

Table 14. Animal bone fragments by context (zones in parentheses)

Phase	1/2	2	2/3	3	4	Not phased	Total
Cattle	(1) 22	4	(1) 3	(5) 39		17	(10) 85
Horse	1			(1) 1			(1) 2
Sheep/goat	1			(5) 5		(9) 39	(14) 85
Pig	1	1					2
Dog		(1) 1					(1) 1
Cattle-size	11	9	4	24		14	62
Sheep-size	15	(1) 3		3		3	(1) 24
Undiagnostic	(1) 205	63		35	2	96	(1) 401
Total	256	81	7	107	2	169	662

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 cheek teeth were considered. Bone condition, erosion and fragment size were recorded in order to assess bone preservation, while gnawing, burning and butchery marks were sought in order to determine bone treatment. Given the fragmented and poorly preserved nature of the assemblage, no biometrical data were recorded. Pathological bones were noted.

Results

Overall, bone preservation is extremely poor with cracked and porous bones and eroded bone surfaces. No gnawed bones were noted, but as with the bone from the 2008 evaluation, this is probably a product of the poorly preserved bone surfaces rather than any absence of dogs. Likewise, the absence of butchered bones is probably a factor of this poor preservation. Burnt bones, in contrast, are common, amounting to 65% of all bones.

Cattle (and cattle-sized) bones are most commonly recorded from pre-Roman Iron Age to early Roman (Phases 1/2 and 2) and late Roman deposits (Phase 3), although by Phase 3 the number of diagnostic zones suggests that sheep were also significant. Pig offered only rare dietary variability, while horses were probably used as a work animals. Dog is represented a single ulna (Late Iron Age-early Roman).

Age data are extremely limited given the small assemblage, and are restricted to the identification of old adult cattle from late Roman (Phase 3) and unphased deposits and juvenile and young adult sheep also from late Roman (Phase 3) and unphased deposits. In addition, a partial juvenile sheep skeleton (represented by both hind legs) was recovered from pit 1676. The old cattle indicate breeding stock, milch cows or traction cattle, while the much younger sheep indicate the availability of prime meat.

Two pathological bones were noted, both cattle third molars with reduced third cusps from late Roman (Phase 3) features. This is a widespread trait in Romano-British cattle and may relate to degrees of inbreeding or crossbreeding (Stallibrass 1995, 142).

Recommendations

The animal bone assemblage is in very poor condition, is highly fragmented and is also limited due to its small size. Based on the body parts present and the age data, food waste largely from cattle and sheep is present (despite the absence of butchery marks). Prime meat was available from sheep, while cattle were more likely to be maintained for longer for their secondary products and for breeding, before being slaughtered. 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.

Radiocarbon Date by SUERC

A fragment of a cremated human skull from an un-urned cremation excavated from the upper fill of the western trackway ditch in 2005 (NBQ2005/2348) was submitted for radiocarbon dating at the Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre AMS Facility, University of Glasgow.

Laboratory code: SUERC-20319 (GU-17509)

$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ relative to VPDB: -22.9 ‰

Radiocarbon age BP: 1740 ± 30

Calibrated @ 68.2% probability: AD 250-340

Calibrated @ 95.4% probability: AD 230-390

Conclusions by I. Roberts

The evidence from these assessments generally points to a landscape modelled in the later Iron Age, which continued in use into the later Roman period and possibly beyond, although the latter notion cannot really be substantiated by any of the dating evidence available. Discounting the early prehistoric activity, as represented by residual Neolithic and Bronze Age flints, which seems to have been focussed in the southern part of the site, and the post-medieval evidence, the archaeology might now be seen to fall into four general phases, notwithstanding the evidence from the work carried out between 1999-2003, not yet appraised. The main phased elements are presented on Figures 21-25.

Phase 1: Mid-later Iron Age

The earliest coherent phase of activity would seem to relate to a mid-late Iron Age unenclosed settlement, largely concentrated in the northern part of the site. It seems to have focussed upon the double ditched trackway that would also seem to have been created at this time.

Phase 2: Later Iron Age

The pottery dating is so imprecise that it is possible that some Phase 1 elements continued, but the main feature of this late Iron Age is the creation of a series of four enclosures (A-D) appended to the trackway ditches, three of them on the eastern side.

