Summary

Table 4. Summary of findings

Trench	Dimensions (m)	Topsoil (m)	Subsoil (m)	Natural	Archaeology	Finds	Interpretation
1	50 x 2	0.25	0.12	Limestone with patches of natural clay	No archaeology	No finds	-
2	50 x 2	0.14	0.10	Limestone with patches of natural clay	No archaeology	No finds	-
3	50 x 2	0.20	0.10	Solid limestone	No archaeology	No finds	-
4	50 x 2	0.23	-	Weathered limestone	2 x ditches, 2 x pits	Pottery, animal bone, fired clay	Late Iron Age/ Early Romano-British Enclosure W
5	50 x 2	0.21	0.08	Limestone with patches of natural clay	3 x ditches, 2 x post-holes	Pottery, animal bone	Late Iron Age/ Early Romano-British Enclosure X
6	50 x 2	0.25	0.13	Limestone with patches of natural clay	No archaeology	No finds	-
7	50 x 2	0.19	0.12	Solid limestone	No archaeology	No finds	-
8	50 x 2	0.20	0.13	Solid limestone	No archaeology	No finds	-
9	20 x 20	0.20	0.10	Limestone with patches of natural clay	No archaeology	Pottery	Pottery recovered from subsoil
10	20 x 10	0.20	-	Weathered limestone	4 x ditches, 1 x gully	Pottery, animal bone	Field boundaries and extension of trackway.
11	10 x 10	0.17	0.18	Weathered limestone with patches of natural clay	No archaeology	No finds	-
12	50 x 2	0.30	0.20	Weathered limestone with patches of natural clay	1 x gully	No finds	-
13	50 x 2	0.22	0.16	Weathered limestone with patches of natural clay	No archaeology	No finds	-

Trench	Dimensions (m)	Topsoil (m)	Subsoil (m)	Natural	Archaeology	Finds	Interpretation
14	50 x 2	0.29	-	Weathered limestone with patches of natural clay	1 x ditch	Pottery, animal bone, slag, stone object	Possible trackway ditch or field boundary and blank interior of Enclosure Y
15	50 x 2	0.20	0.10	Weathered limestone with patches of natural clay	1 x ditch, 4 x gullies	Pottery, animal bone	Trackway ditch and field boundaries possible forming Enclosure Y, with early phase gullies
16	20 x 20	0.37	-	Weathered limestone with patches of natural clay	11 x post-holes, 2 x pits	Pottery, animal bone. flint	Groups of post-holes possibly part of an Late Iron Age/ Early Romano-British unenclosed settlement
17	50 x 2	0.20	0.12	Weathered limestone	No archaeology	No finds	-
18	30 x 4	0.20	0.10	Weathered limestone	1 x ditch, 1 x gully, 1 x large rectangular feature	Pottery, animal bone, CBM, flint, slag, fired clay, quern stone and Jet object	Late Iron Age/ Early Romano-British interior of Enclosure Z, with enigmatic later Roman feature
19	20 x 20	0.30	-	Weathered limestone with patches of natural clay	1 x ring gully	Pottery, flint	?Round barrow
20	30 x 4	0.25	0.25	Weathered limestone with patches of natural clay	2 x ditches, 1 x gully, 1 x pit	Pottery, animal bone, fired clay	Trackway and Enclosure Z ditches
21	40 x 10	0.30	0.10	Weathered limestone	1 x ditch, 2 x gullies, 3 x pits, 2 x post-holes	Pottery, animal bone	Late Iron Age/ Early Romano-British interior of Enclosure Z, with possible earlier features
22	50 x 2	0.26	0.24	Weathered limestone with patches of natural clay	2 x ditches	Pottery, animal bone, flint, slag	Annexe ditches to Enclosure Z. Late Iron Age/ Early Romano-British date
23	50 x 2	0.20	0.15	Weathered limestone with patches of natural clay	No archaeology	No finds	-
24	50 x 2	0.27	0.16	Solid limestone	No archaeology	No finds	-

Trench	Dimensions (m)	Topsoil (m)	Subsoil (m)	Natural	Archaeology	Finds	Interpretation
25	50 x 2	0.28	0.07	Weathered limestone with patches of natural clay	1 x gully	No finds	Field boundary
26	20 x 20	0.31	-	Weathered limestone with patches of natural clay	1 x pit, 5 x post-holes	Pottery	Possible evidence of unenclosed settlement
27	100 x 2	0.25	0.15	Weathered limestone with patches of natural clay	1 x ditch, 4 x gullies	No finds	Trackway ditches and possible field boundary or natural feature
28	20 x 20	0.29	0.14	Weathered limestone with patches of natural clay	1 x gully	No finds	Field boundary
29	50 x 2	0.29	0.08	Solid limestone	No archaeology	No finds	-
30	50 x 2	0.19	0.14	Weathered limestone with patches of natural clay	No archaeology	No finds	-
31	50 x 2	0.26	0.10	Solid limestone with patches of natural clay	No archaeology	No finds	-
32	50 x 2	0.30	0.10	Solid limestone	No archaeology	No finds	-
33	20 x 20	0.25	0.20	Weathered limestone with patches of natural clay	3 x pits, 1 x large oval feature	Pottery, flint	A number of features, some associated with burning.

6 Artefact Record

Pottery by Ruth Leary

Factual Data

The pottery was examined in context groups and catalogued according to the Guidelines of the Study Group for Romano-British Pottery for basic archiving (Darling 2004) and the Guidelines for the Recording of later Prehistoric Pottery (Knight 1998). The fabrics were recorded in broad groups and source suggested where appropriate. Reference was made to the National Fabric Collection where appropriate (Tomber and Dore 1998). Forms were described. The sherds were counted and weighed within context group by ware and form.

Quantity and provenance

There were 902 sherds of Romano-British pottery (8614g.). The quantities of pottery sherds recovered from the excavated areas and trenches are shown in Table. 5. Detailed lists are provided as Appendix 4.

The pottery was not distributed evenly across the excavations but showed marked concentrations in Trenches 10 and 18 with smaller groups in Trenches 4, 16 and 21 and negligible amounts in Trenches 5, 9,15, 19, 22, 26 and 33 with no pre-Roman Iron Age (PRIA) or Romano-British ceramic fragments from other trenches.

Range and variety of material

Wares

The fabrics of the pottery were examined by eye and sorted into ware groups primarily on the basis of inclusions and manufacturing technique but with colour, hardness, feel and fracture taken into account where relevant. Selective use of a x30 binocular microscope was made. National Roman fabric collection codes are given wherever possible (Tomber and Dore 1998).

The assemblage was made up overwhelmingly of handmade jars in the Iron Age tradition with most vessels being in a locally made calcite-gritted ware thought to have been made in the Vale of Pickering. This ware was used throughout the Iron Age and Roman period and, for the most part, the date range given to un-diagnostic bodysherds is regrettably wide. Rigby noted that evidence from Staple Howe and Castle Hill, Scarborough indicates that this type of temper began as early as the ninth century BC (Rigby 1986, 145) and although it is possible sometimes to pick out calcite-gritted sherds of the later Roman period 3rd to 4th century) by reason of colour, surface finish and texture, it is by no means easy (Evans 1999, 2000, G01; 2004, 3143-4, fabric G). Two sherds of the late calcite-gritted Huntcliff ware were, however, readily identifiable. In addition several vessel forms were current from the late Iron Age through the early Roman period to the end of the 2nd century AD. Since the inhabitants of rural settlements did not acquire Romano-British wheel-thrown wares with any enthusiasm during the 1st and 2nd centuries AD it can be difficult to date even quite large assemblages with any degree of certainty. A sub-group of the calcareous-tempered ware material had small white inclusions or vesicles, some of which were rounded but others were

rhomboidal. These were recorded and may include limestone or chalk inclusions although the detection of some calcite crystals and rhomboidal voids in this fabric means that further study of this fabric will be required.

