

BUR06:

A report on archaeological evaluations carried out at Burdale, North
Yorkshire in May 2006

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Introduction

This report concerns the sequence of stratigraphic and structural development of the Burdale site, excavated in summer 2006. It first provides a research and practical context in which the work took place (*Background to the Excavation*: Section I – JDR) and outlines the work process (*Site Procedures*: Section II – SPR), before taking up its main role: to present and interpret basic site data – information on the character, extent and spatial position of deposits and intrusions, plus their stratigraphic relationships and details of key finds (*Site Development*: Section III – SPR). Finally, we provide a summary of site development and attempt to interpret its wider significance in relation to preliminary accounts of aerial photographic, geophysical, artefactual and ecofactual evidence, and to discuss what light the fieldwork may have thrown on site function or dating (*Summary of Stratigraphic Sequence and Conclusions*: Section IV – SPR/JDR).

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I. Background to the Excavation

The site at Burdale (SE 875623) is situated on the valley floor at 99m OD, along the main Thixendale-Fimber valley. The area comprises a long narrow level field approximately 1000 metres in a north-west to south-east orientation with an average width of 120 metres. The Thixendale-Fimber road runs down the southern edge of the valley, alongside the 19th-century embankment for the Malton/Drifffield railway. Crop marks suggest traces of a Romano-British farmstead (at the eastern end of the valley), with two Anglian settlement enclosures with sunken-featured buildings (one at the western end; the second east of Whay Dale). Illegal night-hawking has been focussed on the eastern end of the valley away from Burdale House Farm. It is understood that this has produced material dating from the 1st century AD to the 8th century AD. A limited metal detector survey in Sept-Oct 2005 produced an Anglian pin and strap end.

This combination of circumstances led to our undertaking the following data gathering and its analysis:

- detailed fieldwalking in March 2006 to recover all cultural material, but especially pottery, building materials and bones, each item being plotted using a GPS system
- a campaign of focussed geophysics comprising geo-magnetometry and resistivity survey encompassing both concentrations of Anglian activity
- excavation of an area near the centre of the eastern Anglian settlement enclosure, chosen to intercept at critical points both major landscape features and possible internal structures, as revealed by geophysical survey
- subsequent processing and analytical work undertaken at Kings Manor
- a display of preliminary results of the work, put together by the first year students at the end of their fieldwork.

II. Site Procedures

An area 20m x 60m was opened by mechanical excavator on 8th/9th May 2006, after completion of the previously-mentioned fieldwalking and geophysical surveys (these last two elements being conducted within the Department's field course). The location of the site grid was also established, using a combination of topographical survey and GPS positioning. Cleaning, identification and selective excavation of contexts on the opened area then took place from 15th to 30th May over ten working days, using a workforce of some c.65 students per day. The site was backfilled by mechanical excavator later in June.

Digging proceeded in the following manner: the machine removal of plough-soil was followed by several cleaning passes over the entire area to remove all remnant plough-soil and sharpen the definition of underlying features and contexts. Finds recovered at this stage were plotted individually in three dimensions, allowing us to compare them to subsequently drawn features maps. In addition, the whole of the surface of the excavation area and the spoil heap was swept by metal detector before, during and after plough soil removal, and during the later excavation of the identified intrusions.

As ever, the process of feature definition taxed the workforce's skill and endurance in mixed, but generally fine, weather. However, even if extra clarity would have been achievable with more work, we are confident that the resulting map is a reasonable rendering of the state of affairs in the area exposed. Once plough-soil had been removed, excavation proceeded on a number of defined contexts using a mixture of trowelling and mattocking, mostly the former. Finds were kept by context, and bulk samples were taken. Although none of the larger features such as ditches and pits were excavated in their entirety, all were sampled to some degree, whilst a number of smaller intrusions such as postholes were emptied completely. The resulting datasets, although still a product of, essentially, a strip-and map exercise, add valuable information to set beside earlier aerial photographic, remote sensing, fieldwalking and detectorist work.

The recording system employed on the site was structured around the need to recover spatial, stratigraphic and descriptive information about every identified unit of stratigraphy. Thus the position of each was recorded on a 'top plan' covering the whole site. In addition, sections were drawn of individual intrusions, positioned either to best match their alignments, or to solve specific problems concerned with formation processes of their fills or investigate inter-cutting features when relevant. Secondly, the relationships of individual units were noted on each recording sheet, allowing an overall 'Harris' matrix to be drawn up presenting all the proven stratigraphic relationships revealed in the course of the work. Finally, the physical characteristics of each layer or intrusion was recorded textually on a systematic basis. For deposits this comprised information about colour, soil matrix and inclusions, and for cuts it concerned their shape in plan and profile, and other relevant characteristics.

The excavation generated information for 236 stratigraphic units, labelled 1000-1237 incl. on site (1221 and 1222 were unused). Of these, two were the numbers allocated, respectively, to the topsoil removed by machine and that element which lay at the base of the latter and had to be removed by hand in cleaning to identify the fills of

underlying intrusions (1000 and 1001 – see above). A third number (1055) was given to an area of either deeper topsoil or an accumulation above postholes 1209, 1210 and 1211 (see Group 2, below). Twelve numbers were allocated to areas where different features intersected and where further work was then needed before full stratigraphic investigation could commence (1002, 1004, 1006, 1015, 1025, 1029, 1033, 1053, 1063, 1078, 1083 and 1200: in what follows, these units are called ‘definition contexts’). The remaining numbers label ‘true’ stratigraphic units and comprise 85 cut features (i.e. intrusions of various sorts, ranging from stake holes to large pits and ditches), and their 136 associated fills (greater in number, of course, because some intrusions contained more than one fill).

As a result of post-excavation analysis, the site stratigraphy was divided into 16 groups, discussed in what follows from west to east on the site but also, where possible, in their suggested broad chronological order. In addition, most of these groups could be related to one of four enclosures recognised within the excavated area, either because they included features such as ditches which defined an enclosure, or because they fell within or just outside such an entity.

In the following text, stratigraphic unit reference numbers are listed at the start of each group heading, in the order in which they are then presented. The basic, descriptive information provided in the body of the text which follows, whether of a cut feature or of a deposit, is essentially a consistent summary of the contents of individual record sheets and is *italicised* in the text because of its primary status – a product of direct observation on site. There is also a reference in **bold** at this stage to the unit number to which this descriptive information relates, together with a statement of proven stratigraphic relationships, cross-referenced to underlying strata. Basic interpretations ensue concerning the function/formation of each unit and justification for its suggested grouping. Any more general, speculative interpretations are presented thereafter, in hierarchical order. The key finds in each context are also described, with individual finds referenced by ‘small-find number’ (sf), or by a second sequence, allocated during post-excavation, beginning sfX. A final section summarises this sequence and draws out its wider implications. Finally, Appendix A cross references stratigraphic units against group number, associated enclosure (if any), and its summary interpretation.

In this way, it is hoped that this report provides, in a systematic and useful way, enough information on the basic findings to justify the suggested interpretations and to allow for alternative views to be formulated, without simply reproducing the site record in its entirety. It remains likely that one would still have to return to that basic data for certain specialists needs. However, even then, what follows should provide a convenient way into that underpinning record, together with *an* interpretation, at least, of what it might mean.

The records and assemblages generated by the work are housed at present in the Department of Archaeology, University of York, King’s Manor, York YO1 7EP but the physical records are to be deposited with Malton Museum, and the digital records with the Archaeology Data Service.

III. Site Development

Group 1 – Features pre-dating Enclosure 1

1121, 1048, 1144, 1054, 1173, 1217, 1216, 1119

The three intrusions which form this group represent the initial usage of the west end of the site, including a gully and a probable working pit, both cut by features associated with the creation of a later curvilinear ditches. This initial development may therefore have happened before any enclosure of the landscape in the vicinity.

In the south-west corner of the excavation, cut **1121** intruded into the natural chalk. *Running southwest-northeast, this was at least 7m long (southwest end cut away) and up to 0.80m wide. The excavated section at its north-eastern extremity had steep sides 0.50m deep, curving gradually to a rounded base at a level of 49.51m O.D.. The base appeared to slope up towards the southeast. However, only a short section was uncovered and at the point where 1121 encountered a later feature at the southern limit of the excavation, its base lay at 49.50m O.D., perhaps suggesting that the intrusion had a structural, rather than drainage, function.* 1121 was filled with loose, dark greyish brown silty loam containing moderate flint and occasional bone fragments, together with some flecks of charcoal and orange clay (**1048**). This fill contained an abraded sherd of calcite gritted ware (sf129), of Iron Age or Roman date.

This feature is cut by ditches 1089 and 1060 (both Group 2, below), part of the earliest curvilinear enclosure in the vicinity. Thus 1121 appears to represent a pre-enclosure development, perhaps related to more substantial remains to the south and west, given its north-eastern termination within the excavated area. If the orange clay flecks in its fill are correctly identified as decayed daub, it suggests corresponding features associated with such material existed in the vicinity.

Immediately to the west of 1121, cut **1144** intruded into the natural chalk. *Running southwest-northeast, this was up to 2.20m in long (southwest limit uncertain) and up to 0.43m wide. The excavated section at its north-eastern extremity had steep, irregular sides, especially on its southeast side, 0.30m deep, curving gradually to a U-shaped base at a level of 49.64m O.D.. No slope direction could be defined from the short section uncovered).* 1144 was filled with loose, dark brown silty loam containing frequent flint fragments and occasional animal bone (**1054**).

Its character is that of a narrow gully which, given its proximity to 1121 and their similar alignment, suggests an association and their broad contemporaneity (although no direct relationship could be established between 1144 and the creation of the curvilinear Enclosure 1 in the area.

20m to the north, part of another feature, cut **1173**, was exposed within the excavation area intruding into the natural chalk. *Seemingly elliptical in shape (northern end beyond the limit of excavation), it measured 4m east-west by at least 2.8m north-south, with sides, where defined, being nearly vertical and up to 0.90m deep curving to a base at a level of 49.34m O.D. which sloped slightly down to the east.* 1173 was filled initially with loose brown silty clay loam containing a profusion of variously-sized chalk fragments (**1217**) below a deposit of soft, blackish brown silty loam with

noticeably fewer chalk inclusions (1216). The colouration of the latter seems likely to be a product of degraded charcoal, perhaps related to lenses of purer charcoal seen in section at the surface of both 1217 and, less extensively, 1216. Finally, *soft, dark brown silty clay containing some variously sized chalk fragments (1119)* on 1216 filled the remainder of the feature. This contained remains of an iron hearth bottom (sfX105), a number of quern fragments (sfs192-3), fragments of two antler combs (sf159, sf290) and a sherd of organic tempered cooking pot (sf171) as well as a residual rim sherd of Roman East Yorks grey ware (sf168).

The character of the fills of 1173 suggest that its initial stony backfill 1217 may have been related to its initial use as some sort of floor, or resulted from degradation of the chalk through which it cut after the feature's demise. The charcoal rich deposit 1216 above resembles occupation debris more directly, with the deposition of 1119 marking the backfilling of the feature to prepare for subsequent development of the area. The cut itself could be some form of sunken-featured building, similar in form to the later 1155 to the south (see Group 9, below) and 1235/1237 in the southeast corner of the site (see Group 10, below). However, its depth and size seems much closer to that of larger working pits such as 1092 (Group 12, below).

Given that 1173 was cut by ditch 1089 (Group 2, below), part of Enclosure 1, it must have been in use before that particular feature was created. Whether it lay in isolation or was enclosed by features which did not fall within the excavation area is impossible to say. However, the proven relationship with ditch 1089 might suggest that 1173 and linear cut 1121 (and thus, by implication, cut 1144) were in use at much the same point in time, or at least fell into demise together.

Group 2 – Features marking the creation of western curvilinear Enclosure 1

1089, 1011, 1060, 1120, 1010, 1090, 1113, 1012, 1153, 1152, 1211, 1142, 1210, 1141, 1209, 1140, 1055

The three parallel features which make up this group mark the creation of a curvilinear enclosure at the east end of the excavation, Enclosure 1. They are provably later than elements of Group 1, and mark the latter's demise.

Cut **1089**, running the full width of the excavated area, cut into 1048, the fill of ditch 1121, and into 1119, the uppermost fill of possible sunken-featured building 1173 (both Group 1). *At least 21m long (both ends beyond the limit of excavation), it curved slightly to the east to both north and south, and was up to 1m wide (little variation). Its gently curving sides, up to 0.35m deep, formed a rounded base at a level of c.50.00m O.D. in the north and 49.44m O.D. nearer the centre of the site. A deposit of soft, brown silty loam containing some chalk rubble, mainly in small fragments, a large amount of animal bone, and occasional charcoal fragments (1011)* filled 1089 and marked its demise. It contained two worked flints (sf33, sfX081), three sherds of Roman grey ware (sf155), pieces of iron slag (sf167, sfX326), and lava quernstone (sfX059).

The gradual decline to the south in the base level of 1089 was in line with the general drop in the level of the top of the natural chalk across the site, thus ensuring that the depth of the feature remained fairly constant but that any water accumulating within it would have drained to the south. The Group 1 features 1121 and 1173 must have fallen into disuse with the insertion of 1089, which therefore represents an entirely new phase in the development of the area.

C.3m to the west of 1089, parallel cut **1060** (also labelled **1120** towards its southern limit) similarly intruded into 1048, the fill of ditch 1121 (Group 1), elsewhere cutting the natural chalk. *At least 19.5m long (north end beyond limit of excavation; south end cut away), it was c.1.3m across (little variation), with sloping sides, rather steeper in the west than east, curving to a regular concave base at a depth of 0.40m and a level of 49.37m O.D. at the centre of the site, 0.32m and a level of 49.70m O.D..* A deposit of *soft, dark brown silty, clayey loam with a few chalk fragments up to 0.10m across (1010)* filled 1060, representing its demise. It contained abraded sherds of Iron Age and Roman pottery (sf27, sf173, sf191, sf235), an iron knife blade (sf26), and fragments of iron slag (sfX169), and lava quernstone (sfX140)

Any drainage function for 1060 would have led water from south to north. Its position, profile, stratigraphic relationships and alignment all strongly suggest an association with cut 1089, and it seems certain that both were inserted as part of a single development of this part of the site.

C.4m to the east of ditch 1089, cut **1090** intruded into natural chalk. *At least 12m long (north end beyond the limit of excavation), it was up to 1m wide (fairly consistent), with a rounded end at its southern limit, midway across the site. Its sides were fairly steep in the east, more gradual in the west, each curving gently to a rounded base at a depth of 0.25-0.35m. The feature appeared to slope down northwards from its southern terminal, attaining a depth of 49.62m O.D. in its excavated, central portion.*

A deposit of *soft, dark greyish brown silty clay loam containing moderate flint and stone and occasional bone (1012*, also recorded in another section as **1113**) filled the feature and marked its demise. A small fragment of Roman glassware (sf36) as well as several pieces of daub (sfX047, sfX201) and clinker (sfX196) were recovered from this fill. Although 1090 did not cut into any features belonging to Group 1, its position, profile and alignment both imply a close relationship with 1089 just to the west and with 1060 beyond this.

Taken together, the three elements suggest the creation of a curvilinear enclosure encircling the area to the east, and continuing off the site to both north and south. It seems likely that any bank associated with each component would have lain to their east but, given the shallow depth of each feature, this would only have represented a demarcation of space, not a substantial barrier to movement as such.

3.5m to the east of the terminal of 1090, cut **1153** intruded into the natural chalk. *Roughly circular and up to 0.34m across, it had shallow sides up to 70mm deep curving to a locally irregular, generally concave base. 1153 was filled with soft, dark greyish brown silty loam (1152) containing some small chalk rubble and burnt daub (sfX335), and probably represents an insubstantial post position (its depth is*

insufficient to support a free-standing member). Assuming its position is not coincidental, opposite the position of the southern end of 1090, and perhaps at a point at which any bank associated with the latter would thus have terminated, then it seems likely to have been associated with the creation of Enclosure 1, perhaps associated with any entrance arrangements which the latter may have embodied at this point.

To the south of the southern end of 1090, a further three features intruded into the natural chalk in a rough north-south line. From the north, these comprised: **1211**, a *sub-circular feature c.0.25m across but with shallow sides only 30mm deep*, filled with *soft dark brown silty clayey loam containing a few chalk inclusions (1142)*; **1210**, a *possibly sub-circular feature up to 0.30m across but only 30mm deep*, filled with *dark brown silty clayey loam containing slightly more chalk inclusions (1141)*; and **1209**, a *sub-circular feature up to 0.35m across but with irregular sides up to 90mm deep*, filled with *soft, dark greyish brown silty clayey loam containing a few chalk inclusions (1140)*. Given their lack of depth, these intrusions can represent, at best, only the base of post-positions, not the site of once free-standing, vertical members. However, there is also a chance that they are not true archaeological features at all, rather just localised disturbance of the natural chalk.

