

# BUR07:

A report on archaeological evaluations carried out at Burdale, North  
Yorkshire in May 2007

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## Introduction

This report describes the stratigraphic and structural development of that part of the Burdale site excavated in summer 2007. It first summarises the research and organisational context in which the work took place (*Background to the Excavation*: Section I) and outlines the work process (*Site Procedures*: Section II). Its main purpose, however, is to present 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) and then summarise this process of development (*Summary of Stratigraphic Sequence*: Section IV). Appendix A cross-references the numbered stratigraphic units against four interpretative categories: unit type, group number, associated enclosure and summary interpretation.

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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 19<sup>th</sup>-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 1<sup>st</sup> century AD to the 8<sup>th</sup> 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 and March 2007 to recover pottery, building materials and bone from the topsoil, each item being plotted by 5m square
- a campaign of focussed geophysics in May 2006 comprising geo-magnetometry and resistivity survey encompassing both concentrations of Anglian activity
- excavation in May 2006 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 (*the results of which are presented in a separate the report*)
- preliminary test pitting in March 2007, then full excavation in May 2007, of an additional area at the western end of the Anglian settlement enclosures, chosen to intercept at critical points both major landscape features and possible internal structures, as revealed by geophysical survey (*the results of which are the subject of this report*)
- 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 20mx50m was opened by mechanical excavator in mid-May 2007, after completion of the previously-mentioned fieldwalking and geophysical surveys (these last two elements being conducted within the Department's field course) and some limited test pitting over Easter 2007 (the data generated by this exercise are incorporated into what follows as appropriate – see Group 45). 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 over ten working days in late May, using a workforce of some c.60 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 to the nearest half metre. 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.

The process of feature definition taxed the workforce's skill and endurance in mixed, and sometimes stormy, weather, but 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, nearly all were sampled to some degree, whilst most of the smaller intrusions such as postholes were emptied completely, although a small number remained unexcavated by the end of the fieldwork, as were a series of probably late features towards the north-west corner of the excavation area. Data generated by this 'strip-and map' exercise will later be set beside the evidence from 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, as well as individually recorded at a scale of 1:20 in the majority of cases (a small number of intrusions had to be recorded at the very end of the fieldwork by digitisation of their periphery using a TST). In addition, sections were drawn at 1:10 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. 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 systematically in text. 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 525 stratigraphic units, labelled 1000-1530 inclusive (1020, 1087, 1088, 1268 and 1270 were unused). Of these, two were the numbers allocated, respectively, to the topsoil and subsoil removed by machine (1000 and 1001 – see above), with the element which lay at the base of the latter, removed by hand in cleaning to identify the fills of underlying intrusions, labelled 1002. Other numbers, six in all, were given to areas where different features intersected and where further work was then needed before full stratigraphic investigation could commence (in what follows, these units are called ‘definition contexts’). In addition, 52 numbers were allocated to particular assemblages, either individual finds recovered by metal detecting during machining of topsoil, or groups of material otherwise distinguished, such as articulated faunal material from within a pit. The remaining 464 numbers label ‘true’ stratigraphic units and comprise 213 cut features (i.e. intrusions of various sorts, ranging from stake holes to large pits and ditches), and their 251 associated fills.

As a result of post-excavation analysis, the site stratigraphy was divided into 29 groups, labelled 17-45 incl. (to follow on from the groupings 1-16 defined in the BUR06 report). These groups are discussed below in their (suggested) broad chronological order: the earliest, Groups 17-21, pre-date the insertion of curvilinear enclosures on the site; Groups 22-43 belong to the latter, curvilinear phase, further divided between Enclosures 5-7 (to distinguish them from Enclosures 1-4 defined in the BUR06 report); Group 44 is topsoil covering all of the above; and Group 45 comprises material uncovered during test pitting beyond the limits of the main excavation and thus unable to be fitted into the foregoing.

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. Having described and discussed each group, 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 17 – Initial Major Ditch in East of Site

1308, 1444, 1307, 1306, 1305, 1304, 1303, 1302, 1301, 1443, 1295, 1018, 1097, 1083

1308 and 1444 together comprise a large, north-south intrusion running the full width of the site at its eastern end, cutting into the natural chalk (only the two limits of this feature were excavated completely, although its uppermost fill, 1018, makes it clear that each comprises two parts of a single entity). **1308**, exposed in a limited sondage in the south of the site, measured *3.9m east-west and had a fairly gentle, though locally irregular, side in the east, rather steep and more pronounced in the west, with a subsidiary, bowl-shaped lower intrusion at its base slightly off-centre toward its west. In total, it penetrated to a maximum of 0.84m, with a base level of 198.08m OD.* **1444**, exposed in a corresponding sondage at the northern limit of excavation, measured *4.1m across and formed a line which was bending slightly west of due north. It had an irregular west edge, stepping down to its base, but a more gradual and evenly-sloping east edge. These met at a maximum depth of 0.94m, at a level of 197.89m OD.*

In the south, 1308 was filled in its central, lowest area by *dark greyish brown silt, some sand and a little clay forming a soil matrix around some chalk gravel c.25mm across, also containing occasional flint gravel (1307).* This gravelly accumulation underlay a deposit of *dark greyish brown silt and a little sand and clay forming a soil matrix around some small, and much fewer medium, chalk fragments (1306),* again localised to the lowest part of the cut. A final deposit of *small and a few medium chalk fragments in a soil matrix of some greyish brown silt and a little sand and clay (1305)* filled the remainder of the feature. These pebbly fills, lighter at the top than the base, seem likely to comprise a combination of deliberate dumps and stone weathered from the sides of the cut.

Two small features intruded into 1305, both only seen in section. **1304**, towards its western edge, comprised a cut *0.28m across, with near vertical sides 0.50m deep coming to a sharp point at a level of 198.63m OD.* It was filled with *greyish, greeny brown sandy silt with a few medium fragments of chalk and flint fragments up to 25mm across (1303).* **1302**, at its eastern edge, was *0.26m across, with steep sides 0.40m deep and a v-shaped, but slightly blunt, profile where it met the natural chalk into which 1308 was cut, at a level of 198.68m OD.* It was filled with *greyish brown sandy silt with a little chalk gravel c.20mm across (1301).*

Given their stratigraphic position, at the surface of 1308 and inserted after it had been partially backfilled, postholes 1304 and 1302 could relate to one of the later phases of occupation in the vicinity. However, they lie near either edge of that feature, and a line joining the two runs perpendicular to its main axis. Thus it may be more likely that they relate to one stage of its usage, perhaps reinforcing the sides of this major ditch during its lifetime.

At the northern limit of excavation, cut 1444 was filled initially with a lens of *large and medium stones, plus fewer fine pebbles, in a soil matrix of some dark greyish brown clay, silt and sand (1443)* which covered the base of the feature and sloped up its sides. A deposit of *loose dark greyish brown silt, fine sand and rather less clay, forming a soil matrix around some medium-sized stones (1295)* filled the rest of the feature. These elements thus comprise probable weathering and then dumping into 1444. They contained fragments of hearth lining (sf218), and iron slag (sf146, sf331), as well as a knife (sf226), a possible punch (sf104), and fragments of lava quernstone (sf227).

The uppermost components of fill 1295 and 1305, when seen in plan, connected up to form a continuous fill across the site (designated layer **1018**). It is clear, therefore, that 1308 and 1444, taken together, are parts of a single, large intrusion running north-south across the full width of the excavation, thus measuring 4m by at least 20m (henceforth called 1308). This must represent the first major landscape division in the area, and seems to have been in use for an extended period of time, given its size, the weathering evidence in its base and, perhaps, the insertion of postholes 1302 and 1304 at its edges.

By the western edge of ditch 1444, oval-shaped cut **1097** intruded into natural chalk. *Measuring 0.60m east-west by 0.48m north-south, it had a vertical western side but more gently sloping eastern counterpart, each 0.33m deep curving to a rounded base at a level of 198.58m OD.* The intrusion was filled with *greyish brown silt, sand and less clay around an equally proportion of chalk gravel c.20mm in size (1083)*. This is too shallow for its diameter to have contained a free-standing post, but seems likely to have been an installation set against the edge of major ditch 1308, with the profile perhaps produced when the latter was removed by pulling the top towards the east.

### **Group 18 – Early Features Inserted to East of Major Ditch**

1347, 1294, 1159, 1158, 1147, 1148, 1149, 1090, 1237, 1091, 1241, 1095, 1240, 1187, 1186, 1025, 1214, 1093, 1215, 1092

In the southeast corner of the site, just east of 1308, lay an amorphous north-south feature cutting the natural chalk. **1347** was *at least 0.80m long (both ends artificial) and up to 0.70m wide (though probably comprised a channel c.0.60m wide and an area distorted by partial truncation by later intrusions to the north).* It had a steep eastern side and probably similar western counterpart, cutting to a depth of 0.25m with a slot-like base at 198.65m OD. A deposit of *greyish brown clay, less silt and less still clay forming a soil matrix around some chalk fragments, mostly below 10mm (1294)* filled the channel.

On the surface, 1347 could be traced as linear feature running just inside the eastern limit of excavation from its southern limit to a point 6.8m to the north (but *not* past this point, as natural chalk was evident here on its project line). It ran exactly parallel to major ditch 1308 (Group 17) to its west, and so seems likely to be in use at the same time as it. Given that 13476 terminates to the north c.7m into the excavated area,

it is more likely to be an addition to the main ditch, rather than, for example, a laying out feature to guide the digging of the latter.

Cut **1159** intruded into 1294, the fill of 1347, near the latter's northern extremity. Only its western portion appeared within the excavation area, where it took the form of a *semi-circular feature c.1.5m across with steep side in the west up to 0.26m deep curving gently to a flattish, locally irregular, base at a level of 198.61m OD*. It was filled with *greyish brown clay, silt and less sand containing some chalk fragments (1158)* and appears to be either a circular pit, or the western terminal of a ditch which continued to the east, beyond the limit of excavation. It contained fragments of an Anglo-Saxon antler comb (sf156).

A second intrusion, **1147**, in turn cut into fill 1158. This feature, again either a circular pit or the terminal of a linear feature, measured *at least 1.18m across (but probably not much more) and had a bowl-shaped profile with sides 0.42m deep curving in[perceptibly into its base at a level of 198.58m OD]*. It was filled with *greyish brown sand, silt and slightly less clay containing a little chalk gravel (1148)* below a lens of *chalk gravel mixed with very little silt and sand (1149)*, perhaps weathering from its sides, then *greyish brown silt, some sand and a little clay containing a little chalk gravel (1090)*. This suggests a process of backfilling alternating with abandonment and weathering.

1159 and 1147 could be seen as much later features than ditch 1347, related to occupation of the area when curvilinear enclosures 1142, 1251 etc. (below, Group 41) were in use. However, their limits to north and west correspond exactly to that of 1347. In addition, the depth and profile of 1147 certainly, and of 1159 arguably, do not resemble what one might expect of a purpose-built pit, for example to dispose of rubbish. Thus they might be better interpreted as structural in character, associated with the northern terminal of 1347. This would also explain why the two cuts are so closely related in position, despite the one clearly cutting the other.

3.4m to the south of this terminal, **1237** intruded into the natural chalk. *Roughly circular, 0.25m across, it had steep sides 0.10m deep curving gently to a bowl-shaped base at a level of 198.92m OD*. It was filled with *light greyish brown silt, less sand and even less clay forming a soil matrix around an equal proportion of chalk gravel fragments, mostly less than 100mm across, and including flecks of ?CBM (1091)*. This seems likely to constitute a post position set up in the small gap between large ditch 1308 and its smaller counterpart 1347.

To the north, north-south cut **1241** intruded into the natural chalk. The small part of it exposed had *nearly vertical sides, up to 0.18m deep, which curved to merge with a flattish base (absolute depth not recorded) and the whole could be traced for a distance of c.8.40m from the northeast corner of the excavation area, during which it seemed maintain a width of c.0.60m (partly obscured in places by the eastern limit of excavation)*. A deposit of *dark greyish brown silt, less clay and sand containing an equal proportion of chalk gravel, the majority 20mm or more in size (1095)* appeared to fill 1241 (though how much of this was actual fill is difficult to decide, as soil named 1095 was also removed over a larger area in order to understand the extend of other features and determine their stratigraphic relationships. Thus 1095 is, in part at least, a definition context – see further discussion under 1170, Group 41).

At the north east corner of the excavation, a second linear feature, **1240**, is recorded as cutting 'fill' 1095. *At least 3.2m long (merging with 1241 to the south, going beyond the l.o.e to the north, it had gently sloping sides up to 70mm deep leading to a concave base (absolute depth not recorded).* It was filled with material which could not be distinguished from later deposit 1096 (see below, Group 42).

Two interpretations of 1240 are possible. It could be a modification to the character of 1241 at this point, extending or replacing it as the earlier feature reached to north limit of the excavation. Alternatively, its stratigraphic relationship with 1095, as recorded on site, could be mistaken, and both could really be part of a single north-south ditch, at least 11.60m or more in length. Either way, there seems a strong case for relating 1240 and 1241.

Cut **1187** also intruded into 'fill 1095' at the southern limit of 1241. *Oval in shape, this measured 0.94m north-south by 0.72m east-west, and had steep sides 0.35m deep curving clearly to a flat base at a level of c.198.60m OD.* It was filled with greyish/brownish black charcoal, silt, sand, clay and chalk fragments, mostly below 10mm, in decreasing proportions, with inclusions of metal flakes, and burnt daub and sandstone (**1186**) below dark greyish brown clay, sand, silt and chalk gravel below 10mm across in decreasing proportions (**1025**). This feature was clearly used for the deposition of 'industrial' waste, including a fired clay hearth lining (sf327) and smithing slag (sf229, sf231, sf615), before 1025 was dumped into it, and a working pit could have been its primary function. However, given its position at the terminal of 1241, it is also possible that it represents a structural component at the end of that ditch.

Two circular postholes intruded into the natural chalk just to the southwest of 1187. **1214** was 0.25m across with vertical sides c.0.13m deep curving to a flat base at a level of 198.83m OD and was filled with greyish brown silt sand and clay in decreasing proportions mixed with an equal amount of chalk gravel mostly below 10mm in size (**1093**). Nearby **1215** was 0.24m across with vertical sides 0.14m deep curving to a flat base at a level of 198.95m OD. It was filled with greyish brown silt sand and clay in decreasing proportions mixed with an equal amount of chalk gravel mostly below 10mm in size (**1092**). These seem likely to be installations related to the gap between ditches 1241 and 1347.

Looked at in the round, it seems very likely that co-aligned features 1241 and 1347 were inserted with respect to main ditch 1308, running the full width of the trench and related to a landscape division to the east, beyond the limit of excavation. However, unlike that continuous main ditch, a 1.6m gap was created between these subsidiary features, allowing access into that eastern area (how this was accommodated within the main ditch is unclear, as the latter was unexcavated at this point). The intrusions 1159 and 1149 at the end of 1347, and 1187 at the end of 1241 could then be seen as part of these entrance arrangements.

### **Group 19 – Early Boundaries Inserted to West of Major Ditch**

1161, 1077, 1395, 1123, 1416, 1454, 1453, 1078



On the western side of major ditch 1308, east-west cut **1161** intruded into the natural chalk. *At least 9m long (east end cut away, west end merges with 1395 – see below), it measured 1.45m across and had initially vertical sides to a depth of 0.25m, then a flat area c0.30m across on both sides, and a subsidiary v-shaped cut ending in a narrow base to give a total depth of c.0.67m. The base of the feature fell marginally from west to east, with a lowest level in that part exposed at 198.30m OD. The cut was filled with compact chalk fragments in some light orangey brown silt and clay (1077).*

At the west end of 1161, it merged with a north-south cut, **1395**, which also cut the natural chalk. This was *at least 6.6m long (south end beyond limit of excavation) and 1.6m wide, with gently sloping sides for c.0.15m then a more vertical central portion in the west, the whole curving to a round base, giving a total depth of 0.40m. The base of the feature, where seen in limited excavation, fell gently from south to north, reaching 198.77m OD. A deposit of light greyish brown silt and some sand containing frequent medium pebbles, moderate charcoal flecks and occasional daub flecks, with a hint of pebble gravel lenses in its central, basal element (1123) filled the cut.*

There seems no doubt that 1161 and 1395 are part of the same set of ditches. Their somewhat different profile is probably a product of different weathering processes, and even 1395 embodies more than a hint of the subsidiary cut as seen in the base of 1161. More importantly, they meet in an L-junction and are both cut by the same feature (1170 in Group 41, below). Finally, if the line of 1161 is projected westwards, it is certainly not evident in in tact natural stratigraphy to the east of major ditch 1308, nor perhaps on the latter's west side (although this area is so cut about by later intrusions, it is difficult to be entirely sure).

To the north of 1161, oval, north-south cut **1416** intruded into the natural chalk. *Measuring 4.10 long by 1.75m across, it had gently sloping sides up to 0.70m deep curving to a rounded base at a level of 198.37m OD. It was filled with a mixture of silt, some sand and some chalk gravel (1454) concentrated in the base of the feature and possibly including material weathered from its sides, then loose orangey brown silt and some clay and fine sand containing occasional fine pebbles (1453), perhaps a dump to cover earlier weathering. Finally, light brown silt and a little fine sand and fine pebbles containing frequent medium chalk fragments and occasional daub flecks (1078) filled up the remainder of the feature. The character of the interface between 1453 and 1078, when seen in section, suggests that the former could have been truncated before the latter's insertion. Thus there could be a considerable difference in time between the deposition of these two 'fills' (see also discussion of 1047, 1048, 1049 – Group 21). This is supported by the recovery of both Roman pottery and Anglo-Scandinavian Torksey ware from the interface.*

It is difficult to ascribe a function or chronological position to 1416, in part because of its partial excavation, in part because no features of corresponding type were evident on the site in stratified contexts. It does, however, lie on the same alignment as 1395 to its south and in a position which would not make sense with the curvilinear enclosures later inserted in the area (see 1117 and 1138, Group 25, below). Thus it seems more likely to occur early in the overall development.

Ditches 1161/1395 themselves constitute the first topographical organisation of this part of the site, and either merged with ditch 1308 or ran up to it. In either case, it is reasonable to assume that they were in use together, something reinforced by their common alignment. The character of the profile of these new elements, in particular the vertical cut in their base, marks them out from any other features on the site and, if found in a Roman military context, would have been interpreted as a classic ‘ankle-breaker’. Could this be seen as a defended enclave, set up against the west side of a major landscape division which runs across the whole of the Burdale valley?

## **Group 20 – Early Boundaries Inserted towards Centre of Site**

1425, 1424, 1486, 1387, 1231, 1230, 1229, 1146, 1151, 1132, 1150, 1133, 1152, 1329, 1402, 1269, 1527, 1154, 1153, 1051, 1081, 1052, 1509, 1510

Towards the centre of the excavation, the earliest activity is that of cut, **1425**, the top of which was seen below later strata in a localised sondage. Perhaps *sub-circular, with sharp, regular sides (nature of base unclear)*, it was filled with *reddish/orangey brown clay, some silt and fewer pebbles (1424)*, containing Iron Age or Roman calcite gritted ware (sf743, sf764). North-south cut **1486** was recorded as intruding into the top of 1424 (see further discussion below of whether 1425 is a different cut or merely part of 1486). *At least 5.4m long (south end beyond limit of excavation, north end merging with the later 1231), it was 2.4m wide in the south and for most of its length, curving in to less than 0.50m where it met 1231. In profile, it had gently sloping, fairly regular sides up to 0.75m deep curving imperceptibly to a regular base at 198.46m OD.* 1486 was filled initially with *reddish/orangey brown clay, some silt and a little chalk pebbles between 10mm and 80mm across (1387)* containing further sherds of Iron Age or Romano-British pottery (sf772, sf821). Layer 1047 was recorded as a fill above 1387, although there is strong evidence to suggest that this was deposited at a later date – see further discussion, Group 21.

At its northern end, north-south cut **1231** appeared to intrude into fill 1047 (though see further discussion below). *At least 2m long (south end merging with fills of 1486), it was c.0.70m wide, with gently sloping, in places irregular, sides c.0.20m deep and a dish-shaped base at a level of 198.82m OD.* This was filled with *chalk pebbles between 10mm and 50mm across in some greyish brown sand and a little silt, the stone content giving the layer a mottled cream colour (1230)*, topped with a thin lens of *greyish brown silt, some sand and a few pebbles between 10mm and 40mm across (1229)*.

At its northern end, 1231 merged with east-west cut **1146**, which elsewhere intruded into the natural chalk. The latter was *9.8m long, with a rounded terminal in the west, and 0.50m wide, with steep sides up to 0.13m deep curving imperceptibly to a bowl-shaped, fairly level base at 198.06m OD.* It was filled with *dark greyish brown sand and a little silt and fine and medium chalk pebbles (1151)* containing Roman pottery (sf657, sf768). Given their size, alignment and position, there seems little doubt that 1146 and 1231 form part of a single system of subsidiary ditches associated with larger ditch 1486 (the whole henceforth referred to simply as ditch 1486).

Two cuts intruded into the natural chalk south of 1146. **1132** was *roughly circular, 0.25m across, with shallow sides up to 70mm deep curving to a base at 199.13m OD*. It was filled with *greyish brown small and medium chalk pebbles and one large stone in a soil matrix of a little sand and even less silt (1150)*. **1133** was *sub-square, c.0.20m across, with steep sides 90mm deep and a flattish base at a level of 199.11m OD*. It was filled with *fine chalk pebbles and fewer medium pebbles set in a dark greyish brown soil matrix of some sand and a little silt (1152)* with some Roman pottery (sf692, sf763).

Given their stratigraphic position, these two postholes could relate to later structural activity to the west (see Group 38, below). However, they would not fit clearly with the sub-rectangular structure suggested in that area. In addition, a line drawn between the two runs parallel to ditch 1146, off-set 1.2m to its south. Thus they might be better interpreted as a fence line associated with this earlier ditch.

Rather more tenuously, three circular cuts, only the second of which was excavated, were visible intruding into the natural chalk. **1329** was *0.32m across* and lay near the western terminal of ditch 1146. C.1m to the south, **1402** measured *0.27m across and had sloping sides 70mm deep with a clear break to a flattish base at a level of 199.15m OD*. It was filled with *greyish brown sand, some silt and a little fine pebbles, plus moderate medium pebbles (1269)*. Finally **1527**, some 1.6m to the southeast and due south of 1133, was *0.25m across*.

All of these elements could be related to the structure to the west described under Group 38. The position of 1329 however, near the western terminal of ditch 1146, might suggest that the two are associated. 1402 lies in a line south of 1302 perpendicular to that of the ditch (though not at the point where the projected line 1132/1133 would meet this), whilst 1527 lies due south of 1133, again perpendicular to ditch 1146. Thus there is some slight evidence to relate these post positions to the early occupation of the area, rather than later.

Beside the north-south ditch 1486, two further cuts intruded into natural chalk, to be sealed only by topsoil. **1154** was *oval, 0.45m north-south by 0.36m east-west, with steep, regular sides 0.15m deep curving to a flat base at a level of 198.93m OD*. It was filled initially with *fine chalk pebbles in a loose soil matrix of some dark brownish grey silt and a little sand, the stone content giving a mottled cream appearance (1153)*, capped with a lens of *dark brownish grey silt and some sand containing occasional pebbles less than 20mm across (1051)*. This suggests weathering/robbing associated with 1153, thus disturbing the natural chalk, then a plug of less pebbly soil to fill the feature in the form of 1051. **1081** was an amorphous feature *measuring c.60m in length and 0.50m across, with irregular shallow sides only 80mm deep and a flattish base at a level of 198.96*. It was filled with *greyish brown sand and less silt forming a loose soil matrix around some fine pebbles (1052)*. 1081 and 1154 clearly represent some form of minor installation, though not simply postholes given their character and depth. If they relate to any other activities in the vicinity, this is most likely to be linked to the insertion or use of major linear feature 1486.

Finally, just north of the above pair of intrusions, unexcavated **1509** and **1510**, evident only as dark discolourations of the natural chalk, are both *circular and c.0.20m*,

perhaps representing further postholes sealed only by topsoil. Their position in plan might suggest a link to 1081/1154 and/or to the possible fence line 1132/1133 to their west.

Overall, feature 1486 clearly represents a major division of the southern part of the site towards its centre. In the character of its initial backfill, this new insertion resembles 1416 (Group 19: the colour and clay content of both fills 1387 and 1453 mark them out from other fills in the vicinity), with which it runs parallel. In addition, 1486 aligns with 1395 (also Group 19) and with major ditch 1308 beyond (Group 17). Thus there is good reason to believe that all of these major elements were set out at the same time. If the base of 1486 was as irregular and inconsistent as that of the other large ditch, it would raise the issue of whether 'cut' 1425, seen in only a limited way at its base, was really a different feature, or simply asymmetrical aspects of a single entity. There is no way to decide this question without more extensive excavation.