Small amounts of handmade pottery with non-soluble inclusions were also present. Recent work on these wares suggests that their source can only be determined satisfactorily by petrological and chemical analyses (Vince 2007) and such further work is recommended. It is clear that most of this group falls into the "erratic-tempered" ware group with one sherd which seems to have only quartz inclusions and one slag-tempered ware jar. The erratic-tempered ware group is well-recognised and has been shown to be a fabric to which the potters added fragments from fire-cracked erratic rocks found in Yorkshire (Freestone and Middleton 1991, Wardle 1991). The quartz-tempered sherd may be from a different source and a source perhaps in East Yorkshire was suggested for a quartz-tempered group at Reighton (Vince 2007 fabric 6) which had similar somewhat rounded quartz inclusions. The slag tempered ware is known from other Iron Age sites in the region such as Dalton Parlours (Buckland, Runnacles and Sumpter 1990, 132), Ledston (Runnacles and Buckland 2005, 20-1) and Ferrybridge (Evans *et al.* 2005).

In addition to the handmade group, a small number of Roman wheel-thrown wares were identified. Forty-five sherds of grey ware were identified. Several individual fabrics were present but none could be unequivocally attributed to one of the large potteries at Norton (Hayes and Whitley 1950) or those at Holme-on-Spalding Moor of the 3rd and 4th centuries (Corder 1930a; Halkon and Millett 1999). The fabrics were neither as hard and gritty as is typical of Norton nor as fine and hard as the most common Holme-on-Spalding wares. They were all somewhat soft, fairly light grey with moderate, medium quartz and are likely to belong to the 1st and 2nd centuries. Typologically the forms present had affinities with types made in north Lincolnshire and Humberside and certainly to the south east at Shiptonthorpe such types were common in the later first and second century (Evans 2006, 139-40). Single bodysherds in a medium, quartz-tempered oxidised ware and a grey calcite-gritted ware cannot be adequately sourced. Two shoulder sherds from a Huntcliff or pre-Huntcliff shouldered jar were identified and two sherds of Crambeck grey ware, one from a developed bead and flange bowl were also present (Corder 1937, type1). A further fragment from the flange of a reeded flanged mortarium was also identified (Corder 1937, type 6). This sherd was also from Crambeck and was probably in Crambeck white ware but is so blackened by fire that its original fabric is difficult to determine with any certainty. One bodysherd from a Dressel 20 oil amphora from the Roman province of Baetica in southern Spain was present.

Forms

The most common ware group, H1, was used to make handmade jars predominantly with everted rims, sometimes with a slight internal rebate. Parallels for these types lie predominantly in the late Iron Age groups in east and north Yorkshire. The bucket shaped and carinated jars identified by Rigby in the East Riding as typical of the Bronze Age and Early Iron Age were absent and the lid-seated, convex and everted rim jars of Rigby's middle Iron Age group were not close parallels (Rigby 2004, figs 4 and 5). The H1 jars in the present assemblage have closer affinities with the necked jars with everted rims and the small jars with everted and wedge-shaped rims of Rigby's late Iron Age-early Roman group (2004, fig. 7) and it is to this period most of these jars are likely to belong. The rim forms of the medium-necked jars were overwhelmingly everted, often with a flat rim tip or a triangular rim tip formed by flattening the outer edge of the tip. A slight rebate on the inner face of the everted rim was common but was not as pronounced as in Rigby's middle Iron Age group of lid-seated jars (2004, fig. 6). Some jars may have had a smoothly curving everted rim but in most cases the eversion was sudden forming a distinct angle with the wall. A wide-mouthed jar from context 209 had an everted rim with slightly bifid rim tip and this type, although not common, can be paralleled at South Cave in the late Iron Age (Challis and Harding 1975, fig. 35 no. 9) and also in a second century AD context at Rudston (Rigby 1980, fig. 30 no. 35). In addition to these wide- and medium-mouthed jars there was a small group of smaller vessels with thinner walls and finer rims. These had short, finely made everted rim, some with slight rebating of the inner rim face and compare well with the smaller vessels in Rigby's late Iron Age groups (2004, fig. 7) and from a number of sites of late Iron Age to early Roman date cited by Challis and Harding (1975, at Faxfleet A and Littlethorpe, figs 40, nos 1-8, and at Salthouse School, fig. 41 nos 8-9) and present in similarly dated contexts at Hawling Road (Evans 1999, fig. 7.17 G25.J07 an G28.J07) and Rudston (Rigby 1980 fig. 27 nos 11-12) . A simple shapeless jar with a flat rim pinched out around the outer edge from 255 may be of a slightly earlier tradition but can still be paralleled in late Iron Age groups (Challis and Harding 1975, fig. 41, nos 6 and 8 and fig. 48, no. 5). A large jar from context 180 with a distinctly squared rim is a form not otherwise represented from the site but is not dissimilar to vessels from a late Iron Age group at Garton Slack (Challis and Harding 1975, fig. 34, no. 8).

Similar forms to this range of "native" jars can also be found in late Iron Age and also early Roman contexts at Wharram North Manor as late as the second century (Didsbury 2004 fig. 101 nos 1, 14, 15, 20, fig. 102 nos 23, 26, 30, 36). Where no Roman wheel-thrown pottery is present, it is more likely that these long-lived types date to the pre-Roman Iron Age but the dating of small groups must be approached with caution since even in the 2nd century AD the handmade jars of Iron Age type still dominate assemblages on rural settlements.

The vesicular H1 group was used to make two jars with flat upright rims which are likely to belong to the same period as the H1 jars. Amongst the finer H7 group was a concave bodysherds which may come from a beaker or bowl of late Iron Age type. A second vessel

was represented by a bodysherd with a shoulder groove such as that found on early Roman everted-rim jars of Flavian-Trajanic type. This fabric may be later than H1 and H2.

The H3 group included similar jars to the H1 group with everted rims while a single slag-tempered jar, H15, had an upright rounded rim. These vessels can be given the same date range as the H1 group.

The Romano-British wheel-thrown pottery falls into two date ranges: an early Roman group of late 1st to early 2nd century date and a very small number of sherds dating to the late 3rd to 4th century. The grey ware fabrics did not compare well with the third to fourth century fabrics from Norton and Holme-on-Spalding and most sherds were undiagnostic or not closely datable. Fragments from three carinated jars/bowl were noted and these belonged to the range made in the late first to early 3rd century in Lincolnshire (as Rigby 1980 fig. 35 nos 90-1, 99-100, 102 and fig. 37 no. 129) rather than the 3rd to 4th century group in Yorkshire (Hayes and Whitley 1950, type 10 and Corder 1930a, fig 16, nos 103-5). A rim from a rebated rim jar is likely to be of similar date and affinity being matched amongst the Antonine pottery at Roxby (Rigby 1976, Roxby type A; Evans 2006, fig. 7.15, nos R10.6a and 6b). An everted rim from a medium-necked jar is likely to be of 2nd century date or later but is not sufficiently diagnostic for close dating and three everted rims from wide-mouthed jars are likely to be of similar date. The small sherd size and lack of diagnostic feature make precise dating difficult. An everted rim from a narrow-mouthed jar is similar in form, but not fabric, to the large lugged jars such as those made at Norton in the 3rd century but earlier versions of this are well known in Lincolnshire and the fabric did not suggest a late date.

