



# **Archaeological mitigation on land at Bury Water Lane, Newport, Essex July 2016**

Report no. 16/197

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Project Manager: Jim Brown  
Site Code: NPBURY15  
NGR: TL 51492 34482



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Accession No: NPBURY15

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**OASIS REPORT FORM**

|                           |  |   |  |
|---------------------------|--|---|--|
| <b>PROJECT DETAILS</b>    |  | OASIS molanort1-267877                                      |  |
| Project title             | Archaeological mitigation on land at Bury Water Lane, Newport, Essex   |   |  |
| Short description         | MOLA was commissioned Cala Homes (South) to undertake a programme of archaeological mitigation works prior to the proposed residential development of the site on land at Bury Water Lane, Newport, Saffron Walden, Essex. Two areas were excavated. A series of intercutting features dating from the late Bronze Age/early Iron Age were fully investigated together with a middle to late Iron Age ditch and two postholes. |   |  |
| Project type              | Mitigation   |   |  |
| Site status               | None   |   |  |
| Previous work             | Trial trench evaluation (Hewitt 2015)  |   |  |
| Future work               | Unknown  |   |  |
| Monument type and period  | Ditch and pit cluster; pottery dating to late Bronze Age/early Iron Age and middle to late Iron Age  |   |  |
| <b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>   |  |   |  |
| County                    | Essex  |   |  |
| Site address              | Bury Water Lane, Newport   |   |  |
| NGR                       | TL 51492 34482   |   |  |
| Area                      | 6.08ha   |   |  |
| <b>PROJECT CREATORS</b>   |  |   |  |
| Organisation              | MOLA   |   |  |
| Project brief originator  | Richard Havis, Essex County Council  |   |  |
| Project Design originator | Claire Finn, MOLA  |   |  |
| Director/Supervisor       | Jonathan Elston, MOLA  |   |  |
| Project Manager           | Jim Brown, MOLA  |   |  |
| Sponsor or funding body   | Cala Homes (South)   |   |  |
| <b>PROJECT DATE</b>       |  |   |  |
| Start date                | July 2016  |   |  |
| End date                  | July 2016  |   |  |
| <b>ARCHIVES</b>           | Location (Accession no.)   | Content   |  |
| Physical                  | Saffron Walden Museum<br>SAFWM.2015.1  | Pottery, bone, flint  |  |
| Paper                     |  | Site records; photographs; plans and sections on permatrace |  |
| <b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>       |  |   |  |
| Title                     | Archaeological mitigation on land at Bury Water Lane, Newport, Essex   |   |  |
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# Contents

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| <b>1</b> | <b>INTRODUCTION</b>                         |
| <b>2</b> | <b>BACKGROUND</b>                           |
| 2.1      | Location                                    |
| 2.2      | Geology and topography                      |
| 2.3      | Historical and archaeological background    |
| 3        | <b>AIMS AND OBJECTIVES</b>                  |
| 4        | <b>EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY</b>               |
| 5        | <b>THE EXCAVATED EVIDENCE</b>               |
| 5.1      | Area A: pit group                           |
| 5.2      | Area B: ditch and two postholes             |
| <b>6</b> | <b>THE FINDS</b>                            |
| 6.1      | The worked flint by Yvonne Wolframm-Murray  |
| 6.2      | The prehistoric pottery by Andy Chapman     |
| 6.3      | Tile and fired clay by Pat Chapman          |
| 7        | <b>THE FAUNAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL REMAINS</b> |
| 7.1      | The animal bone by Rebecca Gordon           |
| 7.2      | The charred plant remains by Anne Davis     |
| 8        | <b>DISCUSSION</b>                           |
|          | <b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>                         |
|          | <b>APPENDIX</b>                             |

## Tables

Table 1: The flint assemblage in the ditch [4108]/[4118]

Table 2: The flint debitage

Table 3: Quantification of prehistoric pottery

Table 4: Number of hand-collected animal bone specimens

Table 5: Number animal bone of specimens from sieving

Table 6: Body parts represented by identifiable specimens

Table 7: Quantification of remains

## Figures

Cover: Site, looking south

Fig 1: Site location with excavation areas

Fig 2: Area A, Plan and Sections 1 and 2

Fig 3: Sections 4, 5 and 8

Fig 4: Area A, proposed sequence of pits

Fig 5: Pit cluster in Area A, pre-excavation, looking north-east

Fig 6: Section 1, western part, looking north

Fig 7: Section 1, north-eastern part, looking east

Fig 8: Section 2, western part, looking south

Fig 9: Section 2, eastern part, looking south

Fig 10: Section 5, looking west

Fig 11: Pit cluster in Area A, post-excavation, looking east

Fig 12: Area B, pre-excavation, looking west

Fig 13: Area B, plan and section 12

Fig 14: Section 9, looking south

Fig 15: Section 12, looking south

Fig 16: Postholes [4110] and [4112], looking south

Fig 17: Area B, post-excavation, looking west

# Archaeological mitigation on land at Bury Water Lane, Newport, Essex July 2016

## Abstract

*MOLA was commissioned by Cala Homes (South) to undertake a programme of archaeological mitigation works prior to the proposed residential development of the site on land at Bury Water Lane, Newport, Saffron Walden, Essex. Two areas were excavated. A series of intercutting features dating from the late Iron Age/early Iron Age were fully investigated together with a middle to late Iron Age ditch and two postholes.*

## 1 INTRODUCTION

MOLA (Museum of London Archaeology) was commissioned by Cala Homes (South) to undertake a programme of archaeological mitigation works on land at Bury Water Lane, Newport, Saffron Walden, Essex at NGR TL 51492 34482 (Fig 1). The mitigation works were required by Uttlesford District Council, who take archaeological advice from Essex County Council (ECC), in advance of proposed development of the site. The development comprises the construction of 84 houses, together with open space, a play area, and allotments, as well as alterations to Bury Water Lane, Whiteditch Lane and an access route (Planning Ref: UTT/13/1769/OP).