### **Group 21 – Early Pits on Western and Southern Edges of Excavation**

1322, 1354, 1353, 1203, 1299, 1238, 1217, 1011, 1379, 1223, 1028, 1432, 1216, 1137, 1075, 1290, 1291, 1292, 1385, 1120, 1293, 1222, 1046, 1049, 1047, 1048

The seven intrusions which form this group represent an early use of the western half of the site. Each fell only partially within the exposed area, making the interpretation of their function difficult. In addition, some have a considerable degree of stratigraphic latitude, so there is no guarantee that all are even broadly contemporary. However, some at least post-date the creation of north-south boundary 1486 near the centre of the site.

In the north-west corner of the excavation, oval cut **1322** intruded into the natural chalk, of which only the eastern half was excavated *Measuring 2.10m north-south by c.1.8m east west, the excavated element had steep sides c.1.0m deep, with a pronounced break between side and base in south, less so in north, and a flattish, slightly scooped, base at 198.30mOD.* 1322 was filled with *greyish brown clayey silty loam and some chalk fragments (1354)* below a *0.15m thick lens of loose fine chalk fragments in some light greyish brown silty loam (1353)*, either weathered from the sides of the pit or, more likely given its profile, dumped to cover the more silty initial fill. A deposit of *brown silty clay loam and a little chalk and flint fragments also containing frequent charcoal flecks and moderate larger chalk fragments, though with much fewer inclusions towards its base (1203)* filled the remainder of the pit, seemingly representing a secondary use of the feature for rubbish disposal. This contained an Anglo-Saxon bone comb fragment (sf196).

Given its partial exposure and the non-descript character of its fills, this pit is difficult to interpret. It clearly antedates the initial definition of any curvilinear enclosures in the vicinity (see cut 1321, below: Group 23) and thus is likely to fall early within the sequence of activity here. Its filling also involves two distinct phases of activity, either side of the deposition/accumulation of chalk gravel 1353.

To the south, near the south-west corner of the excavation, probably circular pit **1299** intruded into the natural chalk, of which only the northern half fell within the area investigated. *Seeming to measure 2.2m across, it had steep sides up to 0.90m deep curving to a flat, slightly scooped base at a level of 198.42m OD.* Its lowest fill comprised a profusion of small ( $\leq 20\text{mm}$ ) and some larger chalk fragments set in some greyish brown clay loam (**1238**) with Roman pottery (sf639, sf745). A profusion of partially articulated large animal bones (**1217**) lay towards the surface of 1299, comprising at least four skulls, three vertebrae and several lower limbs. A deposit of light greyish/greenish brown clay loam and some silt containing moderate small and occasional larger chalk fragments, and occasional flint fragments and charcoal flecks, the top 0.20m of which was lighter in colour and more gravelly (**1011**) filled up the remainder of the pit.

The character of these pit fills mark this feature out from the rest of the site, and suggest an original function for disposal of specialist butchering waste, certainly towards the end of this primary phase of backfilling (bones 1217 were concentrated towards the surface of 1238). The subsequent fill 1011 is also quite different in colour from all other pits in the vicinity, and might suggest a secondary function as a cess pit. 1299 is thus different in kind from any other intrusions and, although essentially unstratified, seems likely to relate either to the early use of the area or to a time after all other landscape features had fallen out of use.

10m to the east of 1299, also at the southern limit of excavation, circular cut **1379** intruded into the natural chalk, of which only the northern half could be excavated. *Seemingly c.2.1m across, it had gently sloping sides to a depth of 0.30m, with a marked break and then undercutting for a further 0.40m depth before curving gently, but irregularly, to its base at a depth of 0.95m, at a level of 198.25m OD.* An initial layer of light greyish brown sand, some clay and a little medium stones with occasional fine pebbles, in some places suggesting lensing (**1223**) filled the pit up to the level of its undercut sides, and implied that weathering of the latter had taken place after its deposition. Dark greyish brown loose sand and less silt forming a matrix around some medium and fewer fine stones (**1028**) completed the backfilling of the feature, presumably after a gap in time for the weathering of its sides to occur. It contained sherds of Iron Age or Roman pottery (sf736, sf769, sf807).

1379 is difficult to interpret, in that only half of it fell within the excavated area and the fills it contained gave no clue as to its primary function. What seems certain is that, after that initial usage, the feature remained open for some time whilst 1223 accumulated and its sides weathered, to create the undercut profile of the pit. 1028 was then dumped to level over the position of the earlier intrusion.

6m east of 1379, pit **1432** also intruded into the natural chalk, of which only the northern half lay within the limit of excavation. *Measuring 2.8m east-west by at least 3m north-south, it had an irregular northern edge and eastern side, more regular in the west, and was 0.70m deep, with a gentle break in slope to its undulating base at a level of 198.58m OD.* Its lowest fill comprised dark greyish brown sand, pebbles 10-30mm across and some silt (**1216**), which swept up at the sides of the feature and may be related in part to its primary use or to weathering just after this. This feature's irregular shape and profile suggest that it did not have a disposal or working function. It could have been dug for the extraction of natural chalk, when irregularity would not

matter, although in this case its limited depth and the amount of chalk gravel left in its lower fill seems surprising.

Between pits 1379 and 1432, also cutting natural chalk, lay cut **1137**. *an irregular sub-oval, measuring 0.45m north-south by 0.40m east-west, it had gently sloping sides 0.10m deep and a flattish base at a level of 199.03m OD and was filled with loose greyish brown sand and a littler silt containing some fine and less medium pebbles (1075)*. The nature and size of 1137 suggest it is not a post hole and it may simply represent plough damage, given its limited depth. However, given its proximity to the pits, it is also possible that it is an installation related to their usage.

Just south of 1425 lay a complex of three cuts, all intruding into 1387, the initial fill of ditch 1486 (Group 20). **1290**, lying mostly beyond the southern limit of excavation, was *at least 1.70m across east-west and had a near vertical northern side with a clear break in slope at a depth of 0.77m to a flat, regular base at a level of 198.29m OD*. **1291** to the north of 1290 was *rather less regular, being roughly sub-square and 1.40m across, with nearly vertical sides in east and north, irregular and more gentle in the west, 0.75m deep and a flat base at a level of 198.36m OD*. **1292** lay west of the junction between 1290 and 1291 and comprised a *sub-circular intrusion 0.50m east-west by at least 0.60m north-south (southern end beyond limit of excavation) with generally steep sides, slightly less so in the north, 0.60m deep falling to a flattish base at a level of 198.47m OD*.

Distinct spurs at the junctions between 1290 and 1291 suggest that they were not dug an exactly the same time, although which came first could not be decided. Equally, the relationship between these two and 1292 remained unclear. All three components, however, were filled with a deposit of *greyish brown sand and less silt forming a matrix around chalk pebbles, the high proportion of the latter giving the whole a cream-coloured mottling, containing occasional charcoal flecks (1385)*. This deposit lay across the base, and ran up the sides, of each cut, and may represent weathering of their sides. It was covered with a dump of *dark brownish grey silt, some sand and a little chalk pebbling between 10 and 40mm in size (1120)*.

The intercutting, irregular nature of these features and their common backfilling might suggest that all were part of a similar process, most obviously the quarrying of natural chalk in the vicinity, where only rough intrusions would be necessary. Clearly they were inserted after the creation of boundary ditch 1486, and after some fill had accumulated within it. However, if north-south ditch 1231 is properly interpreted as a later reinforcing of this original line (see discussion, Group 20), it is interesting that 1290/1292 lie just east of this line, and pit 1432 just to its west. Thus these features would be best interpreted as being dug after the divisions were in place, but still in use.

A final feature lay immediately east of 1290/1291. **1293** measured *0.85m east-west by at least 1.20m north-south (southern limit beyond limit of excavation), and had vertical sides 0.80m deep with a sharp edge to a flat base at 198.57m OD*. *In this base, to the south, lay a subsidiary, also vertically sided element cutting to a depth of 198.41m OD*. This feature was filled initially with a deposit of *greyish brown sand and a little slit forming a matrix around chalk pebbles giving it a cream-coloured, mottled appearance (1222)*. This component filled the entire lower, subsidiary cut and flowed up the sides of the rest of the feature, being sealed here with *dark greyish*

*brown silt and fine sand plus a little medium pebbles and moderate fine pebbles (1046).* A fragment of bone Anglo-Saxon comb (sf150) was recovered from this layer. An area of reddish clay within 1046 near the centre of the cut could be evidence of an ephemeral hearth inserted in the course of the backfilling process in a convenient hollow, or such material from elsewhere simply thrown into it after its demise. Either way, it has little to do with the primary functioning of the feature.

The profile of 1293, especially in terms of the subsidiary cut at its base, suggests a process of cutting spits into the natural chalk in a quarrying operation, with the high chalk content of 1222, as with fill 1385 in the base of 1290 *et al.*, representing material disturbed in the process but not actually removed for use elsewhere. 1046, as with 1120, would then represent a tidying of the area, though perhaps here with some short-term hearth usage during the latter process.

In similar vein, a deposit of *dark brownish grey silt and some sand containing occasional fine and medium pebbles and a profusion of charcoal flecks towards its base, plus a number of larger, irregularly-placed stones (1049)* overlay the primary fill/weathering of pit 1432. Although the large stones had no clear function, they suggest, together with its high cultural content, the deposition of rubbish into a convenient feature at the end of its useful life, perhaps after a gap in time. A bone pin or needle (sf151) was recovered from 1049. By the same token, a layer of *dark greyish brown sand, pebbles, and less silt (1047)* overlay dump 1387, the initial fill of large north-south ditch 1486 (Group 20). When viewed in section, the interface between 1387 and 1047 suggested an intervening truncation, and thus that there may be a considerable time gap between the deposition of each component, perhaps when 1387 had consolidated to a lower level. A final layer of *greyish brown sand, some silt and fewer pebbles between 10mm and 40mm across (1048)* not only overlay 1049 within pit 1432 but continued east to overlap 1047.

It thus seems likely that the three deposits 1049, 1047 and 1048 are connected as a single event, inserted above pit 1432 and ditch 1486 when the area was being tidied up to allow for further development. In this, they may well be contemporary with 1120 dumped above pits 1290 *et al.* and 1046 above pit 1293. All of this process could have happened well after the first usage, and indeed demise, of those features.

## **Group 22 – Evidence for Early Curvilinear Enclosure and Pits in NW of Site**

1206, 1208, 1508, 1355, 1279, 1445, 1364, 1286, 1448, 1363, 1447, 1446

In the northwest corner of the excavation, three unexcavated intrusions were identified as features cutting the natural chalk on the basis of the latter's discolouration by dark soil. **1206** *ran north south and at least 1.8m long (north end truncated) and c.1.2m wide, with a bulbous terminal in the south.* To its east, its fill merged with **1208**, *a perpendicular feature at least 3.8m long (east end cut away) and up to 0.20m wide.* **1508** *was an amorphous area c1m east-west by 0.70m north-south.*

1058 lay at a point which suggests it represents the eastern end of 1208, whilst the line of these two elements ran perpendicular to 1206, with which 1208 seemed to merge. On this basis, there seems good reason to link the three together. In addition,

1206 was clearly cut by 1461, associated with the laying out of the first definite curvilinear enclosure in the vicinity (below, Group 23) and, if the link between 1208 and 1508 is correctly interpreted, they would seem to be cut by 1190, also associated with the first curvilinear enclosure just to the south of 1461 (below, Group 23).

To the east, north-south cut **1355** intruded into the natural chalk. *At least 1.2m long (north end cut away), it was c.035m wide, with a bulbous terminal in the south curving to the east and step sides 0.18m deep curving gently to its flattish base at 199.06m OD.* It was filled with *dark greyish brown sand and a little silt and fine pebbles, also containing moderate medium pebbles (1279).* 1355 was, like 1206, cut by ditch 1461, and resembles 1206 in alignment and southern limit. Thus it seems reasonable to suppose that it was broadly contemporary with 1208, whose projected line runs to its north. All four elements must pre-date the creation of the first proven curvilinear ditches yet, in character and position, seem to relate more closely to them than other early features, comprising large ditches set out perpendicular to each other, to the south and east (Groups 18-20). Thus they are more likely to represent a forerunner of the curvilinear systems to be described below than a counterpart of the earlier rectilinear systems described thus far.

To the east of 1355, cut **1445** was seen only below later intrusions as *a north-south edge 0.55m long, which was cut away to the south and continued beneath the north limit of excavation.* It seems to have been filled with *soft brown sand, and little silt and fine pebbles, with occasional medium pebbles (1364,* also labelled **1286** when seen at the base of a sondage elsewhere – although the distinction between what constituted the fill proper of 1445 and which the content of later features in the area, notably linear curvilinear features 1460/1461/1374 was by no means clear here).

Two successive pits appeared to intrude into the fill of 1445. **1448** was *perhaps sub-circular, c.0.80m across, with shallowly-sloping sides at least 0.10m deep (not bottomed but probably not much more than 0.20m deep).* It was filled with *dark greyish brown sand and a little silt, small and medium pebbles and a large stone block (1363)* and was seemingly cut by **1447**, *a sub-rectangular feature perhaps 0.95m east-west by at least 1m north-south (cut away in both directions) with sloping sides* and filled with *very soft greyish brown sand and a little silt and fine pebbles (1446).*

The interpretation of these features is entirely unclear. 1445 could be a fragment of pit or linear ditch, whilst the later 1448 and 1447 could be two pits, or essentially part of a single feature. Either way, 1445 is cut by 1460, the first proven curvilinear feature in the area, whilst 1447 is cut by 1374, also part of the latter development. Thus all of the three early cuts must relate to previous usage of the area. This could have taken place either when the pits etc. described under Group 21 were being used elsewhere on the site, or when curvilinear features 1208 *et al.* were inserted just to the west.

### **Group 23 – Creating the Boundary between Curvilinear Enclosures 5 and 6**

1321, 1204, 1461, 1376, 1377, 1384, 1383, 1281, 1460, 1280, 1207, 1190, 1014, 1526, 1191, 1099, 1511



Towards the northwest limits of the site, an east-west trench was laid out. Its mainly unexcavated, westernmost portion, **1321**, cut into 1203, the uppermost fill of pit 1322 (Group 21) and was *c.0.55m across and seemed to have shallow sides up to 0.15m deep curving gently to its scoop-shaped base*. It was filled with *greyish brown sandy, silty loam containing some chalk and much less flint fragments up to 60mm across (most between this and 20mm)* (**1204**).

Further west, **1461** cut into ditch 1206 and into 1279, the fill of ditch 1355 (both Group 22). This was *at least 0.45m across where securely defined (nature of northern limit very unclear) with a curving southern edge at least 0.20m deep (limited excavation means that the nature and level of its base are obscure, though latter must be below 198.96m OD)*. It was filled with *greyish brown sand and a little silt and medium sized stones* (**1376**), then *dark brown sand and a little silt and variously-sized stones* (**1377** – whether this deposit is all the fill of 1461 or, when drawn in section and seen in plan, also part of an overlying, sealing soil layer is unclear. Thus finds from 1377 could include material derived from the work of ‘stratigraphic definition’, an interpretation supported by the fact that a sherd of Torksey type ware (sf714) was recovered from it).

**1384** cut into fill 1376. *Oval in shape and 0.45m wide by at least 0.35 m long, it had a steep side in the north, near vertical in the south, up to 0.40m deep, curving to slightly rounded base at a level of 198.76m OD*. It was filled with *four flint packing stones, three towards its base and one in the north* (**1383**), then *dark brown sand, some silt and a little fine pebbles, also containing frequent medium pebbles* (**1281**). It seem bets interpreted as an installation set up against ditch 1461 to reinforce its line.

Further east, the southern edge of an east-west feature, **1460**, was evident cutting into 1364/1286, the fill of early pit-linear 1445 (Group 22). Here it had *a steep, regular side at least 0.25m deep (not bottomed) and a base below 198.92m OD* and was filled with *greyish brown sand and a little silt and clay containing moderate medium and small stones* (**1280**).

Despite the differences between the character of their fills, more stony to west than further east, their position and alignment make it clear that 1321, 1461 and 1460 form a single feature, of which only the southern edge could be defined with certainty. Taken in conjunction with evidence of truncation of natural chalk further west beyond pit 1322, and further east beyond earlier cuts 1445 and 1448, this implies a long, shallow feature, at least 20.8m long, c.0.50m deep and perhaps up to 0.35m deep. It forms a major boundary in this corner of the site (hereafter ditch 1321), set out after an early pit belonging to Group 21, and after the proposed curvilinear features of Group 22.

**1207**, an unexcavated, north-south division north of 1321 cut into natural chalk and suggested a feature *0.65m wide and at least 0.95m long (both ends obscured)*. This presumed ditch did not seem evident in in tact natural strata on the south side of 1321 (although the area is very confused here with the insertion of 1206 (Group 22) and 1190 (see next). Thus it is likely to have stopped up against pre-existing ditch 1321, or to have been laid out at the same time as it.

To the south of this new division 1312, and running perpendicular to it, lay **1190**, intruding into natural chalk. *At least 13.4m long (both ends cut away), it was a regular c.0.45m wide throughout its length, with sloping sides c. 0.16m deep along its whole length curving to a bowl-shaped base. Levels along that base suggest that it dropped gently from south to north, whilst local deeper areas might imply installations into it (e.g. post positions), as does a possible post hole incorporated into its east side.* This ditch was filled with dark reddish/grey brown silty clay loam containing a few fragments of medium and fine chalk fragments and even fewer large flint fragments (**1014**). Just east of the line of 1190, an unexcavated circular post hole, **1526**, intruded into the natural chalk. *C. 0.50m cross*, its position suggests that it represents an installation associated with that linear division (although see further discussion under Group 38)

Although the relationship between ditches 1190 and 1321 could not be clearly identified, their fills merging in the north, the former was not evident on its alignment to the north of the latter. It seems that the two were set out, then, at the same time. As a result, this western part of the site was divided between separate enclosures (named Enclosure 5 in the west, Enclosure 6 towards the site's centre). The shallow character and limited width of these features suggest, however, that they merely marked out such boundaries: other, more substantial ditches had to be added to augment this arrangement.

Just to the west of 1190, parallel north-south feature **1191** intruded into the natural chalk. *1m wide and at least 4.6m long, it had a rounded, butt end to the north and perhaps something similar to the south (see 1511 below for further discussion of southern limit), with gently sloping sides c.0.35m deep and a rounded base at 198.89m OD.* A deposit of silt clay loam forming a soil matrix around some medium and fewer fine chalk fragments (**1099**) filled 1191. On its projected line south of 1191, a small length of cut **1511** was seen in a small sondage intruding into natural chalk. *At least 0.60m long (neither end evident), it was 0.50m wide with steep sides and a flat base at 199.09m OD.*

Although the character of these two intrusions are quite different, and 1191 appears to have a southern terminal in the west which just survives later truncation, the position of 1511 implies, at least, that a narrower counterpart to it was inserted beside 1190 to the south, or even that a shallower aspect of 1191 continued towards the south of the site. Taken together, these elements imply that parallel ditches were set up inside definition gully 1190, at a point where features 1319/1263 and 1414/1189 were then inserted (Group 24). They therefore prefigure those access arrangements, suggesting that it was planned as part of the laying out of the boundary between Enclosure 5 and Enclosure 6.

#### **Group 24 – Creating Access between Enclosures 5 and 6**

1414, 1258, 1263, 1262, 1261, 1260, 1319, 1378, 1257, 1256, 1189, 1012

The northern terminal of a north-south ditch, **1414**, was evident in a limited sondage cutting into 1014, the fill of ditch 1190 (Group 23) towards the latter's southern end. The semi-circular element seen suggested a feature *1.2m wide and at least 0.85m long*,

*with a gently curving northern limit and sloping sides at least 0.55m deep (probably deeper to the south, beyond the limit of excavation) curving imperceptibly to a rounded based at a level of 198.56m OD. It was filled with greyish brown silty loam (1258) containing a little fine, medium, and even less large, chalk fragments from which an iron blade was recovered (sf286).*

Due south of 1414, near the southern limit of excavation, north-south cut **1263** intruded into the natural chalk. *1.1m across and at least 1.2m long (neither end visible), it had a fairly steep western edge (probably the same in east – mainly cut away) up to 0.55m deep curving gently to a flattish base at a level of 198.64m OD. It was filled with dark greyish brown silty loam forming a soil matrix around some fine chalk and flint gravel (1262).* 1414 and 1263 must have connected to make a single feature, reinforcing the line of original gully 1190 to form a major curvilinear ditch which continued beyond the limit of excavation in the south.

Another north-south feature, **1261**, was evident in the south of the trench cutting into fill 1262. *c.1m across and at least 1.2m long (neither end visible), it had fairly steep sides 0.33m deep curving imperceptibly to flat base at a level of 198.86m OD and was filled with dark greyish brown silty loam and some inclusions of fine chalk pebbles and fewer larger chalk and flint fragments, also containing occasional charcoal flecks (1260).* Its character and position suggests that it represents a recutting of the line of 1263 slightly to the west. No such alteration was evident in 1414 at the northern end of this ditch, so any changes did not affect its position at the proposed access between Enclosures 5 and 6.

North-south cut **1319**, intruding into ditch 1511 (Group 23), lay immediately west of 1419 and similarly comprised the northern butt end of a major feature. *1.4m across and at least 0.50m long (southern limit not seen), it had gradually sloping sides over 0.70m deep (may have deepened further to south) and a scooped base at a level of 198.43m OD. It was filled with greyish brown silty clay loam forming a soil matrix around some fine chalk pebbles with a few larger fragments (1378), perhaps weathering from the sides of the feature, then blackish brown silty loam containing frequent flecks and lenses of charcoal, moderate fine chalk pebbles and occasional larger chalk fragments (1257).* This deposit, probably a dump of occupation debris from elsewhere, was confined to the lower, central portion of the cut. *Greyish brown silty clay loam containing a few chalk fragments up to 60mm across (1256)* overlay 1257 to complete the backfill process.

Due south of 1319, co-aligned north-south cut **1189** intruded into the natural chalk beside the limit of excavation. *1.7m wide and at least 1.2m long (neither end visible), it had steep sides, especially in the west, with a depth of 0.45m, curving gently to a scoop-shaped base at a level of 198.83m OD. It was filled with a dark greyish brown mixture of fine sand and silt and fewer pebbles, mostly 6-60mm in size (1012).* It is clear that 1319/1189 form a second major curvilinear ditch set adjacent to 1414/1263, with a common northern termination. The relationship between the two elements could not be securely determined. In section, the fill of recut 1261 merged with that of 1189. It is possible, therefore, that the western elements 1319/1189 were added to the pre-existing 1263 when 1261 was created, rather than from the start. That said, the fills of 1261 and 1189 mark their demise, not original functioning, so really suggest merely that the two fell out of use at about the same time.

Whatever the exact chronology, the gap of c.2m between both 1319 and 1414 and the southern limit of slot 1191 (Group 23) created an entrance across the line of setting out gully 1190. This access point, presaged in the original positioning of 1191, then seems to have remained in use, in its various forms, for an extended period of time.

### **Group 25 – Creating the Boundary between Curvilinear Enclosures 6 and 7**

1138, 1042, 1178, 1177, 1043, 1160, 1039, 1117, 1038, 1372, 1045, 1373, 1044

To the east of the site, north-south feature **1138** cut into the natural chalk. *At least 8m long (northern end beyond the limit of excavation), it was 0.40m across, with a rounded end in the south, and vertical sides 0.16m deep, with a sharp break to its level base. In the only excavated section, at its southern terminal, it reached a level of 198.80m OD. The feature was filled with loose dark greyish brown silt and some fine sand containing moderate fine pebbles and occasional charcoal flecks (1042).* This forms a major division between the central and eastern parts of the site in the north.

Oval, north-south cut **1178** intruded into the natural chalk just west of the southern terminal of 1138. *2.10m long and 0.90m wide with gently curving southern terminal (northern counterpart unexcavated), it had steep sides 0.50m wide curving to a flat base at a level of 198.50m OD. The cut was filled initially with compact brownish black silt, some clay and chalk gravel (1177), its position at the sides and base of the cut suggesting weathering from the sides of the feature, but perhaps discoloured by another process, then a fill of light greyish brown silt and sand containing frequent fine pebbles and occasional larger angular cobbles up to 0.23m across (1043).* The common southern limits of 1138 and 1178 imply that they are contemporary, and that the latter was probably part of the entrance arrangements between the former and 1117, its counterpart to the south.