Two fabric groups belong to the late Roman period from the end of the 3rd century to the early 5th century. A flanged bowl in Crambeck grey ware lacked the internal wavy line of the latest bowls in this series but clearly belongs to a late phase. A further bodysherd of Crambeck ware was found and two adjoining sherds from the shoulder of a Huntcliff ware jar were also identified. Huntcliff jars with this distinct shoulder date from the mid-4th century (Evans 2002, fig 179, nos J6.3, J6.6 and J6.7). Part of the reeded flange of a Crambeck mortarium (Corder 1928, no., 120 Evans, Hartley and Mills forthcoming, no. 54, AD 285-355) was also identified and was presumably originally in white ware, although it had been severely burnt to a variously black, grey and greyish-white colour.

Chronology

The majority of the pottery belongs to the late Iron Age to early Roman native tradition of the Vale of Pickering and much of north and east Yorkshire. Where groups are small and/or only undiagnostic bodysherds were present dating is problematic but since no early to mid Iron Age types were identified it seems reasonable to suggest a late Iron Age to early Roman date span for these groups also. A small number of contexts included small amounts of Roman material and much of this can only be broadly assigned to the late first to 2nd century. Single grey ware sherds or otherwise undiagnostic everted rim sherds cannot be dated precisely but the absence of fabrics typical of the Norton and Holme-on-Spalding industry

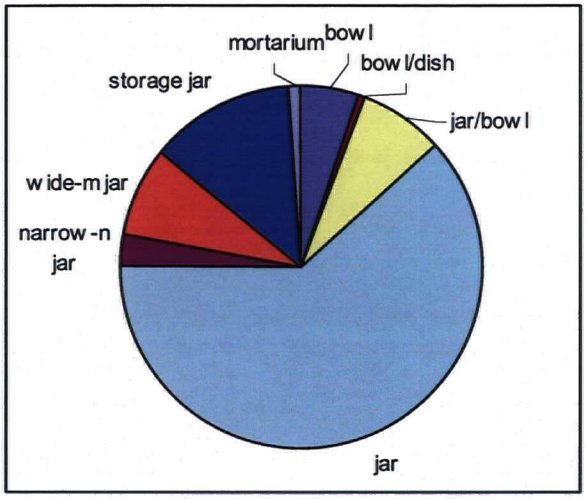
suggests no third century activity. A very small amount of fourth century material – some five sherds – was identified.

Function and site status

The ceramics were dominated by jar forms and the evidence of burnt-on matter suggests that these were largely cooking and storage pots. No Roman fine wares were present on the site although a single sherd from a Spanish oil amphora may indicate some taste for Roman luxury goods. On the other hand it is known that these large containers were frequently re-used in a variety of different ways (van der Werff 2003) such as containers for other commodities and as urinals so the presence of a fragment of this imported commodious vessel does not necessarily prove the presence of Spanish olive oil at the settlement. Vessels other than jars were restricted to three carinated jar/bowls, two straight-sided bowls or dishes and a single mortarium. It is difficult to escape the conclusion that the Roman conquest had minimal impact on this settlement and this is a common pattern for rural settlement in the region.

Burnt material found on the vessels are consistently located inside the jar with only one exception, contrasting with the external sooting and burnt deposits found on the Romano-British black burnished ware vessels and their copies. This appears to be a distinctive habit of the Iron Age inhabitants of Yorkshire. Although this has been noted by other specialists but (Evans 1999, 214; Rigby 1980, nos 5; 2004, 43-4), external sooting was more common. At Shiptonthorpe Evans found internal sooting was very uncommon but was most common in the first century AD at the rural site of Hawling Road (Evans 2006, 138). Internal sooting was also found to be common on vessels previously excavated at Newbridge (see Appendix 5). It implies a quite different cooking method to that employed by the Romans which would merit further investigation using analytical techniques. Rigby has suggested that this may result from smoking off or rendering fat (Rigby 2004, 43).

Chart 1 Quantification of vessels by vessel types by rim % values



Taphonomy

Most of the sherd groups were small comprising what appeared to be casual deposition of rubbish material. The group from trench 10 context 180 however represents most of a single vessel and may be a purposeful deposit. The other relatively large group, from Trench 18 (context 209), included fragments from many different vessels and is more likely to be a rubbish deposit.

Statement of potential

The Pottery

The group is a valuable addition to the existing body of evidence for late Iron Age to early Roman settlement at Newbridge (see Appendix 5). Many of the groups from this area come from very old excavations or are unpublished. When further analytical work is carried out on the wares it is expected that this group will add significantly to our understanding of pre-Roman Iron Age and early Roman ceramics in the Vale of Pickering. It is recommended that efforts should be made to correlate the study of this assemblage with studies being carried out by other specialists in the region, particularly on the West Heslerton Project.

Fabric Analysis

Petrological and chemical analysis of the handmade ware groups is highly desirable. More detailed definition of the Roman grey wares should also be carried out microscopically to see if their origin can be determined. This task is not onerous since the number of fabric variants is quite small

Specialist Analysis

Specialist fabric analysis is desirable but no other specialist input is needed.

The Site

Site Chronology

The long life of the pottery fabrics and forms result in rather less precise dating than is possible elsewhere in the country and it is expected that an radiocarbon dates submitted as part of the project may provide similar broad date ranges.

Spatial Analysis

There was a marked absence of pottery in many of the features. In the large enigmatic feature (216) in Trench 18 deposit 209 represents rubbish disposal of broken sherds from several different vessels suggest deliberate deposition of rubbish in a specific locations, while deliberate placement of at least one near complete pot was found in Ditch 180 in Trench 10, points to a more structured deposition.

Aspects of Trade and Exchange

The handmade pottery was overwhelmingly of local origin and the small number of potentially non-local fabrics needs to be studied further to determine their source. The early Roman material was either of local origin, with typological affinities to Lincolnshire and Humberside industries, or was traded material from that region. The grey wares of this region can be notoriously difficult to attribute firmly to kiln sources (Monaghan 1998, 900; Didsbury 2004, 141-2).

Previously excavated pottery

This group belongs with a large group of late Iron Age to early Roman material already excavated from the settlement at Newbridge (Appendix 5). It was noticeable that some of the earlier Iron Age types noted during the spot-dating of the pottery from previous excavations at the settlement were not present at this assemblage. Similarly the 3rd-century Roman material from previous excavations was not identified suggesting some differences in the date range of this site although small numbers of late Roman wares such as Huntcliff ware and Crambeck ware were present in both groups.

Recommendations

Ideally the assemblage should be published as part of a report on the ceramics from all of the excavations at Newbridge. Selection of sherds for petrological and chemical analysis and for illustration should not be made from this group alone, but should be selected from the total assemblage from all excavations. The whole assemblage certainly merits full publication and forms an important group for the study of late Iron Age and early Romano-British pottery in the Vale of Pickering and in the wider region of north and east Yorkshire.

