344	1035
Pit	0227	0228	41	395
Pit	0247	0248	8	38
Pit	0303	0304	3	46
Pit	0331	0332	14	100
Pit	0333	0334	2	19
Pit	0341	0342	1	10
Pit	0345	0346	12	132
Pit	0360	0361	10	104
Pit	0362	0363	59	344
Pit	0364	0365	8	22
Pit	0377	0378	4	46
Pit	0453	0454	5	17
<b>Total</b>			<b>544</b>	<b>3123</b>

**Table 20:** FLN 059: Quantity & Weight of Grooved Ware Pottery by Feature

The Grooved Ware assemblage is highly decorated including cord impressed and incised geometric motifs especially chevrons, fingertip impressed cable sometimes filling panels with incised borders, raised decorated and undecorated cordons and triangles filled with impressed dots. The vessels appear to be tub or barrel shaped and this along with the decorative techniques present suggest that they are of the Durrington Walls substyle (Longworth, 1971). The sherds are found in a mix of grog and sand tempered fabrics. No shell-tempered sherds were found. Limited thin section analysis carried out on a small number of sherds indicates that the clays from which the Grooved Ware is made are from local deposits. However the ubiquitous drift geology of the region make exact sourcing of the fabrics difficult.

Several of the contexts have distinctive fills suggesting that they are 'structured' deposits. These include pit 0018, which contained a large, highly decorated rim sherd placed at the bottom of the feature with the decorated surface face down. Other pits such as 0227 contained Grooved Ware within a dark band running through the centre of the feature, this may suggest the sherds and other material had been deposited within the fill of the feature in an organic bag or basket. Pits 0205 and 0303 each contained a dense deposit of artefacts including Grooved Ware and worked flint within a dark layer rich in charcoal and burnt stone spread across the base of the feature. The remainder of the feature had been backfilled with the sandy silt 'natural' into which the pit had been dug. Other deposits containing Grooved Ware did not appear to be 'structured' perhaps suggesting that a different type of activity was being represented within these deposits. It is also possible that these differences may represent a change in depositional practice over time.

Nineteen sherds of Beaker were recovered from four contexts (Table 21). Rims from two thin walled vessels with incised decoration were found in pit 0325, which contained eleven sherds from two vessels, the largest Beaker assemblage found on site FLN 059. Other features contained small numbers of sherds decorated with pinched fingertip impressions.

Feature Type	Cut No.	Fill No.	Quantity	Weight (g)
Pit	0126	0127	3	12
Pit	0323	0324	1	5
Pit	0325	0326	4	118
Pit	0403	0404	11	99
<b>Total</b>			<b>19</b>	<b>234</b>

Table 21: FLN 059: Quantity & Weight of Beaker Pottery by Feature

### Discussion

The Grooved Ware assemblage is of particular interest as it represents the largest quantity of such pottery found at Flixton Park and was found in contexts which strongly suggest that 'structured' deposition was taking place. Grooved Ware has been found elsewhere in Suffolk (e.g. Martin, 1993, 44) however both the context and quantity of the Flixton assemblage makes this material particularly important. The Grooved Ware is of the Clacton substyle (Longworth, 1971) with horizontal bands and filled triangles similar to those found on sherds from Great Bealings (Martin, 1993 fig. 27). Martin suggests that the decorative motifs and techniques found at Great Bealings are typical of Grooved Ware from East Anglia, perhaps suggesting that some elements may represent a regional substyle. The use of Clacton substyle pottery sets site FLN 059 apart from the other sites at Flixton Park where Durrington Walls style pots were in use. Grooved Ware dates to around 2900-2100BC (Garwood,

1999, 161) though the various substyles identified do not appear to have chronological significance. The nature of activity taking place at Flixton Park is unclear as, unlike the Grooved Ware sites at Clacton, Essex and Spong Hill and Redgate Hill Norfolk, very little material was found in surface spreads. The pit deposits may represent evidence for intermittent visits to the site over an extended period as has been proposed for many earlier Neolithic multi-pit sites in the region (Healy, 1996).

**Later Bronze Age/Earlier Iron Age:** The large Later Bronze Age/Earlier Iron Age assemblage comprised four hundred and sixty six sherds weighing 4527g (Table 22) and is characterised by angular shouldered jars and bowls with long straight necks ending in simple flat topped rims. The angular form and lack of decoration suggest that the pottery can be classified as a plain ware assemblage containing class I and II jars (Barrett, 1980). More unusual forms include an omphalous base and closed bowl with pierced lug or handle (pit 0317) and a perforated base or strainer (pit 0180). Decoration is mostly restricted to the rim top and shoulder and can be fingertip impressed (pit 0180) or incised (pit 0084). All the pottery contains burnt crushed flint temper.

Feature Type	Cut No.	Fill No.	Quantity	Weight (g)
Finds	0001	0194	5	205
Finds	0402	0402	53	436
Pit	0084	0085	7	154
Pit	0092	0093	75	100
Pit	0099	0100	46	546
Pit	0112	0113	2	11
Pit	0118	0119	2	13
Pit	0138	0139	1	5
Pit	0162	0163	3	54
Pit	0180	0181	23	202
Pit	0184	0185	3	41
Pit	0195	0196	18	200
Pit	0215	0216	16	149
Pit	0237	0238	2	5
Pit	0262	0263	1	19
Pit	0280	0281	31	322
Pit	0317	0318	125	1651
Pit	0319	0320	1	3
Pit	0339	0340	2	6
Pit	0375	0376	5	18
Pit	0389	0390	4	14
Pit	0391	0392	4	29
Pit	0396	0397	2	5
Pit	0417	0418	1	115
Pit	0421	0422	7	56
Pit	0427	0428	1	4
Pit	0615	0616	4	24
Post-hole	0074	0075	5	21
Post-hole	0211	0212	1	1
Post-hole	0308	0309	4	60
Post-hole	0312	0313	5	32
Post-hole	0425	0426	5	14
Slot	0101	0102	2	12
<b>Total</b>			<b>466</b>	<b>4527</b>

Table 22: FLN 059: Quantity & Weight of Later Bronze Age/Earlier Iron Age Pottery by Feature



The average sherd weight for the assemblage is 10g. This is a moderate weight perhaps suggesting that some of the sherds were fragmented before being placed in the pits and post-holes. The dispersal of sherds reveals a marked concentration in a few features (e.g. pits 0092 & 0317) despite the apparent similarity in their morphology. This unequal distribution suggests a degree of selection was taking place in the deposition of artefacts within certain features.

*Discussion*

The Earlier Iron Age assemblage is part of a larger plain ware assemblage present on all the Flixton Park sites. The pierced lug or handle can be paralleled within the assemblage from Wandlebury hillfort, Cambridgeshire (Hartley, 1956, fig. 7, 18) and from Lofts Farm, Essex (Brown, 1988). The Earlier Iron Age assemblage was probably in use around the 8th to 7th centuries BC.

**Recommendations for Further Work:** The earlier Neolithic, Later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age and Later Bronze Age/Earlier Iron Age pottery should be considered within the overall assemblage from all the sites excavated within Flixton Park Quarry. Particular attention should be paid to the deposition of the Grooved Ware especially the possible ‘structured’ pit deposits. It would also be interesting to compare the composition of the Grooved Ware deposits with the small number of contemporary Beaker pits and post-holes. Radiocarbon dates would also be very useful to both refine the dating of Grooved Ware styles (Clacton & Durrington Walls) and illuminate any possible chronological difference between the ‘structured’ and non-‘structured’ Grooved Ware deposits.

**FLN 061:** Site FLN 061 produced an assemblage of three hundred and eighty two sherds weighing 4099g. The pottery is of a range of dates primarily the Later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age and Later Bronze Age (Table 23). A very small quantity of Earlier Iron Age sherds was found in the fill of a single feature. The remainder of the sherds were not closely datable. The majority of the assemblage was recovered from the fills of pits and post-holes with a smaller quantity coming from ditch fills and later features (SFBs). The sherds are generally well preserved with an average sherd weight of nearly 11g. This slightly larger weight primarily reflects the presence of a complete Beaker deposited as a grave good (counted as a single sherd) and the larger size of the sherds of Later Bronze Age urn.

Pottery Date	Quantity	Weight (g)
Later Neolithic Earlier Bronze Age	178	2393
Later Bronze Age	100	1382
Earlier Iron Age	2	10
Indeterminate Neolithic	16	49
Indeterminate Bronze Age	2	2
Indeterminate prehistoric	84	263
<b>Total</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>4099</b>

**Table 23:** FLN 061: Quantity & Weight of Pottery by Period

**Later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age:** The Later Neolithic Early Bronze Age assemblage from site FLN 061 comprised 178 sherds weighing 2393g (Table 24) and included a complete Beaker (0473), which had been placed as an accessory vessel within a former barrow (cut 0468). The Beaker is finely made with a ‘W’ shaped profile and horizontal comb impressed bands running around the neck and body (Boast, 1995, fig.7.2). The bands on the neck and upper body, girth and base are filled

with decoration comprising either small impressed circles made using a hollow stem or bone or lunate tooled impressions. Undecorated bands divide the upper and lower body of the vessel.

Feature	Cut No.	Fill No.	Quantity	Weight (g)
Ditch	0218	0383, 0727	3	10
	0839	1597	2	44
Pit	0087	0088	110	1210
	0842	0843	1	7
	0848	0849	58	455
Complete Beaker (accessory vessel)	0468	0473	1	632
SFB	1319	1438	1	4
	1501	1504, 1506	2	31
<b>Total</b>			<b>178</b>	<b>2393</b>

**Table 24:** FLN 061: Quantity & Weight of Later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age Pottery by Feature

The remaining later Neolithic early Bronze Age pot is Grooved Ware, found in three contemporary pits of which one (0848) was probably 'structured'. Other Grooved Ware sherds were found within ditch fills and as residual material in SFBs.

#### *Discussion*

The finish and decoration of the Beaker accessory vessel is distinct from the majority of other Beaker found at the site which is largely coarser and decorated with fingertip impressed rustication or incised decoration with floating chevrons more typical of 'domestic' assemblages. Boast (1995) has suggested that many Beakers found accompanying burials were especially made to be placed in the grave and it is possible that the Beaker 0473 from 0468 was one of these. The Grooved Ware is of the Durrington Walls substyle characterised by the presence of applied cordons and vertical panels filled with incised chevron decoration (Longworth, 1971). Durrington Walls substyle sherds have been found during previous excavation at Flixton Park (FLN 013; FLN 053; FLN 057 & FLN 062).

**Later Bronze Age:** A single large sherd from the rim and upper body of a big, thick walled vessel was found in the fill of pit 0570. The sherd has fingertip impressions along the rim top and neck and a fingertip incised line just below the neck. The lower body has vertical finger wiping. Further sherds of Later Bronze Age pottery were also found in pit 0062 and the fill of ring-ditch 0218.

#### *Discussion*

The large bucket shaped vessel is very similar to examples found at Grimes Graves where they were interpreted as representing the remains of domestic activity (Longworth, 1988, fig. 28). The sherds found at site FLN 062 almost certainly also represent non-funerary activity being both fragmentary and found in pits and ditches rather than burial contexts. The small quantities of sherds found suggest that the associated occupation may have been transitory as no similar pottery was found elsewhere on the site.

**Later Bronze Age/Earlier Iron Age:** Two sherds of possible earlier Iron Age date were found in pit 1461.

**Recommendations for Further Work:** The complete Beaker 0473 from 0468 is the only accessory vessel found at Flixton Park (a second has now been recovered from

an isolated grave excavated in 2005, site FLN 069, Boulter *pers. comm.*) and as such provides an intriguing contrast with the majority of 'domestic' Beaker found at the site. It would be very useful to have radiocarbon dates for this vessel to compare with larger 'domestic' assemblages. It may also be of interest to extend the initial thin section analysis of the Beaker material to establish if the accessory vessel was made of different raw materials to those within the domestic assemblage. The Grooved Ware should be considered within the larger Grooved Ware assemblage from the Flixton Park excavations.

The Later Bronze Age pottery is of particular note, as it is not found elsewhere within Flixton Park, further consideration should be made of the context of deposition of the Later Bronze Age sherds to try to assess the nature of activity associated with the use of these vessels.

**FLN 062:** The assemblage from site FLN 062 contained six hundred and twenty nine sherds weighing 6534g. The pottery is of a range of dates spanning the earlier Neolithic to Earlier Iron Age (Table 25). Some sherds were not closely datable. The majority of the assemblage was recovered from the fills of pits, post-holes and ditches with a smaller quantity coming from later graves and kilns. The sherds are generally well preserved with an average sherd weight of 10g.

Pottery date	Quantity	Weight (g)
Earlier Neolithic	42	272
Later Neolithic Early Bronze Age	362	3859
Earlier Iron Age	198	2269
Indeterminate Bronze Age	1	1
Indeterminate Iron Age	2	11
Indeterminate prehistoric	24	122
<b>Total</b>	<b>629</b>	<b>6534</b>

**Table 25:** FLN 062: Quantity & Weight of Pottery by Period

**Earlier Neolithic:** Forty-two sherds of pottery weighing 272g were identified as being of earlier Neolithic date. The sherds were recovered from the fills of five pits, one post-hole, and three other features (Table 26) and the majority was considered to be residual.

Feature Type	Cut No.	Fill No.	Quantity	Weight (g)
Feature	0955	0957	1	5
Grave	0893	0894	2	29
Pit	0022	0023	14	116
Pit	0984	0985	1	5
Pit	1507	1508	1	4
Pit	1520	1521	4	15
Pit	0012	1578	3	13
Post-hole	0566	0567	1	4
Ring-ditch	0300	0303	15	81
<b>Total</b>			<b>42</b>	<b>272</b>

**Table 26:** FLN 062: Quantity & Weight of Earlier Neolithic Pottery by Feature

One rolled or out-turned rim sherd was found in pit 0022, which contained the largest earlier Neolithic pit assemblage. Fifteen sherds (81g) came from ring-ditch 0300 (fill 0303) but this assemblage contained no diagnostic forms. Two fabrics are present,

F12, which contained abundant small angular burnt flint, and F11, which contained flint and numerous voids indicating the former presence of a second tempering agent perhaps grog.

*Discussion*

The assemblage is analogous with the earlier Neolithic pottery found elsewhere at Flixton Park Quarry and comprises a series of round, based shouldered bowls similar to those found at Broome Heath Ditchingham (Wainwright, 1972). The earlier Neolithic date for the pottery from pit 0022 is supported by the presence of a small quantity of diagnostic flint of contemporary date. Further contemporaneous sherds and flint have been identified on the other sites within Flixton Park indicating a low level of earlier Neolithic activity, principally deposition of sherds and other material within pits, across the whole area of the site.

**Later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age:** The Later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age assemblage comprised both Grooved Ware and Beaker vessels. However, the two forms were not found together in any contemporary feature with the exception of pit 0218 (fill 0220) where a small quantity of both Grooved Ware and Beaker were recovered along with a larger quantity of indeterminate later Neolithic/Early Bronze age sherds (Table 27).

Pot Type	Feature Type	Cut No.	Fill. No.	Quantity	Weight (g)
Indeterminate Later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age	Ditch	0071	0109	1	1
	Finds	0808	1840	16	67
	Grave	1844	1845	2	9
	Pit	0012	0045	1	4
	Pit	0063	0064	1	3
	Pit	0079	0080	7	11
	Pit	0218	0220	23	78
	Pit	0230	0231	1	4
	Pit	0427	0428	1	8
	Pit	0775	0776	1	4
	Pit	1528	1529	3	8
	Pit	1762	1763	3	31
	Pit	1822	1823	1	8
	Post-hole	0067	0068	1	9
	Post-hole	0147	0148	1	7
	Post-hole	0198	0199	1	1
	Post-hole	0210	0211	1	1
	Post-hole	0830	0831	3	25
	Post-hole	1694	1695	1	1
	Ring-ditch	0808	1818	10	56
	Ring-ditch	0808	1836	2	32
	Ring-ditch	0808	1839	9	39
	Slot	1733	1736	1	5
Slot	1758	1759	5	18	
Spot find	1601	1601	3	57	
<b>Total</b>				<b>99</b>	<b>487</b>
Beaker	Ditch	0041	0482	1	28
	Finds	0808	1840	1	2
	Kiln	0016	0241	1	2
	Pit	0035	0036	1	6
	Pit	0012	0045	2	31
	Pit	0076	0078	3	34
	Pit	0111	0112	2	14

Table 27; Continued on next page

**Table 27; Continued**

Pot Type	Feature Type	Cut No.	Fill. No.	Quantity	Weight (g)
Beaker	Pit	0218	0220	4	50
	Pit	0221	0222	2	8
	Pit	0574	0575	2	7
	Pit	0745	0746	3	13
	Pit	0862	0863	2	30
	Pit	1530	1531	11	82
	Pit	1539	1540	4	26
	Pit	1543	1545	17	313
	Pit	1589	1590	7	51
	Pit	1589	1591	34	243
	Pit	1594	1595	1	23
	Pit	1613	1614	16	196
	Pit	1629	1631	1	9
	Pit	1629	1632	2	27
	Pit	1633	1634	10	8
	Pit	1668	1669	2	5
	Pit	1696	1697	1	5
	Pit	1729	1730	1	16
	Whole pot in pit	1530	1532	1	246
	Post-hole	0202	0203	1	22
	Post-hole	0689	0690	1	13
	Post-hole	1592	1593	1	4
	Post-hole	1623	1624	2	35
Slot (Fill)	1733	1736	4	16	
Spot find	1764	1764	1	4	
		<b>Total</b>		<b>142</b>	<b>1569</b>
Grooved Ware	Finds	0030	0030	34	286
	Pit	0216	0217	28	280
	Pit	0218	0220	2	8
	Pit	0417	0418	6	27
	Pit	0419	0420	2	4
	Pit	0421	0422	7	69
	Pit	0860	0861	7	19
	Pit	0977	0978	1	18
	Pit	1740	1741	1	50
	Pit	1748	1749	7	170
	Pit	1748	1750	4	65
	Pit	0860	0881	15	708
	Post-hole	0024	0025	3	39
	Post-hole	0212	0213	1	7
	Post-hole	0837	0838	3	53
		<b>Total</b>		<b>121</b>	<b>1803</b>
<b>Overall Total</b>				<b>362</b>	<b>3859</b>

**Table 27: FLN 062: Quantity & Weight of Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age Pottery by Feature & Pottery Type**

Grooved Ware was recovered from eleven pits and three post-holes. Only one pit, 0860, may be considered to have contained 'structured' deposits, having large base sherds from two highly decorated vessels placed on the bottom of the feature. The Grooved Ware assemblage is elaborately decorated including cord impressed and incised geometric motifs especially chevrons, fingertip impressed cable sometimes filling panels with incised borders, raised decorated and undecorated cordons and triangles filled with impressed dots. The vessels appear to be tub or barrel shaped and this along with the decorative techniques present suggest that they are of the

Durrington Walls substyle (Longworth, 1971). One sherd (post-hole 0837) has a drilled hole that had been executed after the vessel had been fired. Such holes are often taken as indications that the vessel had been repaired. The sherds are found in a mix of grog and sand tempered fabrics.

Beaker was more common on Site FLN 062 than Grooved Ware and was found in twenty-three pits as well as other features (Table 27). Of particular interest are pit 1530 (fill 1531) which produced a complete undecorated Beaker bowl (1532) and pit 1589 which contained the partial fragmentary remains of a handled Beaker decorated with incised filled lozenges.

#### *Discussion*

The large Beaker assemblage found in pit contexts at FLN 062 offers a chance to compare the depositional practices observed within the Beaker deposits with those observed in the perhaps contemporary Grooved Ware pits. The relationship between domestic Beaker and Grooved Ware is poorly understood and this site in particular provides the opportunity to examine pit assemblages in detail. Radiocarbon dating would be invaluable, as it would refine the individual chronologies of the two pottery styles, perhaps indicating that they were in use successively rather than contemporaneously.

**Later Bronze Age/Earlier Iron Age:** Later Bronze Age/Earlier Iron Age sherds were found in numerous pits, post-holes, ditches and later features (Table 28). However the size of the assemblages within each feature were small with the largest number of sherds being found as residual material within later features. Pit 0844 was the only feature to contain a reasonable assemblage (twelve sherds 141g). The high number of residual sherds and dispersed distribution of the assemblage indicates that this area of the site was more greatly disturbed by later activity than some other areas of the Flixton Park Quarry. The low numbers of sherds found in the pit fills may suggest that some of these were also residual and that the features were not of Iron Age date.

The assemblage contains fifteen decorated sherds. These include a large rim with diagonal slashes across the rim top and vertical finger wiping below the shoulder (SF 1764) and an angular body sherd with incised geometric design and impressed circles in pit 0004. Twenty one rim sherds were found ten of which exhibited incised or fingertip impressed decoration to the rim top. Only three base sherds were found.

Feature Type	Cut No.	Fill No.	Quantity	Weight (g)
Unstratified finds	0001	0001	34	389
Unstratified finds	0001	1780	1	8
Ditch	0043	0487	1	1
Ditch	0445	0546	3	18
Grave	1776	1777	15	43
Grave	1865	1871	1	123
Kiln	0016	0017	1	3
Kiln	0016	0190	2	17
Kiln	0016	0226	4	44
Kiln	0014	0476	1	4
Kiln	0014	0564	2	19
Kiln	0014	0581	2	18
Kiln	0014	0708	1	10
Pit	0002	0003	6	69
Pit	0004	0005	1	27

Table 28; Continued on next page

**Table 28; Continued**

<b>Feature Type</b>	<b>Cut No.</b>	<b>Fill No.</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Weight (g)</b>
Pit	0006	0007	2	8
Pit	0008	0009	2	15
Pit	0018	0019	5	38
Pit	0031	0032	1	4
Pit	0048	0049	1	9
Pit	0012	0050	1	28
Pit	0128	0129	3	29
Pit	0160	0169	4	41
Pit	0185	0186	4	13
Pit	0284	0285	1	2
Pit	0399	0400	2	8
Pit	0407	0408	6	18
Pit	0478	0479	6	48
Pit	0572	0573	1	5
Pit	0594	0595	2	13
Pit	0596	0597	1	4
Pit	0629	0630	1	3
Pit	0629	0631	1	4
Pit	0629	0632	6	27
Pit	0635	0636	1	5
Pit	0749	0750	3	11
Pit	0770	0771	1	85
Pit	0787	0788	1	10
Pit	0844	0845	12	141
Pit	0979	0980	9	35
Pit	1613	1614	1	13
Pit	1619	1620	3	31
Pit	1621	1622	1	18
Pit	1692	1693	6	26
Pit	1790	1791	3	14
Post-hole	0415	0416	5	9
Post-hole	0523	0524	1	22
Post-hole	0529	0530	2	3
Post-hole	0537	0538	1	43
Post-hole	1548	1549	1	5
Ring-ditch	0808	1821	14	55
Slot	0057	0058	2	18
Slot	0797	0798	2	6
Spot find	0808	0809	1	18
Spot find	1764	1764	1	578
Trough	0646	0647	2	13
		<b>Total</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>2269</b>

**Table 28:** FLN 062: Quantity & Weight of Later Bronze Age/Earlier Iron Age Pottery by Feature

*Discussion*

The Earlier Iron Age assemblage is part of a larger spread of contemporary activity present on all the sites. The decorated sherds can be paralleled within the decorated assemblages (Barrett, 1980) from West Harling, Norfolk (Clark & Fell, 1953) and from Darmsden, Suffolk (Cunliffe 1991, A:) which date to around the 8th to 7th centuries BC (Brown, 1988).

**Recommendations for Further Work:** The earlier Neolithic, Later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age and Later Bronze Age/Earlier Iron Age pottery should be considered within the overall assemblage from all the sites excavated within Flixton Park.

Particular attention should be paid to the deposition of the Grooved Ware especially the possible 'structured' pit deposits, which should be compared with the large and varied Beaker assemblage. The earlier Neolithic and Later Bronze Age/Earlier Iron Age assemblage should be considered within the analysis of the whole Flixton Park assemblage.

**FLN 063:** The prehistoric assemblage from site FLN 063 comprised one sherd of Later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age Beaker with deep fingertip impressed decoration (22g) from pit 0025 and six sherds (20g) of indeterminate Iron Age pottery, five from slot 0008 and one from pit 0025.

**Recommendations for Further Work:** The sherds should be considered within the overall period assemblages from Flixton Park.

**General Discussion & Statement of Potential:** The pottery from the six sites discussed in this report represents a large and chronologically diverse assemblage and as such could make a major contribution to the study of prehistoric pottery in East Anglia. Brown and Murphy, in the research framework for the Neolithic and Bronze Age in the Eastern Counties, suggest that the definition and refining of ceramic typologies and chronologies is of particular importance (Brown & Murphy, 2000, 9). Earlier Neolithic pottery is of particular interest for although earlier Neolithic 'settlement' sites are relatively widespread few have been intensively examined and even fewer large pit sites have been investigated under modern archaeological conditions. The earlier Neolithic pottery from Flixton would provide a useful comparison to the material from Broome Heath, Ditchingham, which lies a short distance from Flixton on the other side of the Waveney Valley. Earlier Neolithic pottery from Broome Heath and other sites nationally is the subject of continued debate with both the typology and the nature of settlement activity being studied (Herne, 1988; Cleal, 2004). Recent excavations at Kilverstone, Norfolk, have found that joining sherds originating from the same vessels are often found dispersed throughout several features in a pit group. These sherds are often in very different conditions of preservation, some are even burnt, perhaps indicating that the individual sherds had been subjected to very different environments between breakage and eventual deposition or redeposition within the features (Garrow, Lucy & Gibson forthcoming). With care it may be possible to demonstrate similar complex manipulations of the earlier Neolithic pottery from Flixton Park Quarry.

Later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age assemblages and settlement are considered 'nationally rare' (Brown & Murphy, 2000, 9). Flixton Park offers one of the largest such assemblages to have been excavated in East Anglia. The presence of both Beaker and Grooved Ware in some quantity at the site offers the chance to examine the relationship between these at least partially contemporary ceramic styles both within 'domestic' pit deposits and in contrast with the Beaker funerary accessory vessels. It would be extremely useful, as part of the analysis, to have radiocarbon dates available for a selection of targeted pit deposits. Such dates would help refine the relationship between the Clacton and Durrington Walls Grooved Ware substyles (Garwood, 1999, 161) and also provide a chronology for the development in depositional practices observed within the pit groups in particular the relationship between non-'structured' to 'structured' Grooved Ware deposits.

The Later Bronze Age/Earlier Iron Age pottery should be considered within the typological framework devised in the late 1960s by Barry Cunliffe (Cunliffe, 1991).



Recently pottery specialists have suggested that Cunliffe's classificatory scheme should be reviewed to take account of not only the fine wares upon which it is largely based but also the ubiquitous coarse wares found on Earlier Iron Age sites (Hill, 1999, 24). The application of a reliable scientific dating programme associated with full quantification and analysis of the assemblage would greatly help the definition of an up-dated typo/chronological framework and regional styles (Bryant, 2000, 14) as well as providing information about intra and inter site development.

Further analysis and preparation of publication text is required for each site. Analysis will include full integration of site phasing and other information provided by the site assessments and the discussion of detailed regional and national parallels for each period assemblage. The selection and description of illustrated sherds is also required. A maximum of two hundred sherds is estimated as requiring illustration to include all the rim and base type forms for each period and significant feature assemblages.

**Late Iron Age & Roman Pottery (Cathy Tester)**

Late Iron Age and Roman pottery was found at FLN 059, FLN 061, FLN 062 and FLN 063. Table 29 shows the quantities from each site.

Site	No.	Wt/g	Date range
FLN 059	345	5280	E/MC1, M/LC1-EC2
FLN 061	39	379	E-L Rom
FLN 062	6053	67490	E/MC1-M/LC3
FLN 063	164	1258	E/MC1, M/LC1
<b>Total</b>	<b>6579</b>	<b>74209</b>	

**Table 29: LIA/Roman Pottery Quantities by Site**

**Methodology:** Wheel-made Late Iron Age (LIA) and Roman pottery was counted and weighed by fabric within each context and notes were made of sherd types, decoration and abrasion. Although quantification was essentially by fabric, forms were noted when possible and were classified using the Pakenham type series (unpublished) which is standard for all SCC excavations but is supplemented by Hawkes and Hull's (1947) Camulodunum typology and Going's Chelmsford typology (1987). Fabrics were identified using a x10 binocular microscope. An overall spotdate was given for the LIA/Roman pottery in each context group regardless of the date of other finds. SCCAS pottery recording sheets were used and the records were input onto an Access database (Appendix III. {B.3}).

**FLN 059:** A total of three hundred and forty five sherds (5280g) of Late Iron Age and Roman pottery were collected. The quantities by fabric category are summarised in Table 30.

**The Wares:** Eighteen fabrics or fabric groups were identified which included imported, local and regional finewares and coarsewares and provincially-traded specialist wares.

*Imports*

Imported finewares are represented by mainly single sherds of Terra Rubra type 1 and North Gaulish white fineware which belong to the 1st half of the 1st century AD, a Pompeian Red ware platter with a date of AD 40-80, mica-dusted wares (MIC) which are mid or late 1st century and Central Gaulish samian from Les Martres-de-Veyre which is Trajanic.

Imported coarsewares consist of a single amphora fragment.

Fabric	Code	No.	% No.	Wt/g	% Wt	Av Wt/g
Mica dusted wares	MIC	1	0.3	12	0.2	12.0
North Gaulish fine white ware	NGWF	2	0.6	5	0.2	2.5
Pompeian red-slipped wares	POMP	1	0.3	32	0.6	32.0
Central Gaulish samian (Les Martres)	SAMV	1	0.3	28	0.5	28.0
Terra Rubra type I	TRI	1	0.3	33	0.6	33.0
<b>Imported finewares</b>		<b>6</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>18.3</b>
Amphora	AA	1	0.3	206	4.1	206.0
<b>Imported coarsewares</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>206.0</b>
Colchester colour-coated wares	COLC	1	0.3	1	0.0	1.0
Unspecified colour-coated wares	UCC	1	0.3	3	0.1	3.0
<b>Local and regional finewares</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>2.0</b>
Black-surfaced wares	BSW	45	13.0	485	9.2	10.8
Miscellaneous buff wares	BUF	7	2.0	241	4.6	34.4
Grey micaceous wares black-surfaced	GMB	106	30.7	1886	35.7	17.8
Grey micaceous wares grey-surfaced	GMG	86	24.9	1293	24.5	15.0
Grog-tempered wares (Belgic)	GROG	9	2.6	275	5.2	30.6
Miscellaneous sandy grey wares	GX	73	21.2	720	13.6	9.9
Hand-made sand tempered	HMS	1	0.3	15	0.3	15.0
Miscellaneous red coarse wares	RX	6	1.7	21	0.4	3.5
Miscellaneous white wares	WX	2	0.6	5	0.1	2.5
<b>Local and regional coarsewares</b>		<b>335</b>	<b>97.1</b>	<b>4941</b>	<b>93.6</b>	<b>14.7</b>
Late shell-tempered wares	LSH	1	0.3	19	0.4	19.0
<b>Provincially-traded specialist wares</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>19.0</b>
<b>Total LIA/Roman pottery</b>		<b>345</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>5280</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>15.3</b>

Table 30: FLN 059: LIA/Roman Pottery Quantification by Fabric Category

#### *Local & Regional Wares*

Finewares are represented by Colchester and unspecified colour-coated wares (COLC and UCC) which are probably mid or late 2nd century.

Coarsewares make up the major proportion of this collection and are dominated by three broad fabric groups, black-surfaced wares (BSW), grey micaceous wares (GMG and GMB) and sandy grey wares (GX) that come from a variety of sources that are presumed to be local or regional. The earliest pieces belong to the first half of the 1st century AD and include grog-tempered wares (GROG) and transitional BSW, some with very 'romanising' fabrics. In this collection, GMB and GMG account for 60% of the total assemblage weight. These, and GX are more fully-romanised and forms identified are jars, platters, cups and beakers. The remaining coarsewares are oxidised — white, buff and red wares.

#### *Provincially-Traded Specialist Wares*

A single sherd from a late shell-tempered ware (LSH) jar is the latest dated piece from FLN 059 but it was a surface find.

**Deposition Pattern:** Late Iron Age and Roman pottery was collected from thirty-two contexts in twenty-five features or feature groups which included pits, post-holes and a post-hole building. The distribution of pottery by feature type is shown in Table 31.

Feature type	No.	% No.	Wt/g	% Wt	Av Wt/g
Pit	290	84.1	4857	92.0	16.7
Post-hole	28	8.1	187	3.5	6.7
Post-hole (bldg)	27	7.8	236	4.5	8.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>345</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>5280</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>15.3</b>

Table 31: FLN 059: LIA/Roman Pottery Quantities by Feature Type

The majority of the pottery came from fourteen pits but none of the groups were exceptional. The two largest were from 0490 (49 sherds, 1688g) and 0619 (74 sherds, 1174g). The groups from pits 0442, 0459, 0478, 0599, 0601 and 0610 only weighed between 200 and 350g and the remaining six pits had less than ten sherds each.

**FLN 061:** A total of thirty nine sherds (379g) of Late Iron Age and Roman pottery were collected. Nine fabrics or fabric groups were identified which included imports, local and regional coarsewares and provincially-traded specialist wares. The quantities by fabric and category are summarised in Table 32.

Fabric	Code	No.	% No.	Wt/g	% Wt	Av Wt/g
Central Gaulish samian (Lezoux)	SACG	3	7.7	21	5.5	7.0
East Gaulish samian	SAEG	2	5.1	38	10.0	19.0
<i>Imported wares</i>		<b>5</b>	<b>12.8</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>15.6</b>	<b>11.8</b>
Black-surfaced wares	BSW	2	5.1	5	1.3	2.5
Grey micaceous wares black-surfaced	GMB	2	5.1	70	18.5	35.0
Grey micaceous wares grey-surfaced	GMG	1	2.6	3	0.8	3.0
Miscellaneous buff wares	BUF	1	2.6	4	1.1	4.0
Miscellaneous red coarse wares	RX	3	7.7	84	22.2	28.0
Miscellaneous sandy grey wares	GX	24	61.5	150	39.6	6.3
<i>Local &amp; regional coarsewares</i>		<b>33</b>	<b>84.6</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>83.4</b>	<b>9.6</b>
Hadham red wares	HAX	1	2.6	4	1.1	4.0
<i>Provincially- traded specialist wares</i>		<b>1</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>4.0</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>39</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>9.7</b>

Table 32: FLN 061: LIA/Roman Pottery Quantification by Fabric Category

Most of the Roman pottery is small and abraded and occurs mainly as single sherds which have been redeposited in later features. Most of the pieces are body sherds and few are diagnostic. There are several bases and one measurable jar rim. The Central and East Gaulish samian were the most diagnostic pieces recovered. Overall, the pottery ranges in date from the 1st century AD to the late 3rd or 4th century.

**Deposition Pattern:** Late Iron Age/Roman pottery was collected from twenty-eight contexts in sixteen features or feature groups and two unstratified. The distribution by feature type is shown in Table 33.

Feature type	No	% No	Wt/g	% Wt	Av wt/g
Ditch	16	41.0	84	22.2	5.3
Pit	5	12.8	32	8.4	6.4
Post-hole (bldg)	4	10.3	24	6.3	6.0
SFB	11	28.2	142	37.5	12.9
Unstratified	3	7.7	97	25.6	32.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>9.7</b>

Table 33: FLN 061: LIA/Roman Pottery Quantities by Feature Type

The pottery is thinly dispersed across a variety of features, all of which have post-Roman spotdates, which are mainly Early Saxon in date.

**FLN 062:** A total of 6053 sherds (67490g) of Late Iron Age and Roman pottery from FLN 062 were assessed.

**The Wares:** Forty-three fabrics or fabric groups were identified which included imported finewares and coarsewares, local and regional finewares and coarsewares

and provincially-traded specialist wares. The quantities by fabric category are summarised in Table 34.

<b>Fabric Category</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>% No</b>	<b>Wt/g</b>	<b>% Wt</b>	<b>Av Wt/g</b>
Imported finewares	135	2.2	977	1.4	7.2
Imported coarsewares	17	0.3	1326	2.0	78.0
Local and regional finewares	22	0.4	92	0.1	4.2
Provincially-traded specialist wares	20	0.3	199	0.3	10.0
Local and regional coarsewares	5859	96.8	64896	96.2	11.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>6053</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>67490</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>11.1</b>

**Table 34:** FLN 062: LIA/Roman Pottery Quantification by Fabric Category

*Imports*

Imported finewares and coarsewares are shown in Table 35.

<b>Fabric</b>	<b>Code</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>% No</b>	<b>Wt/g</b>	<b>% Wt</b>	<b>Av wt/g</b>
Amphora	AA	17	0.3	1326	2.0	78.0
Lyon ware	LYON	1	0.0	3	0.0	3.0
Mica dusted wares	MIC	3	0.0	81	0.1	27.0
North Gaulish fine white ware	NGWF	32	0.5	167	0.2	5.2
Central Gaulish samian (Lezoux)	SACG	20	0.3	161	0.2	8.1
Central Gaulish samian (Les Martres)	SAMV	5	0.1	59	0.1	11.8
East Gaulish samian (Rheinzabern)	SARZ	3	0.0	76	0.1	25.3
South Gaulish samian	SASG	42	0.7	204	0.3	4.9
East Gaulish samian (Trier)	SATR	2	0.0	17	0.0	8.5
Terra Nigra	TN	3	0.0	32	0.0	10.7
Terra Rubra	TR	18	0.3	87	0.1	4.8
White finewares	WF	6	0.1	90	0.1	15.0
<b>Total imported finewares</b>		<b>135</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>977</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>7.2</b>
<b>Total imported coarsewares</b>		<b>17</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>1326</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>78.0</b>

**Table 35:** FLN062: LIA/Roman Imported Wares

Imported finewares are a small but significant component of the assemblage because they indicate an element of high status occupation during the Late Iron Age and Early Roman Period. The earliest wares are Gallo-Belgic wares which belong to the first half of the 1st century AD and include mica-dusted wares (MIC), Terra Nigra (TN), Terra Rubra (TR), North Gaulish white finewares (NGWF) and White finewares (WF). Later 1st century imports are Lyon ware which is pre-Flavian (AD 40-70) and South Gaulish samian (SASG) which belongs to the mid or late 1st century. 2nd century imports are Central Gaulish samian from Les Martres-de-Veyre (SAMV) which is Trajanic and from Lezoux (SACG) which is Hadrianic or Antonine. Late 2nd to mid 3rd century samian is East Gaulish from Rheinzabern (SARZ) and Trier (SATR).

Imported coarsewares consist of non-diagnostic amphora bodysherds which are probably Spanish.

*Local & Regional Finewares*

Local and regional finewares are shown in Table 36.

Local and regional finewares are very sparse in this collection but it must be mentioned that there are fineware elements within each of the major coarse ware fabric groups (BSW, GMB, GX). The earliest are red finewares (RF) and TR4, the name Hull (1947) gives to native copies of Terra Rubra fabric. Both have 1st century

dates. 2nd century finewares include Colchester colour-coated wares (COLC) and unspecified colour-coated wares (UCC and URC) which probably have a similar date.

<b>Fabric</b>	<b>Code</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>% No</b>	<b>Wt/g</b>	<b>% Wt</b>	<b>Av wt/g</b>
Colchester colour-coated wares	COLC	6	0.1	9	0.0	1.5
Red fineware	RF	4	0.1	9	0.0	2.3
Native terra rubra	TR4	1	0.0	8	0.0	8.0
Unspecified colour-coated wares	UCC	1	0.0	1	0.0	1.0
Unspecified colour-coated red wares	URC	10	0.2	65	0.1	6.5
<b>Total</b>		<b>22</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>4.2</b>

**Table 36:** FLN 062: LIA/Roman Local & Regional Finewares

*Local & Regional Coarsewares*

Local and regional coarsewares are shown in Table 37.

<b>Fabric</b>	<b>Code</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>% No</b>	<b>Wt/g</b>	<b>% Wt</b>	<b>Av wt/g</b>
Black-surfaced wares	BSW	1130	18.7	14376	21.3	12.7
Miscellaneous buff wares	BUF	101	1.7	1005	1.5	10.0
Miscellaneous buffware mortaria	BUFM	4	0.1	443	0.7	110.8
Colchester buff ware mortaria	COLBM	3	0.0	71	0.1	23.7
Early shell-tempered wares	ESH	20	0.3	144	0.2	7.2
Grey micaceous wares black-surfaced	GMB	1111	18.4	10116	15.0	9.1
Grey micaceous wares grey-surfaced	GMG	276	4.6	2542	3.8	9.2
Grey micaceous wares buff-oxidised	GMO	11	0.2	92	0.1	8.4
Grog-tempered wares (Belgic)	GROG	30	0.5	557	0.8	18.6
Miscellaneous sandy grey wares	GX	2896	47.8	30336	44.9	10.5
Miscellaneous hand-made wares	HM	1	0.0	22	0.0	22.0
Hand-made sand tempered	HMS	8	0.1	95	0.1	11.9
Hand-made sand/organic tempered	HMSO	1	0.0	23	0.0	23.0
Miscellaneous red colour-coated mortarium	RCM	1	0.0	3	0.0	3.0
Miscellaneous red coarse wares	RX	124	2.0	1112	1.6	9.0
Miscellaneous red mortaria	RXM	3	0.0	99	0.1	33.0
Storage jar fabrics	STOR	84	1.4	2714	4.0	32.3
White-slipped oxidised wares	WSO	1	0.0	7	0.0	7.0
White-slipped oxidised mortaria	WSOM	2	0.0	210	0.3	105.0
Miscellaneous white wares	WX	47	0.8	614	0.9	13.1
Miscellaneous white ware mortarium	WXM	5	0.1	315	0.5	63.0
<b>Total</b>		<b>5859</b>	<b>96.8</b>	<b>64896</b>	<b>96.2</b>	<b>11.1</b>

**Table 37:** FLN 062: LIA/Roman Local & Regional Coarsewares

Local and regional coarsewares account for 96% of the assemblage and are dominated by three broad fabric groups which are black-surfaced wares (BSW), grey micaceous wares (GMG and GMB) and miscellaneous sandy grey wares (GX). They come from a variety of presumed local sources and include material from the two kilns which were excavated on this site. These three fabric groups alone account for 90% of the total sherd count and 85% of the total weight. Other grey coarseware fabrics are minor elements in this collection and the remaining coarsewares are oxidised — red, buff and white wares.