Well to the south of 1138 and 1178, east-west feature **1160** cut into the natural chalk. *At least 1.60m long (west end cut away) and 0.50m wide, ending in a rounded terminal in the east, it had a sloping south side only 80mm deep (other unexcavated) and a flattish base at a level of 198.96m OD. The feature was filled with loose, light greyish brown silt and some fine sand containing frequent fine pebbles (1039).*

A major north-south feature, **1117**, cut into 1039 at the west end of 1160, also intruding into 1077, the fill of early east-west boundary 1161, and into 1078, the uppermost fill of cut 1416 (both Group 19). *At least 11m long (south end beyond the limit of excavation), it measured a regular 0.40-0.50m in width throughout its length and had a curved, shallow terminal in the north and a distinct curve to the west as it approached the southern limit of excavation. Its sides, always steep and occasionally vertical, were locally irregular and between 0.20 and 0.25m deep, with a curving base dropping gradually from a height of 198.98m OD towards the south down to 198.64m OD at its northern terminal. It was filled with loose, dark brown fine sand and some silt containing occasional fine pebbles and charcoal flecks (1038).*

Given the position, alignment, dimensions and character of 1117, there seems little doubt that it was inserted at the same time as 1138 to its north, the 2.2m gap between them allowing access across their newly-created line. This new boundary cuts through, and entirely ignores, rectilinear divisions 1161/1375 (Group 19) and so clearly marks their demise, and probably, by implication, that of major ditch 1308 (Group 17) and the associated features (Group 18) to its east, and of major ditch 1486 (Group 20) to the west. Exactly how pre-existing linear feature 1160 fits into this process is unclear. Its alignment is not that of 1161/1375 and, in character, it resembles more 1117. Also it clearly did not continue west of the latter. It therefore seems best interpreted as an early part of the new arrangements.

To the west of 1117, near the southern limit of excavation, two adjacent features intruded into the natural chalk, with a common element towards the southeast (although they seem unlikely to be exactly contemporary, no relationship could be defined between them). **1372** ran *east west in the west, before curving south, and was at least 2m long before becoming indistinguishable from 1373 and 0.40m wide. It had vertical sides up to 40mm deep* and was filled with *dark brownish grey silt and some sand* (**1045**). **1373** ran *more northwest-southeast, and was at least 1.7m long before becoming indistinguishable from 1372 and 0.40m wide. It had vertical sides up to 50mm deep* and was filled with *dark brownish grey silt and some sand* (**1044**). When the two had joined, they were shown to have *an irregular base, perhaps with a post-position near their junction, at a level of 198.73m OD*. There is a hint that something on the same line as this may have continued to the southern excavation baulk. The interpretation of 1372/1373 is difficult, given their shallow depth. However, their position would match that of the apparent curve of 1117, if the latter was continued west. Thus they may represent the western terminal of that gully, in turn implying that 1117 and 1138 were part of a new, curvilinear organisation of space on the site.

The creation of these new elements is best seen as dividing the central area, Enclosure 6 (see Group 22, above), from an eastern counterpart, here designated Enclosure 7. Ditch 1321 would then become the northern limit to Enclosures 5 and 6, with perhaps the curving line of 1117/1372 a southern limit of 6 (which might therefore measure about 28m east to west, and 20m north to south). Whatever the detailed dimensions and relationships, these three new zones remained prominent thereafter in nearly all activity within site, marking the move from rectilinear to curvilinear spatial organisation. After this point, occupation on the site took different forms in different parts of the site, and is thus discussed below sequentially from west to east, i.e. in relation to Enclosures 5, 6 and 7 in turn.

### **Group 26 – Reinforcing Access Arrangements between Enclosures 5 and 6**

1429, 1357, 1356, 1359, 1358, 1224, 1164, 1227, 1465, 1464, 1015, 1317, 1264

To the east of the access point between Enclosures 5 and 6, east-west cut **1429** intruded into fill 1014 at the eastern edge of its associated cut, curvilinear gully 1190 (Group 23). *0.90m wide and traceable east for a distance of almost 4m before being cut away by later features, it had a bulbous western terminal, with shallow, very gradually sloping sides only 0.10m deep changing imperceptibly to a slightly v-*

*shaped, locally irregular base at a level of 199.14m OD. Two postholes were evident in the base of 1429 at its west end. 1357 was circular, 0.25m across, with steep sides 80mm deep and a base at a level of 198.08m OD. It was filled with greyish brown silty loam containing occasional fine chalk pebbles (1356). Adjacent 1359 was oval, northwest-southeast, and 0.25m long by 0.15m wide, with very steep sides 0.18m deep and a rounded, but still pointed, base at a level of 199.04m OD. It was filled with greyish brown silty loam containing occasional fine chalk pebbles (1358). Finally, a layer of greyish brown sand and a little silt and variously-sized stones (1224) covered both of these fills, and the rest of cut 1429 elsewhere.*

To the east, a second east-west cut, **1164**, intruded into the natural chalk. *0.75m wide and at least 0.90m long (cut away to the west), it had a bulbous western terminal and shallow, near vertical, sides 50mm deep curving gently to a flattish base at a level of 199.15m OD. The cut was filled with greyish brown sand and a little silt and medium-sized stones, containing occasional fine pebbles (1227). Towards the east, fill 1227 was cut by sub-circular intrusion 1465. This was c0.90m across and 0.40m deep with a basal level of 198.86m OD (not fully excavated, so nature of sides and base unclear) and filled with soft, dark brown sand, some silt and a little clay (1464).*

There can be no doubt that 1164 and 1429 form part of a single, very shallow slot-like feature, 6m in length and c.0.80m wide. It clearly obeys the line of pre-existing gully 1190 in the west, with the postholes 1357 and 1359 presumably representing structural elements to allow it to link with that division. By the same token, the larger post position 1465 at its eastern end would have formed a component of its termination in that direction.

To the west, within Enclosure 5, unexcavated east-west cut **1015** intruded into the natural chalk. Although truncated at both ends, what survived implies a feature *0.50m wide and at least 2m long. Although narrower than 1429/1164, it co-aligns with them and seems likely to be a western counterpart: the shallow depth of the former cuts means that any truncation in this western area would have had a great impact on the shape of an equivalent feature here). Sub-oval cut 1317 intruded into fill 1099 at the south end of slot 1191 (Group 23). 0.90m long and 0.50m wide, it had gradually sloping sides c.0.25m deep and a generally flat, locally irregular, base at a level of 198.85m OD and was filled with dark greyish brown silty clay loam containing moderate fine chalk pebbles and occasional charcoal flecks and larger chalk blocks (1264). 1317 is positioned at such a point as to imply a role in integrating the east end of 1015 with the south end of 1191.*

Taken together, these features imply that the northern side of the access point between Enclosures 5 and 6 included not just a simple fence line to either side, but structural components, perhaps in the form of a gateway/porch way, which continued for some distance on either side of the line of gully 1190: 6m into Enclosure 6, perhaps 4m into Enclosure 5.

## **Group 27 – Altered Access to the West of Enclosure 6**

1463, 1462, 1226, 1468, 1467, 1297, 1296, 1267, 1225, 1032, 1228, 1145, 1031

In the entrance area in the west of Enclosure 6, circular feature **1463** was cut into 1464, the fill of post position 1465 (Group 26). *1.35m across, it had near vertical sides at least 0.25m deep seeming to curve in towards its possible base (not bottomed) and was filled with soft, blackish brown sand, some silt and a little clay containing moderate fine pebbles (1462 – only reached in plan, not excavated), then greyish brown sand, some silt and a little clay containing moderate medium and occasional large stones and fine pebbles (1226).*

Unexcavated circular cut **1468** intruded into the south edge of fill 1226. *c.0.30m across, it was filled with dark greyish brown soil (1467) and must represent an installation related to the sue of 1463. The latter is itself best interpreted as a replacement for post position 1465, implying that the east end of the entrance arrangements giving access into Enclosure 5 to the west were amended at this point.*

Just to the west, another circular intrusion, **1297**, cut into the edge of fill 1226, also cutting fill 1224 in cut 1429 (Group 26). *1.2m across, it had vertical sides 0.58m deep, which then curve towards its narrow base at a level of 198.63m OD. It was filled initially with dark greyish brown sand and a little silt and medium-sized stones, also containing occasional fine pebbles and one large stone (1296), concentrated in the base of the feature, then brownish black silt and some sand and a little stones in various sizes plus frequent charcoal flecks (1267), this heavy charcoal content serving to distinguish it from the fills above and below, capped with dark greyish brown sand, some silt and fewer large stones, containing occasional medium and fine pebbles (1225) and Iron Age or Roman pottery (sf505, sf726, sf788, sf803, sf814). A more general spread of greyish brown sand and a little medium stone and silt containing moderate medium pebbles and two large stones (1032) sealed not only 1225 but also post hole fill 1467 to the east. This contained a sherd of Anglo-Scandinavian York type ware (sf783). A nearby, unexcavated circular feature cutting natural chalk, **1228**, *c.0.20m across*, suggests a post position related to the insertion of 1297, in the same way as 1468 flanked 1463. Overall, these suggest that the terminal of early feature 1425/1164 was modified a second time at this stage, in turn implying that access arrangements between Enclosures 5 and 6 were in use for an extended period of time.*

Finally, to the south of all of the above, east-west cut **1145** intruded into the natural chalk. *3.3m long by 0.90m wide, it had a bulbous eastern end and shallow sides 0.23m deep with an imperceptible break to a flattish, slightly rounded base at a level of 198.88m OD. It was filled with soft, dark greyish brown sand and a little medium-sized stones and silt, also containing a profusion of animal bone (1031) and represents a slot, probably related to the access point to the west, although it stops 1.6m short of this.*

It is not possible to decide with certainty whether 1145 was inserted from the start, when 1429/1164 was inserted to the north, or only at a later stage with 1297 *et al.* However, the west end of 1145 falls opposite the end of 1297, at a point where posthole 1228 was placed, whereas the initial arrangements continued right up to the line of gully 1190. Thus it is tempting to see 1145 as an addition to the access point, rather than a primary component.

## **Group 28 – Additions to Enclosure 5 in its Eastern Entrance Area**

1309, 1016, 1410, 1409, 1316, 1017, 1512, 1106, 1135, 1010, 1360, 1411, 1101, 1195, 1194, 1134, 1104

Just inside the eastern entrance into Enclosure 5, east-west cut **1309** intruded into 1099, the fill of slot 1191 at its southern end. *At least 3.2m long (west ends merges with 1316 – see below) and 0.60m wide and with a bulbous east end, it had steep sides up to 0.20m deep, with a gradual curve to its flattish base which sloped slightly down to the east to reach 198.99m OD.* It was filled with very dark greyish brown silty loam containing frequent medium chalk and flint fragments and fine pebbles (**1016**). Two perforated long-bones (sf259, sf260) of unknown function were recovered from this layer

Circular intrusion **1410** was positioned just south of the eastern end of 1309, cutting into 1264, the fill of slot 1317 (Group 26). *0.40m across, it had steep sides 0.27m deep curving gradually to its rounded base at a level of 198.86m OD.* It was filled with very dark greyish brown silty loam and a few fine pebbles (**1409**). This post hole is either a replacement for, or augmentation of, slot 1317 just to its west. It was probably inserted to be in use with new adjacent slot 1309, as part of the arrangement for bonding the west end of the latter into the entrance structure here. Given the positions of each component, it is also likely that the original slot to the north, 1191, was retained in this restructuring.

To the west, north-south cut **1316** intruded into the natural chalk. *At least 2.6m long (north end cut away) and 0.60m wide, with a bulbous southern limit where its fill merged with that of 1309, it had steep sides up to 0.25m deep with a fairly sharp break to its generally flat base, sloping down northwards to reach a level of 198.93m OD.* It was filled with very dark greyish brown silty loam containing frequent medium chalk and flint fragments and fine pebbles (**1017**).

A fragment of east-west cut, **1512**, was evident near the northern terminal of earlier cut 1191 (Group 23). It intruded into natural chalk but its relationship with that slot just to the east, and with pit 1360 (see below) just to the west could not be determined. The surviving portion comprised a feature *0.70m wide and at least 0.40m long.* Further west, an unexcavated east-west cut, **1106**, intruded into the natural chalk and was *c.0.35m wide and at least 3m long (neither end evident).* These features run roughly parallel to 1309 and their northern edges co-align, suggesting that, despite their difference in width, the two they were once connected.

Given their plan form and merging fills, 1316 and 1309 must be part of a single structural development flanking the entrance into Enclosure 5 on its north side, in which the earlier 1191 was incorporated. 1512 could then be a western return meeting the projected line of 1316 in a corner, with the narrower slot 1106 running west from this point. Such a structure would have been in a position to monitor movement in and out of this enclosure.

To the south of 1309, parallel cut **1135** intruded into the natural chalk. *At least 3.7m long (west end cut away) and c.0.60m wide (though irregular, especially along its southern edge, and narrowing near its eastern limit), it had very oblique sides, especially to the south, up to 80mm deep, which changed imperceptibly to a flattish*



*base at a level of 199.20m OD. It was filled with dark greyish brown silty clay loam containing frequent fine chalk pebbles and medium chalk and flint fragments (1010).*

1135 is best interpreted either as slot for an east-west structural member, or as the tail end of a narrow ditch. It seems to respect the position of cuts 1319/1189 in the east (Group 24), so must have been in use after the access between Enclosures 5 and 6 had been created, flanking the southern end of the threshold, just as 1309 flanks its northern counterpart. Thus, with 1106, it would have acted to channel movement into the body of Enclosure 5.

To the north of 1316, a fragment of a possibly circular pit, **1360**, intruded into the natural chalk. *At least 1.8m across (only the southeast portion survived later truncation), it had a near vertical side to the south 0.85m deep with a clear break to a flattish base at a level of 198.52m OD. It was filled initially with very dark greyish brown silt containing frequent charcoal flecks (1411), then a dump of dark greyish brown loam, some silt and a little clay containing moderate fine chalk pebbles and occasional larger chalk fragments (1101), from which a copper alloy pin was recovered (sf215).*

This feature, perhaps for the disposal of occupation debris given its charcoal content, was cut by a feature could have been created at any point in the sequence describes so far. However, its projected position lies exactly between the northern ends of 1191 and that suggested for 1316. In addition, it is cut by the same curvilinear feature which seems to mark their demise (1310/1192 – below, Group 29). Thus it seems more likely to have been functioning when they were in use than at any earlier point in time.

Nearby, another probably circular cut, **1195**, intruded into the natural chalk. *C.1m across, it had nearly vertical sides 0.65m deep with a marked break before curving to a dish-shaped, locally undulating base at a level of 198.49m OD. It was filled with a complex sequence of greyish brown loam with a little clay, silt and fine chalk pebbles, also containing occasional larger fragments of chalk and flint (1194), then greyish brown silty loam containing frequent charcoal flecks and occasional fragments of chalk and flint up to 60mm across (1134), capped with yellowish grey-brown silty loam and a little clay and variously-sized chalk fragments, plus occasional charcoal flecks (1104), this last confined to a local area at the centre of the feature.*

When these three fills were recorded in section, it became apparent that a more gravelly lens could be seen at the interface between 1194 and 1134, and that its sides may have weathered during the process of backfilling. In addition, all strata above 1195 were seemingly distorted by consolidation or compression. Thus the most likely sequence of events here is that, after ?organic material 1195 was placed in the pit, gravel was deposited to seal it. This may have filled up the feature entirely, given that the stony material runs up to the top of the feature. After consolidation, 1134 and 1104 ended up in the pit, either dumped into the hollow created by the decay of 1194, or being once horizontal sealing strata which sunk to this level and thus survived later truncation.

The suggested character of fill 1194 implies that the pit was dug for the disposal of organic waste, whether cess or some product of artisan activity. How the feature

related to other cuts in its vicinity is, however, less clear. It was certainly in use before elements known, on independent grounds, to belong to final activities in the area (pits 1361 and 1318, Group 31 below) and so might be loosely associated with pit 1360 just to its south, the only other such intrusion with which it can be connected stratigraphically.

### **Group 29 – Curvilinear Additions within Enclosure 5**

1192, 1102, 1310, 1108

Cut **1192**, running southwest-northeast, intruded into 1101, the uppermost fill of pit 1360 (Group 28) along the latter's western side. *0.90m wide and at least 2.8m long (southwest limit cut away) and with a bulbous terminal, it had steep sides 0.37m deep curving to a slightly concave base at a level of 198.77m OD. When exposed in plan towards its northeast limit, a distinctive, more regular slot was evident in the base of the cut, set closer to its western edge.* The feature was filled with *dark greyish brown silty clay loam forming a soil matrix around a little amount of variously-sized chalk and flint rubble, some over 60mm across, plus occasional charcoal flecks (1102).* A copper alloy pin (sf25) was recovered from this layer.

Cut **1310**, running southwest-northeast, intruded into the natural chalk near the western limit of excavation. *Up to 0.80m wide in places and at least 4m long (neither end evident), it had gradually sloping sides c.0.13m deep curving gently to a scooped base which sloped down slightly to the northeast to reach a level of 199.06m OD.* It was filled with *greyish brown silty loam forming a soil matrix around variously sized chalk pebbles and chalk and flint fragments up to 60mm across (1108).* A silver ring (sf16) was found in this layer **OR in 1041 – need to resolve!.**

Despite being separated by later intrusions, it is clear that 1192 and 1310 are parts of a single feature, sloping down towards its northeast terminal (henceforth 1310). This was inserted after pit 1360 and must have cut across the northern end of slot 1316 (both Group 28) in such a way that the latter, and the building it represents, must have been taken down at this point. It forms a curvilinear ditch which still obeyed the line of gully 1190 in the east, and must therefore represent a subdivision of Enclosure 5 whilst the latter's eastern boundary remained in tact.

### **Group 30 – Installations North of New Curvilinear Ditch within Enclosure 5**

1193, 1105, 1107, 1391, 1201, 1390, 1200, 1392, 1202, 1265, 1198, 1266, 1197, 1199, 1323, 1413

North of curvilinear ditch 1310, linear feature **1193** cut 1104, the uppermost fill of pit 1195, and ditch 1106 (both Group 28). *Running southwest-northeast, it was 0.40m wide and at least 4.4m long (southwest limit beyond the limit of excavation), with a rounded terminal in the northeast and had steep sides up to 0.21m deep curving gently to a rounded base at a level of 198.95m OD. Dark greyish brown silty loam and a little chalk in fragments up to 600m across, plus fewer fine chalk pebbles and*

*frequent charcoal flecks (1105) filled the feature. This fill included a large unworked flint block up to 0.30m across set at the terminal of the feature, which may have had a structural function here. 1193 runs towards, but stops just short of, curvilinear ditch terminal 1310. Given this and its relationship with underlying features, notably its cutting of slot 1106, it is likely to have been inserted soon after the former division.*

Just to the south of this new element, an unexcavated linear feature, **1107**, was visible cutting the natural chalk. It lay on a *southwest-northeast alignment and was c.0.40m wide and at least 2.4m long (neither end evident)*, thus parallel with 1193, and was not apparent in in tact stratigraphy further east, beyond ditch 1310. It therefore seems likely to have been inserted soon after the new curvilinear boundary 1310 had been created, and in use at the same time as 1193.

Three postholes, cutting natural chalk, lay just east of the terminal of ditch 1193. **1391** was *circular, c0.14m across, with sloping sides 0.11m deep and a rounded base at a level of 199.13m OD*. It was filled with *greyish brown silty clay loam and some fine chalk gravel with occasional larger fragment (1201)*. **1390**, immediately adjacent, was *elliptical, 0.11m north-south by 70mm east-west, with vertical sides 0.16m deep and a rounded base at a level of 199.09m OD*. It was filled with *dark greyish brown clay loam containing a little fine chalk gravel, with some noticeably larger fragments towards its base (displaced packing?) (1200)*. Given their position, these features seems likely to be associated with the end of ditch 1193, continuing its line to the pre-existing terminal of ditch 1310 to the east, and to much earlier gully 1190 just beyond that.

Cut **1392** was *sub-circular, c.0.23m across, with sloping sides 0.19m deep and a well-defined base at 199.11m OD*. It was filled with *greyish brown silty loam and some fine, and a little larger, chalk gravel (1202)*. This element lies at the junction between 1310 and the projected line of earlier ditch 1310, and seems likely to be related to both, continuing the line established with 1391/1390.

Just to the north of all of the above, a further five features were evident cutting the natural chalk gravel, the first two excavated, the others seen as soil marks in the natural chalk. **1265** was a *rough ellipse, c.0.90m southwest-northeast by c.0.45m across, with steep sides 0.27m deep breaking to a rounded base at a level of 198.91m OD*. It was filled with *greyish brown silty loam containing a few medium sized chalk and flint fragments and fine chalk gravel, with evidence of larger chalk stones at its surface up to 0.20m across (1198)*. **1266** was elliptical and on the same alignment as 1265, being *c.0.80m long and c.0.50m wider, with near vertical sides 0.18m deep and a slightly rounded base at a level of 198.99m OD*. It was filled with *dark greyish brown silty clay loam and a little chalk gravel, mainly fine, especially concentrated towards its base (1197)*. **1199** lay on the same alignment as 1266/1265 and was *2.1m long by 0.45m across*.

Looked at together, these three features form a series of co-aligned, parallel slots offset 1m north of the ditch 1191, continuing its line up to early gully 1190, which 1199 almost abuts. Thus there seems little doubt that they form a subsidiary structural element, set up at the same time as ditches 1193 and 1107, added to the gap north of curvilinear ditch 1310. Finally, **1323** and **1413** were both *circular, c.0.30m across*

and lay at opposite ends of the proposed line 1266/1199, offset a further 0.80m to its north and must be associated with this division.

Considered in the round, this group of features comprises the creation of a series of structural elements on the same alignment north of curvilinear ditch 1310. 1107 and 1193 comprise continuous ditches, with a line of posts linking the latter to earlier components to the northeast, and then slots 1266 *et al.* and posts 1413 and 1383 forming two further lines north of this. They therefore comprise considerably increased density of structural development in this part of Enclosure 5, presumably taking place at the same time as, or just after, the features described in Group 29 were created.

### **Group 31 – Final Pitting within Enclosure 5**

1361, 1412, 1103, 1318, 1474, 1473, 1393, 1259, 1100, 1320, 1371, 1255, 1196, 1009

Towards the centre of the of Enclosure 5, the remains of amorphous pit **1361** intruded into 1102, the fill of curvilinear feature 1310 (Group 29). *Measuring 2.4m northwest-southeast by perhaps 1.3m in the opposite plane, it had steep sides up to 0.65m deep with a marked turn to its undulating base at a level of 198.69m OD and was filled initially with Dark brownish grey silty clayey loam containing frequent medium, moderate fine and occasional large chalk fragments and pebbles (1412), below reddish grey/brown silty clay loam with a little medium chalk pebbles (1103).* A lens of pebbles was evident at the interface between the two fills, implying either weathering in this intervening period, or differential dumping.

The colouration of its fills marks pit 1361 out from other features in the vicinity, whilst it cut ditch 1310 in such a way as to imply that the latter may have fallen out of use at this point. For this reason, it seems to mark a new phase of activity here. The character of the deposits it contained might imply a rubbish pit, perhaps for the disposal of organic waste. If so, the backfilling could be interpreted in one of two ways. Either 1412 was deposited here in a primary phase, followed by weathering and then the dumping of the rest of 1103 into a convenient hollow. Or the process involved the insertion of organic materials in successive phases, with the intervening deposition of a pebbly fill to cover the first event. Either way, 1412 is a primary fill, and backfilling seems to have taken place from north to south.

Circular pit **1318** cut into 1103, the uppermost fill of pit 1361, and elsewhere intruded into slot 1106 (Group 28); 1108, the fill of curvilinear ditch 1310 (Group 29); slot 1107 (Group 30); and 1017, the fill of slot 1316 (Group 28). It represents the final activity in this part of the site. *C.2.3m across, it had near vertical sides up to 0.80m deep curving to an undulating base (little exposed) at a level of 198.36m OD. It was filled initially with a localised, loos deposit of dark greyish brown clay and fine sand forming a minority matrix of soil around some medium stones and less fine pebbles (1474), which was confined to a slot in the base of the pit.* This might imply that some form of structure, perhaps a lining or internal framework, was set within the feature, its stony fill representing either the base for any such members or natural chalk fragments redeposited there after the removal of any superstructure.

A more general layer of *greyish brown fine sand and less clay forming a minority soil matrix around some medium stones and rather less fine pebbles (1473)* overlay 1474 and constitutes more certain evidence for the redeposition of natural chalk, perhaps due to weathering. It was covered with *dark greyish brown silty ashy loam containing a profusion of charcoal fragments and moderate chalk fragments (1393)*, presumably domestic or industrial debris dumped into the pit after its initial usage. *Dark reddish brown silty loam and a little chalk pebbles, also containing occasional larger chalk fragments and charcoal flecks (1259)* covered 1393, followed by *dark greyish brown clayey, silty loam containing moderate chalk pebbles and occasional larger fragments of chalk and flint (1100)*, which filled the pit to its brim. The fill contained an iron knife (sf74).