Table 5. Pottery quantification by trench and context

Trench	Context	Nos
TR4	134	98
TR4 Total		98
TR5	168	3
TR5	174	2
TR5	187	1
TR5 Total		6
TR9	101	2
TR9 Total		2
TR10	180	312
TR10	202	2
TR10	203	4
TR10	221	2
TR10	227	7
TR10 Total		327
TR14	118	11
TR14	119	35
TR14 Total		46
TR15	123	1
TR15	131	2
TR15 Total		3
TR16	Unstrat	1
TR16	238	9
TR16	249	2
TR16	251	2
TR16	253	3
TR16	255	2
TR16	259	4
TR16	279	5
TR16	285	2
TR16 Total		30
TR18	114	11
TR18	206	8
TR18	207	18
TR18	209	230
TR18	210	3
TR18	211	3
TR18	213	31
TR18	214	5
TR18	219	4

Trench	Context	Nos
TR18 Total		313
TR19	290	1
TR19 Total		1
TR20	104	4
TR20	107	3
TR20	230	2
TR20 Total		9
TR21	Unstrat	5
TR21	113	23
TR21	236	11
TR21	263	3
TR21	265	6
TR21	289	1
TR21 Total		49
TR22	108	2
TR22	110	2
TR22 Total		4
TR26	300	6
TR26 Total		6
TR33	154	3
TR33 Total		3
	Unstrat	5
Grand Total		902

Table 6. Pottery quantification by wares

Ware group	Common ware name	Tomber and Dore code	Nos
H1	Gritted ware (calcareous)		779
H1 VESIC	Gritted ware (calcareous) - vesicular		33
H3	Gritted ware – stone inclusions, erratics		16
H5	Gritted ware – stone inclusions, quartz		1
H7	Fine gritted ware (calcareous)		4
H7 VESIC	Fine gritted ware (calcareous) - vesicular		11
H15	Slag-tempered ware		1
H	Handmade ware		2
H/FC	Handmade ware or fired clay		2
CRA RE	Crambeck grey ware	CRA RE	2
CRA RE/WH?	Crambeck grey or white ware (burnt)	CRA RE or CRA WH	1
DR20	Dressel 20 oil amphora	BAT AM	1
GRB CALC	Grey calcite-gritted ware		1
GRB1	Grey ware		45
OAB1	Oxidised ware		1
EYCT	Late East Yorkshire calcite-gritted ware	HUN CG	2
Total			902

Table 7. Pottery spot dating by feature and context

(PRIA=Pre-Roman Iron Age; RB=Romano-British)

Trench	Context	Description	Date range	No.
4	134	Upper fill of gully 136	PRIA-early RB, optimum late PRIA	98
5	168	Primary fill of 169	PRIA-early RB, optimum late PRIA	3
5	174	Primary fill of 176	PRIA-early RB, optimum PRIA	2
5	187	Upper fill of ditch 190	Late 3rd-early 5th century	1
10	180	Fill of ditch 177	Late PRIA	312
10	202	Fill of ditch 201	PRIA-early RB, optimum PRIA	2
10	203	Fill of ditch 201	PRIA-early RB, optimum PRIA	4
10	221	Fill of 220	PRIA-early RB, optimum PRIA	2
10	227	Fill of ditch 226 (same as 198, 199 and 200)	Late PRIA-early RB, optimum late PRIA	7
14	118	Upper fill of ditch 120	PRIA-early RB, optimum PRIA	11
14	119	Lower fill of ditch 120	PRIA-early RB. The finish of the base points to a late PRIA or early RB date	35
15	123	Fill of ditch 124	PRIA-early RB, optimum PRIA	1
15	131	Fill of gully 130	PRIA-early RB, optimum late PRIA	2
16	238	Fill of pit 237	PRIA, optimum mid-late PRIA	9
16	249	Fill of post-hole 248	Early RB, late 1st-early 2nd century	2
16	251	Fill of post-hole 250	PRIA-early RB, optimum PRIA	2
16	253	Fill of pit 252	PRIA-early RB, optimum PRIA	3
16	255	Fill of pit 254	PRIA-early RB, optimum late PRIA	2
16	259	Fill of post-hole 258	PRIA-early RB, optimum PRIA	4
16	279	Fill of post-hole 278	PRIA-early RB, optimum PRIA	5
16	285	Fill of post-hole 284	PRIA-early RB, optimum PRIA	2
18	114	Fill of ditch 115	PRIA-early RB, optimum PRIA	11
18	206	Fill of ditch 208	Early RB, probably second century	8
18	207	Fill of ditch 208	PRIA-early RB, optimum PRIA	18

Trench	Context	Description	Date range	No.
18	209	Fill of ditch 212	The Roman material in this group points to a date in the 2nd century	230
18	210	Burnt deposit in ditch 212	PRIA-early RB, optimum PRIA	3
18	211	Fill of ditch 212	RB, likely to be 2nd century	3
18	213	Fill of feature 216	Early RB, late first to 2nd century	31
18	214	Fill of feature 216	PRIA-early RB, optimum PRIA	5
18	219	Deposit in square feature 216	RB, probably 2nd century	4
19	290	Upper fill of 293	PRIA-RB, probably late PRIA	1
20	104	Fill of ditch 105	Early RB	4
20	107	Fill of ditch 106	Early RB	3
20	230	Upper fill of pit 232	PRIA-early RB, optimum PRIA	2
21	236	Fill of gully 235	PRIA-early RB, optimum PRIA	11
21	263	Fill of gully 262	Late PRIA	3
21	265	Fill of gully 264	Late PRIA	6
21	289	Fill of pit 288	PRIA-early RB, optimum PRIA	1
22	108	Fill of ditch 109	PRIA-early RB, optimum PRIA	2
22	110	Fill of ditch 111	PRIA-early RB, optimum PRIA	2
22	113	Fill of ditch 112	Early RB, most likely to 2nd century	23
26	300	Fill of post-hole 301	PRIA-early RB, optimum PRIA	6
33	154	Upper fill of 155	PRIA-early RB, optimum PRIA	3
	0	unstratified		11
All	101	Subsoil	PRIA-early RB, optimum LPRIA	2

Flint by M. Lightfoot

A total of 31 flints weighing 101g were during the trial trenching. Each flint was individually examined weighed and assigned to a category according to tool type. Categories include flakes, blades, bladelets, chips and shattered pieces. core rejuvenation flakes were also recorded as was the amount of cortex, recortication and burning.

Raw Material, Provenance and Condition

The flint was generally of very poor quality, typically pebbles, probably originating from local glacially deposited gravels. Very little cortex was evident and no cores were recovered. The condition of the flint varied and recortication was common.

Date and Function

There was only one flint of likely Mesolithic date; a possible backed bladelet of yellow-brown chert from context 294 (Trench 16). There were no tools diagnostically of Neolithic or Bronze Age date, though some crude scrapers may be Bronze Age or later (e.g. context 206 in Trench 18).

The majority of the flint was unworked, either unmodified flakes or possibly naturally or deliberately shattered pebbles, some of these were utilised, suggesting the casual use of flint already on the site. The lack of cores, flint from primary sources, recognisable tool types and the instances of large bulbs of percussion and hinge terminations implies that there was little skill, or even familiarity in the working of flint available, and that flint resources were confined to the site and its environs. Such flint may have been used in any period, but in the absence of diagnostically earlier forms it is possible that some of the flint was used in the Late Iron Age or Early Romano-British period on the site, possibly due to a temporary shortage of metal tools, this may particularly be the case with flint recovered from Trench 18.

Recommendations

No further study is recommended, though the flint should be retained with the site archive. Should further excavation occur on the site there may be an opportunity to identify securely dated flint yielding deposits, particularly in the area around Trench 18.