Phase 3: Later Roman Period

There is presently little evidence for any early Roman period activity, but this may just be a product of a later adoption of Roman material culture in this area. Indeed the vast majority of the pottery recovered from the enclosures attributed to this phase is of native type, the assemblages luckily having small components of later Roman pottery enabling them to be differentiated. All the enclosures in this phase (A, E-G) were appended to the eastern trackway ditch and it seems quite likely, the western ditch

was no longer actively maintained, judging by the absence of Roman pottery from its fills. No doubt the earthwork would still have served to mark the trackway, as well as providing a defined area for cremation burial. This practice, which the radiocarbon dated sample places in the 3rd-4th century, took place in both trackway ditches. Interestingly, the revised phasing might suggest a tendency to use the areas of ditch between the enclosure complexes, rather than adjacent to them.

Phase 4: Late Roman or Post Roman Period

If all the cremations are attributed to the late Roman period the case for a substantive post-Roman phase is greatly reduced, particularly too as there is no definite identification on the few sherds of pottery thought to be potentially of Anglian origin. Stratigraphically and spatially one enclosure (H) represents the activity of this phase. Morphologically the enclosure is distinct from the earlier ones in that it seems to have been partially defined by a palisade. It also differs in that it was not articulated with the eastern trackway ditch, and rather looks as if it might have been aligned with a relict earthwork.

Environmental Evidence

The content of the soils samples processed to date indicates that there is the potential for identifying a range of fuel types in use at the site, with sufficient short-lived species and charred cereal grains to provide material suitable for radiocarbon dating. The plant remains also have the potential to better inform of the extent of the agricultural economy at different periods. At this level of analysis the evidence suggests a mixed economy based upon animal husbandry and arable farming; the animal bone evidence, insofar as such a small diagnostic assemblage can be relied upon, suggesting cattle and sheep farming.

Assessment Data Tables

Table 15. Spot dating of pottery

Id	Area	Context	Other Data	Date	Fabric	Count	Weight	Abrasion	Part of vessel	Vessel form	Vessel type	Rim D	Rim P	Condition	Comments
155		2124	2124/2126	LIA-ERB	H1	1	14.2	M	rim sherd	smooth curving, thin everted rim with rounded tip	J	14	11	BM OSR	
156		2124	2124/2126	IA-RB	H3	1	4.5	A	bodysherd						
157		2124	2124/2126	IA-RB	H4	1	6.9	A	bodysherd						
158		2124	2124/2126	RB	TS	1	4.8	M	bodysherd		B/D				
159		2124	2124/2126	RB	GRB1	4	7.2	M	bodysherd						
160		2124	2124/2126	2-3	GRB1	1	13.6	M	bodysherd	carinated	B				
161		2124	2124/2126	2+	GRB1	1	44.5	M	simple base sherd	cheese press	CHP				
162	Area N	2070		2-3	H10	12	316.4	M	rim sherd	rectangular shaped everted rim as Knaption ware	J	28	12		Corder and Kirk 1932
163	Area N	2070		IA-RB	H1	1	2.3	V	scraps						
164	Area N	2170		RB	GRB1	1	24.3	M	bodysherd	closed vessel	J				
165	Area D/G	1929		IA-RB	H1	1	1.3	A	scraps						
166	Area G	2094		M1-3	DR20	1	91.8	A	bodysherd	Dressel 20 amphora	A				
167	Area G	2094		IA-RB	H8	1	2.3	A	scraps						
168	Area V	2542		IA-RB	H1	3	8.3	A	bodysherd						
169	Area V	2542		IA-RB	H5?	1	1.1	V	scraps						
170	Area V	2495		IA-RB	H1	8	24.3	M	bodysherd	closed vessel	J				