The implication of the above is that a pit was dug, for an unknown function but perhaps with a substantial investment in revetting its sides (and thus intended to be in use for some time, and perhaps cleaned out at stages of its use?), which was then subject to weathering before becoming the site for dumping somewhat specialised waste (the profusion of ash and charcoal in 1393), and a final episode of less diagnostic dumping.

The position of this feature is interesting, in that it cut exactly through the middle of curvilinear ditch 1310, at the point where the latter would have been intersected by slot 1107. Whilst the pre-existing ditch system could not have continued to function at this point, it seems to imply that pits 1361 then 1318 might have been positioned to deliberately mark the demise of these divisions, and thus that the latter were in use up to this point. Whether the eastern limit of Enclosure 5, gully 1190, and its associated entrance were also transcended at this stage is not clear.

To the south, beside the western limit of excavation, the southeast quadrant of a feature, **1320**, was exposed, cutting into 1010, the fill of slot 1135 (Group 28) in such a way that the latter must have fallen out of use at this point. *Measuring at least 2.4m east-west by 2.2m north-south, it had a gently sloping south-eastern side 0.55m deep, curving imperceptibly to a flat base at a level of 198.64m OD. It was filled with a spread of greyish black clayey silt containing frequent charcoal flecks, charcoal lenses and patches of yellowish orange clay, plus moderate fine pebbles and also one large patch of pure grey clay, c.0.10m by 0.15m across (1371).* The distinctive character and position of this material suggests primary activity in the base of the feature.

A lens of *charcoal, c.10mm deep (1255)*, lay above 1371 but was separated from it by a band of re-deposited gravel (not separately numbered), with a more substantial fill of *dark reddish grey-brown clayey silt/loam containing frequent flacks of charcoal and red clay and moderate medium and fine chalk pebbles (1196)* on top of this. Finally, *reddish grey/brown clayey loam with a little silt and sand containing frequent fine chalk pebbles, moderate larger chalk fragments and occasional charcoal flecks (1009)* filled the remainder of the intrusion. It contained fragments of Anglo-Saxon antler comb (sf147, sf197, sf872).

The interpretation of 1320 is problematic, given its proximity to the limit of excavation. However, its size and profile does not suggest a pit, so some form of sunken structure seems more likely, the only such evidence within Enclosure 5

(though see three possible counterparts in Enclosure 6 to the east – Groups 34-36). 1371 could then be viewed as occupation in the base of such a feature, with 1255 similarly interpreted after some weathering, or perhaps dumping of occupation debris marking its demise, as 1196 and 1009 more certainly are. All of these later activities took place from the east, sloping down into the lowered area to the west and perhaps implying that the centre of the feature lay not too far beyond the limit of excavation, in turn suggesting a total length of c.5m.

It is unclear how late within, or beyond, the life of this Enclosure 5320 was inserted. However, it lay in the middle of the latter's entrance area and definitely marks the demise of slot 1135, channelling traffic through that access point. In addition, based on evidence with Enclosure 6, it might be expected to have been in use after curvilinear feature 1310 and associated elements to the north, and thus broadly contemporary with pits 1361 and 1318.

### **Group 32 – Early Features beside the Northern Limit of Enclosure 6**

1374, 1114, 1362, 1455, 1113, 1457, 1456, 1459, 1458, 1183, 1115, 1182, 1110, 1168, 1111, 1343, 1348, 1285, 1284, 1112

Towards the northern limit of excavation, north-south cut **1374** intruded into 1446, the fill of pit 1447 (Group 22). *C.0.85m wide and at least 4.5m long (south end cut away, north end merging with ditch 1461 (Group 23), it had sloping sides 0.35m deep curving to a flattish base at a level of 198.86m OD. Greyish brown sand, a little silt and medium stones, also containing frequent fine stones and occasional larger ones (1114, also labelled 1362 in a sondage to the north) filled the feature, which represents a ditch running south from enclosure boundary 1461. Although the connection between the two could not be securely established, their common relationship with pits allocated to Group 22 and perpendicular alignment makes it likely that ditch 1374 was inserted when Enclosure 6 was created, or soon afterwards.*

3m to the west lay another north-south feature, **1455**, unexcavated but cutting natural chalk. *0.70m wide and at least 1.6m long, with a rounded northern terminal, it was filled with a dark soil (1113 – character otherwise unrecorded) and forms a slot running parallel to 1374. The two seem likely to be associated.*

A second feature, **1457**, cut into fill 1113 at the northern end of ditch 1455, elsewhere intruding into 1280, the fill of ditch 1460 (Group 23), the northern boundary of Enclosure 6 at this point. *Roughly sub-square, c.0.80m across, it had vertical sides at least 0.12m deep but was unbottomed. Its uppermost fill comprised dark greyish brown sand, some silt and fewer medium stones (1456). A probably circular post hole, 1459, cut into the southeast corner of fill 1456, measuring 0.18m across and only 30mm deep, with steep sides and a flat base at 199.11m OD. It was filled with dark brown sand, some silt and a few fine pebbles (1458).*

As 1457 was not completely excavated, its function remains unclear. However, shallow post position 1459 is clearly structural in function, and the eastern edge of 1457 corresponds exactly with that of ditch 1455 which it cuts. Thus, rather than a small pit, 1457 seems better interpreted as a deeper, terminal end to a single ditch,

inserted at the point where 1455 met enclosure ditch 1461. Given the proposed connection between 1455 and 1374, it seems likely that both were set up against the northern boundary of Enclosure 6 in a single process of construction.

East-west cut **1183**, intruding into natural chalk, lay between 1455 and 1374, running perpendicular to both. *C.0.60m across and at least 2.2m long (west end bulbous, east end merging with the fill of 1374), it had shallowly sloping sides up to 0.14m deep breaking to a flattish base at a level of 199.91m OD and was filled with greyish brown sand and a little silt, fine pebbles and even less medium pebbles (1115).* This slot-like feature is clearly associated with ditch 1374 and slot 1455, which it seems to run up against.

Parallel east-west feature **1182** cut into natural chalk 3.4m to the south of slot 1183. *0.50m wide and at least 3.2m long (east end cut away), it has a bulbous west end and shallowly sloping sides .0.11m deep curving to a generally flat, locally irregular, base at a level of 199.06m OD.* It was filled with greyish brown sand, some silt and fewer medium pebbles, also containing occasional fine pebbles, together with one larger flint nodule 0.10m across (**1110**). There seems little doubt that 1182 comprises a curving ditch which originally ran up to join with 1374 to the east (indeed, the two may have met in an L-shape, as the line of neither was evident in in tact stratigraphy to the east and south.

Irregular intrusion **1168**, running roughly north-south and cutting natural chalk just north of the western terminal of ditch 1182, comprised a feature *1.7m long and c.0.40m wide with steep, shallow sides only 60mm deep and a slightly rounded base at a level of 199.10m OD, with a slightly deep depression in that base towards its northern limit.* It was filled with greyish brown sand, some silt and a little fine and medium pebbles (**1111**). Two unexcavated, circular features cut natural chalk in the vicinity of these other features. **1343** measured *c.0.30m across* and lay at the junction between 1168 and 1182, whilst **1348**, measuring *c.0.24m across*, lay between 1168 and the northern terminal of 1455.

Finally, circular pit **1285** intruded into natural chalk in the square zone defined by 1374, 1182, 1168 and 1183, just south of the last-mentioned western limit. *C.1.05m across, it had near vertical sides 0.60m deep, with a clear break to its flattish base at a level of 198.60m OD* and was filled initially with soft, dark greyish brown sand and some silt, containing moderate medium and occasional fine pebbles, with evidence of weathering of its sides towards the west (**1284**), then a greyish brown mixture of sand, silt, and rather less fine and medium pebbles (**1112**). The character of these layers might imply a primary function during which 1284 was deposited, perhaps followed by weathering, then the dumping of stonier 1112 to backfill the hole.

Given their position and alignment, character and underlying and overlying relationships, there seems little doubt that all of the features described above were inserted, and in use, at roughly the same time. The most likely sequence of events starts with the setting out of ditches 1374 and 1182 up against the northern boundary of Enclosure 6, with a small, rectangular structure of some sort based on 1183 and 1455 then inserted into the corner thus formed, measuring about 3m east-west by about 2m north-south, with a second, larger area enclosed using 1168 to the north of

this, measuring 4.8m east-west by 2.8m north-south. The activity represented by small pit 1285 then took place within the latter area.

### **Group 33 – Early Features in the Northeast Corner of Enclosure 6**

1513, 1236, 1221, 1220, 1219, 1175, 1121, 1174, 1139, 1283, 1122, 1401, 1400, 1423, 1055, 1084, 1053

In the northeast corner of Enclosure 6, an unexcavated fragment of a cut, **1513**, was seen cutting the natural chalk and surviving later intrusions. *1.1m across and at least 2m long (both ends cut away)*, it ran at roughly the same angle as 1138 (Group 25), the boundary set up between Enclosures 6 and 7. It therefore seems likely to be a subdivision added inside the former.

On the eastern side of cut 1513, **1236** intruded into the natural chalk. *Oval in shape, with a straighter western edge beside the ditch, it measured 0.55m north-south by 0.35m east-west, with steep sides to east and west but more gradual in the north and with a possible recut or other asymmetry in the south. Its sides, up to 0.20m deep, curved gently to a flattish base at a level of 198.82m OD. It was filled with dark brown silt and some sand containing occasional charcoal flecks, plus two angular stones near its centre which may be displaced packing (1221).*

The shape of this feature may be, in part, a product of the removal of the post it would have originally contained, whilst the post itself could belong to any number of phases of site use, including the addition of a sunken-feature building just to its south (see Group 36 below). However, assuming that its sharp, linear western edge is not mere coincidence, it seems much more likely to represent an installation set directly against ditch 1513 at this point.

Only 2m to the west, **1220** also intruded into the natural chalk. *1.2m wide, it continued for at least 4m from the northern limit of excavation, before turning increasingly to the west, eventually running perpendicular to that original line. Its northern element was filled with dark reddish brown silt and a little medium and even less fine pebbles, with frequent charcoal flecks and moderate ashy lenses (1219). To the south and west, where the feature was fully excavated, it rationalised into two, parallel components. 1175, the larger to the north, comprised a ditch 0.60m wide with near vertical sides, especially in the north, up to 0.42m deep with a marked break to an undulating base at a level of 198.60m OD. It was filled with light orangey brown silt and a little fine sand and clay containing frequent medium and moderate fine pebbles, and occasional charcoal flecks (1121) from which an iron blade (sf133) was recovered. 1174 lay to the south and was only 0.30m wide, with shallower sides 0.13m deep and a pointed base at a level of 198.87m OD. It was filled with orangey brown silt, some fine sand and a little clay, containing frequent fine pebbles (1139).*

No secure relationship could be established between these two components, and it seems likely that they were in use, and fell into demise, at the same time. In terms of size, it might be assumed that 1174 was inserted against the larger 1175, perhaps as a modification of its line on a curving bend. However, there is no way of telling this with certainty. Taken together, these various elements created a substantial,



curvilinear ditch demarcating a subdivision within Enclosure 6. It would have defined a space almost 6m in depth from the latter's northern boundary, open to the west. Its curving, southern limit lay approximately opposite the line of access between this enclosure and 7 to its east.

Just to the west of ditch 1220, north-south intrusion **1283** also cut the natural chalk. *0.25m wide and at least 4.4m long (north end beyond the limit of excavation), it had a rounded southern terminal and steep sides, especially in the west, 0.17m deep with a pointed base at a level of 199.00m OD.* It was filled with dark greyish brown silt, some clay and a little fine sand containing frequent fine pebbles and occasional charcoal flecks with some early medieval pottery (sf815) (**1122**) and forms a shallow gulley. Post hole **1401** was set at its northern end, comprising a circular feature *0.60m across with dish-shaped sides 0.14m deep curving imperceptibly to its flattish base at a level of 198.88m OD.* This was filled with light golden brown silt and a little sand and even less fine pebbles containing frequent daub flecks (**1400**). Although the relationship between the posthole and gulley could not be securely defined, it seems likely that the former served to reinforce the northern terminal of the latter. The gulley itself ran parallel to the northern part of ditch 1220 to the east, and ended just short of its westward curving element. It thus seems to have been inserted up against that pre-existing division, a subsidiary barrier within Enclosure 6.

One final feature was set to the west of 1283, cutting into its fill 1122. The visible portion of **1423** ran southwest-northeast and was *1.20m wide by at least 4m long (neither end evident), with steep sides 0.40m deep initially, then a more vertical, subsidiary element leading to its rounded base (level uncertain, but perhaps about 198.40m OD), giving a total depth of 0.70m.* Dark greyish brown silt, some sand and fewer medium pebbles, with a noticeable concentration of this last component towards its base, (**1055**) filled this major ditch. Its curving alignment suggests that this feature had a common east edge with its forerunner 1283 to the north, beyond the limit of excavation, and thus that it would have run parallel with, but inside, curvilinear ditch 1220 to the east. Thus it represents a late addition within Enclosure 6.

To the west, the butt end of cut **1084** was evident intruding into the natural chalk. *At least 1.6m long (east end cut away), this was 0.45m wide, with a slightly bulbous terminal, and had steep sides 0.23m deep with a clear break, more rounded in the south, to its flattish base at a level of 198.95m OD.* It was filled with dark greyish brown silt, and some sand and medium pebbles (**1053**) and must represent the western terminal of ditch 1423.

Its endpoint, stopping just 1.4m short of ditch 1174 (Group 32), makes it clear that this division within Enclosure 6 was set up after that curvilinear feature had been set up in the west, and after corresponding curvilinear feature 1220 in the east. In short, then, subsidiary enclosures were set up in either corner of 6, and then the space between them also encircled, but with a small gap at its west end to allow continued access into this central, northern area.

#### **Group 34 – Western Sunken-Featured Building in Enclosure 6**

1466, 1342, 1341, 1406, 1405, 1420, 1419, 1408, 1407, 1449, 1037, 1481, 1480, 1487, 1506, 1482, 1477, 1479, 1478, 1476, 1485, 1484, 1475, 1507, 1451, 1483, 1421, 1452, 1382, 1381, 1245, 1311, 1472, 1036, 1213, 1471

Towards the centre of Enclosure 6, major sub-rectangular intrusion **1466** cut into fills 1361 and 1114 or curvilinear ditch 1374 and fill 1110 of curvilinear ditch 1182 (all Group 32), and into 1151, the fill of much earlier ditch 1146 (Group 20). *Measuring 5m by 3.8m, it lay on a line just south of east-west and had steep sides in the east and south, slightly less so elsewhere, curving gently to a flat base at a level of c.198.40m OD. The configuration of the sides of the feature defined a subsidiary element in its base, on the same alignment as the feature overall, which measured 3.8m by 2.7m, the overall depth being 0.70m.* Various asymmetries around the edges of this cut may suggest the position of structural components associated with it (see further below: 1449 and 1037)

A series of post positions were evident around the edges of the feature, within the line of its cut. **1342** was *circular, 0.32m across, with steep sides 0.21m deep tapering to a blunt-pointed base.* It was filled with *a dark greyish brown mixture of sand and less silt around some medium and fewer fine pebbles (1341).* This feature was positioned central to the western side of cut 1466, at its very edge. **1406**, lying just to the east, was *circular, 0.16m across, with near vertical sides 0.30m deep tapering to a blunt, flat base.* It was filled with *dark greyish brown sand, some silt and a few medium and even less fine pebbles (1405).* Nearby **1420** was *circular, 0.10m across, with straight sides 0.20m deep narrowing to a tapered point at its base.* It was filled with *blackish brown silt, some sand and a few medium pebbles, plus occasional clay fragments (1419).* These three features must be part of a single construction, representing a vertical structural member set up at the west end of cut 1466.

Correspondingly, at its east end, lay circular cut **1408**. *0.35m across, it had near vertical sides up to 0.35m deep tapering to a blunt, pointed base, with a slot up to 0.35m wide and 0.40m long seeming to run to its west, which may be part of the same feature.* The main cut was filled with *blackish brown sand and a little silt and less clay, plus a few medium pebbles and occasional fine pebbles, with an increased proportion of clay towards its base (1407).* Clearly, 1408 represents the position of a second vertical member, the possible slot to its west perhaps created when that member was removed. With 1342 to the west, these would have formed the foundation for a horizontal top plate running symmetrically along the length of cut 1466. The most obvious interpretation of such an arrangement would be that of a roof covering the lower area below. Thus 1466 itself must be a sunken-feature building.

**1449** lay on the south side of this putative structure. Although unexcavated, it *measured up to 0.50m across* and seems likely to be another structural installation around the edge of the building. Just to its southwest, an asymmetry in the cutting of 1466, which left a trapezoidal platform of natural chalk in place half way along its southern side. This suggests an access point down into the lowered area, and it is this component to which 1449 might relate, as part of such doorway arrangements. Finally on this side, **1037** cut natural chalk just beside cut 1466. Although unexcavated, the greyish brown soil at this point implies the existence of a post position *c0.15m across*. Its proximity to the building, plus the fact that the latter's

side bends out slightly here to form its southwest corner, suggests that 1037 is part of this structure.

On the northern side of 1466, lay **1481**. *Roughly circular, it measured c.0.40m across, with steep regular sides up to 0.40m deep falling to a dish-shaped base.* Its fill, **1480**, was not recorded separately from the main fills of 1466 described below. Its position in plan implies that the possible entrance arrangements created in the south included a post position on the opposite side of the building.

In the base of the sunken building there was evidence for a further three features. **1487**, at the centre of its southern edge below the proposed entrance, comprised a *sub-circular area c.0.40m across, with vertical sides up to 0.35m deep curving to a rounded base.* It was filled with *dark brownish grey silt and a little fine sand frequent fine and occasional medium and coarse pebbles (1506)*, then a *greyish brown mixture of silt and less fine sand, clay and medium pebbles, containing frequent fine pebbles and flecks and small fragments of charcoal (1482).* The pebbly, base material seems likely to form some sort of setting for a structural component, whereas the occupation debris included in the upper fill seems to mark this feature's demise.

Diametrically opposite 1487 lay **1477**, adjacent to the northern edge of the lower part of the sunken building. *Circular, 0.55m across, it had vertical sides up to 0.25m deep which blended into its curving base.* The earliest fill comprised a mixed deposit of *greyish brown fine sand and less silt, medium sand and fine pebbles, also containing frequent medium and moderate coarse pebbles (1479).* This underlay a *single unworked flint block 0.30m across (1478)*, around which accumulated *brown silt and some clay containing occasional fine pebbles (1476).* The pebbly packing in the base of this feature resembles that in 1487, whilst the flint block also implies a structural function, with the final deposit inserted on the feature's demise. Both 1477 and 1487 lie on a line running from proposed doorway in the south to post position 1481 to the north, a line which would have bisected the sunken-feature building. Thus there seems little doubt that they are part of its internal structure. The limited depth of each compared to their width, however, implies that they did not contain free-standing vertical members but rather the formed the base for elements bound into other to give them structural integrity – a framed building.

A final cut in the base of this building was rather different in character. Only seen in section and partially in plan in its southwest corner, **1485** comprised a *shallow, scoop-like feature c.1.1m across and at least 0.70m long (northern limit covered by later strata).* Its sides, *0.35m deep and sloping in the east, slightly steeper in the west where it had a straighter edge in plan, curved gently to its rounded base.* The feature was filled with a *brownish grey mixture of fine sand and less silt and fine and medium pebbles (1484).*

The western edge of 1485 co-aligned with the eastern edge of post position 1477 and this, plus the similarity of the initial fills of each, might suggest that 1485 had a structural role in the base of the building,. However, whatever its exact limit to the north, it is quite a lot larger than either 1477 or 1487. In addition, if it did function in this way, it must have fallen out of use quite early in the use of the building, since it was sealed by a surface which seemed to respect these other elements (1475/1507, below).

A deposit of *brown medium and slightly fewer fine pebbles, and much less coarse pebbles* (**1475** in the south, but labelled **1507** where first encountered to the north) overlay fill 1484, its compacted surface forming a metalling which covered much of the base of the sunken-feature building, although running up to the positions of cuts 1487 and 1477 but not sealing them. Several sherds of abraded early medieval pottery (sf683) were recovered from this layer. This must be a pebble surfacing of the lower area, marking the demise of pit 1485 but laid when the overall superstructure remained in tact. It therefore strongly suggest that occupation took place in the base of 1466, not just at a higher level on a suspended wooden floor. A nearby deposit of *greyish brown silt and some fine sand containing occasional fine pebbles* (**1451**), which also overlay fill 1484 may be the results of such occupation activities.

*Off white fine, medium and rather less coarse pebbles* (**1483**) formed a loose deposit of chalk fragments above pebble metalling 1475/1507, also sweeping up against the edges of cut 1466 around its southern fringes. Its profile and character suggest that it resulted from weathering of the sides of the building, in turn implying that the latter was open to the weather and thus unroofed. Thus in turn implies that all subsequent strata were dumped into the building after its demise, and thus may have nothing directly to do with primary activities within it. This idea is given further support in that it is this sequence of later deposits which completely seal those features in the base of the building, and those further up its sides, interpreted as having structural functions. Thus there can be no doubt that, when these were inserted, they were being dumped into a convenient hole in the ground, not accumulating as part of the structure's primary usage.

A local deposit of *yellowish grey-brown ashy layer mixed with some sand and a little silt, containing moderate fine pebbles* (**1421**) overlay weathering 1483 in the south of the building, also sealing the fills of postholes 1420 and 1406 and post position 1477 and thus marking their demise. At least three Anglo-Saxon antler combs (sfs157A-C) and a fragment of copper alloy sheet (sf13) were recovered from it. It corresponds with a deposit of *orangey brown sand, some silt and a little ash containing moderate medium pebbles* (**1452**) which overlay occupation layer 1451 and the fill of pit 1487 towards the north and east. These small ashy layers represent localised dumping into a large disused intrusion, perhaps soon after its demise and initial weathering. In contrast, all later fills are much more substantial and widespread, and imply rather the tidying up of a large, inconvenient depression, perhaps to create level ground to facilitate more general activities in the area. These widespread dumps were excavated in distinct quadrants, so have different, but correlated, numbers in these different sections of 1466.

An extensive deposit comprising a *light greyish brown mixture of ash, silt and sand in roughly equal proportions, also containing frequent charcoal fragments, moderate medium pebbles and occasional fine pebbles and unfired lumps of green and grey clay (given a blotchy appearance due to the charcoal, ash and clay content)* (**1382**) covered localised dumps 1421 and 1452, corresponding with **1381**, which overlay occupation layer 1451, to cover the whole of the base of cut 1466 to a depth of c.0.25m.

A loose deposit of *light greyish brown silt and some sand containing frequent fine and medium pebbles, occasional flecks of charcoal and patches of grey and green ash and similarly-coloured unfired clay* (**1245**) sealed 1382 to a depth of c.0.30m, continuing high enough in the west to seal the fill of post position 1342. This corresponds to a similar deposit **1311** to the east, which covered dump 1381 and also sealed the fill of post positions 149 and 1408, and with **1472** which sealed occupation layer 1451 and the fill of post position 1481 in the north. As a result, 1466 was filled to within 0.15m of its top. Layer 1472 contained several Anglian finds, including fragments of a worked antler comb (sf250, sf314), various iron objects, including a knife (sf244) and a blade (sf255), and organic tempered pottery (sf723, sf817). Finally, *dark greyish brown silt, and a little fine sand and less coarse sand containing moderate medium and occasional fine pebbles* (**1036**) covered 1245, corresponding with **1213** covering 1311 and **1471** over 1472. This deposit completed the backfilling of sunken-feature building 1466. 1036 contained a number of iron objects (sf81, sf95, sf118, a bone needle (sf149), smithing slag (sf94), lava quernstone fragments (sf 319), and at least 16 sherds of organic tempered Anglian pottery (sf703). Fragments of Ashby type 12 and type 8a combs, the latter likely to be of 10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup>-century date, were also recovered from contexts 1036 (sf315) and 1213 (sfs312-3), and 1471 (sf242) as well as a faceted copper alloy pin (sf206) from 1471. This comb is one of the latest datable Anglo-Saxon objects from the site.