Table 8. Flint data

Trench	Context	Wt. (g)	Description	Comments
16	294	2	Yellow- brown flint, no recortication, some retouching	Mesolithic backed bladelet?
18	206	8	Light grey, re-corticated angular chunk, some ferrous spots	Utilised chunk
18	206	2	Grey, slightly weathered, quite large bulb of percussion some steep retouching	Scraper, similar to BA thumbnail scraper, though cruder, possibly residual LBA? Or LIA or ERB
18	206	8	Thin light brown cortex covering 75% of dorsal surface grey flint, Primary flake, large bulb of percussion, steep retouching	Fairly good quality flint, probably derived from a small pebble from the Wolds Area, utilised flake, IA/ERB
18	209	2	Grey flake, very irregular dorsal scarring, hinge termination	Unworked, possibly a core rejuvenation flake
18	209	<1	2 x grey patinated chips	Unmodified natural flints
18	211	2	Pink chert, flat and slightly curved	unworked, naturally occurring flint, possibly casually utilised
18	213	<1	2 x small flat grey flints	Unworked, natural flint
18	214	2	Dark grey chunk	Unworked, natural flint
19	243	10	Heavily weathered grey pebble, steeply retouched along one edge	Utilised pebble fragment
19	243	<1	Small flat light brown flint	Unworked flake, possibly debitage, hinge termination
19	243	<1	Small light grey flint	Unworked, natural flint
19	243	<1	Small brownish grey irregular flint	Unworked, natural flint
19	290	<1	Small flat, partially recorticated	Unworked, natural flint
20	104	<1	Small white, weathered flint	Unworked, natural flint
22	108	1	Grey flint, small amount of cortex, large bulb of percussion (negative and positive)	Unworked, evidently the result of significant direct force, possibly shattering of a large flint pebble
22	110	<1	Small grey chip	Debitage?
22	110	<1	Small grey flake	The end of a bladelet, debitage?

Trench	Context	Wt. (g)	Description	Comments
33	154	14	Irregular grey flint, some pitted creamy white flint cortex	Unworked, possibly casually utilised
33	154	6	Dark greenish-brown flint, with black streaking and a small amount of thin buff cortex	Unworked, possibly casually utilised
33	154	<1	Small grey chip with some thin buff cortex	Unworked, possibly casually utilised
	U/S	11	Irregular shaped pebble, light grey and weathered	Unworked, naturally fractured casually utilised
	U/S	2	Irregular shaped flake, some weathering	Unworked, naturally fractured casually utilised
	U/S	9	Ovoid, white recorticated, thick, steep retouch	Ovoid Scraper LBA
	U/S	2	Rectangular brownish-grey flint, large bulb of percussion and hinge termination	Side Scraper, BA
	U/S	6	Irregular chunk	Unworked, naturally fractured
	U/S	3	Irregular grey flint	Unworked, naturally fractured
	U/S	1	Small white flint	Unworked, naturally fractured

Small Finds by H.E.M. Cool

This report is a preliminary statement on six items recovered during the trial trenching.

Small Find (SF) 1 is a Roman trumpet brooch for which a broad late 1st to mid 2nd century date can be suggested. This example is a hinged brooch with a closed cylinder holding the crossbar. This places it amongst Bayley and Butcher's Group B (Bayley and Butcher 2004, 161). Dating is sparse for the type but they seem most likely to have in use mainly in the 2nd century. Such brooches normally have a cast headloop but the current state of the brooch means that the original presence of one cannot be confirmed. The mouldings above and below the acanthus are currently obscured but it is possible that they have lentoid features. If so that might suggest it has affinities with the Chester variant of the type, though such brooches would not normally be expected in this region as both the manufacturing evidence and the main distribution is in the Gloucestershire area (Cool 2007, 173-4). Should any further work be carried out on this material, the acanthus and moulding area would benefit from cleaning so that the brooch can be more closely identified.

SF 3 is a fragment of jet that is clearly worked and a fragment from a much larger object. This would suggest that it too was of Roman date, as jet was exploited to produce a range of large items during that period (see for example Allason-Jones 1996, 48-50) and not just personal ornaments as was done in prehistory. Quite what this large chip came from is unknown, but a late Roman date is most likely as that was the period when the jet industries were at their peak.

The fragment of copper alloy sheet (SF 2) is not intrinsically dateable but is typical of the sort of find that frequently occurs in Roman assemblages. Nails are also a common find on Roman sites but the state of the three recovered with their relatively thin corrosion crusts might suggest that they are most likely to have been of relatively recent date. All three were derived from the upper features fills and could easily have been intrusive.

Catalogue

1. Trumpet brooch lacking pin and lower part of bow. Copper alloy. Oval trumpet head broken at top with closed hinge cover behind; bow tapers to central acanthus moulding of three petals on the front and sides with mouldings above and below, now obscured but possibly lentoid, tapering broken lower bow. Length 42mm, head width 15mm. *Trench 19 (101) SF1*

2. Copper alloy sheet fragment. Dimensions 15 x 7.5mm. *Trench 18 (209) SF2*

3. Worked block; jet. Currently with approximately square outline; upper face and three edges original, back and one side have conchoidal fracture from break. Two sides meet at a rounded right angle with upper face curving over to them, third original face meets the upper face at a sharper right angle, corner broken. Dimensions 18 x 18mm, present thickness 9mm. *Trench 18, (209) SF3.*

4. Iron nail. Lacking tip. *Trench 21 (113) SF4*

5. Iron nail. Complete. *Trench 4 (151) SF 5*

6. Iron nail. Complete. *Trench 18 (206) SF 6*

Quern by J. Cruse

This report was not available for the interim report and will be supplied at a later date.

Industrial Residues by J. Jones

This interim statement is provided in advance of a fuller assessment of some 1300g of possible industrial residues were recovered from the site, with much of it originating from a three contexts (213-216 filling Feature 216 in Trench 18). Many of the pieces appear to be fuel ash slag, the presence of which is not necessarily indicative of industrial activity. Further microscopic examination alongside possible EDXRF (energy dispersive X-ray fluorescence) analysis will be required to catalogue the material and determine the potential of the assemblage.

7 Environmental Record

Cremated Bone by Malin Holst

A small assemblage of cremated bone (10.7g) was recovered from Feature 162 in Trench 33. The assessment aimed to identify whether the cremated human bone recovered from the site was human. The skeletal assessment aimed to determine age and sex, as well as any manifestations of disease from which the individual may have suffered.

Preservation was good; the bone exhibited little bone surface erosion and moderate fragmentation. Moderate cracking and little bone warping was observed. Most of the bone was derived from the 5mm sieve; however, 3.8g (36%) of the bone was 10mm in size or larger. The cremated bone was well burnt, as a result of which it had a white colouration.

Only 10.7g of cremated bone was recovered, an amount which weighs considerably less than what would be produced by modern crematoria, which tends to range from 1000.5g to 2422.5g with an average of 1625.9g (McKinley 1993).

Despite the fragmentation of bone elements, it is possible to identify skeletal elements, all of which were skull fragments. It was not possible to identify the sex of the individual, nor the age, though based on the size of the bone fragments this individual was probably a juvenile. No pathological lesions were noted.

Further osteological analysis of the assemblage would not reveal any additional information about the burial or cremated individual.

Animal Bone by J. Richardson

In total, 1389 fragments of animal bone were recovered as a result of hand excavation and environmental sampling (Table 9). Given the small assemblage, all fragments were recorded but diagnostic element zones, which by definition are easily identifiable and non-reproducible, were also noted. Of the 1389 bones, only 16% are classified as zones. As such, the assemblage falls well below the minimum reliable sample size of around 500 (with reference to a number of statistical parameters after van der Veen and Fieller 1982, 296).