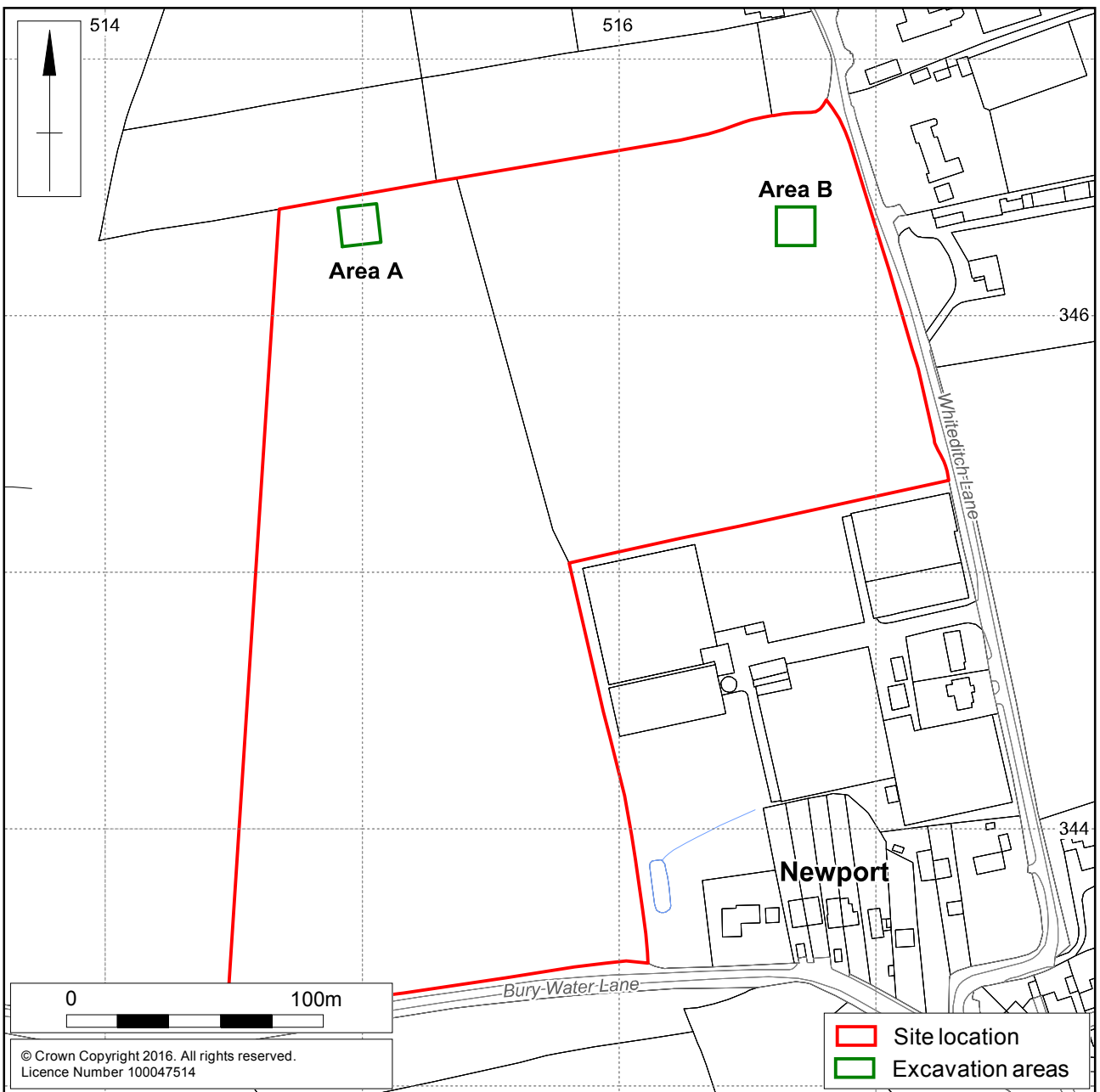
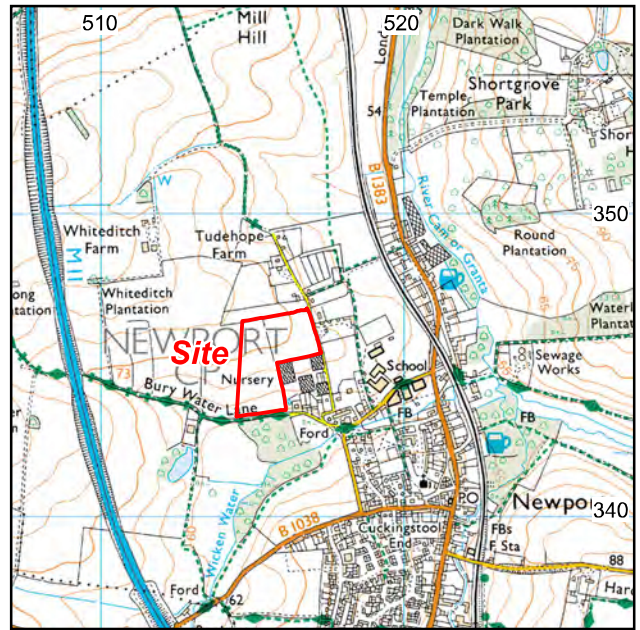
The requirements for the archaeological work were set out by ECC in a Brief issued by the Historic Environment Advisor (Havis 2016). The excavations were undertaken to mitigate the effects on the archaeological resource in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG 2012). The works were undertaken in accordance with an approved written scheme of investigation prepared by MOLA (2016).

MOLA is a Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' (CIfA) Registered Organisation. The work was carried out in accordance with the current best archaeological practice as defined in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014a) *Code of Conduct*, and *Standard and guidance for an archaeological Excavation* (CIfA 2014b) and the procedural document *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (HE 2015).

## 2 BACKGROUND

### 2.1 Location

The proposed development occupies an area of c 6.08ha and is located on the western edge of Newport. The site is bounded to the east by Whiteditch Lane, and to the south by Bury Water Lane. To the west lies open farmland. Several private properties border the proposed development area; residential houses and nursery greenhouse in the south-east corner, and the paddocks of Tudhope Farm along the northern edge. The site is currently arable farmland.



Scale 1:2500

Site location with excavation areas Fig 1



## 2.2 **Geology and topography**

The topography of the village gently slopes to the east, as the settlement lies in the Wicken Water's shallow valley as it flows into the River Cam. The site itself slopes down to the south towards Bury Water Lane, from c 80m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) to c 62m aOD.

The solid geology is the New Pit Chalk Foundation, a sedimentary bedrock dating to the Cretaceous (BGS 2016). To the north, the soils on the site comprise Hanslope slowly permeable calcareous clayey soils, and to the south are deep well-drained fine loamy over clayey soils of the Melford Association (LAT 1983). The superficial geology of the site is Lowestoft Formation diamicton, formed during ice age conditions in the Quaternary period. Outwash sands and gravel deposits are common.

## 2.3 **Historical and archaeological background**

The current phase of mitigation works follow on from a programme of trial trench evaluation, undertaken by MOLA in 2015 (Hewitt 2015). Across the site thirty-four trenches were excavated. Two amorphous areas of intercut features were identified, containing multiple pits, indicating some longevity of use. Pottery recovered from both areas dated to the late Bronze Age/early Iron Age, indicating that the activity was limited to a single period. The nature of the features suggests that they were probably related to settlement activity, likely to be sited to the immediate north of the current development area.

CgMs Consulting prepared a Desk Based Assessment (DBA), utilising the resources of the Historic Environment Record for Essex (Dawson 2013). The DBA concluded that no heritage assets were known to exist within the proposed development area. The region is archaeologically significant, with a number of important sites being located in the vicinity. The evidence suggested a low potential for archaeological material within the proposed development area. The following summary of archaeological and historical features is drawn from the pre-existing DBA.

### **Prehistoric**

Mesolithic and Neolithic flints have been recovered from around the Newport area. Bronze Age urns are also reportedly known from the area. There is a fallen standing stone, the Leper Stone, just over 400m from the site.

### **Roman**

Widespread Roman settlement in the area was revealed during the widening of the M11 motorway, as well as to the north and west of Newport. Nothing is known from the closer vicinity of the site.

### **Saxon and medieval**

A large Anglo-Saxon settlement was located at the village of Wicken Bonhunt, just under 2km to the south-west of the proposed development site. At least 25 buildings and a large cemetery were excavated, with the evidence suggesting a very high status settlement, possibly associated with the kings of East Anglia. There may well have been a connection between Wicken Bonhunt and the known late Saxon manor at Newport.

By the Domesday survey of 1086, Newport had a population of 26 households. Evidence suggests that a church, market, and possibly a mint were already in existence at this time. In Newport a castle was constructed in the 11th or 12th centuries although

its location is unknown. By 1296-99, the estate of the manor held 251 acres, a large house, two watermills, a farm, and a windmill. Free tenants held less than 700 more acres, mostly as strip fields. The development area was probably located within one of several open fields around Newport, probably named 'Whiteditch Field'.