**Pottery from the Kilns:** A total of 2665 sherds of pottery weighing 26182g was collected from the stoke pit and chamber fills of kilns 0014 and 0016. The quantities from each kiln are shown in Table 38.

<u>Kiln No.</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Wt/g</u>
0014	1649	16883
0016	1016	9299
<b>Total</b>	<b>2665</b>	<b>26182</b>

**Table 38:** FLN 062: LIA/Roman Pottery from Kilns

Not all of the sherds were produced on this site. The group included obvious non-kiln products such as amphora, samian, Colchester wares and other oxidised wares which totalled less than 3% of the kiln assemblage. The identification of other grey coarsewares is uncertain, but approximately 85-90% were recognised as kiln products or possible kiln products.

#### *Fabrics*

Fabric identification is very arbitrary at this stage. No attempt was made to describe the fabrics except very broadly. All fabrics are either black-surfaced or grey and have some visible mica. Depending on the amount of visible mica, black-surfaced wares were assigned to fabric GMB if abundant and BSW if not. Grey wares were assigned to fabric GMG if abundant and GX if not.

#### *Forms*

Forms identified included dishes, bowls and jars.

#### *Dishes:*

*Three types of straight-sided dishes were recognised*

- Type 6.17 has an incipient flange which corresponds to Going's Type B5.
- Type 6.18 has an bead rim and occurs in a shallow and a deep variant that correspond to Going's Types B2 and B4.
- Type 6.19 has plain and single, double or triple-grooved rims.

#### *Bowls:*

- Type 6.4 is a small hemispherical bowl with a bead rim.
- Type 6.5 is a convex-sided small bowl or cup loosely paralleled to Dr 30 and Cam 211-214. one has a mould-decorated panel
- A large ?bowl/jar with a D-shaped bead rim and a slightly recessed neck that has a grooved band of coarse rouletting has no close parallels but was recorded frequently amongst the kiln products.

#### *Jars:*

*Narrow, medium and wide-necked jars were recognised*

- Type 2.3 is narrow-necked jar with a bifid rim whose lower half could be frilled or plain. It corresponds to Going's type G26. Some of the examples of this type had diameters up to 180mm.
- Type 4.5 is medium-necked and oval-bodied with a large undercut bead rim. These types have distinctive coarse rouletted, fingernail-impressed, coarse barbotine decoration.
- Type 5.4 is wide-necked with a mid body groove .

#### *Miscellaneous:*

Indented beakers and standard lids Type 8.1 and were also identified amongst the kiln products.

#### *Provincially-Traded Specialist Wares*

Provincially-traded specialist wares are shown in Table 39.

These wares are a feature of the late and latest Roman Period but their quantities here are almost negligible and do not point to any significant activity on this site during the Later Roman Period.

Fabric	Code	No	% No	Wt/g	% Wt	Av wt/g
Hadham red wares	HAX	1	0.0	5	0.0	5.0
Late shell-tempered wares	LSH	15	0.2	171	0.3	11.4
Nene Valley colour-coated wares	NVC	1	0.0	4	0.0	2.0
Nene Valley white ware mortaria	NVWM	1	0.0	18	0.0	18.0
Oxfordshire red colour-coated	OXRC	1	0.0	1	0.0	1.0
<b>Total</b>		<b>20</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>10.0</b>

**Table 39: FLN 062: LIA/Roman Provincially-Traded Specialist Wares**

Included are single small and abraded sherds of Hadham wares, Nene Valley wares and Oxford wares. There are slightly more late shell-tempered ware (LSH), sherds but these only represent a few vessels.

**Deposition Pattern:** Late Iron Age and Roman pottery was collected from two hundred and sixty seven contexts in one hundred and seventy five features or feature groups. The distribution by feature type is shown in Table 40.

Identifier	No	% No	Wt/g	% Wt	Av Wt/g
Ditch	83	1.4	1005	1.5	12.1
Feature	49	0.8	589	0.9	12.0
Grave	74	1.2	1342	2.0	18.1
Kiln	2665	44.0	26182	38.8	9.8
Pit	2148	35.5	29871	44.3	13.9
Post-hole	136	2.2	1148	1.7	8.4
Ring-ditch	592	9.8	2669	4.0	4.5
Slot	37	0.6	435	0.6	11.8
Unstratified	269	4.4	4249	6.3	15.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>6053</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>67490</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>11.1</b>

**Table 40: FLN 062: LIA/Roman Pottery Deposition by Feature**

Together, the pottery from pits and the two kilns account for more than 80% of the Late Iron Age/Roman assemblage. By weight, nearly half of the FLN 062 pottery came from pits and if the kiln numbers were removed, pits would account for almost three-quarters of the assemblage weight. Pottery was collected from one hundred and six pits, but nearly 75% of that comes from just six of them which had large groups of one hundred sherds or more. The earliest group is from pit 0307 which is Late Iron age/Early Roman. Pits 0008, 0012, 0260, 0844 are mid or late 1st to early 2nd century and pit 0816 is 2nd century or later. Apart from the unstratified material, all other feature types would equal 6% or less of the assemblage.

**FLN 063:** One hundred and sixty-four sherds of wheel-made Late Iron Age/Roman pottery from FLN 063 were assessed. The quantities by fabric are summarised in Table 41.

Fabric	Code	No	% No	Wt/g	% Wt	Av wt/g
Black-surfaced wares	BSW	64	39.0	796	63.3	12.4
Grey micaceous wares black-surfaced	GMB	32	19.5	111	8.8	3.5
Grey micaceous wares grey-surfaced	GMG	2	1.2	17	1.4	8.5
Miscellaneous sandy grey wares	GX	62	37.8	275	21.9	4.4
Miscellaneous red coarse wares	RX	2	1.2	5	0.4	2.5
South Gaulish samian	SASG	1	0.6	13	1.0	13.0
Miscellaneous storage jar fabrics	STOR	1	0.6	41	3.3	41.0
<b>Total</b>		<b>164</b>		<b>1258</b>		<b>7.7</b>

**Table 41: FLN 063: LIA/Roman Pottery Fabric Quantities**

Apart from a single sherd of South Gaulish samian, the entire assemblage consists of local or regional coarsewares. Black-surfaced wares (BSW) are the most common fabric identified and the earliest pieces have very 'romanising' fabrics. Grey micaceous wares (GMG and GMB) and sandy grey wares (GX) are more fully-romanised. Forms include platters, dishes, cups and jars and the date range of the collection is Late IA (E/MC1) and Early Roman (M/LC1).

**Deposition Pattern:** The distribution by feature type is shown in Table 42.

Feature	No	% No	Wt/g	% Wt	Av Wt/g
Pit (Fill)	110	67.1	1181	93.9	10.7
Slot (Fill)	54	32.9	77	6.1	1.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1258</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>7.7</b>

**Table 42:** FLN 063: LIA/Roman Pottery Quantities by Feature Type

The pottery was collected from five features, three pits and two slots. Once again, pits have produced the majority of the pottery.

**Discussion:** Wheel-made Late Iron Age and Roman pottery was found at FLN 059, FLN 061, FLN 062 and FLN 063. The largest group came from FLN 062 and this was, in part, due to the presence of the two kilns, which accounted for about two-fifths of that assemblage. Even without the kiln material, the pottery weight from FLN 062 would still be more than eight times the weight of FLN 059 the next largest group which is adjacent to the south and west. It would also be more than twice the amount from FLN 053 (18420g), adjacent to the north and west and subject of a previous assessment (Tester, 2000).

The date range of wheel-made pottery from all sites points to the Late Iron Age and Early Roman Period (E/MC1-EC2) as a main focus of activity that developed from a sequence of occupation throughout the Iron Age. As at FLN 053, the assemblage includes evidence of the transition from hand-made to wheel-made wares during the first half of the 1st century AD and some of the earliest coarseware fabrics are very 'romanising.' The earliest wheel-made material belongs to the 1st half of the 1st century AD and includes imported Gallo-Belgic finewares, Terra Rubra, Terra Nigra, North Gaulish white fineware and Belgic style black-surfaced wares and grog-tempered wares. Mid and late 1st century wares include South Gaulish samian and fully-romanised coarsewares.

The presence of 2nd and 3rd century pottery indicates that activity continued during that time, particularly at FLN 062 although it is possibly diminishing. Central Gaulish samian from Les Martres-de-Veyre and Lezoux, East Gaulish samian from Rheinzabern and Trier, Colchester wares as well as local and regional coarsewares from the kilns at FLN 062 and from other features also provide evidence of continuing occupation.

The siting of two kilns at FLN 062 provides an opportunity to study rural pottery production. This appears to be a minor industry operating at a 'workshop' level and aiming to supply local needs, but at the same time, products of Waveney Valley industries are known to reach Northern Britain from the Flavian Period onwards.

The forms present in the backfilled kilns range in date possibly from the late 1st or 2nd to mid 3rd century. The kiln backfill also includes fairly diagnostic *non-kiln*



products such as the samian and Colchester wares which also support a late 2nd or 3rd century date for the dis-use of the kilns. This could agree with the magnetic dating of the 'last firing' of Kiln 0016 at 90-150AD, but the date of 285-450AD for Kiln 0014 seems about a century later than possible. There is a difference in the range of forms recovered from the backfilling of the two kilns, which will be made clearer by further work on the fabrics and forms and quantification by Eves, but it is not that extreme. Most notably, kiln 0016 has a number of 'possible kiln products' of form type 6.5 which could belong to the late 1st century. None of these were observed from kiln 0014. The presence of the non kiln products provides a hint that the material from the kilns has already been through a certain amount of mixing and redeposition and that it would be a mistake to assume that the entire contents of each kiln are contemporary.

Late Roman pottery is present across the four areas but the amounts are almost negligible. The latest wares belong to the late 3rd or 4th century and consist of provincially-traded late specialist wares (HAX LSH NVC OXRC ), some of which may owe their presence to non-Roman activity. FLN 059 has one sherd of LSH which was a surface find, and FLN 061 has one sherd of HAX found with early Saxon material. FLN 062 obviously has more, but not proportionately. It has single sherds of HAX, NVC, OXRC, and more of LSH but these represent a substantial proportion of a single jar base and the others are single and dispersed. FLN 063 had no pottery later than early Roman.

The kiln products do not include many of the forms which characterise the late and latest Roman Period. Interestingly, the latest form, a straight-sided flange-rimmed dish or bowl (Type 6.17) is represented by what is really an earlier transitional variant of the form which only has what Going (1987) calls an 'incipient flange.'

There is no pottery evidence to suggest that occupation of any intensity continued much beyond the mid or late 3rd century and that the sites were disused until re-occupation during the Early Saxon Period.

#### **Recommendations for Further Work:**

***The Late Iron Age/Roman Ceramics from the FLN 062 Kilns:*** It has not been possible within the limits of this assessment to carry out a full analysis of the kiln products which would be required for a complete archive or published report. It would be particularly valuable for full recording to be done as soon as possible in order to have the benefit of the results for the next stage of work on pottery from previous, current and upcoming Flixton Quarry sites as well as other sites in the region. As there are not many published kiln groups in Suffolk this group is of regional and possibly national importance. Furthermore, these kilns are not even listed in the RCHME kilns volume (Swan, 1984) because they are only newly discovered.

- It is recommended that the pottery from the kilns be recorded by count, weight and Estimated Vessel Equivalent (EVE) to provide a more detailed record and establish the range and frequency of forms, fabrics and decoration and the date for each kiln. This data will be analysed for a more detailed report on the fabrics forms and dates of the industry.
- The material will be compared with other Waveney Valley kiln groups.
- Further work is required on spatial and stratigraphic analysis of the kiln material once detailed sections and matrix are available.
- The full range of forms must be illustrated to present the range of forms and types identified within the kiln assemblage.

- Chemical analysis (ICPS) and thin sections of samples of the two kilns' products (and the kilns' structure) to identify and compare the petrological and chemical compositions of both kilns and their products.

**The Other Late Iron Age/Roman Pottery from FLN 059, 061, 062 & 063:** The rest of the Roman pottery assemblage is important because it has high potential to add to the current knowledge of pottery supply and use in this part of the region/county during the Late Iron Age and Early Roman Period. Few groups are published and further analysis of this pottery would provide dating evidence and contribute quantified information about the status, economy, industry and trading connections of the inhabitants of this site and help aid in the site's interpretation. It has not been possible within the limits of this assessment to carry out the full analysis which would be required for a full archive or published report. The following recommendations are made for further work:

- The pottery from FLN 059 and FLN 062 has only been quantified by count, weight and fabric and should be quantified by form to establish the range and frequency of forms and fabrics and refine the dating. The pottery from FLN 061 and FLN 063 have been fully catalogued and no illustrations are required
- Further work is required on spatial and stratigraphic analysis of the pottery once final phasing and more detailed site information are available.
- A more detailed report on the fabrics and forms will be prepared for publication
- The pottery will be compared with other site groups at Flixton, and other comparable assemblages in the region such as Scole, and Handford Road, Ipswich.
- A range of forms will be illustrated to present the range of forms and types identified within the LIA-ERom assemblage (see costings). Vessels must be checked against drawings and a catalogue of illustrated sherds written.

**Post-Roman Pottery (Sue Anderson)**

Post-Roman pottery was found at FLN 061 and FLN 062. A total of eight hundred sherds weighing 8245g was identified as Saxon or possibly Saxon. Sixteen sherds (120g) were high or late medieval and seventy sherds (3196g) were post-medieval or modern. Table 43 presents the quantities by period and site. Quantification by context is included in Appendix III. {B.2}.

Fabric	Code	No.	FLN 061				FLN 062			
			Wt/g	MNV	eve	No.	Wt/g	MNV	eve	
Early Saxon Grass-tempered	ESO1	2.01	31	293	12					
Early Saxon Grass and Sand	ESO2	2.02	65	484	44					
Early Saxon Coarse Quartz	ESCQ	2.03	15	76	13					
Early Saxon Fine Sand	ESFS	2.04	79	843	67	26	817	6	0.78	
Early Saxon Grog + Sand	ESGS	2.05	32	180	30					
Early Saxon Grog + Organic	ESGO	2.06	16	156	10					
Early Saxon Sparse Shelly	ESSS	2.07	18	401	13					
Early Saxon Sand + Mica	ESSM	2.08	14	165	4	1	17	1	0.05	
Early Saxon Coarse Shelly	ESCS	2.09	1	7	1	5	17	1		
Early Saxon Granitic	ESCF	2.10	80	633	54	2	720	2	0.75	
ESO2 with Granitic inclusions	ESOM	2.11				90	483	1		
Early Saxon Grog and Granite	ESGG	2.19	44	508	2					
Early Saxon Medium Sandy	ESMS	2.22	276	2394	191	5	51	5		
<b>Total Early Saxon</b>			<b>671</b>	<b>6140</b>	<b>441</b>	<b>4.71</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>2105</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>1.58</b>

Table 43; Continued on next page

Table 43; Continued

Fabric	Code	No.	FLN 061			FLN 062		
			Wt/g	MNV	eve	No.	Wt/g	MNV
Medieval Coarse Wares (general)	MCW	3.20	11	59				
Unprovenanced Glazed	UPG	4.00	1	2				
Late Medieval and Transitional	LMT	5.10	1	5		2	47	0.04
Siegburg Stoneware	GSW1	7.11	1	7				
<b>Total medieval and late medieval</b>			<b>14</b>	<b>73</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>0.04</b>
Iron Glazed Black Wares	IGBW	6.11	1	5				
Glazed Red Earthenware	GRE	6.12	2	10				
Tin Glazed Earthenwares	TGE	6.30	1	2				
Late Post-Medieval Earthenwares	LPME	8.01	2	109			0.24	
Refined White Earthenwares	REFW	8.03	39	1017			1.46	
Refined Red Earthenwares	REFR	8.04	2	41			0.20	
Creamwares	CRW	8.10	2	9				
English Stoneware	ESW	8.20	10	1693			3.30	
Porcelain	PORC	8.30	11	310			0.50	
<b>Total post-medieval and modern</b>			<b>70</b>	<b>3196</b>			<b>5.7</b>	

Table 43: Post-Roman Pottery Quantification by Fabric

**Methodology:** Quantification was carried out using sherd count, weight and estimated vessel equivalent (eve). Where possible, sherd families were recorded, and a minimum number of vessels (MNV) was estimated for the Saxon pottery for each context. A full quantification by fabric, context and feature is available in the archive. All fabric codes were assigned from the Suffolk post-Roman fabric series, which includes Norfolk, Essex, Cambridgeshire and Midlands fabrics, as well as imported wares. A x20 microscope was used for fabric identification and characterisation. Form terminology for Early Saxon pottery follows Myres (1977) and Hamerow (1993). Recording uses a system of letters for fabric codes together with number codes for ease of sorting in database format. SCCAS pottery quantification forms were used and the results were input onto an Access 97 database.

**Saxon Pottery:** Thirteen basic fabric groups were distinguished on the basis of major inclusions. However, it should be noted that, as with all handmade pottery, fabrics were extremely variable even within single vessels and categorisation was often difficult. Background scatters of calcareous material, flint, grog, white mica and other less common inclusions, such as feldspar and ferrous pieces, were present in many of the fabrics. All Saxon wares were handmade, and colours varied throughout from black through grey, buff and brown to red, often within single vessels.

General fabric descriptions are listed below.

*Organic tempered*

**ESO1:** Heavily grass tempered with few other inclusions.

**ESO2:** Grass tempered but containing a much greater proportion of sand than ESO1.

*Quartz tempered*

**ESCQ:** Coarse quartz tempering; generally moderate or abundant large grains of sub-rounded quartz in a finer sandy matrix, often poorly sorted.

**ESMS:** Medium sand tempering with few other inclusions, sand grains generally well-sorted.

**ESFS:** Fine sand tempering with few other inclusions.

**ESSM:** Sand and abundant white mica, generally very fine.

*Grog tempered*

**ESGS:** Grog and sand tempering. Grog is usually red and very coarse.

**ESGO:** Grog and organic tempering.

**ESGG:** Grog and granitic inclusions.

*Shell tempered*

**ESSS:** Sparse to moderate fine shell and sand tempering, shell generally leached out.

**ESCS:** Coarse shell tempering with few other inclusions.

*Granitic tempered*

**ESCF:** Charnwood Forest type, containing granitic tempering (dark mica, feldspar).

**ESOM:** Abundant organic tempering in association with granitic inclusions.

Many sites in East Anglia and the Midlands have produced similar fabric groups, although they occur in different proportions. This assemblage did not include any sandstone / 'sand conglomerate' or limestone tempered fabrics which are relatively common further west, however.

In general, fine, medium and coarse quartz-tempered pottery tend to be the most common fabric groups at sites in East Anglia, although in the later Early Saxon period these appear to have been replaced to some extent by grass-tempered pottery. Organic-tempering is thought to be a late Early Saxon development in Essex (Hamerow, 1993, 31), Suffolk (K. Wade, pers. comm.) and Northampton (Denham, 1985). A decrease in calcareous wares was noted at Mucking after the 6th century. However, in the Midlands, shelly wares appear to increase in the later period and are eventually superseded by Maxey-type wares in the late 7th century.

At this site, medium sandy fabrics dominated, but there were also fairly high proportions of fine sandy, granitic and organic tempered fabrics.

The estimated vessel equivalent of 6.29 is based on forty four measurable rims, but there were a further twenty six rims which could not be measured. Measurements of handmade vessels are always approximate unless a large proportion of the rim is present. For this reason, the minimum number of vessels (MNV), based on sherd families, was estimated for each context, producing a total MNV of four hundred and fifty seven vessels.

Very few vessels were complete, and it was not possible to suggest the vessel type on the basis of rim or base form. However, it was possible to get an idea of shape from some of the larger body sherds, and carinated vessels were especially identifiable from even small pieces. The twenty nine identifiable vessels are shown in Table 44; although general form could be identified, it was not often possible to distinguish between bowls and jars. A complete small hanging lamp with three pierced lugs was found in FLN 061 ditch fill 1342 (derived from pit 1343), and several other vessels were represented by a few large sherds allowing them to be partially reconstructed, particularly four vessels in pit fill 1462. Two near-complete vessels were present at FLN 062, a 'round-bellied bowl' with a slight shoulder, flaring rim and flat base (0895) and a wide-mouthed bowl with a flaring rim and flat-angled base (0899), both from graves.

<b>Form</b>	<b>MNV</b>
Biconical	1
sub-biconical	6
Baggy	7
bucket-type	1
round-bellied (globular)	5
lamp/lid?	3
Shouldered	2
flaring bowl	1
small bowl?	1
thumb pot	2

**Table 44:** Identifiable Forms of Saxon Vessels

Rim and base types were classified following Hamerow (1993, Fig. 26). This produced a total of twenty five vessels with vertical rims, sixteen with everted rims, fifteen with incurving rims, and two beaded rims. Six vessels had flat-rounded bases, two had rounded bases, three had pedestal-type foot rings and eight were flat-angled. One vessel was burnt and had a fragment of melted copper alloy adhering to the outside of the base (FLN 061 SFB fill 0547).

Surface treatment was recorded on a minimum of eighty nine vessels, and at least thirty had some form of decoration. Table 45 shows the main types found. Most showed some signs of smoothing, but sometimes the surface had worn away through use. *Schlickung*, a type of rustication by the addition of a thick, rough slip coating, was a 5th century technique and was only found on two vessels in this group, both represented by single sherds from post-hole fill 0307. Stamps were not common, and consisted of common types such as 'S' shapes and concentric rings. Where decorative schemes could be identified, most consisted of chevron patterns on the upper half of the vessel.

Surface treatment	Decoration	MNV
Burnishing	None	12
	Incised lines	2
	Combed lines	1
Smoothing	None	45
	Comb-impressed lines	1
	Corrugation	3
	Incised lines	12
	Incised lines + stamps	4
	Stamps	4
Grass wiping	None	2
	Schlickung	2
None	Combing	1
	Finger-tip impressions	1

**Table 45:** Saxon Pottery, Surface Treatment & Decoration

This assemblage shows elements which could place it as early as the 5th century (*Schlickung*, biconical vessels), and a limited amount of evidence for continuation into the 7th century (grass-tempered pottery, baggy vessels), but overall the assemblage would fit best with a 6th century date.

**Medieval & Later Pottery:** The post-Saxon part of this assemblage comprised only eighty six sherds. The medieval and late medieval component was dominated by local medieval coarsewares in pale grey and buff medium sandy fabrics, and there was one glazed ware sherd of unknown provenance. Late medieval pottery consisted of three sherds of local late medieval and transitional ware made in the Waveney Valley, and a sherd of probable Siegburg stoneware from Germany.

The post-medieval assemblage was all from FLN 061 and was dominated by refined wares of probable early 20th century date, most of which were probably related to activity on the site during the First World War. They included table wares such as serving dishes, plates and drinking vessels, as well as utilitarian forms such as preserve jars. Most of the table wares were undecorated, but there were a few transfer-printed or slip-decorated vessels, and some plain wares had gold or blue lining at the

rim. Some vessels were moulded with scalloped edges or fluted bodies. A full catalogue of this material is in archive (Appendix III. {B.3}).

**Pottery by Context Type:** Table 46 shows the distribution of pottery by context type and spotdate.

Identifier	Rom+	ESax	Med/LMed	PMed	Un
Ditch		173	1	14	
Pit		231	7	55	
Grave		105			
Post-hole		60			
Ring ditch	1			3	
SFB		185		14	
Slot		10			
U/S Finds		10			17

**Table 46:** Post-Roman Pottery Quantification (Sherd Count) by Context Type & Spotdate

The quantity of pottery recovered from SFBs at this site is relatively low in comparison with other features. Pits and ditches produced similar amounts. The sherds from grave fills represent only five vessels. A few later sherds were intrusive in the SFBs. Further analysis of the distribution of the Saxon pottery will be required for the final report, in particular with regard to pits and other features associated with Saxon structures.

**Recommendations for Further Work:**

- The majority of recording work for this assemblage has been carried out at the assessment stage.
- Vessels for illustration need to be catalogued in full and checked against drawings when these are available. Eleven vessels are to be drawn and one requires a photograph (listed in the Access database).
- Further work is required on spatial and stratigraphic analysis once final phasing and more detailed site information are available.
- Comparisons with other East Anglian sites will be required.
- A more detailed report on fabrics, forms and decoration will be prepared for publication.
- Stamped sherds should be sent to Diana Briscoe for addition to the Archive of Anglo-Saxon Pottery Stamps.

**Ceramic Building Material (Sue Anderson)**

The majority of CBM was collected from FLN 061 and FLN 062, although there were small fragments from FLN 057, FLN 059 and FLN 063. Two pieces of mortar were collected from FLN 061. Table 47 shows the quantities of CBM from each site.

Site	No	Wt/g
FLN 057	8	286
FLN 059	4	3480
FLN 061	197	27397
FLN 062	268	19880
FLN 063	1	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>478</b>	<b>51056</b>

**Table 47:** CBM Quantities by Site

**Methodology:** The CBM was quantified by context, fabric and type, using fragment count and weight in grams. Fabrics are based on coarseness of sand within the matrix and major inclusions, but for smaller fragments this may mean classification simply on the basis of the sand content. Roman forms were identified with the aid of Brodribb (1987), and post-medieval forms are based on Drury (1993). The presence of burning, combing, finger marks, mortar and other surface treatments was recorded. Roman tile thicknesses were measured and for flanged tegulae, the form of flange was noted and its width and external height were measured. Data was input into an MS Access database, and a full catalogue forms Appendix III. {C} of this report.

**Fabrics:** Table 48 shows the basic fabric types identified in this assemblage, and the total quantities of CBM for each.

Fabric	Description	Roman		Post Rom		Undated	
		No	Wt/g	No	Wt/g	No	Wt/g
fscp	fine sandy with clay pellets	10	937				
fsf	fine sandy with flint	1	981				
fsg	fine sandy with grog	3	444				
fsm	fine sandy with common mica	83	3673			4	21
mscp	medium sandy with clay pellets	93	5908			1	2
fs	fine sandy, no obvious inclusions	4	121	1	3370		
fsfe	fine sandy with ferrous inclusions	1	128	9	306	1	8
ms	medium sandy, no obvious inclusions	75	4514	32	3427	10	36
msf	medium sandy with flint	19	2299	30	12095		
msg	medium sandy with grog	2	243	1	33		
msm	medium sandy with common mica	9	423	1	58	1	11
est	estuarine clays			2	25		
msfe	medium sandy with ferrous inclusions			40	623		
msfg	medium sandy with flint and grog			2	2334		
wfs	white fine sandy			1	2665		
wsg	white medium sandy with coarse grog			20	5955		
comp	compressed shale			2	415		
un	uncertain					20	1
<b>Totals</b>		<b>300</b>	<b>19671</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>31306</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>79</b>

**Table 48: CBM Fabric Descriptions & Quantities**

The majority of the finer fabrics in this assemblage, many of them soft and abraded, were of Roman date. Medium sandy fabrics of this period were also present, but generally they were more likely to be later. In particular, 'msfe' is the typical East Anglian post-medieval fabric for red bricks and roof tiles, 'msf' is a common brick fabric, and white grogged bricks were also relatively common from the 18th century onwards. The latest fabric in this group was a compressed shale type, manufactured from the 19th century onwards, and common on military sites of the early to mid 20th century.

**Forms:** Quantities of CBM forms by site are shown in Table 49.

Period	Form	FLN 057	FLN 059	FLN 061	FLN 062	FLN 063
<i>Roman</i>	BOX			3	6	
	FLT			6	42	
	IMB			2	33	
	RBT		1	57	150	
<i>Post-Roman</i>	RT		2	21	22	
	RT/LB			1		
	PAN			1		
	EB			2		
	LB	8	1	74	4	1
	MB				2	
	FT				1	
<i>Unidentified</i>	UN			30	8	

**Table 49: Quantities (Fragment Count) of CBM Forms by Site**

Roman material was largely concentrated at FLN 061 and FLN 062, whilst post-Roman material might be expected at any of the sites, although it was most common at FLN 061 where it formed a higher proportion of the assemblage than the Roman.

The majority of Roman tiles which could be identified to type were roof fragments, i.e. flanged *tegulae* (FLT) and *imbrices* (IMB). Very few hypocaust tiles (BOX) were identified. Of the fragments identified simply as Roman tile (RBT), the majority were in the range 18-24mm, which suggests that most were pieces of flanged *tegulae*. A few were thinner and may be fragments of *imbrex* or box flue tile, and a few were thicker and could be wall or floor bricks, although only one piece was over 50mm thick. Many fragments had burnt surfaces and may have been re-used in the Early Saxon period, a common practice being to line hearths with this material.

The post-Roman material was dominated by 'late bricks' (LB), with plain peg tiles (RT) and pantiles (PAN) occurring rarely. Two fragments of a moulded coping brick (MB) were recovered, and there was a large fragment of white floor tile. Only two medieval 'early bricks' (EB) were found, both represented by small abraded fragments. Sizes of the late bricks suggested that most were of 18th-20th century date.

**CBM by Context Type:** Table 50 shows the quantities of CBM by feature type and spotdate.

Most Roman tile was found in features with a Roman spotdate, although the majority of this material came from the upper fills of a prehistoric ring-ditch. Fragments from the prehistoric features were all thought to be post-Roman and therefore intrusive, although small abraded fragments may be fired clay. Forty-eight fragments from Early Saxon features were of Roman date, and some of these showed signs of burning; other CBM from features of this period was probably intrusive. The majority of post-medieval material had been redeposited in ditches, but samples were retained from several structural features (a wall, a well, a footing and a brick drain, for example).

Identifier	Preh	Rom	ESax	PMed	Un
Ditch		7	25	72	1
Pit		78	9	10	
Ring ditch	8	115		7	
Post-hole		14	6	2	20
Slot				1	
SFB			19		
Grave		6		1	
Kiln		18			
Footing				4	
Wall				2	
Brick drain				1	
Well				1	
Military Trench				2	
Feature					1
Layer				3	
Tree pit				2	
U/S Finds		1		2	40

**Table 50:** CBM Quantities (Count) by Feature Type & Spotdate



The generally small quantities of Roman and post-Roman CBM spread across this very large site do not indicate that any major buildings of these periods were present. As noted above, many Roman pieces showed signs of burning on one surface (56 fragments; 18.7%), and they were probably brought to site for use in hearths, either in the Roman or the Early Saxon periods. Later bricks appear generally to be associated with structures related to Flinton Hall or the military occupation of the site. Other small fragments of CBM probably reached the site through manuring and other agricultural activity from the medieval period onwards.

**Recommendations for Further Work:** The CBM has been fully recorded and catalogued. A report will be prepared which describes the major forms present in more detail, and considers their temporal and spatial distribution across the site. No illustrations are required.

**Worked Stone (Sue Anderson & Robert Carr)**

Fragments of worked fine-grained limestone were collected from FLN 061 rubble layer 0130. These were identified by R.D. Carr and a brief catalogue made (Table 51).

No.	Description	Max dimensions (mm)
1	Large block, roughly square, three worked surfaces (toothed chisel) and one with 'axing'. LMed/Tudor?	290 x 275 x 160
2	L-shaped block, internal two worked faces, one end worked, other broken. Coarse mortar on internal faces and on break - reused. Door seating?	250+ x 190+ x 140+
3	Straight chamfer/plinth, slightly rounded but not weathered. Probably a jamb. Mortar on all faces. Broken at one end.	295+ x 145 x 100+ chamfer width 65mm
4	Triangular section, one roughly cut face (axed/adzed?), narrow V-shaped groove 5mm deep at edge, two cut but heavily weathered faces. Lime mortar on all faces.	170+ x 170
5	Rectangular block, four finished faces (one adzed, two with straight fine chiselling, one worn). Thick mortar on one face.	220+ x 160 x 170
6	Flat slab with cut faces; top, bottom and side roughly tooled. Deep hollow moulding weathered from external use – decorative plinth or drip moulding. No mortar. LMed?	230 x 230+ x 90 moulding 35mm deep
7	Heavily weathered with pitting, roughly triangular section, but flat face may have been outward. Two finished faces. Door/window jamb?	360 x 140 x 130
8	Complete section of arch moulding with square-cut door seating? Hollow chamfers. Roughly cut hidden faces, chiselled showing faces. Backs and sides hacked. Mortar on finished faces.	260 x 170 x 240 door seating 50 x 50
9	Ashlar block, five finished faces, one with fine tooling. Mortar on expected faces.	240+ x 200+ x 150
10	Window sill with V-shaped groove, as 4 but more complete, narrow. Heavily weathered on one face. Very coarse mortar on underside, probably from re-use.	390 x 180 x 140
11	Heavily weathered block, one surface rough hacking.	280 x 220 x 130
12	Similar to 2, door rebate or internal angle. Fine tooling on inner faces, rough hacking/breaks elsewhere, both ends broken.	270+ x 260+ x 210 inner faces 180+ and 115+ wide
13	Fragment of ashlar block, possible working on one face. Very deep pitting and erosion.	200+ x 190+ x 150
14	Door seating/internal angle, as 2 and 12. All faces broken except fragment of surface at back and inner faces. Coarse mortar on rear face.	280+ x 210 x 150 inner faces 130+ and 50+ wide

**Table 51:** Catalogue of Worked Stone from FLN 061

**Discussion:** The assemblage is all of similar stone and is probably from a high status domestic or ecclesiastical building of late medieval or Tudor date. Most of it shows signs of re-use, perhaps in the adjacent barn or other farm buildings.

**Recommendations for Further Work:** A visit to check *in situ* walling of local historic buildings is necessary to establish whether the stone is of the same type (e.g. St Peter's Brewery, see interpretation, section 5.0).

**Mortar (Sue Anderson)**

Two fragments of mortar were recovered, both from FLN 061. A small abraded fragment from ditch fill 0820 was pink, medium sandy and possibly Roman. A larger fragment was an unstratified find (0284) and was also pink and medium sandy. It contained small and large fragments of tile and was a pozzolanic mortar of Roman date. One surface was flat and it was at least 35mm thick.

**Recommendations for Further Work:** None.

**Fired Clay from Non-Kiln Contexts (Sue Anderson)**

Six sites produced fragments of fired clay, as shown in Table 52. This does not include the material collected from the kilns at FLN 062, which is assessed separately (Tester, this volume).

Site	No	Wt/g	Ave. frag. wt
FLN 056	2	4	2.0
FLN 057	161	3530	21.9
FLN 059	551	20245	36.7
FLN 061	454	3388	7.5
FLN 062	981	19841	20.2
FLN 063	15	103	6.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>2164</b>	<b>47111</b>	<b>21.7</b>

**Table 52:** Fired Clay Quantities by Site

The largest quantities were from adjoining sites FLN 059 and FLN 062, although the average weight of fragments was much higher at the former.

**Methodology:** The fired clay was fully catalogued and quantified by context, fabric and type, using fragment count and weight in grams. The presence and form of surface fragments and impressions were recorded, and wattle dimensions measured where possible. Data was input into an MS Access database and forms Appendix III. {D} of this report.

**Fabrics:** Table 53 shows the basic fabric types identified in this assemblage, and the total quantities of fired clay for each.

Fabric	Description	No	Wt/g
ms	medium sandy, few other inclusions, often poorly mixed with steaks of white clay in an oxidised matrix, occasional fine flint and clay pellets	516	7828
fs	fine sandy with few other inclusions, usually soft and oxidised	11	33
msc	medium sandy with medium to coarse rounded chalk, soft or hard, generally oxidised on the surface and either oxidised or reduced internally	1159	29228
msv	as msc but with voids which are probably the result of leaching of chalk inclusions	243	5207
fsv	fine sandy version of msv	77	901
msf	medium sandy with moderate to common coarse flint inclusions, often hard and buff	113	3151
fsf	fine sandy with coarse flint inclusions	1	31
mso	medium sandy with organic inclusions	2	16
org	abundant grass tempering, often highly fired, possibly kiln dome fragments	40	715
un	uncertain	2	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>2164</b>	<b>47111</b>

**Table 53:** Fired Clay Fabrics & Quantities

Chalk-tempered fabrics (msc, msv, fsv) were by far the most common type, although medium sandy and flint-tempered types also formed a high proportion of the assemblage.

The distribution of fabrics by site (Table 54) shows that there are some differences between the areas.

<b>Fabric</b>	<b>FLN 056</b>	<b>FLN 057</b>	<b>FLN 059</b>	<b>FLN 061</b>	<b>FLN 062</b>	<b>FLN 063</b>
ms	4	613	4835	457	1825	94
fs			4	12	17	
msc			11504	2338	15386	
msv		72	3076	344	1715	
fsv		32	749	10	109	1
msf		2813	35	226	77	
fsf			31			
mso					16	
org			11		696	8
un				1		

**Table 54:** Fired Clay Fabric Distribution by Weight

This shows that while the chalk-tempered fabrics dominate at FLN 059, FLN 061 and FLN 062, at FLN 057 it is the flint-tempered fabric which is most common.

**Types:** Table 55 shows the assemblage by type.

<b>Type</b>	<b>FLN 056</b>	<b>FLN 057</b>	<b>FLN 059</b>	<b>FLN 061</b>	<b>FLN 062</b>	<b>FLN 063</b>
loomweights		1614	17065	996	1779	
briquetage?					483	
daub?		1475			5324	
hearth lining?			44		558	
kiln furniture?					2231	
oven dome?					189	
undiagnostic	4	441	3136	2392	9277	103

**Table 55:** Fired Clay Type Distribution by Weight

This shows that a high proportion of the assemblage consisted of loomweight fragments, most of which were the triangular Iron Age type, although there were a few pieces of Early Saxon ring loomweights.

Material identified as daub was only present at two of the sites, and most of the material associated with fire-related structures was from FLN 062. Two possible fragments of daub and five fragments of hearth lining were from features assigned to the prehistoric phases of activity, but otherwise fragments in these categories were from features of Roman date. The possible kiln furniture included several large blocks with sloping sides and small rounded protrusions at the top; parallels for these objects will need to be identified. There were also thick curving fragments and other pieces which were of uncertain function but may be related to the kiln.

The possible briquetage fragments consisted of slabs of grass-tempered clay in a deep red fabric, both surfaces smoothed and with a thin deposit of lime or possibly salt on part of one surface. However, they were in a context which is currently dated to the Early Saxon period, and briquetage would be an unusual find in this part of the county. The pieces may be similar to slab-like fragments found at other Early Saxon sites (e.g. West Stow; Bloodmoor Hill, Carlton Colville; Staunch Meadow, Brandon),

although generally these fragments had a coarser underside and were interpreted as possible hearth or fireback linings.

**Fired Clay by Context Type:** Table 56 shows the quantities of fired clay by feature type and preliminary spotdate.

Identifier	Preh	Neo/BA	Iron Age	LIA/ERom	Roman	ESax	PMed	Un
Ditch	2				8	207	1	26
Pit	29	682	1942	17026	17333	1238		3694
Ring ditch					81			
Post-hole	59	31	90		1810	3		127
Slot				19	281	536		76
SFB						198	119	106
Grave					42			
Kiln					39			
Feature					22			60
U/S Finds					867	3		354

**Table 56:** Fired Clay by Feature Type & Spotdate (Weights)

The largest quantities of this material came from pits and post-holes of Late Iron Age to Roman date. A high proportion of this material consisted of triangular loomweights, several of which had been deposited in FLN 059 pit 0092, dated to the 1st century on pottery evidence.

**Recommendations for Further Work:** The fired clay has been fully recorded and catalogued. A report will be prepared which describes the major types of object present. The assemblage also requires further work in terms of spatial and temporal analysis. Some fragments of more complete objects, such as loomweights and possible kiln props, will require illustration (five objects?).

***Fired Clay from the Kilns (FLN 062) (Cathy Tester)***

This assessment covers the fragments of fired clay which were recovered from the two Roman pottery kilns which were excavated at FLN 062. Other fired clay fragments from elsewhere on the site have been included in the overall fired clay report (Anderson, this volume). Fragments of the kiln superstructures were recovered from the kiln chambers and stoke pits of both the kilns. Table 57 shows the breakdown of material collected by kiln number and elements within the kilns. A more detailed breakdown by context is included in the general finds catalogue in Appendix III. {A}.

Kiln element	Kiln 0014	Kiln 0016	Total
	Wt/kg	Wt/kg	
Chamber	60.390	13.060	73.450
Chamber - lining	20.010	16.550	36.560
Chamber - pedestal	56.120	7.380	63.500
Flue	19.990	2.190	22.180
Stokepit	72.640	25.950	98.590
Surface	0.940	0.000	0.940
<b>Total</b>	<b>230.090</b>	<b>65.130</b>	<b>295.220</b>

**Table 57:** Fired Clay from Kilns, Weights by Kiln Element

**Methodology:** The material that was recovered from the fills of the stokepits and the fills of the flue and chamber was, as far as possible, totally retained while that from the structural elements of the kiln chamber that remained *in situ* – chamber walls, floor, pedestal and flue lining was representatively sampled. The retained material was quantified by context and weight only.

**Fabrics:** Two broad fabrics were identified. The fragments from the chamber wall, floor and pedestal are hard, light grey, with fine to coarse rounded chalk and small flint pebble inclusions. The second fabric is softer and grey brown to reddish brown with variable amounts of rounded chalk inclusions, abundant grass tempering and impressions on the surfaces.

**Types:** The material from the kiln chamber appears to consist of collapsed vertical lining and pedestal as well as samples taken of the *in situ* vertical walls, floor and pedestals. The stokepits contained mostly fragments of dome plates.

**Recommendations for Further Work:** The fired clay assemblage from the kilns can provide evidence for the method of kiln construction as well as pottery production.

- Fired clay from each kiln should be fully catalogued and quantified by context, fabric and type using fragment count and weight. After recording, much of it can be discarded with just a sample retained.
- A more detailed report on the fabrics and types will be prepared.
- Chemical analysis of samples from the kiln structure, using ICPS. This can be done in conjunction with icps on the pottery and clay samples, if available.
- More information on the selection procedures for the *in situ* structural elements will be needed and access to all relevant photographs
- Further work is required on spatial and stratigraphic analysis of the kiln material once detailed sections and matrix are available.
- The range of types should be illustrated if possible to present the range of those identified within the kiln assemblage.
- Select pieces for illustration
- The material needs boxing up in standard Archive boxes.