63	Area E	1932		M/LIA	H4	2	4.3	M	rim sherd	upright tapering rounded rim	J				
64	Area E	1771		MIA?	H1	3	7.7	M	rim sherd	flat rim	B?	26	3		
65	Area E	2009		LIA-ERB	H1	3	8.4	V	rim sherd	everted rim	J	18	6		
66	Area E	1892		IA-RB	H1	1	1.2	V	bodysherd						
67	Area E	1892		IA-RB	H9?	1	1.5	V	scraps						
68	Area F	2023		IA-RB	H1	1	9.9	M	bodysherd						
69	Area F	2106		M1-3	DR20	2	419.7	M	Body and handle sherd	Dressel 20 amphora	A				Handle cut off
70	Area F	2108		IA-RB	H1	1	25.7	M	bodysherd	closed vessel	J				BM ISB
71	Area F	2108		3	GRB1	1	156.5	M	profile		B	28	16		PTBDY 7mm diam
72	Area F	2106		3	GRB1	24	240.4	M	rim sherd	large jar with slim everted rim	NNJ	14	10		PRBDY Probably pre-firing perf for lug which has now come off
73	Area F	2106		RB	GRB1	2	24.2	M	bodysherd	closed vessel					
74	Area F	2106		RB	OAB/E1	3	8	A	bodysherd						
75	Area F	2106		IA-RB	H5	4	24.2	M	bodysherd						
76	Area F	2106		IA-RB	H3	2	23.4	A	bodysherd						
77	Area F	2106		IA-RB	H1	125	1089	M	simple base sherd	simple base	J				BM ISB
78	Area F	3045		IA-RB	H1	9	375.1	U	simple base sherd	simple base	J				
79	Area F	2090		LIA-ERB	H1	51	390.5	M	rim sherd	thin sharply everted rim with bevelled rim tip	J	30	35		
80	Area F	2090		LIA-ERB	H1	1	33.3	M	rim sherd	rectangular shaped everted rim as Knapton ware	J	24	8		

81	Area F	2090		LIA-ERB	H2?	1	5.2	A	rim sherd	small jar with small triangular rim, internally bevelled, Rigby 1980 fig. 27 no. 12 dated 3rd century BC and later	SJ	12	6		
82	Area F	2090		M/LIA	H1	1	4	M	rim sherd	upright rounded rim	J	20	3		
83	Area F	2090		LIA	H3	5	73.2	A	rim sherd	sharply everted rim with blunt rim tip	STJ	48	7		
84	Area F	2090		IA-RB	H1	1	1.6	V	scraps						
85	Area F	2090		RB	GRB1	5	12.3	M	bodysherd	closed vessel	J				
86	Area F	2090		M1-3	DR20	1	2.7	M	bodysherd	Dressel 20 amphora	A				
87	Area F	2215		LIA-ERB	H3	3	39.6	M	rim sherd	everted rim with blunt end forming triangular tip and slight internal rebate	J	24	10		
264		2686		IA-RB	H1	1	5.1	A	bodysherd	closed vessel	J				BM ISB
265	Quad E	2902		IA-RB	H1	3	7.1	A	bodysherd						
266	Quad M	2911		IA-RB	H1	3	10	A	bodysherd						
267	Quad C	2670		IA-RB	H1	2	5.1	M	bodysherd						
268	Quad P	2693		IA-RB	H1	1	5.7	M	bodysherd						
269	Quad P	2693		IA-RB	H3	1	6.2	M	bodysherd	closed vessel	J				BM ISB
270	Quad C	2666		LIA-RB	H1	4	9.7	A	rim sherd	thin sharply everted rim with bevelled rim tip	J	20	2		
271	Quad E	2870		IA-RB	H2	1	13.7	A	bodysherd						

272	Quad E	2870		IA-RB	H1	1	1.4	A	simple base sherd	simple base	J				
273	Quad E	2870		AS?	H13	1	35.9	M	bodysherd	closed vessel	J				
274		3009		IA-RB	H1	1	2.2	V	bodysherd						
275		2682		4	CRA PA	6	3.5	A	scraps						? Crambeck parchment??
276	Quad P	2811		IA-RB	H1	1	2	A	bodysherd						
277	Quad C	2677		IA-RB	H1	2	14.3	A	bodysherd						
279															
278	Quad C	2677		IA-RB	H14	4	4.2	V	scraps						
280	Quad C	2675		IA-RB	H1	3	9.3	M	bodysherd	closed vessel	J				
281	Quad N	2950		IA-RB	H1	3	18.1	M	bodysherd	closed vessel	J				
282	Quad N	2950		IA-RB	H3	4	7.9	A	bodysherd						
283	Quad N	2950		L2-3	GRB1	3	11.8	M	bodysherd	closed vessel	J				Norton, Hayes and Whitley 1950
284	Quad F	3044		IA-RB	H8	1	11.3	M	bodysherd						
285	Quad P	2828		IA-RB	H15	1	25.6	M	bodysherd	closed vessel	J				
286	Quad M	2998		IA-RB	H1	3	5.6	V	bodysherd						
287	Quad C	2628		IA-RB	H1	3	6.6	V	bodysherd						
288	Quad O	2772		IA-RB	H1	2	14.6	A	bodysherd						
289	Quad O	2772		AS?	H13?	1	33.4	A	bodysherd	closed vessel	J				Odd uneven surface
290	Quad E	0		ERB	H1	12	24.2	A	rim sherd	jar with upright, triangular rim, slight with distinct internal rebate	J		1		
291	Quad E	2843		IA-RB	H1	2	2.6	A	scraps						