These three ephemeral features was covered with a spread of *loose dark brown gritty silty loam containing frequent stone and occasional bone fragments (1055)* covering a roughly circular area c.7m across near to the southern limit of excavation. It contained several sherds of Roman pottery (sf76, sf79, sf129), some iron slag (sfX060) and some daub (sfX122). It is unclear whether this is a true stratigraphic unit, comprising occupation debris, or simply the base of the topsoil in a lower area. However, even if the latter, the existence of such a lower area, and the possible features in its base, in the form of 1209, 1210 and 1211, suggests that it results from some form of different human activity in the vicinity.

Three interpretations of this zone are possible: it could be completely unrelated to the other elements described previously; be linked to the use of ditch 1121 (Group 1), which lies just to the north and west; or be associated with the use of the curvilinear ditches of 1090, 1089, 1060. This last alternative is preferred here, on the basis that some association between the formation of 1055 and other activity is more likely than none (hence the first option is less favoured), and that the line of 1209-1211 matches that of the southern projection of 1090 (and also that, if there is a choice, it is better to place the possible 'post positions' with a later, rather than earlier, group).

Taken together, the insertion of Enclosure 1 into this part of the site obviously represents a major development. It seems reasonable to suppose that 1060 and presumed bank to its east comprises a major demarcation of this zone, that 1089 and its bank reinforces this, and that 1090 plus bank and possible entrance arrangements to its south are part of the process. That said, it is not clear how access across the line of 1089 and 1060 was provided west of the termination of 1090. Both of the outer ditches seem continuous at this point, although they do deviate very slightly from their set alignment opposite the end of 1090, which could indicate that they did not form upstanding features here. If so, the implication is that Enclosure 1 was first set out in its entirety, in the form of a double bank and ditch, and that access into, and/or movement within, the area thus enclosed was then decided subsequently, even if this meant slighting the newly created circuit at some point.

Group 3 – Features marking the creation of northern central curvilinear Enclosure 2

1189, 1028, 1156, 1096

In the central, northern part of the site, east-west cut **1189** intruded into 1012, the uppermost fill of ditch 1090, the easternmost component of Enclosure 1 (see Group 2, above). *At least 20m long (west end merging into 1156 – see below), it was up to 1.5m wide in places, and rarely less than 1.2m., with steep sides up to 0.70m deep curving gently to its u-shaped base at a level of c.49.10m O.D.* 1189 was filled with *firm black silty clayey loam containing a little chalk in fragments up to 50mm across (1028)*. When seen in section, this fill became more stoney on the north side of the ditch, implying perhaps weathering of the natural chalk at this point, and thus that the cut remained open for some time before being backfilled with the more earthy element of 1028. A possible whetstone (sf163) and several pieces of daub (sfX119, sfX131, sfX183) were also recovered from this fill.

Towards the western defined limit of 1189, cut **1156** intruded into the natural chalk. *Curving from an east-west to increasingly north-south direction, this intrusion was at least 12m long (merging with 1189 to the west – see below - and cut away by a later feature to the south) and was at least 0.90m wide (east side cut away by a later feature), with steep sides up to 0.35m deep curving gently to a u-shaped base at a depth of 49.40m O.D. in its central, excavated portion.* 1156 was filled with *soft silty loam containing chalk in fragments up to 50mm across (1096)*, the latter also being more stoney towards the base of the feature than higher up and suggesting weathering of the sides of the feature at this initial stage of its backfilling.

When encountered in plan, the fill of 1156 and that of 1089 were physically continuous, and it therefore seems reasonable to assume that they formed a continuous curvilinear feature, despite the base of the later in the west being considerably below that of its eastern and southern counterpart. This new insertion is designated here Enclosure 2. The fact that the western terminal of 1189 cut into, but terminated virtually on the line of, ditch 1090 implies that this new enclosure was added to, rather than replacing, Enclosure 1.

Group 4 – Subdivisions of/additions to Enclosure 2

1151, 1029, 1199, 1198, 1206, 1062, 1063, 1181, 1098, 1178, 1036

Within the line of newly-defined Enclosure 2, east-west cut **1151** intruded into 1028, the fill of cut 1189 (Group 3, above). *At least 22m long (west end continuing beyond the limit of excavation, east end running up to, but not beyond, line of cut 1156), it was between 0.60 and 0.80m wide (tending to be wider towards the west), with gently sloping sides and a slightly v-shaped base at a level of c.49.50m O.D. (although the profile in the east, where 1151 approached 1156, was flatter than elsewhere).* *Soft, dark brown silty clay loam containing chalk and flint fragments up to 50mm across (1017)* filled 1151 initially, below a similar deposit with slightly

more chalk (**1029** – really a definition context to distinguish 1017 from 1028, subsequently found to fill earlier cut 1189). These layers contained many pieces of lava quernstone (sfX049, sfX090) and an iron strap (sf53).

Given that 1151 runs up to, but seemingly not beyond, 1156 belonging to Enclosure 2, but cuts across 1189, the other primary component of that enclosure, then this new ditch must represent an addition to 1156/1189, inserted to cross near its western terminal. It would be useful to know whether 1151 abutted 1090, the inner ditch of primary Enclosure 1. However, its point of intersection between the two lay at the very edge of the excavation, so this can only be answered using geophysical evidence. That said, based on currently available information, it seems likely that 1151 merely represents a subdivision of Enclosure 2, and that the general framework within which occupation of the area took place remained substantially unaltered as a result of its introduction.

Immediately to the south of 1151, east-west cut **1199** intruded into the natural chalk. The small length which survived later intrusions was *1.1m long and 0.45m wide, with steep sides c.0.25m deep and a flattish base sloping down to the east to a level of 49.61m O.D.. Soft dark brown silty loam containing some chalk rubble and grit* (**1198**). Interpretation of this isolated feature is impossible, although the fact that it was not evident in intact natural strata to both east and west implies that it was only of local significance. It does, however, ante-date cut 1174, which can be assigned to Group 5 on independent grounds (see below). Hence 1199 may be broadly contemporary with 1151 just to its north.

Immediately outside the line of Enclosure 2, but with no defined relationship to it, three further intrusions cut into the natural chalk. Adjacent to the northern limit of excavation, **1206** was seen only as the western edge of a roughly east-west feature at least 2m long (running into 1189 in the south, beneath the baulk to the north) and perhaps 1m wide. It was unexcavated, with its fill being *the same as 1028, (1062), with further similar material (1063)* above this being a definition context amalgamating finds from 1028 and 1062. These fills contained a sherd of Roman grey ware (sf88) and fragments of iron slag (sf89-90, sfX048, sfX139), daub (sfX026), as well as a flint scraper (sf91).

Intact natural chalk on the line of 1206 but to the south and east of ditch 1189 implies that this feature ran up to, but not inside, Enclosure 2. It therefore seems likely to postdate the latter. In addition its alignment, in so far as this could be defined, resembles that of 1151 and 1174 to the south. Thus it may be broadly contemporary with them, an addition which seems however to have gone out of use at the same time as the enclosure as a whole, given the similarity between fill 1028 and fills 1062 and 1063.

Further east, but again immediately adjacent to the northern baulk, the northeast edge of cut **1181** was visible. *At least 1m long and perhaps over 0.50m wide, its alignment was difficult to determine but it appeared to curve at the same angle as the nearby ditch marking the northeast corner of Enclosure 2. Its gently sloping northern edge curved gently to an undulating base at a level of at least 49.46m O.D.. A deposit of loose, silty loam containing some chalk gravel (1098)* filled 1181.

Although the relationship between 1181 and Enclosure 2 could not be established stratigraphically, both were cut by later feature 1126 (Group 5, below). It thus seems likely that 1181 was inserted when the 1156 was first dug, or soon after when 1151/1174 and 1206 were added to the circuit.

1178 comprised traces of an east-west cut towards the southern part of the excavation area, *at least 1.5m long (west end cut away) and 0.90m across with sharp, fairly regular sides up to 0.25m deep curving to a flat base at 49.27m O.D.* It was filled with *loose, silty loam containing very few chalk inclusions (1036)*. As with 1206 and 1181, 1178 could not be related directly to the creation of Enclosure 2. Yet it was not evident in intact natural chalk 3m to the west and was cut by a later amendment to the enclosure circuit at this point (1126 – Group 5, below). Thus, like them, it seems likely to be a localised feature added to the outside of the initial ditches.

Group 5 – Redefinition or Reduction of Enclosure 2

1124, 1097, 1126, 1095, 1093, 1015, 1025, 1180, 1094, 1053, 1174, 1019

Towards the centre of the site, curving cut **1124** intruded into 1017, the fill of ditch 1151 (Group 4). *At least 12,m long (its fill at the east end merging with that of 1126 – see below), it was up to 0.90m wide with sloping sides up to 0.30m deep curving to a u-shaped base at a level of 49.37m O.D.* The ditch was filled with *soft, clayey silty loam containing occasional flecks of charcoal and some chalk fragments up to 0.10m across, the latter especially concentrated towards its surface (1097)*. 1097 contained a worked bone pin or needle (sf134) and two sherds of Roman grey ware (sf133).

The distribution of inclusions within the fill implies that it comprised an element of primary silting, followed by deliberate backfill. The feature as a whole served to redefine the northern limit of Enclosure 2. However, since this redefinition cut into liner feature 1151, it must have take place some time after the original development, in turn implying an extended life for the spatial organisation of this zone.

To the south and east, north-south cut **1126** intruded into 1096, the fill of 1156 (the primary ditch forming the east side of Enclosure 2 – Group 3) and into 1036, the fill of 1178 (a proposed addition to Enclosure 2 – Group 4). It is also recorded as cutting 1098, the fill of 1181 (another proposed addition to Enclosure 2 – Group 4: but see further discussion of 1180, below). This new intrusion was *at least 11m long (fill at north end merging with that of 1124, cut away to south) and between 0.60 and 0.80m wide, with step sides up to 0.60m deep changing to its locally irregular base at a level of 49.43m O.D.* *Soft dark brown silty loam containing mainly small chalk rubble fragments (1095)* filled the base of the cut, with a further deposit of *loose, dark brown silty loam containing chalk gravel (1093)* as a further fill above this. Finally, a more widespread deposit of *soft, dark brown silty clay loam containing some chalk fragments and the occasional large lump of chalk up to 0.20m across (1015)* covered both this fill and 1097, the uppermost fill of 1124 to the west (and thus constitutes, in reality, a definition context). Further *soft, dark brown silty clayey loam containing still higher proportions of angular chalk fragments up to 0.10m across (1025)* above 1015 represents a definition context in the area. These upper fills contained two flint

scrapers (sf41, sfX329), a bone pin or needle (sf40), a very worn sherd of Roman grey ware (sfX078), pieces of iron slag (sfX034, sfX052, sfX338), daub (sfX041, sfX337), and lava quernstone (sf42, sfX022).

Given that 1126 clearly represents a redefinition of the east side of Enclosure 2, as does 1124 on the latter's north side, and that general spread 1015 covers both features, it seems reasonable to associate 1126 with the digging of 1124, both therefore occurring after a period during which there was time to insert east-west ditch 1151, plus perhaps features 1206, 1181 and 1178 outside Enclosure 2 (see discussion of Group 4). The only anomaly in the above interpretation is that 1124 lies inside the line of its forerunner, whereas 1126 lies outside it. However, the area where the two would then have crossed was not excavated, so such a change is eminently feasible. This idea is given more latitude because, although the east side of Enclosure 2 is reproduced fairly exactly in the new scheme (1156 and 1126 run exactly parallel for over 12m, and this cannot be coincidence), its northern side is not: the western extent of 1189 and 1124 are markedly different, the latter ending some 11m east of the former. The east side of Enclosure 2 clearly has a need to be controlled in a way which its northern extent does not.

At the point where 1124 and 1126 would have intersected, curvilinear cut **1180** also intruded into 1098, the uppermost fill of addition 1181 (see Group 4). *At least 4m long (ends merging with 1124 and 1126 to west and south respectively), its steep, regular sides up to 0.28m deep curved gently to a u-shaped base at a level of 49.43m O.D.. Loose silty loam (colour not recorded) containing a little chalk gravel (1094) filled the cut, with an exactly similar definition context (1053) containing a Roman grey ware rim (sf79) above this.*

The relationship between 1180 and 1124/1126 could not be defined, as each remained unexcavated in the area where they intersected. However, the most likely scenario is that the latter pair formed a continuous feature running within the line of the original enclosure ditch in the north and on its outside in the east. 1180 would then comprise an addition to that circuit at its northeast corner, in much the same way that 1181 was added to the original ditch 1189. In this case, the definition of what constitutes cut 1180 should include the whole of the outer circuit at this point, and the relationship recorded in excavation between 1126 and 1098, the fill of 1181, should be discounted.

Within the line of this newly defined circuit, east-west cut **1174** intruded into 1198, the fill of ditch 1199 (Group 4), elsewhere cutting the natural chalk. *At least 18.5m long (western limit running out indeterminately, east limit seeming to end on the line of ditch 1156/1126), it measured c.0.80m across (less towards western end) and had sloping sides up to 0.30m deep, curving gently to a flattish base at c.49.67m O.D.. The feature was filled with loose, dark brown silty loam and chalk rubble up to 0.10m across (1019).*

Although the relationship between 1174 and Enclosure 2 ditches 1156/1126 could not be securely defined, the fact that 1174 did not continue in intact stratigraphy to the east of the latter strongly suggests that this new intrusion ran up against the pre-existing enclosure. At what stage of the latter's use it was created is less clear. 1174 cut ditch 1199, so was not the first feature in the area. However, the latter is by no means securely phased, so this established relationship helps little. Two possibilities

present themselves. 1174 resembles 1151 in position, rough alignment and character, and so could have been laid out at the same time, thus belonging to Group 4. Alternatively, as the two do not align exactly and have different western limits, they may not be contemporary. In this case, 1174 might be seen as a replacement for 1151, created at the point when the digging of ditch 1124 marked the latter's demise. The latter is preferred here.

Group 6 – Features marking the creation of southern central curvilinear Enclosure 3

1175, 1030, 1176, 1031, 1203, 1177, 1032, 1033

Towards the centre of the site near its southern limit, curvilinear cut **1175** intruded into 1095, the fill of ditch 1126, the latest form of Enclosure 2. *At least 21m long (southwest and southeast limits both beyond the limit of excavation) and c.0.60m wide, its excavated element had fairly steep sides up to 0.30m deep, curving gently to a u-shaped base at a level of 49.23m O.D.* 1175 was filled with friable, dark brownish grey silt, some clay and a little fine sand containing frequent fine pebbles and occasional medium pebbles and charcoal (**1030**). Lenses of fine gravel evidenced towards the base of this fill might suggest weathering from the sides of the feature. It contained two sherds of early medieval pottery (sfX030, xsfX095), fragments of daub (sfX126, sfX191), a possible mould or crucible (sfX180), some clinker (sfX128), and iron slag from a hearth base (sfX238).

Immediately to the south of 1175, and co-aligning with it, was cut **1176**, intruding into natural chalk. *At least 15m long (southwest and southeast limits both beyond the limit of excavation) and c.0.60m wide, its excavated element had gently sloping sides up to 0.14m deep, curving gently to a flattish base at a level of 49.32m O.D..* 1176 was filled with brownish grey silt with a little clay and fine sand containing moderate fine and occasional medium chalk pebbles and occasional flecks of red daub or burnt stone (**1031**).

To the south of 1176, an unexcavated deposit of *greyish brown silt and some clay containing frequent fine and medium pebbles* (**1203**) overlay the natural chalk. It may have been the uppermost fill of an extensive feature, possibly a sunken feature building or, more likely, a pit. Either way, it would represent a development before the creation of Enclosure 3 (see below), and thus might just be contemporary with Enclosure 2 to the north. However, too little was exposed to make a decision on this or actual function, hence it has been grouped here. Surface collection from this deposit yielded an Anglian spindlewhorl (sf141) a sherd of organic tempered ware (sf142) plus pieces of daub (sfX340) and iron slag (xfX339).