#### ***Post-Medieval Bottle Glass (Sue Anderson)***

Post-medieval and modern glass objects were collected from FLN 061 and FLN 062. A full catalogue of this material is included in Appendix III. {E}. It consisted largely of bottles and jars which were probably related to the First World War training activity on the site, including, for example, a jar of 'HAYWARD'S MILITARY PICKLE'. This material may be of interest to local historians and should be offered to a local museum. However, if it is not required, the material could be discarded.

***Recommendations for Further Work:*** None.

#### ***Querns (Cathy Tester)***

Querns were found at FLN 059, FLN 061 and FLN 062. Table 58 shows the quantities of quern fragments by stone type from each site. A full catalogue appears as Appendix III. {F}.

**Methodology:** The quernstone was quantified by context and material using fragment count and weight in grams. All recordable dimensions were noted as were other distinguishing features such as the finishing of the grinding and non-grinding surfaces, handle fittings and any indications of reworking and re-use.

Stone type	FLN 059		FLN 061		FLN 062		Total	
	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g
Lava	19	160	154	588	107	9158	280	9906
Millstone Grit					8	4454	8	4454
Puddingstone			1	681	2	10	3	691
Sandstone	1	13340					1	13340

Table 58: Quern Quantities by Stone Type

**FLN 059:** A complete sandstone upper stone (13340g) from a ‘bun-shaped’ Iron Age rotary quern (0095) was collected from pit 0092. It has an outside diameter of 330mm and the central hole is 33mm. A rectangular ‘handle notch’ is cut into one side, flush with the grinding surface. A smaller, irregular hole on the top surface of the opposite side may also have had a function. The stone is ‘lopsided’, with a max height of 90mm on the side with the handle notch and only 60mm on the opposite. The hopper area appears slightly blackened as if burnt. The stone was found in association with earlier Iron Age pottery and triangular loom weights. The circumstances of its deposition and spatial relationships with the other finds may be of interest because it is a complete discarded stone and has not been re-used in any way.

Nineteen fragments of Rhenish lava stone (160g) were collected from two contexts, both pits. The pieces, which are probably Roman, are assumed to come from small hand mills and represent a maximum of two stones. The stone is in poor condition, fragmented and disintegrating with no recordable features.

**FLN 061:** One hundred and fifty-four fragments of lava stone (1269g) were collected from thirteen contexts from eight features or feature groups — six ditches, a pit and an SFB. The material is most likely Roman although the features all have post-Roman, mainly Early Saxon, spot dates. The material is in poor condition, abraded and disintegrating. All fragments are small or extremely small. Only two of the slightly larger fragments have measurable thickness of 24mm (ditch 0836, fill 1100) and 20mm (SFB 1319, fill 1402). No other diagnostic features were present.

A fragment of puddingstone was collected from pit 0604 (0746). The piece has no diagnostic features and may possibly be natural.

**FLN 062: Lava:** One hundred and seven fragments of lava stone were collected from thirteen contexts in eleven features or feature groups. All are Roman and the pieces are larger in comparison to FLN 059 and FLN 061 but are also in poor condition with very abraded disintegrating surfaces. Four of the pieces are from upper stones (0059, 0247, 0753 & 0945) and three of them have kerbs. The largest piece, from feature 0943 (0945), is an upper stone with a shallow kerb and an outer diameter of c. 400mm (29%). The central hole diameter measures c. 80mm but has possibly been worn larger. The thickness at the outer edge is 74mm tapering to c 30mm at the centre. Another large upper stone fragment from post-hole 0059 also has a kerb (c.6mm high) and an outer diameter of c. 400mm (17%). Its thickness at the outer edge is 60mm, tapering to 20mm. This piece almost certainly has been re-used as packing in post-hole 0059. All but the smallest fragments have full measurable thicknesses which range from 22mm-74mm.

**Millstone Grit:** Fragments of querns made from Millstone Grit were recovered from seven contexts in five features and one unstratified. All occur as single fragments which represent only a small proportion of the original stones. A maximum of eight

querns are represented. None of the pieces have outer diameters but all of them had full measurable thicknesses which range from 22mm–59mm. The non-grinding surfaces of two of the pieces (0750 & 0968) are neatly pecked while the grinding surfaces have concentric striations deeply worn from use. One surface from 0589 may possibly be ‘harp-dressed.’ The surfaces of five of the pieces have been damaged or altered through re-use. It is typical for quern fragments to be broken up and widely dispersed as they are often re-used as building materials for construction and repairs (notably, four of them were found in kiln contexts) or they also may have been re-used as sharpening stones.

**Puddingstone:** Two small fragments (10g) of puddingstone which may possibly come from a quern were collected from pit 0176 (fill 0177, SF 1373).

**Recommendations for Further Work:** No further work is required on the recording and cataloguing of the quern fragments. The existing catalogue will form the basis for the report, to which the spatial and temporal distribution of the stones can be added.

Petrological identification of the complete Iron Age sandstone quern from FLN 059 is recommended.

#### **Worked Flint (Sarah Bates)**

**Methodology:** Each piece of flint was examined and recorded by context in an ACCESS database table. The material was classified by *category* and *type* (see Appendix III.{G}) with numbers of pieces and numbers of complete, corticated, hinge fractured and patinated pieces being recorded and relative degrees of edge damage and sharpness being stated. Additional descriptive comments were made as necessary. A single non-struck burnt fragment and some other non-struck pieces have been discarded with the non-struck pieces being recorded separately in the database and numbers not included below. Retouched and utilised flints pieces have been bagged separately within the main bags (except where context assemblages are very small). Individual pieces, which may be worthy of illustration, have been tabulated below in the section on recommendations for further work.

**FLN 056: Raw Material & Condition:** Most of the flint is mid to dark grey in colour and cortex, where present, includes off-white greyish and cream coloured cortex, mostly quite thin. The flint from this site is mostly sharp and undamaged. A summary of the assemblage is shown in Table 59.

<u>Type</u>	<u>No.</u>
Struck fragment	2
Flake	33
Blade-like flake	2
Blade	4
Shatter	4
Scraper	2
Notched blade	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>48</b>

**Table 59:** Summary of Flint from FLN 056

A total of forty eight struck or shattered flints were recovered from this site. There are no cores present, just two small irregular struck fragments. Most of the flint consists of unmodified flakes, many quite small, with a small number of pieces being blades or blade-like flakes. There are also some irregular shatter pieces. Most of the flint is sharp and quite jagged in nature with irregular, often squat, form. There are two roughly sub-circular scrapers from unstratified context 0010, both of them quite neat with retouch of their distal parts and a small blade with a possible retouched notch

near its broken proximal end in pit 0002 (fill 0003). Generally, the nature of most of the flint suggests that it is probably of Later Neolithic to Iron Age date while a few of the neater pieces may date to a slightly earlier period.

**Flint by Context:** Eight flints, including three small neat blades and a possible notched blade, were found in pit 0002 in the north part of the site. The flint seems most like to date to the Neolithic period.

Fourteen flints, all of them sharp and jagged and with some thick pieces clearly struck by hard hammer, came from the fill of pit 0017 in the south area and eight, again most of them sharp and jagged, came from each of pits 0019 and 0021 just to its east. The date of these features is uncertain but the flint suggests that a later prehistoric date (Later Neolithic to Iron Age) is most likely.

Very small numbers of flints came from post-hole 0027 and pit 0031. The material from the former was probably residual as the feature may relate to a post-medieval ditch. A roughly sub-circular scraper and a neat blade came from unstratified context 0010.

**FLN 057: Raw Material & Condition:** The flint varies in colour, being predominantly mid grey with some patchy mottling present. A few pieces have a slightly cherty texture or inclusions. Cortex, where present, also varies but is mainly an off-white or cream coloured and of thin to medium thickness. Most of the flint is of quite good quality and the use of already patinated or abraded material is uncommon. Hinge fractures are rare.

Condition of the flint is shown in Table 60. The assemblage is notable for the high percentage of complete pieces. Most of the flint is also quite sharp with little post-depositional edge damage, although this has not been recorded quantitatively.

<u>Condition</u>	<u>%</u>
Complete	90
Cortex present	57
Patinated	24
Hinge fracture	2
Burnt	2

**Table 60:** FLN 057: Condition of Flint (as %, by No., of Complete Assemblage)

**The Assemblage:** A total of 1071 pieces of struck flint were recovered from this site. A summary of the assemblage is shown in Table 61.

Twelve multi platform flake cores are present. These vary from simple pieces with just a few flakes struck from them to some with flakes struck from many sides and two with some blade-like scars. There are also ten single platform, and two multi-platform, blade cores some of them quite neat pieces which have clearly been prepared with some care. A quite small chunky cortical fragment has had flakes struck from two sides and is classified as 'keeled'. Two tested pieces and six irregular struck fragments are also present.

Three pieces, all from context 0382 may have resulted from the deliberate preparation of cores. Two have abrupt steep edges formed by the truncated scars of previous flake



or blade removals. They might be 'core tablets'. Another small pointed flake has a few flakes struck from its dorsal ridge and could be classified as a crested flake.

Type	No.
Multi platform blade core	2
Multi platform flake core	12
Single platform blade core	10
Keeled core	1
Tested piece	2
Struck fragment	6
Core tablet	2
Crested blade	1
Flake	589
Blade-like flake	91
Blade	190
Bladelet	1
Shatter	17
Spall	50
End scraper	9
End/side scraper	4
Scraper	15
Side scraper	2
Sub-circular	15
Piercer	9
Awl	2
Microlith	2
Retouched flake	21
Retouched fragment	2
Utilised blade	5
Utilised flake	7
Polished flake	2
Handaxe	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>1071</b>

Table 61: Summary of Flint from FLN 057

Most of the assemblage consists of unmodified debitage, mainly classified as flakes. These are predominantly quite small in size but they vary from thin quite neat flakes to thicker more irregular pieces. They suggest the uses of relatively small pieces as cores. A number of blade-like flakes and blades, the latter as a relatively high proportion of the debitage, are also present. Some of the blades are very neat parallel sided pieces, some of them with abraded platforms. Others are slightly more irregular in form. A combination of hard and soft hammer techniques appears to have been used. Some irregular shattered flint is also present.

A total of forty five pieces have been classified as scrapers. These include fifteen sub-circular scrapers most of them with quite neat retouch around some or most of their edges. There are also nine end scrapers, four end/side scrapers two side scrapers and fifteen other miscellaneous scrapers. Generally, it can be said that the scrapers from the site, even the 'miscellaneous' types, are relatively neat in form.

A total of nine piercers are present. All have retouch or use-wear of their distal points. All of them are quite small. Two pieces have retouch on opposing faces at their distal points and are classified as awls. One of these, in context 0382, is on a small thin blade with an asymmetrical point. Another piece, in context 0384, is a thin sub-rectangular flake with faceted platform and hinged fracture of its distal end. This end has been retouched, in the form of 'notches' at either side so that a small triangular

area of the hinged edge survives centrally (although it does not form a protruding point). The edges of the flake are utilised and the piece has clearly been used as a tool the function of the distal modifications is unclear.

Two very small thin bladelets, in context 0382, each with possible retouch along one edge, might be microliths. However, in each case both ends are missing.

Numbers of miscellaneous retouched flakes and retouched or utilised blades are present. One small blade with tiny chips along both edges may be deliberately serrated although the scars are very fine and might use-related.

One small flake in context 0193 is from a polished implement and another in context 0462 has very slight traces of gloss on one surface although this may be due to use rather than deliberate preparation.

Two hand-axes were found at the site, both were from unstratified contexts 0001. They have not been seen by the writer at assessment but drawings of each have been provided by the excavator (Fig. 5). The larger of the two is ovate in shape and quite thin and symmetrical in profile, it may have been made on a flake. The other is slightly smaller and has a more irregular, slightly 'chunkier' profile and is probably broken at one end. It appears to be quite abraded. The two are likely to date to the Lower/Middle Palaeolithic period. They should be examined and parallels should be sought.

**Flint by Context:** Unless stated otherwise below, features containing flint also contained sherds of pottery of Neolithic date, sometimes in quite large numbers. Flints appear to have been concentrated in two main areas of the site. Firstly, at the east end towards the north side close to its edge with FLN 056. Here, twelve flints came from undated post-hole 0089. They were small sharp irregular flakes and spalls. Five pieces; a flake core and four irregular, probable hard hammer struck flakes, came from undated pit 0105 just to its south-east. The nature of these flints was similar to that of some of the material found just to the north within FLN 056. Slightly to the south-east, fourteen pieces, mostly small sharp flakes but including a few blade-like pieces, came from pit 0107, eighteen flints, mostly sharp irregular flakes, were found in a pit 0114, six pieces in pit 0132 and twenty-two flints came from pit 0134. The latter are mostly quite thin flakes with a few blade-like pieces also present, including two of them retouched. Six pieces, including two small blades came from pit 0136 and ten flints including two blades, two blade-like flakes and a neatly retouched irregular scraper came from pit 0138. Twelve pieces, flakes and a small blade, were found in pit 0515 and a total of sixty one pieces in pit 0517. These latter were mostly small and sharp and included a number of thin flakes, blades and blade-like flakes. Further to the south-east nine flints including an end scraper on a hard hammer struck flake and a piercer on a triangular sectioned flake came from pit 0142 and a broad ovate scraper, a blade and four quite thin neat blade-like flakes came from adjacent pit 0144.

The second main concentration of excavated features containing flint, was a cluster of small pits in the central part of the site. Twenty-four flints came from pit 0383. They included a small number of blade-like and retouched or utilised pieces. A thin flake, retouched to form a piercer has a faceted platform. Adjacent pit 0385 contained fifty three flints, again a variety of flake types are present as well as a few retouched or utilised pieces including four scrapers and an awl. Close by, thirty one flints were

recovered from pit 0459. They include quite a few irregular jagged flakes as well as a core, two scrapers and a small number of blade-like pieces including a narrow blade retouched to form a piercer. In the same area seventy two flints came from pit 0461. These are mainly flakes, a few of which appear to come from the same core, there are also a few neatly retouched scrapers and flakes. In the same area six pieces, flakes with an occasional blade-like piece, came from undated pit 0405 and five from pit 0407.

Elsewhere, a few more isolated features contained numbers of flints. In the central eastern area ninety three flints were found in an isolated pit 0489. These are mostly flakes, many of them an opaque grey but mostly quite sharp. A few narrow thin blades are also present as well as a core, three scrapers (two of them thin and neatly retouched) and a small pointed piercer. To the north-east of here, thirty eight flints came from pit 0319. They consisted mainly of quite irregular flakes, but fourteen scrapers, mainly sub-circular types were also found. Some flakes and several scrapers are burnt and others are a dark colour as if deposited with burnt material although not themselves burnt. Towards the south-west corner of the site, four small pieces came from pit 0259 (which contained pottery of Iron Age date) and seven fairly undiagnostic flints including a squat scraper and some small irregular flakes were found in pit 0071 near the west end of the site. At the south side of the site seven unremarkable pieces, including one utilised flake, came from pit 0525 and six pieces including two blades, one with an abraded platform were found in undated pit 0529. Just to the north, a flake and a small piercer came from pit 0533 (which contained pottery of Iron Age date).

Of interest are two separate pits which contain large numbers of flints. A total of three hundred and seven pieces came from pit 0381 in the central part of the site (Neo spot-date). The debitage includes an unusually high proportion of blades, many of them fine narrow pieces with abraded platforms form prepared blade cores. There are also two possible core tablets and a possible crested blade which might also indicate careful core preparation as well a total of twelve cores, over half of which are blade cores. A small thin blade is retouched on opposing faces of its asymmetric distal end to form an awl and two very narrow broken bladelets are retouched on one side and might be microliths. The flint from this pit is distinctive and suggests an Early Neolithic date. Near the south-east corner of the site, a total of one hundred and seventeen flints came from the fill of pit 0549. Some of the flint is slightly burnt. It consists mainly of flakes, mostly quite small and including many quite squat and some chunky irregular pieces. However there are also a relatively large number of blades, most of them quite fine neat pieces, some with abraded platforms. Most of the debitage is quite sharp. A possible bipolar blade core, a keeled core a scraper, two piercers and single utilised and retouched pieces are also present. The presence of the blades suggests this pit could also be of relatively early date.

A small flake with polished dorsal surface was found in pit 0192 just to the north of the cluster of pits in the central area, it is likely to be from a polished tool such as an axe, probably of Neolithic date.

Very small numbers of flints, mostly single small flakes and generally quite irregular in nature, came from twenty-one other excavated features.

A total of thirty-three pieces came from unstratified contexts (collectively 0001). These were representative of the material from the site and included a core, five scrapers, a piercer and a number of blades, some with abraded platforms.

**Discussion:** The majority of the features which contained flint also yielded pottery from their fills. In almost all cases, this was of Neolithic date although in two (noted) cases flints were found along-side Iron Age pottery and might be contemporary with that.

Some pieces of flint and a small number of feature assemblages seem likely to be of Neolithic date and the relatively high proportion of complete and undamaged pieces from the site assemblage suggests that much of the material was *in situ*. The presence of neatly retouched scrapers in some of the pits, some in quite high numbers, suggests that deliberately 'structured' deposition of material might have occurred.

**FLN 059: Raw Material & Condition:** The flint varies in colour, being predominantly mid grey with some patchy mottling present. Cortex, where present, includes medium thickness creamy off-white and thinner grey cortex, occasional smooth pebble type cortex and a some pieces with smooth white patinated surfaces.

Condition of the flint is shown in Table 62. Noticeably less of the flint is complete and patinated than from Site FLN 057 although the same percentage of cortical material is present. Although not recorded quantitatively, it was noted that most of the material from this site is sharp and edge damage is rare or slight. Hinge fractures are rare.

Condition	%
Complete	68
Cortex present	57
Patinated	13
Hinge fracture	1

**Table 62:** FLN 059: Condition of Flint (as %, by No., of Complete Assemblage)

**The Assemblage:** A total of seven hundred and fifty three pieces of struck flint were recovered from this site. A summary of the assemblage is shown in Table 63.

Four single platform flake cores are present in contexts 0334, 0332 and 0404. They have only few flakes struck from them and some are quite irregular and jagged in nature. A quite large piece has several flakes from two sides and is classified as 'keeled' 0614. Two single platform blade cores are relatively neat 0614. A number of irregular struck or tested pieces are also present and one possible core is badly shattered over its entire surface 0263. Possibly the flint was very flawed or perhaps the shatter was due to thermal action (although the flint is unburnt).

Three pieces have flakes struck from their edges and might also be cores although they are generally rather small (contexts 0342, 0226 & 0139). They might be tools of some sort.

One blade has flakes struck from its dorsal ridge and might be 'crested' (unstratified context 0001). This is a deliberate technique for preparing blade cores and is usually associated with Mesolithic or Earlier Neolithic industries.

Type	No.
Single platform flake core	4
Single platform blade core	2
Keeled core	1
Struck/tested fragment	12
Crested blade	1
Core/tool	3
Flake	443
Blade-like flake	45
Blade	87
Shatter	55
Spall	34
End scraper	4
Scraper	14
Side scraper	4
Sub-circular	5
Piercer	4
Spurred piece	1
Denticulate	3
Notched flake	1
Knife	2
Leaf-shaped arrowhead	1
Oblique arrowhead	1
Retouched flake	12
Retouched blade	1
Utilised flake	10
Utilised blade	2
Grinding stone	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>753</b>

**Table 63:** Summary of Flint from FLN 059

The debitage from this site consists mainly of flakes which vary in type, but many of which are small and/or irregular in nature. The irregularity and sharpness of many pieces means that a lot of the flint is quite 'jagged' in appearance. It seems likely that many of the flakes were struck by hard hammer. However, there are also some blades and blade-like pieces and many of the blades are small quite neat pieces, a few with abraded platforms showing that they have been struck from prepared cores. Irregular shatter pieces and spalls are also present.

Twenty-seven scrapers are present. These include four pieces classified as end scrapers, although none of these are typical blade-like examples. Two are squarish in shape (contexts 0001 & 0013), one is ovate (context 0206) and one is a quite large flake from an irregular nodule (context 0228). All have retouch limited to their distal edges. Three, possibly four, side scrapers, mostly small, are also present (contexts 0001, 0206 & 0363). Five quite neat sub-circular scrapers are formed by the retouch around part, or most, of flake edges (contexts 0001, 0098, 0340 & 0363). The other scrapers are miscellaneous types, all with retouch from steep (or in some cases less steep working edges). Most of these are also quite neat in appearance (contexts 0001, 0206, 0228, 0304, 0342, 0361 & 0404) although some are more irregular (contexts 0001, 0013 & 0228).

Four piercers are present. One is formed by retouch of the pointed proximal end of a thick roughly triangular flake (context 0378). The others all have retouch to, or utilisation of, their distal points (contexts 0001, 0206 & 0275).

Two quite thick flakes have retouch forming irregular denticular edges (context 0206 & 0226) and a broken blade-like flake also has a denticular edge (context 0206). Another blade-like piece has a protruding point at its distal end with possible retouch forming a notch on one side. Although it is possible that the notch may have been accidentally formed, the narrow distal tip of the piece is slightly retouched or utilised.

Two pieces are classified as knives (context 0001), both of them are blade-like with retouch of edges, one of them with quite neat reverse retouch along its right edge.

Two small retouched pieces are classified as arrowheads. One is probably an oblique type (context 0414) it has bifacial retouch along one edge and forming an asymmetrical base. The other is a 'leaf-shaped' piece SF 1013. It is almost parallel sided with neat bifacial flaking and one rounded end. The other end is more pointed although the tip is missing.

A number of miscellaneous retouched or utilised flakes and blades are also present.

A possible flint grinding stone was found (context 0422). It is a quite large 'bun'-shaped lump (it just fits in the hand) with rounded sides, and 'smoothed' surfaces, one slightly concave, the other slightly convex. Its surfaces and sides appear battered as if used as a hammerstone but the neat shape and 'smoothed' nature of the upper and lower surfaces suggest it had a more specific use – perhaps to grind something on a quernstone. On one side a few flakes have been struck, perhaps accidentally, or maybe to improve the shape of the piece.

**Flint by Context:** Excavated features containing flint were concentrated in the south-western part of the site although there were a few more isolated features elsewhere which contained quite large numbers of pieces. In most cases pottery, where present in the excavated features alongside the flint, provides a provisional Bronze Age or Iron Age date, although sometimes a general 'prehistoric' date is given and some features contain no pottery. Provisional pottery date are not included below (apart from where Romano-British pottery indicates likely flint residuality) but features without ceramics are stated as 'undated'.

In the extreme south-western corner of the site two scrapers came from undated pit 0012. One is on a relatively large thin irregular flake with distal retouch, the other is a sub-square flake with abrupt distal retouch. In the same area three flakes and a shattered fragment were found in pit 0092, and nine small flakes in pit 0118. In both cases pottery of probable Roman date was found and the flint may be residual. Slightly to the east seven pieces (flakes and spalls, a shatter piece & a blade) were found in pit 0126, three flakes and a spall in undated pit 0231, six small flakes and a blade-like fragment came from undated pit 0233 and a single flake and a core/possible tool were found in post-hole 0138. Further to the north-east at the southern edge of the site, fourteen flints of various types were found in fills of undated ditch 0096. They included a neatly retouched blade, a neat sub-circular scraper a struck fragment and some flakes, mostly small and irregular.

Just slightly to the north-west, seventeen flints from pit 0247 include burnt and shattered sharp flakes and fragments with one long narrow blade and one retouched flake being present. Sixteen pieces, mainly small and quite sharp and including a couple of small blades came from undated pit 0260, an irregular shattered fragment,

two flakes and a small pointed blade came from nearby small pit 0262, a struck fragment and five small flints were found in undated pit 0266, two small probable piercers and seven small flakes and spalls in undated pit 0274, two flakes and two quite neat blades, one with an abraded platform came from pit 0295, a neat ovate scraper, a struck fragment and five quite irregular flakes from pit 0303.

Slightly to the north-east, nineteen flints came from pit 0331. They include a small flake core, and a few blade-like pieces but are mainly quite sharp small irregular flakes. Immediately to its east, in pit 0333, were twenty-eight flints including a flake core, three retouched flakes and a utilised blade but mainly small unmodified flakes and just to the north thirteen pieces, including a sub-circular scraper and an irregular utilised flake, mostly quite sharp, came from pit 0339, eight flints including a core/?tool, a neat scraper, a utilised flake and some flakes and blade-like pieces were found in pit 0341 and twenty-nine pieces, mostly sharp flakes with a few blade-like pieces/fragments a small side scraper and a neat sub-circular scraper were found in pit 0362. Twenty-two flints came from fills of an undated curvilinear trough-like feature 0364 in the same area. They are mostly quite small sharp jagged flakes with a small number of blade-like pieces.

About halfway along the south-east side of the site sixteen flints came from pit 0377. They are mostly sharp jagged pieces, mainly quite small flakes, three of them utilised, and one quite thick piercer. About 20 metres further to the north-east four flakes and a possible grinding stone came from pit 0421. The latter is a large cortical rounded lump with flattened upper and lower surfaces and almost its entire surfaces battered and a few small flakes struck from one side. It may be a hammerstone or grinding stone of some sort.

Near the west edge of the site six pieces, shatter and small irregular flakes, came from pit 0088 and about 40 metres further to the north, near the west side of the site, twelve flints were found in undated pit 0225. These include a core or possible tool and a possible denticulate but were otherwise unremarkable. Just to its east fifty three flints were found in pit 0227. They are mostly unmodified flakes with a small number of blades and blade-like pieces, most of the flint is sharp, jagged and quite irregular in nature. There are also two scrapers, small narrow utilised blade and a utilised flake.

In the central area two flakes and two blades were found in undated ditch 0254 and close to this ditch seventeen flints were found in fills of post-holes 0308 and 0310 which are part of four post structure 0307. The flints are mostly irregular although there are also a small number of blades and a tested piece.

Three flakes, one of them retouched, were found in the fill of undated ditch 0207 further to the east.

In the north part of the site a total of one hundred and eighty nine flints were found in pit 0205. They consisted mostly of various flakes but a few blades, mostly quite small and thin, were also present as well as six scrapers which are generally quite neat, an irregular pointed piercer and two denticulates. A small blade and four flakes, two of them retouched, were found in pit 0018 and sixteen flints mostly sharp jagged hard hammer struck pieces and including some with already patinated surfaces came from pit 0404. There were also two irregular flake cores and an irregular but neatly retouched scraper.

Towards the central north-eastern side of the site eight flakes, mostly sharp and jagged, came from pit or tree-hole 0453.

A total of eighty one flints came from pit 0613 near the south-eastern corner of the site. The flakes are quite small and are predominantly squat in shape although thin. However there are also a fairly large number of small thin blades and blade-like pieces including spalls. Two quite neat blade cores are also present as well as a keeled core. The flint from this feature may be of somewhat earlier date than much of the more irregular material from the site. Pottery of probable Neolithic date was also found in the pit.

Eleven fairly neat blades, all but one of them small, came from pit 0287. These may also indicate a relatively early feature although the location of this feature is unknown as it does not appear to be on the plan.

Twenty-seven other excavated features, mostly pits, but a few post-holes and ditches, contained small numbers of flints (mostly single pieces, total number of pieces; forty four). These were almost all small unmodified flakes with only a couple of blades. A possible oblique arrowhead with bifacial retouch along one edge and an asymmetrical base was found in ditch 0413. It is of likely Later Neolithic date. A small number of other retouched or utilised pieces including one scraper, were also included. Three small flakes were found in post-holes which were part of building 0061 in the north corner of the site. No flint was recovered from fills of the ring ditch and associated features at the north end of the site.

A total of fifty five flints came from unstratified contexts. These include a number of neat thin narrow blades, eight scrapers (various types), two blade-like possible knives, a spurred piece and a notched flake, four other retouched pieces and a small possible crested blade (perhaps evidence for the preparation of a blade core). A small, very neat, bifacially flaked piece with parallel sides and one rounded end and the other pointed is probably a slightly unusual leaf-shaped arrowhead SF 1013 and also unstratified.

**Discussion:** Much of the flint was found in pits in the southern part of the site which appeared to be of Neolithic/Bronze Age or Iron Age date. A single pit of probable Neolithic date contained a number of blades and blade-like pieces. It is possible that deliberately 'structured' deposition of material might have occurred in some pits.

**FLN 061: Raw Material & Condition:** The flint is predominantly mid to dark grey with some patchy mottling. Cortex, where present, varies but thin to medium thickness, occasionally thicker, creamy off-white cortex predominates. Some pieces have white patinated surfaces showing that already patinated flint was used as a raw material.

Condition of the flint is shown in Table 64. Relatively less of the flint is complete than from Sites FLN 057 and FLN 059 although about the same percentage of cortical material is present. Although not recorded quantitatively, it was noted that much of the material from this site is sharp or quite sharp although some is slightly edge damaged and occasional pieces are more heavily abraded or edge damaged. Hinge fractures are rare.



Condition	%
Complete	59
Cortex present	55
Patinated	13
Hinge fracture	1

**Table 64:** FLN 059: Condition of Flint (as %, by No., of Complete Assemblage)

**The Assemblage:** A total of 1735 pieces of struck flint and a single burnt fragment were recovered from this site. A summary of the assemblage is shown in Table 65.

Type	No.
Multi platform flake core	8
Multi platform blade core	1
Single platform flake core	6
Single platform blade core	3
Keeled core	4
Bipolar core	3
Core/tool	8
Tested piece	1
struck fragment	11
shatter	93
Flake	1081
Blade-like flake	110
Blade	149
Bladelet	4
Spall	195
Chip	3
Scraper	6
End scraper	2
Sub-circular scraper	1
knife	1
Piercer	5
Denticulate	1
Truncated blade	1
Notched blade	1
Notched flake	1
Leaf-shaped arrowhead	1
Microlith	2
Handaxe	1
Retouched flake	17
Retouched blade	1
Retouched fragment	3
Utilised flake	9
Utilised blade	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>1735</b>
Burnt fragment	1

**Table 65:** Summary of Flint from FLN 061

Six single platform flake cores are present. Three of them (contexts 0222 & 0843) are quite flat pieces with short flakes struck from around their sides. Two of these cores are on thermally fractured fragments. Another of the cores (context 0001) exhibits small blade-like scars. Eight multi platform flake cores are present. These vary from quite small chunky types, two with small blade-like scars (context 0001) to larger pieces. Four cores are classified as 'keeled' (contexts 0222, 0476 & 0855). They are all small with flakes struck from two sides of a ridge. One multi platform blade core (context) 0753 and three single platform blade cores (contexts 0257 & 0961), mostly

quite small and neat, are also present as well as three bipolar cores all with blades having been struck from opposite ends (0819, 0822 & 0854).

Twelve irregular struck or tested fragments are also present.

A total of eight pieces might be cores or may have been used as tools. Several of these have short flakes, which seem rather small to have been useful, struck from around their edges and the resulting steep edges are scraper-like. There are also two bifacially flaked pieces one of which might be a small axe-like tool 0001 and the other of which could be a scraper type piece 0961.

By far the largest part of the assemblage consists of unmodified flakes which are mainly quite small in size and which are predominantly quite squat in shape. Some pieces have thick bulbs, are quite irregular in form and are clearly hard hammer struck while others are thinner and neater. Some blade-like flakes are present. Again, these are often small. Some pieces, although not true blades, appear to have been struck from blade cores as they have neat blade-like dorsal scars.

A number of blades are also present. Most of these are quite small and many are neat pieces with abraded platforms which have been quite carefully struck from prepared cores. A few pieces are very fine and a small number are a slightly pinkish colour suggesting that the flint may have been deliberately heated as a means of improving the workability of the material. This technique is usually considered to be associated with Mesolithic or early Neolithic industries.

Quite a large number of spalls and a few chips are also present.

Quite a large number of irregular shatter pieces are present, mostly sharp and jagged in nature and probably resulting from knapping processes. They may reflect the use of relatively flawed flint or the random way in which it was worked.

Nine scrapers were recovered from this site; a relatively small number considering the size of the assemblage. They include two end scrapers in contexts 0732 and 0820 (although the latter is only the distal part), one sub-circular scraper one side of which is broken but which has neat steep retouch around the surviving circumference and six miscellaneous scrapers, several of them quite thick, with varying degrees of retouch to their edges.

Five pieces are classified as piercers. Three of these are on blades with retouch forming points at their distal ends (contexts 0001, 0559 & 1171). A broad flake has retouch forming a blunt point at its right proximal 'corner' (context 0852), and another piece has possible retouch of a slight notch which forms a blunt distal point.

A small blade-like piece has retouch of both sides and distal end. The retouch extends over much of the dorsal surface and the edges on the reverse, ventral surface SF 1022. It has been classified as a knife but it might be possible to find a closer type/parallel.

One arrowhead is present (context 1479). This is a leaf-shaped piece with minimal retouch of its proximal end on both faces and its right edge. It is likely to be of earlier Neolithic date.

A thin sub-circular flake with cortex all around its edges has a number of small 'teeth' formed by retouch and is classified as a denticulate (context 0315).

Two notched pieces are present. An irregular cortical flake (context 0307) and a blade (context 0464) both have retouch forming notches in their left sides and slight retouch of their right sides.

A handaxe is present (SF 1027). It is heavily abraded and one end, possibly originally pointed, is freshly broken. It is of Lower Palaeolithic date but a closer type/parallel should be sought.

Two incomplete microliths are present (context 0819). Both are very narrow small bladelets with retouch of one edge. They are likely to be of Mesolithic date. It may be possible to identify the type more closely.

Numbers of retouched or utilised flakes and blades are present. One truncated blade has abrupt retouch forming an asymmetric sloping distal edge (context 0297).

**Flint by Context: Main Area:** A total of four hundred and twelve flints were recovered from fills of Early Bronze Age ring ditch 0202. There are five flake cores, three of them quite large, one small and chunky and one small keeled type. Most of the debitage is sharp or quite sharp, some has slight edge damage. They include nineteen blades and thirty three blade-like flakes, mostly small and each including two pieces with a very distinctive cortex the same which must be from the same core. There are two hundred and ninety six flakes, mostly quite small and irregular or squat forms being most common. There are also seven shatter pieces and thirty three spalls. There are a notched flake, three retouched flakes and three utilised flakes.

Forty-five flints were found in grave 0468 within ring ditch 0202. The flints are mostly flakes, of various types, generally squat but quite thin. An irregular jagged struck fragment, a few spalls and a shatter piece are also present.

Twenty-nine flints were found in unstratified contexts. They include three flake cores and a bifacially flaked piece which could be a core or a tool. There are also a few blades, a scraper, a piercer and a retouched flake.

**Bund Area (from south-west-to-north-east, P = Plan sheet no.):** ?Prehistoric features: Forty-four flints were found in fills of pit 0818 which was located between two parallel ditches towards the north end of the bund. Most of the flint from this feature consisted of blades or blade-like pieces, mostly sharp, and one a pinkish colour as if slightly burnt – or possibly deliberately heat-treated. One, possibly two, bipolar blade cores and two very narrow small bladelets with retouched edges, possibly microliths are also present. The flint formed a distinctive group and is likely to be of Earlier Neolithic date.

A large number of flints were associated with double ring ditch 0218 (P1 & P4). Five flakes, and three flake cores came cleaning above the inner ditch 0221. Two of the cores were chunky 'keeled' types. The flakes were quite sharp.

Five flakes and two spalls were found in pit 0570 which was cut by the inner ring ditch 0221.

A total of three hundred and thirty eight flints came from fills of the inner ring ditch 0221. These include two hundred and sixty flakes most of which are quite small and squat and most of which are quite sharp or only very slightly edge damaged. There are only two blades and eleven, mostly small, blade-like flakes. There are also eighteen shatter pieces and forty one spalls. Modified pieces are a blade which is neatly retouched across its proximal edge to form an asymmetrical piercer, a scraper on a thermal fragment, two retouched flakes and a utilised flake.

A total of one hundred and twenty three pieces of flint were found in fills of the outer ring ditch 0219. They include a struck fragment, seventy six flakes, including five blade-like pieces, mostly sharp, small and squat and thirteen blades which are mostly small and which include six neat pieces, two with abraded platforms, from segment 0543. There are also eight shatter pieces, twenty one spalls and a chip. There is a quite neatly retouched end scraper, a retouched thermal fragment and a utilised flake.

At the northern end of the bund, twenty four flints were found in pit 0842 at the north-eastern end of the bund area (P16). They include three flake cores, an irregular scraper and a retouched flake. Most of the flint consists of irregular, quite jagged, flakes. Just to its west one hundred and forty one flints were found in pit 0848. These include a small keeled core and three pieces which might be cores or tools of some kind. There are eighty three flakes, many of them quite small tertiary pieces which are patinated and a small number of blades and blade-like flakes and a few struck or shattered fragments. One broken sub-circular scraper, four retouched flakes and a utilised flake are also present.

*Undated Features:* Towards the south end of the bund area (P2) seventy-four flints were found in pit 0256. They include two flake cores, a possible flake core or tool and a struck fragment, thirty seven flakes, mostly quite small with a few quite thick pieces, eleven small blades and four blade-like flakes. There are also two shatter pieces and thirteen spalls. Just to the east six flints were found in another small pit 0274. The flint includes a blade, three small thin blade-like flakes and two flakes. Just to their north-east, a tested piece, a very small flake and a spall came from pit 0077. All these pits are undated.

Towards the north end of the bund, at its south side, six small flakes, some of them blade-like were found in the fills of undated ring ditch 1494 (P13) and a bladelet came from the central grave within it.

Towards the north-east end of the bund, very close to three post-hole buildings of Early Saxon date, forty flints came from an undated large rectangular pit 0604 (P14). Apart from a small fragment which is probably part of a scraper, they are all unmodified pieces. A number of flakes, shatter pieces and spalls are present as well as nine small blades, several of them neat thin pieces. Much of the flint is slightly edge damaged.

*Early Saxon (& Later) Features:* A total of six small flakes and two shatter pieces were found residually in post-holes of Early Saxon rectangular building 0093 near the south end of the bund.

Immediately to the north of the double ring-ditch nine flints including a flake core, flakes and two spalls were found in SFB 0276 and twenty nine pieces came from fills of SFB 0278 (P3). These include flakes and a few blade/blade-like flakes, shatter

pieces spalls and a chip. Most of the flint is quite small in size. Two of the blades are neat small pieces, one has an abraded platform.

Just to the south and also in the close vicinity of the double ring-ditch, twenty-six pieces came from fills of SFB 1319 (P7). These include ten flakes and nine blades and blade-like pieces, mostly small some spalls and a utilised blade. There is also a very thin leaf-shaped flake, probably an arrowhead, with minimal retouch on both faces at its proximal end and right edge, in fill 1479\*, also a fill of SFB 0319.

A pair of parallel ditches 0294 and 0296 (P8), towards the northern end of the bund area of probable post-medieval date. Twenty-seven flints came from fills of 0294. They are mostly small flakes and generally irregular in nature many with slight edge damage. There are three blade-like flakes, two scrapers, one of them probably a broken end scraper, the other a thick piece with steep coarse retouch, and a retouched flake. Nineteen flints were found in ditch 0296. Again, they were mostly small flakes. A small squat piece with flakes struck from it may be a core or a tool. Three blades are present. One of them is truncated by abrupt retouch across its distal end.

In the area between the ditches nine small flakes and blade-like pieces came from fills of SFB 0810 and nine pieces, mainly quite squat flakes, were found in pit 0785 (P8), also of likely Early Saxon date, just to the south

Twelve flints including three blades with abraded platforms various flakes, two of them retouched, came from pit 1416 (P9) which cut a ditch running at 90° to the parallel ditches to the south-west.

Further to the north-east flints were also found in another two ditches (P10 & 12). Twenty-three pieces came from ditch 0318. There are fifteen flakes and six blades, almost all small and mostly thin and sharp, two spalls are also present. Twenty-six pieces of debitage, including various flakes and a small number of small neat blades came from fills of ditch 0839.

Forty-four flints came from fills of a small square ditched enclosure 0836 which cut the two ditches (P10). These consist of twenty two flakes mostly small, five blades and six blade-like flakes. There are also two piercers and four utilised pieces. Within the enclosure, five flints, three of them thin sharp blades and one a piercer on a blade were found in pit 1161 (P12).

A total of seven flakes and spalls, most slightly edge damaged, were found in deposits associated with SFB 1120 (P12) which was just to the east of the square enclosure.

Further to the north-east, fourteen flints, including a mix of small flakes and blade-like pieces, a retouched flake and a retouched irregular fragment, were found in ditch 1303 (P14) and a total of forty seven flints came from ditch 0314. There are twenty seven flakes, mostly small and most with slight edge damage. There are also a few blades, shatter pieces and spalls. A quite thick, roughly sub-circular scraper, a denticulate, two retouched flakes, a retouched fragment and retouched blade were also present.

Eight flints came from contexts associated with post-hole building 0612 at the northern edge of the bund area to its north-eastern end (P14 & 16). There are three thin narrow blades, two blade fragments, two flakes and a spall. To its south-west,

eight pieces, including a blade core, four squat flakes, a spall and a bladelet, were associated with post-hole building 0613, four pieces including a blade core, a bifacially flaked possible core or tool and a small squat flake were associated with post-hole building 0901 and six flakes and two blades, one of them a neat very thin piece, came from fills of SFB 0605. The blades are sharp but some of the flakes are slightly edge damaged.

To the south, three flints from pit 0853 include part of a neat bipolar blade core, a very thin narrow blade from a prepared core and a flake which is probably soft hammer struck and may be a trimming flake from a tool. The flint from this feature suggests an Early Neolithic date (but the pit has an Early Saxon spot-date).

At the south side of the bund area, close to its north-eastern end, three flakes and a fragment of burnt flint came from deposits associated with SFB 1501 and three flakes were found in ditch 1559 (P15).