### **Post-medieval and modern**

By the end of the 18th century, the proposed development area is shown on an estate map to comprise two fields, the 'Ten Acres' and the 'Little Bury Water Common Field'. This division and land use continued into the 19th century, with the two large fields of the development area bounded by surviving strip fields to the east and west. After enclosure, the town slowly developed and the area was encroached by housing development, the construction of the nursery, and residential buildings in the southeast corner of the area. Minor changes in field boundaries at the site occurred between 1960 and 1981.

## **AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

The aim of the archaeological mitigation excavation was to preserve the archaeological evidence by record and to attempt a reconstruction of the history and use of the site. The following specific aim was given in the ECC brief (Havis 2016);

- Identify the nature and extent of the prehistoric occupation. Identify if these are associated with settlement or waste-disposal activity.

Other relevant research topics that this project touches on are dating and chronology, and Bronze Age/Iron Age transition looking toward settlement patterns and 'off-site' activity (Medlycott 2011).

## **EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY**

The open area excavation focused upon two areas of archaeology identified during the evaluation which were considered to be at risk from the development. These areas both measured 20m<sup>2</sup> and targeted the remains found in Trench 1 (Area A) and Trench 25 (Area B).

Topsoil and any other overburden were mechanically stripped from the excavation areas using a 14-ton excavator fitted with a 1.8m wide toothless ditching bucket down to the archaeological horizon or the undisturbed geological horizon, whichever was encountered first. Deposits were appropriately stored separately. Work was carried out under the constant supervision of a suitably qualified archaeologist. All procedures complied with MOLA Health and Safety policy.

The excavation areas were set out using Leica Viva Global Positioning System (GPS) survey equipment using SMARTNET real-time corrections, operating to a 3D tolerance of ± 0.05m. The limit of excavation and the site grid were recorded by GPS.

All site excavation methodologies and recording procedures are detailed in MOLA's in-house manual (MOLA 2014), which is issued to all staff. Excavated sections were targeted to determine stratigraphic relationships and to obtain a representative sample of larger features. All intersections were investigated where the relationship could not be determined by inspection of the cleaned surface. The sampling levels were followed as set out in the WSI (MOLA 2016).

All archaeological deposits and artefacts encountered during the course of excavation were fully recorded. All archaeological deposits and cuts were given a separate context number, described and interpreted on pro-forma context sheets. A base plan of Area B was created using GPS equipment. Area A was surveyed with a GPS and hand planned at a scale of 1:20. Sections or profiles through features were drawn at a scale of 1:10. All levels were related to Ordnance Datum, using the GPS equipment to level plans and a dumpy level for sections from site based temporary bench marks (TBMs). The heights of these TBMs were established by GPS.

The photographic archive comprised high resolution digital photography at 12 megapixels. Overall shots of the site were taken prior to excavation, during excavation and following its completion. All excavated features were photographed and associated features were photographed to show relationships.

Samples taken for environmental analysis were taken from all suitable contexts following the guidance for sampling as outlined by Campbell *et al* (2011). Bulk environmental soil samples were taken from appropriate securely dated, sealed archaeological features or deposits. The volume of such samples were context and sediment specific and were 40 litres or 100% of the fills (whichever was more appropriate).

The field data from the excavation was compiled into a site archive with appropriate cross-referencing.

## □ THE EXCAVATED EVIDENCE

### □.1 Area A: pit group

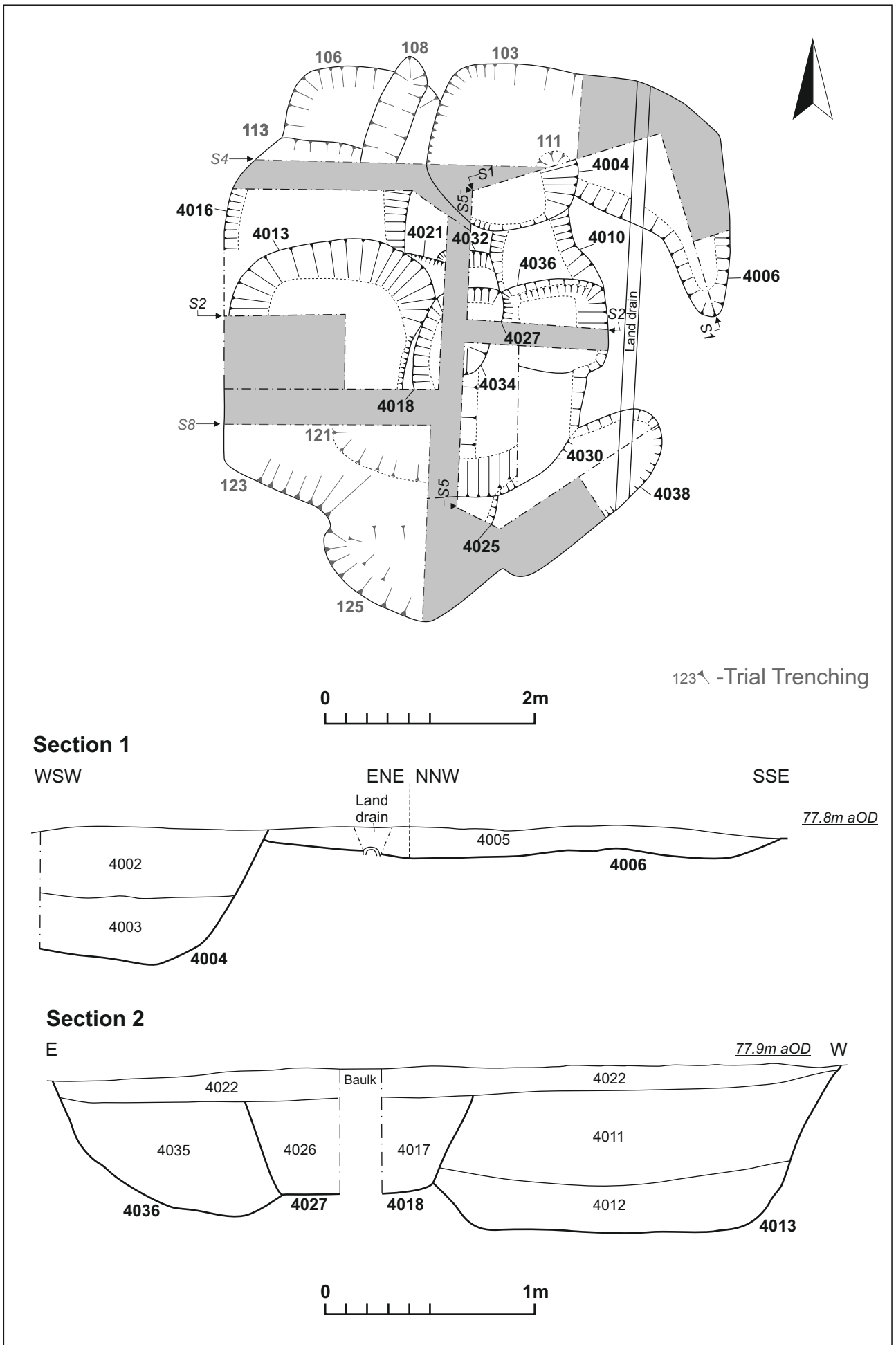
The natural geology comprised a compact light orange-brown silty clay with moderate chalk flecks and fragments. All features cut the natural geology. The overlying plough soil, c 0.30m thick, was mid grey-brown clay loam with occasional chalk flecks and flint fragments. Post-medieval nails and ironwork were noted but not retained. Full context information is included in the Appendix.