Curvilinear cut **1177** intruded into 1203. *At least 9m long (southwest and southeast limits both beyond the limit of excavation) and c.1.2m wide, its excavated element had steep sides, stepped in the north, up to 0.42m deep, curving gently to a flattish base at a level of 49.14m O.D..* It was filled with loose mid grey silt, some fine pebbles and a little fine sand containing frequent large and medium pebbles (**1032**), the pebbly content forming lenses up to 25mm across at the top and sides of the feature, suggesting erosion from the sides of the ditch. This contained a sherd of Roman grey

ware (sf285), an Anglian chalk spindlewhorl (sf304), lava quernstone fragments (sfX044), iron slag (sfX239) and daub (sfX181). A *definition context* (**1033**) overlay both 1032 and 1203. Additional finds were recovered from this horizon including a sherd of Roman Huntcliffe ware (sf233), a piece of copper alloy sheet (sf309), a decorated chalk spindlewhorl of Anglian date (sf55), a fragment of lava quernstone (sfX158), and many pieces of daub (sf298, sfX019, sfX070, sfX203, sfX232, sfX322) and iron slag (sfX067, sfX218, sfX324).

Given their common alignment and position, there seems little doubt that 1175, 1176 and 1177 form different elements of a single, curvilinear enclosure, Enclosure 3. The main, inner ditch was much more substantial than its outlying counterparts and the whole implies a diameter of at least 25m. Its position is such that it not only post-dates the modifications to Enclosure 2, but must also represent the latter's demise, cutting across its main, eastern boundary. However, the relationship between this and Enclosure 1 to the west could not be determined within the excavated area.

Group 7 – Features within, and associated with, Enclosure 2

1125, 1225, 1224, 1223, 1037, 1172, 1167, 1104, 1077, 1130, 1018, 1123, 1023, 1184, 1026, 1027, 1114, 1024

A series of 15 features lay within the area defined within Enclosure 1 to the west, within Enclosure 2 to the north and east, and beyond Enclosure 3 to the south and are described here in three groups, 7-9. The five intrusions discussed in this section can be associated with the use of Enclosure 2 (and/or with Enclosure 3, in the case of 1125) on the basis of either stratigraphic relationships or their physical proximity to one or other enclosure ditches.

Circular cut **1125** intruded into 1030, the fill of 1175, the outermost ditch of Enclosure 3 (Group 6). *C.1.80m across, it had steep sides up to 0.87m. deep curving to a concave base at a level of 48.80m O.D..* A deposit of *loose, dark brown silt and some fine pebbles, plus a profusion of chalk grit (the latter in lenses running along the base and up the sides of the cut)* (**1225**) lay in the base of 1125, probably derived from weathering of the sides its over a period of time. *Loose greyish brown silt and a little fine sand and fine pebbles, also containing moderate medium pebbles* (**1224**) covered 1225, its relative lack of inclusions and smoother character suggesting a more deliberate process of backfilling. A second more mixed deposit of *loose brownish grey medium pebbles and silt with rather less clay and fine pebbles, plus one or two unworked chalk blocks up to 0.20m across* (**1223**) covered 1224, its pebbly content suggesting a return to the formation process seen with 1225. A final layer of *loose, brown silt and some fine sand containing moderate fine and medium pebbles and red flecks of ?daub* (**1037**) implies deliberate backfilling at the end of the life of the feature. It contained two sherds of Roman grey ware (sf291, sf302) and a very worn Samian rim sherd (sfX079).

The function of this intrusion is not at all clear. The surviving fills are probably related to its demise, rather than original use, and imply alternating periods of weathering and degradation (1225, 1223) and of more deliberate dumping (1224, 1037). It thus seems unlikely to have functioned as a simple rubbish pit, and may be

related to production work of some sort in the vicinity. Its position, at the junction between Enclosures 2 and 3, cannot be entirely coincidental, and, although it cut into the edge of the backfill of ditch 1175, it seems likely that this landscape division remained in use at the time.

Some 9m to the north of 1125, elliptical intrusion **1172** cut into the natural chalk. *Measuring 2.25m east-west by 1.70m north-south, it had steep sides up to 1.17m deep. The westernmost side, which incorporated a step, was nearly vertical with a sharp break to its base, the eastern side less steep, curving more gently to its flattish base at a level of 18.59m O.D.* The primary fill within 1172 comprised *loose silty clay loam (colour unrecorded) containing few chalk gravel inclusions (1167)*. This covered the whole of the base of the feature although, when seen in section an upper, more stoney element of 1167 seemed to run up the sides of the feature, implying a second fill type, perhaps derived in part from degradation of the natural chalk into which 1172 cut, thus suggesting that it may have remained open for some time.

A layer of *loose, dark grey silt loam containing profuse amounts of charcoal in lumps and fragments (1104)* covered 1167 towards the east end of the cut in an area at least 0.60m across. In places, it was possible to distinguish charred/blackened elements of what may have originally been branches. Enough survived to suggest that this was timber in the round, not worked wood, although whether it had been burnt and deposited, or rotted *in situ*, remains unclear. In either case, there is no reason to suppose that it was directly related to the use of the pit, still less that it had a structural function within the feature (NB also the indications of weathering of the sides discussed under 1167, which must have taken place before 1104 was placed here).

Loose, silty clay loam (colour unrecorded) containing occasional chalk pebbles and lenses of rubble, the latter suggesting tip lines, (1077) sealed 1104 (also labelled **1130** when excavated), with further *silty clay loam (1018) containing a little chalk gravel and some stones up to 50mm across* as well as some iron slag (sfX325) above as the final fill of 1172. These suggest the use of dumps of fairly clean, then more stoney, material to complete the backfilling of the feature.

The primary function of 1172, as with other intrusions on the site, remains unclear as far as its physical attributes are concerned. Cutting such a large feature must have been a major undertaking and, although it may have been used as a rubbish pit at the end of its life, its depth and stepped side might imply some sort of structural insertion in its base, and thus perhaps an industrial function originally. Other sources of evidence are required to decide what exactly the latter might have comprised. Its position, lying immediately beside the intersection of ditches 1151 and 1156, implies that it was in use with Enclosure 2.

7m northwest of 1172, sub-circular cut **1123** intruded into the natural chalk. *Measuring 1.10m north-south by 0.9mm east-west, it had steep sides up to 0.35m deep curving fairly gently to a flat base at a level of 49.30m O.D.* 1123 was filled with *friable dark brown silty loam (1023) containing some chalk rubble up to 0.10m across* and some daub (sfX127). This pit may have functioned as a storage or rubbish pit, given its size. Its position, immediately beside ditch 1124 (the alteration to the circuit of Enclosure 2), suggests that the two were in use together, presumably late in the enclosure's life.

7m to the northwest of 1123, irregular, elliptical cut **1184** intruded into 1019, the fill of ditch 1174 (Group 5), a late internal division within Enclosure 2. *Measuring c.2.5m east-west by 1.4m north–south, it had locally irregular sides, steep in the northwest, less so in the southeast, 0.65m deep curving gently to an irregular, but generally flat base at a level of 49.23m O.D..* 1184 was filled with a light-coloured, chalky deposit (**1026** – described only on section drawing), below a deposit containing more soil and less stone (**1027** – described only on a section drawing but, from photographic evidence, seems to resemble the uppermost fills of other features in the vicinity).

The function of this feature is unclear but it seems to have been filled with a combination of material weathered from its sides, then a deliberate dump. Thus it may have ended its life as a rubbish pit, whatever it was first used for. Its position, at the junction of 1199 and 1174, and inserted immediately after the latter had been filled, implies that 1184 was in use late in the life of Enclosure 2.

Finally, 6m to the west of 1184, oval cut **1114** intruded into the natural chalk. *Measuring 1.40m northeast-southwest, by 1.10m in the opposite plane, it had steep, regular sides up to 0.42m deep with a marked break to its flattish base at a level of 49.45m O.D..* 1114 was filled with soft, very dark greyish brown clay silty loam and some angular chalk fragments up to 60mm across, mostly towards the large end of the spectrum (**1024**). The character of 1024 implies that 1114 was backfilled in a single event at the end of its life and its location, immediately beside ditch 1174, close to its western terminal, that that use took place late in the use of Enclosure 2.

Group 8 - Features bounded by Enclosures 1-3

1182, 1122, 1179, 1045, 1188, 1195, 1021, 1187, 1219, 1218, 1009, 1205, 1039, 1043, 1044, 1186, 1226, 1008, 1185, 1194, 1079, 1007, 1145, 1166, 1164, 1212, 1148

To the south and west of the features in Group 7, with their suggested association with Enclosure 2, lay a further nine features. These all cut the natural chalk and simply lay within the area defined by bounded by Enclosure 1 to the west, Enclosure 2 to the north and east, and Enclosure 3 to the south. Their relationship with these main landscape divisions is therefore more circumstantial than proven.

Circular cut **1182** was 0.60m across, with irregular sides up to 0.19m deep sloping to a rough, concave base at a level of 49.49m O.D.. It was filled with loose silty loam (colour nor recorded) containing a few rounded chalk pebbles (**1122**). The irregularity and shallowness of this feature might suggest that it simply represents local disturbance of the natural chalk. However, if it is a real feature, it could have been the foot of a post-position, rather than containing a free-standing member. Given its diameter, however, it is most likely to have been associated with the hearth working area 1186 to its west.

Further south, oval cut **1179** measured 1.35m north-south by 1.1m east-west, with sloping sides up to 0.40m deep curving gently to a flat, locally irregular base at a level of 49.39m O.D.. It was filled with soft, greyish brown silty clay loam containing frequent, mostly rounded, fragments of chalk up to 70mm across (**1045**). The

character of the profile seems to suggest a rubbish pit, rather than an industrial function. However, its physical proximity to 1188, 1197 *et al.* to the west (see below), could still imply an association with their use, and thus something more than purely domestic usage. A sherd of early medieval pottery (sf221) was recovered from the fill.

At the southern extreme of the site, truncated by the limit of excavation, lay cut **1188**. *At least 2m across east-west and over 0.70m north south, it had steep, fairly regular sides up to 0.48m deep curving to a flattish base at a level of 49.51m O.D. (central portion, however, not exposed)*. At the centre of this cut, an unexcavated spread of *red powdery clay containing a few chalk inclusions (1195)* was exposed, covering an area c.0.50m across and forming a mound in its base c.0.10m high. A second deposit of *dark brown earth (detailed character not recorded) containing a profusion of chalk gravel and larger un-worked stones* ran up the sides of the cut and overlapped the mound of red chalk, with a *blacker, less stony element* then filling the rest of the feature (both labelled **1021**). It contained a flint scraper (sf301), two Roman potsherds (sf45, sf47), a chalk weight (sf46), some iron slag (sf44), and two lumps of iron pyrites (sf126, sf128).

The character of 1195 strongly suggest that this intrusion was the site of a sunken hearth, the red clay of 1195 at its base. Lying at least 0.40m below the level of the contemporary ground surface, it would have been afforded protection from the wind, though would not have formed the most useful working area at that depth. This, together with the lack of associated structural features, might suggest a one-off use, rather than long term production. The stonier component at the base of 1021 probably derives from weathering of the sides of the cut, and thus that the cut was left open after it fell into demise. However, its brown colouration might also imply mixing of residues from the use of the original feature at its base. The remainder of 1021, with fewer chalk inclusions, probably marks an attempt to tidy the area rather than being derived from the feature's primary function.

Some 5m to the north of 1188 lay large oval cut **1187**. This *measured 3.3m southwest-northeast by 2.8m in the opposite plane and had fairly steep, locally undulating sides up to 0.85m deep, with a mostly gentle curve to a flattish base at a lowest level of 49.10m O.D.. Soft dark brown silty clay loam mixed with some chalk rubble in fragments up to 0.10m across but mostly smaller than this (1219)* filled the base of the cut, flowing up its sides to the top. In the lower, central part of 1219, *firm dark red clay, in places mottled with yellow clay and including a couple of large, un-worked sandstones (1218)* capped 1219 in an area up to 1m across. *Soft, very dark greyish brown silty loam containing frequent inclusions of chalk pebbles, mostly less than 10mm across (1009)* completed the filling of the feature. Part of an Anglian antler comb handle (sf20), an abraded sherd of Roman grey ware (sfX143) lava quernstone fragments (sfX046), iron slag (sfX074) and a piece of chalk incised with a criss-cross design (sf13) were recovered from this layer.

Two explanations of how this feature was used and then backfilled are possible. Clay layer 1218 may represent an *in situ* hearth or oven, with the whole functioning much along the lines suggested for nearby cut 1188. One of the sandstones on the edge of 1218 might then be associated with its use, as part of an edging arrangement. However, the rubbly layer 1219 beneath this possible hearth was over 0.30m deep at this point, and continued up to the top of the cut at its edges. Thus 1218 was

positioned in a depression half way up the original cut, not in its base (in fact, as the material beneath was left unexcavated, in case 1218 represented an *in situ* hearth, the latter layer was left on a pedestal within the pit). In addition the surface of 1218, rather than being flat, followed the curve of that same depression. Finally, the tip lines evident in the stone inclusions in 1219 suggest dumping into the lower area together with weathering from its sides. This must have occurred before 1218 was created, and it is difficult to see why, if cut 1187 was inserted specifically to allow hearth activity, it was dug to this depth and then allowed to partly backfill before any structural element was inserted.

Taken together, these considerations imply a second interpretation, that 1218 was simply dumped into the pit at the end of its life, in conjunction with the general process represented by 1219. Here it may be of some significance that, in one section drawing, what is recorded as part of 1219 seems to overlie 1218. Clearly, this is a stratigraphic impossibility, and the overlying element should have been numbered separately. However, the fact that two, formally distinct, deposits could not be distinguished where 1218 did not exist implies that the formation process which accounts for the initial deposition of 1219 recurred once 1218 had arrived in the pit. Thus, on balance, it seems best to interpret the red clay as redeposited hearth debris, thrown into 1185 as part of 1219, with 1009 then dumped to tidy up the resulting depression. In this case, the fact that 1218 remained so well articulated, even when redeposited, suggest a nearby source for this material (for example 1188 to the south – see above, or 1186 to the north – see below). Furthermore, if a hearth was being dismantled soon after 1185 went out of use, it might suggest that both that hearth and 1185 functioned together originally, as two parts of a single process.

Oval cut **1205** only 2m from the west edge of 1187. *Measuring 2m east-west by 1.4m north-south, it had steep, regular sides up to 0.80m deep, curving sharply to a regular, slot-like feature in its base which ran along the main axis of the cut and bottomed at 49.11m O.D..* The initial fills of this feature, all labelled **1039** when excavated in plan, in fact formed a complex sequence of backfill. *Dark silty loam with chalk gravel* filled the base of the cut, being mainly confined to the area of the slot. A deposit of *chalk gravel* on the south side of the feature may be disturbed natural strata. Above each of these, *light-coloured silt containing minimal inclusions* also ran up the sides of the feature, with *dark silty loam with a little clay and fine chalk inclusions* above this. On top of this sequence, and distinguished in the course of excavation, lay further *dark silty loam containing a little clay and chalk in fragments, plus lenses of rounded gravel which, in places may even suggest a continuous layer at its centre* (**1043**). Finally, *light, fairly pure, silt* (**1044**) completed the backfilling at the centre of the feature. This contained three sherds of Roman grey ware (sfs64-6), some daub (sfX035), and some iron slag (sfX068).

One interpretation of this sequence is that, after its use and initial demise, this feature was first left open to weather, and then was re-cut/partially cleared out, with a purer, darker loam then accumulating in this re-cut, before the combined process of alternating bands of dumping and weathering recommenced until the intrusion was fully filled. Alternatively, it is possible that all of this material was deposited into 1205, including dumping and weathered components, and that the fill also incorporated an amount of organic material which consolidated over time, to give the distorted profiles shown in the section drawing. Whatever the exact explanation, this

pit clearly underwent a very different process of demise than any other feature on the site. Its proximity to pits related to hearths implies that it may have been related to their functioning initially. The clearly-defined slot in its base could have held a structural member of some sort related to this, or have functioned as a channel.

North-south, oval-shaped cut **1186** lay only 1m to the northeast of 1187. *Measuring 3.5m in length by 1.7m across, it had mostly steep, locally irregular sides but was much more shallowly-sloping to the north, the whole being up to 0.50m deep, with a marked break, except from the north, to its seemingly flattish base at below 49.08m O.D. (not completely bottomed, as clay 1226 left in place – see below).* The lowest identified fill within the cut comprised a spread of *red clay containing some flint and chalk fragments, mostly smaller than 25mm across, covering an area up to c.0.90m across (1226)*. Above this, a deposit of *soft, dark brown silty clayey loam and some chalk rubble in fragments up to 0.10m across, but mostly below 20mm (1008)* filled the remainder of the pit. When recorded in section, this fill included a lens of much more chalky material on its southern edge, perhaps derived from weathering/collapse at this point, and was darker with more inclusions towards its base. It also incorporated several large fragments of variously coloured clay (red, yellow, blackened), presumably a result of differential exposure to heat. There was no patterning in the latter, however, suggesting that this material was disturbed/deposited from elsewhere. The fill also contained a fragment of Anglian bone comb with an iron rivet (sf11) as well as a piece of daub (sf10).