One final element here concerns the positioning of this structure. Although it clearly cuts into the junction of curvilinear ditches 1374/1182 (Group 32) and thus post-dates them, the fact that it occurs on this junction at all, plus the way in which it avoids the position of terminal 1084 (Group 33) just to the east, implies that the setting out of the building took place within existing frameworks, and thus that when it was occupied the main curvilinear divisions of the area continued in use. In particular, it is quite possible that ditch 1374 to its north, running up to the northern limit of Enclosure 6, still exerted an influence on activities in the vicinity of the sunken-feature building.

### **Group 35 – Central Sunken-Feature Building in Enclosure 6**

1427, 1368, 1313, 1369, 1314, 1370, 1315, 1517, 1518, 1519, 1349, 1418, 1386, 1249, 1248, 1254, 1289, 1288, 1180, 1253, 1054, 1167

Just over 1m to the east of sunken-feature building 1466, cut **1427** intruded into the fills of curvilinear ditch 1423/1084 (Group 33). *Sub-rectangular in shape and lying east-west, it measured 4.6m in length and 4.2m in width and had steep, in places irregular, sides up to 0.80m deep, this irregularity being more marked on the south side, which was also less steep than elsewhere. The flat base of the feature, at a level of c.198.40m OD, formed a smaller sub-rectangular element measuring 3.2m east-west by 2.4m north-south, with distorting extensions protruding for up to 0.40m beyond its line in its north-western and north-eastern corners.*

Five post holes, of which only the western three were excavated, were evident in the base of this cut running along the north side of its subsidiary, basal element. **1368** was *circular, 0.35m across, with steep sides, especially in the north, 0.21m deep curving gradually to concave base at a level of 198.21m OD.* It was filled with *dark brownish grey silt and a little sand* (**1313**). **1369**, just to the west, was *circular,*

*0.40m across, with sloping sides, more vertical in the south, 0.18m deep curving gradually to a concave base at a level of 198.16m OD. It was filled with a greyish brown mixture of pebbles and slightly less sand and silt (1314). 1370 was circular, 0.35m across, with steep sides 0.19m deep curving gradually to a concave base at a level of 198.14m OD. It was filled with dark brownish grey silt and a little sand and clay (1315). Finally, the two unexcavated intrusions to the west, 1517 and 1518, seem to comprise circular cuts c.0.40m across.*

These features, too shallow for their size in plan to have contained free-standing uprights, must be part of a framing system along the north side of the subsidiary feature in the base of 1427. One interpretation is that they held in place planks or similar positioned on their northern side which revetted this lowered area. The ends of such an arrangement could have been located at each end by the extended slots noted at the north-west and north-east corners of the whole intrusion. Given these elements, plus the size and shape of the feature overall, 1427 must represent a second sunken-feature building erected within Enclosure 6.

Finally on this side of 1427, sub-circular cut **1519** was *c.0.40m across, with vertical sides 0.40m deep and a flattish base at a level of c.198.70m OD* (fill excavated only as part of overlying fills of 1427). Its exact relationship with both building 1427 and adjacent ditch 1084 (Group 33) could not be determined. That said, it protruded for 0.25m below the base of the ditch, and lay at the corner of the building, with a counterpart evident in the corresponding corner to the east. Thus 1519 seems most likely to be part of the latter's superstructure, reinforcing at ground level the revetted area seen in its base.

On the south side of 1427 lay circular cut **1349**. *0.25m across, it had regular, steep sides 0.20m deep curving gradually to its concave base at a level of 198.33m OD* (fill not distinguishable from more general, overlying deposit 1248 – see below). It lay just inside the line of the southern edge of the subsidiary, lower element in the base of 1427 and may have had a similar, revetting function to post positions 1368 *et al.*, but in this case as a single element along that side, suggesting slightly different structural arrangements here.

Just to its southeast, and occupying the whole of that corner of 1427, lay complex, amorphous cut **1418**. *Perhaps 2m east-west by up to 1.6m north-south, narrowing to the west, it had steep but irregular, stepped sides up to 0.40m initially, with a lower base area also c.0.40m deep. This lower element appeared to rationalise into three distinct, vertically-sided elements, each with a flat base at a level of c.198.26m OD, each measuring between 0.50m and 0.70m across. The base of this complex feature was filled with greyish black silt and a little clay, with orange mottling, containing fragments of burnt bone (1386), then a more general, mixed layer of greyish brown sand, silt, clay and fine and medium pebbles, in decreasing proportions (1249), which served to fill up the whole of the three basal elements but also spread up the sides of the cut proper and may represent weathering from its sides.*

There can be no doubt that 1418 is integrally related to 1427, in that the latter's southeast corner bent out to accommodate it, and its main fills continued in this direction to seal it (1248 and 1054 below). Given its position, 1418 could represent access arrangements into the lowered area to the north. In this it would lay on the

same, south side, of the structure seen with sunken-feature building 1466 to the west, but here positioned at the corner of 1427.

Within the body of this building, *a greyish brown mixture comprising, in decreasing order, silt, pebbles, sand and clay (1248)* accumulated above fill 1249 and running down into the base of 1427 to cover post position 1349, and also up its sides. A corresponding, mixed layer of *brownish grey sand, fine and medium pebbles and less silt, the stone content giving a cream coloured mottled appearance (1254)* covered the base of the feature to the east and west, where it sealed the fills of the posthole line 1368, 1369, 1370, 1517 and 1518, and swept up against the sides of 1427 elsewhere. The character and slope of this deposit suggests weathering of the natural chalk, although material is less profuse and even absent towards the northern side of the building, implying that this process took place from the other sides (and thus perhaps that certain structural components were left in situ to the north, even if the super-structural framework which they supported had already been removed).

*Blackish grey silt and a little silt and clay flecked with charcoal (1289)* formed a patchy thin deposit over 1248 but also covering the base of the building, perhaps representing tread in the lowered area following its demise and weathering. *A dark greyish brown mixture of pebbles, and less silt and sand, the first mentioned again creating a cream-coloured mottling (1288)* above 1289 implies localised lenses created by further weathering at the sides of the building, covered by **1180** (*not described*). This sequence, and especially 1289, correspond with *a mixed deposit of dark blackish grey, with reddish brown tinge, deposit of silt, some clay and a little sand containing occasional charcoal flecks (1253)*, again suggestive of ephemeral activity in the base of the disused building. 1180 contained an iron knife (sf77).

Finally, a layer of *dark brownish grey silt and some sand (1054)* sealed 1180, corresponding with *dark brownish grey silt, some sand and a few pebbles (1167)* recorded above 1253 elsewhere in cut 1427. This dump, being up to 0.65m deep towards the centre of the building, filled it up entirely and is presumable imported onto the site here to tidy it for further activity. It contained a range of finds, including the base of the Bronze Age bucket urn (sf687), an iron knife (sf125), pieces of Anglo-Saxon antler comb (sf153-4, sf198), and a bone pin (sf152).

Clearly 1427 bears a striking resemblance to building 1466 just to the east. It is of similar size, both overall and in the dimensions of the subsidiary cut in its base, and on the same general alignment. Both have evidence of a framed timber superstructure revetting their sunken sides and, presumably, creating a roof above that base (although the posthole line 1368 etc. in the base of 1427 implies that the details of each framework may have differed). Suggested entrance arrangements were from the south in each case, albeit centrally-placed with 1466 but nearer its eastern corner with 1427.

More generally, 1427 cuts into a curvilinear enclosure ditch just to its north, but in such a way that its wall line here perpetuates the division, rather than simply ignoring it. In fitting between this partition, the line of ditch 1174 to the west and the terminal of ditch 1220 to the east, this building is being set within existing spatial arrangements, rather than transcending them, just as 1466 was built in relation to ditch terminal 1084 and ditch 1374 to its east and north.

### Group 36 – Eastern Sunken-Feature Building in Enclosure 6

1433, 1397, 1396, 1520, 1232, 1422, 1515, 1514, 1516, 1415, 1233, 1234, 1235, 1074

In the northeast corner of Enclosure 6, cut **1433**, of which only the northeast corner was excavated, intruded into curvilinear ditch 1513 (Group 33). *Measuring 4.5m southwest by 2.7m in the opposite plane, with an extension of c0.80m wide protruding beyond its line towards the east. The sides of the excavated section were fairly steep for the first 0.20m, before dropping almost vertically to a seemingly flat base at a level of 198.22m OD, a total depth in places of 0.77m* The curve in its base, if projected into unexcavated areas, implies a central lowered area 3.2m long by 2.2m wide. The bulbous extension of this cut to the east might suggest that access into this lower area was from that side.

Two postholes intruded into the edge of 1433, within the line of the cut, of which only the first was excavated. **1397** was *circular, 0.22m across, with steep sides 0.18m deep curving to a rounded base at a level of 198.29m OD*. It was filled with *brownish black silt and some sand containing frequent charcoal flecks (1396)*. **1520** was *circular and 0.18m across*. The two features must be part of the structural arrangements within 1433, presumably to support the revetment of its lower, central area.

The size and character of this intrusion implies that it constitutes a third, sunken-feature building set up some 5m east of 1427 (Group 35). Its position is such that its north-western wall line reproduced that of earlier ditch 1513 at this point, whilst the building seems to have been positioned directly up against the curving line of ditch 1220 further west. Thus, as with the corresponding structures to the west, it post-dated, but did not ignore, existing divisions of space within Enclosure 6, being squeezed into the gap between 1220 and the enclosure's eastern boundary gully 1138.

Within the body of the feature, a compact deposit of *fine and medium pebbles set in some silt containing occasional charcoal flecks sealed postholes 1397 and 1520 and, elsewhere, covered its base to a depth of 0.35m (1232)*. It seems likely to have been derived from the weathering of its sides, presumably after the roof of the building had been done away with, or at the very least after the removal of the timber framework which must have revetted its vertically-sided base. A shallow spread of *blackish brown silt, some clay and a little sand containing frequent fine pebbles (1422)* overlay 1232 in the base of the building, perhaps suggesting the accumulation of trodden occupation material in this lower area after its demise. The site of the structure was then filled with a more general deposit (1074), to be discussed further below.

Just to the north of building 1433 lay two unexcavated intrusions, cutting into ditch 1513 (Group 33). **1515** was *probably oval in shape, measuring 0.70m east-west by 0.40m north-south* and lay at the junction between earlier ditch 1513 and building 1433. **1514** to its north was *circular and c.0.35m across*, lying clearly within the line of ditch 1513 and after it had been backfilled (although this may not have been the point at which it went entirely out of use). A third unexcavated feature **1516**, representing *the southern edge of an east-west feature at least 0.80m long (neither*



*end clearly identified*) cut across the line of 1513 to the north and seems to mark its demise. Given that the creation sunken-feature building 1433 meant the end of the use of ditch 1513, it seems possible that the insertion to the north of the two postholes into the fills of the latter, and the setting out of another ditch across its line, may all have taken place as part of these new arrangements.

To the west of the above, an area of *dark brown silt and a little fine sand, chalk pebbles and clay containing frequent charcoal flecks and moderate daub flecks (1415)* overlay 1219, the uppermost fill of curvilinear ditch 1220 (Group 33). Although not fully excavated, it suggests the position of an oval pit measuring 1.2m east-west by 0.80m north-south, set across the eastern edge of the earlier ditch.

To the south of this, however, 1415 was overlapped by successive deposits of *dark orangey brown clay, some silt and a little sand containing frequent medium and fine pebbles and occasional daub flecks (1233)*, then *light brown silt and some sand plus a little pebbly gravel, similarly flecked with frequent charcoal and occasional daub (1234)*, which also overlay 1121, the fill of ditch 1175 (Group 33), then *a dark brownish mixture of clay and less silt and sand containing frequent fine pebbles and occasional charcoal flecks (1235)*, which also overlay 1139, the fill of ditch 1174 (Group 33).

The curving, common north-western edges of these three strata suggest that all were successive fills of a single feature. However, none could be traced beyond the line of ditch 1220, despite the fact that they overlapped proposed pit 1415 to the north, which post-dated and seemingly ignored the line of that ditch. Three explanations of this situation are possible. The relationship between 1233 and 1415 may have been incorrectly identified, in which case the former plus 1234 and 1235 would be best interpreted as differential early fills in that ditch, belonging to Group 33. However, there is no obvious reason to believe this, other than the interpretative conundrum which it creates.

A second possibility is that these are indeed part of the fills of a shallow a pit post-dating 1415 and so well after ditch 1220, which only survived within the latter's line when they sunk to this level and thus survived subsequent truncation. Their being confined to the ditch is therefore a simple product of post-depositional processes. The third possibility is that, although the backfill of 1220 was cut into by pit 1415, the main ditch still influenced activity in the area. In this case, the most likely context for these fills to be added to is when building 1433 was added just to the east since, as argued above, 1220 remained in use at this time.

A final strand in this argument, which makes this third interpretation the preferred option, concerns the overlying stratum in the area. An extensive, mixed deposit of *dark brown silt and less clay, pebbles and fine sand containing frequent daub fragments and occasional charcoal flecks (1074)* overlay not only layer 1235 within ditch 1220 but continued south into building 1433, sealing trodden layer 1422 and filling up the remainder of this sunken area.

Stratigraphic definition was problematic at this point, so it is possible that 1074 does not represent a single deposit but rather an element backfilling the disused building and more of a 'definition deposit' elsewhere covering other activities to the north and

west. However, taking the evidence at face value, the role of 1074 within the lines of building 1433 is clearly that of tidying a lower area, quite possibly long after the building had gone out of use (NB weathering 1232 then tread 1422 which it sealed). If this tidying dump then continued beyond the confines of the building to cover other activities there, it would reinforce the notion that pit 1415 and dumps 1233-1235 all took place during the lifetime of building 1433, and all were then sealed over and levelled up when the area was needed for subsequent activities.

### **Group 37 – Activities South of Sunken-Feature Building in East of Enclosure 6**

1244, 1171, 1050, 1426, 1394, 1163, 1162, 1181, 1176, 1041, 1173, 1172, 1089, 1136, 1085, 1312, 1079, 1524, 1525, 1165, 1086, 1521, 1522, 1523

The features gathered here represent a series of three pits and a scatter of postholes, arguably related to the last of these. With the exception of the first pit, they cut into the natural chalk, and could thus belong to any period (and in the first case, the pit only cuts an early landscape division and so, even if therefore broadly contemporary with Enclosure 6, could connect with any of the latter's periods of use). They may therefore form a less coherent grouping than the other stratigraphic units considered up to this point.

**1244** lay some 7m due south of westernmost building 1466 and cut 1229, the fill of north-south ditch 1231, (Group 20) and deposit 1047 (Group 21), a dump above the southern continuation of that feature which marked the demise of this early division of the site. It comprised a *sub-oval feature on a rough east-west axis, 1.65m long by 1.5m across, with regular, steep sides up to 0.58m deep curving gently to a slightly concave base at a level of 198.53m OD*. Its lowest fill comprised a *greyish brown mixture of sand, fine pebbles and less silt (1171)*, the high pebble content perhaps derived from weathering of the sides of the feature, then *dark brownish grey silt and some sand containing moderate fine pebbles and occasional flecks of charcoal and lumps of light green unfired clay (1050)*.

This last fill was found in the course of excavation to include a distinct line of pure greenish clay running across the feature for half of its width. When seen in section, this material took the form of a lens, which sloped down sharply into the base of the feature, though was securely stratified within 1050. Given its character and, especially, its position in elevation, this inclusion does not seem to have a structural role within the pit, for example as a hearth lining set into a convenient hollow. It seems more likely to comprise material from elsewhere dumped into pit 1244 at the end of the latter's useful life. Its purity and survival as one, concentrated lens might suggest, however, that this original usage was not far away (although, as noted above, smaller lumps of similar clay were also distributed throughout fill 1050). Furthermore, the angle at which it lay at in section, closer to vertical than horizontal, might imply that dump 1050 originally included a high proportion of organic materials, and that inclusions and lenses such as this clay came to lie at this angle as a result of subsequent consolidation and rotting down of such fills. Either way, weathering 1171 and dump 1050 give no clue as to the original function of the pit, although 1050 did contain a bone pin or needle (sf311) and a bone picker-cum-beater (sf149) of a type found in Period 4A at Coppergate. Its position, cutting deposits

which mark the demise of early division 1231/1486, make it likely to have been in use with later Enclosure 6.

8m to the east lay a second roughly pit, **1426**, this time intruding into natural chalk. *1.8m across, it had vertical sides at least 0.70m deep* (not completely excavated) and a lowest visible fill comprising *chalk pebbles set in a little dark orangey brown silt and slightly less sand* (**1394**). This was overlain by *dark greenish brown silt with a little clay and medium pebbles, also containing frequent fine pebbles and some ceramics, animal bones, charcoal and daub* (**1163**), then a deposit of *chalk pebbles in a little light greyish brown fine sand* (**1162**), followed by *dark brown silt, sand and a few medium pebbles, also containing moderate fine pebbles* (**1181**), then *dark greyish brown silt and a little ash containing moderate daub flecks and occasional fine pebbles* (**1176**). Finally, a deeper, loose deposit of *silt and some fine sand containing frequent fine pebbles and charcoal flecks, moderate medium pebbles and occasional flecks of daub* (**1041**) sealed all of the above to a depth of 0.30m. Five joining fragments of an 8<sup>th</sup>-century silver ring (sf14) (Bambrook 'Burdale Survey Report 3', find 39) were recovered 1041. Faint incised, geometric ornament is still visible on the band, which originally overlapped and may have been soldered at the narrowest point; however the join had come apart in antiquity. The bezel is decorated with fine scroll- and knot-work similar to that seen on the River Witham pins (Wilson 1964, cat. no. 19) or a disc brooch from Ixham, Suffolk (ibid., no. 25). More recent, comparable finds include a silver fragment from Covehite, Suffolk (TAR 2003, no. 87.1), a pin head fragment from Norfolk (ibid., no. 102) and another pin head fragment from the Wicham Market area, Suffolk (TAR 2002, no. 48). Non-destructive X-ray fluorescence analysis (XRF) of the surface of the mercury gilded finger ring indicated a silver composition of 87-91%, the remainder being copper. The decorative detail probably included niello inlay as well as gilding, but the condition of the ring is so degraded it is difficult to be certain. A fragment of a 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> dirham (sf27) (Bambrook 'Burdale Survey Report 3', find 40), with script visible on both sides was also recovered from the spoil associated with 1041.

The deposition of the successive fills 1162-1176 took the form of thin bands of soil, alternating between stony material and more earthy deposits, the latter sometimes with a greenish brown hue. This might imply that the feature was used at this point for the disposal of organic materials, with the latter then covered with a pebbly capping, perhaps to seal it in. Whether or not this represents the primary function of the feature must remain open to doubt, as the pit was not bottomed. The final fill must be either a dump into the cut, perhaps long after its initial usage, or, if the organic elements were of substantial depth and therefore underwent considerable consolidation, once-horizontal material which sealed the feature and then became incorporated within it once the surface of underlying materials had fallen to a lower level.

4m to the northeast of pit 1426, **1173** also intruded into the natural chalk. *Oval in shape, measuring 1.05m north-south by 0.90m east-west, it had near vertical sides in west and east, less steep elsewhere, 0.41m deep with a clear break to its flat base at a level of 198.70m OD.* It was filled, initially, with *chalk pebbles set in a little silt* (**1172**). This had accumulated to a depth of c0.10m in its base, but also swept up its sides and suggests weathering of the sides of the feature. It was sealed by *dark brown*

*silt and some sand containing frequent medium pebbles and occasional charcoal flecks (1089).*

2.4m north lay roughly circular cut **1136**. *c.0.30m across, with an irregular edge towards the south east, it had shallow curving sides only 90mm deep and a rounded base at a level of 198.70m OD.* It was filled with a dark brown, loose, mixture of clay and silt with less sand containing frequent fine pebbles and occasional charcoal flecks (**1085**). **1312**, 2m to the west of 1136, was roughly circular, *c.0.40m across, with gradually-sloping sides only 0.11m deep and a rounded base at a level of 198.93m OD.* It was filled with a dark brown, loose mixture of clay, silt and less fine sand containing frequent fine pebbles and occasional charcoal flecks (**1079**).

Traces of the sides of two possible linear features were evident cutting the natural chalk north and east of 1173. **1524** ran between the latter and cut 1136, forming the east edge of a feature perhaps 2.2m long. **1525** was at least 0.40m long, being traceable initially running west from 1173. These elements suggest the position of shallow slots and, taken with the evidence of post positions 1136 and 1312, might imply an ephemeral rectangular structure, with 1173 at its southeast corner measuring 2.6m north-south by 2.2m east-west (though a feature at its proposed southwest corner would be lacking – but note the shallow depth of 1136 and 1312, so that even slight truncation could have removed traces to their south and west).

To the east of this possible construction lay four postholes cutting natural chalk, of which only the first was excavated. **1165** was oval, *0.32m north south by 0.24m east-west, with near vertical sides 0.20m deep and a clear break to its flat base at a level of 198.84m OD.* It was filled with loose, dark brown clay and some silt containing moderate fine pebbles (**1086**). The other three post holes nearby were all roughly circular, measuring in diameter 0.16m (**1521**), 0.20m (**1522**) and 0.22m (**1523**). Despite their lack of a clear spatial articulation with 1173 *et al.*, they might be linked to related activities beyond that structure, for example as subsidiary installations (or in some cases to the earlier, nearby feature 1416 – Group 19).

### **Group 38 – Probable Structure set up inside Enclosure 6 near its Western Entrance**

1380, 1271, 1125, 1124, 1033, 1129, 1143, 1034, 1128, 1127, 1126, 1330, 1404, 1403, 1212, 1434, 1211, 1435, 1209, 1029, 1130, 1030, 1325, 1326, 1327, 1328, 1334, 1333, 1332, 1331

The features described below comprise 18 postholes, all of which cut into natural chalk and were sealed by topsoil. They could therefore belong to any of the periods of occupation of the site. The first 14 are grouped on the basis that they form a sub-rectangular building which, given its character might be expected to be in use with the three sunken-feature buildings described above (Groups 34-36). It was also symmetrically placed with respect to the access between Enclosures 5 and 6, and thus might relate to the latter (see below for further discussion). The last four intrusions suggest the position of a small structure to the east of the main building. Only eight of the features were excavated, the remainder being evident only as discoloured patches

in the natural chalk. The latter lay mainly in the south and west of the building. The whole are described here clockwise, starting in its proposed northwest corner.

**1380** was oval, 0.60m north-south by 0.50m east-west, with steep regular sides 0.23m deep curving to a concave base at a level of 199.03m OD. It was filled with a brownish black mixture of sand, less silt and clay and still less fine and medium pebbles, containing occasional patches of charcoal (**1271**). **1125** was an irregular shape, 0.60m north-south by 0.30m east-west, with curving sides to the southwest, more vertical opposite, 0.15m deep. These curved imperceptibly to its flattish base at a level of 199.12m OD. It was filled initially with four packing stones of local flint (**1124**), which would have once supported a post, then a deposit of dark greyish brown sand, some silt and a little fine and medium pebbles (**1033**), which marked the demise of the feature.

**1129** comprised a sub-circular cut c.0.35m across with shallow sides 80mm deep curving gradually to a concave base at a level of 199.18m OD. It was filled with two packing stones at its edges, one flint, one sandstone (**1143**), then dark greyish brown sand, some silt and a little fine pebbles, plus occasional medium pebbles (**1034**). The adjacent **1128** was circular, up to 0.35m across with shallow sides 70mm deep and a concave base at a level of 199.20m OD. It had three packing stones, one flint, two sandstone (**1127**) around the north and south ends of the feature, then dark greyish brown sand, some silt and a little fine pebbles, plus occasional medium pebbles (**1126**) at its centre. These four post positions form a line, 3m long, running from 1380 in the west to the double-posthole 1129/1128 in the east.

To the south of the last-mentioned feature, unexcavated cut **1330** circular and 0.32m across, represents another post position, as does the sub-circular **1404** to its south. This was up to 0.50m across with steep sides 0.14m deep curving gradually to its flattish base at 199.06m OD. It had a large flint nodule on its southwest side (**1403**) as packing, then greyish brown sand and a little silt containing frequent fine and occasional medium pebbles (**1212**) marking its demise. **1434** was circular, 0.27m across with sides 70mm deep curving imperceptibly to a concave base at a level of 199.16m OD. It was filled with dark greyish brown sand and a little silt, and medium pebbles, also containing frequent fine pebbles (**1211**). Finally, **1435** was circular, 0.23m across with a vertical side in the south, less steep elsewhere, 0.16m deep and a rounded base at a level of 199.05m OD. It was filled with greyish brown sand and a little silt and medium and fine pebbles (**1209**). Taking together and with 1128 in the north, these postholes form a curving line running for 8m from the latter corner, set out perpendicular to the line 1380-1128. There seems no doubt that they are part of the same building.