A total of eleven flints, almost all small, came from a ditch at the extreme north-east end of the bund area 0523 and 0534. They include six flakes, four blade-like flakes and a blade

*Other:* A total of sixty nine flints were found, in small numbers, many as single pieces, in the fills of thirty six other features excavated in the bund area. All but six pieces – from two separate features – were from the bund area. Almost all of the flint was unmodified debitage, much of it small in size and predominantly of irregular hard hammer struck types although a few blades are included.

*Small Finds:* A small blade-like piece is retouched on both sides and distal end with the flaking extending over most of the dorsal face and around the edges on the ventral face, it has been classified as a knife SF 1022. It seems likely to be of Later Neolithic or Early Bronze Age date.

A handaxe of Lower Palaeolithic date is present SF 1027. It is heavily abraded with a rounded butt. Its other end is freshly broken.

A further seven flints were recovered which were allocated small find numbers. These have not been catalogued by the specialist. The small find numbers are 1037, 1039, 1047, 1048 1050, 1051 and 1064.

**Discussion:** A handaxe of Lower Palaeolithic date was recovered from the site.

A single pit contained predominantly blades and blade-like material and may be of Earlier Neolithic date. Large amounts of flint were associated with each of the two ring-ditches excavated at the site. Flints were recovered from several other features which may be of prehistoric date.

Much of the flint from this site was found residually in contexts of Early Saxon date.

**FLN 062: Raw Material & Condition:** The flint is predominantly mid to dark grey with some paler-coloured mottled pieces. Cortex, where present, varies but thin to medium thickness, occasionally thicker, creamy off-white cortex predominates with some greyish coloured cortex. A small number of pieces have a very thick (<approx.

15mm) dark cream-coloured cortex. Some pieces have white patinated surfaces showing that already patinated flint was used as a raw material.

Condition of the flint is shown in Table 66. Relatively large numbers of flints are complete and/or corticated and a notably small number of pieces are patinated. Although not recorded quantitatively, it was noted that although some material is sharp or quite sharp, more of the material from this site is slightly edge damaged. Hinge fractures are rare.

<u>Condition</u>	<u>%</u>
Complete	64
Cortex present	64
Patinated	8
Hinge fracture	2

**Table 66:** FLN 062: Condition of Flint (as %, by No., of Complete Assemblage)

**The Assemblage:** A total of 1987 pieces of struck flint were recovered from this site. A summary of the assemblage is shown in Table 67.

<u>Type</u>	<u>No.</u>
Multi platform blade core	1
Multi platform flake core	11
Single platform blade core	1
Single platform flake core	6
Keeled core	3
Core fragment	3
Struck fragment	19
Tested piece	6
Core/tool	2
Flake	1336
Blade-like flake	120
Blade	77
Bladelet	9
Shatter	83
Spall	178
Chip	3
Scraper	23
End scraper	9
Sub-circular scraper	8
Side scraper	2
Double end scraper	1
End/side scraper	1
Piercer	6
Spurred piece	1
Denticulate	4
Backed knife	2
Discoidal knife	1
Knife	4
Arrowhead	3
Oblique arrowhead	1
Petit tranchet	1
Leaf-shaped arrowhead	1
Axe	1
Retouched flake	39
Retouched blade	1
Retouched fragment	1
Utilised blade	1
Utilised flake	17
?Grinding stone	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>1987</b>

**Table 67:** Summary of Flint from FLN 062

Six single platform flake cores are present. These include irregular cortical pieces, one with abraded cortex, mainly with just a few flakes struck from one side. There are also eleven multi platform flake cores which include both irregular and more formal examples one with some blade-like scars (context *0211*). Several are quite small in size.

There are two blade cores; one single platform (context *0483*) and one multi platform (context *0001*), the former burnt and with resulting shattered surfaces.

Three keeled cores are present (in contexts *0056*, *0105* & *0220*), the latter two of them quite small and neat. Three fragments of cores, six tested pieces and nineteen miscellaneous struck fragments are also present.

The largest part of the assemblage comprises unmodified flakes. These vary in type but it is noticeable that they are predominantly quite small in size and that squat or broad flakes, often with wide platforms and pronounced bulbs of percussion, are common. Some blade-like flakes are present. Again, these are mostly small. Some pieces, although not true blades, appear to have been struck from blade cores as they have neat blade-like dorsal scars.

Quite a large number of spalls and a few chips are also present.

Quite a large number of irregular shatter pieces are present, mostly sharp and jagged in nature and probably resulting from knapping processes. They may reflect the use of relatively flawed flint or the random way in which it was worked.

A total of forty four pieces are classified as scrapers. Ten pieces are end scrapers, all of them ovate flakes with retouch of their distal ends and, in one case (context *0424*) a double end scraper, with the additional utilisation of the proximal end of a neat ovate/sub-rectangular flake. A very small chunky 'blade-like' piece has steep retouch of both sides and ends and slight 'spurs' at one end. It is classified as an end/side scraper (ring-ditch *0808*, context *1818*).

Eight sub-circular scrapers are present. Most of these have neat retouch around their distal parts. Five of them are from unstratified context *0001* and of these one has retouch extending over its entire dorsal surface and one over most of its dorsal face.

Two side scrapers each have neat retouch along one edge (contexts *0863*, *0001* & SF *1194*).

A total of twenty three other miscellaneous scrapers were found (including two pieces recorded as small finds *1222* & *1215*, contexts *0009* & *0041* respectively). They vary in type and degree and position of retouch but are most often on broad or squat flakes.

Six piercers are present, most with retouched or utilised distal points. They include a quite large blade-like piece with retouch of a pronounced protruding point at its distal end (context *0001*), also a squat thermal fragment from the same context with retouch of both sides at one end forming a pronounced point. Another retouched piece from (context *0001*) is classified as a spurred piece.



Four pieces are classified as denticulates (contexts 1831, 1767, 0220 & 0656). They are of various types but all have small indentations or 'teeth' form by retouch of part of their edges.

Six pieces have been classified as knives. A small blade-like piece (context 0005) has neat retouch along one side and abrupt retouch or batter along the opposite edge. Another 'blade-shaped' fragment has neat retouch of one edge and bifacial retouch on the other edge (context 1818). Both have been classified as backed knives. Another piece is classified as a discoidal knife (context 1749). It is a neat sub-circular flake with retouch, quite steep at the edges but extending over the dorsal face and a few small flakes from the edges on the ventral face – which may suggest it was used as a knife rather than a scraper. Two blade-like flakes (contexts 0109 & 0112) have neat quite shallow retouch of convex edges and a squat sub-square flake (context 0776) has two adjacent edges utilised with one being worn on the cutting edge.

Five arrowheads, or possible arrowheads, are present. A small bifacially flaked fragment could possibly be part of a leaf-shaped arrowhead of earlier Neolithic date 0643, perhaps an unfinished/broken example. An oblique arrowhead (context 1737, SF 1264) has both its long edges retouched, one of them bifacially, and an asymmetric hollow base formed by bifacial retouch. It is of likely Late Neolithic date. A medial fragment from a flake has both its broken edges abruptly retouch and may be a slightly irregular *petit tranchet* type arrowhead (context 1749). Other possible arrowheads are an asymmetrical triangular piece (context 0217) with its broken proximal edge being coarsely bifacially retouched with finer retouch of its other two edge to a point and a small bifacially flaked quite thick sub-triangular piece (context 0197, SF 1167).

Numbers of retouched or utilised flakes and blades are present. They include two flakes with hinge fractures (contexts 0189 & 0483); in both cases the hinged edge appears to be utilised.

A bifacially flaked axe is present (context 1750, SF 1263). It has a neat smooth profile with quite shallow flaking and a small area of cortex surviving on one face. One end is sub-square in outline, the other end is missing.

A large rounded 'pebble' is present (context 0540, SF 1217) It is slightly 'egg-shaped' and has a smooth but textured surface and crazed lines running through it, possibly flaws in the flint or perhaps caused thermally.

**Flint by Context:** *Flint from Probable Prehistoric Features: P = Plan sheet no.):* At the eastern side of the site, sixty eight flints came from pit 0097 (P23). These included a relatively high number of blade-like pieces, mostly thin and neat; twenty one blades, two bladelets and five blade-like flakes. There were no retouched or utilised flints. This is the only feature excavated at this site to contain a distinctive 'blade' assemblage and might be of an earlier date than many of the excavated features.

Twelve flints came from fills of circular slot, possible building, 0300 (P16) near the western side of the site. They were small undiagnostic flakes with a few blade-like pieces and were associated with prehistoric pottery. Of the other main feature assemblages which, by the presence of pottery of prehistoric date, may be *in situ* prehistoric deposits, most appeared to occur in isolated or small groups of features distributed across the central area of the site to the north-east of this feature.

Eight pieces of flint came from isolated pit 0035 (P17). These were undiagnostic flakes, a struck fragment and two blade-like pieces, one with an abraded platform. To the north, flints were found in several of a group of features. Forty-seven flints came from pit 0216 (P26). These are mostly small sharp flakes. There are also a squat scraper, single retouched and utilised flakes and a possible arrowhead. The latter is an asymmetrical piece with one broken coarsely bifacially flaked and the other two sides more finely retouched to a point. Thirty-four flints were found in adjacent pit 0218. Again, the flints mostly consist of small irregular flakes but a keeled core, a scraper and a thick denticulate are also present. Five flakes, a struck fragment and a retouched thin ovate flake were found in post-hole 0202 (P25), an irregular piercer, a sub-circular scraper and two very small flakes were found in pit 0214 (P18) and one small flake came from post-hole 0212.

Further to the north-east, more or less in the centre of the site, flints and small amounts of prehistoric pottery came from several of a small cluster of pits/post-holes. Eight, mostly small, flakes, a small blade with an abraded platform and two utilised flakes were found in pit 0417 (P28) as well as a neat ovate scraper SF 1209, six small flakes and a blade-like flake came from adjacent pit 0421. Two flakes, one a neat piece with an abraded platform, were found in pit 0427, and a single spall was found in pit 0419. A regular sub-rectangular double end scraper with steep retouch of its distal end and utilisation of its proximal edge was found in post-hole 0423, no pottery came from this feature.

Further to the north-east thirteen flints, mostly flakes but also including two small blades, came from small pit 1539 P29 and six small flakes and a spall came from pit 1543 (P29) both features also contained pottery of prehistoric date. Four flakes also came from adjacent pit 1530 but its fill also included Romano-British pottery.

A total of two hundred and two pieces came from various fills of a large curvilinear enclosure ditch in the eastern central part of the site (P21). They include two flake cores, one of them keeled, a tested piece, a struck fragment and a piece with short flakes struck from one edge which may be a core or a tool. There are one hundred and forty seven flakes which are predominantly small and squat in nature. There are only four blades and a few more, mostly small, blade-like flakes. There are also two shatter pieces and twenty-three spalls. Part of a possible end scraper, a small squat sub-circular scraper, and a retouched blade-like piece, probably a knife, are present as well as two retouched flakes a retouched fragment and a utilised flake. An oblique arrowhead SF 1264 of likely Late Neolithic date was also found in the ditch. A few sherds of prehistoric pottery also came from the ditch.

In the vicinity of curvilinear ditch 0071 flints were found in three probable prehistoric features (P22). Ninety-four pieces, mostly small irregular flakes and shatter pieces, were found in probable prehistoric pit 0111. There are four flake cores, a knife on a blade like piece and a neatly retouched sub-circular scraper. Four flakes were found in pit 0063 and thirty two pieces, including various types of flakes and one retouched piece, were found in pit 0076 (P22).

In the north area of the site, a total of three hundred and ninety four flints were found in excavated segments of ring ditch 0808 (P34, P35, P41 & P42). There are four flake cores and a tested piece, three hundred and five flakes, most of which are small and the majority of which are irregular and/or squat in nature. The flakes vary from quite

sharp to slightly edge damaged and there are also a shatter piece and fifty five spalls. There are only fifteen blade-like flakes and four blades and relatively few retouched and utilised pieces. These include a small chunky end/side scraper, a small neat sub-circular scraper, a denticulate and a possible backed knife which is a very small blade-like piece with neat retouch along one edge and bifacial retouch on the opposite edge. There are also four retouched flakes and a utilised flake. Seventeen pieces came from ?cleaning deposits associated with ring ditch 0808. They were mostly small flakes although two retouched flakes were present. Pottery of prehistoric and Romano-British date also came from these contexts. Within the ring ditch and just to the south of a group of Early Saxon of graves, nineteen flints, mostly small squat flakes, were found in pit or tree-hole 1847.

Five flakes, one of them retouched, were found with a sherd of pottery in pit 1822 (P41) to the north of the ring ditch.

In the south part of the site much of the flint came from features which were dated by pottery within them to the Romano-British period (see below). However, others contained pottery of an earlier date or were undated by ceramics and might be of prehistoric date. In the south-western corner, ten pieces of undiagnostic debitage and fragments were found alongside prehistoric pottery in pit 0022 (P2). Towards the middle of the southern side, five irregular flakes and a shatter piece came from pit 0048 (P5) and a hard hammer struck flake and an ovate end scraper were found in pit 0053 (P5). In both cases single sherds of prehistoric pottery were also recovered. Thirty-eight flints were found in probable prehistoric pit 0574 (P6). There are twenty small irregular flakes and a few other pieces including one retouched flake.

Further to the north-east, twelve flakes and two sherds of pottery came from pit 1668 and a total of thirty nine flints were found in pit 1748 (P8). The latter are mostly quite thin and one has a faceted platform. There are a few blades and a couple of these have abraded platforms. There is an end scraper and another squat, but neatly retouched, scraper. There is also a very regular/neat sub-circular flake, possibly a discoidal knife, with quite steep retouch around its edges but extending over the dorsal flake and a few flakes from the edges on the ventral face, possibly due to use. Also present is a possible petit tranchet type arrowhead. It is of slightly asymmetric shape with abrupt retouch of both broken edges of a flake segment. Part of a bifacially flaked axe SF 1263 also came from the fill of the pit. The retouched pieces are likely to date to the Later Neolithic period. The flint from this feature is of interest as it includes a number of neatly retouched tools. The pit, situated, as it appears to be, within a circle of ?post-holes may represent deliberately 'structured' deposition of material.

Slightly to the north-west flints were found in a number of small features (P13). Twenty-one pieces, mostly sharp, were found in pit 1589 along with forty six sherds of prehistoric pottery. Part of a blade and a shatter piece are present but the rest of the flint consists of small flakes, many squat in shape. Immediately to the south three flakes and a struck fragment were found with six pieces of prehistoric pottery in post-hole 1623 and sixteen pieces of flint, mostly flakes with one squat hard hammer struck piece retouched and twenty four pieces of pottery were found in pit 1629.

Small numbers of flints, almost all of it unmodified debitage, also came from others of the small pits/post-holes in the vicinity. A scraper was present in each of pits 1594 and 0862.

Further to the north-east eighteen pieces, mostly small sharp irregular flakes were found in pit 0745 (P14) with three sherds of prehistoric pottery and a shatter piece and seven flakes came from undated pit 0696 (P20).

*Flint from probable Romano-British features:* Flint was found residually in numerous features of Romano-British date. The features were concentrated towards the south side of the site and include pits, two kilns and post-holes. The presence of some features of possible prehistoric date in the same area suggests that much of flint may have derived from earlier activity in the nearby vicinity.

Most of the flint is fairly undiagnostic. Much of it consists of small flakes, many irregular in nature. There are also occasional blades, a small number of them having abraded platforms. There are some retouched pieces, including scrapers in ditch 0041 (P18) and tree-hole/pit 0468 (P27), a small blade-like piece, possibly a backed knife in pit 0004 (P5), a denticulate in ditch 0041 (P18), piercers in pits 0455 (P26) and, 1692 (P7), a possible knife in pit 0455 (P26), a small bifacially retouched fragment which could be part of a leaf-shaped arrowhead in pit 0642 (P12) and utilised flakes in ditches 0445 (P35), 0039 (P27) and slot 0767 (P8).

*Flint from Early Saxon features:* Seventeen flints were found in Early Saxon grave 1828 and eight in grave 1842 (P41). These were mostly small flakes and probably derived from the fills of the ring ditch into which the graves were cut.

*Small Finds:* A small number of flints were recorded by small find number (Table 68).

SF	Context	Type	Date	No.
1167	0197	Arrowhead		1
1194	0001	Side scraper		1
1209	0418	Scraper		1
1217	0540	Grinding stone		1
1263	1750	Axe	Neo	1
1264	1737	Oblique arrowhead	L neo	1
1215	0041	Scraper		1
1222	0009	Scraper		1
			<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>

**Table 68:** FLN 062: Flint Small Finds

*Miscellaneous & Unstratified:* A total of two hundred and twelve flints were found, in small numbers, many as single pieces, in the fills of other features excavated at the site. They include four cores, one hundred and thirty nine flakes, twenty one blade-like flakes, six blades, a core/tool, a denticulate, a scraper, a squat sub-square flake with two adjacent edges utilised as a ?knife, three retouched flakes, six utilised flakes, struck fragments, shatter pieces and spalls.

A total of one hundred and thirty five pieces of flint from the site were from unstratified contexts. These are mostly quite neat flakes of various sizes and shapes with only a small number of blades. There are also two cores and a number of retouched or utilised pieces including twenty two scrapers, three piercers and a spurred piece. Most of the flint was edge damaged to some degree.

**Discussion:** A single pit contained a number of blades and blade-like pieces and might be of relatively early date. Otherwise, much of the flint was found in small pits, sometimes in groups, spread out across the middle of the site. Many of the pits also contained pottery of prehistoric date. Most of the flint is not closely datable but closer consideration of the flint in relation to pottery found alongside some of it, once the date of the latter is known, could identify deliberately deposited groups of material. In one case, a number of blades, some with prepared platforms, and some neatly retouched tools were found in a pit which appears to be centrally situated within a ring of post-holes.

Many flints also came from the large ring ditch and the enclosure ditch. In both cases the flint consisted mainly of small irregular/squat flakes although some retouched tools were also present.

Flints were also found residually in Romano-British and Early Saxon contexts. These included some retouched tools, most of which are probably of Neolithic or Early Bronze Age date.

A number of flint small finds, context unknown at this stage of assessment, appear to be mostly of Neolithic date.

**FLN 063: The Assemblage:** A total of eleven pieces of struck flint were recovered from this site. A summary of the assemblage is shown in Table 69.

Type	No.
Flake	4
Blade-like flake	2
Piercer	1
Serrated blade	1
Retouched flake	1
Utilised flake	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>

**Table 69:** Summary of Flint from FLN 063

No cores were found at this site.

Six unmodified flakes, two of them blade-like, are present. Two flakes from context 0013 fit together; they have been struck from the same core.

A very unusual piece is present SF 1014 in pit 0025. It is a thick rod-like parallel-sided piece with flat ventral surface and steeply convex dorsal face which has steep retouch along both edges and an area of polish running longitudinally along the rounded dorsal 'ridge'. Possibly it is made on a broken fragment of a polished axe. One end is broken, the other end is steeply retouched to a stout point. It has been classified as a piercer but might be a sturdy drill bit, further research may identify parallels. It is probably of Neolithic date.

A neat blade has very fine serrations along one edge (context 0001).

A retouched flake and two utilised flakes are also present.

**Flint by Context:** A neat blade with fine serrations along its left edge was found in an unstratified context. It is probably of Earlier Neolithic date.

An unusual quite thick rod-like piece with flat ventral surface and pronounced convex dorsal face has steep retouch along both edges and an area of polished surface running longitudinally along the rounded dorsal 'ridge' SF 1014. One end is broken, the other end is steeply retouched to a stout point, the whole is patinated off-white. It seems most likely to be of Neolithic date and may be a piercer or sturdy drill bit.

A total of nine flints were found in the fills of dispersed features in the south-eastern part of the site. They include two flakes, a blade-like flake and a utilised flake from undated pit 0012. All the flint is sharp and the two flakes refit to each other. There are also two flakes, one of them retouched from pit 0021 and single pieces from pit 0019 and each of ditches 0002 and 0008, the latter a utilised blade. Sherds of Romano-British pottery came from pit 0021 and ditch 0008, the other features are undated.

**Discussion:** The features excavated at this site are mostly of Romano-British date and the flint found in them is, therefore, residual. However the piercer type tool and the serrated blade are likely to be of Neolithic date.

**FLN 064: The Assemblage:** A total of fifty one pieces of struck flint were recovered from this site. A summary of the assemblage is shown in Table 70.

Type	No.
Flake	45
Blade-like flake	2
Shatter	1
Spall	1
Retouched flake	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>51</b>

Table 70: Summary of Flint from FLN 064

The assemblage consists mainly of small sharp flakes, mostly from two contexts (0015 & 0019). The flakes are all hard hammer struck small squat pieces. In each of these context assemblages there are pieces which refit together indicating the contemporary, prehistoric, deposition of the pieces. Two blade-like flakes a shatter piece and a spall are present.

Two retouched blade-like flakes are present. One is small with a retouched distal edge, the other has slight retouch on both its lateral edges.

**Flint by Context:** A flake and two retouched flakes, both blade-like, were found in unstratified contexts.

Most of the flint was recovered from fills of a small ring ditch (0010) of likely Early Bronze Age date. This included twenty-two flakes and a shatter piece from segment 0015, two flakes from segment 0017 and nineteen flakes, two of them blade-like, from segment 0019. Most of the flakes were small hard hammer struck pieces and all of them were sharp. In two cases (0015 & 0019), flakes from the same context fitted together suggesting that their knapping was contemporary with the ditch infilling.

Three small flakes and a spall were also found in a ditch of possible post-medieval date which was located to the north-east of the ring ditch.

**Discussion:** The nature of the flint suggests that it is probably contemporary with the ring ditch.

**Overall summary:** A total of 5654 pieces of struck, or otherwise utilised flint and a single fragment of burnt flint were included in the present assessment. The material is summarised in Table 71.

Type	No.
Multi platform blade core	4
Multi platform flake core	31
Single platform flake core	16
Single platform blade core	16
Keeled core	9
Bipolar core	3
Core fragment	4
Tested piece	10
Struck fragment	48
Core tablet	2
Crested blade	2
Core/tool	13
Shatter	253
Flake	3531
Blade-like flake	372
Blade	508
Bladelet	14
Spall	458
Chip	6
Scraper	60
Sub-circular scraper	29
End scraper	24
Side scraper	8
End/side scraper	5
Double end scraper	1
Backed knife	2
Discoidal knife	1
Knife	7
Piercer	25
Awl	2
Spurred piece	2
Denticulate	8
Notched blade	2
Notched flake	2
Truncated blade	1
Serrated blade	1
Arrowhead	3
Leaf-shaped arrowhead	2
Oblique arrowhead	2
Petit tranchet arrowhead	1
Axe	1
Handaxe	1
Microlith	4
Polished flake	2
Retouched flake	92
Retouched blade	3
Retouched fragment	6
Utilised flake	45
Utilised blade	10
Grinding stone	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>5654</b>
Burnt fragment	1

**Table 71:** FLN 056-064: Summary of Flint from All Sites

The condition and type of debitage within the larger assemblages is shown in Table 72.

Site	FLN 056	FLN 057	FLN 059	FLN 061	FLN 062	FLN 063	FLN 064
<b>Total no. flints</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>1069</b>	<b>753</b>	<b>1736</b>	<b>1987</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>51</b>
Complete	-	90	68	59	64	-	-
Cortex	-	57	57	55	64	-	-
Patina	-	24	13	13	8	-	-
Flake	-	55	59	63	67	-	-
Blade-like fl.	-	8	6	6	6	-	-
Blade	-	18	12	9	4	-	-
Shatter	-	2	7	5	4	-	-

**Table 72: Condition & Type of Debitage as % of Entire Site Assemblage (for main sites only)**

The flint from the sites includes material from several different periods; the earliest datable pieces being the handaxes from sites FLN 057 and FLN 061 which are of Lower Palaeolithic date. There are also four microliths, or possible microliths, (Sites FLN 057 & FLN 061) which are likely to date to the Mesolithic period. Otherwise, the majority of the flint is likely to be of Neolithic or Early Bronze Age date. Material of Neolithic date is perhaps most readily identifiable with the presence of significant numbers of blades and blade-like pieces in some features and by the types of retouched tools, including scrapers, retouched blade-like pieces and arrowheads, which, where datable, tend to be Neolithic types. It is noted, however, that these pieces are often in features where they may have been deliberately deposited whereas the flint from the Early Bronze Age ring ditches (the main features to be dated to this period) is more likely to have accumulated gradually (although note the refitting pieces from the ring ditch in FLN 064) as well as flint from this period perhaps being less diagnostic generally.

An element of the assemblage may also be of Iron Age date as features, including post-hole structures, were excavated at sites FLN 057 and FLN 059.

Flint also occurred residually in features of Romano-British, Early Saxon and post-medieval date.

**Potential for Further Work:** The flint from the Flixton Park has a range of potential based on its recovery from a large multi-period site although the issue of residuality in some of the later prehistoric features as well as, more obviously, in the Romano-British and Saxon contexts should be taken into account.

Flint from a few features appears to be of possible earlier date and, depending on other dating evidence from these features, could potentially suggest a date for these features (e.g. Site FLN 057).

In many cases features which contained flint also yielded pottery, mostly of Neolithic date, from their fills. It is possible that material may have been deliberately placed in some features representing 'structured' deposits as seen at adjacent sites FLN 013 and FLN 053. There is the potential for comparison of the present assemblages with those previously excavated – both at Flixton and elsewhere. It may be possible to compare the types of flints found with other Grooved Ware associated deposits to see whether specific tool types are prevalent (see Cleal, 1984). The possible ritual nature of these



deposits can also be considered alongside the other features at the site which are suggested as having had a ritual function. They may also be compared with other so-called 'structured deposits' from Late Neolithic sites elsewhere (e.g. Ashwin & Bates, 2000; Healy, 1988; Healy *et al*, 1993). It may be of interest to look in more detail at any spatial patterning in the distribution of flint by context, and at the location of flint-containing features in relation to other Late Neolithic features and to each other. The stratigraphic position of flint within individual features could also be considered and may provide more information regarding the formation of specific deposits (Sites FLN 057, FLN 059 & FLN 062).

Flint found in features of Iron Age date has potential for comparison with material from other such sites and can be considered in the light of recent work on later prehistoric flint assemblages (Sites FLN 057 & FLN 059). It also has potential for comparison with the material from the Late Neolithic pits and it might be possible to demonstrate evidence for the decline in knapping skills and the restricted range of tools which have been identified elsewhere as characteristic of Later Bronze Age and Iron Age assemblages.

Closer examination and classification of a few pieces has potential to provide more exact dating for some deposits (Sites FLN 061, FLN 062 & FLN 063).

#### **Recommended Further Work:**

- The flint should be considered in the light of any refined or revised dating evidence for the excavated features and in relation to any groups of similar, or structural, features particularly those of likely prehistoric date (Sites FLN 057, FLN 059, FLN 061 & FLN 062).
- The possibility of deliberate or 'structured' deposits in pits during the Later Neolithic period should be considered with regard to the original selection of pieces for deposition and comparison with flint from other features (Sites FLN 057, FLN 059 & FLN 062)
- Consideration of the 'blade-rich' feature assemblages in relation to the results of the ceramic analysis to see whether they represent different types of, or earlier, activity (Site FLN 057).
- It is likely that some flint was found in features of Iron Age date. If this proves to be the case, the feature assemblages and the attributes of any such flint should be considered to see whether or not they conform to types generally considered to date to that period and whether there is any noticeable contrast with the Neolithic deposits of flints (Sites FLN 057 & FLN 059).
- Parallels should be sought for several potentially diagnostic/datable pieces (Sites FLN 061, FLN 062 & FLN 063).
- Consider the relationship between type of debitage and condition of material to see if there is any change in these in relation to types and date of the main activity at the main sites (Sites FLN 057, FLN 059, FLN 061 & FLN 062). The present sites should also be compared to the previously excavated sites FLN 013 and FLN 053 as well as to other excavated sites of similar date.
- A summary report should be included in the final publication. Detail and length of reports for each site will depend on the significance of individual site assemblages (all sites).
- Representative pieces or significant groups of flints will be selected for illustration (Sites FLN 057, FLN 059, FLN 061, FLN 062 & FLN 063). A total of forty seven pieces have been provisionally high-lighted as for possible illustration (Table 73). The actual number will be less than this. It is envisaged that approximately twenty pieces may be illustrated, excluding the small finds not yet seen by the specialist from FLN 061. An additional ten illustrations are estimated for this new material.

- The flint fragments from FLN 061 which have been curated as small finds should be properly recorded, and considered with the rest of the material from the site. Some of this material may require illustration.

**Illustrations:** Table 73 is a catalogue of flints recommended for possible illustration, presented by site:

Site Code	Context	Small Find	Type	No.	Illus.
FLN 056				None	
FLN 057	0384		Piercer	1	?
	0382		Awl	1	Yes
	0490		Piercer	1	?
	0143		Piercer	1	?
	0321		Sub-circular scraper	7	?
	0321		End scraper	3	?
	0321		End/side scraper	2	?
	0321		Side scraper	2	?
FLN 059	1013		Leaf-shaped arrowhead	1	Yes
	0414		Oblique arrowhead	1	Yes
	0422		Grinding/hammer stone	1	Yes
FLN 061	1171		Piercer	1	Yes
	0001		Core/tool	1	?
	0295		Scraper	1	?
	1022		Knife	1	Yes
	1027		Handaxe	1	Yes
	1479		Leaf-shaped arrowhead	1	?
	0961		Single platform blade core	1	Yes?
	0961		Core/tool	1	Yes?
	0001		Piercer	1	Yes
	0819		Microlith	2	?
FLN 062	0001		Piercer	3	?
	0424		Double end scraper	1	?
	0456		Knife	1	Yes
	0217		Arrowhead	1	?
	1749		Petit tranchet	1	?
	1749		Discoidal knife	1	?
	1818		End/side scraper	1	?
	1818		Backed knife	1	?
	1737	1264	Oblique arrowhead	1	Yes
	1750	1263	Axe	1	?
	0197	1167	Arrowhead	1	?
	0540	1217	Grinding stone	1	Yes
FLN 063	1014		Piercer	1	Yes
FLN 064				None	

**Table 73:** Catalogue of Possible Flint Pieces for Illustration

***Burnt Flint & Stone (Sue Anderson)***

Table 74 shows the quantities of burnt flint and stone from each site.

Site	No.	Wt/g
FLN 056	75	1286
FLN 057	1507	44747
FLN 059	708	21237
FLN 061	5182	90077
FLN 062	2906	65113
FLN 063	91	6032
FLN 064	150	2929
<b>Total</b>	<b>10619</b>	<b>231421</b>

**Table 74:** Burnt Flint/Stone Quantities by Site

**Methodology:** The burnt flint and stone was counted and weighed by context for each site, and a sample retained from each context. Stone types other than flint were noted on the record sheets.

**Results:** The distribution of the burnt flint by feature type and preliminary spotdate is shown in Table 75.

Identifier	Preh	Neo/BA	Iron Age	LIA/ERom	Rom	Post-Rom	Un
Ditch	12813				246	7856	8887
Pit	18433	21951	6926	411	6587	27713	75713
Ring ditch	365				5678	555	154
Post-hole	1414	209	218	25	2366	3936	4558
Slot					7	2	76
Trough					41		
SFB						14074	
Grave					3	22	759
Kiln					3259		
Feature							2765
Layer							1646
Tree hole	1253						198
Finds					122	135	45
<b>Totals</b>	<b>34278</b>	<b>22160</b>	<b>7144</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>18309</b>	<b>54293</b>	<b>94801</b>

Table 75: Burnt Flint & Stone (Weights) by Feature Type & Preliminary Spotdate

The majority of this material is from pits, most of which are currently undated but likely to be prehistoric. However, there is a significant quantity from Roman and post-Roman contexts, so clearly there is some redeposition. Of the dated prehistoric features, it is clear that the majority of the assemblage comes from Neolithic and Bronze Age pits, as would be expected; the Iron Age quantity is relatively small.

**Recommendations for Further Work:** The potential of this material is to indicate areas of prehistoric activity across the site, particularly for those features and areas which produced no closely datable finds. If possible, weights should be plotted for features using GIS to analyse the spatial distribution. Temporal analysis will also be required once final site phasing is available. The material should be discussed briefly for inclusion in the prehistoric chapter of the final report.

**The Slag (Sarah Paynter)**

**Summary:** A small amount of iron-working waste was recovered from two of the excavations at Flixton Park Quarry (FLN 061 & FLN 062), weighing 2.8kg in total. A table of the quantification of the slag is shown below (Table 76). All of the diagnostic waste was recovered from FLN 062 and was characteristic of iron-smithing. The assemblage from FLN 061 consisted of a large number of smaller fragments of corroded iron, undiagnostic slag or vitrified lining.

**Introduction:** Different iron-working processes produce different types of waste, which can often be differentiated on the basis of their shape and composition (Bayley et al., 2001). Iron smelting is the process of extracting iron metal from iron ore. Prior to the late 15th century in England, smelting took place using direct bloomery smelting technology. Furnaces were constructed from refractory materials such as silica-rich clay or stone and fragments of furnace structure, covered in slag or vitrified by heat and reactions within the furnace, are common amongst smelting assemblages. Charcoal fuel was used and high temperatures were reached by blowing air into the furnace, generally using bellows, through one or more small holes or cylindrical

tuyères in the sides. The waste product from smelting was an iron-rich, black fluid slag, the final form of which depended on whether the slag was tapped from the furnace, solidified within the furnace or accumulated in a pit beneath the furnace.

Iron smithing is the process of shaping iron. The metal was heated in a hearth, probably a walled structure to retain the fuel, set either on the floor or at waist height. Like smelting, smithing required high temperatures and so refractory materials are likely to have been selected for the hearth construction and fragments of slag-covered or vitrified hearth structure are to be expected amongst smithing assemblages. The hearth could be fuelled using either charcoal or mineral fuel and air was blown into the hearth through a blowing hole in the hearth wall. During the smithing process, the surface of the hot iron became oxidised and reacted with other materials, such as the hearth lining and fuel ashes. Once hot, the metal was removed from the hearth and hammered into shape on an anvil, resulting in this surface covering becoming detached from the metal and forming small flakes and spheres of iron oxide and slag, known as hammerscale. The hammerscale collected on the floor and, since it is magnetic, it can be detected in archaeological occupation surfaces with a magnet. Some of the debris from smithing also accumulated in the bed of fuel in the hearth and formed a characteristically shaped lump of slag known as a smithing hearth bottom. This lump of slag would be attached to the hearth wall beneath the blowing hole.

The metalworking assemblages discussed here are from areas FLN 061, a 3.25 hectare block with an attached additional narrow strip of 1.25 hectares extending north-east, and FLN 062, a 2.25 hectare area to the south of FLN 061. In this report the metalworking assemblages from these areas have been examined to determine whether any of the waste from the site is diagnostic of particular metalworking processes. The metalworking waste has been quantified by type for each context and allocated to the following categories: smithing hearth bottom (SHB) slag, vitrified lining, undiagnostic slag and iron. The first category of waste is diagnostic of smithing whereas the other types of waste could also be produced by other types of ironworking activity, such as smelting, as well as by smithing.

**Results:** Although only eight contexts are represented from area FLN 062, the waste from these contexts constituted just over 60% by weight of the total assemblage. The waste from this area also included all of the complete smithing hearth bottom slags, and most of the clearly identifiable fragmentary examples. As all of the diagnostic waste from FLN 062 was indicative of smithing, it is likely that the undiagnostic waste and vitrified lining from the area were produced by the same activity.

Site	Context	SHB	Description	Undiagnostic	Vitrified lining	Iron	Total
FLN 062	0295	327	complete	133	17		477
FLN 062	0251	99	fragment?				99
FLN 062	1818	303	half				303
FLN 062	0177				22	23	45
FLN 062	0001			45			45
FLN 062	0334	55	fragment?				55
FLN 062	1840	409	complete				409
FLN 062	1521	271	complete	19			290
FLN 061	0875			96			96
FLN 061	0315				82		82
FLN 061	0858			108			108

Table 76; Continued on next page

Table 76; Continued

Site	Context	SHB	Description	Undiagnostic	Vitrified lining	Iron	Total
FLN 061	0592				34		34
FLN 061	0555			8			8
FLN 061	0383			4			4
FLN 061	1298					5	5
FLN 061	1415			23	5		28
FLN 061	1422			31	2	140	173
FLN 061	1420			83			83
FLN 061	1181			22			22
FLN 061	1426				13		13
FLN 061	1556			12			12
FLN 061	1541			10			10
FLN 061	1428			7			7
FLN 061	1427					7	7
FLN 061	0847			14			14
FLN 061	1424			33	4		37
FLN 061	1397					2	2
FLN 061	1481			10			10
FLN 061	1402	217	fragment?				217
FLN 061	0841			50	22		72
FLN 061	0277			36			36
<b>Total</b>		<b>1681</b>		<b>744</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>2803</b>

Table 76: Identification & Quantification (Wt./g.) of Metalworking Waste by Context

The smithing hearth bottom slags from FLN 062 were well consolidated and some were coarsely crystalline, indicating that they had cooled slowly. They were approximately kite-shaped in plan, although with rounded vertices, and ranged from 70 to 100mm wide and 90 to 110mm long. The top of each kite-shaped piece of slag was where it had been attached to the hearth wall beneath the blowing hole and where successive layers of slag were first deposited. As a result this end was generally much thicker and the slags thinned towards the opposite end. The surfaces of most of the smithing hearth bottom slags were grey-green and shiny in patches where the slag was richer in a ceramic component, probably derived from the hearth lining. The direction of flow on some of the slags indicated that they formed at an angle, inclined downwards in the hearth. The shape of the slags where they were attached to the hearth wall suggested that the wall was rounded and inclined inwards in that area. Impressions of charcoal fuel were visible on some surfaces. The fragments of vitrified lining in the assemblage were quartz-rich and some surviving large quartz grains were also observed in the slag.

The slag from FLN 061 was far more fragmentary and therefore less informative. The slag from context 1402 may be a fragment of a smithing hearth bottom slag, but this was the only diagnostic waste amongst the assemblage. The remaining small fragments of undiagnostic slag and vitrified lining were broadly similar in appearance to the comparative material from FLN 062. There were also a number of corroded iron metal objects with adhered sandy material and charcoal, particularly from context 1422.

**Spatial & Chronological Interpretation:** The approximate date and position of the contexts containing in excess of 100g of slag were compared (together constituting 70wt% of the total assemblage for both areas), to obtain information on the location

and date of the metalworking activity at both sites. Currently the phasing for the sites is incomplete and so only a provisional statement is possible.

All of the contexts from which slag was recovered in area FLN 062 contained predominantly Roman pottery, and occasionally some prehistoric pottery (1840, 1521 & 1818). The slag was deposited in pits and ditches scattered across the area. Therefore it is likely that smithing took place somewhere in the vicinity in the Roman period or earlier.

In area FLN 061 all of the contexts containing in excess of 100g of slag were situated within the narrow strip against the northern edge of the quarry. This area contained a concentration of archaeological features many of which were Early Saxon in date, and again the waste was scattered across the area. The assemblage from FLN 061 is small and fragmentary and therefore not very informative, but it is possible that smithing also took place in this area in the Early Saxon period.

**Conclusions:** Iron smithing took place in the vicinity of area FLN 062 in the Roman period or earlier, and possibly in the narrow extension to area FLN 061 in the Early Saxon period (the evidence for the latter is sparse). No structures or working areas associated with the activity appear to have survived in either case and the waste was deposited in ditches and pits across both areas. Examination of the waste from FLN 062 indicated that the smith's hearth was lined with quartz-rich clay and that the hearth wall was rounded and inclined in the area below the blowing hole where the slag accumulated.

**Recommendations for Further Work:** Slag is a robust material and does not require special storage conditions. However the objects identified as iron should be treated accordingly and also referred to the appropriate specialist for identification.

The assemblages do not require further examination but the chronological interpretation should be checked when the phasing is complete, and the material from FLN 062 could be compared to other contemporary assemblages at that point, requiring no more than half a day.

A fragmented, fired ceramic object from context 0608 was included in the assemblage from FLN 061. This object was a dark colour due to the high iron content of the ceramic, and plate-like mineral grains were visible with a low power microscope. There was no evidence to suggest that the object was associated with metalworking, however several original surfaces of the object survive and so other specialists may be able to identify it.

*Additional note (Richenda Goffin):* Some hammerscale was recovered from bulk sieving of soil samples from FLN 057. This material should be examined with a view to establishing whether it is spheroidal or flake, so that different metal working processes may be identified. Hammerscale was found in 0320, the upper fill of pit 0319 dated from fill 0321 to the Early Bronze Age, and 0355, which is the fill of an undated pit 0354. In addition a study of its distribution may prove productive, as the dating of this material is potentially of interest. Further material may be recovered from the other sites.

### 3.3.2 Small Finds (Richenda Goffin unless otherwise stated)

#### Introduction

A total of five hundred and eighty one small finds were recorded from the excavations at Flixton Park Quarry included in this assessment. A breakdown of the quantities of small finds by individual site and period is shown in Tables 77 and 78 below.

Site Code	No. of small finds
FLN 056	1
FLN 057	9
FLN 059	61
FLN 061	90
FLN 062	385
FLN 063	21
FLN 064	14
<b>Total</b>	<b>581</b>

Table 77: Total No. of Small Finds by Individual Site

Period	FLN 0 56	FLN 057	FLN 059	FLN 061	FLN 062	FLN 063	FLN 064
Prehistoric			2	6	14	1	
Roman		1	3	1	99	1	
Saxon		2		3	92		
Medieval		1	8	1	2	5	
Post-medieval			13	14	21	8	8
Undated	1	5	35	65	157	6	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>385</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>14</b>

Table 78: Breakdown of Small Finds by Major Period & Site

#### Methodology

The small finds have been recorded on separate databases for each individual site. These are presented in Appendices IV. {A-G}. Each small find has been catalogued, with basic descriptions including weights and some dimensions. Certain types of objects which have been small found on site, such as miscellaneous nails and very obviously modern material such as gun cartridges have been listed but not been catalogued further. Unstratified and featureless fragments of iron, copper alloy and lead have also not been described in detail.