The features of Area A comprised 13 intercutting pits, one posthole and one linear feature within approximately 5m<sup>2</sup>. The pits ranged in diameter of 0.90m to c 2.00m, the depths were as shallow as 0.14m and as deep as 0.82m below the excavation surface. The pits are described sequentially (Figs 2 - 11).

#### ***The earlier pits***

Probably the earliest pits are [4006], [4038] and [4034] (Figs 2 and 3, Sections 1 and 5). Pit [4034] is located towards the centre of the cluster and was substantially truncated. Only mid brown-grey silty clay fill, 0.14m deep remained (Fig 4, Transect 3). Two oval shaped shallow pits, [4006] and [4038], were located on the north-eastern and south-eastern corners of the pit cluster (Fig 4, Transects 1 and 3). The fills consisted of mid grey-brown silty clays c 0.15m deep. Pit [4038] had the largest collection of artefacts, in total 55 sherds (370g) late Bronze Age/early Iron Age pottery and 44 animal bones were recovered.

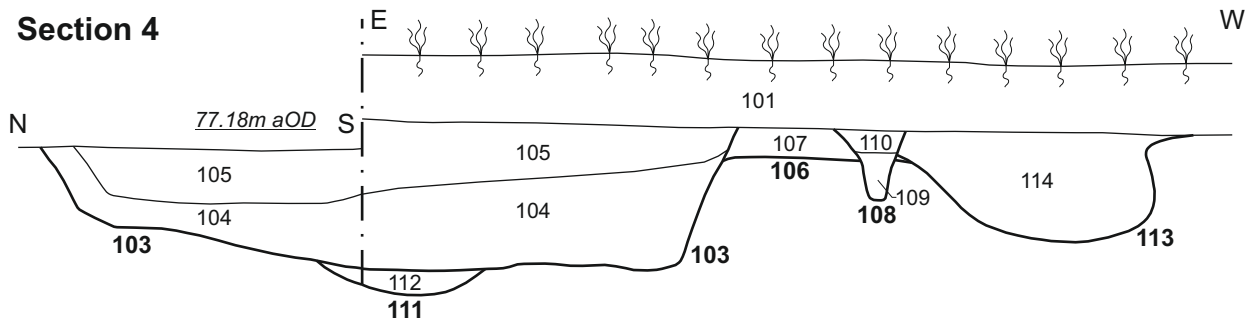
Subsequent pits were probably [4025] and [4032] (Figs 2 and 3, Section 5). Pit [4025] was circular in shape, steep sided with a flat base, and filled with mid yellow-brown silty



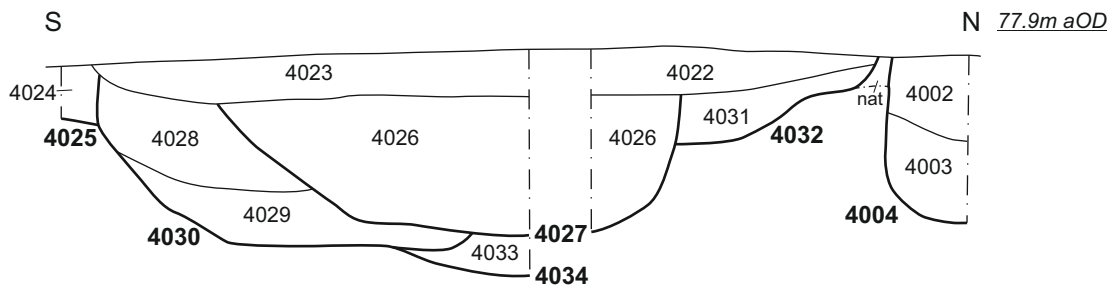
Scale 1:50 (plan), 1:25 (sections)

Area A, plan and sections 1 and 2 Fig 2

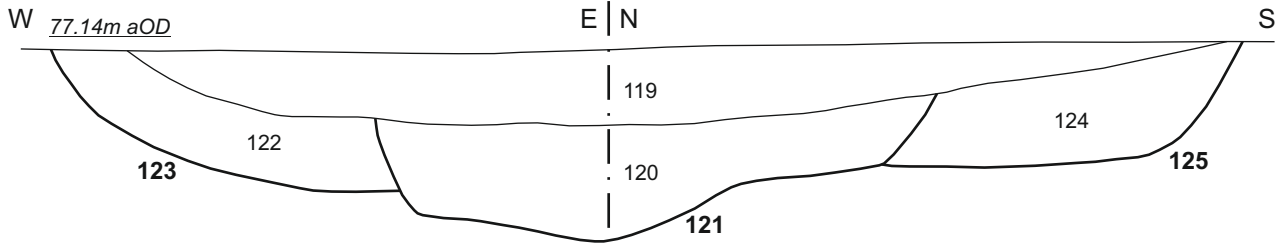
**Section 4**

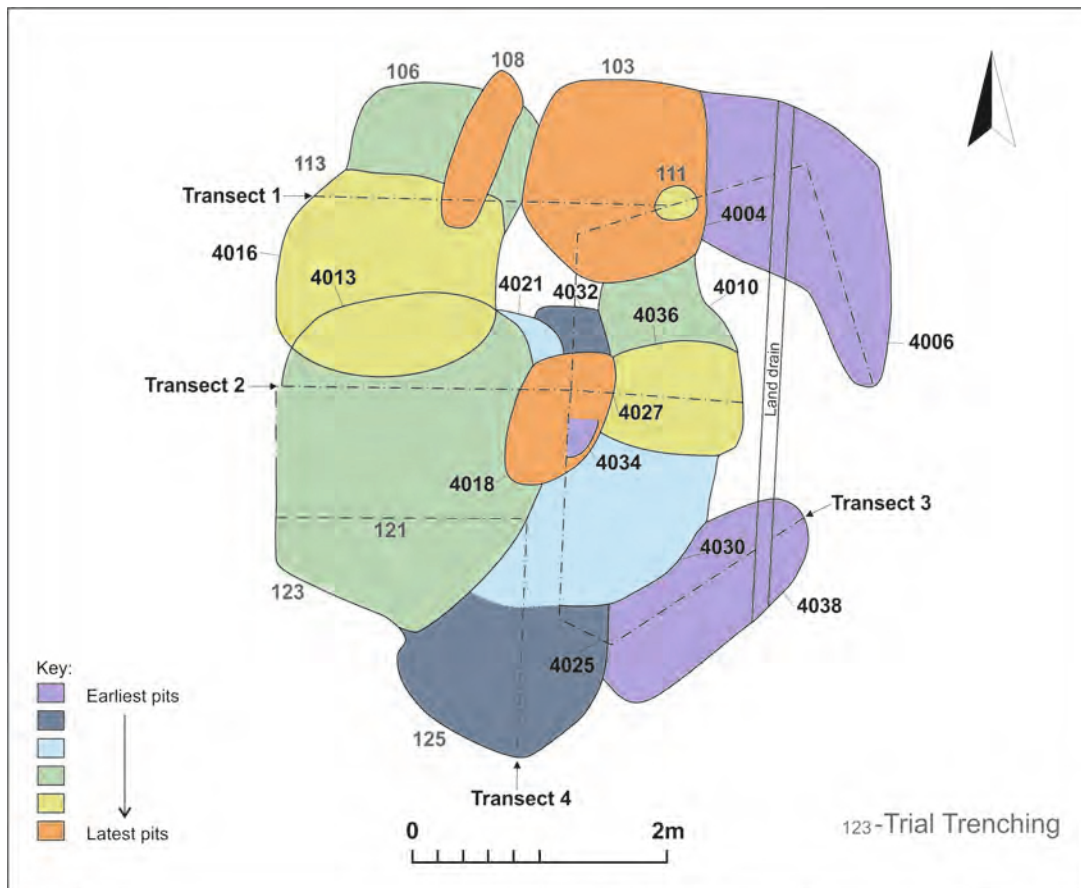


**Section 5**



**Section 8**





Scale 1:50

Area A, Proposed sequence of pits Fig 4

clay 0.19m deep, truncating Pit [4038] (Fig 4, Transect 3). The sub-rectangular pit [4032] was located near the centre of the group, it was flat based with a break in the steep slope. The shallow grey-brown silty clay fill was 0.16m thick (Fig 4, Transect 3). No finds were found in these pits.