To the east of 1435, unexcavated **1029** suggested the position of a circular cut c.0.32m across. Further east still lay **1130**, sub-square and c.0.40m across with very shallow sides only 40mm deep and an irregular base at a level of 199.10m OD. It was filled with dark greyish brown sand and a little silt forming a deposit around fine and far fewer medium pebbles (**1030** - some of this pebbles content may have been derived from digging into undisturbed natural). Finally, the unexcavated **1325** suggested the position of another circular feature 0.20m across. The postholes running from 1435 to 1325 describe a curved arc c.3.6m across running perpendicular to the line of 1128-1435. It constitutes to southern wall of the suggested building here.

North of 1325, the unexcavated line of probable postholes comprised **1326**, *c0.18m across*, **1327**, *0.20m across*, and **1328**, *0.26m across*. With 1380 to the north and 1325 to the south, these formed the eastern side of the structure discussed above, producing a bow-sided building c.8m long by 4m wide, with a slightly straighter northern wall. Its position seems to obey the line of the western limit of Enclosure 6, so it seems reasonable to suppose that it was set up whilst the latter remained in use. It does, however, lie across the line of the access point here between Enclosures 5 and 6.

There are two possible explanations of this positioning. Either the new building may have simply blocked off the access point, implying a new system of circulation within the area (although what this meant for the other boundaries of Enclosure 6 is impossible to tell). Or access into this area from the west was still possible, but now through the building, which would become a sort of gate house. In particular, if the building was open sided, with a central gap between post positions 1328/1330 and 1327/1404, then traffic would have moved unimpeded as before, except that it would have passed through a roofed area and have been more controlled than hitherto.

2.5m to the east of this new arrangement lay four adjacent post holes, all unexcavated: **1334**, *0.13m in diameter*; **1333** *0.14m in diameter*; **1332** *0.15m in diameter*; and **1331** *0.14m in diameter*. These formed a four post structure of unknown function measuring c.1m north-south by 0.70m east-west, perhaps an ancillary structure associated with the changes just to the west.

### **Group 39 – Installations in Northwest Corner of Enclosure 6**

1274, 1273, 1272, 1035, 1185, 1184, 1389, 1388, 1275, 1352, 1351, 1276, 1350, 1277, 1335, 1336, 1337, 1338, 1339, 1431, 1430, 1340, 1367, 1278

A pair of pits and a number of post holes were evident in the northwest corner of Enclosure 6. All cut into natural chalk and so could relate to any period of occupation on the site. However, they seem more likely to be contemporary with activities within Enclosure 6 than inserted before or after it.

Double pit 1274/1185 lay just west of the possible structure formed by 1182, 1168 and 1183 (Group 32). **1274** was *circular, 1.5m across, with steep sides up to 0.92m deep curving imperceptibly to a generally concave, locally undulating, base at a level of 198.32m OD*. It was filled, initially, with a *loose, dark greyish brown mixture of sand and silt and less medium and large pebbles, also containing moderate fine pebbles and with the larger stones increasing with depth (1273)*, then a *light orangey brown mixture of sand, less silt and still less medium pebbles, also containing fine pebbles (1272)*, capped with a *greyish brown mixture of fine sand and silt with less medium pebbles and even less fine pebbles (1035)*. These stony fills, despite their slight differences in colouration, seem likely to represent dumps into the feature at the end of its useful life. Its original function remains unclear.

Just to the west, pit **1185** was *oval in shape, 1.1m north-south by 0.80m east-west with fairly steep sides 0.51m deep and an irregular, concave base at a level of 198.76m OD*. It was filled with a *greyish brown mixture of fine sand and silt with less medium*

*pebbles and even less fine pebbles (1184).* This merged with fill 1035 to the east, meaning that no stratigraphic relationship could be established between the two features and implying that they finished being backfilled at the same time. This, in turn, might imply that the two were in use together.

To the north and west of this double pit, a number of postholes were evident, though none made any coherent patterns. **1389** was *circular, 0.30m across, with steep sides 0.13m deep curving gradually to its rounded base at a level of 199.08m OD.* It had *two flint packing stones (1388)* near its north and south edges and was then filled with *dark greyish brown sand and a little silt and fiend and medium pebbles (1275).* **1352** was *circular, 0.30m across, with shallow sides only 60mm deep and a rounded base.* *Three flint nodules (1351)* formed packing at its edges, then *greyish brown sand and a little silt and fine pebbles, also containing occasional medium pebbles (1276)* as a final fill. Thirdly, **1350** was *circular, 0.28m across, with shallow sides 60mm deep curving gently to a rounded base at a level of 199.12m OD.* It was filled with a *greyish brown mixture of sand and less silt and medium and fine pebbles (1277).*

Each of these three features, although they contained evidence of packing stones, were too shallow to have contained free standing posts. They therefore represent the positions of members which would have needed connections with further timbers at a higher level to retain their structural integrity. They form a rough alignment running at an oblique angle to pits 1274/1185, which would have stopped at the immediately adjacent 1350. They may, therefore, have been related to the use of those intrusions.

Five features, all unexcavated, can be suggested northwest of pits 1274/1185. **1335** was *circular, 0.17m across;* **1336** was *circular, 0.15m across;* **1337** was *an amorphous l-shape, 0.70m north-south by 0.60m east-west* and may, on excavation, have rationalised into three distinct post positions; **1338** was *circular, 0.17m across;* and **1339** was *circular, 0.28m across.* These features made no definite pattern in themselves, or in relation to any adjacent features. It is only their proximity to pits 1274/1185 that might suggest any possible relationship (although see below with 1431 for further discussion).

To the north lay **1431**, *a circular feature 0.35m across with fairly steep sides 0.14m deep curving to a slightly pointed base at a level of 199.05m OD.* It contained *two flint packing stones at its sides (1430)* and was then filled with *greyish brown sand, some silt and less fine and medium pebbles (1340).* Some 2.4m to its east lay **1367**, *sub-circular and c.0.30m across with very shallow sides 60mm deep curving imperceptibly to a flattish base at a level of 199.10m OD.* It was filled with a *greyish brown mixture of sand and less silt, clay, and medium and fine pebbles (1278).*

A line joining 1431 and 1367 would run parallel to the northern boundary of Enclosure 6, so it seems likely that they were set up c.1.5m within its line. In addition the line between 1431 and triple posthole 1337 runs perpendicular to this alignment. It is therefore possible that 1431 formed the northwest corner of rectangular structure with 1337 on its southwest, also including 1338 and 1337 along its western side and 1336, 1335 along its south. This would have defined an area 2m wide and at least 2.5m long (east end unclear). Any relationship it might have had with pits 1274/1185 and line 1350/1352/1389 could not be defined.

## Group 40 – Additional Features Northwest of Enclosure 6

1205, 1324

Two unexcavated features were recorded in the northwest corner of the excavation. **1205**, of which only the northern edge could be securely defined, *ran roughly southwest-northeast and was at least 1.8m long (neither limit definable)* and is recorded as cutting into 1377, a late fill of gully 1461 (Group 23 – although see further discussion below), the northern boundary marker for Enclosure 5 at this point. **1324** to the west *ran perpendicular to 1205 and was 0.70m wide and at least 1.2m long (north end beyond limit of excavation, south end not defined)*.

The two features seem likely to be associated, given their alignment, forming an L-shaped junction. How they fit with other elements in the vicinity is much less obvious. Each was filled with a stony fill, which seems to mark them out from adjacent boundary gully 1190 (Group 23), which they might otherwise be seen as replacing or augmenting. In this they are also markedly different from any other of the fills of ditches related to Enclosures 5 and 6, and might be seen as an entirely new system of landscape organisation, which then continued to the north. However, all of the latter have been truncated and, if survival was marginally better to the north, we may just be seeing here a stony capping once evident elsewhere on the site but later cut away.

A final, equally problematic aspect of the evidence is that 1324 co-aligns quite exactly with ditch 1206 and 1205 runs parallel to ditch 1208 (both Group 22). However, these divisions are provably early, antedating the setting out of the features described under Group 23. Thus, either the stratigraphic record is wrong (but this issue of alignment was noted at the time of the excavation, so this seems unlikely); or 1206/1208 continued to exert an influence on the spatial organisation of this area, despite the creation of 1190/1321 in their place; or the positioning is coincidental.

In sum, these two ditches could involve a continuation of an early enclosure lying north of Enclosure 6 but with a common western limit (i.e. be part of Group 22 - the least preferred interpretation here, as it contradicts the clear stratigraphic statement that 1205 cut fill 1377, belonging to Group 23, which in turn provably postdates Group 22). Alternatively they could comprise the southern limit of some later activity, entirely unrelated to anything else discussed so far with respect to Enclosures 5 and 6 (a distinct possibility). Finally, they may represent mere modifications, which redefined the area to the north of Enclosure 7 but with a common western edge, at a stage when other activities were still taking place within the enclosed areas to the south (perhaps the preferred option).

## Group 41 – Subdivisions and Probable Building Inserted Within Enclosure 7

1365, 1247, 1098, 1026, 1170, 1142, 1399, 1022, 1282, 1023, 1144, 1024, 1251, 1250, 1131, 1021, 1076, 1027, 1239, 1398, 1094, 1428, 1346, 1345, 1344, 1019

Within the line of Enclosure 7, north-south ditch **1365** was evident cutting into the natural chalk. *0.35m wide and at least 4.7m long (northern end beyond the limit of*



excavation) and with a rounded southern terminal, it had vertical sides up to 0.36m deep, with a clear break to its flat base at a level of 198.62m OD. It was filled with a brownish black mixture of silt, less sand and less still clay and variously-sized pebbles (1247) and constitutes a ditch running slightly oblique to the main enclosure ditch 1138 (Group 25) but stopping short of it. It therefore seems likely to have been inserted after the latter, as part of a reinforcing of that boundary within Enclosure 7.

Just to the south, linear ditch **1098** cut into 1018, the uppermost fill of early major ditch 1308 (Group 17). *11.4m long and up to 0.60m wide in places, with fairly steep sides 0.17m deep curving gently to a locally undulating base which seemed to fall gently from west to east, reaching a level of 198.75m OD 3m from its western terminal (unexcavated past this point).* The feature was filled with a mixture of greyish brown sand, less clay and even less silt forming a soil matrix around some chalk pebbles, mostly fine but some medium-sized, plus occasional charcoal flecks (1026). This feature ran up towards, but not beyond, the western limit of Enclosure 7, suggesting that it was inserted after the latter had been created.

At the eastern end of ditch 1098 lay another feature running perpendicular to its line. **1170** was at least 3.5m long (south end merging with the fill of early ditch 1241 – see further below) and 0.65m wide, with a curved terminal to the north and steep sides only 10mm deep, with a clear break to its generally flat. Locally irregular, base at a level of 198.84m OD. This feature was recorded in excavation as being filled with, and more generally sealed by, 1095, also the fill of feature 1241 (Group 18). However, as mentioned previously, the distinction in this vicinity between fill proper and definition context was by no means clear. In addition, 1170 not only runs perpendicular to 1098, but the latter is not evident in in tact natural strata on its alignment east of 1170. Thus it seems very likely that 1098 formed a T-junction with 1170, and that both were set out here as a subdivision within Enclosure 7, focussing just north of the latter's eastern access point.

In the southern part of Enclosure 7, curvilinear ditch **1142** intruded into 1018, the uppermost fill of early ditch 1308/1444 (Group 17). *At least 3.6m long (south end beyond the limit of excavation, north end merging with 1251 – see below), it was up to 0.50m wide in places, with sides varying from shallow to quite steep with a depth of up to 0.31m curving to a concave base at a level of 198.64m OD, sloping down from north to south.* It was filled with a profusion of fine and medium pebbles within a mixture of small amounts of greyish brown clay, silt and fine sand in equal proportions (1399), perhaps material washed into the feature when it was in use, below a light greyish brown mixture of silt, less sand and even less clay forming a soil matrix around some chalk pebbles, mostly fine (1022). Whether this second fill constitutes material dumped into the cut, weathered from its sides, or a combination of both processes, is unclear. It contained a pair of early medieval tweezers (sf34) and various iron objects, including a buckle (sf36) and a blade (sf66).

Just to the west of 1142, and co-aligned with it, cut **1282** also intruded into 1018, the uppermost fill of ditch 1308/1444 (Group 17), and into 1077, the fill of ditch 1161 (Group 19). *At least 4m long (north end merging with 1251 and with a pointed southern terminal, it was up to 0.30m wide with near vertical sides, especially in the east, 0.32m deep curving gently to a flattish base at a level of 198.62m OD, which sloped gently down to the north.* It was filled with dark greyish brown silt, some fine

*pebbles and a little sand and clay, also containing fragments of bone, quern stone fragments, charcoal and daub (1023).*

Just to the south of the terminal of ditch, cut **1144** intruded into the natural chalk. *At least 1.9m long (south end beyond the limit of excavation) and with a rounded northern terminal, it was c.0.50m wide with steep sides in the west, less so and more irregular in the east, 0.14m deep curving irregularly to a flattish base with local irregularities at a level of 198.86m OD. It was filled with a light greyish brown mixture of sand, some silt and a little clay forming a soil matrix around some chalk pebbles, mainly fine in size (1024).* 1144 forms a counterpart to 1282 to its north, the 0.70m gap between their terminals being either a real absence, to allow access across their line, or a point at which the base level rose slightly and was thus disappeared due to later truncation. Given the levels involved, the first option is, perhaps, to be preferred.

To the north of 1282 and 1142, the two elements merged to form a single feature, **1251**, which also cut 1018, the uppermost fill of ditch 1308/1444 (Group 17). This ran for *15m from the junction between these two, first due north, then increasingly turning to the east so that it was aligned east-west when it met the eastern limit of excavation. Up to 0.85m wide in places, it had gently sloping sides 0.25m deep blending imperceptibly in to its slightly v-shaped base at a level of 198.79m OD. It was filled with a greyish brown mixture of clay, less silt and still less sand forming a soil matrix around pebbles, mostly fine in size (1250).*

**1131** cut into natural chalk just adjacent to the junction between 1142 and 1251, on their east side. *Oval in shape, measuring 1.6m north-south by up to 0.40m across, it had a rounded terminal in the north (southern counterpart unexcavated) and shallow sides 0.13m deep curving imperceptibly to its flat base at a level of 198.83m OD. It was filled with light greyish brown silt, some sand and a little fine pebbles and clay (1021).* Presumably it represents a reinforcing of the line of ditch 1251/1142 at the place where the latter changed from two slightly diverging elements to a single feature.

To the north, on the western side of 1251, circular cut **1076** intruded into the natural chalk. *C.0.34m across, it had near vertical sides 0.12m deep curving gently to its flat, regular base and was filled with a dark greyish brown mixture of sand, less silt and fine pebbles, and still less clay (1027)* and must represent a post position up against ditch 1251, reinforcing its alignment at this point.

Taken together, the elements of 1251 *et al.* form a single curvilinear feature describing an arc 16m across north south and extending for at least 8.5m east-west before going beyond the eastern limit of excavation. It clearly represents an end to the organisation of this part of the landscape seen with the linear features described in Groups 17 and 18, and thus is most likely to have been inserted when Enclosure 7 was created or sometime afterwards. In contrast, however, to the additions seen within Enclosures 5 and 6 to the east, it fell right across the line of the access into Enclosure 7, only 4m to its east. It is tempting, therefore, to relate it to the insertion of additional ditches 1098 and 1365 to the north, especially the latter, as traffic within Enclosure 7 was now channelled through a different route to hitherto.

Within the curvilinear alignment described above, a second curving feature, **1239**, intruded into 1095, the fill of early ditch cut 1241 (Group 18). *Traceable for a distance of 2.5m (east end beyond the limit of excavation, west end merging with 1018, the fill of ditch 1308/1444 – Group 17), it was c.1m across, with irregular but generally steep sides up to 0.62m deep with a clear break of slope to its flattish base at a level of 198.32m OD.* It was filled initially with a *light yellowish brown, loose spread of variously sized pebbles, mostly medium sized, in very little soil (1398)*, clearly weathering from the sides of the cut, then a *greyish brown mixture of clay, silt and slightly less sand forming a soil matrix around some medium and fine pebbles (1094)*, probably dumped into the feature at the end of its useful life. This layer contained a number of objects, including a copper alloy brooch (sf19) a possible smoothing stone (sf547), an iron hook (sf160), and fragments of fired clay hearth lining (sf329, sf574) and smithing slag (sf161, sf230).

Despite its irregularity in plan, there seems little doubt that 1239 comprises a curving ditch inserted into the top of features allocated to Group 18 and almost certainly cutting into the top of ditch 1308/1444 to the west (Group 17 - although this could not be definitively decided during the excavation). It must therefore represent a new division of space in the area. Furthermore, although only a little of its line could be identified, it seemed to be concentric with the line of ditch 1251, and so is best interpreted as a curvilinear ditch set out at the same time as the latter, within Enclosure 6, but curving at a slightly sharper angle (the distance between the two is 2.1m in the north, perhaps over double that further west). In addition, a counterpart to 1239 curving back towards the eastern limit of excavation was not evident to the south where it might be expected, implying that it ended in a but end somewhere within the line of early ditch 1308/1444.

In the area between ditch 1251 and the projected 1239, **1428** intruded into 1018, the uppermost fill of ditch 1308/1444 (Group 17). Only its western half could be securely defined, and only the southern part of this was excavated. This suggests a *rectangular feature measuring 3.4m north-south by at least 2.2m east-west, with vertical sides where exposed up to 0.82m deep with a clear break to its even base which seemed to slope slightly in towards its centre, reaching a level of c.198.20m OD.* It was filled initially with a spread of *medium and fine pebbles, with a few large but very little soil in between (1346)*, then a *charcoal spread (1345)*, followed by an *ashy deposit (1344)*. This last layer had an irregular surface, and included one possible post position 0.10m across and other possible ephemeral slots and sloping areas. Finally, a *dark greyish brown mixture of fine sand and silt, less medium pebbles and still less fine and coarse pebbles (1019)* was dumped into the top of the feature to backfill it. It contained a number of finds, including a bone pin or needle (sf148), an iron buckle (sf37) and an early medieval knife (sf69), pieces of daub (sf548, sf571, sf587) and smithing slag (sf159, sf306).

The early fills can be interpreted in one of two ways. The very pebbly layer 1346 could represent weathering of the sides of the feature, with later charcoal and ash accumulating/trodden here after it had gone out of use before 1019 was used to tidy the area. In this, the process within cut 1428 would resemble what was seen with the demise of sunken-feature buildings within Enclosure 6 (Groups 34-36, above). An alternative view would see 1346 as some sort of surfacing within the base of 1428 (as with the metalling exposed in the base of 1466 – Group 34), with layers 1345 and

1346 representing its use and 1019 its demise. Because of the limited exposure of this intrusion, it is impossible to decide between these alternatives.

Either way, it seems very likely that this represents a sunken-feature building set up within Enclosure 7. Its western limit obeys the line of curvilinear ditch 1251, and it must have been put up at the same point as the latter was dug or afterwards whilst it was still in play. Its eastern limit, if it was of similar size to those seen to the west, would have cut through the projected line of inner ditch 1239 (although note that the latter is suggested as having terminal somewhere in this vicinity – hence 1428 may have been dug in relation to that alignment too, just as the corresponding buildings in Enclosure 6 fitted into additional curvilinear ditches there).

### **Group 42 – Pitting in Northwest Area of Enclosure 7**

1437, 1436, 1417, 1439, 1438, 1440, 1469, 1441, 1442, 1243, 1242, 1169, 1096

To the north of the subsidiary curvilinear enclosure just describes, a roughly circular pit **1437** cut into 1018, the uppermost fill of the early, large ditch 1308/1444 (Group 17). *1.5m across, it had near vertical sides at least 0.65m deep (base not reached but was seemingly not far below limit of excavation, which reached a level of 198.23m OD).* Its sides near its presumed base showed signs of weathering (not numbered separately from lowest fill), followed by the deposition of *greyish brown silt, some fine sand and a little clay containing moderate pebbles and occasional larger stones (1436)*, then a final deposit of *a mixture of silt, fine sand and less clay forming a soil matrix around some medium and coarse pebbles and fewer larger stones and fine pebbles (1417)*. These fills seem likely to have been dumped into the pit at the end of its useful life. Its original function is unknown.

A sub-circular posthole, **1439**, which cut natural chalk near to this pit was *0.23m across and 0.10m deep, with sloping sides curving to its rounded base* and was filled with *a greyish brown mixture of fine sand and much less clay and silt with some fine and fewer medium pebbles (1438)*. It seems likely that this was in use with the pit.

Just to the north, pit **1440**, only seen retrospectively in section, cut into 1295, the uppermost fill here of early ditch 1308/1444 (Group 17). *1.35m across and probably circular, it had vertical sides 1m deep which curved gently to its slightly rounded base at a level of 197.94m OD.* It was filled initially with *a dark greyish brown deposit of mostly medium pebbles but less fine pebbles and large stone fragments in a soil matrix of a little clay, silt and fine sand in equal proportions (1469)*. This must represent weathering of the east side of the pit. It was sealed by a mixed deposit of *dark greyish brown fine sand, slightly less silt and clay around medium pebbles, larger stones and fine pebbles in decreasing proportions, the amount of stone content increasing with depth (1441)*, then a capping lens at the surface of *dark greyish brown mixed silt, fine sand and less clay plus some medium pebbles and rather less fine pebbles (1442)*. The position of 1442 in profile might imply that it represents a once-sealing deposit which drifted down into 1440 as the latter's lower fills subsided. The primary usage of the feature remains unclear.

Finally, in the northeast corner of the excavation area, a roughly sub-circular cut **1243** intruded into the natural chalk. *C.0.80m across, it had steep sides up to 0.30m deep with a clear break to its flattish base which sloped slightly down to the west to a level of 198.72m OD. It was filled with variously-sized pebbles, mostly below 20mm across, in a greyish brown mixture of sand, less silt and a little clay, the angularity of some of its stone inclusions suggesting tip lines from north to south (1242).* It also contained pieces of fired clay, thought to be brick in excavation, and a piece of wood. It seems likely that the latter, and perhaps even the former, are a result of overlying modern disturbance.

An irregular, north-south channel, **1169**, cut into the edge of fill 1242, also intruding into 1095, the fill of early ditch 1241 (Group 18). *At least 0.80m long (neither end clearly established), it was c.0.40m wide, with very oblique and irregular sides less than 60mm deep and an irregular base which seemed to slope slightly down to the south, though with a distinct depression in it to the north at the junction with pit 1243, with a lowest level of 198.84m OD. It was filled with a greyish brown mixture of sand and silt and less clay around some pebbles, mostly fine and medium in size but a few over 30mm across (1096).* This fill of the gully also continued to the south to fill early ditch 1240 (Group 18).

Although the function of pit 1243 is unknown, there seems good reason to link it to the use of gully 1169, given nature of the latter's base, their position in plan, and the underlying relationships. In addition, the pit seems to have been inserted up against the northern terminal of ditch 1170 (Group 41), and the gully runs parallel to the same feature. Hence both were probably in use later in the life of Enclosure 7, when its area had been sub-divided. One could postulate some sort of artisan activity in association with such elements, although the proximity of the edges of excavation makes any interpretation problematic.

### **Group 43 – Activity in the Southwest Area of Enclosure 7**

1470, 1166, 1366, 1246, 1040, 1116, 1080, 1530, 1529, 1528, 1140, 1119, 1141, 1118

The following elements comprise a pit and six postholes, all cutting natural chalk but situated in one area. Apart from their physical proximity, there is no way of telling whether they are directly associated, or indeed whether they are inserted when Enclosure 7 was in use, before this, or afterwards.

Pit **1470** was roughly circular, *c.1.6m across, with near vertical sides 1m deep curving slightly to its flat, regular base at a level of 197.98m OD. Half way down the side of the feature, weathering of its sides (see 1366 below) created a distinct ledge in its profile.* The pit was filled initially with a dark greyish brown mixture of silt, less fine sand, and still less medium pebbles, *fine sand and fine pebbles in decreasing proportions (1166).* The dark character of this deposit compared to later fills might suggest that it represents primary activity within the feature. *Chalk pebbles in a little light brown silt (1366)* formed a ridge of re-deposited gravel at the edges of the pit, slumped in from its sides, at a level of c. 0.50m above its base, covered by *loose chalk pebbles in some fine sand and a little silt (1246)* as well as fragments of iron slag (sf265-6). Given its high stone content, the latter deposit also seems likely to have

been derived from the sides of the feature. However, the difference in compaction compared to underlying 1366 might imply that the lower material was compacted though use (hence the distinctiveness of the ridge which it formed), whereas 1246 merely drifted into the pit gradually. *A dark greyish brown mixture of silt and clay and less fine sand and fine pebbles containing frequent medium pebbles and large stones plus occasional; charcoal flecks, the stone content concentrated more towards its base (1040)* filled the remainder of the pit, presumably a dump after weathering, though perhaps mixed a little with the stone concentrations at its interface with underlying strata.