All stratified iron and selected fragments of unstratified iron and copper alloy have been x-rayed, as well as many of the non-ferrous artefacts. The numbers of the x-ray plates have been added to the individual object labels and the database for future reference. The exception to this are the Roman coins, which have not received radiography. The small finds have been repackaged where necessary, and selected objects, mainly from FLN 062 have been cleaned and stabilised. The small finds associated with the Saxon burials from FLN 062 have been x-rayed and repackaged, but no other conservation work has been undertaken on them at this stage.

The Roman coins have been catalogued by Jude Plouviez, who also provided an initial assessment of the largest group of coins from FLN 062. She has also catalogued the large assemblage of Roman brooches, which also came from this site.

Additional identifications and comments on the small assemblage of bone artefacts have been provided by Ian Ridler, who also kindly looked at many of the non-ferrous small finds.

The small finds have been summarised below by basic chronological period by individual site. Recommendations for further work have been made, including the number of illustrations.

#### FLN 056

Only a small quantity of finds were recovered from the site overall, originating from eleven contexts. Considerable evidence of the earlier Neolithic and LBA/EIA periods were identified through the bulk finds, but only a single small find was recovered.

<b>Small finds material</b>	<b>No.</b>
Stone	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>

**Table 79: FLN 056: Small Finds by Count**

***Miscellaneous Tools***

A single unstratified and undated sandstone honestone (context 0001) is the only small find from this excavation.

***Recommendations for Further Work***

This has been catalogued and no further work on it is required (Appendix IV. {A}).

**FLN 057**

The most significant concentration of archaeological features on this site dates to the prehistoric period, with features spanning the earlier Neolithic through to the Later Bronze Age Earlier Iron Age. The worked flint assemblage comprises some significant material including two handaxes.

A total of nine small finds were recovered from metal detecting of the topsoil at FLN 057. The material is wide-ranging in date, and includes finds of the Roman, Early Saxon and late medieval periods, as well as some undatable artefacts. These are listed by material in the table below, and are fully catalogued in Appendix IV. {B}.

<b>Small finds material</b>	<b>No.</b>
Copper alloy	5
Lead	3
Iron	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>

**Table 80: FLN 057: Small Finds by Count**

***Roman***

Coins, Jettons & Tokens:

SF 1006: A single corroded copper alloy coin dating to Constantius I (c295-305) has been fully catalogued.

***Early Saxon***

Dress Accessories:

SF 1002: A fragment of a copper alloy shaft from a small-long brooch has a spatulate footplate and is decorated with incised banding.

Miscellaneous Tools:

SF 1003: Fragment of an iron whittle tang and blade from a short knife. The knife has a shoulder and a slightly sloping back curving gently downwards towards the tip which is missing. It is wedge-shaped in cross section and is likely to be Early Saxon in date.

***Late medieval***

Coins, Jettons & Tokens:

SF 1007: A worn copper alloy Nuremberg jetton, reichsapfel type, which dates to the later part of the medieval period.



**Undated**

Household objects:

SF 1000: Fragment of copper alloy curved sheet, possibly part of a vessel.

Weights & Measures:

SF 1005: A small fragment of perforated lead may be a weight. It has a diameter of 14mm and a height of 10mm, and is perforated off-centre.

Objects of Unknown or Uncertain Identification or Function:

SF 1004: Small fragment of copper alloy, square-shaped with U-shaped section.

SFs 0001 and 1001: Four fragments of melted lead.

**Recommendations for Further Work**

After radiography, the only further work required on this material are fuller catalogue entries for SFs 1002 and 1003.

**FLN 059**

In addition to a number of Neolithic features, evidence dating to the Early Bronze Age was identified, in the form of the ring-ditch and associated features. Structural remains dating to the Iron Age were recorded, together with other features, and deposits dating to the Late Iron Age/Roman period. A small number of artefacts were recovered through metal detecting, which are mainly medieval in date, apart from one significant Roman find. No medieval features were recorded, although there were several phases of post-medieval activity.

A total of sixty nine artefacts were allocated small find numbers, including twenty nail fragments. Many of the objects are unstratified metal detected finds. The small finds are listed by material type below. A short summary is provided by period below, with a fuller catalogue presented in Appendix IV. {C}.

<b>Small finds material</b>	<b>No.</b>
Flint	1
Copper alloy	18
Lead	17
Iron	23
Gold	1
Silver	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>61</b>

**Table 81: FLN 059: Small Finds by Count**

**Prehistoric (including Iron Age)**

Miscellaneous Tools:

SF 1013: An unstratified leaf-shaped flint arrowhead which is possibly Early Bronze Age in date has been included in the specialist flint assessment for the site.

Coins, Jettons & Tokens :

SF 1014: An unstratified gold quarter stater of Irstead type dating to c50-40 BC. 1.06g). Irstead type (Van Arsdell 628-1). Open crescent and two rings above horse. The coin is a type which is widely distributed in Norfolk and Suffolk, and

occasionally further afield, and an attribution to the Iceni seems very likely. (Identification & dating provided by Philip de Jersey).

**Roman (Identifications by Jude Plouviez)**

Coins, Jettons & Tokens :

SF 1039: Copper alloy As of Domitian (81-96). AD86? Little wear, corroded. Unstratified.

Horse Equipment:

SF 1033: Copper alloy cavalry horse pendant, part of military harness fitting. Broken off at the top at suspension loop. Inlaid decoration with the remains of niello and silvering still partly visible. Indistinct ?foliate decoration. Early Roman.

Dress Accessories:

SF 1028: Fragment of copper alloy brooch of Colchester type. First century (up to cAD65). Unstratified.

Toilet, Surgical or Pharmaceutical Instruments:

SF 1040: Copper alloy speculum mirror fragment, possibly 1st century in date. Severe corrosion bubbles, with one probably original edge which is straight and slightly bevelled. Unstratified.

**Medieval**

A total of four artefacts are medieval in date, with a further three artefacts which possibly date to this period. All are unstratified.

Coins, Jettons & Tokens :

SF 1010: A silver long cross penny of Edward II, dated 1307-27.

Dress Accessories:

SF 1002: A copper alloy pin from a medieval annular buckle.

SF 1012: A copper alloy folding strap clasp fragment, possibly dating to the 14th century.

SF 1025: A copper alloy buckle made in an oval frame with ornate outer edge, 13th-14th century date.

SF 1000: Fragment of copper alloy buckle with D-shaped frame, sheet pin and double plate with three rivets. Possibly medieval.

Objects of Uncertain Identification or Function:

SF 1001: Copper alloy ?mount, with rivets at terminals.

SF 1030: Copper alloy mount.

**Post-medieval**

Thirteen small finds are dated to the post-medieval period.

Military Equipment and Weaponry:

A number of lead artefacts comprising musket balls (SFs 1019-22) and other types of shot are unstratified (SFs 1015-18, 1034 & 1035).

Objects Associated with Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry & Fishing:  
Fragments of three unstratified copper alloy stock bells were identified (SFs 1023, 1024 & 1037).

#### ***Undated Objects***

A number of undateable but recognisable artefacts were recovered from the excavation and are listed below:

##### Miscellaneous Tools:

SF 1009: Fragment of an unstratified iron knife, with whittle tang and part of a wide blade. Unstratified.

SF 0620: A fragment of iron sheet may be part of a knife blade, which may be Roman, from pit fill 0620.

##### Buildings & Services:

A total of twenty small finds are miscellaneous iron nails. These were found in both stratified and unstratified deposits. One of these, SF 1027, which was unstratified, may be a stud rather than a nail.

SF 1011: Two fragments of iron wire were recovered from post-hole fill 0338.

##### Dress Accessories:

SF 1047: A fragment of a copper alloy shaft, possibly from a pin or brooch pin, from the fill 0003 of a post-hole may be Roman.

##### Weights & Measures:

There are four examples of lead weights, which are all unstratified (SFs 1003-5, & 1029). Three of these objects are perforated. The fourth is not, and may perhaps be a gaming piece.

SF 1007: A solid copper object with small flattened knob for suspension, probably used as a plumb-bob. Unstratified.

#### ***Objects of Uncertain Date &/or Function***

SF 1031: A fragment of lead waste, unstratified.

Three additional copper alloy artefacts (SFs 1006, 1008 & 1036) are all unstratified. They have been catalogued, but are all fragmentary and remain unidentified.

#### ***Recommendations for Future Work***

Although the Iron Age and Roman small finds recovered from the site are unstratified, their presence contributes to the overall evidence of the Iron Age and Early Roman settlement, which is also indicated through the discovery of pits and structures dating to these periods, as well as other artefacts. Although unstratified, the dating of these artefacts is consistently Iron Age to Early Roman, and the finds can be compared with other artefact types of this date such as the pottery and the ceramic building material.

The quantity of medieval artefacts retrieved through metal detecting is perhaps surprising, given the lack of features which date to this period. The presence of post-medieval artefacts such as lead musket balls and shot, may be associated with

activities relating to Flixton Hall, which was built in the early seventeenth century, but was destroyed by fire during the late 19th century and subsequently rebuilt.

The Iron Age and Roman artefacts require little further work, although the Roman horse pendant merits a fuller description and an illustration. The finds should be taken into account when discussing the significance of the settlement during the Iron Age and Roman periods. No further work is required for the remainder of the material.

### **FLN 061**

Significant features containing pottery of the Late Neolithic, Early Bronze Age and Later Bronze Age were identified in FLN 061. Three ring-ditches were identified, one of which contained a single grave in which a complete Beaker pot of Early Bronze Age date was found. Further features of Early Saxon date were found in the Bund area. These comprised a number of Sunken Featured Buildings and post-holed structures and related features indicative of a significant area of settlement. Some additional deposits dating to the post-medieval period were also recorded.

A total of eighty seven artefacts were allocated small find numbers. These are listed by material type below, with summaries by period. A fuller catalogue is presented in Appendix IV.{D}.

<b>Small finds material</b>	<b>No.</b>
Copper alloy	29
Lead	1
Iron	42
Fired clay	4
Flint	9
Stone	1
Glass	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>87</b>

**Table 82:** FLN 061: Small Finds by Count

### Summary of small finds by major chronological period

#### ***Prehistoric***

A number of flint artefacts have been allocated small find numbers. These include the Palaeolithic handaxe SF 1027, and several arrowheads. Most of this material has not yet been catalogued by the specialist. This will be done during the analysis stage, and additional time has been added on for these omissions.

#### ***Roman***

Only a single artefact which may be Roman in date was identified from the small finds. It was found in the fill of a Saxon sunken featured building.

#### Household Objects:

SF 1086: Fragment of copper alloy, possibly a fragment of a Roman vessel lug, from fill 1518 of SFB 1501.

#### ***Early Saxon***

A significant area of Early Saxon occupation was uncovered from the investigation of features in the Bund area around the northern end of the site. In addition to the evidence of sunken featured buildings and some post-holed buildings, a number of pits and ditches were also associated with these structures.

Only a small number of Early Saxon small finds were recovered, some of which were associated with the fills of the SFBs. These include:

Objects Associated with Textile Working:

SF 1090: Ceramic loomweight fragment from the fill 1506 of SFB 1501.

SF 1488: Ceramic loomweight fragment recovered from ditch fill 1488 in Bund.

SF 1081: Complete siltstone spindlewhorl from pit fill 1417.

Miscellaneous Tools:

SF 1084: Iron knife from fill 1428 of SFB 1346.

Buildings & Services:

A number of iron nails were found in the fills of the SFBs (SFs 1038, 1043 & 1063). In addition a further nail was found in a pit fill containing pottery, SF 1053.

Dress Accessories:

A copper alloy ?coin (SF 1073) which may have been modified as a pendant was identified from ditch fill 1159.

Objects of Unknown or Uncertain Identification or Function:

Further unidentified iron objects have not been identified but are awaiting radiography:

These include SFs 1024, 1025, 1040, 1083 & 1085, all recovered from the fills of SFBs or from above the surface of the SFB, and SF 1087, a ditch fill which contains a fragment of Saxon pottery.

### ***Medieval***

Only a single unstratified metal detected small find which is medieval in date was identified.

Objects Associated with Literacy:

SF 1028: A complete copper alloy seal matrix was recovered. It is a 'pawn' shape type typical of the 14th century, and has a tri-lobe finial which is perforated for suspension. The centre of the seal shows a male head sideways on, possibly the head of John the Baptist, surrounded by a motto which although legible, does not make any sense when deciphered (Edward Martin, pers. comm.). This is not an unusual feature for a seal, in an age when literacy was so limited.

### ***Post-medieval***

A number of artefacts which are post-medieval in date were recovered from military features and trenches which are modern in date. The objects include five cartridges and two grenades.

### ***Undated Objects***

A number of undateable but recognisable artefacts were recovered from the excavation and are listed below:

**Dress Accessories:**

SF 1072: Fragment of copper alloy brooch, recovered from a ditch fill which also contained prehistoric, Roman and Saxon pottery.

**Coins, Jettons & Tokens:**

SF 1073: Copper alloy disc, possibly coin re-used as a pendant, from ditch fill as above.

**Buildings & Services:**

Several examples of iron nails were found in deposits such as ditch and pit fills which also contained finds of mixed date. The following small find numbers were given: 1031, 1045, 1046, 1060, 1074, 1076, 1078, 1088, and 1055.

**Miscellaneous Tools:**

A fragment of a sandstone hone SF 1057 was recovered from the fill of a ditch in the Bund, which also contained fragments of post-medieval pottery and burnt flint.

***Recommendations for Further Work***

A number of metal artefacts require re-examination and further identification following on from radiography, including SF 1073, a possible coin pendant. The small finds recovered from the Saxon occupation levels require further work and an analysis of their spatial distribution. The Saxon loomweights have been fully catalogued in the fired clay assessment. A small quantity of additional radiography of the iron nails from the SFB's is recommended.

**Flixton 062**

The largest quantity of small finds was recovered from this part of Flixton quarry.

A number of features containing Neolithic pottery and worked flint were identified. Considerable evidence of Iron Age and Roman activity was recorded through the presence of a series of ditches, structural remains and two pottery kilns. A multiple burial cut into a Roman pit may belong to this period or could have been dug later.

A total of seventeen Early Saxon burials were excavated, either part of the known cemetery or a discrete group within the ring-ditch on the northern edge of the site, or cut into it. No medieval or post-medieval features were recorded.

***The Small Finds***

A total of three hundred and eighty four artefacts were allocated small find numbers, including fifty eight counts of iron nails. The small finds are listed by material type below, with summaries by period. A fuller catalogue is presented in Appendix IV. {E}. The Roman artefacts have been identified by Ian Ridler, brooches and coins by Jude Plouviez and Faye Minter, with additional catalogue entries provided by Sue Anderson and Richenda Goffin.

<b>Small finds material</b>	<b>No.</b>
Copper alloy	142
Lead	48
Iron	115
Silver	3
Gold	1
Bone	4
Leather	1
Amber	34
Ceramic	4
Flint	8
Stone	3
Glass	21
<b>Total</b>	<b>384</b>

**Table 83:** FLN 062: Small Finds by Count

### ***Prehistoric***

#### Miscellaneous Tools:

Eight flint small finds were recovered from the site. These have been catalogued and included in the main flint assessment. Some of these artefacts are Neolithic in date.

#### Household objects:

Two fragments of puddingstone quern (SF 1373) of Late Iron Age date were present in pit fill 0177. These have been catalogued with the rest of the quern fragments which were recorded as a bulk material (Cathy Tester, this report, section 3.1).

#### Objects Associated with Transport, Agriculture & Animal Husbandry:

SF 1060: A copper alloy toggle dating to the Late Iron Age was identified from ditch fill 0040. This particularly well preserved object is made up of a pair of linked spheres which have flat discs at either end, and a strap loop. The function of these fittings is a matter of some debate. They have been identified as dress fastenings but have also been found in burials with horse-bits and harnesses (Stead 56).

#### Coins, Jettons & Tokens: (Identifications & comments by Philip de Jersey & Jude Plouviez)

Three unstratified Iron Age coins were identified, confirming the Icenian character of this part of north-east Suffolk. Although the two silver units were in circulation up to and probably beyond the Roman conquest in AD43, the gold quarter stater is likely to have been out of use by that time. The presence of three coins might suggest that the site may be above average in status or otherwise unusual.

SFs 1020: Icenian pattern horse silver unit; Ece Y-headed horse series (Allen 1970, 32) with two rows of dots on the horses shoulder. First half of 1<sup>st</sup> century AD.

SF 1021: Icenian pattern horse silver unit; the S-shape under the horses head puts it in the Ecen open-headed horse series (Allen 1970, 31), first half of 1<sup>st</sup> century AD.

SF 1136: Gold quarter stater, Icenian type "Irstead" as Allen 1970 nos 46-47, VA 628, Hobbs 3438. Second half of 1st century BC

### ***Roman***

A significant quantity of Roman artefacts was recovered from the excavation, including c.ninety seven small finds. The majority of the metal small finds were found

through metal detecting of the intervening subsoil layer between the topsoil and naturally occurring sands/gravels, and are effectively unstratified. The range of objects reflects a mixture of domestic and commercial activity, suggested by the number of steelyard weights. In addition there is some indication of possible pinmaking, and the presence of a crucible fragment may also show that some manufacturing of metal objects may have been taking place. The Roman artefacts are wide ranging in date, from the early Roman period through to the 3rd and 4th centuries.

Coins, Jettons & Tokens: (Identifications & comments Jude Plouviez)

A total of fifty six Roman coins were examined and catalogued (Appendix IV. {E}). Fifty two of the coins were unstratified. Only five of the coins could not be attributed to a specific date range allowing them to be counted by "Reece period" (see histogram diagram below).

Comments:

The Roman coinage suggests activity throughout the period up to the middle of the 4th century. Of the earliest coins a Republican *denarius* could have been in circulation until at least the end of the 1st century; the copy Claudius *as* is perhaps more unusual, as production and use of these is closely associated with the army up to about AD65. It seems that no analysis has yet been done of how widespread they are as single finds on civilian sites. Overall the pattern of coin loss compares well with Reece's figures for Britain as a whole until the second half of the 4th century (Table 84). There is a complete absence of coins after AD 353. This is part of a pattern of disruption in East Suffolk which has already been noticed (see Hacheston & Plouviez, 1995) in the metal detected evidence – however Flixton is one of very few sites where this phenomenon can be examined on an excavated site alongside other types of finds evidence and with some context data.

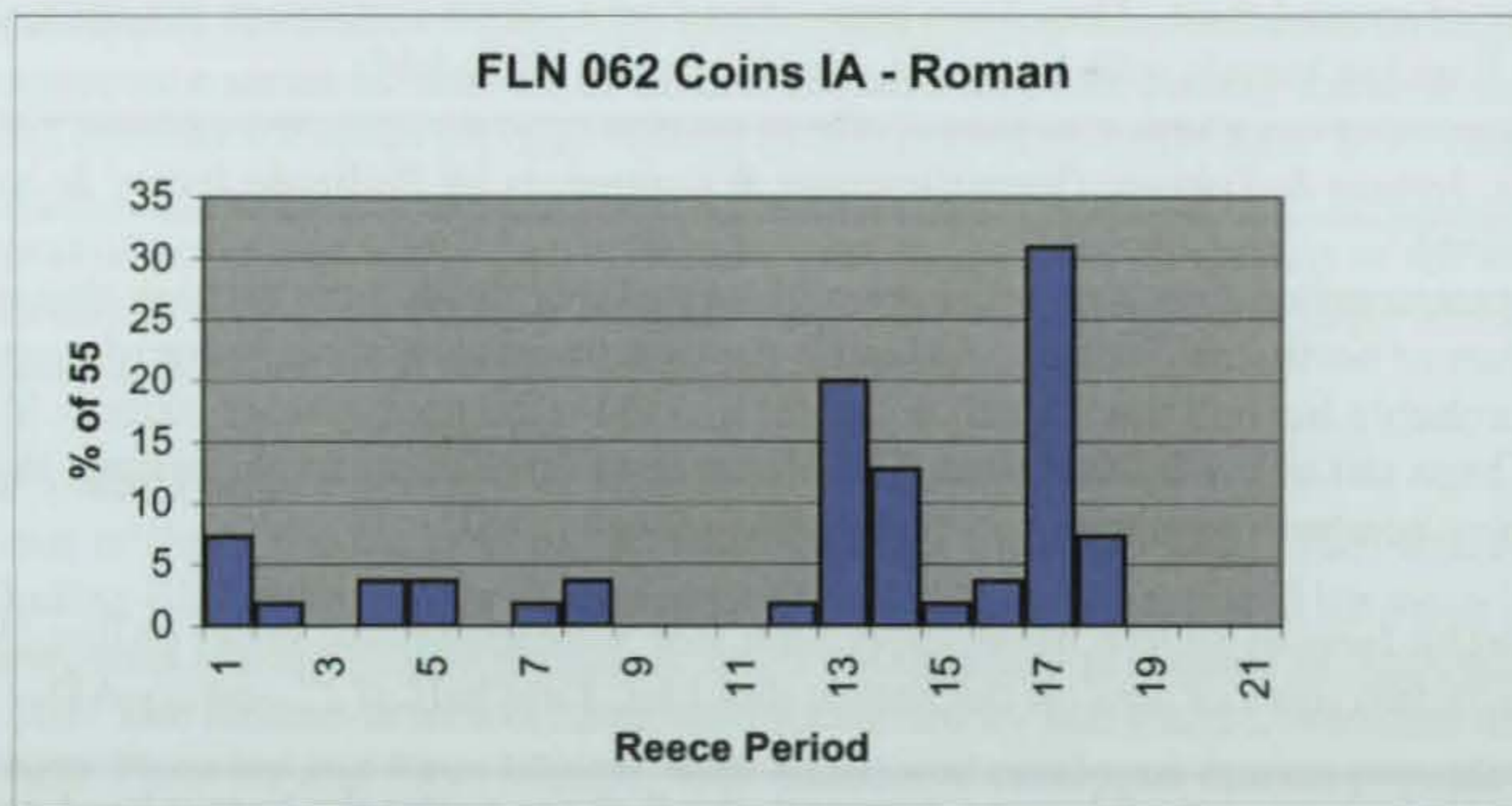


Table 84: Histogram of the Iron Age & Roman Coins from FLN 062

It is not easy to gauge the status of a Roman settlement from the coin evidence, but rural sites in Suffolk often produce a below average number of earlier (pre-AD260) coins, whereas this group is at or slightly above average numbers and includes three silver *denarii*, which suggests a continuation of the Iron Age pattern noted above. In the later period copper alloy coinage was the norm and was widespread; the percentage of copies is not particularly high.



Dress Accessories:

*Brooches:*

Fifteen Late Iron Age/Roman brooches were recovered from the site. All are unstratified and were retrieved through metal detecting, apart from SF 1178 which was found in the fill of a large pit 0260 cutting ditch 0305. These have been fully catalogued (Appendix IV. {E}).

**Comments:** (by Jude Plouviez) This is quite a substantial group of brooches for a rural settlement, and raises questions about other indications of site status. The date range is perhaps late Iron Age (Langton Down & Rosette {leontomorphe}) types, but perhaps oddly there are no Colchester types, suggesting a date of definite mid to late 1st century and continuing to the late 2nd or 3rd century. As normal the highest proportion are mid to late 1st century; as brooch loss normally drops markedly from the 2nd century. The high percentage of the double pierced lug version of the Colchester derivative and low presence of the rear hook type is surprising in north Suffolk, seemingly contradicting Mackreth's view that the rear hook is the Iceni type, replaced ?post Boudica by the double lug - and perhaps the sprung type. However this may be a site that sees limited activity c.AD 43-60 but is very active immediately after. The presence of several hinged Colchester derivatives accords well with other sites in NE Suffolk (including the ?small town at Wenhaston).

*Hairpins:*

Three bone hairpins were recovered from the site. One of these is complete, (SF 1212), and has a globular head and circular shaft. This particular type has been classified as a Colchester Type 3, and is dated to the mid or late 2nd to 4th century (Crummy, 1983, 22). A second bone pin, SF 1219 has snapped in two with the tip missing. It has a circular section shaft and is tapering. It has a plain head which is unfashioned, and dates to the early Roman period (Ian Ridler, *pers. comm.*). Both fragments were recovered from the upper fills of deposits associated with the kiln 0014.

A single copper alloy hairpin with blue glass infill (SF 1208) was found in pit fill 0291. The shaft of the pin is both circular in section and partially square, and is possibly rolled. The deep blue glass ball is held in a four-pronged claw setting. This particular kind of pin can be classified as a Group 14 type, Sub-group A (Cool, 1990). Parallels from Verulamium show that this group of pin-type was in existence by the middle of the second century, although the pottery from this context at Flixton appears to be slightly earlier.

*Armlet:*

A fragment of a cable armlet (SF 1176) was recovered from pit fill 0230. It is made from two strands of rectangular-sectioned copper alloy. Parallels from Hacheston suggest a date of 3rd -4th century for this type of armlet (Seeley, 111, 2004).

Toilet, Surgical or Pharmaceutical Instruments:

Two pairs of copper alloy tweezers were identified. One of these was recovered from pit fill 1610. It is complete and undecorated, with almost parallel-sided blades with pincers which curve inwards. A second, less well-preserved set is unstratified. It is also long bladed and undecorated, but it is possible that it is late medieval rather than Roman (SF 1152).

#### Household Objects:

A copper alloy ring handle SF 1007 is unstratified. This furniture fitting has a split-spike loop for attachment, and has a moulded section with a flattened back. A parallel for this object can be found in Crummy (81, Fig. 85, 2116). The example dates to the late Roman period (Period 4a).

Two fragments of lead (SFs 1183 & 1204) are circular plugs, which are probably vessel repairs of Roman date. Both are unstratified.

A single very small fragment of blue green vessel glass (SF 1165) was recovered from 0136, the upper fill of the north-east quadrant of the kiln 0016. It is slightly concave but is too fragmentary to identify further. Although resembling Roman soda glass, it is possible that it is later in date.

A fragment of Rhenish lava quernstone SF 1151 was found in the fill of a linear feature 0945 with several sherds of Roman pottery. This has been included in the quern catalogue and assessment.

Two possible Roman copper alloy studs were identified, SFs 1102 and 1260. Both are unstratified.

#### Weights & Measures:

Three Roman steelyard weights were identified from the excavation. One of these, SF 1092 was recovered from ditch fill 0040, and a second weight SF 1093 was present in ditch fill 0044. A third lead weight, SF 1258 is an unstratified metal detected find recovered from the area under the powerlines after topsoil stripping with a bulldozer. Two other unstratified lead artefacts may be possible Roman weights. One of these, SF 1111 has a square section and is tapered. The second of these is likely to be a netweight (SF 1076).

#### Objects associated with textile working:

A small and very abraded chalk spindlewhorl was recovered from pit fill 0334, a feature which also contained Roman pottery. Two further possible Roman lead spindlewhorls, SFs 1147 and 1254 are unstratified.

#### Bone & Antler Industrial Waste: (Ian Ridler)

SF 1224: A single fragment of bone waste which is probably Roman, may be evidence of pin-making in the vicinity. This fragment was recovered from an upper fill of the deposits associated with the kiln 0014.

#### Industrial Waste:

SF 1381: A small rim fragment from a single ceramic crucible was found in a pit fill 1521 containing charcoal flecks. The crucible is made from a fine micaceous fabric, and there is no evidence of any residue surviving.

#### ***Saxon Finds from Cemetery Contexts***

A total of ninety three artefacts were recovered from eleven early Saxon burials which were associated with the ring-ditch. The objects found are typical of those found in Early Saxon cemeteries dating to the 5th-7th centuries. These find types are quantified in the table below with a list of material types. A more detailed catalogue of these objects is presented in Appendix IV. {E}. The artefacts have not been discussed in any detail for the purposes of this assessment since they will be considered separately.

Category	Find type	No.
UN		3
DA	bead	52
DA	brooch	2
DA	buckle	8
MF	fitting	2
MF	ring	1
MW	shield boss	2
MW	shield grip	2
MW	shield mount	3
MW	spearhead	4
PE	knife	11
PE	latch lifter	2
PE	strike-a-light	1

**Table 85:** FLN 062: Early Saxon Grave Goods Types

Material	No	Weight (g)
Fe	34	2491
Cu alloy	6	52
Amber	34	45
Glass	18	19
Leather	1	1

**Table 86:** FLN 062: Early Saxon Grave Goods by Material Type

#### Conservation, Photography & Radiography:

The artefacts recovered from the Saxon burials have not been assessed in terms of conservation and analysis. They have been included with the rest of the material from the site for the purposes of radiography and packaging only to ensure their stability pending further work. . None of the artefacts from the cemetery have been assessed for long-term conservation costs.

All the iron and copper alloy artefacts apart from the Roman coins have been x-rayed. A number of minerally replaced organics from the cemetery such as wood and textiles were found in association with individual objects, some still *in situ*. It is suggested that these should be digitally photographed in case they become detached from their original position, so that the specialists can consult these images during the analysis stage.

The amber and glass beads have been carefully brushed to remove dirt so they can be weighed clean. These objects are stable and have been repackaged and photographed. The iron and copper alloy grave goods have been repackaged and re-boxed individually.

A single small fragment of leather survived in grave 1860 along with an iron knife and a buckle and some glass and one amber bead. It appears to have some iron still adhering to it, and so has been x-rayed.

#### ***Saxon Finds from Non-Cemetery Contexts***

In addition to the cemetery finds a number of small finds of Early Saxon date were recovered through metal detecting or were surface finds. These are summarised briefly below, with category entries in Appendix IV. {E}.

**Dress accessories:**

Two copper alloy small finds, SF 1084 and SF 1168, may form part of the same wrist clasp, with one of the fragments being the catchpiece and the other part having the hook element. These have been initially identified as Hines type B.

A copper alloy small long brooch SF 1077 dating to the Early Saxon period was also identified .

**Objects Associated With Textile Working:**

A fragmentary bone shaft, probably part of a Saxon pinbeater (SF 1223) was found in a deposit 0620, between the stoke pit and the kiln 0014. The fragment is tapered and approximately circular or oval in section but is roughly finished. It is broken at both ends. (identified as probably Saxon by Ian Ridler, but comes from a secure Roman context)

***Medieval***

There is sparse evidence of late Saxon or medieval activity on the site, although a very small number of objects were recovered through metal detecting.

**Dress Accessories:**

A small decorative copper alloy mount or stud which is riveted through a piece of leather (SF 1156) is an unstratified find. The decoration is a multi-petalled flower, perhaps a heraldic rose, which is fixed by a single central copper alloy rivet. Such mounts, which decorated leather straps and girdles as well as textiles, date to the 14th-15th century (Egan & Pritchard, 1991, 62).

**Weights & Measures:**

A small unstratified perforated lead object may be a medieval weight, or perhaps less likely, a spindlewhorl (SF 1029).

***Post-medieval***

A greater quantity of artefacts date to the post-medieval period, including some which are clearly modern. The small finds include a number of post-medieval coins and a jetton, six fragments of lead shot, and two fragments of post-medieval glass. A well-preserved copper alloy buckle with decorative plate was also identified.

**Coins, Jettons & tokens:**

A total of five post-medieval coins were recovered, and a single jetton. These comprised:

SF 1227: a possible Charles I farthing

SF 1191: a George II farthing

SF 1228: a George V halfpenny

SF 1190: an unspecified penny

SF 1232: an unspecified farthing

SF 1230: a Nuremburg jetton

**Military Equipment & Weaponry:**

Five examples of lead musket balls were recorded, three of which are unstratified metal detected finds (SFs 1001, 1029 & 1030). The remaining two pieces were recovered from pit fill 0360.

***Identified Objects of Uncertain Date***

A small quantity of identifiable artefacts have not been dated. These include a number of ferrous objects, such as spur (SF 1189), which was found in pit fill 0360 and which is likely to be post-medieval. In addition a horseshoe SF 1193 was found in pit fill 0398, and a second unstratified one was also recovered (SF 1256). Two iron objects were recovered from ditch fill 0040. One of these SF 1086 is a conical bell, and SF 1043 is a large iron bar or ingot.

Fifty-eight small find numbers were allocated for iron nails. A small number of these are associated with the Saxon burials, but the majority of them are miscellaneous finds recovered through metal detecting.

Many fragments of undated lead waste or melted scrap were recovered, which cannot be dated.

***Recommendations for Further Work***

**Roman:**

Further research on coin identification is suggested on certain coins such as SF 1724, plus allocation of comparative catalogue numbers (RIC, LRBC).

The spatial distribution of the coins should be examined and discussed.

A more thorough study of the relative quantities in comparison with other assemblages in the region and beyond, particularly for the 1st/2nd century and for the distinctive 4th century cessation would be worthwhile.

All the Iron Age coins should be photographed and copies deposited with the Celtic Coin Index in Oxford.

An investigation of the spatial distribution of the Roman brooches is necessary, both within the site of FLN 062, with other elements of the Flixton project and with other sites in the region.

Although mainly unstratified, a number of other Roman artefacts were recovered which have the potential to add to the overall interpretation of the site. The Iron Age and Roman small finds should be considered in the light of the other finds types recovered from the excavation, such as the pottery, CBM and quern fragments, in order to establish the nature, extent and duration of the Roman settlement.

The fragment of possible Roman glass requires confirmation.

**Saxon:**

Fuller catalogue entries are required for the Saxon wrist clasp fragments and the Saxon brooch.

**Medieval & Later:**

A small amount of further identification and dating work can be done following on from the radiography, such as the iron spur and the horseshoes. Otherwise no further work is recommended.

**FLN 063**

A small number of pits dating to the Early Roman period were excavated towards the south-western part of the site. In addition three ditches, two of which date to the Iron Age and Roman periods were identified. A small quantity of bulk finds were recovered, and a total of twenty one small finds, the vast majority of which came from metal detecting of subsoil and topsoil.

<b>Small finds material</b>	<b>No.</b>
Copper alloy	11
Lead	2
Iron	3
Flint	1
Silver	3
Modern alloy	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>21</b>

**Table 87:** FLN 063: Small Finds by Count

***Prehistoric***

**Miscellaneous Tools:**

A single fragment of worked flint (SF 1014) recovered from pit fill 0026 has been catalogued in the main flint assessment. This unusual piece, which is possibly a drill bit, is likely to date to the Neolithic period, but further research for parallels is required.

***Medieval***

A small number of copper alloy objects are medieval in date, and provide some suggestion of activity in the surrounding area, mainly concentrated in the thirteenth-fourteenth centuries. The finds include two medieval coins, one of which dates to the thirteenth century (SF 1011).

**Dress Accessories:**

SF 1000: A copper alloy buckle with annular frame, with a tapering collet which is angled outwards and which contains the remains of a possible glass stone was recovered from metal detecting. The pin has become separated from the rest of the brooch. A similar but plainer example from Swan Lane from the Museum of London collection dates to Ceramic Phase 9, 1270-1350 (Egan and Pritchard 254 Fig 164 No 1335).

SF 1006: A fragment of a medieval copper alloy solid one-piece strap-end is decorated with a trefoil terminal with incised decoration on both sides. The strap-end has a slot at the other end. One-piece cast strap-ends are found from the Anglo-Saxon period but are not frequent after the late thirteenth century when composite forms were more common. By the late fourteenth century the forms was experiencing a revival (Egan & Pritchard 151).

**Post-medieval**

**Dress Accessories:**

SF 1003: A nearly complete copper alloy buckle dating to the early post-medieval period was recovered. It is double-looped with a central bar, and has a simple lobe at the junction of the bar and frame, with fleur-de-lys type embellishments on the outer edges. Slightly less decorated examples from Norwich are found in deposits dating to the seventeenth century (Margeson 1993, 28).

SF 1007: A small copper alloy buckle with a rectangular, or nearly trapezoidal frame. Post-medieval, perhaps late.

**Household Objects:**

SF 1002: A small fragment of a copper alloy sewing ring or thimble is hand-punched with unevenly spaced indentations or holes. Such ring-type thimbles are found in British contexts from c.1450 (Holmes, 1991 1).

SF 1007: A small copper alloy buckle with a rectangular, or nearly trapezoidal frame. Post-medieval, perhaps late.

**Coins, Jettons & Tokens:**

Four post-medieval coins were identified.

SF 1009: A single very worn silver coin dating to the reign of Elizabeth (1558-1603) requires further study.

SF 1001: A farthing dated to Charles I's reign was also recovered.

Two additional coins date to the reigns of George III and Victoria (SFs 1019 & 1008 respectively).

**Recommendations for Further Work**

Since full catalogue entries have been made for the medieval artefacts, which were not stratified but were recovered through metal detecting, no further work is required. The same can be said for the post-medieval finds, apart from one of the coins which could be studied further.

**FLN 064**

A number of significant features of probable prehistoric date were recorded from the stripping of this area, which lay to the east of FLN 061. In addition, several ditches forming field boundaries were identified, and a wooded area which was also ditched. Only a small quantity of bulk finds was recovered, and a total of fourteen small finds, including three iron nails.

Apart from the undated featureless fragments, the remainder of the small finds date to the post-medieval period.

<u>Small finds material</u>	<u>No.</u>
Copper alloy	3
Lead	2
Iron	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>

**Table 88:** FLN 064: Small Finds by Count

### ***Post-medieval***

#### **Coins, Jettons & tokens:**

A single very worn, copper alloy farthing dating to the reign of George II (1746-60) was unstratified (SF 1013).

#### **Objects Associated with Transport, Agriculture & Animal Husbandry:**

Three horseshoes were also recovered from the fills of ditches. Two of these, SFs 1008 and 1009 were found in 0029 with post-medieval artefacts. The third horseshoe, SF 1011 is smaller and was found in the fill of a ditch 0032 which forms part of a feature which was also recorded on the site at FLN 061.

A cartridge and a lead bullet are modern (SFs 1004 & 1003).

#### **Objects of Unknown or Unspecified Function or Uncertain Identification:**

A lead square tag stamped with the number 13 is also modern (SF 1002).

### ***Undated***

A small number of artefacts are undateable. These include three iron nails (SFs 1001, 1005 & 1007), two further fragments of iron (SF 1006 & 1014) and an unstratified copper alloy stud or mount (SF 1012).

### ***Recommendations for Further Work***

No further work on the small finds is required, although the x-rays of the horseshoes should be studied to establish their date.

### **3.3.3 Overall Statement of Archaeological Potential**

In the first instance a full analysis of the prehistoric and Roman artefacts recovered from the different excavations included in this assessment will provide detailed dating information for the stratigraphic sequences of the individual sites.

A study of the prehistoric artefacts, mainly the ceramics and the worked flint will provide significant evidence on the nature, extent and date of the settlement at Flixton Park. The prehistoric ceramic assemblage in particular is of regional, if not national significance and merits further analysis. The Earlier Neolithic pottery groups, notably from FLN 057 should be studied further, as opportunities to examine comparatively large pit groups from settlement sites which have been excavated using modern archaeological methods are rare. The Late Neolithic Early Bronze Age is also well represented with the assemblages from FLN 057, FLN 059, FLN 061 and FLN 062. The relatively large amounts of Beaker and Grooved ware deposited into 'domestic' pits in a settlement and other features offer a valuable opportunity to expand the study of these ceramics, both within the context of the site and within the larger realm of regional and national ceramic studies. The possibility of radiocarbon dates may also provide a valuable contribution to establishing a greater understanding of the ceramics of this period. Further work undertaken on the Later Bronze Age Early Iron Age pottery from FLN 059 and associated dating may also contribute to developing ceramic chronologies for this period. Comparisons can be made with other assemblages from Flixton such as FLN013 and 053.

The flint assemblage has also considerable potential, especially when supported by so much ceramic evidence. A close examination of the flint and the pottery, particularly



from FLN 057 and FLN 059, may provide indications of deliberate or 'structured' deposits in pits during the Later Neolithic period, which have been found elsewhere in the region. In addition a number of flints are of intrinsic significance, and will require further study. A hand-axe of Palaeolithic date was recovered from FLN 061, for example.

A full analysis including detailed spatial distribution of the above finds types will contribute to a better understanding of the nature and extent of the land usage during the earliest periods. Some of the sites show evidence of activity dating to the Early Iron Age, with FLN 057 also providing artefacts dating to the Middle Iron Age. Most of the sites have finds dating to the later Iron Age, providing an indication of continuity of settlement from the Iron Age through to the Early Roman period.

A study of certain types of finds may provide evidence on the nature and character of the Iron Age settlement in this part of the region. The Late Iron Age small finds for example, include a number of high quality silver coins and a gold stater of Icenian character (Plouviez, this report). In addition the quantity of Iron Age/Roman brooches recovered from FLN 062 may also suggest that the settlement at Flinton may be of a relatively high status. The decorated *phalera* recovered through metal detecting at FLN 059 provides important evidence of a possible early Roman military connection. Such harness fittings are associated with the presence of the legionary cavalry (Bishop & Coulston 105). Similar military pendants from British sites are rare, although they are found on the continent. A larger and more ornate pendant, with other artefacts which have a military association were found on the site of the possible mansio at 15-23 Southwark Street, London (Stevenson, 1992, 82). The imported finewares identified from FLN 062 which date to the first half of the first century may also indicate that the site was more than an ordinary settlement. Further work on the finds and the stratigraphy will enable these questions to be explored more fully. What was the character of the settlement, was it primarily domestic and agricultural. Are there any other indications of it having a military function – were there any defensive features identified on site?

A combined study of the artefacts, together with an examination of their spatial distribution will provide considerable evidence of the settlement from the Iron Age into the Roman period. Further finds analysis will contribute to a discussion on how long the Roman settlement continued over different parts of the site, and how its character changed through time. The differences in the dating of the Roman kilns raises a number of questions, which further analysis of the material from within the kilns may shed light on, together with a study of other artefacts. Preliminary analysis of the pottery from FLN 062 suggests that there is not much evidence of activity dating beyond the mid to late 3rd century (Cathy Tester, this report).

A provisional study of the Roman small finds show a range of domestic household objects and items of personal adornment, which are wide ranging in date. In addition the presence of several steelyard weights suggest the possibility of a commercial activity.

Apart from the kilns recorded from FLN 062, there is limited evidence of industrial activity, in the form of metal working waste scattered through the ditches and pits, and a sherd from a crucible. Animal bone, also from FLN 062 included fragments which showed evidence of possible hornworking. Further industrial activity is

suggested by the presence of both red and roe deer antlers, the latter recovered in the same fill as the chopped horn.