Based on the reasoning employed in discussing the fills of pit 1187, all of this material could be interpreted as having been dumped into 1186 at the end of its useful life, here again incorporating hearth-like superstructure derived from adjacent activities. However, in this case, clay 1226 lay much closer to the base of the feature and had a much more regular surface profile than the corresponding layer 1218 in 1187. Thus the preferred interpretation here is that this is a feature with an *in situ* hearth located in its base, along the same lines as 1188 to the south. The disarticulated material recorded in overlying fill 1008 could then have been derived from disturbance of 1226, whilst the darker colouration of the base of 1008 might be a result of a greater amount of degraded burnt material derived from that hearth being incorporated into the dumps filling it initially than was the case nearer its surface.

4m west of 1186 lay north-south oval cut **1185**. *Measuring at least 3.5m long (north end indeterminate) and 2.3m across, it had a fairly steep side in the east, shallower and irregular to the south and even more so to the north, each up to 0.95m deep with a gentle curve to its concave base at a level of 49.35m O.D..* When excavated in plan, the fills of this feature were recorded as *soft silty clayey loam (colour not recorded, but with higher clay content than overlying deposit 1007/1145 – see below) and some chalk rubble, mostly smaller than 10mm but with some larger angular fragments (1194)* below a *loose deposit of chalk rubble, mostly gravel but in places up to 50mm across (1079)*, in turn overlain by *soft dark brown silty clay loam containing a little rounded chalk fragments up to 50mm across (1007/1145 – different numbers allocated to the same deposit when first excavated in different quadrants)*. 1079 contained a large stone lamp (sf124); 1007/1145 contained body sherds of an early medieval organic tempered cooking pot (sfX308) and a possible whetstone (sf9)..

Fill 1079 is presumably derived from weathering of the sides of pit 1185, in which case 1194 might be reasonably interpreted as a 'primary fill' and 1007/1145 as final dumping to level up its former site. However, when seen in section, the situation is clearly more complex. Elements of 1079 can be seen both beneath and above 1194, and arguably sandwiched within the deposition of 1007/1145 - strictly speaking, a stratigraphic inconsistently. Thus 1194 cannot be a truly primary fill, as some weathering took place before it. Equally, this degradation seems to have continued for some time after elements of 1007/1145 had begun to be dumped into the pit much later in its life. Whatever the details of this process, this was clearly tending to happen more readily from the north than the south, presumably facilitated by the more gentle slope on this side. Whatever the exact function of 1185 at the start, it seems likely that access into the body of the feature was from this northern end.

Two smaller cuts lay in the vicinity of 1185. **1166**, near its northern limit, was *circular, 0.42m across with nearly vertical sides 0.20m deep curving markedly to a flat base at 49.52m O.D.* Its fill was recorded on section merely as *dark soil containing pea-sized chalk gravel (1164)*, the same section drawing also showing several large flint stones at its surface. The latter are best interpreted as disturbed packing stones associated with the feature, and the whole as a post position. Given its depth, the cut cannot have contained a post of any great height, and it seems likely to be related to activities in the adjacent pit 1185.

1m to the east of the latter feature lay sub-circular cut **1212**. Seemingly *0.40m across*, it remained unexcavated and its fill was *not described (1148)*. However, it might reasonably be interpreted in similar vein to 1166, a post position linked to the functioning of pit 1185, and perhaps also then to 1186 only a slightly greater distance to the east.

Taken together, this group of intrusions suggest some form of concerted industrial activity in the area, with two probable 'hearth pits', 1188 and 1186, being the most certainly identified with such activities. The adjacent major features 1187, 1185 and 1205 can be related to these hearths on the basis of their physical proximity, and the fact that the first two had hearth-related materials dumped into them at the end of their useful life, and that all were left open for a some time and were backfilled by a process of dumping and degradation of the natural chalk into which they were cut due to weathering. Finally, post positions 1212 and 1166, beside pit 1185, can also be linked to the above activities, as probably can cuts 1182 and 1179 to the east, given their position. However, the relationship between these 'production' activities as a whole and the surrounding Enclosures 1-3 must be considered circumstantial (although the association is reasonable, in the author's opinion).

Group 9 – Feature postdating Enclosure 1

1155, 1183, 1154, 1083

In the southwest corner of the excavation area, cut **1155** intruded into 1010, the fill of 1060, and into 1011, the fill of 1089 (both Group 2). These two ditches form the outermost and central elements of Enclosure 1 in this area. Although not completely excavated, what was exposed of 1155 suggested *an east-west elliptical feature at least*

4.3m long (and perhaps not much more than this) and at least 1.3m (and probably more than twice this distance). Its seemingly shallow sides were at least 0.55m deep, and its base may have been fairly flat and in existence not far below the point reached. A possible post hole up to 0.14m across near its northern edge could represent an installation into the feature.

The lowest deposit encountered in 1155, and perhaps its primary fill, comprised *loose, reddish brown clayey loam containing moderate pieces of flint and occasional pieces of clay and bone (1183)*. *Dark greyish brown silty loam with a few inclusions of flint, bone, pure clay and charcoal flecks and fragments (1154)* covered 1183, below a *similarly constituted definition context, but with gravel inclusions throughout (1083)*, which amalgamated the finds from 1154 and 1010, 1011 and 1048 (of which there were profuse amounts) and therefore represents a definition context. The find spots of most of these, directly above the line of cut 1155, together with its depth and its being later than these other fills, plus the seeming paucity of finds from these other fills when excavated elsewhere, suggests that most of the material numbered as 1083 should belong to this feature, rather than any earlier elements in the vicinity. It incorporated a broad range of Anglian finds including pieces of daub (sfX185, sfX217), many lumps of iron slag (sf97, sf196, sf116, sf165, sf196, sfX066, sfX088, sfX134) and two pieces of hearth bottom (sfX235-6), fragments of lava quernstone (sf146, sf224, sfX036, sfXo71, sfX145), a lead weight (sf117), a whetstone (sf220), a high quality antler comb (sf107), and sherds of Roman and Anglian pottery.

The character of cut 1155 and of what may be its primary fill, 1183, imply that it may represent the edge of a sunken-feature building which continued to the south, beyond the limit of excavation. The position of any such structure is such to suggest that its insertion marked the demise of Enclosure 1 at this point. Thus, if this building lay within an enclosure, the latter's ditches must have lain beyond the area investigated.

Group 10 – Features pre-dating Enclosure 4

1237, 1235, 1236, 1201, 1229, 1228

In the southeast corner of the excavation, cut **1237/1235** intruded into the natural chalk (although only seen as two separate edges, the deposits filling each component were physically continuous, showing that these formed a single intrusion – see 1201/1236 below). Taken together, these two elements imply a feature measuring *4.5m east-west by c.3.5m north-south (northern limit partially truncated but can be projected)*. *Its excavated, southeast quadrant had an initially vertical, then steep, side to the west, less steep to the south, each up to 0.70m deep. The sides changed sharply to the base of the cut, part of which form a flat, seemingly rectangular area c. 0.25m deep. If the latter was placed symmetrically within the overall cut, it would have measured perhaps 3m east-west by c.1.5m north-south, having a flat base at a level of 49.00m O.D.. 0.40m from the western limit of the cut, roughly at its apparent centre, lay a circular posthole 0.15m across, with vertical sides and at least 0.40m deep (not bottomed in excavation).*

When seen in plan to the west, the uppermost fill of 1237/1235 comprised *soft greyish brown silty clay loam containing some small and medium chalk fragments (1236)*.

This same material could be traced in plan across the top of the cut where it was also seen in section. Here it comprised bands of *less stony, then more gravelly, then less stony materials (1201)*, suggesting dumping/occupation in the base of the feature (this initial component filled the subsidiary, rectangular element in the base of the feature), then weathering, then dumping up to the top of 1237/1235.

Given the regularity of the subsidiary cut within this feature, and the associated, symmetrically-placed posthole, it seems reasonable to interpret this intrusion as a sunken-featured building, perhaps with opposed posts at opposite ends of its long axis. It seems to have been cut by ditch 1067, associated with the creation of Enclosure 4 in this part of the site (see Group 11 below). Hence this structure either stood in an open landscape or was bounded by features lying beyond the excavation area.

6m to the north of this feature, circular cut **1229** intruded into the natural chalk. *0.70m across, it had gently sloping sides c.0.35m deep curving to a rounded base at 49.22m O.D. and was filled with soft, dark brown silty clay loam and contained fragments of chalk and charcoal (1228)*. The character of this material and its consistency within the intrusion, together with its size, implies that this is a small rubbish or storage pit, filled soon after it was first dug.

The relationship of the cutting of ditch 1193 immediately to its south, representing the creation of Enclosure 4 in the area, with pit 1229 could not be determined with certainty. However, 1059, one of a series of deposits interpreted as the uppermost fills of ditch 1193, definitely sealed 1228. Thus, assuming 1059 is a real deposit rather than a definition context (see further discussion below, Group 11), the rubbish pit must have gone out of use before the enclosure fell into demise. Furthermore, given the position of 1229 and 1193, the two cannot have been in use together. On this basis, the pit may have been in use before Enclosure 4 was created, and thus be broadly contemporary with the use of building 1235/1237 to its south.

Group 11 – Features marking the creation of eastern curvilinear Enclosure 4

1081, 1046, 1067, 1066, 1074, 1005, 1208, 1111, 1073, 1072, 1071, 1070, 1004, 1193, 1227, 1192, 1068, 1059, 1137

Towards the northeast corner of the excavation, major curvilinear cut **1081** intruded into the natural chalk. *Running north-south initially, then curving eastwards to the south, it was c.2.04m across, with fairly steep, regular sides up to c.0.40m deep curving gently to a mainly flat, locally irregular, base at a level of 49.25m O.D.. 1081 was filled with a dark earth deposit (not described in detail – but see 1066 below, which connected with this deposit). When seen in section, the deposit contained pebble inclusions in lenses and other concentrations (1046)*. Several pieces of iron slag (sf68, sfX086), an iron awl (sf70), and fragments of lava quernstone (sfX094) were recovered from this deposit.

To the east, curvilinear cut **1067** intruded into 1236, the uppermost fill of sunken feature building 1235/1237 (Group 11). *The small area exposed in its entirety had a steep southern edge at least 0.30m deep curving to a base at a level of 49.29m O.D.. The intrusion was filled at this point with soft dark brown silty clay loam containing*

some angular chalk fragments as well as pieces of daub (sfX072, sfX223) and iron slag (sfX013) (1066).

When seen in plan, 1046 and 1066 were found to be physically continuous and there can be no doubt that 1081 and 1067 form different parts of a major curvilinear feature at least 24m in length, which ran south from the northern limit of excavation, gradually turning eastwards to its eastern limit. It thus served to define an area at this northeast corner of at least 15.5m radius. This new feature cut across the northern edge of sunken feature building 1235/1237 in such a way that the latter must have fallen into disuse at this point.

To the north and east of 1081/1067, a second, co-aligned curvilinear feature **1074** was evident intruding into the natural chalk. *At least 14m long (northern end beyond limit of excavation; eastern end merging into unexcavated strata – see 1193, below), it was c.1.20m wide with a steep side in the west, more gradual to the east, each up to 0.38m deep and curving gently into its rounded base with a level of 49.32m O.D..* This feature was filled with *soft dark brown silty clay loam containing some chalk fragments up to 60mm across, the smaller rounded and larger angular, with a concentration of stone towards its base and along the western side (1005).* 1074 defined a circular area at least 13m in radius and must have been in use at the same time as 1081/1067 to its west and south. It contained 4 sherds of Roman grey ware (sf186) and pieces of lava quernstone (sf299, sfX307).

Circular cut **1208** lay in the area between these two curvilinear ditches, intruding into 1046, the fill of outer ditch 1081, but with no relationship with ditch 1074 on its inside. *0.90m across, the excavated portion had steeply sloping sides which seemed to converge towards an unexcavated base (minimum depth not recorded).* The feature was filled with *friable grey silt, some clay and a little fine sand containing occasional medium pebbles (1111)* and probably represents a small rubbish pit. Given its position, exactly between the two ditches, it seems likely to have been inserted whilst the two were still in use, but perhaps towards the end of their lifetime as 1081 had clearly been filled up in part before 1208 was cut.

Within the line of ditch 1074, parallel curvilinear cut **1073** intruded into the natural chalk. *At least 12m long (northern end beyond limit of excavation, eastern end merging into unexcavated strata – see 1193, below), it was at least 0.70m wide (western side cut away, although profile suggests original feature would have been no more than 0.90m across) with a steep side in the west, slightly more gradual to the east, each up to 0.45m deep and curving gently into its rounded base with a level of 49.14m O.D..* It was filled with *soft, dark brown silty clay loam some small rounded chalk fragments and rather fewer larger, angular ones up to 60mm across (1072).*

1073 defined a circular area at least 11m in radius and must have been in use at the same time as 1074 immediately to its west and south and with 1081/1067 beyond that. Taken together, these three ditches form a new curvilinear enclosure, here labelled Enclosure 4. Its centre lay beyond the limit of excavation but, at a minimum, enclosed an area 26m across inside the innermost ditch, and thus would have measured c.38m across in total.

In the limited area excavated, a subsidiary curvilinear cut, **1071**, intruded into 1072, the fill of innermost ditch 1073 at the latter's western edge. This measured *0.70m across, with a steep western side, more gradually sloping in the east, each side up to 0.40m deep and curving gently to a rounded base at a level of 49.34m O.D.* This new feature was filled with *soft, dark brown silty clay loam rather more angular chalk fragments than 1072, and some smaller fragments (1070)*. This new intrusion forms a re-cut of the innermost ditch, implying that the whole complex may have been in use for an extended period of time. A deposit of *soft, dark brown clay silty loam containing some mostly small and rounded chalk fragments (1004)* which sealed 1070 also ran across the top of 1072, the fill of the original feature, and thus represents a definition context in the vicinity, rather than a true fill.

To the east of 1073/1071, east-west cut **1193** intruded into the natural chalk. Only a small section of this was excavated but, at its widest, it appeared to be *c.1.9m across, with dish-shaped sides at least 0.5m deep, and perhaps 0.7m, curving gently in the south, more markedly in the north, seemingly to meet a flattish base at a level of 48.80m O.D.* (but see further below). When recorded in section, this feature contained *soft, dark brown silty clay loam containing significant amounts of variously sized chalk (1227)*, below a deposit of *soft, black silty clay loam containing charcoal fragments and some small chalk fragments, with some indication of being laid in successive bands (1192)*, below a more general spread of *friable, greyish brown silt, some clay and a little fine sand reduced amounts of charcoal and moderate medium and occasional fine pebbles (1068)*. 1068 contained sherd of Anglian organic tempered ware (sf225). Further *firm silty clay loam (1059)* covered 1068 to complete the backfilling of 1193, as well as sealing 1228, the fill of rubbish pit 1229 (Group 10, above). Finally, a deposit of *soft dark brown silty clay loam containing small and medium angular chalk fragments (1137)* lay within the line of cut 1193 nearby and represents an uppermost fill of that feature corresponding to 1068/1059. 1137 contained an iron awl (sf305) and large fragments of lava quernstone (sfX028).

When seen in plan, the deposits 1068/1059 merged physically with the fills 1072 and 1070, filling ditch 1073 and its re-cut version 1071 respectively, together with the definition context 1004 above them both. There seems little doubt, therefore, that 1193 must be seen as a continuation of the innermost ditch of Enclosure 4. In addition, when drawn in section, the charcoal concentration in 1192 can be seen as a counterpart to fill 1072, cut by a second element to its south (not recorded as a distinct, second intrusion in the case of 1193). If this is accepted, it seems likely that at least part of 1227, recorded across the whole base of 1193, might be an overcut, with the real base of the equivalent of the original cut 1073 here lying rather higher at 48.86m O.D. (although still over 0.25m below its level to the north and west).

A second anomaly concerns the continuation of 1074, the middle ditch of Enclosure 4, into this area. Its uppermost fill, 1005, also merged into 1068/1059 to the east. However, the visible natural chalk past this point does not correspond exactly to two ditch lines, and might even suggest that 1074 terminated at about this point, or continued in a more reduced form to the east with the line of 1193.