**1116** lay about 1m southwest of the pit. *Roughly circular, with an additional higher area to the north, it was c.0.30m across but merely 60mm deep, with irregular sides changing to a concave base at a level of 198.99m OD.* It was filled with *dark greyish brown silt and some fine sand containing frequent fine and moderate medium pebbles, plus occasional charcoal flecks (1080).* Just to the east lay three unexcavated, circular postholes, **1530** being 0.42m across, **1529** 0.22m across and **1528** 0.18m across. Further north, **1140** was *roughly circular, 0.35m across, with step sides 0.11m deep curving to a distinct, slightly concave base at a level of 199.01m OD.* It was filled with *a dark greyish brown mixture of sand and less clay, silt and mostly fine pebbles (1119)* Finally **1141**, just to the north of this, was *oval, 0.25m north-south by 0.20m east-west, with sloping sides 60mm deep and an irregular base.* It was filled with *a dark greyish brown mixture of sand and silt, variously sized pebbles, most below 10mm, clay and silt in decreasing proportions (1118).*

The exact function of the shallow post positions 1116 *et al.* is unclear, although they do position themselves around the periphery of pit at a distance between 0.6 and 1.2m, so may be installations associated with its initial use. In addition, or alternatively, they might be linked to the gap between 1282 and 1144 to the east (Group 41), two curvilinear additions within Enclosure 7.

#### **Group 44 – Topsoil**

1001, 1002, 1000

A mixed deposit of *orangey brown fine sand, less silt and still less clay forming a matrix of soil around fine medium and slightly less coarse pebbles (1001)* overlay the uppermost elements of all the fills and definition contexts mentioned to a depth of 0.20m. Finds from the base of this stratum, derived from cleaning the underlying surface to define extant features cutting the natural chalk, were labelled as **1002**. Above 1001, but not sharply distinguished from it, lay a second element of *dark brownish grey fine sand and some silt containing frequent coarse and medium pebbles and moderate fine pebbles, plus occasional bit of coarse sand (1000).* The majority of both 1000 and 1001, c0.50m deep when combined, was removed in initial machining on the site, with the underlying remains then dug by hand. They constitute the topsoil of the area and sealed all activities described above under Groups 17-43.

#### **Group 45 – Features only seen in Test Pits to North of Main Excavation**

1497, 1496, 1491, 1490, 1489, 1488, 1493, 1492, 1499, 1498, 1505, 1504

The elements described below were derived from digging test pits within and to the north of the main excavation area. This took place in advance of the investigation of the latter, and were used to define that area more accurately, establish its depth of topsoil etc. – i.e. evaluation pre-excavation. Nine pits were dug, labelled A-J (I was not used). All but three were 2m by 2m in size. The latter comprised one east-west trench 5m X 1m (D), one north-south 4m X 1m (E) and one east-west, 4m X 1m (F). Test pits D, G and H fell within the excavation trench as subsequently defined, and thus could be linked directly to its sequence. The others, lying to the north of the main trench, are described below.

In each case, material was collected only from the topsoil and subsoil of the test pit, and thus each have two ‘stratified’ assemblages associated with them, roughly the equivalent of 1000 and 1001 respectively as defined in the area to the south. However, any extant features exposed in plan at the base of the subsoil were also noted on the recording sheet, although no given separate numbers. None were excavated, so any finds from the pit must be seen as coming from Topsoil. In what follows, these underlying features are labelled as a subset of the subsoil number (thus the earliest stratum seen in Test Pit E, whose subsoil was given the number 1497, is called 1497/5, the next feature up 1497/4 etc.).

Test Pit E exposed an area of *natural chalk* (1497/5) towards its centre. This was cut to the north by a *large stone-packed post hole* (1497/4) and, to the south, by the *northern edge of a possibly circular pit* (1497/3). *Subsoil* proper (1497) then *topsoil* (1496) covered the whole trench. Although this trench lay immediately adjacent to the main excavation area, the pit by its southern limit was not evident to the south, suggesting that it was only a local feature. The stone-packed posthole also had no obvious equivalents to the south, perhaps implying a new type of structural development here.

About 8m north of this lay Test Pit B. The *natural chalk* (1491/4) here was only exposed in its northwest corner, the rest of the trench being covered by a spread of *charcoal-flecked, silty version of the subsoil* (1491/3), then *subsoil* proper (1491), below *topsoil* (1490). This suggests that the sondage lay on the line of a major intrusion.

Just north of B, Test Pit A comprised *natural chalk* (1489/7), exposed in the eastern half of the trench only. It was cut near the eastern limit of excavation by a *possible pit* (1489/6) and, near its northeast corner, by a *ditch running northwest-southeast* (1489/5). The western side of the pit was occupied by a *large, north-south ditch, of which only the eastern edge fell within the area exposed* (1489/4). A number of *roughly hewn chalk blocks, perhaps bonded with a yellowish brown clay* (1489/3) was set into the latter feature and might suggest more substantial structural development at this point. *Subsoil* proper (1489) then *topsoil* (1488) covered the whole trench thereafter.

Some 11m west of A and B lay Test Pit C. *Natural chalk* (1493/5) was seen over most of the area, cut by an *east-west ditch to the north, of which only the southern edge* (1493/3) lay within the area. At the west end of the latter lay a *stone-packed*

*post pit (1493/4)*, the whole area then being covered by *subsoil* proper (1493) then *topsoil* (1492). The proximity of post and ditch might suggest that the two are associated.

Northwest of C lay Test Pit F. *Natural chalk (1499/6)* was apparent towards the centre/east of the exposed area, but was seemingly cut towards its northern baulk by a *posthole (1499/5)*. At the eastern end of the trench lay a possible pit (1499/4), with a second, *larger counterpart (1499/3)* towards its western end. Both of the last two features evidenced a spread of unworked chalk rubble. The overlying deposits of *subsoil* proper (1499) then *topsoil* (1498) contained a higher proportion of pottery and animal bone than seen to the south, suggesting nearby occupation and perhaps a different method of rubbish disposal from that seen elsewhere.

Finally, c.12m southwest of C lay Test Pit J. *Natural chalk (1505/4)* was evident in its southwest corner, cut by *a large ditch, of which only the southwest side fell within the trench (1505/3)*. A gravel lens evident in the surface of this ditch showed that the fills ran along the line of the feature and that its deepest area lay towards the northeast corner of the sondage, whilst it contained a profusion of animal bone in large fragments and occasional charcoal flecks.. *Subsoil* proper (1505) then *topsoil* (1504) sealed this feature.

Taken as a whole, many of the elements exposed in these test pits resemble those excavated fully in the main trench. Thus there are a couple of pits (1497/3 and 1489/6), some gulleys (1489/5, 1489/4, perhaps picked up nearby as 1491/3 and 1493/3) and a few larger ditches 1499/4, 1499/5 and 1505/3). All can be paralleled to the south. At the same time, the evidence of large, sometimes stone-packed postholes (1493/4, 1499/5 and 1497/4), together with a possible rough masonry footing (1489/3) and the evidence of stonework in the surface of 1499/4 and 1499/5 and higher proportions of animal bone and pottery elsewhere might imply that different forms of structural development and general occupation were happening here.

It is not possible to relate any of the above directly to the fully excavated sequence, although it is worth remarking that the high proportions of stonework (compared to the rest of the site, at least) seen in the surface of 1205 (Group 40) might imply that these signs of more concerted occupation occurred towards the end of the main sequence or later. This is backed up by the fact that, where relationships could be defined, postholes cut into pre-existing ditches rather than the other way round. It is therefore possible that activities were longer lived, and of a rather different character, towards the north of the valley bottom.

#### **IV. Summary of Stratigraphic Sequence and Conclusions**

The first sign of activities occurred towards the eastern limit of the excavation area, comprising the insertion of a major north-south landscape division running across its full width (*Group 17*). It had clearly been in use for an extended period of time, its fills comprising both weathering of its sides and deliberate dumping. Subsidiary features imply that these sides may have been revetted by posts at some stage of its use. A series of parallel, smaller ditches just east of this large boundary are probably



contemporary with its use, incorporating a possible entrance towards the centre of the site and other elements which may have had a structural function (*Group 18*).

To the west of the main boundary, two further ditches with indications of a possible ankle-beaker in their base suggest the position of a subsidiary enclosure created against the larger ditch, seemingly associated with an amorphous pit to the north (*Group 19*). Further west still, towards the centre of the site, another series of features represents a second enclosure, perhaps open to the west. The character of its initial backfill and alignment imply that this new insertion is broadly contemporary with those further east, with nearby post holes suggesting installations, and perhaps even a fence line, within the area enclosed (*Group 20*).

A number of pits, grouped loosely together here, were evident across the western half of the site (*Group 21*). Some pre-dated the setting out of curvilinear enclosures on the site (see below), and the position of others appeared to articulate with the earlier, rectilinear ditches. Thus they are suggested to be in use early in the occupation of the area, comprising features for rubbish disposal followed by weathering, in one case associated with dumping of butchering waste, and features related to quarrying of the natural chalk gravel (the latter being most clearly related to the insertion of the western rectangular enclosure). Taken as a whole, these components show that the first use of the site comprised a major boundary ditch and two rectilinear enclosures to its west, very different in character from the succeeding spatial organisation.

In the north west corner of the excavation, ditches on a new alignment were inserted into the natural chalk, associated with pits of unknown function further east (*Group 22*). Although these components could not be related stratigraphically to the divisions of the site described previously, their character, position and alignments imply that they represent a new period of development, see more fully with the creation of the three curvilinear enclosures described next.

In this same vicinity, a series of narrow and shallow ditches were cut into the Group 22 arrangement, forming the sides of two enclosures with an entrance between the two (*Group 23*). These components clearly post-dated some of the pits allocated to the early pits in Group 21, and strongly suggest that an entirely new system of landholding was created at this point, in the form of Enclosure 5 in the west and Enclosure 6 further east. The access arrangements between these two zones then seems to have been reinforced with additional ditches soon afterwards (*Group 24*).

To the east, at the same time as the above, another set of narrow and insubstantial ditches created a division between the centre of the site and its eastern zone (*Group 25*), the latter therefore designated as Enclosure 7. From the surviving evidence, Enclosure 6 would have measured c.28m east-west by 20m north-south. The limits of its counterparts to either side lay beyond the limit of excavation but, taken is unclear. However the divisions between 6 and 7 probably post-dated the use of the early rectilinear features on the site. Hence these three new zones marked the move from rectilinear to curvilinear spatial organisation on the site. They remained prominent in its subsequent use, although subsequent activity within each took different forms in different places.

At an early stage, further features were inserted in and around the access point between Enclosures 5 and 6, perhaps creating a new arrangement in the form of a gateway running into both zones (*Group 26*). Another set of large postholes cut into the latter features soon afterwards on the Enclosure 6 side (*Group 27*). Within Enclosure 5 to the west, a roughly square structure 3m across was inserted just inside the north side of the entrance, perhaps to monitor movement into that zone, corresponding with a ditch channelling traffic on its south side. Pits of unknown function intruded into the northwest corner of the former structure, in such a way as to suggest that it remained standing at the time (*Group 28*). Taken together, these features testify to the continuing importance of the entrance area at the time.

Within Enclosure 5 proper, a major curvilinear ditch (*Group 29*) intruded obliquely across the edge of the square structure and up against the line of the enclosure's eastern limit. A number of smaller features then inserted just to the north (*Group 30*) imply fence lines or similar set out against the new ditch. Finally, a number of pits, perhaps for the disposal, of organic waste and one of which may have been timber-lined, intruded into the above linear features, perhaps contemporary with a possible sunken-feature building to the south (all *Group 31*). Taken in the round, this suggests that, after the entrance arrangements east of Enclosure 5 were modified and developed, the internal space was then subdivided with a curvilinear ditch, subdivisions were reinforced with fence lines, and occupation and perhaps structural development then occurred across the area.

To the east of the above activities, a series of ditches created a rectangular subdivision within Enclosure 6 towards its centre up against its northern limit measuring c5m east-west by 3m north-south. A smaller structure seems to have been inserted in its corner, activity within being represented by small pit (*Group 32*). Correspondingly, in the northeast corner of this enclosure, a sequence of three curvilinear features were inserted to form successive subdivisions of this zone in an area 5-6m south of its northern limit (*Group 33*). It is clear, therefore, that the whole enclosure was subdivided soon after it had been set out.

Three sunken-feature buildings were constructed after the above subdivisions, but seeming to obey their positions. That furthest west comprised a structure measuring c.5m east-west by 4m north-south, 0.70m deep with a timber framed structure in its base enclosing an area just under 4m by 3m and entrance arrangements along its southern side (*Group 34*). Although it clearly cuts into the junction of curvilinear ditches inserted beforehand, this building had been positioned to obey those existing frameworks. Pebble metallings show that occupation took place in the base of the feature, to be followed by weathering of its sides then localised usage of a convenient hollow. The dumps above this, which contained the majority of cultural material, relate to general, later activities rather than those taking place within the structure itself.

Immediately to the east, a second building cut into the curvilinear subdivisions of Enclosure 6 there. Although slightly smaller than its western counterpart on its long axis, it was roughly the same depth and also incorporated a subsidiary area in its base, here measuring 3m by 2.5m (*Group 35*). The side of the lower element, in this case, were revetted by planks held in place by post seemingly separate from the superstructure of the building as a whole. In addition, access was via an entrance

arrangement at its southeast corner. Otherwise, the two buildings bear a striking resemblance to each other in terms of position with respect to the pre-existing curvilinear ditches within Enclosure 6, their dimensions and alignment, the general character of their superstructure, and their backfilling processes.

Finally, some 6m east of the above structure, a third building, not completely excavated, was set between the eastern limit of Enclosure 6 and the easternmost curvilinear subdivision within it, its long axis therefore running southwest-northeast (*Group 36*). Slightly smaller than its counterparts western counterparts, measuring c.4.5 by 2.5m, it also had a subsidiary cut inside it just over 3m by 2m across, perhaps linked to the postholes evident in its sides, and was of similar depth. Its entrance appears to have been on the long axis on its southeast side. Finally, where it cut an earlier ditch opposite, the fills of the latter seem to have been recut and backfilled, perhaps as part of the process of accommodating this new insertion.

In the southern part of Enclosure 6 lay three pits and a scatter of postholes, arguably related to the last of these (*Group 37*). One element cut into an early rectilinear landscape division so, if all were contemporary, they may be broadly contemporary with the use of Enclosure 6 (though this remains a less coherent grouping than most of those discussed so far). Two larger pits in the south may have been involved with the disposal of organic waste, though it is unclear whether this was their primary function, whilst the smaller pit and nearby postholes could have been a structure set up just inside the eastern entrance into the enclosure.

Beside the western entrance to Enclosure 6 lay a scatter of 18 postholes (*Group 38*), all of which cut into natural chalk and were sealed by topsoil and thus could belong to any period of occupation. However, 14 form the sides of a bow-sided building measuring c.8m north-south by 4m east west, symmetrically placed with respect to that entrance and so suggesting their broad contemporaneity. The four other intrusions imply small structure further east. As the main structure lies across the line of the access between Enclosures 5 and 6, it may simply act to block movement here. However, it is equally possible that it acted as a form of gatehouse, controlling movement by making it pass through a roofed area but not preventing it altogether.

In the northwest corner of Enclosure 6, a pair of pits and a scatter of post holes cutting into natural chalk (*Group 39*) may be contemporary with activities seen elsewhere. Some of the latter seemed to have been distributed in a rectangular configuration and may be ephemeral traces of former structures, although their shallow depth shows that the stone packing they contained must have been to support timber members which were part of a framed-superstructure, rather than freestanding vertical posts. Finally, just beyond the junction of Enclosures 5 and 6 in the north, two features forming an L-shaped junction seem to be inserted late in the history of the area (*Group 40*). The character of their latest fills differs from that seen elsewhere, being markedly more stony. Hence the two ditches either represent a new organisation of landscape, replacing the curvilinear systems or, if survival is better here than further south, a modification of what came before but with different, uppermost fills surviving in tact.

Inside Enclosure 7, at the eastern extreme of the site, a curvilinear ditch with a 16m diameter was set out, with a second smaller curving feature set within its line. Both cut the early rectilinear divisions of the area and obeyed the line of the curvilinear

enclosure, so clearly represent a new organisation of the zone within the latter. A probable sunken-feature building was inserted between them, near the western limit of the larger ditch (*Group 41*). Hence, as seen to the west, the sequence of subdivision then structural development seems also to apply to Enclosure 7.

Just to the north, but still within the main enclosure, three pits of unknown function (*Group 42*), also cut the rectilinear ditch system and are probably part of the occupation of Enclosure 7. Similarly, a pit and six nearby postholes cutting natural chalk in one area in the south of this enclosure (*Group 43*) may comprise broadly contemporary occupation there. The topsoil which covered these features also continued across the whole of the site, representing the final phase of activity here (*Group 44*).

Finally, in a series of test pits dug to the north of the main excavation area for the purposes of evaluation generated some evidence for activities there (*Group 45*). For the most part, this comprised indications of pits, gulleys and some larger ditches which would not have been out of place in the fully excavated sequence. However, a number of stone-packed postholes, mostly larger than those seen to the south, and stone footings for a possible masonry wall might imply a more substantial form of structural development here. This, together with the higher proportions of building materials, animal bone and pottery found in overlying strata, might imply occupation of a different date. Where relationships existed, these atypical features were later than the more usual features, suggesting that the change took place after the main activity to the south related to the curvilinear Enclosures 5-7.

## **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**) – topsoil or subsoil overlying the natural chalk or ‘definition spits’
- Artefacts (**A**) - either a whole finds assemblage or an individual find
- 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 29 groups:

- **Groups 17-21:** Features pre-dating the insertion of curvilinear enclosures on the site
- **Group 22:** Possible early curvilinear enclosure
- **Groups 23-27:** Creation of Enclosures 5-7 on the site, and modifications to access arrangements between them
- **Groups 28-31:** Activities within Enclosure 5
- **Groups 32-40:** Activities within Enclosure 6
- **Groups 41-43:** Activities within Enclosure 7
- **Group 44:** Topsoil
- **Group 45:** Evidence from test pits outside the main excavation area

### *3. Associated Enclosure*

This column lists the relationship between each stratigraphic unit and the curvilinear enclosures created on the site, the detailed text providing full discussion of the basis for these decisions. Thus each unit might be:

- **Pre-enclosure:** ante-date the laying out of the curvilinear elements
- **Early Enclosure:** post-dating the above, yet seemingly laid out before the main system, a possible forerunner
- **Enclosure 5/6 or 6/7:** features involved with creating boundaries, and access arrangements, between the three enclosures
- **Enclosure 5, 6 or 7:** enclosure to which the feature is thought to be related. The link might be direct, for example where a ditch is actually part of the landscape element in question, or more oblique, for example a pit lying within, or sometimes beyond, such a zone.
- **Post-enclosure :** those units covering all of the above, either as topsoil/subsoil or as definition contexts.

### *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 '1031 – Dump (Occupation debris?), '1181 - '?Primary use' etc.).

For the purposes of the explicit definitions below, the categories are split between deposits, artefacts, 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 horizontal strata overlying the natural chalk, either topsoil or subsoil, and ‘definition spits’ comprising material at the base of topsoil in a more restricted part of the excavation:

- **Topsoil** – the plough soil and subsoil sealing all other strata, with a general ‘definition context’ 1002, at its base
- **Definition Spits** – areas above intersecting intrusions where further work was required before proper stratigraphic investigation could start

*Artefacts*, comprising either whole finds assemblages or individual finds recovered in the course of cleaning and definition work (some of which could then be related to particular excavated features), in the topsoil of test pits outside the main excavation area, or found during metal detecting of the spoil heap generated during machining.

*Cuts*, comprising a much more significant number of units and divided here between linear and non-linear intrusions.

Linear intrusions were further split into five types, the final one being a catch-all category for those elements which did not fit the other four:

- **Linear Ditch** – linear, usually large, intrusion into the site with a role in dividing up the area (those at smaller end of this category might be better described as ‘gulleys’)
- **Enclosure Boundary Marker** – linear ditch, usually smaller than the ditch profiles, interpreted as creating divisions between Enclosures 5/6, and 6/7
- **Curvilinear Ditch** – non-linear ditches of a size and position to relate to one of three enclosures on the site, or subdivisions within such (in some cases, these ‘ditches’ might be better described as ‘gulleys’)
- **Slot** – a localised feature, probably with a structural function e.g. the foundation for a base plate
- **Linear Cut** - a more general category not covered by the preceding ones, which thus might comprise a foundation trench or a number of other functional elements.

‘Closed’ intrusions were further split in six ways:

- **Post Position** – a feature defined in terms of its proposed structural function and its limited size, up to c.0.50m across (thus could range from a small stake hole to a larger cut which formed the base of a post)
- **Sunken Feature Building** – a large intrusion, at least 5m across, with a generally flat base and some indication of associated structural elements
- **Rubbish Pit** – a roughly circular intrusion, c.2m across, containing a profusion of artefactual and/or faunal assemblages in *all* surviving fills, and so perhaps dug originally for disposal of such cultural material

- **Quarry Pit** – a feature of irregular shape and profile, seemingly inserted to access underlying chalk and gravel
- **Pit of Unknown Function** – any roughly circular intrusion, up to c.3m across and of various depths, for which no distinct function could be defined from inspection of its fills, profile, position or associated elements

*Fills*, which formed the largest number of stratigraphic units, were divided between four 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 these categories could not be decided with any certainty e.g. whether a deposit was formed by weathering of the chalk sides of an intrusion or by dumping stony material into it. In addition it was occasionally clear, when strata were viewed in section, that a single stratigraphic unit embodied elements of more than one formation process, for example weathering, in the form of small successive lenses of fairly clean chalk pebbles, and dumping from elsewhere. Here, the terms primary use/weathering, dump/weathering etc. have been used as appropriate:

- **Primary Use** – a fill in the base of an intrusion which relate to primary activity there
- **Post Position Packing** – stones originally driven in at the edges of a post position to support/consolidate the vertical member inserted into it, and left behind on the latter’s removal
- **Weathering** – material derived from degradation of the natural chalk into which a feature intruded, suggesting that it may have been left open for a while after any initial activities
- **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
- **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	44	Post-enclosure	Topsoil
1001	D	44	Post-enclosure	Topsoil
1002	D	44	Post-enclosure	Topsoil/Definition spit
1003	A	44	Post-enclosure	Artefact: detected when machining
1004	A	44	Post-enclosure	Artefact: detected when machining
1005	A	41	Enclosure 7	Artefact from 1022
1006	A	43	Enclosure 7	Artefacts from 1040
1007	A	25	Enclosure 6/7	Artefacts from 1038
1008	A	37	Enclosure 6	Artefacts from 1041
1009	F	31	Enclosure 5	Dump
1010	F	28	Enclosure 5	Fill
1011	F	21	Pre-enclosure	Dump – cess-like/organic material?
1012	F	24	Enclosure 5/6	Fill
1013	A	24	Enclosure 5/6	Artefacts from 1260/1262
1014	F	23	Enclosure 5/6	Fill
1015	C	26	Enclosure 5	Slot
1016	F	28	Enclosure 5	Fill
1017	F	28	Enclosure 5	Fill
1018	F	17	Pre-enclosure	Dump
1019	F	41	Enclosure 7	Dump
1020	NO.	NOT	USED	
1021	F	41	Enclosure 7	Fill
1022	F	41	Enclosure 7	Dump/Weathering
1023	F	41	Enclosure 7	Fill
1024	F	41	Enclosure 7	Fill
1025	F	18	Pre-enclosure	Fill
1026	F	41	Enclosure 7	Fill
1027	F	41	Enclosure 7	Fill
1028	F	21	Pre-enclosure	Dump
1029	C	38	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1030	F	38	Enclosure 6	Fill
1031	F	27	Enclosure 5/6	Dump (Occupation debris?)
1032	F	27	Enclosure 5/6	Dump
1033	F	38	Enclosure 6	Fill
1034	F	38	Enclosure 6	Fill
1035	F	39	Enclosure 6	Dump
1036	F	34	Enclosure 6	Dump
1037	C	34	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1038	F	25	Enclosure 6/7	Fill
1039	F	25	Enclosure 6/7	Fill
1040	F	43	Enclosure 7	Dump
1041	F	37	Enclosure 6	Dump
1042	F	25	Enclosure 6/7	Fill
1043	F	25	Enclosure 6/7	Dump
1044	F	25	Enclosure 6/7	Fill
1045	F	25	Enclosure 6/7	Fill



1046	F	21	Pre-enclosure	Dump
1047	F	21	Pre-enclosure	Dump
1048	F	21	Pre-enclosure	Dump
1049	F	21	Pre-enclosure	Dump
1050	F	37	Enclosure 6	Dump
1051	F	20	Pre-enclosure	Fill
1052	F	20	Pre-enclosure	Fill/?Weathering
1053	F	33	Enclosure 6	Fill
1054	F	35	Enclosure 6	Dump
1055	F	33	Enclosure 6	Fill
1056	A	18	Pre-enclosure	Artefact from 1241
1057	A	18	Pre-enclosure	Artefacts from 1241
1058	A	17	Pre-enclosure	Artefacts from 1018
1059	A	44	Post-enclosure	Artefact: detected when machining
1060	A	40	Enclosure 6	Artefact from 1205
1061	A	40	Enclosure 6	Artefact from 1205
1062	A	21/23	Pre-encl. or 5/6	Artefact from 1203 or 1204
1063	A	34	Enclosure 6	Artefact from 1036
1064	A	34	Enclosure 6	Artefact from 1036
1065	A	34	Enclosure 6	Artefact from 1036
1066	A	44	Post-enclosure	Artefact: detected when machining
1067	A	29	Enclosure 5	Artefact from 1108
1068	A	35	Enclosure 6	Artefact from 1054
1069	A	35	Enclosure 6	Artefact from 1054
1070	A	35	Enclosure 6	Artefact from 1054
1071	A	44	Post-enclosure	Artefact: detected when machining
1072	A	44	Post-enclosure	Artefact: detected when machining
1073	A	44	Post-enclosure	Artefact: detected when machining
1074	F	36	Enclosure 6	Dump
1075	F	21	Pre-enclosure	Fill
1076	C	41	Enclosure 7	Post Position
1077	F	19	Pre-enclosure	Dump
1078	F	19	Pre-enclosure	Fill (perhaps dumped much later)
1079	F	37	Enclosure 6	Fill
1080	F	43	Enclosure 7	Fill
1081	C	20	Pre-enclosure	Post Position
1082	A	21	Pre-Enclosure	Artefact from 1049
1083	F	17	Pre-enclosure	Fill
1084	C	33	Enclosure 6	Curvilinear Ditch
1085	F	37	Enclosure 6	Fill
1086	F	37	Post Position	Fill
1087	NO.	NOT	USED	
1088	NO.	NOT	USED	
1089	F	37	Enclosure 6	Dump
1090	F	18	Pre-enclosure	Dump
1091	F	18	Pre-enclosure	Fill
1092	F	18	Pre-enclosure	Fill
1093	F	18	Pre-enclosure	Fill
1094	F	41	Enclosure 7	Dump
1095	F	18	Pre-enclosure	Dump (+definition context?)