The presence of the two kilns and their associated products will provide an important addition to the growing number of production sites which have been identified in the region, most notably in Suffolk and Norfolk. Selective scientific analysis of the kiln superstructure, clay samples and waster sherds may also prove informative.

The nature of the finds assemblages will be discussed, for example, whether they are domestic/agricultural/industrial. The evidence will be compared with other sites in the region. Comparable sites may be Handford Road, Ipswich, Scole, and possibly Fison Way, Thetford for the Iron Age/Roman period.

The archaeological features which date to the Saxon period were restricted mainly to FLN 061, where there was evidence of a substantial area of settlement featuring a total of nineteen buildings, a square enclosure and a ditch. The fact that the settlement evidence from Flixton consists of more than a group of sunken-featured buildings shows that it has significant potential in terms of regional research objectives for this period (Wade, 1997, 48). The ceramic assemblage can therefore be compared to other groups from settlement sites in the region and any differences discussed. A fuller description of the fabrics and decorative elements will be provided and comparisons made with sites such as Carlton Colville, Eriswell, West Stow, and in South Norfolk Grange Farm, Snetterton (A11), (NAU client report) and Broome (NAU client report).

Preliminary analysis of the ceramic assemblage from the site shows that although some of the pottery has 5th century characteristics, much of the pottery may date to the 6th century, with indications of continuity into the 7th century (Anderson, this report). Although the quantity of pottery recovered from the SFB's and pits is not large, the spatial distribution of the ceramics and other finds types may provide more refinement on the dating of different features, and a study of the deposition, condition and movement of the pottery could also be productive for interpreting the site. In addition an analysis of the spatial distribution of the slag may confirm that metal-working was taking place here in the Early Saxon period (Sarah Paynter, this report). There is also some evidence of horn and antler working during the early Saxon period (Curl, this report).

The group of Anglo-Saxon burials which were associated with the ring-ditch have not been assessed in this document, since they will be included in separate report which concentrates on the complete cemetery assemblage. However the relationship between the settlement site and the cemetery is a topic which requires examination. It is hoped that a combination of a study of the finds and stratigraphy will enable us to establish whether the settlement at Flixton was a small, short-lived farmstead or hamlet with no definable plan, or whether it was more substantial.

Very little evidence of medieval activity was recorded from any of the sites. A number of non-ferrous artefacts dating to this period were metal detected and are listed as small finds. Since they cannot be related to any archaeological features of this date and are not intrinsically of great significance, it is recommended that they are not included in any publication. Small quantities of pottery of medieval and late medieval date were recovered from FLN 061 and FLN 062, but no further work is suggested beyond initial identification and dating.

Other metal detected artefacts of post-medieval date were identified from most of the sites. It is not envisaged that any further work is required on this material, except possibly for one of the coins (SF 1009) from FLN 063. All the post-medieval pottery was recovered from FLN 061. It has been fully catalogued and is likely to date to the early part of the twentieth century.

### 3.4 The Biological Evidence

#### 3.4.1 Animal Bone (Julie Curl)

##### Introduction

Of the seven individual sites excavated, four sites (FLN 059, FLN 061, FLN 062 & FLN 063) produced faunal remains. These sites yielded a total of 32.786kg of bone, although preservation and recovery of bone varied considerably between areas (see Table 89).

Site Code	Wt. of Assemblage each site kg.	% of Whole Assemblage from Flixton
FLN 059	0.920	3%
FLN 061	15.210	46%
FLN 062	16.655	51%
FLN 063	0.001	<.5%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>32.786</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 89:** Total Weights of Bone Recovered from Each Site at Flixton Park Quarry

##### Methodology

All the bone from the small assemblage of FLN 059 was briefly scanned primarily to determine range of species and elements present and the amount of material that could produce measurable, ageable and countable data. The scan and assessment were carried out following a modified version of guidelines by English Heritage (Davis, 1992). A note was also made of butchering and any indications of skinning, hornworking and other modifications. When possible a record was made of ages and any other relevant information, such as pathologies. Counts and weights were noted for each context examined. Due to the fragmentary nature of this assemblage no measurements were taken.

For the larger assemblages of FLN 061 and FLN 062, all the bone was scanned primarily to determine range of species and elements present and the amount of material that could produce measurable, ageable bone, and the presence of possible bone, horn or antler working. Randomly selected contexts were picked to be assessed in more detail, and for the material in these contexts a note was also made of butchering and any indications of skinning, hornworking and other modifications. When possible a record was made of ages and any other relevant information, such as pathologies. Counts and weights were noted for each context which was examined in more detail.

All information was recorded on the faunal remains recording sheets. The scan and assessment were carried out following a modified version of guidelines by English Heritage (Davis, 1992). Tables providing a summary of the contexts assessed in more detail from the four sites are presented as Appendix III. {H}.

#### FLN 059

##### Summary

A total of nine hundred and twenty grams of bone, consisting of two hundred and forty-six pieces, were recovered from excavations at FLN 059. The faunal remains were derived from a variety of pit and post-hole fills that range in date from Neolithic to Roman. Overall the assemblage is in quite poor condition, although many contexts produced identifiable butchered remains of the main domesticated mammals and bird bone, along with evidence of canid gnawing.

### **Results & Conclusions by Period**

**Neolithic:** One context, pit fill 0304 dated to the later Neolithic period and produced a total of eight grams of bone. The bone consisted of fragments of adult cattle molars.

**Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age:** A total of one hundred and sixty three grams of bone was recovered from seven contexts dated to the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age. Context 0093 produced four fragments of adult pig phalange. Context 0196 fourteen pieces of juvenile or young adult cattle molars while context 0216 produced eleven pieces of adult sheep/goat molars. A chopped adult cattle talus and molar were recovered from context 0263. Most of the bone not identified to species had been burnt, some at quite high temperature; burnt bone was noted in 0422, 0426 and 0428. Several fragments of bone also showed canid gnawing, this gnawing could have been from domestic dogs or from scavenging wolves.

**Late Iron Age/Roman:** Thirteen contexts dating to the later Iron-Age/Roman period produced a total of seven hundred and twenty nine grams of animal bone. Adult equid molars were found in context 0618. Four contexts produced elements of sheep/goat, including a chopped humerus in 0620 and a chopped mandible in 0610. All of the sheep/goat remains were from adults, this would suggest that they were culled for meat later in life after breeding, producing fleeces and supplying milk; sheep and goat would have been the most popular animals for milk and other dairy products in this period. Cattle elements were found in two contexts (0610 & 620) alongside remains of sheep/goat. The cattle bones included a butchered scapula, mandible and metatarsal. The cattle bones were also from adults. Cattle would have been predominately draught animals in the Iron-Age and Roman period. An equid metatarsal was recovered from 0460, no butchering was noted on this bone, as with cattle, horses and mules were kept largely as draught and riding animals. A single galliforme scapula was found in 0460; fowl would have been kept in most urban environments for a supply of both meat and eggs during this period.

Over half of the bone in the Roman period was fragmentary, in poor condition and only identifiable as 'mammal'. Burnt remains were produced from context 0646. Canid gnawing was noted on some bone from 0610 and 0620, this may have been the remains of food given to domestic dogs or as a result of scavenging by wolves.

Much of the bone from this period could only be identified as 'mammal' due to the high fragmentation.

**Undated Material:** One undated context produced a small quantity of bone. Equid molar fragments weighing twenty grams were retrieved from (0156).

### **Recommendations for Further Work**

No further work is recommended on this assemblage.

### **Flixton 061**

#### **Summary**

A total of 15.210kg of faunal remains were recovered from excavations at FLN 061. Of this, several contexts from each box were selected for assessment totalling 6.344kg. A range of species were identified during the assessment, including the main domesticated food animals, as well as equids and deer. Butchering evidence was identified throughout the material and the assemblage included antler working waste and possible hornworking.

### **Results**

The complete assemblage weighs a total of 15.210kg. The bulk of the material is derived from the Early Saxon period (over 75%), undated material represents just under 21%, post-medieval bone weighs some 2.5%; the prehistoric, Roman and more modern groups weighed less than one percent each.

Only 42% of the whole assemblage was assessed, weighing a total of 6.344kg. Of the material assessed, 83% came from Early Saxon contexts, less than one percent was dated to the post-medieval period and just over 16% was material from undated contexts.

**Pre Saxon Material:** Bone from Roman and Prehistoric contexts amounted to a total of sixty-six grams and represented less than half a percent of the whole assemblage. The bone from these periods were in poor condition.

**Early Saxon:** Most of the material from the early Saxon period consisted of the primary and secondary butchered remains of cattle, sheep/goat and pig. The cattle remains included possible evidence of hornworking, with chopped horns noted in at least two contexts; skinning of cattle and pathological specimens were also observed. The bone examined from sheep/goat and pig were derived from both adults and juveniles. Many of the pig bones were from older adults, which may suggest hunting of local wild boar as most domesticated pigs are culled as juveniles or young adults. At least three juvenile pigs of around six months old were noted in one Saxon context, possibly an indication of a seasonal cull. Remains of equid and domestic birds were also identified from this period.

The early Saxon period also produced antler working in the form of a tine that has been sawn or cut and appears to have a hole through the centre of the tine running the whole length of the piece. The antler tine also appears to show rodent gnawing.

Much of the bone from the Saxon period is in reasonably good condition with numerous ageable and measureable elements included. Gnawing was noted on some bones.

**Post Medieval:** Bone from contexts of a post medieval date accounted for just under three percent of the whole assemblage and less than one percent of the assessed material. The material assessed included large mammal bone and butchered rabbit.

**Undated Contexts:** Material from undated contexts produced 3.188kg of bone, almost twenty-one percent of the assemblage. Approximately a third of the undated material was examined in the assemblage. The remains consisted of primary butchering waste from cattle and pig, some of which showed signs of canid gnawing. Bone from context 1198 included several elements from an adult equid, butchering was noted on some of the equid bone that suggested the animal had been skinned and possibly used for meat (N.B. This context has since been rephased and is now considered to be of Early Saxon and representing fill in a section of the rectangular enclosure ditch around a possible shrine, Stuart Boulter, *pers. comm.*).

### **Conclusions**

Based on the material assessed it would appear that most of the assemblage was derived from both primary and secondary butchering waste, which would suggest that

all of the processing was carried out locally. The assessment also produced modified antler and chopped horn that would indicate that both of these materials were worked on or close to site.

### ***Recommendations for Further Work***

Bone from the Early Saxon contexts should be examined in more detail. There is potential in the material from this period to produce further evidence of horn and antler working, skinning and pathological information. Butchering evidence was frequent in the Saxon material and many bones are able to give data on ages and types of animals used on site at this time. It is recommended that the Saxon material should be recorded as fully as possible with measurements, a full catalogue and comparison with other sites of the same date. Comparison could be made with other sites, both locally and nationally, of the same period. The possibility of obtaining a radiocarbon determination of the articulated equid bones in context 1198 should be explored.

Bone derived from Roman, prehistoric and post medieval contexts only amounted to just over three percent of the whole assemblage. These bones should be examined and catalogued, but in depth analysis would not be worthwhile for such a small quantity of material. The undated material examined did produce a probable skinned equid and may produce further interesting bone. However, unless these currently undated contexts can be assigned to a period, they should only be briefly scanned and a basic catalogue of the material should be produced.

## **Flixton 062**

### ***Summary***

Overall, a total of 16.655kg of faunal remains were recovered from excavations at FLN 062. Of the total bone produced from the site, 8.270kg of bone, representing almost 50% of the assemblage, was assessed. The vast majority of the bone was found in deposits with Prehistoric and Roman pottery. All of the main domesticated species of mammal and bird were identified in the assessed material, along with evidence of at least two species of deer and butchered rabbits.

### ***Results***

Most of the assessed material is in good condition, although a few contexts produced bone that was in quite poor condition with softer, more powdery surfaces. Many bones were complete or reasonable complete and could be measured for further information; many bones had been butchered to some degree and some showed a high degree of fragmentation.

**Bone Recovered with Prehistoric & Roman Pottery:** Of the assessed bone, 6.715kg, consisting of eight hundred and nineteen pieces, was recovered from pit, ditch and kiln fills containing prehistoric or Roman pottery. Much of the bone recovered from these fills consisted of the butchered remains of adult and juvenile cattle, sheep/goat/deer and pig, with cattle being the predominant species. Bone from the domesticated species appears to be both primary and secondary butchering and food waste.

Chopped cattle horncores were found in two of the assessed contexts and may be an indication of hornworking. In one context, 0581, these horncores were found with fragments of Roe deer antler. As chopped horn and fragments of antler were found together this could further suggest industrial activity on this site.

An additional antler from a Red Deer was also found in a fill of a ring ditch. The antler from context 1817 is also interesting as it was found in the same fill as butchered rabbit remains. The rabbit bones included the remains of at least two individuals in 1817 and the remains of at least four individual rabbits were found in another fill, 1818, in the same ring-ditch.

Butchered animal remains were also recovered with human bone in a grave fill 1717. Burnt fragments of bone were noticed in at least three contexts and a possible pathology was noted on cattle bone from one context.

**Bone with Roman Pottery:** During the assessment 1.533kg of bone was examined that had been recovered with only Roman pottery. This bone consisted of the butchered elements from the main domesticated mammals and birds. Clear skinning evidence was observed in 0347, along with burnt fragments; canid gnawing was also noticed in the same context.

### **Conclusions**

This is a potentially interesting assemblage. The presence of chopped horncores, especially those retrieved with antler fragments, does suggest horn working on or near to site and possibly antler working.

If the butchered rabbit remains found with Roman (& prehistoric) pottery are of a Roman date or earlier, they are of particular interest; these rabbits could contribute to the growing evidence for rabbits, in one form or other, in Roman Britain. If recovered from a Roman or Pre-Roman fill then they can be compared to similar finds from sites in Norfolk and a Roman Villa site in Sussex (Simon Parfitt, *pers. comm.*).

The presence of butchered animal bone in a grave fill with human bone is also interesting, these bones may be the remains of 'food' for the deceased person placed in the grave for use in the afterlife.

The range in the ages of the domesticated animals, from neonatal to mature adults, suggests that animals were bred on or close to site.

### **Recommendations for Further Work**

This assemblage contains some interesting material with probable evidence of horn working, possible antler working. The group also includes possible evidence of the early introduction of rabbits into Britain. The vast majority of the assemblage appears to be of an early date and this material should be fully identified, measured and recorded. Comparisons should be made with material of a similar date from Suffolk, adjoining Norfolk and other sites countrywide. If there is uncertainty with the date of the possible Roman rabbit bones, these bones could be sent for a Carbon 14 dating.

### **Flixton 063**

FLN 063 produced a very small quantity of animal bone, only one gram. No further work is recommended for this part of the excavation.

### **3.4.2 Human Skeletal Remains (Sue Anderson)**

A full report on the inhumed skeletal remains from FLN 062 grave 1776 has already been written (Anderson, 2003) and this is reproduced here with the Catalogue and Plates forming Appendix III. {I}. No further work is required on this burial. A few

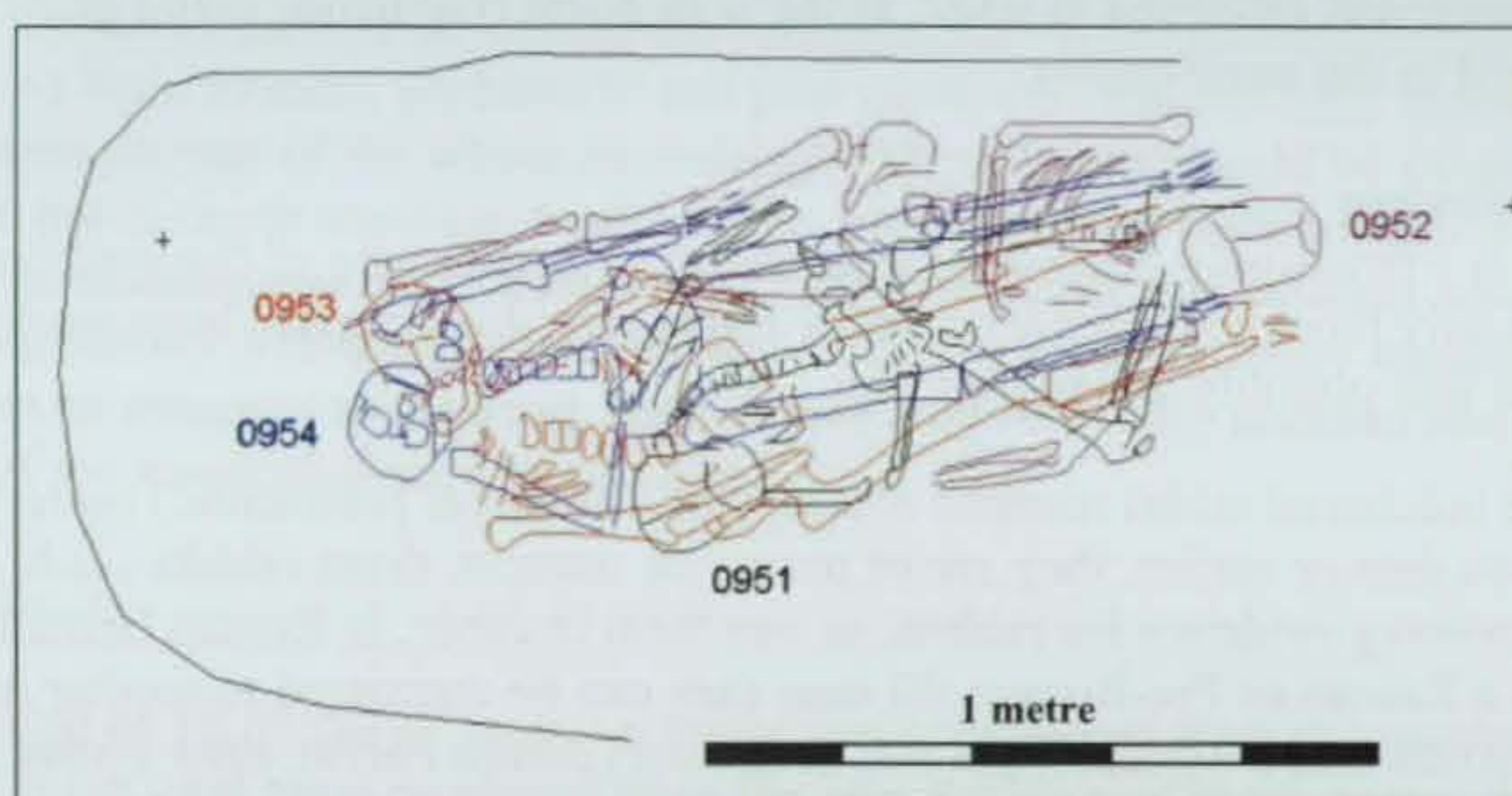
scraps of bone were recovered from the Saxon cemetery at FLN 062, but they are not included in this assessment.

Cremated or calcined bone deposits were recovered from FLN 056, FLN 057, FLN 059 and FLN 064.

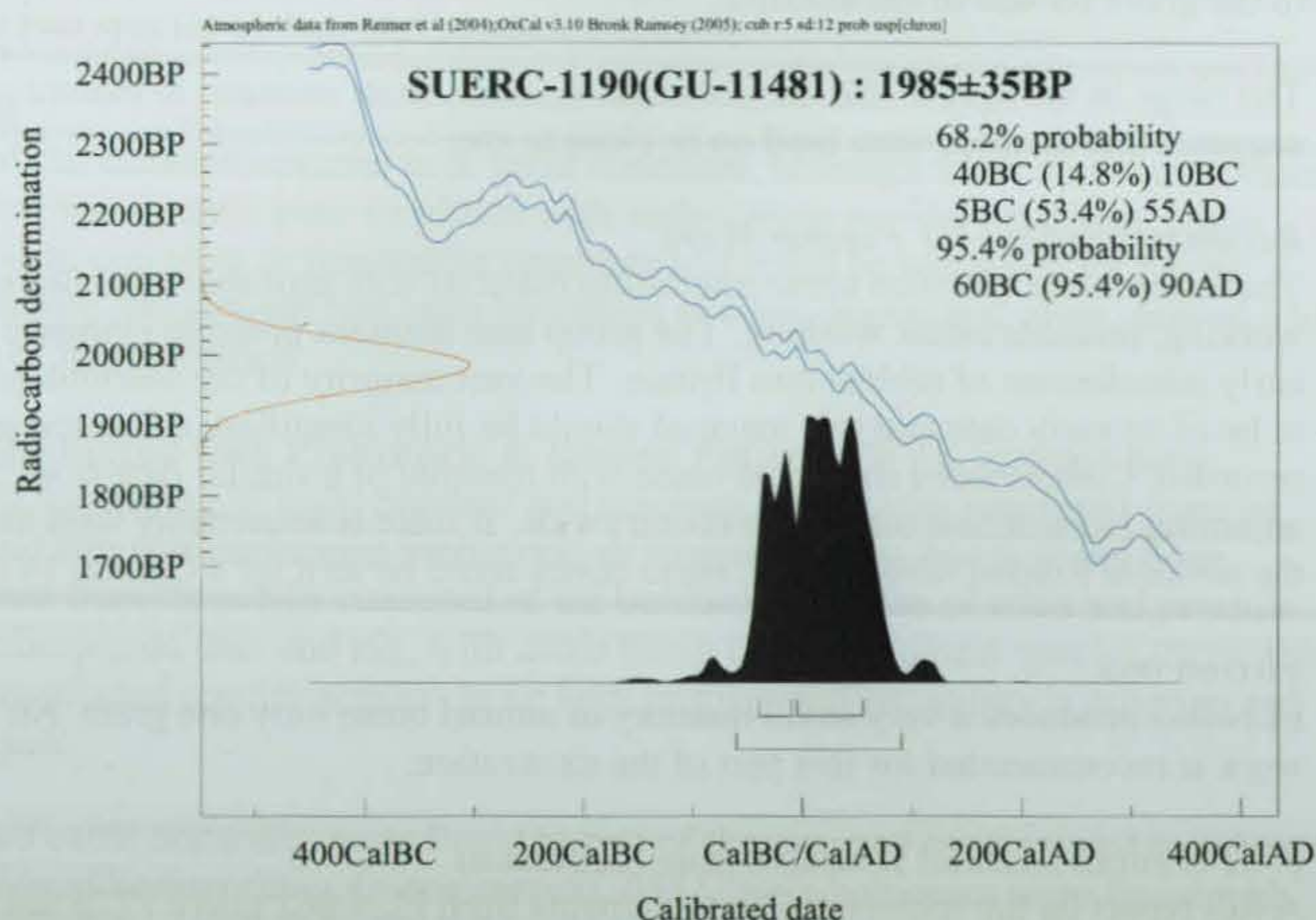
### **Inhumation Burials (FLN 062, Grave 1776)**

#### ***Introduction***

Four skeletons were recovered from a single burial (1776, Fig. 70) within an area of Roman activity at Flixton Quarry in 2001. The grave was cut through a Late/Iron Age/Roman feature and contained redeposited Roman pottery and other finds. A radiocarbon determination undertaken on a fragment of fibula from skeleton 0951 (SUERC-1190{GU-11481}) the calibrated plot is presented as Fig. 71.



**Fig. 70** FLN 062: 1:20 Scale Plan of Grave 1776



**Fig. 71** FLN 062 0951, Calibrated Radiocarbon Date



**Methodology**

Measurements were taken using the methods described by Brothwell (1981), together with a few from Bass (1971) and Krogman (1978). Sexing and ageing techniques follow Brothwell (1981) and the Workshop of European Anthropologists (WEA 1980), with the exception of adult tooth wear scoring which follows Bouts and Pot (1989). Stature was estimated according to the regression formulae of Trotter and Gleser (Trotter, 1970). All systematically scored non-metric traits are listed in Brothwell (1981), and grades of cribra orbitalia and osteoarthritis can also be found there. Pathological conditions were identified with the aid of Ortner and Putschar (1981) and Cotta (1978). A full Catalogue of the burials and the Plates appears as Appendix III. {I}.

**Condition**

Three of the four skeletons were assessed as ‘good’ and the fourth, the one buried lowest in the grave, was ‘fair’. Bones from all areas of each individual were recovered, although some of the smaller bones of the extremities were missing. Slight erosion was apparent on some bones, and several were broken post-mortem.

**Demographic Analysis**

The estimated ages and sexes of the four individuals are listed in Table 90.

Sk. No.	Age	Sex
0951	c.15-16	Unknown
0952	Middle-aged	Female
0953	Middle-aged+	Male
0954	Middle-aged+	Female

**Table 90:** FLN 062: Age & Sex of Burials

**Metrical & Morphological Analysis**

Tables of measurements and non-metric traits for the articulated skeletons are provided in the Appendix IV. {I}.

**Stature:** Stature was estimated for all three adult individuals. The two females were of similar heights, 152.9cm (5’ ¼”) for 0952 and 154.4cm (5’ ¾”) for 0954. The male (0953) was 162.5cm (5’ 4”). These figures are all well below average for individuals of Roman to medieval date.

**Cranial Indices:** The breadth/length cranial index was calculated for all four individuals. Two, 0952 and 0953, were in the dolichocranial (narrow) ranges and the other two were mesocranial (medium). This range would fit best with a Roman or Saxon date. Other indices were recorded and are listed in Appendix III. {I}.

**Non-Metric Traits:** A few of the less common non-metric traits were present in this group. For example, two individuals (0952 & 0953) had *tori mandibulares*; three of the four had complete supra-orbital foramina on one or both sides; a small ossicle was present at the lambda of 0953; 0954 had an epipteric bone; 0952 and 0954 had occipital buns; and both 0953 and 0954 had a single large lambdoid wormian bone in the left side of the suture. Some of these traits, where they occur in more than one individual, may indicate a family relationship within the group, but this is difficult to interpret without a larger group from the same population to give a more general picture of trait prevalence.

**Dental Analysis**

All four individuals had fairly complete dentitions, with only a small area of maxilla missing from 0954.

All permanent teeth of the sub-adult *0951* were present, although the third molars were unerupted. No dental disease was present other than medium deposits of calculus on the anterior surface of the mandibular teeth.

*0952* also had all of her adult teeth with the exception of the third molars, but in this individual they were probably congenitally absent. A small abscess was present periapically on the upper right canine, and she too had moderate calculus deposits.

*0953* had lost four teeth post-mortem and five ante-mortem. There were abscesses on the upper right first molar (lost ante-mortem) and the lower left first molar (lost post-mortem?). Three of the four third molars were not present, but it was unclear whether they had never erupted or had been lost ante-mortem. There was slight-medium calculus, and enamel hypoplasia had affected the teeth between the ages of c.3-5 years. Tooth loss had resulted in uneven wear on the upper left second molar and the lower left third molar. Damage to some of the teeth could be related to an occupational use.

The upper right first, second and possibly third molars of *0954* had been lost ante-mortem and there were abscessed on the first and second. Caries affected the upper right second premolar, the lower right third molar, and the lower left first molar. The latter also had an abscess. All carious lesions had probably originated interstitial cervically, although that in the lower left first molar had removed a large part of the crown, causing the associated abscess. There was heavy calculus lingually, and hypoplasia had affected the enamel formation at c.2-3 years of age. The abscess on the upper right first molar had caused a large fistula to form into the sinus, and both maxillary sinuses had large areas of woven bone formation related to sinusitis.

### **Pathology**

**Arthropathies & Degenerative Disease:** Osteophytes were present on the vertebrae of all three adults, and were particularly large on the upper thoracics of *0952*, the lower thoracics of *0953* and the fifth lumbar of *0954*.

Osteoarthritic changes mainly affected *0953*, who had lipping of most joints, especially the hips, right shoulder, elbow and wrist, left knee, both ankles, and sacroiliac joints. There was Grade III arthritis of the lateral end of the right clavicle (Appendix III. {I} Pl. 1) and the medial end was also very pitted. The distal right ulna also had Grade III changes, and the zygapophyseal facets of the third to fifth thoracic (Appendix III. {I} Pl. 2) and fourth to fifth lumbar (Appendix III. {I} Pl. 3) vertebrae were also affected. Grade II changes affected the first sacral facets.

*0952* had Grade II arthritis of the anomalous joint between the fifth lumbar vertebra and the left sacral ala. She also had osteophytes and slight pitting of the inferior margins of both femoral heads and the corresponding areas of the acetabuli.

There was calcification of the costal cartilage of *0953*, and a small fragment of calcified thyroid cartilage collected with *0952* may also belong to this individual.

**Trauma & Stress Indicators:** Three of the four individuals were assessable for cribra orbitalia, a condition associated with iron deficiency anaemia, but none had been affected by it.

Schmorl's nodes were present in the thoracic and lumbar spines of the three adults, many of them large. These indicate physical stress on the spine.

New bone was present on the soleal lines of the tibiae of 0952 and the distal interosseous lines of the tibiae of 0953, probably both due to tearing of muscle attachments. There were grooves at the soleal lines of 0951, which may have been caused by a similar process.

The joint surfaces at the right elbow of 0953 were enlarged, especially the medial ulna and humeral epicondyle (Appendix III. {I} Pl. 4-6). This appeared to be compensatory rather than arthritic, although there was slight lipping on the ulna. The ulna and radius were both bowed outwards medio-laterally (Appendix III. {I} Pl. 7). These changes were also seen in the right forearm of 0954, whose proximal ulna may also have been slightly enlarged. This could suggest a congenital or occupational cause for these changes.

Healed fractures were present in 0952. There was a midshaft fracture of the left clavicle (Appendix III. {I} Pl. 8), which was well-healed with remodelling of the upstanding end and little callus, indicating that the wound was old at the time of death. Fractures at the proximal quarter of the left fibula and the distal third of the tibia probably occurred together as a spiral or transverse fracture (Appendix III. {I} Pl. 9). Both were well-healed with little callus and no evidence of infection.

There was an unhealed horizontal cut through the third cervical vertebra of 0953, only the arch of which survived (Appendix III. {I} Pl. 10). It was sharp and straight at the rear of the bone, jagged at the front, indicating that the blow had been struck from behind. It had clearly occurred at or around the time of death. The fourth cervical vertebra of 0952 was damaged and provided less conclusive evidence, but this also appeared to have been cut, removing the upper zygapophyseal facets (Appendix III. {I} Pl. 11). The cervical vertebrae of 0951 were not present and those of 0954 were in very poor condition.

A large oval area of the left parietal of 0954 was missing, possibly the result of a slicing wound (Appendix III. {I} Pl. 12-13), but the area was eroded and it was difficult to be certain that the changes were not post-mortem.

**Infections:** Maxillary sinusitis was present in three individuals. In 0951 and 0953 it took the form of a layer of pitted fibre bone, and in 0954 it consisted of thick deposits of woven bone (Appendix III. {I} Pl. 14). The latter was probably related to dental disease, whilst the former could be caused by a smoky atmosphere.

There was slight pitting at the rear of both parietal bones of 0951, possibly indicating a scalp infection or healed porotic hyperostosis. The latter seems less likely in view of the absence of cribra orbitalia.

**Miscellaneous Lesions:** A small oval bone cyst with a U-shaped profile was present in the distal end of the right femur of 0951, at the lateral side of the posterior surface. It may have formed due to a torn muscle, as the central area was slightly roughened.

The skull of 0952 was relatively thick and there was hyperostosis frontalis interna (Appendix III. {I} Pl.15), a disease of uncertain cause, possibly hormonal, which is

more prevalent in post-menopausal women and can be associated with obesity and diabetes.

Ischial bursitis, an inflammation of the ischial bursae (the lower rear part of the pelvis), had affected 0953 bilaterally. This condition is also known as 'weaver's bottom', and has been associated with occupations which involve rocking gently on a hard seat.

A possible benign osteoma (bony wart) was present on the lateral surface of the mandible of 0954, just below the left second molar.

### ***Summary & Discussion***

Three middle-aged or older adults — two women and a man — and a teenager of unknown sex were buried in a single grave. The positions of their skeletons suggests that this was done without much care and that the burials all took place at the same time.

Genetic traits present in the skeletons may indicate a family relationship between some or all of these people, but without a background population with which to compare them it is uncertain whether these traits were more common in their group and are simply a reflection of the population from which they were derived. Their head shapes were consistent with a Roman or Saxon date.

Dental disease was consistent with age, although the prevalence of caries was relatively high.

Evidence for physical stress and trauma was observed in all four skeletons, suggesting that they had been used to relatively hard physical labour for much of their lives. Some of the lesions may be related to occupational stress, but the actual cause is unknown. The three adults were all relatively short, which may be evidence for poor nutrition, although they showed no signs of iron deficiency.

There is evidence from the bones that at least one of these individuals, the man, was either murdered or executed, his neck having been cut. Whilst this may be the cause of his death, it is possible that decapitation took place after he died, and that he was killed in some other way. His head was buried face down, but his body was supine. Possible evidence for the use of a bladed weapon was also found on the skull of one of the women. The skull of this individual was also displaced, but the condition of her cervical vertebrae was poor and no cut marks were found on the surviving fragments.

### **Cremated/Calcined Bone (FLN 056, FLN 057, FLN 059 & FLN 064)**

#### ***Methodology***

The cremations had been processed prior to analysis. Bone from each context was rapidly scanned to assess condition, age and sex, any immediately obvious pathological conditions, and method of packing.

#### ***FLN 056***

Seventeen fragments (71g) of burnt bone, not certainly identifiable to species but probably animal, were recovered from pit fill 0003.

**FLN 057**

Three small groups of burnt bone were found in pit and post-hole fills. Pit fill 0098 contained one small calcined fragment of possible animal bone (1g), and nine blackened fragments of animal tooth (12g) were recovered from post-hole fill 0294. Pit fill 0498 produced two fragments of adult human skull (occipital fragment 40mm across) and a fragment of ?human ?tibia (36mm long), total weight 7g.

**FLN 059**

The following pit fills produced small quantities of burnt bone:

0093	<0.1g	2 tiny fragments, possibly rib, unidentified.
0228	0.1g	14 fragments, probably infant, species unknown.
0281	0.4g	4 fragments, unidentified.
0304	<0.1g	1 fragment, unidentified.
0458	1.1g	1 fragment of human skull (0.4g, 18mm), 4 fragments ?human unidentified bone type (0.7g).
0460	0.3g	2 fragments, uncertain.
0491	1.9g	6 fragments including rib, vertebra, phalanx, animal (sheep?).

An unurned cremation burial (0660) was also recovered from this site. The bone has been sieved and the entire residue retained in one bag (total weight 1711g). The assemblage includes identifiable fragments of skull, long bone and a few tooth fragments. One unerupted molar crown and a small finger phalanx with an unfused proximal epiphysis indicate the presence of a child, but the majority of bone appeared to be from an adult, as yet unsexed. The bone is generally quite fragmented, although a few large pieces are present.

**FLN 064**

An unurned cremation burial (0012) was recovered from a small circular pit feature 0011. The sample was processed and separated into fractions <5mm and >5mm. The bone weight of the larger sample is 703g, and the entire residue for the smaller fraction weighs 1875g but contains at least 50% pea grit. This burial includes large fragments of skull, cervical and lumbar vertebrae, long bones, a piece of maxilla and a few tooth roots. The remains are of a mature adult, probably in middle age, but as yet unsexed.

**Recommendations for Further Work**

The two cremation burials require full recording and analysis, and the preparation of a publication report. No further work is required on the smaller quantities from other contexts, although notes on them will be included in the report.

**3.4.3 Shell**

A small quantity of oyster shell was recovered from FLN 059 (1 @ 0.039kg). A further thirty one fragments (0.499kg) was excavated from FLN 062.

**Recommendations for Further Work**

No further work is required.

**3.4.4 Charcoal**

Charcoal was also retained amongst the bulk finds from four of the Flixton sites (see Table 91). It is unlikely that any further work will be necessary on this material

Site	No. of Contexts with Retained Charcoal
FLN 056	1
FLN 057	17
FLN 059	0
FLN 061	100
FLN 062	54
FLN 063	0
FLN 064	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>172</b>

**Table 91:** No. of Contexts with Retained Charcoal (all sites)

### 3.4.5 The Environmental Evidence (Val Fryer)

#### Introduction

Bulk soil samples were submitted for processing and assessment from six sites excavated at Flixton Park Quarry from 1999 to 2003. Context descriptions for the samples appear in Appendix V along with the tabulated results. Samples were recovered from a range of feature types covering all of the main archaeological periods. A total of two hundred and fifty two plant and macrofossil assemblages were assessed. It was hoped that the results would:

- supplement data from the earlier Flixton Park Quarry excavations
- provide data about land use and habitat change in this area of the Waveney Valley
- provide information about the development of farming and other factors pertinent to the local economy.

#### Methodology

The samples were processed by manual water flotation/washover, and the flots were collected in a 500 micron mesh sieve. The dried flots were scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 16, and the plant macrofossils and other remains noted are listed on Appendix V. {A-F}.

Nomenclature within the tables follows Stace (1997). All plant remains were charred. Modern contaminants were rare.

Where sufficient material was present within the samples for either C14 or AMS dating, this has been tabulated within the main text.

The non-floating residues were collected in a 1mm mesh sieve and sorted when dry. All artefacts/ecofacts were removed for further specialist study.

#### FLN 057

Samples from thirty three contexts were submitted for assessment.

#### Results

**Plant Macrofossils:** Cereal grains, seeds of common weeds and wetland plants, and tree/shrub macrofossils were present at varying densities in all but six samples. A full catalogue of the contents of the samples is listed in Appendix V. {A}. Preservation was generally good, although some grains were fragmented.

Cereal grains were recorded from two of the Iron Age contexts (samples 0292 and 0534) and from one un-dated pit fill (sample 0538). Although only present at a very low density, wheat (*Triticum* sp.) appeared to occur more frequently than barley (*Hordeum* sp.), with both elongated and rounded wheat grains being noted.

Weed seeds were extremely rare within the Neolithic assemblages, a single dock (*Rumex* sp.) fruit in sample 0490, but were slightly more common within the Iron Age

samples. All were of common segetal species including brome (*Bromus* sp.), goosegrass (*Galium aparine*), persicaria (*Persicaria maculosa/lapathifolia*), knotgrass (*Polygonum aviculare*) and vetch/vetchling (*Vicia/Lathyrus* sp.).

Fragments of hazel (*Corylus avellana*) nutshell were common or abundant within most of the Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age assemblages, and were also recorded from the Late Bronze Age/Iron Age features and three of the un-dated samples. Other tree/shrub macrofossils were also recovered, but mostly as single specimens. An apple or pear (*Malus/Pyrus* sp.) 'pip' was noted within sample 0137 from pit 0136, and sloe (*Prunus spinosa*) fruit stones (or fragments thereof) were recovered from samples 0260, 0284, 0292 and 0355. Samples 0370 and 0460, from Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age pits 0368 and 0459 respectively, both contained partial sloe fruits. Indeterminate fruit or tuber fragments were noted within samples 0112, 0135 and 0534.

Charcoal fragments formed the major component of most of the assemblages studied. Other plant macrofossils were rare, but did include pieces of charred root/stem and indeterminate seeds, thorns and tuber fragments. Possible small pieces of heather (*Ericaceae*) stem were noted within samples 0310 and 0496.

**Other Materials:** The fragments of black porous and tarry material and the siliceous globules may be residues of the combustion of organic remains at very high temperatures. Small fragments of burnt bone were recorded at a very low density from a total of ten samples, and small pieces of burnt or fired clay (some possibly small pieces of pottery) were present within twenty one assemblages. Other remains were rare, but did include pieces of burnt stone and vitreous globules.

#### ***Conclusions & Recommendations for Further Work***

In summary, although the assemblages are mostly very small (rarely exceeding 0.1 litres in volume), most appear to contain material, which may be of importance to the overall interpretation of the site and its component features.

The Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age pit fill assemblages (Appendix V. {A} Tables 1a & 1b) are of particular note because of their uniformity, containing moderately large quantities of hazel nutshell and charcoal but few other remains. This uniformity may well indicate that these assemblages are not primarily derived from occupation debris, and although their true significance has yet to be fully understood, it would also appear very unlikely that such assemblages are a result of the random deposition of material. Similar patterns of sample composition have now been recognised from a number of sites of Late Neolithic, Beaker and Early Bronze Age date (cf. Harford Park and Ride Site, Norwich, Fryer forthcoming), and it is currently thought that they may be related to the burial of midden material on a seasonal basis.

Although only four Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age features were sampled (Appendix V. {A} Table 2), the assemblages are of interest as they are markedly different from those of the Later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age period. Although gathered food plant remains are still present within the assemblages, material derived from agriculture is also now recorded and, indeed, forms the major component of sample 0292. The latter assemblage is almost certainly derived from burned cereal processing waste, and the presence of wetland plant macrofossils including sedge (*Carex* sp.) fruits and blinks (*Montia fontana*) seeds, may indicate that some marginal damp grassland areas were coming into cultivation, probably for the first time.

Of the un-dated samples, pit 0537 (sample 0538) may possibly be of Iron Age date as it contains cereal remains, and these do not appear to occur within the earlier deposits. The remaining samples contain insufficient material to be conclusively interpreted.

The Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age pit assemblages are significant and may require some additional work. The Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pits are also of some interest. Contexts with material suitable for assessment and identification for radiocarbon dating are listed in Table 92.

Feature No.	Sample No.	Material suitable for dating/I.D.	Potential
0107	0111	Hazel nutshell	M
0107	0112	Hazel nutshell	H
0107	0113	Hazel nutshell	L
0132	0133	Hazel nutshell	M
0134	0135	Hazel nutshell	M
0259	0260	Charcoal	L
0283	0284	Charcoal	L
0309	0310	Heather stem	L
0319	0321	Hazel nutshell	M
0354	0355	Hazel nutshell+ sloe fruitstone	L
0368	0370	Hazel nutshell+ sloe fruitstone	L
0383	0384	Hazel nutshell	M
0385	0386	Hazel nutshell	L
0459	0460	Hazel nutshell+ sloe fruitstone	L
0533	0534	Hazel nutshell	L
0535	0536	Hazel nutshell	M

KEY: L = low potential (1 - 10 frags); M = moderate potential (10 - 20 frags); H = high potential (20+ frags)

Table 92: FLN 057: Contexts with Material Suitable for Radiocarbon Dating Assessment

### FLN 059

Samples from thirty one contexts were submitted for assessment.