Finally, concerning the relationship between the cutting of Enclosure 4 and the use of pit 1229 (assigned previously to Group 10), 1059 certainly seemed to cover 1228, its fill, but lower fill 1068 lacked a definable relationship with the pit, as did lower fills

1192 and 1227. That said, 1059 is recorded as being bounded by the southern edge of 1193, and thus might not be simply a definition context across the area, but an uppermost stratified fill. On this basis, pit 1229 has been interpreted as belonging to a pre-enclosure phase (though with rather less certainty than its Group 10 companion, sunken featured building 1235/1237).

Group 12 - Ditches west of Enclosure 4, probably postdating both it and Enclosures 2 and 3

1215, 1165, 1069, 1050, 1136, 1135, 1214, 1163, 1038, 1014, 1149, 1084, 1092, 1080, 1051, 1020, 1115, 1061, 1220, 1034, 1091, 1035, 1161, 1160

Just outside the line of the outermost ditch of Enclosure 4, east-west cut **1215** just survived later intrusions in the area. *At least 0.70m long (both ends cut away), it was 0.75m wide, with irregularly steeped sides 0.21m deep with a marked change to its undulating base at a level of 49.47m O.D..* The cut was filled with *friable greyish brown silt and a little fine sand containing moderate medium and fine pebbles, some of the latter seeming to be concentrated in lenses towards the base of the feature (1165).*

So little of this feature survives that interpretation is difficult. Its northern edge was perhaps evident c.1m to the west, but no corresponding cut could be seen in the intact natural chalk a further 1m west of this. To the east, the boundary ditches of Enclosure 4 would have cut away any traces. However, natural chalk within the enclosure on the line of 1215 survived to a height where it should have been visible. Its absence here might suggest that the feature ran up to, but not beyond, ditch 1081, and thus that 1215 was cut after Enclosure 4 was in place. This would imply a length of below 2.5m, perhaps an installation set against the 1081 boundary.

At the northern end of the site, northwest-southeast cut **1069** intruded into fill 1165, elsewhere cutting the natural chalk. *At least 8m long (north end beyond limit of excavation, south end cut away), it was up to 0.85m wide, with near vertical sides, especially steep to the east, 0.52m deep, curving gently to a flattish base at a level of 49.25m O.D..* The cut was filled with *friable, dark brown sandy silt containing frequent chalk fragments up to 50mm across, plus fragments of flint, chalk pebbles and animal bones (1050)* from which some iron slag (sfX060) was recovered.

At the southern end of the site, northwest-southeast cut **1136** intruded into the natural chalk. *At least 6.5m long (both ends cut away), it was c.0.50m wide with steep side in the west, perhaps less so to the east, 0.23m deep curving to a flattish base at a level of 49.49m O.D..* The cut was filled with *fairly compact greyish brown silt, clay and less fine sand containing occasional fine and medium pebbles, these pebbles sometimes seeming to be concentrated towards the base of the cut (1135).*

Although alignments are difficult to define due to limited excavation and the base levels of 1069 and 1136 differ, the two features seem to lie on a similar alignment. Indeed, 1069 aligns either with 1136 or with cut 1213 (see Group 15, below, for further discussion of this issue in the area). If the former is the case, this ditch would

then run the full width of the site, on an alignment which just avoids the position of Enclosure 4. Given the latter, plus the implication that ditch 1215, which is cut by 1069, also postdates the enclosure, it seems likely that 1069 was cut when the main curvilinear boundary was already in existence.

Just to the east of the line of 1069, north-south cut **1214** intruded into the natural chalk. That small part which survived later activities suggested a feature *at least 4m long (blending into outer enclosure ditch 1081 in the north, with no definable relationship between the two) and 0.70m wide, with a steep side in the west, less so to the east, 0.20m deep, curving gently to a slightly rounded base at a level of 49.51m O.D.*. The cut was filled with *friable greyish brown silt and a little fine and medium sand containing frequent fine and medium pebbles in thin horizontal lenses up to 20mm deep (1163)*.

This feature aligns, approximately with 1069. In addition it antedates cut 1207, which can be assigned on independent grounds to the same group as features which also cut 1069. It thus seems reasonable to suppose that the two are broadly contemporary, inserted sometime after the creation of Enclosure 4. That said, the shallow character of 1207, and its butt end in the south, imply that it was a less substantial development than the extensive ditch 1069.

To the west of these alignments, cut **1038** intruded into 1050, the uppermost fill of ditch 1069. This new feature *curved gradually from almost an east-west direction at its western limit, which ended in a butt end, to a more north-south direction in the east. It was up to 1.2m wide near its western end, slightly narrower further east, with a noticeably more steep side on the north and more gradual south side in this east-west section, but more symmetrical profile elsewhere, each side up to 0.38m deep (consistent in each excavated section) curving to a rounded base at a fairly similar level throughout of c.49.40m O.D.*. The cut was filled with *soft, dark greyish brown silty clay loam containing a little chalk in fine fragments and angular lumps (1014)*, as well as pieces of daub (sf39, sfX124) and a small sherd of Roman grey ware (sf237)..

To the south, north-south cut **1149** intruded into the natural chalk. *At least 13m long (south end indeterminate, running into the fill of 1038 in the north – see below), it was just over 1m wide in most places, with a steep side to the east, more gradual to the west, up to 0.45m deep curving to a rounded base at 49.26m O.D.*. When seen in section near its southern, indeterminate limit, there seemed to be evidence of two intrusions on the line of this feature, implying that an original, shallower cut with more gradually sloping sides, may have been re-cut on its east at a later stage. Such a process would also explain the different profiles on each side of 1149.

The fill of this cut, *friable dark brown sandy, gritty silt containing occasional medium fragments of chalk and flint, and animal bone, the stone content being more evident at its base (1084)* was continuous with 1014 in plan. 1084 contained a fragment of Anglian organic tempered cooking pot (sf120). It thus seems certain that 1038 and 1149 are part of a single curvilinear ditch measuring at least 24m in length. Given that it ran up against, but did not cross, the line of earlier feature 1069, 1038/1149 seems best interpreted as an attempt to enclose the area between Enclosure 2 to the west and Enclosure 4 to the east. Its relationship with Enclosure 3 could not be

determined with certainty. 1038/1149 seems to be running out as it approaches the latter, in turn implying that it was inserted after Enclosure 3. However, it was argued above (Group 6) that the insertion of 3 would have marked the demise of Enclosure 2, which this new ditch is thought to respect. Thus the reason for the ending of 1038/1149 could equally be because it was cut away by this later Enclosure beyond its recorded limit in the south. At present, the evidence could be argued equally either way.

Within the area defined by curvilinear ditch 1038/1149 lay roughly circular pit **1092**, cutting the natural chalk. *2.5m across, it had steep regular sides up to 0.80m deep curving fairly gently to its generally flat, slightly concave base at 48.99m O.D.* The cut was filled with *fine-grained, friable, dark brown, charcoal-flecked silty loam containing some chalk in angular inclusions up to 0.15m across and rather less rounded, weathered chalk pebbles (1080)*. This initial fill ran across the base and up the sides of the feature and included a number of more silty lenses at that base. The character of its deposition, when seen in section, seemed to have involved consolidation and subsidence overtime.

A second fill of *friable, dark brown silty loam with rather fewer chalk inclusions (1051)* capped 1080. It contained two burnt sherds of Roman grey ware (sf79). Some patches of unfired clay within this deposit might imply dumping of lining material, whilst stone lenses suggest tip lines. The shape of the interface between 1080 and 1051 suggest that the latter may have been deposited to level the area once subsidence in the former had occurred, presumably an attempt to level up the area for future occupation. Finally, a lens of *soft dark brown silty clay loam containing some chalk rubble up to 0.10m across, and especially towards the larger end of the spectrum, (1020)* was deposited on 1051, perhaps as a consolidation of the underlying, softer materials.

The size and symmetry of this feature, plus the possibly organic character of its primary fills, suggests that it was related to nearby activities, arguably related to the newly enclosed area defined by ditch 1038/1149, at whose centre it lay. Material associated with more general occupation in the vicinity may then have been dumped there with deposit 1051 at the end of its useful life.

5m south of 1092, oval cut **1115** intruded into the natural chalk. *Measuring c.1m north-south by 0.45m east-west, it had curving sides, more gentle in the south, 0.31m deep, blending into a dish-shaped base at a level of 49.40m O.D.* This intrusion was filled with *friable, soft very dark greyish brown slightly sandy silt (1061) containing chalk pebbles and fragments up to 50mm across, a few in a concentration at its base, which* also contained a fragment of iron slag (sfX139). The size, shape and profile of this feature suggest a function other than for rubbish disposal, perhaps associated with the use of large pit 1092.

Immediately south of 1115, cut **1220** intruded into the natural chalk in a northwest-southeast direction. *At least 10.5m long (southeast end beyond the limit of excavation), it was 0.40m wide where clearly defined (unexcavated, so profile unknown).* It was filled with *loose silt loam (colour nor recorded) containing rounded chalk gravel and a few larger stones up to 50mm across (1034)*. At its northwest extremity, circular cut **1091** appeared to intrude into fill 1034. This was *1.4m across, with very shallow*

sides up to 0.16m deep changing imperceptibly to a dish-shaped base at a level of 49.57m O.D.. The cut was filled with soft dark brown silty clay loam containing small and rather more coarse fragments of chalk rubble (1035).

Although the backfill of shallow pit 1091 was inserted after than in linear feature 1220, there seems little doubt that the two were associated in use, given that 1091 forms a terminal for 1220. Equally, their position in plan, tangential to the line of Enclosure 3 at this point, cannot be coincidental – the two must post-date the latter’s creation. The narrowness of 1220 does not suggest a role as a demarcating ditch. Thus the two elements are more reasonably seen as concerned with structural development or, given the association with pit 1091, as related to some sort of production function. The latter would have some resonance with 1115 and, especially, 1092 to the north. Taken together, they suggest that, when ditch 1038 was dug as a northern limit to the area between Enclosures 2, 3 and 4, this zone was then given over to production facilities. Their exact nature is unclear, but there is no evidence for the hearth-related activities seen with 1187 and 1188 in the corresponding zone to the west.

Finally, to the east of 1220, amorphous cut **1161** intruded into the natural chalk. This was *c.2.5m across (mostly unexcavated, so exact dimensions unclear), with shallowly sloping sides where exposed c.0.50m deep, curving gently to a rounded base at a level of 48.50m O.D..* It was filled with a mixture of *loose greyish silt, slightly less fine pebbles and medium pebbles, and slightly less still clay (1160).* Also a fragment of lava quernstone (sfX304) and some iron slag (sfX312).

The relationship between this feature and adjacent ditches 1136 etc. described above could not be securely identified, and its exact purpose is equally unclear. A shallow scoop for rubbish disposal might be the most reasonable interpretation, resembling the situation of 1121, 1179 within the corresponding enclosure to the west (see Group 7 discussion). Alternatively, it could be associated with the production processes proposed for nearby pit 1092 and linear feature 1220 and scoop 1091.

Group 13 – Features within Enclosure 4

1139, 1191, 1158, 1157, 1190, 1159, 1138, 1128, 1127, 1006, 1147, 1058, 1146, 1088, 1057, 1002, 1108, 1117, 1116, 1118, 1107, 1101, 1106, 1100, 1105, 1099, 1016, 1169, 1168, 1171, 1170, 1076, 1075, 1056

Just within the line of Enclosure 4, near its southern limit, circular cut **1139** intruded into the natural chalk. *1.9m across, it had steeped sides near the top, then became more regular and vertical, with a total depth of 0.80m. There was a marked change from sides to its flat base, which bottomed out at a level of 48.86m O.D..* The pit was filled initially with a lens of *soft, dark brown clay loam, medium chalk fragments and rather less small chalk fragments (1191),* which lay mounded up against the southern edge of the feature. A deposit of *friable, loose greyish black ashy sandy silt containing small charcoal pieces and chalk fragments (1158)* overlapped the first fill 1191, continuing across the base of the feature. *Friable silty loam (colour not recorded) and some charcoal in small fragments and flecks (1157)* overlay 1158.

Taken together, these deposits filled the bottommost 0.40m of the cut and might represent primary activity within it. The stony dump 1191 contrasts with the high charcoal content of 1158 and 1157, the latter perhaps indicating some form of hearth activity (although there was no direct evidence for burning *in situ* within 1139). 1157 contained daub (sfX342) and small sherds of early medieval organic tempered pottery (sfX333).

Soft reddish brown clay loam containing some medium and small fragments of angular chalk (1190 – recorded elsewhere also as 1159) was evident on the northern edge of the cut, seemingly above fill 1157. Its character in section suggests that it may have been derived from the collapse or slumping of the material into which the pit was cut, and thus that there may have been a period after the deposition of initial fills 1191-1157 when the feature was left open.

A mixed layer of *soft, dark brown silty clay loam, some medium and small angular chalk fragments and rather less charcoal pieces (1138)* overlay 1190 to fill most of the rest of the pit up to the level of its stepped sides (see discussion of 1006, below, for the overlying deposit). If the interpretation of 1190 is correct, this must represent subsequent tidying of the area, rather than a product of the functioning of the feature itself. The remaining profusion of charcoal within 1138 is, however, still striking, especially in relation to backfilling processes elsewhere on the site and might suggest that these materials for this operation were derived from nearby, rather than imported from a distance. Any contents of 1138 might therefore still relate to activities in the vicinity.

Immediately to the west of 1139, circular cut **1128** intruded into the natural chalk. *C.1.1m in diameter, it had a steep, regular northern side up to 0.30m deep (other edges indeterminate), which curved sharply to its well-defined, flat base at a level of 49.27m O.D..* The cut was filled with a mixed deposit of *soft black silty clay loam, small and medium chalk fragments and rather less charcoal fragments (1127)*. Finally, a general deposit of *soft dark brown silty clay loam and medium and small chalk fragments and rather less charcoal fragments (1006)*, sealing pits 1128 and 1139. This layer also continued south to overlap 1059 and 1137, the uppermost fills of ditch 1193, belonging to Enclosure 4 (see above, Group 11). It contained a range of finds, including sherds of Roman and later pottery (sf288, sfX241-3, sfX249, sfX316, sfX349, sfX350), fragments of lava quernstone (sfX031-2, sfX039, sfX305), pieces of sandstone (sfX144, sfX244-5, sfX301), and iron slag (sfZ184, sfX205, sfX207).

Although the relationships described above might suggest that these two pits post-dated the backfilling of Enclosure 4, in reality 1006 is more a definition context than a real stratigraphic unit. Thus the relationships of pits 1128 and 1139 to each other, and of the pair to the adjacent enclosure, must be considered unproven. That said, the proximity of the two features, plus the charcoal content in their fills, implies a broadly similar use. Thus they were probably in use together, or one was a replacement for the other. In addition, as each lay exactly on the line of the northern edge of ditch 1193, it is difficult to believe that they had no connection with the enclosure. Thus the simplest interpretation is to assume that the two were dug after Enclosure 4 was created, and were in use at the same time as it (although they could also relate to nearby pit 1229, argued above to antedate the enclosure on the basis of its fill being sealed by 1059, the uppermost fill of ditch 1193 – see discussion under Group 10).

Some 5m to the north of these pits, and thus more centrally-placed within Enclosure 4, oval cut **1147** intruded into the natural chalk. *Measuring 1.55m northwest-southeast by 1.20m in the opposite plane, it had gradually sloping, regular sides up to 0.50m deep curving gently to its slightly dish-shaped base at a level of 49.17m O.D..* This cut was filled with a single layer of *firm dark reddish brown silty clay loam containing occasional pieces of chalk and flint up to 60mm across and charcoal flecks (1058).*

Immediately to the northeast, sub-rectangular cut **1146** intruded into the edge of fill 1058, elsewhere cutting the natural chalk. *Measuring 3.05m northwest-southeast and 2m in the opposite plane, it had steep, in places nearly vertical, sides on its shorter axis with a sharp break to its base, but more gradually sloping sides opposite these, with a curve to its base, all being up to 0.85m deep. The base itself was fairly flat, with a level of 48.78m O.D..*

The primary fill of this intrusion comprised *loose brown sandy silty loam mixed with variously-sized rounded chalk pebbles (1088)*. This material lay across the base of the feature but also continued up its sides, in places almost to the top in the south and east. Its character and profile suggests erosion of the sides of the feature, perhaps from a south-westerly direction. It contained an iron knife (sf123) and some iron slag (sfX186) as well as some daub (sfX062). A second deposit of *firm dark yellowish brown silty clay loam containing more limited amounts of small chalk rubble and larger pieces of flint up to 70mm across and some lenses of purer green clay and concentrations of larger charcoal pieces towards its base (1057)* covered 1088 to fill most of the rest of the pit and implies deliberate backfilling to prepare for future use of the area. It contained sherds of Roman (sf86, sfX354-5) and early medieval (sfX142) pottery, as well as an unidentifiable iron object (sf307) and several fragments of iron slag (sf85, sfX108, sfX250, sfX330, sfX336, sfX341). A final deposit of *firm dark brown silty clay loam and some variously-sized chalk rubble up to 0.10m across (1002)* lay above this and continued southwest to also seal the uppermost fill of adjacent pit 1147; it should really be considered a definition context, rather than a true stratigraphic unit, and contained a fragment of lava quernstone (sfX303), an abraded sherd of calcite gritted ware (sfX313) and some daub (sfX321).