Table 9. Animal bone fragments by context (zones in parentheses)

	pre-Roman Iron Age	Iron Age/early Roman	Late Roman	Not phased	Total
Cattle	(9) 23	(7) 13	(1) 2	(1) 1	(18) 39
Horse	(3) 3	(1) 5			(4) 8
Sheep				(182) 743	(182) 743
Sheep/goat	(13) 41	(3) 18	1		(16) 60
Pig	(1) 2	(2) 3			(3) 5
Dog	(1) 1	1			(1) 2
Red deer	4				4
Hare		(1) 1			(1) 1
Cattle-size	169	87	16	5	277
Sheep-size	(1) 149	(1) 98	1	1	(2) 249
Bird spp.		1			1
Total	**392**	**221**	**20**	**750**	**1389**

Methods

Bones were identified to taxa wherever possible, although lower-order categories were also used (e.g. sheep/goat, cattle-sized). For age-at-death data, epiphyseal fusion (after Silver 1969) and the eruption and wear of deciduous and permanent check teeth were considered. Bone condition, erosion and fragment size were recorded in order to assess bone preservation, while gnawing, burning and butchery marks were noted to determine bone treatment. Given the fragmented and poorly preserved nature of the assemblage, little biometrical data were recorded. No pathological bones were noted.

Results

Overall, bone preservation is poor with cracked and porous bones and eroded bone surfaces. No gnawed bones were noted, but this is probably a product of the poorly preserved bone

surfaces rather than any absence of dogs. Butchered bones are rare (thirteen unphased bones and two Iron Age/early Roman bones displayed the marks of dismembering and/or meat removal), while burnt bones are much more common: 78 (20%) from pre-Roman Iron Age features, 33 (15%) from Iron Age/early Roman features and 10 (1%) from unphased deposits.

Sheep (sheep/goat and sheep-sized) bones are most commonly recorded, although the majority of these represent the atypical disposal of at least two sheep skeletons in pit/post-hole 256 (see below). Excluding this deposit, sheep are still predominant especially from pre-Roman Iron Age features, although the much heavier cattle will have offered most in terms of meat weight. Pig and hare offered rare dietary variability. Horse is unlikely to have been eaten during the Roman period due to prohibitions against the consumption of horseflesh (Toynbee 1973, 185). Certainly no butchered horse bones were noted. Dog is represented a single metacarpal (pre-Roman Iron Age) and a loose tooth (Iron Age/early Roman), while red deer is represented only by small antler fragments (pre-Roman Iron Age) and consequently there is no evidence for it having been hunted.

Age data are limited given the small assemblage, and are largely restricted to Iron Age deposits. Nevertheless young adult and adult cattle and sub-adult and young adult sheep are represented (with reference to dental wear data). These suggest that some animals were slaughtered specifically for their meat. The range of body parts represented (including low-utility and meat-rich joints) suggests local slaughter and consumption. A single juvenile horse bone recovered from pre-Roman Iron Age enclosure ditch 176 and a neonatal pig bone from Iron Age/early Roman feature 216 might indicate the local rearing of these species.

One atypical deposit, the disposal of at least two sheep carcasses into pit/post-hole 256, was noted. It is likely that two ewes were discarded here, although butchery marks to the back of one head, two hips, a knee and three hocks suggests that they were dismembered before disposal. Examination of the pelves suggest two females, while fusion and dental data indicate that the animals were three to four years old on death. Metrical data from two left metatarsals provided withers' heights of 540m and 570mm. Perhaps these bones represent the waste from feasting, although unfortunately the feature is currently un-phased.

Recommendations

The animal bone assemblage is in poor condition and is also limited due to its small size. Based on the body parts present and the age data, the pre-Roman Iron Age deposits are dominated by butchery and food waste largely from sheep, to a lesser extent from cattle and only a few pigs. Horses were probably kept as working animals. A tendency for the proportion of cattle to increase over time at the expense of sheep is possible, but this cannot be confirmed given the small assemblage. No additional recording is required, but some re-assessment of the data, in light of revisions to the phasing or in the event of further excavations, might be warranted.

Carbonised Plant Macrofossils and Charcoal by D. Alldritt

Introduction

A total of 30 environmental sample flots were assessed. Nineteen bags of charred material sorted from the sample retents were also examined for identifiable charcoal and presence of other carbonised remains and molluscs.

Methodology

Bulk environmental samples were processed by Archaeological Serrvices WYAS using an Ankara style water flotation system (French 1971). The subsequent flots were allowed to dry prior to examination using a low power binocular microscope. The majority of samples were fairly small containing from <2.5ml to up to 15ml of charred material. Occasional samples proved slightly richer with 20ml to 30ml of carbonised remains, whilst a single sample (58, context 294) was highly abundant producing over 300ml of charcoal fragments, mostly from the retent. Modern root material and occasional modern seeds were visible throughout the samples, but generally in low amounts from <2.5ml to (rarely) 25ml.

Charcoal fragments suitable for identification were selected from both flot and retent portions of the samples and examined using a high powered Vickers M10 metallurgical microscope at magnifications up to x200. A representative portion of fragments was examined from sample 58 (294) due to the abundance of material. Identification of charcoal was made by reference to Schweingruber (1990). Plant nomenclature utilised in the text follows Stace (1997) for all vascular plants, apart from cereal grain, which follows Zohary and Hopf (2000).

Results

Results are tabulated in summary form in Table 10 and discussed below.

Discussion

The 30 flots and 19 retent samples examined produced an interesting range of carbonised plant macrofossils, which included cereal grain, weed seeds and wood charcoal. Occasional samples also produced burnt peat and rhizome remains. The largest amounts of material recovered were concentrated in six of the samples; namely 21 (153, Trench 33), 34 (202, Trench 10), 37 (211, Trench 18), 53 (268, Trench 26), 58 (294) and 65 (257) both from Trench 16, whilst the majority of the remaining samples produced single specimens or small trace amounts only. Non marine mollusc shells were also present in small quantities throughout the samples and these have been approximately quantified in the table of results.

Carbonised cereal grain was recovered from eleven samples, 5 (113, Trench 21), 7 (119, Trench 14), 12 (135, Trench 4), 27 (168, Trench 5), 34 (202, Trench 33), 37 (211, Trench 18), 52 (269, Trench 26), 61 (300, Trench 26), 65 (257, Trench 16), 67 (253, Trench 16) and 68 (307, Trench 21), with nicely preserved identifiable specimens present in seven of these. The largest amount of grain was recovered from sample 37 (211, Trench 18) with mostly *Avena*

sp. (oat) identified, together with lesser amounts of *Hordeum vulgare* var. *vulgare* (six row hulled barley) and *Triticum aestivum* (bread wheat). This was however, the only sample to produce both oat and wheat grains from the assemblage as a whole, with the other six samples, 7 (119), 12 (135), 27 (168), 61 (300), 65 (257) and 68 (307), containing *Hordeum vulgare* sl. (barley) and indeterminate grain only. It is possible that sample 37 (211) may be of a slightly different date to the other cereal samples, given its difference in content, possibly a later rather than early date, which is, to a degree, supported by the pottery dating.

A very small range of carbonised weed seeds was present in two of the samples only, with both these also containing cereal grain. Sample 65 (257, Trench 16), producing exclusively barley grain in its cereal assemblage, also contained a single *Fallopia convolvulus* (black bindweed). This is a ubiquitous weed of waste and disturbed ground and may have been a chance inclusion in the sample, perhaps growing in the local vicinity of the site. The weeds recovered from sample 37 (211) are more likely to be related to agricultural practice, given the combination of *Bromus* sp. (bromes), *Rannunculus* sp. (buttercups) and *Danthonia decumbens* (heathgrass), found together with oat grains. These weeds of grassland, damp rough pasture and rough grassy heath are concurrent with an oat crop grown on rough or marginal land, perhaps on higher ground unsuitable for a wheat or barley crop. The likely 2nd century Roman date for 37 (211, Trench 18) could indicate a change in agricultural practice by this time, with an expansion onto more marginal land, perhaps instigated by the need to increase fodder production.