### ***The intermediate pits***

Pits [4034] and [4025] were cut by pit [4030] (Figs 2 and 3, Sections 5 and 8). This semi-circular pit with steep uneven sides and flat base was filled by mid grey-brown silty clay overlain by mid orange-brown silty clay, 0.28m and 0.18m thick respectively (Fig 4, Transect 3). The heavily truncated pit [4021], filled by light brown silty clay, 0.22m deep, cut Pit [4032].

Probably next in sequence were pits [4013], [4010] and [106] (Figs 2 and 3, Section 4). The flat-based circular pit [4013] was one of the larger pits with a diameter of c 2.00m was filled by light orange-grey silty clay, 0.17m thick, and mid grey-brown silty clays, 0.45m thick. Pit [4013] cut pits [4025], [4030] and [4021] (Fig 4, Transect 4). In total 26 sherds of late Bronze Age/early Iron Age pottery was found from both fills in pit [4013] and four pieces of animal bone together with five pieces of flint knapping debitage from the upper fill.

Following on later in the sequence were pits [4036], [4016] and posthole [111] (Figs 2 and 3, Sections 2 and 4). Pits [4030] and [4010] were cut by the semi-circular pit [4036]. This pit had a steep sided with a concave base profile, filled by mid grey-brown silty clay, 0.17m deep. The sub-circular pit [4016] had a flat base, cutting pits [4013]

and [106] (Fig 4, Transect 1). The lower fill of pit [4016] was mid orange-brown silty clay, 0.08m deep, and the upper fill was mid grey-brown silty clay, 0.26m deep.

A posthole [111] was noted during the evaluation towards the northern edge, truncated by pit [4004] (Fig 4 Transect 1). The posthole was c 0.4m diameter and filled with yellow-grey silty clay, 0.08m deep. Seven sherds of pottery of late Bronze Age/early Iron Age were recovered from pit [4036].

### ***The later pits***

The latest features in the sequence were linear slot [108], and pits [4004] and [4018]/[4027] (Figs 2 and 3, Sections 2 and 4). The linear feature [108] had a V-shaped profile. The lower fill of mid grey-brown silty clay, 0.15m thick, overlain by dark grey-brown silty clay, 0.07m thick (Fig 4, Transect 1). The slot cut pits [106] and [4016]. The semi-circular pit [4004] was steep sided with a flat base and filled by mottled grey and orange-grey silty clay, 0.32m thick, overlain by dark brown-grey silty clay, 0.34m thick. This pit cut pits [106], [4006], [4008], [4010]. The oval, U-shaped pit [4018]/[4027] was one of the smaller pits with a diameter of c 0.90m. It was filled by dark brown-grey silty clay, 0.46m thick. It was located in the centre of the cluster and cut pits [4034], [4030], [4032] and [4013] (Fig 4, Transects 1 and 3).

Pits [108] and [4018] each contained two sherds of late Bronze Age/early Iron Age pottery. Seven sherds of Late Bronze Age/early Iron Age pottery was recovered together with nine fragments of animal bone from pit [4027].

The pit cluster was overlain by a dark brown-grey silty clay spread (4022)/(4023), 0.15m thick and 1.45 long by 1.40m wide. The finds include two flakes of flint knapping debitage, 56 sherds of late Bronze Age/early Iron Age pottery, one sherd of post-medieval pottery and tile, 70 pieces of animal bone, and burnt clay.



Pit cluster in Area A, pre-excavation, looking north-east Fig 5



Section 1, western part, looking north Fig 6



Section 1, north-eastern part, looking east Fig 7





Section 2, western part, looking south Fig 8



Section 2, eastern part, looking south Fig 9



Section 5, looking west      Fig 10



Pit cluster in Area A post-excitation, looking east      Fig 11

**□.2 Area B: ditch and two postholes**

The natural geology of Area B comprised a compact light orange-brown silty clay with moderate chalk flecks and fragments (Figs 12 and 13). All features cut the natural geology. This was overlain by colluvium. The plough soil, c 0.30m thick, was mid grey-brown clay loam with occasional chalk flecks and flint fragments. Post-medieval nails and ironwork (not retained) were noted. Full context information is included in the Appendix.

A ditch [4108]/[4118] was aligned north to south, across the entire length of the 20m<sup>2</sup> excavation area sectioned in two locations (Figs 13 - 15). The ditch measured 2.60 - 2.65m wide and was 1.35 - 1.50m deep, was steep sided and had a V-shaped profile. The lower ditch fill comprised sandy and silty clays within re-deposited natural (4117) overlain by slumped material on the eastern edge, (4116) and (4114), alternating with possible bank material (4115) on the western side. The upper fill of the ditch probably derived from in-wash (4113).