Although features 1147 and 1146 seem to have filled up at different times, their proximity, plus the fact that latest layer 1002 sealed both, suggest an association. The most reasonable interpretation is that the two were dug at the same time, that 1147 filled up by 1058 during their functioning, and that, at the end of this process, 1146 was left open with its sides eroding to form 1088, before 1057 was dumped into it and then 1002 was laid to cover over both elements. As to the nature of that function, there is no sign of structural features in the base or sides of 1146, whilst its profile also suggests a pit, perhaps for production, rather than a small scale building of some sort. This is supported by the recovery of a piece of hearth base (sf125) from it. This usage could have taken place before or after Enclosure 4 was defined to the southwest, although the alignment of 1146 and 1147 does seem to match the curve of ditch 1193 opposite them, so they seem more likely to post-date the latter's insertion.

Only c.1m to the southeast of pits 1147/1146, cut **1108** intruded into the natural chalk at the edge of the excavated area. The element which fell within the excavation was

at least 2.7m across and 1.2m wide, with a nearly vertical side 0.48m deep in the north with a sharp break to its base, a more gradual slope elsewhere. The base was fairly level, at a height of 49.10m O.D., although near the limit of excavation it may have formed a second, deeper base section falling mainly beyond the trench. The cut was filled initially with soft brown sandy clay loam and a little chalk in variously-sized fragments containing moderate amounts of charcoal (1117), below a second layer of loose dark brown silty clay loam and a higher proportion of larger angular chalk fragments (1116). The position of both fills, when seen in section, suggested that they accumulated within, or were dumped into, the pit, rather than being derived from weathering of its sides.

Towards the top of cut 1108, a circular ledge 1118 ran around its periphery. This component, 0.10m below the level of its top and between 0.25m and 0.30m wide, with a flat base at about 49.50m O.D., was clearly associated with the main cut, as were the three stake hole cuts which lay within its base towards its northwest limit. 1107 was roughly circular, 90mm across, with sharp, vertical sides 0.15m deep tapering to a blunt point at 49.35m O.D. and was filled with soft, dark brown silty clay loam and small and medium chalk fragments (1101). Just to its southwest, 1106 was circular, 0.15m across, with sharp, vertical sides 0.15m deep tapering to a blunt point at 49.35m O.D. and was also filled with soft, dark brown silty clay loam and some small and medium chalk fragments (1100). To the southwest of this, 1105 was circular, 80mm across, with sharp, vertical sides 0.17m deep tapering to a blunt point at 49.33m O.D. and was also filled with soft, dark brown silty clay loam and some small and medium chalk fragments (1099). Finally, a more general deposit of soft, dark brown silty clay loam containing a little chalk in large and medium angular fragments (1016) covered all the stake hole fills and the ledge 1118, together with deposit 1116, the uppermost fill of the main cut. 1016 contained a small abraded early medieval potsherd (sfX220).

There can be no doubt that these various elements are all part of a single feature. The most reasonable interpretation is of a shallow, scoop-like pit with surrounding ledge. The stake holes suggest that vertical members were incorporated into this higher area, although their limited number and distribution suggest piecemeal insertions, not a continuous feature such as a wickerwork screen. What activities may have taken place here is obscure, not helped by much of the feature lying outside the excavated area. However, the proximity of pits 1147 and 1147 might suggest associated working areas.

Just to the west of 1108, two further small cuts intruded into the natural chalk. 1169 was roughly circular, up to 0.45m across (edges difficult to define with any certainty), with gently-sloping sides 0.14m deep tapering to a blunt point at 49.52m O.D. and was filled with loose, dark brown sandy clay loam containing a few small and medium angular chalk fragments (1168). Immediately to its south, 1171 was roughly circular, up to 0.22m across (edges difficult to define with any certainty), with fairly steep sides 0.12m deep tapering to a blunt point at 49.50m O.D. and was filled with loose, dark brown sandy clay loam containing a few small and medium angular chalk fragments (1170). These insertions seem likely to be associated with activities related to pit 1108 to the west, or pits 1147/1146 to the north (or both), as part of an associated working area.

Finally, to the northwest, at the northern limit of excavation, probably circular cut **1076** intruded into the natural chalk. *At least 1.3m east-west by 0.35m north-south, it had steeply sloping sides up to 0.58m deep curving gently to a slightly pointed base at a level of 48.83m O.D.* The cut was filled initially with *profusion of variously-sized angular chalk fragments in a friable earth component of some very dark brown silty clay loam (1075)*. This very stony fill was concentrated towards the base of the intrusion. The remainder was filled with *friable black silty clay loam containing rather less, somewhat smaller, chalk fragments (but still a significant proportion of the whole) (1056)*.

The amount of chalk in this feature suggests that weathering may have formed a component in its backfilling, at least initially, but the uppermost element probably included material brought into the area. Its original function is unclear, in part due to the proximity of the trench edge, but it resembles most closely the features interpreted elsewhere as rubbish pits. Unless its position, exactly on the eastern edge of ditch 1073, is coincidental, it seems likely to have been dug after Enclosure 4 was created.

Group 14 – Features south of Enclosure 4

1197, 1233, 1196, 1042, 1232, 1202, 1040, 1231, 1230, 1234, 1041, 1200, 1064, 1047, 1102, 1143, 1109, 1052

Towards the southeast corner of the site, sub-circular cut **1197** intruded into 1236 and 1201, the fills of feature 1235/1237 (Group 10, above). *Measuring c.5m across at its widest, this had initially vertical sides, where exposed, up to 0.85m deep, which then curved in gently, with a clear break to its generally flat and regular base at a level of 48.85m O.D.* It was filled initially, near the edges of its base, with *soft, dark brown silty clay loam and some angular chalk fragments, mostly medium but some smaller, together with some cleaner chalk gravel lenses and occasional lumps of purer clay up to 80mm across ranging from dark yellow to greenish grey in colour (1233)*. The clay element may have been derived from disturbance of the natural clay within the area, whilst the whole deposit suggests, from its position and character, material disturbed during the use of the feature and swept to its margins. Lenses of *friable black silty clay loam and a little charcoal, mostly in small lumps, plus further patches of pure green and orange clay (1196)* seen on top of 1233 may similarly relate to activities in the base of the feature. A bone needle (sf140) was recovered from 1196.

A much deeper fill of *friable grey silt, some clay and a little fine sand containing occasional flecks of red daub or burnt stone (1042, correlating with 1232 seen in section towards the southern edge of the pit)* covered 1196, elsewhere sealing 1233 and reaching the top of the feature at its sides. Apparent distortions near the outside of 1042 at the top imply that this material may have undergone consolidation due to subsidence after its deposition. Thus this fill may represent the use of the feature, or at least organic material thrown back into it at the very end of its life. It contained an iron hearth bottom (sfX237), several pieces of iron slag (sf1351, sfX151, sfX352), two sherds of Roman grey ware (sf286, sfX200), an iron nail sf292), an iron ring (sf294), a bone pin or needle (sf61), and an Anglo-Saxon chalk spindlewhorl (sf284). A deposit of *soft friable greyish brown silty clay loam (1202) with a little small and*

medium chalk fragments and a fragment of daub (sfX057) seen in the base of the cut to the west seems to be an equivalent of these initial processes of backfilling

Soft, dark brown silty clay loam and some angular chalk fragments, mostly medium but some smaller (1040) was then deposited in 1197 above 1042 and 1232, perhaps to level the area after the underlying subsidence. It contained several pieces of iron slag (sfX087, sfX136, sfX204, sfX211, sfX233) and an iron pin or nail (sfX064). *Soft dark brown silty clay loam containing slightly less larger chalk fragments but with more frequent pebbles (1231)* then covered much of 1040 at the centre of the feature, with further *soft, dark brown silty clay loam and a higher proportion of angular chalk fragments (1230)* above this. *A similar deposit, but with more frequent chalk pebbles (1234)* in a small area at the very centre of the cut also overlying 1231 may be a counterpart of 1231, split off from the main body of the deposit by underlying movement. Finally, *soft, dark brown silty clay loam and some angular medium and large chalk fragments (1041)* covered both 1230 and 1234, completing the filling process in a strip down the centre of the intrusion.

All of the elements between 1040 and 1041 correspond to an undifferentiated deposit of *compact, greyish brown silt, a little fine sand and a profusion of variously-sized chalk pebbles containing occasional flecks of red ?daub/burnt material (1200)* seen in section above 1202 to the north, and physically continuous with these uppermost fills in plan (although 1200 must also be considered as, in part, a definition context used to define the limits of the feature more accurately, and thus incorporating elements of the fills of earlier intrusion 1235/1237 to the northwest).

Taken as a whole, the backfilling above ‘primary’ elements 1233-1042 suggest that continuing subsidence within the feature required the dumping of alternating bands of more and less stony dumps, which eventually resulted in the whole area being consolidated up to the level of the natural chalk.

At the extreme southeast corner of the excavation, east-west cut **1064** intruded into the natural chalk. *At least 1.42m long (east end beyond the limit of excavation), the visible component was up to 0.38m wide (broadening to the east, a rounded butt end in the west), with shallow, irregular sides c.0.15m deep curving indeterminately to a concave base at a level of 49.39m O.D.. Where the intrusion approached the trench edge, there was a hint that it extended to the north, perhaps suggesting that linear component is just part of a much larger feature there, although this could equally be a product of over-cutting in excavation.* The cut was filled with *soft, dark brown silty clay loam and some chalk fragments up to 0.10m across and occasional patches of light green clay (1047).*

The interpretation of this feature is difficult, given its proximity to the edge of excavation. However, it does not resemble the enclosure ditches in scale or alignment and, given its western limit, lying just opposite cut 1197, together with its channel-like nature and the green clay inclusions in its fill, 1064 is best seen as an adjunct to the activities within that larger pit.

Just to the north of 1064, probably circular cut **1102** also lay at the eastern limit of excavation. *At least 2m north-south and 0.70m east-west, it had steep regular sides up to 0.60m deep, curving to a flat base at a level of 49.01m O.D..* The base of this

feature was filled with *loose brown mixture of silt, fine sand and medium and fine pebbles (1143)*, overlain by a localised spread of *orange fired and unfired clay (1109)* lying in seemingly random patches towards the centre of the intrusion (at least as far as the extent of 1102 could be seen). 1109 contained a fragment of daub with finger impressions (sfX315). Finally, *soft dark brown silty clay loam with some medium and small angular chalk fragments and rather less charcoal fragments (1052)* and more daub (sfX122) filled the remainder of the feature.

As 1102 lay mostly outside the excavated, interpretation must be speculative. The most reasonable explanation of the fill sequence is that 1143 provided some sort of pebble base within the feature, with clay 1109 related to activities on this surface and the deposition of 1052 marking its demise. It seems likely that this function was linked to that of the large nearby pit 1197, and probable channel 1064. The position of these intrusions, situated just outside Enclosure 4, implies that the latter had been inserted before them. Whatever form of production was taking place, it would then parallel the concerted activities seen at the centre of the site with pit 1092 etc. (Group 12) and that towards its western end with the hearths in 1188 and 1186 (Group 8). The presence of a fragment of iron pyrites (sf135) and smithing slag (sf62-3) in 1143 suggests that the function was related to ironworking. There was also some daub (sfX327) from the same layer.

Group 15 – Furrows and other late features

1162, 1013, 1150, 1112, 1082, 1049, 1134, 1087, 1207, 1110, 1129, 1065, 1133, 1132, 1213, 1086, 1131, 1085, 1078, 1204, 1003, 1103, 1022

Just to the west of the line of Enclosure 4 lay a complex series of linear intrusions. North-south cut **1162** intruded into 1014, the northern fill of curvilinear ditch 1038/1149, and into 1020, the uppermost fill of pit 1092 (both belonging to Group 12). It was *at least 13.5m long (north end beyond the limit of excavation, south end running out indeterminately) and c.1m wide (considerable variation, in part due to so little surviving later activity), with very oblique sides up to 80mm deep changing imperceptibly to its generally flat, locally irregular base at a level of 49.69m O.D..* The cut was filled with *loose, friable dark brown slightly sandy silt containing frequent chalk fragments up to 10mm across (1013)* as well as some pieces of iron slag (sfX089) and lava quernstone (sfX206). The position and orientation of this feature completely ignores the ditches associated with previous enclosures in the area and this, plus its shallow character, suggests that it belongs to an entirely new period of activity.

5m to the east, north-south cut **1150** intruded into 1084, the southern fill of curvilinear ditch 1038/1149 (Group 12). It was *at least 6.5m long (south end running out indeterminately or becoming indistinguishable from fill 1084, northern limit having a butt end) and was up to 0.60m wide, with fairly steep sides up to 0.25m deep curving to a flattish base at a level of 49.43m O.D..* The cut was filled with *loose grey silt and a little fine sand and clay containing frequent fine and medium pebbles (1112)*.

The position of 1150, immediately adjacent to the various modifications to the eastern edge of Enclosure 4 described under Group 12, could mean that it represents another,

late change in similar vein. However, its alignment parallels that of 1162, and both cuts the fill of the same ditch, 1038/1149. It is therefore more likely that 1150 belongs to a period of activity after the enclosures had gone out of use.

North-south cut **1082** lay just 2m east of 1150, intruding into 1050, the fill of ditch 1069 (Group 12). *At least 6m long (both end indeterminate), it was between 0.25m and 0.35m wide (considerable variation along its length), with steep sides between 0.14m and 0.27m deep curving to a locally irregular base with a level of 49.69m to the north, 49.48 further south.* The cut was filled with *soft dark brown very sandy silt containing fine pebbles (1049)*. As with 1150, the alignment, character and stratigraphic position of 1082 imply that its also belongs to a period of activity on the site after the enclosures had gone out of use.

Immediately east of 1082, north-south cut **1134** intruded into 1135, the uppermost fill of ditch 1136 which represents an addition/amendment to the western edge of Enclosure 4 (see Group 12, above). This component was only seen in section, where it was *at least 0.75 m wide (east edge cut away), with gently sloping sides 0.27m deep curving to a concave base at a level of 49.35m O.D.*. A blending out of the cut near its eastern edge suggested that the contemporary ground surface from which it was cut may not have lain far above that which survived when excavated. It was filled here with *friable dark brown silty loam and some chalk in fragments up to 20mm across, the larger elements being more angular than the smaller (1087)*, which contained iron slag (sfX096, sfX332) and a fragment of a lava quernstone (sfX213).

To the north of 1134, a second north-south cut **1207** was also evident in section, cutting 1046 to the east, the fill of 1081 representing the outermost ditch of Enclosure 4 at this point (see Group 11, above) and cutting 1163 to the west, the fill of 1214 representing an addition/amendment to the western edge of Enclosure 4 (see Group 12, above). This intrusion was *c.0.80m across (both edges uncertain at the top), with gently sloping sides 0.36m deep curving to a rounded base 49.39m O.D.*. It was filled here with *friable brownish grey silt and some fine to medium sand containing occasional fine and medium pebbles and flecks of red ?daub (1110)*, as well as pieces of iron slag (sfX053, sfX187, sfX319).

Thirdly, to the north of 1207 and seen in both plan and section, cut **1129** also intruded fill 1046 (Group 11) and 1005, the fill of ditch 1074 representing the middle element of Enclosure 4 (also Group 11). This was *exposed over a length of only 1m, where it was 0.80m wide, with fairly steep sides 0.37m deep curving clearly to a flattish base at a level of 49.34m O.D.*. It was filled with *soft, very dark brown sandy silt containing occasional animal bone, charcoal and chalk fragments, the last up to 50mm across (1065)*, and also contained a fragment of daub (sfX317) and a sherd of Iron Age pottery (sf92).