1096	F	42	Enclosure 7	Fill
1097	C	17	Pre-enclosure	Post Position
1098	C	41	Enclosure 7	Linear Ditch
1099	F	23	Enclosure 5/6	Fill
1100	F	31	Enclosure 5	Dump
1101	F	28	Enclosure 5	Dump
1102	F	29	Enclosure 5	Fill
1103	F	31	Enclosure 5	Fill
1104	F	28	Enclosure 5	Dump
1105	F	30	Enclosure 5	Fill
1106	C	28	Enclosure 5	Slot
1107	C	30	Enclosure 5	Curvilinear Ditch
1108	F	29	Enclosure 5	Fill
1109	D	44	Post-enclosure	Definition spit
1110	F	32	Enclosure 6	Fill
1111	F	32	Enclosure 6	Fill
1112	F	32	Enclosure 6	Dump
1113	F	32	Enclosure 6	Fill
1114	F	32	Enclosure 6	Fill
1115	F	32	Enclosure 6	Fill
1116	C	43	Enclosure 7	Post Position
1117	C	25	Enclosure 6/7	Curvilinear Ditch
1118	F	43	Enclosure 7	Fill
1119	F	43	Enclosure 7	Fill
1120	F	21	Pre-enclosure	Dump
1121	F	33	Enclosure 6	Fill
1122	F	33	Enclosure 6	Fill
1123	C	19	Pre-enclosure	Dump
1124	F	38	Enclosure 6	Post Position Packing
1125	C	38	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1126	F	38	Enclosure 6	Fill
1127	F	38	Enclosure 6	Post Position Packing
1128	C	38	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1129	C	38	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1130	C	38	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1131	C	41	Enclosure 7	Slot
1132	C	20	Pre-enclosure	Post Position
1133	C	20	Pre-enclosure	Post Position
1134	F	28	Enclosure 5	Dump
1135	C	28	Enclosure 5	Slot
1136	C	37	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1137	C	21	Pre-enclosure	?Post Position
1138	C	25	Enclosure 6/7	Curvilinear Ditch
1139	F	33	Enclosure 6	Fill
1140	C	43	Enclosure 7	Post Position
1141	C	43	Enclosure 7	Post Position
1142	C	41	Enclosure 7	Curvilinear Ditch
1143	F	38	Enclosure 6	Post Position Packing
1144	C	41	Enclosure 7	Curvilinear Ditch
1145	C	27	Enclosure 5/6	Slot

1146	C	20	Pre-enclosure	Linear Ditch
1147	C	18	Pre-enclosure	Pit unkwn functn/linear cut/post posn.
1148	F	18	Pre-enclosure	Fill
1149	F	18	Pre-enclosure	Weathering
1150	F	20	Pre-enclosure	Fill
1151	F	20	Pre-enclosure	Fill
1152	F	20	Pre-enclosure	Fill/?Weathering
1153	F	20	Pre-enclosure	Fill/?Weathering
1154	C	20	Pre-enclosure	?Post Position
1155	A	44	Post-enclosure	Artefact: detected when machining
1156	A	44	Post-enclosure	Artefact: detected when machining
1157	A	44	Post-enclosure	Artefact: detected when machining
1158	F	18	Pre-enclosure	Fill
1159	C	18	Pre-enclosure	Pit unkwn functn/linear cut/post posn.
1160	C	25	Enclosure 6/7	Curvilinear Ditch
1161	C	19	Pre-enclosure	Linear Ditch
1162	F	37	Enclosure 6	Dump
1163	F	37	Enclosure 6	?Primary Use
1164	C	26	Enclosure 6	Slot
1165	C	37	Post Position	Post Position
1166	F	43	Enclosure 7	Primary Use
1167	F	35	Enclosure 6	Dump
1168	C	32	Enclosure 6	Slot
1169	C	42	Enclosure 7	Linear Cut – ?related to pit 1243
1170	C	41	Enclosure 7	Linear Ditch
1171	F	37	Enclosure 6	Weathering
1172	F	37	Enclosure 6	Weathering
1173	C	37	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1174	C	33	Enclosure 6	Curvilinear Ditch
1175	C	33	Enclosure 6	Curvilinear Ditch
1176	F	37	Enclosure 6	?Primary Use
1177	F	25	Enclosure 6/7	Weathering
1178	C	25	Enclosure 6/7	Slot
1179	A	17	Pre-enclosure	Artefact from 1018
1180	F	35	Enclosure 6	Fill
1181	F	37	Enclosure 6	?Primary Use
1182	C	32	Enclosure 6	Curvilinear Ditch
1183	C	32	Enclosure 6	Slot
1184	F	39	Enclosure 6	Dump
1185	C	39	Enclosure 6	Pit of Unknown Function
1186	F	18	Pre-enclosure	?Primary Use
1187	C	18	Pre-enclosure	Pit of Unkwn Function/Post Position
1188	A	37	Enclosure 6	Artefact from 1041
1189	C	24	Enclosure 5/6	Curvilinear Ditch
1190	C	23	Enclosure 5/6	Enclosure Boundary Marker
1191	C	23	Enclosure 5/6	Slot
1192	C	29	Enclosure 5	Curvilinear Ditch
1193	C	30	Enclosure 5	Curvilinear Ditch
1194	F	28	Enclosure 5	Primary Use
1195	C	28	Enclosure 5	Pit of Unknown Function - ?Cess Pit

1196	F	31	Enclosure 5	Dump
1197	F	30	Enclosure 5	Fill
1198	F	30	Enclosure 5	Fill
1199	F	30	Enclosure 5	Fill
1200	F	30	Enclosure 5	Fill
1201	F	30	Enclosure 5	Fill
1202	F	30	Enclosure 5	Fill
1203	F	21	Pre-enclosure	Dump
1204	F	23	Enclosure 5/6	Fill
1205	C	40	Enclosure 6	Linear Ditch
1206	C	22	Early enclosure	Curvilinear Ditch
1207	C	23	N. of Encl. 5	?Enclosure Boundary Marker
1208	C	22	Early enclosure	Curvilinear Ditch
1209	F	38	Enclosure 6	Fill
1210	D	44	Post-enclosure	Definition spit
1211	F	38	Enclosure 6	Fill
1212	F	38	Enclosure 6	Fill
1213	F	34	Enclosure 6	Dump
1214	C	18	Pre-enclosure	Post Position
1215	C	18	Pre-enclosure	Post Position
1216	F	21	Pre-enclosure	Primary use/Weathering
1217	F	21	Pre-enclosure	Primary use – butchering waste?
1218	D	44	Post-enclosure	Definition spit
1219	F	33	Enclosure 6	Fill
1220	C	33	Enclosure 6	Curvilinear Ditch
1221	F	33	Enclosure 6	Fill
1222	F	21	Pre-enclosure	Primary use
1223	F	21	Pre-enclosure	Weathering/Fill
1224	F	26	Enclosure 6	Fill
1225	F	27	Enclosure 5/6	Dump
1226	F	27	Enclosure 5/6	Dump
1227	F	26	Enclosure 6	Fill
1228	C	27	Enclosure 5/6	Post Position
1229	F	20	Pre-enclosure	Fill
1230	F	20	Pre-enclosure	Weathering
1231	C	20	Pre-enclosure	Linear Ditch
1232	F	36	Enclosure 6	Weathering
1233	F	36	Enclosure 6	Dump
1234	F	36	Enclosure 6	Dump
1235	F	36	Enclosure 6	Dump
1236	C	33	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1237	C	18	Pre-enclosure	Post position
1238	F	21	Pre-enclosure	Primary use – butchering waste?
1239	C	41	Enclosure 7	Curvilinear Ditch
1240	C	18	Pre-enclosure	Linear Cut
1241	C	18	Pre-enclosure	Linear Cut
1242	F	42	Enclosure 7	Fill
1243	C	42	Enclosure 7	Pit of Unknown Function
1244	C	37	Enclosure 6	Pit of Unknown Function
1245	F	34	Enclosure 6	Dump

1246	F	43	Enclosure 7	Weathering
1247	F	41	Enclosure 7	Fill
1248	F	35	Enclosure 6	Weathering
1249	F	35	Enclosure 6	Weathering
1250	F	41	Enclosure 7	Fill
1251	C	41	Enclosure 7	Curvilinear Ditch
1252	A	35	Enclosure 6	Artefacts from 1054 et al.
1253	F	35	Enclosure 6	Fill - ?occupation in base of feature
1254	F	35	Enclosure 6	Weathering
1255	F	31	Enclosure 5	Primary Use/Dump?
1256	F	24	Enclosure 5/6	Dump
1257	F	24	Enclosure 5/6	Dump (occupation debris)
1258	F	24	Enclosure 5/6	Fill
1259	F	31	Enclosure 5	Dump
1260	F	24	Enclosure 5/6	Fill
1261	C	24	Enclosure 5/6	Curvilinear Ditch
1262	F	24	Enclosure 5/6	Weathering/Fill
1263	C	24	Enclosure 5/6	Curvilinear Ditch
1264	F	26	Enclosure 5	Fill
1265	C	30	Enclosure 5	Slot
1266	C	30	Enclosure 5	Slot
1267	F	27	Enclosure 5/6	Dump (?Occupation debris)
1268	NO.	NOT	USED	
1269	F	20	Pre-Enclosure	Fill
1270	NO.	NOT	USED	
1271	F	38	Enclosure 6	Fill
1272	F	39	Enclosure 6	Dump
1273	F	39	Enclosure 6	Dump
1274	C	39	Enclosure 6	Pit of Unknown Function
1275	F	39	Enclosure 6	Fill
1276	F	39	Enclosure 6	Fill
1277	F	39	Enclosure 6	Fill
1278	F	39	Enclosure 6	Fill
1279	F	22	Early Enclosure	Fill
1280	F	23	Enclosure 5/6	Fill
1281	F	23	Enclosure 5/6	Fill
1282	C	41	Enclosure 7	Curvilinear Ditch
1283	C	33	Enclosure 6	Linear Ditch
1284	F	32	Enclosure 6	Primary Use (+ weathering?)
1285	C	32	Enclosure 6	Pit of Unknown Function
1286	F	22	Early Enclosure	Fill
1287	D	44	Post-enclosure	Definition spit
1288	F	35	Enclosure 6	Fill - ?occupation in base of feature
1289	F	35	Enclosure 6	Fill - ?occupation in base of feature
1290	C	21	Pre-enclosure	Quarry pit
1291	C	21	Pre-enclosure	Quarry pit
1292	C	21	Pre-enclosure	Quarry pit
1293	C	21	Pre-enclosure	Quarry pit
1294	F	18	Pre-enclosure	Fill
1295	F	17	Pre-enclosure	Dump

1296	F	27	Enclosure 5/6	Fill
1297	C	27	Enclosure 5/6	Slot/Post Position
1298	D	44	Post-enclosure	Definition spit
1299	C	21	Pre-enclosure	Rubbish pit - ?butchering waste
1300	A	23	Enclosure 5/6	Artefact from 1377
1301	F	17	Pre-enclosure	Fill
1302	C	17	Pre-enclosure	Post position
1303	F	17	Pre-enclosure	Fill
1304	C	17	Pre-enclosure	Post Position
1305	F	17	Pre-enclosure	Dump
1306	F	17	Pre-enclosure	Weathering
1307	F	17	Pre-enclosure	Weathering
1308	C	17	Pre-enclosure	Linear Ditch
1309	C	28	Enclosure 5	Slot
1310	C	29	Enclosure 5	Curvilinear Ditch
1311	F	34	Enclosure 6	Dump
1312	C	37	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1313	F	35	Enclosure 6	Fill
1314	F	35	Enclosure 6	Fill
1315	F	35	Enclosure 6	Fill
1316	C	28	Enclosure 5	Slot
1317	C	26	Enclosure 5	Post Position
1318	C	31	Enclosure 5	Pit of Unknown Function
1319	C	24	Enclosure 5/6	Curvilinear Ditch
1320	C	31	Enclosure 5	Sunken Feature Building
1321	C	23	Enclosure 5/6	Enclosure Boundary Marker
1322	C	21	Pre-enclosure	?Rubbish pit
1323	C	30	Enclosure 5	Post Position
1324	C	40	Enclosure 6	Linear Ditch
1325	C	38	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1326	C	38	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1327	C	38	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1328	C	38	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1329	C	20	Pre-Enclosure	Post Position
1330	C	38	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1331	C	38	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1332	C	38	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1333	C	38	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1334	C	38	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1335	C	39	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1336	C	39	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1337	C	39	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1338	C	39	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1339	C	39	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1340	F	39	Enclosure 6	Fill
1341	F	34	Enclosure 6	Fill
1342	C	34	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1343	C	32	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1344	F	41	Enclosure 7	Primary Use
1345	F	41	Enclosure 7	Primary Use

1346	F	41	Enclosure 7	Weathering/Metalling
1347	C	18	Pre-enclosure	Linear cut
1348	C	32	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1349	C	35	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1350	C	39	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1351	F	39	Enclosure 6	Post Position Packing
1352	C	39	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1353	F	21	Pre-enclosure	Weathering or Dump
1354	F	21	Pre-enclosure	Primary Use
1355	C	22	Early Enclosure	Curvilinear Ditch
1356	F	26	Enclosure 6	Fill
1357	C	26	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1358	F	26	Enclosure 6	Fill
1359	C	26	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1360	C	28	Enclosure 5	Pit of Unknown Function
1361	C	31	Enclosure 5	Rubbish Pit
1362	F	32	Enclosure 6	Fill
1363	F	22	Early Enclosure	Fill
1364	F	22	Early Enclosure	Fill
1365	C	41	Enclosure 7	Linear Ditch
1366	F	43	Enclosure 7	Weathering
1367	C	39	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1368	C	35	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1369	C	35	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1370	C	35	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1371	F	31	Enclosure 5	Primary Use
1372	C	25	Enclosure 6/7	Curvilinear Ditch
1373	C	25	Enclosure 6/7	Curvilinear Ditch
1374	C	32	Enclosure 6	Curvilinear Ditch
1375	D	44	Post-enclosure	Definition spit
1376	F	23	Enclosure 5/6	Fill
1377	F	23	Enclosure 5/6	Fill
1378	F	24	Enclosure 5/6	Weathering
1379	C	21	Pre-enclosure	Pit of Unknown Function
1380	C	38	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1381	F	34	Enclosure 6	Dump
1382	F	34	Enclosure 6	Dump
1383	F	23	Enclosure 5/6	Post Position Packing
1384	C	23	Enclosure 5/6	Post Position
1385	F	21	Pre-enclosure	Primary Use
1386	F	35	Enclosure 6	Primary Use
1387	F	21	Pre-enclosure	Dump
1388	F	39	Enclosure 6	Post Position Packing
1389	C	39	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1390	C	30	Enclosure 5	Post Position
1391	C	30	Enclosure 5	Post Position
1392	C	30	Enclosure 5	Post Position
1393	F	31	Enclosure 5	Dump
1394	F	37	Enclosure 6	Dump
1395	C	19	Pre-enclosure	Linear Ditch

1396	F	36	Enclosure 6	Fill
1397	C	36	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1398	F	41	Enclosure 7	Weathering
1399	F	41	Enclosure 7	Weathering
1400	F	33	Enclosure 6	Fill
1401	C	33	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1402	C	20	Pre-Enclosure	Post Position
1403	F	38	Enclosure 6	Post Position Packing
1404	C	38	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1405	F	34	Enclosure 6	Fill
1406	C	34	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1407	F	34	Enclosure 6	Fill
1408	C	34	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1409	F	28	Enclosure 5	Fill
1410	C	28	Enclosure 5	Post Position
1411	F	28	Enclosure 5	Primary Use
1412	F	31	Enclosure 5	Primary Use
1413	C	30	Enclosure 5	Post Position
1414	C	24	Enclosure 5/6	Curvilinear Ditch
1415	C	36	Enclosure 6	Pit of Unknown Function (plus fill)
1416	C	19	Pre-enclosure	Slot/Pit of Unknown Function
1417	F	42	Enclosure 7	Dump
1418	C	35	Enclosure 6	Post Position(s)
1419	F	34	Enclosure 6	Fill
1420	C	34	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1421	F	34	Enclosure 6	Dump
1422	F	36	Enclosure 6	Fill – secondary occupation in SFB?
1423	C	33	Enclosure 6	Curvilinear Ditch
1424	F	21	Pre-enclosure	Fill
1425	C	20	Pre-enclosure	Pit of Unknown Function/part of 1486
1426	C	37	Enclosure 6	Pit of Unknown Function
1427	C	35	Enclosure 6	Sunken-Feature Building
1428	C	41	Enclosure 7	Sunken-Feature Building
1429	C	26	Enclosure 6	Slot
1430	F	39	Enclosure 6	Post Position Packing
1431	C	39	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1432	C	21	Pre-enclosure	?Quarry pit
1433	C	36	Enclosure 6	Sunken-Feature Building
1434	C	38	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1435	C	38	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1436	F	42	Enclosure 7	Dump
1437	C	42	Enclosure 7	Pit of Unknown Function
1438	F	42	Enclosure 7	Fill
1439	C	42	Enclosure 7	Post Position
1440	C	42	Enclosure 7	Post Position
1441	F	42	Enclosure 7	Dump
1442	F	42	Enclosure 7	Fill
1443	F	17	Pre-enclosure	Weathering
1444	C	17	Pre-enclosure	Linear Ditch
1445	C	22	Early Enclosure	Pit of Unknwn Functn/Curvilinear Ditch



1446	F	22	Early Enclosure	Fill
1447	C	22	Early Enclosure	Pit of Unknown Function
1448	C	22	Early Enclosure	Pit of Unknown Function
1449	C	34	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1450	A	34	Enclosure 6	Artefacts from 1451
1451	F	34	Enclosure 6	Primary Use
1452	F	34	Enclosure 6	Dump
1453	F	19	Pre-enclosure	Dump
1454	F	19	Pre-enclosure	Weathering
1455	C	32	Enclosure 6	Slot
1456	F	32	Enclosure 6	Fill
1457	C	32	Enclosure 6	Post Position/Slot Terminal
1458	F	32	Enclosure 6	Fill
1459	C	32	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1460	C	23	Enclosure 5/6	Enclosure Boundary Marker
1461	C	23	Enclosure 5/6	Enclosure Boundary Marker
1462	F	27	Enclosure 5/6	Fill
1463	C	27	Enclosure 5/6	Slot/Post Position
1464	F	26	Enclosure 6	Fill
1465	C	26	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1466	C	34	Enclosure 6	Sunken-Feature Building
1467	F	27	Enclosure 5/6	Fill
1468	C	27	Enclosure 5/6	Post Position
1469	F	42	Enclosure 7	Weathering
1470	C	43	Enclosure 7	Pit of Unknown Function
1471	F	34	Enclosure 6	Dump
1472	F	34	Enclosure 6	Dump
1473	F	31	Enclosure 5	Weathering
1474	F	31	Enclosure 5	Primary Use/Weathering
1475	F	34	Enclosure 6	Primary Use
1476	F	34	Enclosure 6	Dump
1477	C	34	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1478	F	34	Enclosure 6	Primary Use
1479	F	34	Enclosure 6	Primary Use
1480	F	34	Enclosure 6	Fill
1481	C	34	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1482	F	34	Enclosure 6	Dump
1483	F	34	Enclosure 6	Weathering
1484	F	34	Enclosure 6	Primary Use
1485	C	34	Enclosure 6	Pit of Unknown Function
1486	C	20	Pre-enclosure	Linear Ditch
1487	C	34	Enclosure 6	Post Position/Pit of Unknown Function
1488	A	45	Beyond L.O.E.	Topsoil in Test Pit A = 1000
1489	A	45	Beyond L.O.E.	Topsoil in Test Pit A = 1001
1490	A	45	Beyond L.O.E.	Topsoil in Test Pit B = 1000
1491	A	45	Beyond L.O.E.	Topsoil in Test Pit B = 1001
1492	A	45	Beyond L.O.E.	Topsoil in Test Pit C = 1000
1493	A	45	Beyond L.O.E.	Topsoil in Test Pit C = 1001
1494	A	44	Post-enclosure	Topsoil in Test Pit D = 1000
1495	A	44	Post-enclosure	Topsoil in Test Pit D = 1001

1496	A	45	Beyond L.O.E.	Topsoil in Test Pit E = 1000
1497	A	45	Beyond L.O.E.	Topsoil in Test Pit E = 1001
1498	A	45	Beyond L.O.E.	Topsoil in Test Pit F = 1000
1499	A	45	Beyond L.O.E.	Topsoil in Test Pit F = 1001
1500	A	44	Post-enclosure	Topsoil in Test Pit G = 1000
1501	A	44	Post-enclosure	Topsoil in Test Pit G = 1001
1502	A	44	Post-enclosure	Topsoil in Test Pit H = 1000
1503	A	44	Post-enclosure	Topsoil in Test Pit H = 1001
1504	A	45	Beyond L.O.E.	Topsoil in Test Pit J = 1000
1505	A	45	Beyond L.O.E.	Topsoil in Test Pit J = 1001
1506	F	34	Enclosure 6	Primary Use
1507	F	34	Enclosure 6	Primary Use
1508	C	22	Early Enclosure	Curvilinear Ditch
1509	C	20	Pre-enclosure	Post Position
1510	C	20	Pre-enclosure	Post Position
1511	C	23	Enclosure 5/6	Curvilinear Ditch
1512	C	28	Enclosure 5	Slot
1513	C	33	Enclosure 6	Curvilinear Ditch
1514	C	36	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1515	C	36	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1516	C	36	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1517	C	35	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1518	C	35	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1519	C	35	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1520	C	36	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1521	C	37	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1522	C	37	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1523	C	37	Enclosure 6	Post Position
1524	C	37	Enclosure 6	?Slot
1525	C	37	Enclosure 6	?Slot
1526	C	23	Enclosure 5/6	Post Position
1527	C	20	Pre-Enclosure	Post Position
1528	C	43	Enclosure 7	Post Position
1529	C	43	Enclosure 7	Post Position
1530	C	43	Enclosure 7	Post Position