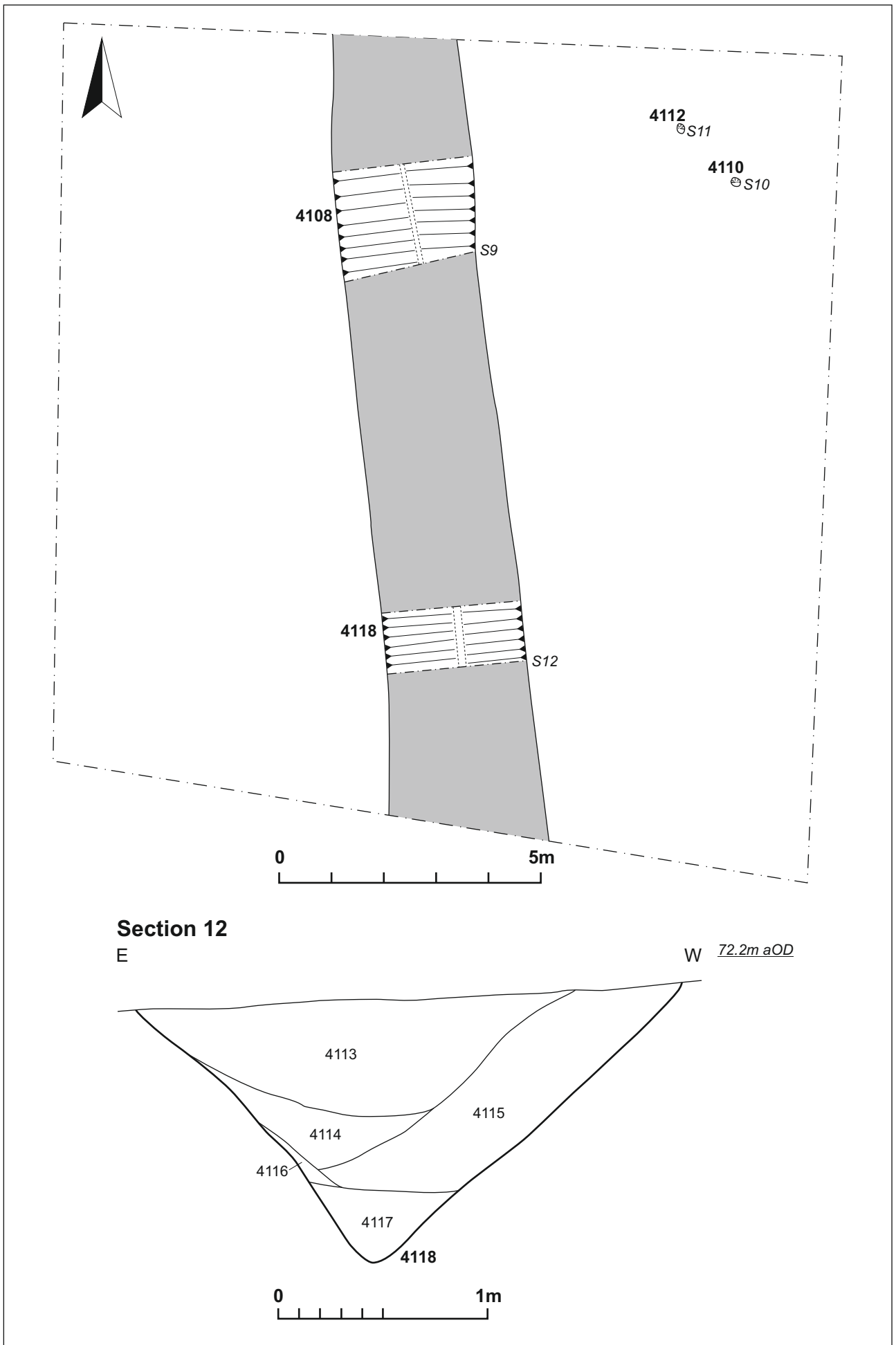
The finds recovered from the ditch fills comprised worked flint and pottery. The technological characteristics of the flint artefacts had attributes of both the late Mesolithic/early Neolithic and late Neolithic/early Bronze Age. All fills had components of both dates. The late middle to late Iron Age pottery was recovered from the slumped material (4105) on the eastern edge and from the possible bank material (4106) and (4115) on the western edge of the ditch.

On the eastern side of the ditch were two postholes [4110] and [4112] (Figs 13, 16 and 17). The shallow postholes, 0.18m to 0.22m in diameter and 0.05m to 0.07m deep, were filled by mid to dark grey silty clay. A small lump of fired clay was recovered from the fill of posthole [4112].



Area B, pre-excavation, looking west

Fig 12



Scale 1:100 (plan) 1:25 (section)

Section and plan of ditch 4118 Fig 13



Section 9, looking south      Fig 14



Section 12, looking south      Fig 15



Postholes [4110] and [4112], looking south Fig 16



Area B, post-excavation, looking west Fig 17

## 6 THE FINDS

### 6.1 The worked flint by Yvonne Wolfram-Murray

In total 42 pieces of worked flint were recovered as residual finds during the excavation of the late middle to late Iron Age ditch and late Bronze Age/early Iron Age pit group.

#### Method

The majority of lithics were collected by hand and a small proportion was later recovered during the environmental sieving. Each artefact was macroscopically assessed and recorded on an MS Access spreadsheet by type, condition, possible raw material and tool form. Small debitage, under 0.5mm, was counted and weighed.

#### Raw material and condition

The condition of the artefacts was good to medium with post-depositional damage consisting of nicks and crushing of the edges. Patination was present on approximately half of the flint, this was notable as a complete white or grey discoloration of the surface, occasionally was a blue-white discoloration. One blade was accidentally burnt, which was notable as thermal fracturing and crazing.

The raw material was of good quality and the majority was light to mid grey-brown or mid to dark grey and brown-grey coloured vitreous flint. A small portion was of variegated mid to dark vitreous and granular texture. The cortex was thin light to mid brown with a rough surface. The occasional flint had a smooth, white cortex. The raw material was probably mainly procured locally from outcrops of flint nodules in the clay-with-flint or chalk geology. Also local river gravel beds may have been occasionally exploited.

#### Assemblage composition

The worked flint comprised 37 pieces of hand excavated worked flint that included 21 flakes, 13 blades, two cores and one side scraper, summaries in Tables 1 and 2.

Table 1: The flint assemblage in the ditch 4108-4118

| Context      | 410   | 4112      | 411   | 411      | 411      | Total |
|--------------|-------|-----------|-------|----------|----------|-------|
| Waste flake  | 3     | 10        | 6     | 1        | 1        | 21    |
| Waste blade  | 3     | 9         | 1     | -        | -        | 13    |
| Core         | flake | -         | blade | -        | -        | 2     |
| Scraper      | -     | side      | -     | -        | -        | 1     |
| <b>Total</b> |       | <b>20</b> |       | <b>1</b> | <b>1</b> |       |

Table 2: The flint debitage

| Find/cut  | Quantity | Weight (g) |
|-----------|----------|------------|
| 4113/4118 | 4        | 2.0        |
| 4011/4013 | 5        | 0.6        |
| 4023      | 2        | 0.1        |

There were two cores present in the assemblage. The flake core had multiple striking platforms, which were partially crushed. The blade core had a single prepared striking platform when discarded. Older removals suggest a striking platform at a different location before the new one had been prepared.

The assemblage was dominated by waste flakes and blades. Of the 21 flakes, six were broken, and of the 13 blades, ten were broken. There were flakes and blades that had been soft and hard hammer struck, also cortical striking platforms and hinge terminations were present.

Two retouched tool forms were present. The side scraper had been manufactured on a completely white patinated flake with abrupt retouch on one lateral edge. The retouch was not patinated. The backed bladelet had steep retouch down one lateral edge.

### **Discussion**

The technological characteristics suggest both late Mesolithic/early Neolithic and a late Neolithic/early Bronze Age component in the assemblage. Artefacts from each period was represented in each fill, no sorting between the fills could be recognised.

The assemblage is divided into two different technological groups. The earlier group, probably dating to the late Mesolithic/early Neolithic, comprised 21 pieces of flint. The artefacts tended to be soft hammer struck and there was also a relatively high portion of blades (53%). The blade core had a prepared striking platform. The backed bladelet is also more typical in this date range. The flakes and blades were mostly patinated white with the occasional artefact, including the blade core, having a blue-white discolouration. There is damage to the artefacts that is patinated, but substantial, unpatinated damage, occurred later to the flakes and blades.

The later Neolithic/early Bronze Age dating group, comprising 21 pieces, was mostly hard hammer struck and its blade portion was 17%. The flake core had multiple striking platforms and crushing. The flint had cortical striking platforms and a higher occurrence of overshoot and hinge terminations. This assemblage was not patinated. There was also a change in raw material exploitation to include local terrace or river gravels.

The side scraper is patinated like the late Mesolithic/early Neolithic assemblage, but the retouch is unpatinated, suggesting a late Neolithic/early Bronze Age reuse of the flake.

The presence of Mesolithic flint is documented largely as cores and blades that are typologically attributed to this period and tranchet adzes within the immediate vicinity of Newport. A cluster of Mesolithic find spots is nearby to the north and the north-east (Jacobi 1980). Neolithic and Bronze Age occupation is also known in the area (Hedges 1980, Couchman 1980). A potential for Mesolithic and Neolithic artefacts could be assumed through the appropriate research framework due to the sites location on the south facing slope (Dawson 2013).