#### Results

**Plant Macrofossils:** Cereal remains and weed seeds were very rare, occurring at a low density (frequently as single specimens) in only fifteen samples. Preservation was variable; some grains and seeds were severely puffed and distorted, possibly as a result of high temperature combustion, while other remains were very well preserved.

Grains of oats (*Avena* sp.), barley (*Hordeum* sp.) and wheat (*Triticum* sp.) were recorded from eight samples, with indeterminate grains noted within a further three assemblages. Chaff was exceedingly rare, although spelt wheat (*T. spelta*) glume bases were present with sample 0620 from Late Iron Age/Early Roman pit 0619.

Weed seeds were particularly rare, occurring as single specimens in only ten samples. Most were of common segetal and/or grassland herbs including brome (*Bromus* sp.), black bindweed (*Fallopia convolvulus*), goosegrass (*Galium aparine*), dock (*Rumex* sp.) and vetch/vetchling (*Vicia/Lathyrus* sp.).

Fragments of hazel (*Corylus avellana*) nutshell were present or common in all samples from the Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age and Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age features, and also occurred within a two of the Late Iron Age/Early Roman features. A single elderberry (*Sambucus nigra*) 'pip' was recorded from Late Bronze



Age/Early Iron Age pit 0092, and a spike-rush (*Eleocharis* sp.) fruit from sample 0479 was the sole wetland plant macrofossil recorded.

Charcoal fragments formed the major component of most assemblages, although large pieces suitable for identification purposes were rare. Other plant macrofossils were relatively scarce, although small pieces of charred root/rhizome/stem were recorded alongside possible fragments of heather (*Ericaceae*) stem.

**Other Materials:** The fragments of black porous and tarry material may be residues of the combustion of organic remains (including cereal grains) at very high temperatures. Bone fragments, including burnt pieces, were recorded from a number of contexts, and were relatively common within samples 0458, 0610 and 0646 (all representing Late Iron Age/Early Roman contexts). However, bone fragments were scarce within Early Bronze Age cremation 0649. Small fragments of burnt or fired clay were surprisingly common, occurring within seventeen assemblages from all periods of the site's occupation/utilisation. At the time of writing, the origin of this material is not known.

### **Discussion**

**Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age:** Six samples are from fills within pits of Neolithic date (Appendix V. {B} Table 1). All contain a high density of charcoal and a moderate density of hazel nutshell fragments. Similarly composed assemblages have been noted from a number of contemporary sites within the eastern region, most recently for example, from Neolithic and Beaker deposits at Harford, Norwich (Fryer, forthcoming), and it is currently thought that they may be derived from the seasonal burial of midden material.

**Early Bronze Age:** Samples 0659 and 0660 are from a stain and a cremation deposit within pit 0649 (Appendix V. {B} Table 1). Although the assemblages are small, the composition of sample 0659 may indicate that wood/charcoal, dried plant material and heather all formed components of the kindling/fuel used for the cremation.

**Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age:** Nine samples are from features of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age date (Appendix V. {B} Table 2). Although cereals, weed seeds and nutshell fragments are recorded, the density of material is extremely low and it would appear most likely that all four assemblages are derived from scattered refuse of either agricultural or domestic origin.

**Late Iron Age/Early Roman:** Four samples (0524, 0525, 0558 & 0559) are from fills within post-holes forming part of multi-post structure 0061 (Appendix V. {B} Table 3). All four assemblages are extremely small (<0.1 litres in volume), and although cereals and weed seeds are recorded from sample 0524, they are not present at a sufficient density to indicate a possible function for the structure. A further eight samples were taken from pits (Appendix V. {B} Table 1). The majority of these contexts contain cereals/seeds, bone fragments and pieces of fired clay, although it is not clear whether these have a domestic origin or whether they may be derived from other on-site activities.

**Undated:** Two undated pits were sampled: fill 0242 in pit 0241 contained cereal grain, burnt bone, charcoal and black 'cokey' material, while fill 0294 in pit 0293 contained charcoal only.

### **Conclusions & Recommendations for Further Work**

In summary, although the material from the Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age pits may be related to a specific (if enigmatic) activity, most of the remaining assemblages would appear to be derived from low density scatters of refuse of uncertain origin, some or all of which probably became accidentally incorporated within the pit fills. The intended function of most of the pits remains uncertain, as does the function of multi-post structure 0061, although it would appear very unlikely that the latter was related to any agricultural/pastoral activity. The Late Iron Age/Early Roman deposits contain a surprisingly low density of material, possibly indicating that the site was peripheral to any main centre of activity during this period.

The Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age assemblages may prove to be significant, and could require further analysis. In addition, the Late Bronze Age/Early Roman contexts are also of interest.

Contexts with material suitable for assessment and identification for radiocarbon dating are listed in Table 93.

<b>Feature No.</b>	<b>Sample No.</b>	<b>Material suitable for dating/ID</b>	<b>Potential</b>
0018	0019	Hazel nutshell	L
0195	0196	Hazel nutshell	L
0205	0206	Hazel nutshell	H
0215	0216	Grain + Hazel nutshell	M
0227	0228	Hazel nutshell	L
0303	0304	Hazel nutshell	H
0317	0318	Grain + Hazel nutshell	M
0362	0363	Hazel nutshell	L
0331	0332	Hazel nutshell	H
0099	0100	Grains	M
0523	0524	Grains	M
0645	0646	Grains	M
0490	0491	Grains	M
0476	0477	Grains	M
0457	0458	Grains	L
0478	0479	Grains	L
0619	0620	Grains	L

KEY: L = low potential (1 - 10 frags); M = moderate potential (10 - 20 frags); H = high potential (20+ frags)

**Table 93:** FLN 059: Contexts with Material Suitable for Radiocarbon Dating Assessment

### **FLN 061**

Samples from eighty contexts were submitted for assessment.

#### **Results**

**Plant Macrofossils:** Cereal grains and/or seeds of common weed plants were recorded from thirty samples, but in most instances the density of material was extremely low (<10 specimens per sample). Preservation was variable, with a large proportion of the grains being puffed and distorted as a result of high temperatures during combustion, while other specimens were well preserved.

Oat (*Avena* sp.), barley (*Hordeum* sp.), rye (*Secale cereale*) and wheat (*Triticum* sp.) grains were recorded, but no one cereal type appeared to be predominant. Cereal chaff was entirely absent. Weed seeds were very scarce. Of those identified, most were of either common segetal taxa (for example fat hen (*Chenopodium album*) or black

bindweed (*Fallopia convolvulus*) or grassland herbs, the latter including indeterminate grasses (Poaceae), dock (*Rumex* sp.) and small legumes (Fabaceae). A single spike-rush (*Eleocharis* sp.) nutlet noted within sample 0227 (Early Saxon post-hole 0226 forming part of building 0225) was the sole wetland plant macrofossil recorded. Hazel (*Corylus avellana*) nutshell fragments were recovered from twenty three assemblages, but rarely at a high density.

Charcoal fragments formed the major component of most assemblages, although in only one instance (sample 1481 from Early Saxon S.F.B. 1319) was a fragment large enough for species identification present. Other plant macrofossils were exceedingly rare, comprising a few small pieces of indeterminate charred root/stem.

**Other Materials:** The fragments of black porous and tarry material are probable residues of the combustion of organic remains at very high temperatures. Bone fragments (including occasional burnt pieces) were relatively common, along with pieces of burnt or fired clay. The latter may possibly be derived from either soil burnt *in situ* beneath a fire/hearth or detached pieces of hearth or firebox lining. The presence of ferrous globules within samples 1420 and 1422 from the undated, but probably Early Saxon pits 1419 and 1421 respectively, may be indicative of nearby smithing activities.

### **Discussion**

**Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age Contexts:** Two Prehistoric pits were sampled (Appendix V. {C} Tables 1 & 6). Sample 0856 from the fill of Late Neolithic pit 0848 is primarily composed of small charcoal fragments, but does also contain a moderate density of hazel nutshell and small pieces of burnt bone. The assemblage is typical of many recorded from contemporary deposits across the eastern region, and although it is not possible to conclusively interpret a single assemblage in isolation, it would appear most likely that it is derived from a small deposit of burnt midden debris.

A total of eight samples are from Early Bronze Age ring-ditch features 0218 and 0202 (Appendix V. {C} Tables 1 & 6). The assemblages are all extremely small, and may be largely derived from scattered refuse, which accidentally became incorporated within the ditch and grave fills. Similarly grave 0468 (samples 0469, 0472, 0474 & 0477) contains only a low density of small charcoal fragments and occasional pieces of porous and tarry material. The sample (0474) from an area of 'organic' staining at the base of the grave was largely composed of small black mineral concretions, but it is not clear whether these are natural (possibly ferrimanganiferous) or whether they are derived from the corrosion products of an object/objects placed within the grave.

A further four samples were taken from contexts of possible prehistoric date, but none contained sufficient material for conclusive interpretation.

**Early Saxon: The Early Saxon Sunken-Featured Buildings:** Samples were taken from eight features described by the excavator as sunken-featured buildings (Appendix V. {C} Table 2). In only two instances (structures 0276 & 1501) did the fills contain possible charred domestic refuse comprising cereal grains and nutshell fragments, and even within these contexts, the density of material recovered was extremely low, possibly indicating an accidental spillage of culinary waste from the hearth or fire-box. The samples from the remaining sunken-featured buildings contain little or no evidence for any domestic activity, possibly indicating that the structures served a different purpose. It is perhaps of note that a number of the assemblages from

these structures contain fragments of burnt or fired clay, possibly indicating the presence of a hearth or firebox.

**Early Saxon Pits:** Samples were taken from fills within sixteen pits of Early Saxon date. The assemblages shown in Appendix V. {C} Table 3 all contain low densities of cereal grains, seeds, hazel nutshell and bone fragments, most of which are probably derived from scattered domestic refuse. In the apparent absence of any significant primary deposits of such waste it is again suggested that the focus of this site may not have been domestic occupation.

**Early Saxon Post-Holes:** Twelve post-hole buildings were also identified during the excavation. However, the results from the post-hole assemblages closely parallel those from the sunken-featured buildings and pit fills (Appendix V. {C} Tables 4a, 4b & 6). Although small quantities of possible domestic refuse are recorded in the form of grain, weed seeds, hazel nutshell fragments and pieces of bone, there is insufficient material to indicate that any of the post-hole structures served a solely domestic purpose.

**Early Saxon Ditches:** Only five samples were taken from fills within Early Saxon ditches (Appendix V. {C} Tables 5 & 6). Plant macrofossils (including charcoal fragments) are rare in all five samples, and it would appear most likely that the few remains recorded were accidental inclusions within the features, possibly in the form of wind-blown detritus.

#### **Conclusions & Recommendations for Further Work**

In summary, the assemblages recovered from both the prehistoric and Early Saxon features at FLN 061 are mostly extremely small, rarely exceeding 0.1 litres in volume. Although charcoal is present throughout, other plant macrofossils are rare, and most would appear to be derived from scattered refuse. There is no evidence for the deliberate deposition of any material within the Early Bronze Age ring ditches, and primary deposits of domestic refuse are not recorded from any of the Early Saxon features. As occupation debris is so rare within both the Early Anglo Saxon sunken-features buildings and the post-hole structures, it is tentatively suggested that this area may have been primarily used for purposes other than settlement, although it is currently not possible to suggest any alternative functions.

It appears very unlikely at this stage that any of the assemblages from site FLN 061 will be suitable for additional work.

Contexts with material suitable for assessment and identification for radiocarbon dating are listed in Table 94.

Feature No.	Sample No.	Material suitable for dating/ID	Potential
0848	0856	Hazel nutshell	M
0276	0592	Grains	L
0887	0888	Hazel nutshell	M

KEY: L = low potential (1 - 10 frags): M = moderate potential (10 - 20 frags): H = high potential (20+ frags)

**Table 94:** FLN 061: Contexts with Material Suitable for Radiocarbon Dating Assessment

## FLN 062

Samples from one hundred and three contexts were submitted for assessment.

### **Results**

**Plant Macrofossils:** Cereal grains/chaff, seeds of common weeds or wetland plants and nutshell fragments were present at mostly low to moderate densities in all but twenty nine samples (Appendix V. {D} Table 1-5). Only the Roman kiln samples (Appendix V. {D} Table 2) and isolated pit assemblages contained a high density of plant macrofossils. Preservation was very variable; in a number of samples the cereal grains were either severely puffed and distorted (probably as a result of combustion at very high temperatures) or fragmented, and yet the chaff from the kiln samples was particularly well preserved.

Oat (*Avena* sp.), barley (*Hordeum* sp.) and wheat (*Triticum* sp.) grains were recorded, with wheat being predominant throughout. Elongated 'drop-form' grains typical of spelt wheat (*T. spelta*) occurred most frequently, and spelt glume bases were also abundant within some assemblages. Only two samples (0227 & 0457) were seen to contain emmer (*T. dicocum*) glume bases. Asymmetrical lateral grains of six-row barley (*H. vulgare*) were noted in a small number of samples, and a single cotyledon fragment of an indeterminate large pulse (Fabaceae) was recorded from sample 0347. Possible 'gristed' or coarsely ground grains were recorded from four of the Roman samples, but at an insufficient density to be indicative of either malting or brewing.

Weed seeds were generally rare, although they did occur at a slightly higher density within the kiln assemblages. Most were of common segetal species including stinking mayweed (*Anthemis cotula*), brome (*Bromus* sp.), indeterminate grasses (Poaceae), dock (*Rumex* sp.) and vetch/vetchling (*Vicia/Lathyrus* sp.). Sample 0277, from the fill of Late Iron Age/Roman pit 0276, also contained a moderate density of grassland herbs (including goosegrass (*Galium* sp.) and buttercups (*Ranunculus* sp.) and remains of wetland/aquatic plants, namely water plantain (*Alisma plantago-aquatica*), marsh marigold (*Caltha palustris*), sedge (*Carex* sp.) and spike-rush (*Eleocharis* sp.). Hazel (*Corylus avellana*) nutshell fragments were present throughout, and a fragmentary sloe (*Prunus spinosa*) fruit stone was noted within sample 1545.

Charcoal fragments were common or abundant within most assemblages. Other plant macrofossils occurred less frequently, although pieces of charred root/stem were recorded alongside indeterminate buds, culm nodes, inflorescence fragments and thorns.

**Other materials:** The fragments of black porous and tarry material, which occurred in a number of samples, are probable residues of the combustion of organic materials at very high temperatures. Small bone fragments, including some burnt pieces, were surprisingly common, occurring within a high number of the assemblages studied. At the time of writing, the reason for this is not known, although some pieces may be derived from modern applications of bone meal to aid soil improvement. Small fragments of burnt or fired clay were also common, and it is assumed that a proportion of these may be derived from clay linings within the kilns or other hearth features.

### **Discussion**

**Prehistoric Features:** Fifteen samples are from features, the majority comprising pits, of prehistoric date (Appendix V. {D} Table 1). With the exception of samples

0217 and 0304, which were from a Late Neolithic pit 0216 and Early Neolithic ring-ditch 0300 respectively, all samples were Early Bronze Age in date. Twelve of the assemblages are extremely small (the largest being 0.3 litres in volume), and contain very low densities of material which are probably derived from scattered or windblown refuse. Sample 1540 from pit 1539 is atypical as it contains a high density of wheat chaff along with some grains and weed seeds. Although pit 1539 was an isolated feature within the eastern half of the site, the composition of the assemblage is closely paralleled by material recovered from Roman kilns 0014 and 0016, and it is tentatively suggested that the remains within sample 1540 may have a similar date and origin (*contra*. present phasing).

**Roman Kilns:** Two sub-circular kilns or ovens (0014 & 0016) were located approximately 20 metres apart within the southern area of the excavation (Appendix V. {D} Table 2). A total of twelve samples were taken from quadrants within the kiln structures and from the associated stoke pits. With the exception of sample 0706 (from an area adjacent to kiln 0014), all the assemblages contain a moderate to high density of wheat chaff, and are almost certainly indicative of the use of cereal processing waste as kindling or fuel for the kilns/ovens. Contemporary parallels for the use of such material within light industrial contexts is known from elsewhere in East Anglia including at, for example, the pottery kiln at Heath Farm, Postwick near Norwich (Fryer & Murphy, 1997), and it would appear increasingly likely that chaff was being actively traded as fuel during the Roman period (Van der Veen, 1999).

**Roman Pit Fills:** Of the twenty seven samples taken, only six appear to contain anything other than material derived from scattered and/or wind-blown refuse (Appendix V. {D} Tables 3 & 4). Samples 0003 and 0056 (from pits 0002 & 0055 respectively) both contain moderately high densities of cereal grains, including specimens which have been severely affected by exposure to high temperatures during combustion. Such 'super heating' may have occurred when grains were accidentally spilled into a fire during culinary preparation, and it is possible that both assemblages are indicative of domestic hearth waste. It is perhaps of note that these samples also contain seeds of segetal and grassland herbs which may be derived either from fuel used within the fire or burnt flooring materials.

A further small deposit of burnt litter or flooring material may be represented by sample 0277 (pit 0276), which contains both grassland herbs and an unusually high density of wetland plant macrofossils, most notably spike-rush nutlets.

Although the assemblages from samples 0347 and 0457 (from pits 0307 & 0455 respectively) are extremely small (<0.1 litres in volume), both contain a moderate density of cereal grains and chaff which may possibly be derived from burnt cereal processing waste.

The assemblage from sample 0626 from pit 0008 is somewhat unusual as it is large (0.8 litres in volume) and primarily composed of charcoal, charred root/stem fragments and other burnt plant debris including buds, culm nodes and inflorescence fragments. The source of the material is unknown, but it perhaps most closely resembles spent fuel from a bonfire.

**Other Roman Features:** Samples were taken from fills within slots, post-holes, a ring ditch and a grave (Appendix V. {D} Table 4). Although cereal grains, weed seeds and nutshell fragments are recorded from all ten assemblages, the density of material

is extremely low, with most macrofossils being present as isolated specimens. It therefore appears most likely that, once again, the material is derived from scattered refuse, much of which probably became accidentally incorporated within the feature fills.

**Undated Features:** Ten samples are from features which were un-dated at the time of excavation (Appendix V. {D} Table 5). Of these, the assemblage from sample 0948 (pit 0947) is similar in composition to those from various of the Roman features recorded during the excavation, but the remainder contain insufficient material for either their source or their date to be surmised.

**Other Samples:** Twenty nine samples from features of Neolithic, Early Bronze Age, Late Iron Age/Roman and Early Saxon date contain only charcoal fragments and other remains (Appendix V. {D} Table 6). Of these, only one is of potential note. Sample 0084, from tree throw hole 0083 contains a high density of charcoal and charred root/stem, some pieces of which have been super heated leaving a thick tarry surface residue. Evidence from elsewhere within East Anglia, for example, the Harford Park and Ride site, Norwich (Trimble, forthcoming), suggests that tree-throw holes were occasionally utilised for either shelter or the deposition of cultural waste, most especially during the earlier Neolithic period. The material from Flixton would appear to be fire/hearth waste, and the context description may indicate that burning took place *in situ*.

**Conclusions & Recommendations for Further Work**

In summary, evidence for specific on site activities is severely limited. The presence of the two Roman kilns may, in part, explain this, as such structures were frequently located at the periphery of settled areas due to the risk of accidental fires. These kilns, along with others in Roman East Anglia, utilised quantities of cereal chaff as kindling or fuel, and it is assumed that a proportion of this chaff may have been deliberately imported, as there is currently little evidence of local cereal production.

The kiln assemblages are important and may require some further quantification and the material from the prehistoric features (principally Early Bronze Age) should be studied with regard to the rest of the prehistoric assemblage from Flixton.

Contexts with material suitable for assessment and identification for radiocarbon dating are listed in Table 95.

<b>Feature No.</b>	<b>OP. No.</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Content</b>	<b>Potential</b>
0076	0078	EBA	Nutshell	M/H
0301	0304	LNEO	Nutshell	M/H
0955	0956	Roman	Nutshell	L
1528	1529	LNEO/EBA	Nutshell	L
1543	1545	EBA	Nutshell	M/H
1629	1631	EBA	Nutshell	L
1668	1669	EBA	Nutshell	M/H
1816	1818	Roman	Nutshell	L
1819	1831	EBA	Nutshell	L

KEY: L = low potential (1 - 10 frags); M = moderate potential (10 - 20 frags); H = high potential (20+ frags)

**Table 95:** FLN 062: Contexts with Material Suitable for Radiocarbon Dating Assessment

### **FLN 063**

Samples from three contexts were submitted for assessment (Appendix V.{E} Table 1).

#### **Results**

Poorly preserved wheat (*Triticum* sp.) grains were recorded from samples 0013 and 0028. All specimens were severely puffed, probably as a result of combustion at very high temperatures. A single spelt wheat (*T. spelta*) glume base was also noted within sample 0013.

Weed seeds were exceedingly rare, and were only present within sample 0013. Corn spurrey (*Spergula arvensis*) seeds were recorded along with dock (*Rumex* sp.) fruits and a fragment of black bindweed (*Fallopia convolvulus*) testa. Hazel (*Corylus avellana*) nutshell fragments were noted in samples 0015 and 0028. Charcoal fragments were common or abundant in all three samples, and sample 0013 also contained numerous pieces of charred root/stem and indeterminate tubers.

Other materials were comparatively uncommon, although tarry residues were present in sample 0013 and pieces of burnt or fired clay were noted within sample 0028.

#### **Conclusions & Recommendations for Further Work**

Although bone fragments were noted during the excavation of cremation 0014 (sample 0015), none are present within the flot. However, hazel nutshell fragments are relatively common, although it is not clear whether these were placed within the pyre as an offering to the deceased, or whether they are coincidentally present as an element of the pyre fuel. It is perhaps of note that the assemblage from pit 0012 (sample 0013), which is situated only 5 metres to the north-east of cremation 0014, does contain burnt bone fragments in addition to plant macrofossils (most notably the tuber & root/stem fragments) which frequently occur within cremation deposits. It is generally assumed that these are indicative of the utilisation of uprooted dried grasses and herbs as kindling or fuel for the pyre. It is tentatively suggested that these two deposits may be linked, pit 0012 containing pyre debris whilst the cremated remains were placed in pit 0014.

The assemblages from pit 0027 is extremely small (<0.1 litres in volume) and contains insufficient material for conclusive interpretation.

As none of the three assemblages are quantifiably viable, no further analysis is recommended.

Only one sample (0015 from cremation 0014) contained sufficient material for potential C14 or AMS dating.

### **FLN 064**

Two samples for the extraction of the plant macrofossil assemblages were taken: one from cremation 0011 (sample 0012) and the second from a fill within ring-ditch 0010 (sample 0017).

#### **Results**

The results are listed in full in Appendix V.{F} Table 1.



Charcoal fragments and pieces of charred root/stem form the major components of the assemblage from sample cremation 0011. Indeterminate tuber fragments, small pieces of burnt bone and globules of black 'cokey' material are also recorded, with the latter almost certainly being a residue of the cremation process. Root/stem and tuber fragments are frequently seen as elements within cremation deposits, and are probably indicative of the use of uprooted dried plant remains as kindling or fuel for the pyre.

The assemblage from sample 0017 consists almost entirely of modern fibrous and woody roots, although rare pieces of very weathered charcoal are also present. Although there is insufficient material for accurate interpretation, the condition of the charcoal may indicate that it was only accidentally incorporated within the ditch fill after a considerable period of exposure to the elements.

Unless charcoal is required from sample 0012 for further identification, no additional work is recommended on these assemblages.

Material within sample 0012 may be suitable for charcoal analysis if required.

### **Overall Summary of Results**

#### ***Evidence From Each Period***

**Neolithic:** (predominantly later Neolithic) large number of pits dug but precise purpose of these features not known. Possible seasonal or 'ritual' deposition of midden debris.

**Early Bronze Age:** Activity largely confined to inhumation burials and interment of cremation deposits although a significant number of pits in FLN 062 included assemblages of Beaker pottery.

**Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age:** Minimal evidence for the expansion of agriculture.

**Late Iron Age/Roman:** Apart from two kilns/ovens, little direct evidence of activity. Perhaps not too surprising as kilns were frequently sited away from other buildings because of the risk of fire.

**Early Saxon Period:** Pits, post-holes and sunken-featured buildings, but such a low density of plant remains that it has been suggested that the structures may have been used for purposes other than settlement.

#### ***Site by Site Summary***

**FLN 057:** Samples taken from features of later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age and Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age date.

**Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age Pit Assemblages:** Uniformity of composition probably indicative of a common source for the material – possibly the seasonal burial of midden material. Parallels for this practise from elsewhere in East Anglia.

**Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age Assemblages:** Minimal evidence for an increased reliance on agriculture in the form of cereal processing waste.

**Recommendations:** Quantification of eight assemblages + extraction of nutshell fragments if required for dating.

- Neolithic pit samples 0111, 0112, 0113, 0133, 0135, 0321, 0384
- Iron Age post-hole sample 0292

**FLN 059:** Samples taken from features of later Neolithic to Roman date.

**Neolithic Pit Assemblages:** Uniformity of composition probably indicative of a common source for the material – possibly the seasonal burial of midden material. Parallels for this practise from elsewhere in East Anglia.

**Late Bronze Age/Iron Age Assemblages:** Low density of material probably largely derived from scattered refuse with some possible domestic waste.

**Late Iron Age/Early Roman Assemblages:** Surprisingly low density of material.

**Recommendations:** Quantification of two assemblages + extraction of nutshell fragments if required for dating.

- Late Neolithic pit sample 0206
- Neolithic/Early Bronze Age pit sample 0332

**FLN 061:** Samples taken from features of Neolithic/Early Bronze Age and Early Saxon date.

**Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age Assemblage:** Single pit assemblage paralleled by others from Flixton (see above FLN 057 & FLN 059).

**Early Bronze Age Ring-Ditch Assemblage:** Accidental inclusion of scattered refuse.

**Early Saxon Pit, Post-Hole & Sunken Featured Building Assemblages:** Extremely low density of material – no primary deposits of refuse. No evidence for sustained domestic activity.

**Recommendations:** nothing recommended for analysis although nutshell fragments to be extracted if required for dating.

**FLN 062:** Samples taken from features of prehistoric and Roman date.

**Prehistoric (Neolithic & Bronze Age) Assemblages:** All extremely small. One may contain intrusive material from later Roman activity.

**Roman Kiln Assemblages:** Evidence for use of cereal processing debris as fuel – parallels for this practise from elsewhere in East Anglia.

**Other Roman Assemblages:** Surprisingly low density of material (as seen at FLN 059). Very little evidence for sustained local activity during this period.

**Recommendations:** Quantification of nine assemblages + extraction of nutshell fragments etc. if required for dating.

- Roman kiln/oven samples 0227, 0240, 0460, 0476, 0477, 0484, and 0641
- Roman pit samples 0277 and 0457

**FLN 063:** Samples taken from features of ?prehistoric and Roman date.

**Probable Prehistoric Cremation:** although no dating evidence.

**Single Roman Sample:** inconclusive.

**Recommendations:** nothing recommended for analysis although nutshell fragments to be extracted if required for dating.

**FLN 064:** Samples taken from an Early Bronze Age ring ditch and cremation. Possible pyre/fuel remains from cremation but minimal evidence recovered from ring ditch.

**Recommendations:** nothing recommended for analysis although charcoal identification may be possible on material from sample 0012.

### **Conclusions**

As with other samples taken from Flixton Park Quarry during earlier excavations, the density of plant material present within the assemblages is generally very low. Primary deposits of material are rarely seen, and for much of its extended period of use this area appears to have been peripheral to any centre of domestic, industrial or agricultural activity. One unusual point that has arisen is the presence of bone fragments within a great many of the assemblages. The reason for this is not yet known, but the following may be contributory factors:

- the later disturbance and widespread distribution of material from one or more earlier cremations or pyre deposits
- an on-site activity, for example marrow extraction or rendering, which has left little other trace within the archaeology
- the recent agricultural practise of spreading bone meal for soil improvement, although this would not explain the presence of burnt bone fragments.

## **3.5 FLN 062: Soil Evaluation & Assessment (Dr. Richard I. Macphail)**

### **3.5.1 Introduction**

The Flixton (RMC) Quarry site is characterised by Neolithic-Saxon features (Newman & Boulter, *pers. comm.*). Roman pottery kilns and their associated soils, and a medieval colluvium, were inspected.

### **3.5.2 Results & Sampling**

The site is located in an area of deep well-drained brown sands formed on glaciofluvial drift running along the Waveney valley (Newport 4 soil association; Hodge *et al.*, 1983). Without soil amendment such soils would have been acid in the past. Upslope and to the south-east of the site, the lower slopes have a typical calcereous pelosol ('swelling clay') soil cover formed in clayey and chalky till (Hanslope soil association; Hodge *et al.*, 1983). This could be a likely source of clay employed in the kilns, although the clay source has yet to be exactly determined (Boulter *pers. comm.*). Plateau areas to the south east have a more poorly drained typical stagnogley soil cover, again on chalky till (Beccles 1 soil association; Hodge *et al.*, 1983).

The >1 metre thick dark brown (10YR3/3) medieval colluvium is a stony mixture of sands and clay (sandy clay loam), and likely reflects erosion of local sands and the more clayey soils upslope.

At section 0699 (see Table 96) some 300 millimetres of topsoil sealed a 250 millimetres thick buried soil layer, which because topsoils bury the kiln sites, is believed to be contemporaneous with Roman kiln site activities (kilns, pits, aisled building). The soil layer is marked by a compact sandy clay loam, and mottled character. The last indicates drainage impedance not noted elsewhere on the site. This layer itself seals a probable mixed topsoil/subsoil horizon of the original brown sandy soils. An undisturbed Kubiena box sample was taken from this sandy clay loam layer (Table 96, M0699), along with a complementary bulk sample (x0699a). A bulk sample from the underlying brown sand soil (x0699b) was collected for comparative purposes.

A second undisturbed Kubiena box sample (M0015) and accompanying bulk sample (x0015) were taken from a nearby kiln pit, again for comparative purposes.

Monolith	Bulk Samples	Depth	Context
<b>Soil Baulk</b>			
			<b>Topsoil:</b> 0-330 mm: very dark greyish brown (10YR3/2) moderately weak sandy (Ap horizon); moderately stony with medium to coarse flints; poorly developed coarse blocky to prismatic structures; smooth, clear boundary.
M0699	x0699a	410-490 mm	<b>Buried Soil:</b> 330-370 mm: dark yellowish brown (10YR4/4) sandy clay loam, with frequent grey and ochereous mottles; few stones; compact/moderately firm; massive structured; gradual wavy boundary.
	x0699b		<b>Buried natural topsoil/subsoil:</b> 570-690 mm+: brown (10YR4/3) weak sand.
<b>Kiln Pit (fill) 0015</b>			
M0015		230-310 mm	<b>Pit Fill:</b> 0-600 mm+: very dark grey (10YR3/2); weak; massive structure; very few stones, occasional burned? Bone, common wood charcoal; likely high ash content.

Table 96: FLN 062: Description of Samples taken for Soil Evaluation & Assessment

### 3.5.3 Discussion & Suggested Work

It can be suggested that activities associated with this kiln site led to the anomalous formation of a compact, poorly drained sandy clay horizon, possibly:

- 1) through spillage and trampling of sands and clays brought in for the kilns, or
- 2) as relic of a raw material dump.

Soil micromorphology has, for example, been used to identify heaps of building materials at the London Amphitheatre (GYE, Macphail & Cruise, 1995) and components in plaster, mortar and building clay used commonly on Roman sites (Courty *et al.*, 1989; Macphail, submitted; Rentzel, 1998). Thin section analysis here should be able to recognise broadly the clay source (to be discussed in the light of ceramic/kiln studies) and whether the layer is trampled, or just a dump. It may also

reveal other components coming onto the site. It is therefore useful to study ash waste from the kilns to ascertain fuel and other waste materials (in conjunction with macro-fossil & artefact investigations). Chemical analyses (e.g. loss-on ignition, magnetic susceptibility & phosphate assays) will compliment the soil micromorphological studies. The investigation will be carried out in the context of current research on Roman sites.

### 3.6 FLN 062: Archaeomagnetic Dating of Pottery Kilns (Dr. Mark Noel)

#### 3.6.1 Introduction

Open area archaeological excavation at Flixton Park Quarry, Flixton had revealed two pottery kilns in an excellent state of preservation. The kilns were presumed, at that time, to be of later Roman date (Boulter *pers. comm.*). The remarkably good condition of the kilns meant that the potential for recovering meaningful results from archaeomagnetic dating was considered to be high.

Magnetic dating is based on comparing the remanent magnetism in an archaeological structure with a calibrated reference curve for the geomagnetic secular variation. Two distinct methods have evolved. The *intensity* technique relies on obtaining estimates of the past strength of the Earth's magnetic field while *directional* magnetic dating uses archaeomagnetic measurements to derive the orientation of the geomagnetic vector in antiquity. Intensity dating can only be applied to fired materials which have acquired a thermoremanent magnetisation upon cooling from high temperatures (>600°C) while the directional method enables the age of a broader range of archaeological materials to be determined. For example, sediments and soils may have acquired a datable 'detrital remanence' if magnetic grains had been aligned by the ambient field during deposition. The growth of magnetic minerals during diagenesis or as a result of manufacturing processes can also give rise to a magnetism which may enable materials such as iron-rich mortars, for example, to be dated. However, hearths, kilns and other fired structures are the most common features selected for magnetic dating primarily because their thermoremanence is generally strong, stable and sufficiently homogenous that the ancient field can be determined with sufficient precision from a small set of specimens. An analysis of dated archaeomagnetic directions, largely from fired structures, together with lake sediment and observatory records has enabled a master curve for the UK region to be synthesised for the period 2000 BC to the present (Clark, Tarling & Noel, 1988).

For directional magnetic dating it is essential to obtain specimens of undisturbed archaeological material whose orientation with respect to a geographic co-ordinate frame is known. A number of sampling strategies have evolved, enabling specimens to be recovered from a range of archaeological materials with orientations being recorded relative to topographic feature, the direction of the sun, magnetic or geographic north. For Flixton, the miniaturised 'button method' was employed (Clark *et al.*, 1988). Modern archaeomagnetic magnetometers are sufficiently sensitive that only small volumes of material (~1 ml) are required for an accurate remanence measurement (Molyneux, 1971). This has the advantage of reducing the impact of sampling on archaeological features – of particular significance if they are scheduled for conservation and display. For dating, all archaeomagnetic vectors are transposed to Meriden, the reference location for the UK Master Curve (Noel & Batt, 1990).

#### 3.6.2 Analytical Methods

Sampling via button method with orientation by sun compass. Archaeomagnetic remanence measured using a Molspin fluxgate spinner magnetometer and stability

assessed using stepwise, alternating field demagnetism. Secondary components of magnetism removed by partial demagnetism. Mean of selected vectors computed (with unit weights) and corrected to Meriden. Comparison then made to the UK master Curve to obtain a last-firing date.

### 3.6.3 Results

The results of the archaeomagnetic dating are presented in the following Table 97.

#### Kiln FLN 062 0016

Sample	J	D	I	A.F.	D	I	Comment
FPQ1	330.5	355.4	69.0	4	355.8	69.1	
FPQ2	95.1	350.8	68.2	4	350.2	67.9	
FPQ3	223.4	21.9	48.6	4	21.2	48.5	Reject
FPQ4	286.5	108	66.5	4	0.7	66.8	
FPQ5	209.4	6.7	65.7	4	4.6	65.9	
FPQ6	308.9	2.2	69.2	4	2.8	68.7	
FPQ7	334.9	8.5	69.8	4	8.1	70.1	
FPQ8	206.5	348.0	67.6	4	348.4	69.3	
FPQ9	308.4	351.1	68.9	4	350.7	68.7	
FPQ10	223.9	357.0	60.1	4	354.1	60.1	
FPQ11	86.7	349.0	66.6	4	347.5	66.6	
FPQ12	119.9	350.9	63.2	4	352.2	64.7	
FPQ13	141.4	2.0	58.4	4	0.6	58.5	
FPQ14	366.8	340.3	70.3	4	340.9	69.9	
FPQ15	142.3	10.4	60.5	4	10.1	60.8	
Mean	K=252 Alpha95=2.5 c.s.e.=1.4				356.6	66.4	
Meriden					356.3	66.5	

#### Kiln FLN 062 0014

Sample	J	D	I	A.F.	D	I	Comment
FPQ16	184.9	349.6	64.8	4	349.7	65.3	
FPQ17	113.3	351.4	59.3	5	351.1	60.0	
FPQ18	97.6	0.5	63.7	4	357.6	63.6	
FPQ19	95.5	7.5	64.9	4	356.3	62.5	
FPQ20	133.9	337.8	66.8	4	358.9	66.5	
FPQ21	130.3	6.9	64.7	4	7.9	65.1	
FPQ22	103.4	9.3	57.6	4	8.6	57.2	
FPQ23	133.0	12.1	60.6	4	10.5	59.2	
FPQ24	180.0	17.8	66.3	4	18.0	65.8	
FPQ25	80.6	21.1	64.7	4	20.6	64.8	
FPQ26	98.6	16.5	60.2	4	17.5	59.6	
FPQ27	152.3	27.5	71.4	4	337.8	72.2	
Mean	K=139 Alpha95=3.7 c.s.e.=2.0				3.7	64.0	
Meriden					3.2	63.9	

Table 97: FLN 062: Archaeomagnetic Dating Results

The above tabulated data provides the following estimated date ranges for the last firings of the kilns:

Kiln FLN 062 0016                      **90 AD - 150 AD**

Kiln FLN 062 0014                      **285 AD - 450 AD**

### 3.6.4 Statement of Potential

No further work is required.

#### **4. Storage & Curation**

The bulk and small finds, along with the paper and digital archive, can be adequately stored in the controlled conditions of the Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service Store at Shire Hall, Bury St. Edmunds (conforming to MGC standards).

However, there may be some conservation requirements regarding the small finds from the Early Saxon cemetery. While they have been stabilised/packaged to archive standard, together with radiography, the material has not been assessed with a view to selective cleaning and/or analysis following on from specialist recommendation. A reassessment and Updated Project Design document is currently being prepared for the FLN 013 and FLN 053 sites (not now covered by PPG 16) with a view to obtaining a ALSF (Aggregates Levy Sustainability Funding) grant to cover analysis and publication. An assessment of the FLN 062 graves is being carried out in conjunction with this project with the aim of including them in a jointly funded (ALSF & Cemex) publication.

#### **5. Archaeological Interpretation (presented by Period/Phase)**

##### **Period I.a.; prehistoric, Lower Palaeolithic, c.500,000 – 38,000 BP**

Three handaxes were recovered from the quarry areas dealt with in this report, none from *in situ* deposits. Given that the geological community is still debating the chronology of the deposits exposed at Flixton, then offering anything other than the broadest possible interpretation would be inappropriate at this time.

It is widely accepted that the course of the pre-Anglian Bytham river (c.500,000 + BP) followed a similar course through Suffolk and Norfolk as that taken by the unrelated River Waveney. Significant artefactual evidence has regularly been recovered from a number of 'Bytham' sites (e.g. Warren Hill nr. Mildenhall, Suffolk) particularly during the later 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries which is clear evidence for early incursions by ancestral man. More recently, coastal sites such as Pakefield (Suffolk) and Happisburgh (Norfolk) have produced flint tools from the Cromer Forest-bed which arguably dates to c.700,000 BP. While the upper levels at Flixton have been interpreted as representing outwash sands and gravels with some ice-contact structures relating to the Anglian Glaciation, it has also been suggested (Rose, *pers. comm.*) that a recognisably different sequence is present underlying the Anglian deposits. He has tentatively suggested that these may be contemporary with the Bytham River. A bid to obtain ALSF (Aggregates Levy Sustainability Funding) is being submitted in 2006 for a project aimed at providing scientific dating evidence for the geological sequence exposed at Flixton.

Even though the Flixton handaxes could be considered to be only of limited significance due to their unstratified context, they do provide some useful information. Two of the handaxes, one from FLN 057 and that from FLN 061 were heavily abraded and were clearly not in their primary context of deposition. However, the second handaxe from FLN 057 was in almost pristine condition and had not suffered very much post-depositional damage. It is possible then, that two of the handaxes were derived from earlier, possibly pre-Anglian deposits. More recently, a fourth Palaeolithic worked flint artefact was recovered from an unstratified context during the soil-stripping for New Phase 13 and 14 (FLN 065). The artefact, which will be included in a later assessment (Assessment 3), was a classic Levallois style flake. The Levallois industry is as yet unknown from deposits earlier than OIS 8 (oxygen isotope stage 8) (c.250,000 years old) (Shreve, *pers. comm.*), which at least

provides a probable *terminis post quem* for the Flixton deposits and appears to confirm the Anglian date for the upper sequence of gravels.

**Period I.b.; Mesolithic, c.8000-4000 BC**

Evidence for Mesolithic activity was limited to a few possible microliths in two Early Neolithic pits recorded in the FLN 057 and FLN 061 areas. These were incomplete



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**Fig. 72** c.1: 6,600 Scale OS map extract showing contour survey at one metre intervals

objects and their identification tentative. Given the lack of other Mesolithic material, both residual and unstratified, on the site it does seem to demonstrate a distinct lack of surviving evidence for activity in the immediate area at this time.



**Period I.c.; Early Neolithic, c.4000 – 3200 BC**

Only seventeen features, sixteen pits/post-holes and a small ring-ditch were positively dated as earlier Neolithic, the majority by the inclusion of ceramic evidence, although diagnostic worked flint was also recovered from a small number of the pits.

The features were generally relatively widely spaced with all but one recorded in the southernmost of the recorded areas (FLN 056, FLN 057, FLN 059 & FLN 062) and were effectively spread across a shallow north-west facing slope (Fig. 72). No obvious formal arrangement of the features was recognised and the descriptive term post-hole was based on size only, not evidence for their forming part of a structure or building.

The activity generating these features was almost certainly ephemeral, possibly transitory and seasonal. A number of the pits arguably provided evidence for 'structured' deposition, but not as clearly as in the more numerous later Neolithic pits. Two of the pits contained large quantities of worked flint including cores, one (0381) with this material as the only find type. The fill of 0381 comprised purely of re-worked natural subsoil, predominantly gravel to large pebble-sized stone similar in character to the surrounding undisturbed subsoil. The feature itself had an irregular shape. Analysis of the flint will be able to determine whether pit 0381 represents a primary knapping site with re-fitting pieces and the pit effectively a quarry hole for materials.