Identifiable wood charcoal was present in ten samples, 3 (108, Trench 22), 5 (113, Trench 21), 21 (153, Trench 33), 23 (160, Trench 33), 25 (161, Trench 33), 34 (202, Trench 10), 37 (211, Trench 18), 53 (268, Trench 26), 58 (294, Trench 18) and 65 (257, Trench 16), with the largest fragments, mostly oak, recovered from the retent portions. Wood types consisted in the main of *Quercus* (oak), with lesser amounts of *Betula* (birch), *Corylus* (hazel) and *Salix/Populus* (willow/poplar). These results were slightly skewed by the abundance of charcoal recovered from the retent of sample 58 (294, Trench 16), which contained a large amount of almost exclusively oak fragments ranging from 0.5cm to 2cm in size. It is probable this represented the remains of a fire pit, or a cremation or similar, given the abundance of charcoal, but distinct lack of any other plant remains. The retent of sample 53 (268, Trench 26) was quite similar, producing only a single *Betula* (birch) fragment, with all other charcoal appearing to be oak. Interestingly the cereal rich sample 37 (211, Trench 18) contained very little charcoal, but two pieces were identified as *Salix/Populus* (willow/poplar), a fast growing wood type of open and scrub environments, which could have been used as fuel for cereal drying or similar processes. The range of wood types in use at the site suggested mixed deciduous oak woodland with open and lighter areas containing hazel and willow/poplar, and perhaps also wetland/heath areas, suggested by birch.

In addition to wood charcoal, alternative sources of fuel in use at the site were suggested by findings of burnt peat and rhizome fragments. Peat was recovered from samples 5 (113, Trench 21), 27 (168, Trench 5) and 34 (202, Trench 10), whilst rhizomes were found in

sample 65 (257, Trench 16) only. These indicated the exploitation of heath and peat land environments for use as fuel.

Conclusions

The assessment samples from Newbridge Quarry produced a range of charred plant material, which was mostly concentrated in a small number of the samples. Carbonised cereal grain and weed seeds indicated an agricultural economy reliant upon barley and oats, with less evidence for wheat production. The later oat rich sample, 37 (211, Trench 18), has an abundance of oat grain, together with weeds of rough grassy land, reflects a different agricultural regime and is suggestive of an expansion onto more marginal agricultural areas. The appearance of oat in this sample may also indicate a requirement for fodder production at this time.

Identification of wood charcoal showed the use of oak, birch, hazel and willow/poplar, most likely as a fuel resource, but possibly also for construction purposes. The combination of wood types indicate mixed deciduous woodland with open areas being exploited, perhaps at different times for different purposes. The abundance of oak in samples 58 (294, Trench 16) and 53 (268, Trench 26) certainly stands out as different from the other samples, and may reflect single use episodes, perhaps for cremations or fire-pits.

No further identification work is recommended on this sample set as all carbonised plant macrofossils have been identified. It would be possible to identify further charcoal pieces from some of the samples but as the majority appears to be oak there would probably be little new information gained from this. In general all plant material, including charcoal, was nicely preserved, and where charcoal was found to be indeterminate it was usually due to small size rather than poor preservation. Future sampling work at the site therefore has a good potential to produce nicely preserved carbonised plant remains, in reasonably large amounts, but perhaps confined to certain key areas of the site.

Table 10. Carbonised plant macrofossils and charcoal data

Newbridge Quarry (NQE08)	**Sample**	1	2	3	5	7	8	12	21	23	24	25	27	30	31	33
	Context	107	104	108	113	119	122	135	153	160	163	161	168	189	194	202
	Trench	20	20	22	21	14	15	4	33	33	33	33	5	5	10	10
	Total CV	0	<2.5ml	<2.5ml	7.5ml	2.5ml	<2.5ml	2.5ml	20ml	10ml	10ml	10ml	5ml	<2.5ml	<2.5ml	0
	Modern	10ml	10ml	5ml	15ml	5ml	10ml	10ml	10ml	<2.5ml	25ml	15ml	10ml	10ml	5ml	<2.5ml
Carbonised Cereal Grain	**Common Name**															
Avena sp.	oat															
Triticum aestivum	bread wheat															
Hordeum vulgare var. *vulgare*	six row hulled barley															
Hordeum vulgare sl.	barley					1		1					1			
Indeterminate cereal grain (+embryo)					1								4			
Charcoal																
Quercus	oak			1 (0.04g)												
Corylus	hazel									1 (0.07g)		2 (0.11g)				
Betula	birch				1 (0.10g)				4 (0.37g)							
Salix / Populus	willow / poplar															
Indeterminate						1 (0.01g)			1 (0.04g)							
Carbonised Weeds																
Ranunculus sp.	buttercups															
Fallopia convolvulus	black bindweed															
Danthonia decumbens	heathgrass															
Bromus sp.	bromes															
Carbonised Wild Resources																
Burnt peat					1 (0.08g)								1 (0.03g)			
Rhizomes																
Calluna stems (roots+twigs)	heather															
Other Remains																
Bone																
Non-marine mollusc shells		10+	5+	5+	30+	10+	5+	40+	5+	5+	10+	3	30+	10+	10+	10+
Modern (non-carbonised) seeds			2	2			2	1	2			2	10+	3	1	
Modern straw		5														

Newbridge Quarry (NQE08)	Sample	34	35	37	40	41	49	50	52	53	57	58	61	65	67	68
	Context	202	224	211	215	221	261	265	269	268	292	294	300	257	253	307
	Trench	10	19	18	18	10	21	21	26	26	19	16	26	16	16	21
	Total CV	20ml	0	25ml	<2.5ml	<2.5ml	0	<2.5 ml	<2.5ml	30ml	<2.5m l	330ml	2.5ml	25ml	2.5ml	<2.5m l
	Modern	20ml	5ml	10ml	5ml	5ml	5ml	10ml	10ml	15ml	10ml	25ml	5ml	20ml	5ml	5ml
Carbonised Cereal Grain	Common Name															
Avena sp.	oat			12												
Triticum aestivum	bread wheat			1												
Hordeum vulgare var. vulgare	six row hulled barley			2									1			
Hordeum vulgare sl.	barley													10		1
Indeterminate cereal grain (+embryo)		2		36					1					17	1	
Charcoal																
Quercus	oak	4 (0.38g)								5 (2.92g)		15 (4.62g)		1 (0.15g)		
Corylus	hazel															
Betula	birch									1 (0.19g)		1 (0.10g)				
Salix / Populus	willow / poplar			2 (0.14g)						1 (0.19g)						
Indeterminate												1 (0.12g)		1 (0.05g)		
Carbonised Weeds																
Ranunculus sp.	buttercups			1												
Fallopia convolvulus	black bindweed													1		
Danthonia decumbens	heathgrass			1												
Bromus sp.	bromes			2												
Carbonised Wild Resources																
Burnt peat		1 (0.08g)														
Rhizomes														4 (0.23g)		
Calluna stems (roots+twigs)	heather													8 (0.19g)		
Other Remains																
Bone														7 (2.16g)		
Non-marine mollusc shells		5+	20+	10+	5+	20+	5+	10+			5+				3	3
Modern (non-carbonised) seeds							3	5+							1	5+
Modern straw										1	4					

Molluscs by J. Carrott

This brief review of mollusc remains in 25 'flots' from the samples processed ('GBA'/'BS' *sensu* Dobney *et al.* 1992) contained small to moderate numbers of mollusc remains. The 25 'flots' represented 23 distinct contexts, all of which were fills of cut features (11 ditch fills, four gully fills, four pit fills (one a possible cremation pit), two post-hole fills, a linear cut and a fill of an indeterminate square feature. The 'flots' were briefly scanned and no identifications were attempted for the snails (beyond those that were immediately apparent) – all of those seen were terrestrial forms, however.