When seen in plan, the fills 1087, 1110 and 1065 were shown to be continuous, their somewhat diverse character recorded in excavation being either a product of divergent recording or, more likely, local variations in the process of back filling a single feature. The latter can therefore be seen to run the full width of the site (even if its exact line in the north where crossing the earlier ditches of Enclosure 4 could not be defined with certainty). It thus represents a shallow, narrow feature of fairly constant

depth which seems to largely ignore the position of Enclosure 4, and also postdates the additions to the west of the latter described under Group 12.

Cut **1133**, only recorded in section, intruded into fill 1087 of cut 1134. *At least 0.75m across (west edge cut away), it had a gently sloping east edge, perhaps less so in the west, 0.31m deep curving imperceptibly to a dish-shaped base at a level of 49.31m O.D.. It was filled with loose brownish grey silt and some fine sand containing occasional fine pebbles (1132).*

Cut **1213** was also observed in section, and in a small area in plan, 5m north of 1133, where it intruded into the natural chalk. This was *up to c.0.70m across, with gently sloping sides 0.27m deep curving to a concave base at a level of 49.63m O.D.. It was filled with friable, dark brown silty loam with some angular chalk between 10mm and 30mm across, the larger elements being more angular than the smaller (1086).*

When seen in plan, the fills 1132 and 1086 seemed to be continuous, notwithstanding their slightly different descriptions when seen in section. This suggests a feature over 10.5m in length, running beyond the southern limit of excavation. The apparent differences in base level, 0.30m over a 5m length, could be explained by the fact that the feature ended indeterminately c.2m beyond the recorded section of 1213, and thus that the base level was rising as it approached this terminal. Clearly this feature represents the demise of 1134/1207/1129, although its angle, somewhat northwest-southeast of the latter's exact north-south line, does resemble that of the earlier ditch alignments described in Group 12 (see further discussion below).

Finally, northwest-southeast cut **1131** intruded into 1133, the fill of 1133/1213. Only recorded in section, this was *0.75m wide, with gently sloping sides 0.21m deep curving imperceptibly to its concave base at a level of 49.41m O.D.. It was filled with friable, dark brown silty loam and some chalk fragments up to 30mm across, mostly angular at the upper end of the size spectrum (1085), as well as fragments of lava quernstone (sfX024). A similar deposit (1078) lay at the point where cuts 1133 and 1131 met (thus, in effect, a definition context). Hence the southern extent of the latter, later feature could not be defined with certainty. It could be traced in plan some 4m to the north, before definition was lost as it encountered earlier feature 1038 (Group 12). It was not apparent in intact natural chalk west of 1038, so may have ended by this point (although its shallow depth would mean that limited later truncation in this zone could have removed all traces). That said, enough survived of 1131 to suggest that it did not align with preceding feature 1133/1213, and still less with the even earlier 1134/1207/1129.*

Two explanations of these three successive features are possible. All could represent changes at the edge of Enclosure 4, similar to those described with Group 12, especially as the intrusions listed there are thought to postdate the creation of the enclosure, which these components provably do. However, there are some reasons to suggest that these features are really rather later in date. Firstly ditch 1134 etc. appears to run across the outer *and middle* ditches of Enclosure 4, and it seems more likely that the latter fell into demise when 1134 was inserted, rather than simply being augmented. Secondly, 1134, the earliest component in the sequence, runs exactly parallel to other ditches 1082, 1150 and 1162 to the west. As argued above on independent grounds, the latter group are thought to have been inserted after the

enclosure has fallen into demise. 1134 might best be seen in a similar light. Thirdly, and more tentatively, the top edge of 1134, when recorded in section, seems to suggest a higher contemporary ground surface than the Group 12 elements (see above on the shape of its eastern edge at the very top). If ditch 1134 etc is dug after Enclosure 4 is disused, then obviously later features 1133/1213 and still later 1131 must have been in play at an even later stage, still further dissociated from activities related to the enclosures.

To the east of 1134, north south cut **1204** intruded into the natural chalk. *At least 8m long (both ends run out indeterminately), it was c.1.20m wide with very shallowly sloping sides 0.12m deep changing imperceptibly into a flattish base at a level of 49.52m O.D..* The cut was filled with *soft, light brown mixture of silt, some fine and less medium pebbles and a little sand (1003)*. Its shallow character and alignment bears a strong resemblance to 1162 to the west, and hence it seems likely to have been inserted after Enclosure 4 was in demise.

Finally, 20m west of 1162, traces of north-south cut **1103** intruded into the natural chalk. *Traced over a length of 3.5m (both ends indeterminate), it was c.1.30m wide with fairly steep sides to both east and west but only 70mm deep, with a clear break in slope to its flattish, locally irregular base at a level of 49.82m O.D..* The cut was filled with a *mid brown soil (not otherwise described, but certainly similar to overlying deposit 1003 across the area) (1022)*. Although little of this feature survived later truncation, the alignment of what could be recorded, together with its shallow depth, implies a connection with 1162 *et al.* to the east.

Taken together, and give their line, limited depth and proven or assumed relationship with enclosures on the site, all of these features should be seen as an entirely new phase of activity in the area, involving actions running perpendicular across the valley floor on a scale stretching beyond the extent of the trench in each case. The most reasonable interpretation is that of medieval, ploughing of the landscape, a major change of land use following the demise of the enclosures in the area.

Group 16 – Topsoil

1001, 1000

A deposit of *greyish brown silty loam containing chalk and less flint fragments up to 0.25m across (but mostly much smaller than this – between 50mm and 100mm), animal bone and some modern artefacts* overlay the uppermost elements of all the fills and definition contexts mentioned above. The majority of this was removed in initial machining on the site, with the underlying remains then dug by hand (elements labelled **1000** and **1001** respectively). This layer, up to 0.50m deep in places, is the result of topsoil formation in the area. It seals all activities described above under Groups 1-15, and is currently undergoing continuous disturbance with the modern planting regimes operating in the Burdale valley, which involve cutting down to the natural chalk beneath. Amongst the ploughsoil finds recovered from this layer were a bone comb (sf5), two iron knives (sf2, sf8), a blade from iron shears (sf4), an iron ring (sf311), an unidentified iron object (sf157), as well as Roman and medieval pottery.

IV. Summary of Stratigraphic Sequence and Conclusions

The first sign of activities in the west of the site (*Group 1*) comprises a gully and associated parallel feature, and a large pit. The first pair, which incorporated ?daub in their backfill, may relate to more substantial activities off-site to the southwest, whilst the charcoal-rich pit implies some production activity. These features seem to have fallen into demise when Enclosure 1 was set out in a single development of this part of the site, in the form of three parallel, curving ditches, plus presumed internal banks (*Group 2*). The limited depth of the ditches suggests a demarcation of space, rather than defensive mechanism, whilst the southern terminal of the innermost ditch and possible postholes beyond imply an entrance arrangement at this point. The creation of this enclosure, its projected dimensions at least 40m across, clearly represents a major new development of the area.

To the east, a second curvilinear ditch (*Group 3*) was set against Enclosure 1 to form a new episode, Enclosure 2, at least 20m across. The first enclosure, however, seems to have continued in use at this time (indeed, Enclosure 2 might be better seen as a subdivision within 1, rather than something inserted beside it: insufficient was exposed within the excavated area to decide between these alternatives). Subsequently, the northern end of this new enclosure was subdivided by the insertion of a number of east-west ditches in successive stages and its outer circuit was modified (*Group 4*). At a still later stage, the northern limit of Enclosure 2 was redefined in an even more substantial way, although its western limit was simply re-cut on much the same line (*Group 5*). Taken together, these modifications imply an extended life for this component of the landscape.

Enclosure 3, comprised of three co-aligned curving ditches, was set out towards the centre of the site near its southern limit with a diameter of at least 25m (*Group 6*). This new component not only post-dates the modifications to Enclosure 2, but marks the latter's demise, cutting across its main, eastern boundary. However, a possible working pit near the southern limit of excavation, also cut by Enclosure 3, could have been in use at the same time as either 1 or 2.

Five pits, most seemingly used for rubbish disposal at the end of their life and either dug for this purpose or originally used for storage, were inserted against the ditches of Enclosures 2 and 3 in their various forms (*Group 7*). Some seem to have been left open at the end of their primary function. To their south, although still within Enclosure 2, a second set of pits seems to have had a rather different function, being concerned with activity of a more 'industrial' character (*Group 8*). Two features had hearth areas laid out in their base, whilst three further major pits lay nearby, two of which included substantial amounts of possible hearth residues in their backfill and the other containing a channel or a slot of possible structural function in its base. The oblique profile of one feature suggests access into its base was gained from the north, whilst all three seem to have been left open for a time after initial use. Finally, further pits and possible post positions lay in the vicinity. Taken as a whole, this implies some functional differentiation between the southern and northern zones. Either this took place within Enclosure 2, or the area outside Enclosure 3 was used for production activity after it replaced 2.

Finally, two sets of features, one late the other early, lay at the southern corners of the excavation. A possible sunken feature building in the southwest (*Group 9*) post-dates the demise of Enclosure 1, although could be in use with later developments nearby, most obviously the use of Enclosure 3. In the southeast corner, a second sunken feature building with opposed posts on long axis, plus several rubbish or storage pits, (*Group 10*) were inserted before the creation of Enclosure 4 here (see below). Thus, when in use, they must either have either lain in an open landscape or been bounded by features lying beyond the excavation area.

In the east of the site, Enclosure 4 was created with the digging of three concentric ditches to define an area which would have been nearly 40m across in total, with its centre just beyond the northeast corner of the excavation (*Group 11*). This new element was in use long enough for its innermost ditch to have been re-cut once. How Enclosure 4 relates to the creation and use of Enclosures 1-3 to the west could not be decided on stratigraphic grounds. However, a series of successive curving and linear ditches to its west (*Group 12*) included one feature which clearly obey the line of Enclosure 4, also appeared to stop against 2. It thus seems likely that the newly defined space was either contemporary with the latter or, since it seems to have been in use for some time, was set out at the same time as Enclosure 1 in the extreme west. A substantial pit lay at the centre of this newly-enclosed zone and seemingly contained a high proportion of organic material in its primary fill, with a subsidiary pit to its south and further linear features nearby which may be related to production activities, here clearly taking place after Enclosure 3 had been created.

Within Enclosure 4, two adjacent pits containing a profusion of charcoal debris suggest corresponding production activity, probably associated with a second pair of pits to the north and an adjacent working area with stake holes (*Group 13*). This implies that the new zone became a production space, much as that defined within Enclosure 2 to the west, and between this and Enclosure 4. Finally, south of Enclosure 4, another, even larger, 'production' pit was backfilled over an extended period of time, but was probably associated in its primary use with an adjacent channel and pit with pebble-lined base (*Group 14*). Hence a diagnostically different set of production facilities is implied for this sphere. Overall, a highly structured use of space is indicated in each area lying inside each enclosure or within the interstices between them.

The penultimate activity in the history of the site comprises the use of the series of north-south furrows crossing the whole of the excavated area (*Group 15*). These linear intrusions survived much better in the east than the west of the site, although in the vicinity of the west edge of Enclosure 4 it was less easy to distinguish furrows from earlier amendments of the enclosure boundaries. They do, however, show that subsequent agricultural activity later in the medieval period took no account of the institutional boundaries of its forerunner, such ploughing thus representing a major change of land use following the demise of the system of curvilinear enclosures. The topsoil which accumulated above the furrows (*Group 16*) is the final activity here, a product of modern land-use which continues to disturb the uppermost fills of the larger features described above, and will eventually destroy their shallower counterparts.

Appendix A – Stratigraphic Units Cross-Referenced Against Four Interpretative Categories

The following table lists the stratigraphic units numbered in the course of the excavation and then cross-references them against a range of four interpretative categories: Unit Type, Group Number, Associated Enclosure and Summary Interpretation. These are presented below from the most basic (on the left) to the higher-order, and thus more questionable (on the right). Each set of categories is defined and explained below.

1. Unit Type

All discrete entities defined in the course of excavation can be grouped under one of the following three classes:

- Deposits (**D**) - horizontal strata overlying the natural chalk or finds assemblages recovered in the course of cleaning and definition work.
- Fills (**F**) - layers filling known cut features.
- Cuts (**C**) - the intrusions themselves.

2. Group Number

Post-excavation stratigraphic analysis allowed all units defined on site to be allocated to one of sixteen groups:

- **Group 1** – Features pre-dating Enclosure 1
- **Group 2** – Features marking the creation of western curvilinear Enclosure 1
- **Group 3** – Features marking the creation of northern central curvilinear Enclosure 2
- **Group 4** – Subdivisions of/additions to Enclosure 2
- **Group 5** – Redefinition or Reduction of Enclosure 2
- **Group 6** – Features marking the creation of southern central curvilinear Enclosure 3
- **Group 7** – Features within, and associated with, Enclosure 2
- **Group 8** - Features bounded by Enclosures 1-3
- **Group 9** – Feature postdating Enclosure 1
- **Group 10** – Features pre-dating Enclosure 4
- **Group 11** – Features marking the creation of eastern curvilinear Enclosure 4
- **Group 12** - Ditches west of Enclosure 4, probably postdating both it and Enclosures 2 and 3
- **Group 13** – Features within Enclosure 4
- **Group 14** – Features south of Enclosure 4
- **Group 15** – Furrows and other late features
- **Group 16** – Topsoil

3. Associated Enclosure

This column lists the enclosure to which each unit is thought to be related. The link in question might be direct, for example where a ditch is actually part of the landscape enclosure in question; more oblique, for example a pit lying within, or sometimes beyond, such a zone; or still more questionable, for example where a linear intrusion pre-dates or post-dates the creation of any enclosures within the excavated area. The detailed text provides full discussion of the basis on which these decisions were made.

4. Summary Interpretation

This element, the most problematic in the listing, attempts to provide an outline interpretation of the function of each stratigraphic unit and the formation process involved in its creation. These have been allocated in relation to the limited number of categories listed below. In nearly every case, the suggested association could be questioned and alternatives put forward. However, this is in the nature of the interpretation of site evidence, particularly when being formulated before finds analysis has been completed, and can still be considered a useful part of the analytical process (that said, even at this stage, some proposals are more questionable than others and a question mark has been added in such cases to flag this up. Thus ‘1080 - ?Use of working pit 1092’, ‘1131 - ?Furrow’ etc.). The categories are split between deposits, cuts and fills i.e. the more fundamental, and certain, distinctions of the first column.

Deposits, accounting for only a small minority of the identified stratigraphic units, are split here between:

- **Topsoil** (or, in one case, **Occupation/Topsoil**) – the plough soil sealing all other strata
- **Definition Contexts** – areas above intersecting intrusions where further work was required before proper stratigraphic investigation could start

Cuts, comprising a much more significant minority of units, are divided here between linear and non-linear intrusions. The former were further split into three, the first two being of a higher interpretative order than the third. These are defined as:

- **Furrow** - north-south features thought to run the full width of the excavation area and to cut all other intrusions
- **Curvilinear Ditch** – non-linear ditches of a size and position to comprise elements of one of four enclosures on the site
- **Linear Cut** - a more general category not covered by the two preceding groupings, which thus might comprise a ditch, a foundation trench, a beam slot, or a number of other functional elements.

‘Closed’ intrusions were further split in four ways:

- **Post Position** - defined in terms of its limited size, between 80mm and 0.45m across (thus could range from a feature functioning as a small stake hole to a wider cut which located the base of a post. On this site, none of the larger

diameter cuts was deep enough to have once held a vertical, free-standing member).