## **6.2 The prehistoric pottery** by Andy Chapman

The excavated features produced a total of 188 sherds of hand-built pottery weighing nearly 1.49kg (Table 3). A further 96 sherds, weighing 685g, had been recovered during the trial trenching (Doherty 2015).

### ***Fabrics***

The assemblage has not been fully quantified to fabric due to the overwhelming dominance in the pit cluster of fabrics containing dense angular flint, measuring c 0.5-3.0mm, often protruding through the surface of the vessels. In a few examples there are also rounded calcareous pellets and occasionally shell. The only sherds not containing dense flint come from a linear ditch [4108/4118].



Table 1: Quantification of prehistoric pottery

| Fill/cut      | Type  | Sherds     | Weight      | Fabric                           | Comments                                 |
|---------------|-------|------------|-------------|----------------------------------|--|
| 4009/4010     | pit   | 2          | 3           | flint                            | crumbs                                   |
| 4011/4013     | pit   | 21         | 215         | flint, flint/calcareous & shelly | plain body sherds, some smoothed         |
| 4012/4013     | pit   | 5          | 105         | flint                            | plain body sherds, thick and thin-walled |
| 4017/4018     | pit   | 2          | 5           | fine shell?                      | thin-walled                              |
| 4019/         | layer | 10         | 70          | flint                            | shoulder with deep fingertip impression  |
| 4022          | layer | 14         | 100         | flint                            | plain body sherds, thick and thin-walled |
| 4023          | layer | 42         | 395         | flint, some fine shell           | burnished sherd and a rounded vessel     |
| 4026/4027     | pit   | 12         | 80          | flint, 1 calcareous (orange)     | body sherds                              |
| 4035/4036     | pit   | 7          | 40          | flint, 1 calcareous (orange)     | body sherds                              |
| 4037/4038     | pit   | 55         | 370         | flint, flint & calcareous        | body sherds                              |
| 4105/4108     | ditch | 1          | 5           | -                                | -  |
| 4106/4108     | ditch | 2          | 10          | -                                | -  |
| 4113/4118     | ditch | 3          | 20          | -                                | -  |
| 4115/4118     | ditch | 12         | 75          | leached shell                    | flat-topped rim                          |
| <b>Totals</b> |       | <b>100</b> | <b>1000</b> |                                  |  |

### ***The pit cluster***

Generally, the sherds have grey cores and grey surfaces, but with a significant proportion having brown to orange-brown surfaces. There is a mixture of sherds from smaller jars or bowls with walls 6-7mm thick, and sherds from thick-walled vessels, probably storage jars, with walls 80-90mm thick. At least two sherds, both from thick-walled vessels contain only large rounded calcareous inclusions, and both have bright orange surfaces. There are also sherds containing crushed shell, and sometimes voids from leached shell inclusions. These vessels included many of the sherds with smoothed to burnished surfaces.

The dominance of plain body sherds makes it difficult to define the chronology of this assemblage on the basis of vessel characteristics, but the heavily flint-gritted fabric is typical of assemblages in the region broadly dating to the late Bronze Age/early Iron Age (1150-600BC). While the material from the trial trench was similarly lacking in diagnostic features, the presence of a partial rim from a weak-shouldered jar, and several handle sherds was considered to be a possible indication that this was a post-Devernal-Rimbury (PDR) assemblage dating to the late Bronze Age (c 1150-800BC), although the presence of some non-gritted sherds was seen as more characteristic of later assemblages (c 800-600BC) (Doherty 2015). As the assemblage from the mitigation has repeated these characteristics and has added no further diagnostic sherds, it is still not possible to determine a more specific date for the assemblage.

A burnished sherd and a rounded vessel from layer (4023), the subsidence hollow fill over the southern end of the pit cluster, are consistent with this date, but this deposit also contained two sherds of tile in a hard sandy fabric, orange in colour; a tile sherd in a soft orange fabric and a sherd of post-medieval pottery. This suggests that there had been much later plough disturbance of the subsidence fills above the pit cluster.

***The linear ditch***

The small assemblage of pottery from the linear ditch [4108/4118] is in sandy or shelly fabrics. It contains a single flat-topped, slightly expanded rim from a neckless vessel, which would suggest a late middle to late Iron Age date, perhaps in the 2nd and 1st centuries BC.

**6. □ Tile and fired clay** by Pat Chapman

Within layer (4023) were two very abraded roof tile sherds, weighing 45g, made with hard fine orange-brown sandy clay, one sherd is 12mm thick, the other is incomplete. These are datable to the medieval or post-medieval periods.

A small undiagnostic sherd of much abraded red earthenware pottery, weighing 15g, with a trace of an internal glaze comes from the same layer. The sherd is post-medieval. Two small lumps of hard shelly pale orange-brown fired clay, weighing 25g, also come from layer (4023). The surface on one may indicate they had a former structural use. The other piece of fired clay, weighing 10g, is a hard pale grey silty lump with frequent chalky inclusions and comes from fill (4003) in pit [4004].

One small irregular piece of fired clay with rounded edges, composed of pale orange to brown fine silty clay with occasional tiny flint, comes from fill (4111) in posthole [4112].

**□ THE FA□NAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL REMAINS****□1 The animal bone** by Rebecca Gordon

A small collection of animal bone was recovered from a cluster of intercutting pits. Cattle, sheep/goat and horse were identified in the assemblage but unfortunately the sample size prevented detailed analysis and interpretation of the remains.

**Methodology**

Hand-collected bones and the bones from bulk samples, were recorded using an 'all fragments' method - therefore identification to element and taxon was attempted on all bones providing there were diagnostic features. Bones that could not be identified to species were recorded as large and medium mammal, and those that could not be defined to the above categories were recorded as unidentifiable. As sheep and goat are morphologically similar, the term 'sheep/goat' was employed, unless it was possible to distinguish between the two species following Boessneck (1969) and Payne (1985). All identifiable bones were sided either as left or right where possible. The primary quantitative method was NISP "the number of identified specimens per taxon". The animal bones were identified with the aid of the author's reference collection.

Animals were aged using three methods: epiphyseal fusion and the eruption and subsequent wear of mandibular teeth. Five categories of epiphyseal fusion were recorded: fused (when the line of fusion between the epiphysis and metaphysis was no longer visible); fusing (when the epiphysis had partially fused to the metaphysis where the fusion line was visible); unfused epiphysis (when only the epiphysis was present); unfused metaphysis (when only the metaphysis was present without the epiphysis); and unfused metaphysis and epiphysis (when both were present and belonged to the same specimen). Mandibular wear stages were recorded using Grant (1982) for cattle and Payne (1973) for sheep/goat. The tooth wear data was converted into age categories using Hambleton (1999).

Measurements were taken following von den Driesch (1976). Gnawing, butchery and burning were recorded on all identifiable bones. Carnivore gnawing was identified using the descriptions outlined by Binford (1981, 44-49). Butchery was recorded as either cut or chopped and its location was recorded using the codes devised by Lauwerier (1988). Burning was recorded using the three categories described in Thomas (2005): 'singed', burnt or calcined. Bone preservation was recorded for identifiable post-cranial bones using Harland *et al* (2003).