Many of the 'flots' contained only small numbers of snail remains and it was noted that the majority of these were often *Cecilioides acicula* (Müller) – this is a burrowing species, almost certainly intrusive to the deposits and of no value for the reconstruction of past ecological conditions at the site. Small to moderate numbers of more interpretatively valuable remains were present in eight of the deposits but in two cases, Context 135 (lower fill of Gully 136, Trench 4) and Context 168 (primary fill of eastern enclosure Ditch 169, Trench 5), the assemblages appeared to be predominantly of catholic taxa which, again, may provide little information regarding past environments; a formal assessment would be required to confirm (or refute) this impression. Potentially useful assemblages of land snails were present in Context 113 (fill of Ditch 112, Trench 21), Context 224 (stony deposit in ring gully cut 225), Context 292 (primary fill of ring gully 293), both in Trench 19, and Context 265 (fill of gully 264, Trench 26). Context 221 (fill of linear cut 220, Trench 10) and Context 261 (fill of post-hole 260, Trench 21) were also worthy of closer examination; although many of the remains were clearly of *Cecilioides acicula*, other snail remains could also be present.

Recommendations

A formal assessment of the snail assemblages from all those deposits specifically mentioned in the text above should be undertaken to fully determine their interpretative potential and subsequent analysis undertaken where warranted. As part of the assessment, it would be worthwhile to re-examine the 'flots' from the other 15 deposits (at least briefly) to check for any unusual remains present.

8 Discussion and Conclusions

Feature Visibility

With a few exceptions there was a good correlation between the results of the geophysical survey and the features identified during the evaluation. As suggested by the geophysical survey results, the archaeological features were largely confined to the western side of the site, the most easterly feature detected being the shallow continuation of a field ditch revealed in Trench 12. On excavation the linear features were often fragmentary and intermittent, due almost certainly to a combination of differential agricultural truncation and

geological variation. Despite the evident truncation by ploughing a number of small discrete features, such as pits and post-holes, which are too small to be detected by the geophysical survey, were identified in many trenches.

The use of larger 20m by 20m trenches to search for unenclosed settlement evidence was rewarded by some evidence for activity in Trenches 16 and 26. Although not obvious structures were in evidence pits and post-holes encountered and their finds and environmental content are indicative of settlement activity.

Numerous potential archaeological features were found on excavation to be of natural origin. Solution holes and channels were common across the site, and clayey deposits were identified overlying the limestone bedrock in many trenches. There was too good correspondence with the geophysically mapped natural linear anomalies which were investigated in Trenches 4, 6, 12, 27 and 33.

Chronology and Phasing

The dating resolution provided by the pottery is broad, but the majority of it is in native tradition and generally belongs to the later Iron Age/early Roman period, the majority no later than the 2nd century. The is little evidence to suggest the 3rd century evidence that was apparent in the sites excavated immediately to the south (see Appendix 5), however there is clearly a small later Roman presence. The case for a 3rd century hiatus in the occupation of the area is a difficult one to sustain in the light of the continuity of native style pottery and the apparent reluctance to adopt Roman wares, but the possibility remains. Discounting earlier prehistoric activity, which may be represented by the unconfirmed barrow in Trench 19 and flint scatters, three provisional phases of landscape development are proposed on the basis of the available evidence.

Phase 1: The earliest evidence for enclosure and land division would seem to date to the pre-Roman Iron Age, when it is envisaged that the trackway, the earliest use of Enclosure Z, and possibly the field systems, were established as far north as Trench 10. The trackway at this time may well have veered westwards at this point.

Phase 2: By the 2nd century the trackway had been realigned with a dog-leg to run northwards to link with Enclosure W and beyond. The greatest concentration of activity however seems to have been focussed to the south of the dog-leg in Enclosure Z, the unenclosed area to the north of it and in Enclosure Y. The environmental evidence is consistent with these areas being used for domestic activities and the drying and processing arable crops, with a distinct possibility of a change in agricultural practice occurring being implied by the appearance of oats and wheat in some deposits. Despite its partial excavation the most enigmatic feature remains Feature 216 in Trench 18. This now offers less credibility as a sunken floored building, but might still be regarded as a potential crop drier, albeit a large one. Its fill, which provisionally is identified as being rich in fuel ash, is more consistent

with a series of rubbish deposits rather than being related to the primary function of the feature.

Phase 3: On the basis of the pottery dating it would appear that later Roman activity was confined to Enclosure X, although there is little evidence to elucidate its function. The presence of small amounts of carbonised cereal grains and evidence for peat fuelled fires (as also found associated with the earlier Enclosures Y and Z) would suggest some domestic activity.

There is no obvious early unenclosed settlement phase, as was identified to the south, and Phases 1 and 2 here may reasonably be equated with the 2003-2006 provisional Phase 2, whilst Phase 3 would seem to accord well with the 2003-2006 Phase 3 (see Appendix 5). There is no clear-cut evidence for post-Roman evidence in the 2008 data, although the date range of the pottery from Trench 5 (Enclosure X) does encompass the 5th century.

To the south there was good evidence for the two trackway ditches having different histories in terms of their re-cutting and later use for cremation deposition. In this area the two sides of the ditch do appear to be morphologically quite different (Trench 27), although elsewhere any differences were less obvious because of the trackway being partly defined by the sides of different enclosures. There was no evidence of any later Roman cremations in the trackway ditches, although it might be noted that there is apparently relatively little evidence for any later Roman activity here.

Not surprisingly, many features remain un-phased. The majority of these lie within the enclosure complexes, or adjacent to them and may eventually appear in a more coherent spatial context that will allow for better interpretation. A group of outlying features in Trench 33 are so far undated are represent the only group known focus of activity away from the trackway. They are notable for including the remains of a human cremation, and some well preserved carbonised plant remains, though whether the two are associated is unclear.

Environmental potential

Whilst the enclosures and field systems at Newbridge Quarry undoubtedly represent a heavy investment in animal husbandry in the Iron Age and early Roman period, the degree of preservation of animal bone from the site does not promise to offer much potential for future analysis. However, the recovery of carbonised seeds and other plant remains, from a significant number of contexts has provided some insight into the economy of the settlement and a possible change to the arable regime by the Roman period. The mollusc data requires further assessment, but there would appear to be some potential for the fills from a number of the enclosure ditches and features, and particularly the fills from the putative barrow in Trench 19, which might allow for some environmental comparison for different periods.

9 Further Work

Evaluation Report

In order to produce this interim report in timely fashion to meet planning requirements, a number of small elements have been omitted because the specialists involved have been unable to complete the work due to their other commitments. Work that remains to be completed includes: the assessment of the industrial deposits; a geological identification of the quern; and a fuller assessment of the molluscs. A radiocarbon date of the cremated human remains from Pit 162 (Trench 33) may be required, but did not form part of the programme as the remains were only identified as being human when the animal bone analysis was recently carried out. It is presently anticipated that the outstanding elements (excluding any radiocarbon dating requirement) will be completed by the end of January 2009.

Future Mitigation

Subject to the agreement of the North Yorkshire Heritage and Environment Section Archaeologist, it is proposed that Phase 1 of the proposed extraction, in the south-western corner of the site, is preceded by an archaeological Strip and Record exercise to expose and plan the archaeology to inform follow-on archaeological excavations. This would be a continuation of the practice carried out on the sites to the south up to 2006, but in this case would constitute just the initial approach in an iterative mitigation strategy that would be adapted and developed in consultation with the North Yorkshire Heritage and Environment Section Archaeologist to determine the most appropriate archaeological approach for successive phases of extraction in the light of what archaeology had been found in previous phases of archaeological work.