154		2124	2124/2126	M/LIA	H1	1	5.8	M	rim sherd	sharply everted rim with rounded rim tip	J	18	3		
184	Area O	2081		LIA-ERB	H1	1	8.2	M	rim sherd	jar with everted rim, flat at rim tip and slight internal rebate. The rim is smoothly curving on the outside but has a distinct angle on the inside at the rim/body junction	J	22	2		
185	Area O	2081		LIA-ERB	H5	17	67	M	rim sherd	thin sharply everted rim with bevelled rim tip	J	20	9		
186	Area O	2081		IA-RB	H1	1	5.3	A	scraps						
187	Area O	2081		ERB, 2ND	GRA7	1	7.8	A	bodysherd	carinated	OV				
188	Area P	1864		IA-RB	H1	1	5.9	A	bodysherd						
189	Area P	1863		IA-RB	H1	3	12.5	A	bodysherd	closed vessel	J				2 of the sherds have little temper only rare vesicles - pos should have own group
190	Area P	1863		IA-RB	FC?	1	0.3	V	scraps						
191	Area F	2049		LIA-ERB	H5	2	11.1	M	rim sherd	thin sharply everted rim with bevelled rim tip	J	18	4		
192	Area P	1824		IA-RB	H1	1	1	A	scraps						
193	Area U	2563		LIA	H1	28	45.4	A	rim sherd	small jar with small triangular rim, internally bevelled, Rigby 1980 fig. 27 no. 12 dated 3rd century BC and later	J	12	4		

194	Area U	2412	SK2	?4	GRB1	27	239.1	M	profile	beaker	BKR	6	76	SL BR one one side	As Crambeck 88 and rim type 3a (Corder 1928 and 1937), cf Wharram Percy (Didsbury 2004) nos 192 and 193 but not for body form
195	Area F	2021		IA-RB	H5?	5	6.8	A	bodysherd						
196		3093		IA-RB	H1	62	1436	A	bodysherd						
197		3093		IA-RB	H1	50	442.1	A	bodysherd	closed vessel	J				
198		3093		LIAIA-RB	H1	59	526.5	A	bodysherd	closed vessel	J				
199		3093		IA-RB	H1	2	45.2	A	simple base sherd	simple base	J				
233		2942		LIA-ERB	H1	20	448.8	M	profile	everted rim, blunt tip has slight groove giving suggestion of a bifid rim	J	22	12		Possibly two vessels
234	QUAD O	2803		LIA	H1	56	174.5	M	rim sherd	sharply everted rim with rounded rim tip	J	2	6		
235	QUAD O	2803		IA-RB	H3	1	3.1	V	bodysherd						
236	QUAD O	2803		IA-RB	H3?	1	2.1	V	scraps						
237	QUAD O	2803		IA-RB	H2	2	3	V	scraps						
238	QUAD O	2803		IA-RB	H8?	1	5.7	M	bodysherd	closed vessel	J				
239	QUAD O	2803			STONE	1									BURNT?
240		2784		M/LIA	H2	14	159.4	M	rim sherd	jar with distinct inturned body ending in rather triangular shaped rim	J	28	12		
241		2784		IA-RB	H1	4	36.3	M	simple base sherd	simple base	J				
242		2784		LIA	H1	1	4	M	rim sherd	short, blunt ended everted rim	SJ	14	5		