Other than pits and post-holes the only other feature securely dated to this period was the small ring-ditch recorded in the FLN 062 area. This feature is somewhat enigmatic. A number of ring-ditches have been excavated at Flixton and where associated dating evidence was recovered, an Early Bronze Age date was indicated. On that basis, other similar features have been included in the Early Bronze Age phase based on this typology alone. However, ditch 0300, with its shallow rounded profile, was markedly different in character from those attributed to the Early Bronze Age and the ceramic evidence recovered from the fill suggests an earlier Neolithic date for this feature. The presence of large frost-shattered flint cobbles throughout the ditch fill was also considered to be significant as the natural subsoil in the immediate vicinity did not contain material of this calibre which must, therefore, have been deliberately collected elsewhere. One possibility is that the flint cobbles were piled within the ring-ditch as a cairn-like structure, which then degraded down into the ditch. This interpretation would explain why the flint cobbles had suffered from frost action, as they would have experienced protracted exposure to the elements.

**Period I.d.; Late Neolithic, c.3200 - 2000 BC**

A total of thirty seven features were attributed to the Late Neolithic Period, the majority on ceramic evidence with Grooved Ware well represented. Of these: thirty five were pits, one was a spread (possibly the base of a pit) and the other was described as a post-hole on account of its size.

Similarly to the earlier Neolithic features, those of Late Neolithic date were concentrated in the southernmost areas (FLN 057, FLN 059 & FLN 062) on a shallow north-west facing slope (Fig. 72). Within these three areas the features formed loosely aggregated clusters (see individual site plans). At this juncture the overall spatial distribution of Late Neolithic features can only be discussed in terms of the areas already excavated and further patterns may emerge which alter the present interpretation based on the trends that have already been recognised. The contour

survey confirms the presence of a shallow south-west to north-east valley/depression within the main Waveney Valley which effectively has areas FLN 056, FLN 057, FLN 059 and FLN 062 on its southern side and FLN 061, FLN 063 and FLN 064 on its northern flank and bottom. In addition, the previously assessed areas FLN 013 and FLN 053 (Boulter, 2000a) lie towards the head of the valley while recently excavated areas FLN 065, FLN 068 and FLN 069, that will be covered by a future assessment (Assessment 3), lie on its northern side and base. Late Neolithic features were recorded in both FLN 013 and FLN 053, including a monumental post-hole circle, but none were identified in FLN 065, FLN 068 and FLN 069. It is clear then, that with the exception of the three pits in the bund area of FLN 061, all of the evidence for Late Neolithic activity occurred around the head and along the southern side of the shallow valley/depression. This location provides good access to both the heavy clay soils immediately to the south and the gravel terrace to the north.

Late Neolithic pits were more numerous than those of the earlier Neolithic, but it is still difficult to envisage their representing anything other than relatively ephemeral, possibly seasonal activity or occupation. Healy (1996) has proposed similar interpretations for other multi-pit sites in the region. No structural evidence was recovered, although shallow post-holes may have been truncated by ploughing.

While there was some considerable variation in both size and character of the pits a number of them exhibited similarities that suggested comparable depositional histories. Pits that were considered to be candidates for deliberate 'structural' deposition were usually perfectly circular in shape, approximately 1 metre in diameter with depths in the region of 0.6 metres. Fills often comprised three distinct components:

- A primary fill of clean sand and gravel similar in character to the surrounding subsoil and interpreted as natural slumping occurring during a hiatus between the original excavation of the pit and its infilling.
- A central fill comprising relatively homogenous dark brown silty sand from which the vast majority of the artefactual evidence was recovered (Grooved Ware pottery, worked flints & heat altered flints). This fill also contains environmental evidence in the form of charred plant macrofossils (commonly including hazelnut shells). In some instances the ceramic finds appear to be placed at the junction between the lower fill and the central fill while the worked flint often appears to be within a discrete cluster and includes both debitage and complete tools.
- An upper fill comprising light brown silty sand similar in character to the intervening subsoil layer often recorded between the topsoil/ploughsoil and the underlying clean sand and gravels. This layer was probably introduced from above as the result of post-depositional subsidence due to compaction and the degradation of organic matter in the central fill.

It is unlikely that it was ever considered necessary to excavate pits simply for the disposal of domestic rubbish and alternative interpretations have been sought for what are remarkably consistent feature characteristics found widely on sites of this date. While the word '*ritual*' has possibly been overused and now is beginning to go out of fashion in archaeological circles, it is likely that the lives of prehistoric people were a rich mix of activities and the boundaries would have been blurred between what we would consider to be '*sacred*' and '*profane*'. There is no reason at all why features

such as the 'structured' pits, which were invested with a specific meaning by their excavators, should not be found in conjunction with more manifestly domestic deposits.

One exception to the above rule was FLN 062 1748, a large irregular-shaped pit excavated on the eastern side of the FLN 062 area. This feature exhibited all the characteristics of what would normally be interpreted as a tree-hole. However, a significant artefactual assemblage was recovered from its fill which suggested otherwise. In addition, the pit appeared to be central to a ring of post-holes, the dating for which was uncertain. The juxtaposition of these features may be entirely coincidental, but if contemporary then it would seem possible that the complex performed a more specialised rather than domestic function.

### **Period I.e.; Early Bronze Age, c.2000-1500 BP**

A total of forty one features were attributed to the Early Bronze Age. These effectively comprised two distinct categories of feature: firstly, funerary monuments (ring-ditches) and their associated burials and secondly, pits and post-holes. No positive evidence for structures or buildings was recovered.

Six ring-ditches were included in this phase (FLN 059 {1}, FLN 061 {3}, FLN 062 {1} & FLN 064 {1}) based primarily on typology as dating evidence (a ceramic Beaker deposited as a grave good) was only recovered from one of the associated burials. The ring-ditches were widely distributed and form part of a large dispersed group known from aerial photographs to occupy the gravel terraces on both sides of the Waveney Valley. While locally it appeared that these features had often been positioned on shallow ridges, these do not always figure on the contour survey (Fig. 72) at its 1 metre resolution. In addition, others are known to occur in the bottom of the shallow south-west to north-east valley (two from aerial photographs & two in FLN 069 excavated in 2005). On this basis, it does not seem to be elevation alone which determined the location for these monuments, but all would be eminently visible to people observing from the clay plateau to the south.

No two of the ring-ditches or their associated burials, where present, were alike (see individual text sections). This diversity may be significant, with the size and style of ditch and type of burial indicative of a combination of the status of the deceased and their different familial or 'tribal' identities which could in turn relate to their wider geographical origins.

Pits and post-holes attributed to this period were those which contained Beaker Ware pottery. This is almost certainly a simplification of the chronology as there is evidence that the currency of Beaker pottery overlaps with that of Grooved Ware. It is for this reason that the use of radiocarbon dating has been put forward by Sarah Percival (section 3.3.1, p.134) as a technique that may help resolve this issue.

The distribution of Beaker pits on the site shows a marked variation to that of Grooved Ware pits and the two pottery types were only found together in one feature in conjunction with indeterminate Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age wares. This does suggest that even if some of these features were contemporary, then the wares were being utilised differently. Similarly to the Late Neolithic Grooved Ware features, Beaker features were found almost exclusively on the southern flanks of the shallow valley (FLN 057, FLN 059 & FLN 062) (Fig. 72). None were recorded on the northern side (FLN 061 & FLN 064). However, with a few isolated exceptions the

vast majority of the Beaker pits were clustered in the FLN 062 area while the largest concentration of Grooved Ware features occurred in FLN 057 and FLN 059 some 300 metres to the south-west. It is difficult to believe that these spatial differences do not also have a chronological implication, although this still does preclude an overlap of the two pottery styles.

With the absence of structural evidence it is again difficult to interpret the activity represented by the pits and post-holes but as with the Neolithic period, may be ephemeral. The funerary monuments are clearly divorced spatially from the pit/post-hole concentration spatially, with the latter more likely to represent domestic activity, although the possibility of deliberate 'structured' deposition and a more specialised function for at least some of these features cannot be ignored.

**Period I.d. & e.; Indeterminate Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age, c.3200-1500 BC**

A further twenty three features, eighteen pits and five post-holes, the latter based purely on size, were attributed to this phase based entirely on ceramic evidence.

All of these features were recorded in excavation areas FLN 057, FLN 059 and FLN 062, a similar overall distribution to the more positively assigned Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age pit and post-hole concentrations. However, within this overall distribution, two localised concentrations were identified: the first in FLN 057 and FLN 059, coinciding with an area occupied by the main Late Neolithic Grooved Ware pit concentration, and the second towards the north of the FLN 062 area, overlapping with the main Early Bronze Age Beaker pit concentration. It is unclear then whether the differences within the ceramic assemblage are also chronological, although their similarity to and juxtaposition with the Late Neolithic Grooved Ware features and the Early Bronze Age Beaker features suggests that they are broadly contemporary.

No structures were associated with this phase and the activity that it represents remains unclear but likely to be associated with that of the more securely dated Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age deposits.

**Period I.f.; Late Bronze Age, c.1000 - 650 BC**

Only two features, both isolated pits were attributed to this phase based on ceramic evidence.

Both were located within the FLN 061 area which lies on the northern flank of the shallow south-west to north-east aligned subsidiary valley to the main Waveney valley (Fig. 72). One was totally isolated while the other was excavated into the inner face of the external ditch of the double ring-ditch prior to its backfilling. The location of the latter and the presence in its fill of a single large sherd of pottery suggests that it represented a deliberate deposition and that it may have performed a specialised, possible '*ritual*' function with the adjacent ring-ditch at a time when it was still clearly a significant feature in the landscape.

**Period I.g.; Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age, c.800 – 400 BC**

Forty six features were securely dated to this phase based on artefactual evidence, the majority of which were pits. However, as was explained previously in the text (p.20), there is compelling evidence to suggest that many of the less securely dated Period I.i. features also belong in this phase.

Similarly to the Neolithic and earlier Bronze Age deposits, those of the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age were found exclusively in the southernmost of the excavated areas (FLN 056, FLN 057, FLN 059 & FLN 062) on the north-west facing slope immediately north of the junction between the heavy clay soils to the south and the sand and gravel terraces to the north (Fig. 72).

In conjunction with the Period I.i. Indeterminate Bronze Age/Iron Age features these deposits are considered to be the first positive indication on the site for a chronologically extended occupation within a discrete area with recognisable structural evidence.

While the majority of the pits were small with indeterminate function, at least one (FLN 059 0092) was clearly more specialised. Although pottery sherds and animal bone were present and looked essentially domestic in character, there were also a number of triangular loomweights (possibly complete) and the near complete top-stone from a rotary quern which was suggestive of 'structural' deposition.

**Period I.h.; Middle Iron Age, c.400 – 1<sup>st</sup> century BC**

Only one feature, a pit in FLN 057, was attributed to this phase based on artefactual evidence, although some undated and Period I.i. Indeterminate Bronze Age and Iron Age features may actually also belong here. However, the dating of these sherds was only considered to be provisional (p.123) and the lack of a more widespread assemblage also prompts caution.

**Period I.i.; Indeterminate Bronze Age/Iron Age (c.2400 BC – 43 AD)**

A total of one hundred and forty six discrete features, many of which formed part of multi-contextual structures, were attributed to this chronologically extended stage. The features were all recorded within southernmost of the excavated areas (FLN 057, FLN 059 & FLN 062), with the highest concentration within FLN 057, on the north-west facing slope immediately north of the junction between the heavy clay soils to the south and the sand and gravel terraces to the north (Fig. 72).

The dating for this phase was based primarily on the known chronology of the four-post structures that are found commonly on Bronze Age and Iron Age sites. However, while the relatively large number of these features recorded could suggest that the activity lasted for a considerable length of time, none of the structures intercut and their spatial relationships indicated a certain degree of continuity, particularly in FLN 057 (Fig. 12). This could be taken as evidence to suggest that the actual currency of the main occupation represented by these features was considerably less than the full extent of Period I.i.. Given that positively dated Late Iron Age and Roman deposits were recorded extensively in the eastern side of FLN 059 and FLN 062, and that provisionally dated Middle Iron Age deposits were limited to a single pit, then it seems reasonable to assume that the majority of the features were from earlier in this phase. As there were a number of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pits in the vicinity it is suggested that the Period I.i. features were contemporaneous, together representing a significant area of occupation and the first evidence of anything other than transitory or seasonal settlement.

Positively identified structures included at least ten four post structures and one with six. Until relatively recently these structures were uncommon in Suffolk, although the following examples have recently been recorded: Hertfordshire Archaeological Trust (now Archaeological Solutions) at Cedars Park, Stowupland (McDonald & Keir,

2002) and by Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service at Lovetofts Drive, Ipswich (IPS 283) (Caruth, 1999, p. 377), Red Hill Road, Hadleigh (HAD 061) (Meredith, 2004) and Uplands Road South, Carlton Colville (CAC 026) (Meredith, forthcoming). These examples tended to be later Bronze Age and Early Iron Age in date similar to that proposed for Flixton.

In Norfolk they have also been identified on a number of sites, notably Valley Farm and Park Farm, Silfield (Ashwin, 1999, pp. 113-115). Similarly to Flixton, the four post structures at Park Farm were not found in association with other structures, such as roundhouses (unlike those at Lovetofts Drive, Ipswich), and the suggestion was made that this results from the zoning of specific activities in different areas of the site.

There are a number of interpretations regarding the function of four post structures (Ellison, A. & Drewett, 1971). One of the more common interpretations suggests that they represent granaries or storage for other perishable goods, raised off the ground on posts to deter vermin and damp. Alternative interpretations include a funerary function, whereby bodies are laid out on a raised platform, or that they represent structures along land boundaries or buildings for livestock. It has also been noted that while there is evidence for domestic activity, there appears to be an absence of other structural remains that represent actual dwellings, and the six posted structures, although relatively small for them to perform such a function, could be interpreted as such.

At Flixton, evidence was lacking which would help in the interpretation of these features. However, on balance, accompanying archaeology must be considered to be domestic in character and it is possible that in a widely dispersed settlement other buildings and feature concentrations lie beyond the confines of the excavated areas. There was no evidence for the presence of ditched boundaries contemporary with the post-hole structures, but their spatial arrangement within FLN 057 suggests that they were positioned respecting a rectangular open area. This can also be considered as evidence for the presence of at least relatively unsubstantial boundaries (possibly in the form of hedges or fences) in what was generally an unenclosed settlement.

Also included in this phase are a series of less formal post-hole arrangements which were concentrated in the same overall area as the four and six-post structures. In their simplest form they comprised pairs of similar features, although examples with three, four and five component features were also identified. The spacing between the post-holes was usually similar to that in the four and six post-hole structures and these may represent truncated examples. One possible interpretation for the arcs of post-holes is that they represent small, screened working areas. The pairs of post-holes would not normally have prompted much attention, but the presence of at least ten similar examples within the same general area of the site has led to their being considered within their own right. If they are not part of truncated larger structures then they may represent a class of structure that has hitherto not been identified elsewhere.

#### **Period II.a.; Late Iron Age/Early Roman, c.1<sup>st</sup> BC – E.2<sup>nd</sup> century AD**

A total of one hundred and seventeen features were attributed to this phase, many of them part of multi-contextual structures and included the first evidence of formally arranged fields bounded by ditches.

The features were overwhelmingly concentrated on the southern side of the shallow subsidiary valley in areas FLN 056, FLN 057, FLN 059, FLN 062 and FLN 063 (Fig. 72). Previously, deposits were recorded in the adjacent quarry areas FLN 013 and FLN 053 (Boulter, 2000a).

Dating was found to be problematic for this phase in that it was difficult to positively place features either side of the Roman Conquest. However, it is clear that during a period that straddled the conquest of 43 AD, a system of rectilinear fields developed that were bounded to the north-west by a ditch which continued through FLN 56, FLN 057, FLN 059 and FLN 062 (see Figs. 13, 24 & 51). While significant contemporary features were recorded to the north of this boundary, these were not enclosed by ditches, although the presence of less formally marked structures such as fences and hedges cannot be ruled out. Development of the field system coincided with evidence for a marked increase in the level of activity from that of the Middle Iron Age which was all but non-existent in the excavated areas.

Artefactual evidence, recovered mainly from pits and from an occupation layer recorded in the southern half of FLN 062, was generally domestic in type although Philip de Jersey states (p.197) that the Iron Age coin evidence (1 gold & 2 silver) may be indicative of an above average status or unusual character for the site. In addition, the cavalry horse pendent in FLN 059 could indicate at least a transient military presence at some time. Furthermore, the presence of moderate quantities of Roman tile in FLN 062 (mostly roof tile, but other categories were present) suggests that there was at least one relatively high status buildings in the area.

The structural evidence supported this interpretation. Of the three buildings/structures attributed to this phase, two were aisled and almost certainly represented barns or outbuildings and could be taken to indicate that the excavated areas were marginal to the main occupation. Environmental evidence also favoured a peripheral setting for the site. The third building/structure was more enigmatic. When considered with the palisaded post-hole circle recorded *c.* 115 metres to the north in FLN 053 (Boulter, 2000a, p.19), neither of which appear to have parallels within the readily available literature, then a case could be argued that the unusual character of these structures suggests an association with more specialised activities.

A detailed description of the structure can be found in section 3.3.3, page 35. Similarly to many of the features in this phase, it was difficult to assign a pre or post-conquest date. All of the available dating evidence (comprising only twenty eight sherds of pottery) was recovered from post-pipe fills and can be attributed an early to mid 1<sup>st</sup> century date (although two sherds were only assignable to a less specific 1<sup>st</sup> century date). It does then seem reasonable to suggest that this material was incorporated after the abandonment or deliberate dismantling of the structure. On this basis, its construction and main period of use could have been pre-conquest, although, the finds may also have been residual.

Interpretation of the structure is also problematic. There were no stratigraphic relationships between any of the post-holes and the finds spot dating provided no evidence to suggest the presence of more than one phase of construction. It is then difficult to imagine what form the overall structure would have taken or its intended function. Indeed, it is not even clear if the structure was stilted, constructed on free-standing posts or whether some of the intervening spaces were blocked with some form of wall/panelling. Its location to the north of and effectively external to the

ditched field system may also be important, or was its position at the head of the shallow south-west to north-east facing valley of significance, a factor shared by the contemporary palisaded circle and earlier, prehistoric, monuments. It should be mentioned here that the large, presumably Early Bronze Age ring-ditch in FLN 062 less than 100 metres to the north-east of the structure was clearly still visible in the landscape at this time, probably with an accompanying barrow mound within the ditch. However, the evidence suggests that this feature was not being treated with any respect as the quantity of Late Iron Age/Early Roman finds recovered from the upper fill suggests that it was being used as a dump for domestic waste. It does not then seem that these earlier monuments had been invested with any great importance at this time and the juxtaposition of these earlier features was probably not the main consideration when siting the Late Iron Age/Early Roman structures.

A configuration of posts such as these, which is suggestive of a two-celled structure, could be interpreted as a Romano-Celtic temple and a number of high status small finds were found nearby, although possibly not enough to make this a fully viable option. A more practical interpretation involves it representing a large granary based on the grandiose development of the earlier four and six post structures although there was no accompanying environmental evidence that would confirm this.

One other feature assigned to this phase was a stacked burial excavated into a large pit. The four skeletons are described in detail in section 3.4.2, pages 214-218. This was clearly an unusual burial which appeared to have been undertaken with some haste with evidence for injuries that could have contributed to or been the cause of death. There was also evidence to suggest that the four bodies could all be related as part of the same family, a possibility that increases the likelihood that foul play was involved.

#### **Period II.b.; Roman, c.E.2<sup>nd</sup> – L.3<sup>rd</sup> century**

Twenty one features were attributed to this phase, including two kilns, based primarily on artefactual evidence. All of these features were located within FLN 062, the majority towards the south-eastern corner of the area (Fig. 52) and clearly represented a continuation of the previous phase.

The presence of the kilns suggests that the area continued to be peripheral to the main occupation. The earlier fields appear to have been abandoned, with only occasional pits identified towards the northern end of FLN 062, and had been replaced by two ditches forming the sides of what was probably a rectilinear enclosure with evidence for further subdivision. It is unclear whether this represents a contraction of the settlement and the area that it exploited, or lateral movement (settlement shift).

The kilns were similar in size and character, although one had a double rather than single pedestal. Ceramic evidence suggested that the kilns were broadly contemporary although this was contradicted by the Archaeomagnetic Dating (section 3.6, p.235). On balance, however, the ceramic evidence seems more secure than the Archaeomagnetic Dating.

A similar updraft kiln was excavated in the Homersfield Pit some 1.8 kilometres to the south-west (Smedley & Owles, 1959). This structure was dated from the included ceramic evidence to the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> century and is, therefore, of later date than those in FLN 062. This does, however, serve to indicate a continuity of settlement within the general area throughout the Roman period.



### **Period II.c.; Roman, c.L.3<sup>rd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> century**

Only seven features, six of which were pits, were attributed to this phase. Six of the features were in FLN 062 and the seventh on the eastern edge of FLN 059 close to its junction with FLN 062. While clearly indicating that activity continued into the later Roman period, it appears to have been at a markedly reduced level. The coin evidence concurs in that there are no examples from later than AD 353. Evidence for some form of widespread disruption occurring in east Suffolk at that time has previously been noted in excavation (e.g. Hacheston, EAA 106, p.199), and in the metal detected assemblages.

### **Period II.0; Roman, unspecified date**

One hundred and eight features were identified as being of unspecified Roman date, the vast majority of which were concentrated in FLN 062, coinciding with the main area of Late Iron Age/Roman activity. The majority of these features were almost certainly generated during Periods II.a., II.b. and II.c., although some may be later and include only residual material.

Most of the features comprised small pits and post-holes, but a series of linear gullies and trough-like pits were also included. The gullies may represent cultivation features or fence-lines, possibly relating to the Period II.b. enclosure within which the majority were located.

Generally, these features should be considered in conjunction with the more securely dated Roman features as patterns may emerge which could help with the overall interpretation.

### **Period III.0; Early Anglo Saxon, c.410 – E.7<sup>th</sup> century**

A total of seventy five features were attributed to this phase, although this total includes a number of multicontextural structures. The Early Anglo Saxon activity was concentrated in two areas: the first, in FLN 061, representing occupation overlooking the floodplain of the River Waveney to the north, and the second, in FLN 062, was the continuation of a cemetery previously identified in FLN 053 (Boulter, 2000a). The artefactual evidence suggests that the cemetery and settlement were broadly contemporary (fundamentally 6<sup>th</sup> century) and, on that basis, were probably related. It is then interesting to note their relative positions in the landscape on opposite sides of the shallow south-west to north-east orientated valley/depression (Fig. 72). The cemetery would have been clearly visible from the settlement and the latter from the former.

Only seventeen graves were excavated during what was essentially an evaluation exercise to determine the extent of the known cemetery. Eleven of these formed a small group that were divorced from the main cemetery and focussed around an Early Bronze Age ring-ditch. A detailed assessment and analysis of these burials is being proposed as part of a separate project which will be jointly funded by the ALSF and Cemex under their obligation to PPG 16.

The apparently unenclosed settlement was extensive; nineteen buildings were identified with both post-holed 'halls' and SFB's (Sunken Featured Buildings) represented. This pattern of settlement is one that occurs frequently at that time with

relatively loosely agglomerated groups of buildings spread over a wide area. A good example was recorded during recent excavations at Handford Road, Ipswich (Boulter, 2005).

On sites such as West Stow (West, 1985), the 'halls' are interpreted as the living quarters while the SFB's are considered to be workshops and storage facilities. While it is clear that not all of the buildings were contemporary, the spatial relationship between some of the 'halls' does suggest that they were present at the same time. One of the 'halls' was the largest of its kind excavated in Suffolk. In addition, a ditched enclosure, that appeared to be broadly contemporary with the settlement, had a central complex comprising a small secondary, square ditched enclosure with a central pit. This has been interpreted as a possible shrine.

Given the exceptional size of one of the 'hall' buildings and the presence of the possible shrine, it does seem strange that the relatively limited artefactual evidence does not seem to indicate an elevated status for the occupants of the settlement. This is also true of the cemetery assemblage, although a whole claw beaker was recovered from an Early Saxon Burial associated with a ring-ditch in the adjacent Tarmac quarry in 1990 (Martin, 1991).

#### **Period IV; medieval, c.1066-1480**

Evidence for the medieval period was limited to a few unstratified finds located by metal detector during soil-stripping. It is unclear, however, whether some of the recorded field boundaries directly relate to the pre-park medieval landscape.

A collection of late medieval or Tudor building masonry reused in the c.17<sup>th</sup> century barn may have been robbed from a local high status dwelling or ecclesiastical building. There is a precedence for this: the Tasburgh family, who were responsible for the building of Flixton Hall in the early 17<sup>th</sup> century, had earlier (1445) gained, through marriage, St. Peter's Hall, at St. Peter South Elmham and in 1539 added an east wing using materials from the priory at Flixton.

#### **Period V.a.; post-medieval, L.15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> century**

Only one feature, a pit in FLN 062 was attributed to this phase based on very limited artefactual evidence and the dating could not be considered secure.

#### **Period V.b.; post-medieval, c.17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> centuries**

A total of ninety eight features were assigned to this phase based on a combination of map evidence, stratigraphy and artefactual evidence. The vast majority of these features relate directly to Flixton Hall and its associated parkland.

The parkland would have developed from about the time that the hall was built in the early 17<sup>th</sup> century with various alterations and additions. However, some of the boundary features, principally ditches, may be relicts from the pre-park, effectively medieval, landscape. Some of the ditches, particularly those in School Wood (FLN 061 & FLN 064) were still visible as surface features and had clearly been maintained at least into the 20<sup>th</sup> century. One major alteration that was imposed on the landscape during the latter years of the 19<sup>th</sup> century was the re-routing of the Flixton to Homersfield Road to its present location to the north of the quarry. The flanking ditches of the earlier road were recorded in FLN 061, FLN 063 and FLN 064 along with evidence of the rutted, metalled gravel surface itself.

Other notable features included:

- Large irregular pits in FLN 062 which have been interpreted as quarry pits, probably providing aggregate for the construction of Flixton Hall.
- Two stands of formally planted trees in FLN 061 and FLN 064, one of which was confined within its own ditched enclosure (FLN 064).
- A brick-built barn and associated well in FLN 061, originally of 17<sup>th</sup> or early 18<sup>th</sup> century date, but altered during the late 19<sup>th</sup> century using the locally made Elmham St. Cross bricks with their characteristic cross-shaped frog.
- A 'dew pond' in FLN 061, a clay lined pond providing drinking water for the park deer.
- A brick-built drainage conduit in FLN 059 with its associated soakaway and silt-trap clearly running from Flixton Hall itself.

**Period V.c.; post-medieval, c.1914-1918**

One of the more unexpected phases of archaeology encountered at Flixton was that relating to the World War I and comprising a range of trenches and associated latrine pits. It is known that Flixton Park was used for military training during World War I with the troops billeted in the hall itself.

The trenches were relatively shallow and may have been intended more as an exercise in planning and setting out rather than building a full scale working trench system.

**Period V.d.; post-medieval, c.20<sup>th</sup> century**

Five features were included in this phase, three tree-pits in FLN 061 and two ceramic drain pipes in FLN 059.

The pits were modern tree-holes within School Wood, formally planted during the 1920's, and were recorded purely due to the fact that they had disrupted earlier features.

The two ceramic drains relate to the present complex of buildings on the site of Flixton Hall and its use as a farmyard. One of the drains was still in use carrying surface water from the farm into one of the quarry lakes and had to be replaced during the soil-stripping. The other pipe was redundant, but of similar date and had probably originally performed a similar function.

**Period 0; Undated & Naturally Derived Features**

Six hundred and sixty features remained undated or were considered to be of natural origin. The vast majority of the features were described as pits or post-holes and were obviously concentrated in areas that also contained significant securely dated deposits (e.g. the Early Saxon settlement in FLN 061 & the Late Iron Age/Roman area in FLN 062). This strongly suggests that the majority of the undated features, certainly those which were not naturally derived, had been generated during the other recognised periods of activity on the sites.

As well as the features described as pits and post-holes, a number of ditches also remained undated, some of which were clearly related as part of a rectilinear field

system recorded primarily in the FLN 061, FLN 063 and FLN 064 areas (subsequently also identified in the FLN 065, FLN 068 & FLN 069). While the orientation of the ditches approximated those of the existing landscape, which is only to be expected given the topographic constraints, there was stratigraphic evidence to suggest that they were of some antiquity. Firstly, the character of the ditches themselves: the fills generally comprised well-compacted homogenous leached out silty sand. Secondly, stratigraphic relationships subsequently seen in FLN 065, FLN 068 and FLN 069: one component of the ditch system underlay and therefore predated the 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> century barn and another clearly continued under the metalled surface of the old Flixton to Homersfield road. In addition, the eastwards continuation into FLN 069 of the south-west to north-east component of a ditch recorded in FLN 063 deviated as it passed a small Early Bronze Age ring-ditch suggesting that a central barrow was present when the ditch was originally excavated.

Given the lack of artefactual dating evidence, there are three possible interpretations:

- The ditches were Late Iron Age/Roman and relate directly to the more securely dated and similarly orientated field boundaries recorded in FLN 056, FLN 057, FLN 059 and FLN 062.
- The ditches were Early Saxon and related to the occupation immediately to the north-east.
- The ditches were medieval in date and relate to the pre-Flixton Park landscape.

The third of these scenarios is the least likely, as one of the ditches ran under the old Flixton to Homersfield road which is presumed to have followed the same route during the medieval period. There is also evidence, particularly in later areas that will be covered in Assessment 3, that there are more than one phase of these ditches and a combination of the above scenarios may also be a possibility.

## **6. Overall Statements of Archaeological Potential**

### **6.1 Introduction**

One of the problems with assessing the archaeological potential of the site was found to be its division into areas based on successive quarry phases which were each allocated a different SMR number. This resulted in groups of chronologically related artefactual and structural evidence being examined in isolation when the interpretation of the site would have been better served had they been dealt with as one overall entity.

The following Statements of Archaeological Potential represent the amalgamation of the contemporary evidence from the individually numbered sites, evaluating the results of the specialist assessments with particular reference to East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 3 and 8 (Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties, 1. Resource assessment, 1997 & 2. Research agenda and strategy, 2000).

### **6.2 Statements of Archaeological Potential by Period/Phase**

#### **Period I.a.; Lower Palaeolithic, c.500,000 – 38,000 BP**

The Palaeolithic aspects of the site have not formed a major component of the project and is effectively limited to stray finds from the quarry working area and one residual

find in a later feature. However, recent finds elsewhere including worked flints from the Cromer Forest beds at sites such as Pakefield have highlighted the importance of this chronological period. While taking these discoveries into account, the archaeological potential with regards to this specific project is limited to the artefactual evidence itself. The material should be made available for study within other projects, e.g. the proposed ALSF funded scientific dating project being put together by the National Ice Age Network for 2006 or 2007.

**Period I.b.; Mesolithic, c.8000 - 4000 BC**

Demonstrably Mesolithic material formed a negligible component of the assemblage and, as a consequence, there is no perceived archaeological potential or need for further work.

**Periods I.c., I.d., I.e., I.f., I.g., I.i.: Neolithic, Bronze Age & Early Iron Age c.4000 - 400 BC**

The site has provided a wealth of evidence from the Neolithic through to the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age and has the potential to add significantly to the existing corpus of knowledge relating to these periods, specifically in the following areas of study:

- **Artefacts;** significant quantities of worked flint and ceramic finds were recovered. These provide an opportunity to study a large assemblage from securely excavated contexts which makes them of regional and national importance. There is the potential for absolute dating that can help refine the regional pottery sequence (e.g. the relationship between Grooved Ware & Beaker pottery).
- **Monumental landscapes;** the Early Bronze Age ring-ditches form part of a widely spread monumental landscape. One securely dated Early Neolithic monument was recorded along with a possible Late Neolithic example. There is potential to explore the spatial relationships between the monuments, their diverse character of and any discernible chronological differences.
- **Settlement;** the site Neolithic and Early Bronze Age occupation appears to have been transitory or seasonal, but during the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age a more permanent presence is indicated by the significant structural evidence. There is a potential to study this occupation in more detail.
- **'Structured' deposits;** deliberately 'structured' deposits have become increasingly recognised on prehistoric sites and Flixton is a good example with many examples of pits, the majority of Late Neolithic date (associated with Grooved Ware pottery), but some also associated with Beaker pottery that could be later.
- **Environmental setting;** palaeoenvironmental samples have the potential to provide information regarding the contemporary landscape setting and its fauna and flora.

**Period I.h.; Middle Iron Age, c.400 – 1<sup>st</sup> century BC**

The initial assessment suggests that there is very little evidence for activity during the Middle Iron Age and the archaeological potential for this period is, therefore, considered to be low. No specific areas for study are proposed other than confirmation of the artefactual dating evidence.

**Period II.a., II.b., II.c., II.0; Late Iron Age/Roman, c.1<sup>st</sup> century BC - 4<sup>th</sup> century AD**

Extensive occupation deposits along with some unusual structures were recorded and have the potential to significantly broaden the current knowledge of this period particularly in the following areas:

- **Artefacts;** the site produced a significant assemblage of finds from the Late Iron Age and Roman periods which suggest continuous occupation from prior to the Roman conquest through into the 4<sup>th</sup> century. Of particular note are the ceramic finds which have the potential to provide information regarding pottery supply, use and the status, economy, industry and trading connections of the settlement. These can also help refine the regional pottery sequences. The coins are also important in that the pattern of loss appears to mirror that identified elsewhere in the east of the county for reasons which are not entirely clear. Detailed analysis of the coins will aid in the clarification and interpretation of this phenomenon. The analysis of other categories of find (e.g. CBM, slag & metalwork) will together help define the character of the settlement.
- **Settlement;** the occupation clearly spanned the period of the Roman conquest and the evidence has the potential to provide information regarding this important transitional period in a relatively remote area. While almost certainly peripheral to the main occupation, the study area includes evidence for semi-industrial activity, an associated field system and an unusual/specialised building or structure. In relative terms, the rural landscape and economy in Roman times is poorly understood and the extensive area of the Flixton excavations have the potential to help address this imbalance.
- **Industry;** Evidence was recorded for three semi-industrial processes: pottery making, metalworking (smithing) and animal bone/horn working. Local pottery industries are generally poorly represented in the published literature and the two kilns at Flixton can add to our understanding of local trade and marketing. The contexts of the smithing waste should be studied with the aim of more securely dating when that activity was occurring at the site. The evidence for animal bone/horn working may provide information regarding the consumption and economic use of these materials.
- **Military;** The recovery of an Early Roman military horse pendant may be indicative of a military presence, as does the copy *Claudius as*, and this possibility should be explored in greater detail.
- **Burials;** Late Iron Age/Roman burials are rare and the stacked inhumation grave at Flixton is possibly unique.
- **Environmental setting;** palaeoenvironmental samples have the potential to provide information regarding the contemporary landscape and its fauna, flora and the agricultural and industrial process occurring in the vicinity of the site.

**Period III; Early Anglo Saxon, c.410 - E.7<sup>th</sup> century**

Two concentrations of Early Anglo Saxon activity were recorded: a settlement and a contemporary and possibly related cemetery. The burials are being analysed as part of a separate ALSF funded project and will not be considered in detail here.

However, few settlements and associated cemeteries have been excavated and the relationship between the two merits further study. The Early Saxon evidence at Flixton has potential for analysis within the following study areas:

- **Settlement;** while not encompassing the whole settlement, the Flixton site covers a substantial area from which its overall character can be deduced. The site has some unusual characteristics (relatively scarcity of artefacts, the presence of an exceptionally large 'hall' building & a possible shrine) and both its layout and individual building structures should be compared with other local (e.g. Bloodmoor Hill) and regional (e.g. West Stow, Handford Road) examples.
- **Artefacts;** while not producing a vast artefactual assemblage, there is the potential for some comparison (particularly the ceramics) with the cemetery material in order to prove the association between the two. The ceramic assemblage should also be compared with those from other excavated East Anglian sites to improve and refine the regional pottery sequence. The artefacts also have the potential to help deduce the impact of colonists on the indigenous population. The re-use of Roman finds, particularly CBM, should be explored in more detail.
- **Industry;** little evidence for industrial processes was recorded, limited to a small amount of smithing slag. While the potential for further meaningful study of this material is low, its primary association with the Early Anglo Saxon phase should be confirmed. (see also agriculture for antler working etc.)
- **Agriculture;** the significant assemblage of animal bone recovered was in relatively good condition and exhibited numerous ageable and measurable elements. Analysis has the potential to identify further evidence for antler working, skinning and pathology. Butchery marks were common with age and type of animal present determinable in many cases which can provide information regarding the methods of animal husbandry employed on the site. This information should be recorded and compared with local, regional and national assemblages.
- **Environmental setting;** palaeoenvironmental samples have the potential to provide information regarding the contemporary landscape and its fauna, flora and the agricultural and industrial process occurring in the vicinity of the site.
- **Religion;** Excavated examples of Early Anglo Saxon shrines are rare, or at least they have not been recognised in the excavated evidence. The presence of the broadly contemporary rectangular enclosure with its secondary ditch and internal pit merits further study and comparison with other positively identified Early Anglo Saxon shrines. The articulated part of a horse skeleton recovered from the outer ditch may be significant and fulfils the criteria by which animal bone is chosen to provide samples for C14 dating. This should be undertaken in order to achieve an absolute date for the enclosure and, by association, the possible shrine.

#### **Period IV; medieval, c.1066 - 1480**

There were no positively identified medieval features on the site, but this period should be considered when interpreting the undated rectilinear field system.

#### **Period V.a.; post-medieval, L.15<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> century**

The majority of the post-medieval deposits are associated with the parklands of Flixton Hall. There is potential to identify elements of the relict pre-park landscape and by using a combination of the excavated evidence and documentary research, present a chronological staged development of the park features. There is little potential for further work on the 20<sup>th</sup> century features (World War I trenches etc.) other than appearing on the site plan and forming part of the overall narrative.

#### **Period 0; Undated & Naturally Derived Features**

The majority of the undated features were almost certainly generated during the recognised phases of activity on the site and their potential lies with their consideration within the overall stratigraphic analysis. Dating of the rectilinear field systems should be a priority.

### **7. Recommendations for Interim Publication, Full Analysis, & Archive**

#### **7.1 Introduction**

The statements of archaeological potential clearly show that a programme of further analysis and final publication is ultimately necessary. No firm decisions about the form and content of the final publication have been made at this time and there are a number of possibilities including the following:

- 1) Undertake full analysis and publication of the archaeological data covered by Assessment 2 (this document).
- 2) Publication of an interim report; a recommendation has been made by SCCASCT (the local planning authority's archaeological advisor) for an interim report to be published based on the level of information already attained for this assessment. This would not negate the requirement to undertake full analysis and publication at a later date.
- 3) Undertake full analysis and publication in multiple volumes by archaeological period; to make this option viable, it would probably need to include data from later excavations (Assessment 3, 2004 onwards). Publication of the earlier excavations (Assessment 1) will be covered by the present ALSF bid.

With Option 1, a costing for full analysis and publication would be put together from the existing data and the project could be initiated relatively quickly.

With Option 2, a costing for an interim publication would be put together once a decision is made on the type of report required. There would then still be a requirement for full analysis and more detailed publication, probably in the Option 3, by period, format.

With Option 3, it is not envisaged that full analysis and publication would occur until the remaining areas of the quarry have been excavated and assessed (Assessment 3). On that basis, it is likely that the archaeological planning advisors would also require an interim report (Option 2), due to the extended period of time between excavation and publication.

#### **7.2 Interim Report, Full Analysis & Archive Requirements (Task List)**



This section presents a list of major tasks that will need to be undertaken for an interim report, full analysis and outstanding archive requirements. Detailed breakdowns of the full analysis tasks to be undertaken by individual specialists are included within their own sections of the report.

**Interim Report:** While the exact format of any interim report has not yet been agreed, it is not envisaged that further analysis would be undertaken by the specialists at that stage. The work would effectively involve presenting the information from this, the assessment report, in a format suitable for wider dissemination. On that basis, until guidelines have been agreed regarding the format for the report, no task list or resource estimates (time or cost) can be provided.

**Full Analysis:** At this stage of the project only a broad list of analysis topics will be presented that have been identified in this assessment. When a decision has been reached regarding the form and composition of the final publication then a detailed proposal (effectively an Updated Project Design) including a breakdown of staff, a detailed task list, costing and time-scale can be produced.

Where possible, along with each overall topic, the page number in this report where a more detailed task list can be found has been included.

### *Topics*

#### Stratigraphic Analysis

- Stratigraphic analysis & interpretation of the Flixton features and monuments

#### Artefactual Analysis

- Pottery; all periods (pp.13-135; prehistoric, pp.143-144; Late Iron Age & Roman, p.148; post-medieval)
- CBM; all periods (p.151)
- Worked stone; (p.152)
- Fired clay; all periods (non kiln; p.154, kiln; p.155)
- Querns; all periods (p.157)
- Worked flint; (pp.182-184)
- Burnt flint & stone (p.185)
- Slag (p.188)
- Small finds; all periods (FLN 57; p.191, FLN 059; p.194, FLN 061; p.196, FLN 062; p.203, FLN 064; p.206)
- Animal bone; all periods (FLN 061; p.212, FLN 062; p.213)
- Human skeletal remains; Early Anglo Saxon will be included with the ALSF funded project, the Roman multiple burial has already been done. This leaves the cremations for further analysis as part of this project (p.219)

#### Misc. Analysis Tasks

- Palaeoenvironmental analysis of selected contexts (pp.231-233)
- Soil analysis (pp.234-235)
- Undertake C14 dating of selected contexts
- Illustration of artefacts selected by specialists

#### Publication

- Synopsis preparation
- Preparation of text

- Selection & preparation of figures
- General publication tasks

**Archive Requirements:** An up to date archive list should be prepared. At this stage the main archiving requirement involves making copies of plans and section drawings that have not as yet been digitised. It is estimated that this will take ten working days.

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