- **Rubbish/Storage Pit** - roughly circular intrusions between 1m and 3m across and of various depths, for which no distinct function could be defined from inspection their own fills, or those of adjacent pits with which they might be reasonable associated (the reason that rubbish and storage functions are not divided is that, in no case, could we distinguish between a pit being dug for storage, for example, of agricultural surplus, and then employed for rubbish disposal at the end of its useful life, and one dug specifically to discard rubbish from the start)
- **Working Pit** - evidenced either directly (e.g. by a fill component indicating activity in its base such as a suggested hearth or a gravel surface); or indirectly by residues implying such a function; or still less directly by being in the vicinity of these features
- **Sunken Feature Building** – a large intrusion, at least 5m across, with a generally flat base and some indication of associated structural elements

Fills, which formed the largest number of stratigraphic units, were divided between three higher-order categories or, where these distinctions could not be justified, by retaining the more nebulous ‘fill’ category. In certain cases, however, the distinction between whether a deposit was formed by weathering of the chalk sides of an intrusion or by dumping stony material into the feature could not be decided with any certainty. In addition it was occasionally clear, when strata were viewed in section, that a single stratigraphic unit embodied elements of both weathering (for example in the form of small successive lenses of fairly clean chalk pebbles) and another formation process. Here, the terms use/weathering, dump/weathering or fill/weathering have been used as appropriate:

- **Use** – fills in the base of an intrusion which relate to primary activity there
- **Dump** – material from elsewhere deposited into a feature at the end of its useful life, perhaps to dispose of rubbish or simply to prepare for future occupation
- **Weathering** – material derived from degradation of the natural chalk into which a feature intruded, suggesting that its may have been left open for a while after any earlier activities
- **Fill** – material deposited into an intrusion which cannot be related with any certainty to one or other of the above processes

Unit Number	Unit Type	Group No.	Associated Enclosure	Summary Interpretation
1000	D	16	Post Encls.	Topsoil
1001	D	16	Post Encls.	Topsoil
1002	D	13	Inside Encl. 4	Definition context
1003	F	15	Post Encls.	Fill of furrow 1204
1004	D	11	Enclosure 4	Definition context
1005	F	11	Enclosure 4	Dump/weathering in curvi. ditch 1074
1006	D	13	Inside Encl. 4	Definition context
1007	F	8	Inside Enc.1-3	Dump/weathering in working pit 1185
1008	F	8	Inside Enc.1-3	Fill/Weathering of working pit 1186
1009	F	8	Inside Enc.1-3	Dump in working pit 1187
1010	F	2	Enclosure 1	Fill of curvilinear ditch 1060
1011	F	2	Enclosure 1	Dump in curvilinear ditch 1089
1012	F	2	Enclosure 1	Fill of curvilinear ditch 1090
1013	F	15	Post Encls.	Fill of furrow 1102
1014	F	12	Addn Enc.2-4	Fill of curvilinear ditch 1038
1015	D	5	Redef. Encl. 2	Definition context
1016	F	13	Inside Encl. 4	Fill of working pit 1108
1017	F	4	Addn. Encl.2	Fill of linear cut 1151
1018	F	7	Inside Encl. 2	Dump in working pit 1172
1019	F	5	Redef. Encl. 2	Fill of linear cut 1174
1020	F	12	Addn Enc.2-4	Dump in working pit 1092
1021	F	8	Inside Enc.1-3	Fill/weathering of working pit 1188
1022	F	15	Post Encls.	Fill of furrow 1103
1023	F	7	Inside Encl. 2	Fill of rubbish/storage pit 1123
1024	F	7	Inside Encl. 2	Fill of rubbish/storage pit 1114
1025	D	5	Redef. Encl. 2	Definition context
1026	F	7	Inside Encl. 2	Weathering of rubbish/storage pit 1184
1027	F	7	Inside Encl. 2	Dump in rubbish/storage pit 1184
1028	F	3	Enclosure 2	Weathering of curvilinear ditch 1189
1029	D	4	Addn. Encl.2	Definition context
1030	F	6	Enclosure 3	Weathering of curvilinear ditch 1175
1031	F	6	Enclosure 3	Fill of curvilinear ditch 1176
1032	F	6	Enclosure 3	Fill of curvilinear ditch 1177
1033	D	6	Enclosure 3	Definition context
1034	F	12	Addn Enc.2-4	Fill of linear cut 1220
1035	F	12	Addn Enc.2-4	Fill of working pit 1091
1036	F	4	Addn. Encl.2	Fill of linear cut 1178
1037	F	7	Inside Encl. 2	Dump working pit 1125
1038	C	12	Addn Enc.2-4	Curvilinear ditch
1039	F	8	Inside Enc.1-3	Fill/weathering in working pit 1205
1040	F	14	Outside Enc.4	Dump in working pit 1197
1041	F	14	Outside Enc.4	Dump in working pit 1197
1042	F	14	Outside Enc.4	Dump in working pit 1197
1043	F	8	Inside Enc.1-3	Dump in working pit 1205
1044	F	8	Inside Enc.1-3	Dump in working pit 1205
1045	F	8	Inside Enc.1-3	Fill of working pit 1179

1046	F	11	Enclosure 4	Dump/weathering in curvi. ditch 1081
1047	F	14	Outside Enc.4	Fill of linear cut 1064
1048	F	1	Pre-Encl. 1	Fill of linear cut 1121
1049	F	15	Post Encls.	Fill of furrow 1082
1050	F	12	Addn Enc.2-4	Fill of linear cut 1069
1051	F	12	Addn Enc.2-4	Dump in working pit 1092
1052	F	14	Outside Enc.4	Dump in working pit 1102
1053	D	5	Redef. Encl. 2	Definition context
1054	F	1	Pre-Encl. 1	Fill of linear cut 1144
1055	D	2	Enclosure 1	?Occupation/Topsoil
1056	F	13	Inside Encl. 4	Dump in rubbish/storage pit 1076
1057	F	13	Inside Encl. 4	Dump in working pit 1146
1058	F	13	Inside Encl. 4	Fill of working pit 1147
1059	F	11	Enclosure 4	Dump in curvilinear ditch 1193
1060	C	2	Enclosure 1	Curvilinear ditch
1061	F	12	Addn Enc.2-4	Fill of working pit 1115
1062	F	4	Addn. Encl.2	Fill of linear ditch 1206
1063	D	4	Addn. Encl.2	Definition context
1064	F	14	Outside Enc.4	Linear cut
1065	F	15	Post Encls.	Fill of furrow 1129
1066	F	11	Enclosure 4	Dump in curvilinear ditch 1067
1067	C	11	Enclosure 4	Curvilinear ditch
1068	F	11	Enclosure 4	Dump in curvilinear ditch 1193
1069	C	12	Addn Enc.2-4	Linear cut
1070	F	11	Enclosure 4	Fill of curvilinear ditch 1071
1071	C	11	Enclosure 4	Curvilinear ditch
1072	F	11	Enclosure 4	Fill of curvilinear ditch 1073
1073	C	11	Enclosure 4	Curvilinear ditch
1074	C	11	Enclosure 4	Curvilinear ditch
1075	F	13	Inside Encl. 4	Weathering of rubbish/storage pit 1076
1076	C	13	Inside Encl. 4	Rubbish/storage pit
1077	F	7	Inside Encl. 2	Dump in working pit 1172
1078	D	15	Post Encls.	Definition context
1079	F	8	Inside Enc.1-3	Weathering of working pit 1185
1080	F	12	Addn Enc.2-4	?Use of working pit 1092
1081	C	11	Enclosure 4	Curvilinear ditch
1082	C	15	Post Encls.	Furrow
1083	D	9	Post-Encl. 1	Definition context
1084	F	12	Addn Enc.2-4	Fill of curvilinear ditch 1149
1085	F	15	Post Encls.	Fill of ?furrow 1131
1086	F	15	Post Encls.	Fill of ?furrow 1213
1087	F	15	Post Encls.	Fill of ?furrow 1134
1088	F	13	Inside Encl. 4	Weathering of working pit 1146
1089	C	2	Enclosure 1	Curvilinear ditch
1090	C	2	Enclosure 1	Curvilinear ditch
1091	C	12	Addn Enc.2-4	?Working pit
1092	C	12	Addn Enc.2-4	Working pit
1093	F	5	Redef. Encl. 2	Fill of curvilinear ditch 1126
1094	F	5	Redef. Encl. 2	Fill of curvilinear ditch 1180
1095	F	5	Redef. Encl. 2	Fill of curvilinear ditch 1126

1096	F	3	Enclosure 2	Weathering of curvilinear ditch 1156
1097	F	5	Redef. Encl. 2	Fill of curvilinear ditch 1124
1098	F	4	Addn. Encl.2	Fill of ?curvilinear ditch 1181
1099	F	13	Inside Encl. 4	Fill of post position 1105
1100	F	13	Inside Encl. 4	Fill of post position 1106
1101	F	13	Inside Encl. 4	Fill of post position 1107
1102	C	14	Outside Enc.4	Working pit
1103	C	15	Post Encls.	Furrow
1104	F	7	Inside Encl. 2	Dump in working pit 1172
1105	C	13	Inside Encl. 4	Part of working pit 1108
1106	C	13	Inside Encl. 4	Part of working pit 1108
1107	C	13	Inside Encl. 4	Part of working pit 1108
1108	C	13	Inside Encl. 4	Working pit
1109	F	14	Outside Enc.4	Use of working pit 1102
1110	F	15	Post Encls.	Fill of furrow 1207
1111	F	11	Enclosure 4	Fill of rubbish/storage pit 1208
1112	F	15	Post Encls.	Fill of furrow 1150
1113	F	2	Enclosure 1	Fill of curvilinear ditch 1090
1114	C	7	Inside Encl. 2	Rubbish/storage pit
1115	C	12	Addn Enc.2-4	?Working pit
1116	F	13	Inside Encl. 4	Fill of working pit 1108
1117	F	13	Inside Encl. 4	Fill of working pit 1108
1118	C	13	Inside Encl. 4	Part of working pit 1108
1119	F	1	Pre-Encl. 1	Dump in ?working pit 1173
1120	C	2	Enclosure 1	Curvilinear ditch
1121	C	1	Pre-Encl. 1	Linear cut
1122	F	8	Inside Enc.1-3	Fill of ?working pit 1182
1123	C	7	Inside Encl. 2	Rubbish/storage pit
1124	C	5	Redef. Encl. 2	Curvilinear ditch
1125	C	7	Inside Encl. 2	Working pit
1126	C	5	Redef. Encl. 2	Curvilinear ditch
1127	F	13	Inside Encl. 4	Fill of working pit 1128
1128	C	13	Inside Encl. 4	Working pit
1129	C	15	Post Encls.	Furrow
1130	F	7	Inside Encl. 2	Dump in working pit 1172
1131	C	15	Post Encls.	?Furrow
1132	F	15	Post Encls.	Fill of ?furrow 1133
1133	C	15	Post Encls.	?Furrow
1134	C	15	Post Encls.	? Furrow
1135	F	12	Addn Enc.2-4	Fill of linear cut 1136
1136	C	12	Addn Enc.2-4	Linear cut
1137	F	11	Enclosure 4	Dump in curvilinear ditch 1193
1138	F	13	Inside Encl. 4	Dump in working pit 1139
1139	F	13	Inside Encl. 4	Working pit
1140	F	2	Enclosure 1	Fill of post position 1209
1141	F	2	Enclosure 1	Fill of post position 1210
1142	F	2	Enclosure 1	Fill of post position 1211
1143	F	14	Outside Enc.4	Use of working pit 1102
1144	C	1	Pre-Encl. 1	Linear cut
1145	F	8	Inside Enc.1-3	Dump/weathering in working pit 1185

1146	C	13	Inside Encl. 4	Working pit
1147	C	13	Inside Encl. 4	Working pit
1148	F	8	Inside Enc.1-3	Fill of ?post position 1212
1149	C	12	Addn Enc.2-4	Curvilinear ditch
1150	C	15	Post Encls.	Furrow
1151	C	4	Addn. Encl.2	Linear cut
1152	F	2	Enclosure 1	Fill of post position 1153
1153	C	2	Enclosure 1	Post position
1154	F	9	Post-Encl. 1	Dump in ?SFB 1155
1155	C	9	Post-Encl. 1	?Sunken Feature Building
1156	C	3	Enclosure 2	Curvilinear ditch
1157	F	13	Inside Encl. 4	?Use of working pit 1139
1158	F	13	Inside Encl. 4	?Use of working pit 1139
1159	F	13	Inside Encl. 4	Weathering of working pit 1139
1160	F	12	Addn Enc.2-4	Fill of ?working pit 1161
1161	C	12	Addn Enc.2-4	?Working pit
1162	C	15	Post Encls.	Furrow
1163	F	12	Addn Enc.2-4	Dump/weathering in linear cut 1214
1164	F	8	Inside Enc.1-3	Fill of ?post position 1166
1165	F	12	Addn Enc.2-4	Dump/Weathering in linear cut 1215
1166	C	8	Inside Enc.1-3	?Post position
1167	F	7	Inside Encl. 2	Use/Weathering of working pit 1172
1168	F	13	Inside Encl. 4	Fill of ?post position 1169
1169	C	13	Inside Encl. 4	?Post position
1170	F	13	Inside Encl. 4	Fill of post position 1171
1171	C	13	Inside Encl. 4	Post position
1172	C	7	Inside Encl. 2	Working pit
1173	C	1	Pre-Encl. 1	?Working pit
1174	C	5	Redef. Encl. 2	Linear cut
1175	C	6	Enclosure 3	Curvilinear ditch
1176	C	6	Enclosure 3	Curvilinear ditch
1177	C	6	Enclosure 3	Curvilinear ditch
1178	C	4	Addn. Encl.2	?Linear cut
1179	C	8	Inside Enc.1-3	Working pit
1180	C	5	Redef. Encl. 2	Curvilinear ditch
1181	C	4	Addn. Encl.2	?Curvilinear ditch
1182	C	8	Inside Enc.1-3	?Working pit
1183	F	9	Post-Encl. 1	Use of ?SFB 1155
1184	C	7	Inside Encl. 2	Rubbish/storage pit
1185	C	8	Inside Enc.1-3	Working pit
1186	C	8	Inside Enc.1-3	Working pit
1187	C	8	Inside Enc.1-3	Working pit
1188	C	8	Inside Enc.1-3	Working pit
1189	C	3	Enclosure 2	Curvilinear ditch
1190	F	13	Inside Encl. 4	Weathering of working pit 1139
1191	F	13	Inside Encl. 4	Use of working pit 1139
1192	F	11	Enclosure 4	Dump/weathering in curvi. ditch 1193
1193	C	11	Enclosure 4	Curvilinear ditch
1194	F	8	Inside Enc.1-3	?Use of working pit 1185
1195	F	8	Inside Enc.1-3	Use of working pit 1188

1196	F	14	Outside Enc.4	Use of working pit 1197
1197	C	14	Outside Enc.4	Working pit
1198	F	4	Addn. Encl.2	Fill of linear cut 1199
1199	C	4	Addn. Encl.2	Linear cut
1200	D	14	Outside Enc.4	Definition context
1201	F	10	Pre-Encl.4	Dump/weathering in SFB 1235/1237
1202	F	14	Outside Enc.4	Dump in working pit 1197
1203	F	6	Enclosure 3	Fill of ?rubbish/storage pit
1204	C	15	Post Encls.	Furrow
1205	C	8	Inside Enc.1-3	Working pit
1206	C	4	Addn. Encl.2	Linear cut
1207	C	15	Post Encls.	Furrow
1208	C	11	Enclosure 4	Rubbish/storage pit
1209	C	2	Enclosure 1	Post position
1210	C	2	Enclosure 1	Post position
1211	C	2	Enclosure 1	Post position
1212	C	8	Inside Enc.1-3	?Post position
1213	C	15	Post Encls.	?Furrow
1214	C	12	Addn Enc.2-4	Linear cut
1215	C	12	Addn Enc.2-4	Linear cut
1216	F	1	Pre-Encl. 1	Use of ?working pit 1173
1217	F	1	Pre-Encl. 1	Use of ?working pit 1173
1218	F	8	Inside Enc.1-3	Dumping in working pit 1187
1219	F	8	Inside Enc.1-3	Weathering of working pit 1187
1220	C	12	Addn Enc.2-4	Linear cut
1221	NO.	NOT	USED	VOID
1222	NO.	NOT	USED	VOID
1223	F	7	Inside Encl. 2	Weathering of working pit 1225
1224	F	7	Inside Encl. 2	Dump in working pit 1225
1225	F	7	Inside Encl. 2	Weathering of working pit 1225
1226	F	8	Inside Enc.1-3	Use of working pit 1186
1227	F	11	Enclosure 4	?Weathering of curvilinear ditch 1193
1228	F	10	Pre-Encl.4	Fill of rubbish/storage pit 1229
1229	C	10	Pre-Encl.4	Rubbish/storage pit
1230	F	14	Outside Enc.4	Dump in working pit 1197
1231	F	14	Outside Enc.4	Dump in working pit 1197
1232	F	14	Outside Enc.4	Dump in working pit 1197
1233	F	14	Outside Enc.4	Use of working pit 1197
1234	F	14	Outside Enc.4	Dump working pit 1197
1235	C	10	Pre-Encl.4	Sunken feature building
1236	F	10	Pre-Encl.4	?Occupation of SFB 1235/1237
1237	C	10	Pre-Encl.4	Sunken feature building
1238ff	NOS.	NOT	USED	