243		2784		RB,2-3	GRB1	1	9.6	V	bodysherd	closed vessel	J/NNJ				
244		2734		IA-RB	H1	7	133.3	V	simple base sherd	closed vessel	J			BR	?WT
245	QUAD N	2940		IA-RB	H1	4	1052	M	bodysherd	closed vessel	J				Signs of slab builing - tapered horizontal joins
246	QUAD N	2940		IA-RB	H1	1	1.8	V	bodysherd					BM ISB	H7
247	QUAD N	2940		IA-RB	H5	2	20	M	bodysherd	closed vessel	J				
248	Quad K	2660		LIA-RB	H1	45	123.9	M	rim sherd	sharply everted rim with blunt rim tip	J	22	1		Some sherds burnished outside
249		2850		IA-RB	H1	20	51.3	A	bodysherd						
250		2850		IA-RB	H3	12	62.8	A	bodysherd						
251		2850		IA-RB	H5	1	11.7	A	bodysherd						
252	QUAD D	2743		RB	TS	1	2.2	A	bodysherd						
253		2943		3	GRB1	2	10.9	M	bodysherd	large jar	NNJ				
254		2943		L2-3	GRB1	1	12.2	M	bodysherd	carinated bowl with insloping walls	BKR/B				
255		2690		IA-RB	H1	2	20.3	A	bodysherd						
256		2690		EIA	H1	6	57.7	A	rim sherd	flat rim	URN?	24	7		
292	Quad M	2980		LIA-ERB	H3	1	8.3	M	rim sherd	small jar with short, thin everted rim, slight rebate	SJ	14	5		
293	Quad M	2980		IA-RB	H1	14	16.3	A	simple base sherd	angled base	J				
294	Quad M	2980		LIA-ERB	H1	1	12.5	A	bodysherd	knob of lid	L				
295	Quad M	2980		IA-RB	H3	3	16.5	A	bodysherd						
296	Quad M	2980		IA-RB	H3	1	9.7	A	bodysherd					BM ISB	
297	Quad P	2711		IA-RB	H1	4	14.5	M	simple base sherd	simple base	J				
298	Quad F	0		IA-RB	H1	1	12.6	M	bodysherd						
299	Quad F	0		RB	GRB1	2	6.7	A	bodysherd						

300	Quad N	2747		IA-RB	H1	1	4.4	A	bodysherd						
301	Quad N	3065		IA-RB	H1	5	0.9	V	scraps						
302	Quad F	2936		IA-RB	H1	1	4.4	A	bodysherd						
303		2599		IA-RB	H1	1	1.7	A	bodysherd						
304	Quad V	2984		IA-RB	H1	1	3.2	V	bodysherd						
305		2946		IA-RB	H1	2	2	V	bodysherd						
306	Quad Q	2738		IA-RB	H1	1	1.5	V	bodysherd						
307	Quad G	2684		IA-RB	H16	3	15.3	A	bodysherd						
308	Quad M	2977		IA-RB	H1	2	23.3	M	simple base sherd	simple base	J				
309	Quad M	2977		IA-RB	H8	1	12.2	M	bodysherd						
310	Quad E	2928		IA-RB	H3	1	15.2	M	bodysherd						
311	Quad E	2928		2-3	H1	11	86.7	M	rim, body and base sherds	rectangular shaped everted rim as Knaption ware	J	22	5		
312	Quad U	2401		370+	CRA PA	6	71.4	A	rim sherd	Corder 1937 5b	B	14	20	BR	
313	Quad V	2517		M/LIA	H1	22	41.6	M	rim sherd	upright rounded rim	J	16	10		
314	Quad V	2443		LIA-?ERB	H1	2	27.8	M	rim sherd	jar with upright, triangular rim, bevelled internally	J	16	5		
315	Quad T	2413		LIA-ERB	H1	10	91.7	M	rim sherd	shapeless jar with rim weakly everted, bevelled rim tip. No rebate	J	24	14	BM ISB	
316	Quad T	2413		LIA-ERB	H1	1	2.6	M	rim sherd	sharply everted rim with rounded rim tip	J	16	3	BM ISR	
317	Quad V	2573		IA-RB	H1	8	29.2	A	bodysherd						
318	Quad V	2573		LIA-RB	H13	3	33.5	A	rim sherd	sharply everted rim with rounded rim tip	STJ?	30	4		
319	Quad V	2573		IA-RB	H?	1	15.8	A	bodysherd						