## Results

There were 150 animal bones retrieved by excavation. The assemblage was in good condition and displayed few signs of weathering and abrasion, although the level of fragmentation was high. From the total number of hand collected 144 post-cranial bones, 13%, 18 bones, could be identified to species. There was a paucity of carnivore gnawing and butchery evidence, which could be attributed to the fragmented nature of the assemblage. Carnivore gnawing was observed on a cattle metatarsal from pit [4011] and a cattle calcaneum from ditch [4118]. Butchery evidence was recorded on a cattle pelvis from pit [4011], which had been cut on the ventral side of the ilium to separate the pelvis from the femur. Burning evidence was negligible; a small unidentifiable fragment had been calcined.

The assemblage comprises 19 cattle, four sheep/goat, and one horse (Table 4). A cattle calcaneum was recorded from pit [4011] (Table 5). It was not possible to comment on the body parts represented due to the small sample size, although there was a range of elements for cattle (Table 6). There were few elements and teeth with fusion and tooth wear data. Epiphyseal fusion data was recorded for a single cattle first phalanx, lumbar vertebra, scapula, pelvis and metapodial. The latter of which was unfused. Two sheep/goat third molars were aged between 3-4 and 4-8 years old and one cattle third molar was 30-36 months.

Table 4: Number of hand collected animal bone specimens

| Fill/cut     | Feature type | Cattle    | Sheep/goat | Horse    | Unident. LM | Unident. MM | Total      |
|--------------|--------------|-----------|------------|----------|-------------|-------------|------------|
| 4002/4004    | Pit fill     | 1         | -          | -        | 1           | -           | 2          |
| 4003/4004    | Pit fill     | 1         | -          | -        | 2           | -           | 3          |
| 4011/4013    | Pit fill     | 2         | -          | -        | 2           | -           | 4          |
| 4019         | Spread layer | 1         | 1          | -        | 1           | -           | 3          |
| 4022         | Layer Spread | 1         | -          | -        | 6           | 1           | 8          |
| 4023         | layer        | 12        | -          | -        | 46          | 4           | 62         |
| 4026/4027    | Pit fill     | -         | -          | -        | 6           | 3           | 9          |
| 4037/4038    | Pit          | -         | 2          | 1        | 18          | 3           | 24         |
| 4113/4118    | Ditch        | 1         | 1          | -        | 31          | 2           | 35         |
| <b>Total</b> |              | <b>19</b> | <b>4</b>   | <b>1</b> | <b>110</b>  | <b>10</b>   | <b>140</b> |

Table 5: Number of animal bone specimens sieving

| Fill/cut     | Feature type | Cattle   | Unidet.  | Unidet. LM | Unidet.MM | Total     |
|--------------|--------------|----------|----------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| 4002         | Pit fill     | -        | -        | 4          | -         | 4         |
| 4011         | Pit fill     | 1        | 1        | -          | -         | 2         |
| 4023         | Spread layer |          | 3        | 12         | 7         | 22        |
| 4113         | Ditch        | -        | -        | 1          | 1         | 2         |
| <b>Total</b> |              | <b>1</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>17</b>  | <b>8</b>  | <b>26</b> |

Table 6: Body parts represented by identifiable specimens

| Anatomical portion | Element                 | Cattle    | Sheep/goat | Horse    |
|--------------------|-------------------------|-----------|------------|----------|
| Head               | Mandibles with teeth    | 1         | -          | -        |
|                    | Mandibles without teeth | 1         | -          | -        |
| Vertebrae          | Lumber vertebra         | 3         | -          | -        |
|                    | Scapula                 | 3         | -          | -        |
| Upper forelimb     | Humerus                 | 1         | 1          | -        |
|                    | Radius                  | 1         | -          | -        |
|                    | Pelvis                  | 1         | -          | -        |
| Upper hindlimb     | Femur                   | 1         | -          | -        |
|                    | Tibia                   | -         | 1          | -        |
|                    | Calcaneum               | 1         | -          | -        |
| Lower hindlimb     | Metatarsal              | 1         | -          | 1        |
|                    | Metapodial              | 1         | 1          | -        |
| Phalanges          | 1st phalanx             | 1         | -          | -        |
| <b>Total</b>       |                         | <b>16</b> | <b>2</b>   | <b>1</b> |

Key: Unidet. = Unidentifiable mammal, Unidet. MM = Unidentifiable medium mammal  
Unidet. LM = Unidentifiable large mammal

## Summary and discussion

The main domestic species were cattle and a few remains of sheep/goat, which most likely reflect domestic refuse. Horse was the only minor domesticate. The presence of carnivore gnawing points to site scavengers in the area. Unfortunately, it was not possible to draw further conclusions in regards to husbandry strategies, site status or craft and industry due to the paucity of identifiable species.

### 2.2 The charred plant remains by Anne Davis

Flots from five environmental samples were submitted for study of any surviving botanical remains. Two of the samples were taken from pit fills thought to date to the late Bronze Age/early Iron Age (4002) and (4011). One was from layer (4023) sealing the pits. Two were taken from fills (4117) and (4113) of ditch [4118]. This feature contained a mixture of flints dating from the late Mesolithic to the early Bronze Age and pottery dating to the late middle to late Iron Age.

The flots were scanned, using a low-powered binocular microscope, and all charred plant remains sorted, identified and counted. Identifications were made using a modern botanical reference collection and standard identification reference manuals, and nomenclature follows Stace (1991). A species lists with abundance of plant remains recovered from each sample is shown in Table 7.

## Results

The flots consisted almost entirely of modern rootlets, with charred plant remains limited mainly to a very small amount of fragmented wood charcoal in each sample, and very occasional charred cereal grains also present in layer (4023), and pit fills (4013) and (4011). Pit fill (4011) produced a single oat grain and two unidentifiable fragments, thought to come from cereal grains, while a further unidentified cereal grain and three leguminous seeds came from ditch fill (4113). Two of the latter were small seeds from vetch/wild pea and the third was a fragment from a larger pulse, possibly a cultivated pea or bean.

Table 7: Quantification of remains

| context:              |                                   | 002 | 02 | 11 | 11 | 011 |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|-----|----|----|----|-----|
| sample:               |                                   |     |    |    |    | 10  |
| common name           | scientific name                   |     |    |    |    |     |
|                       | <b><u>cereal grains</u></b>       |     |    |    |    |     |
| 6-row barley (hulled) | <i>Hordeum vulgare</i> L.         | -   | 2  | -  | -  | -   |
| barley                | cf. <i>Hordeum vulgare</i>        | -   | 2  | -  | -  | -   |
| oat                   | <i>Avena</i> sp.                  | -   | -  | -  | -  | 1   |
| oat                   | cf. <i>Avena</i> sp.              | -   | -  | -  | -  | -   |
| indet. Cereal         | Cerealia                          | -   | -  | 2  | -  | -   |
| indet. Cereal         | cf. Cerealia                      | -   | -  | -  | -  | 2   |
|                       | <b><u>wild plants</u></b>         |     |    |    |    |     |
| vetch/wild pea        | <i>Vicia Lathyrus</i> sp.         | -   | -  | 2  | -  | -   |
|                       | <i>Vicia Lathyrus</i> <i>isum</i> |     |    |    |    |     |
| vetch/pea             | sp.                               | -   | -  | 1  | -  | -   |
| -                     | indeterminate                     | x   | x  | x  | x  | x   |
| <b>Total</b>          |                                   |     |    |    |    |     |

The four grains from sealing layer (4023) were identified as 6-row hulled barley, a species which would have been found during the Iron Age, though the presence of later ceramic building material in this layer must also cast doubt on the dating of the cereals.

Unfortunately it is not possible to draw any conclusions from this very limited material, about the origin of the remains or the nature of any occupation on the site.

□ **DISCUSSION**

The features of Area A comprised 13 intercutting pits, one posthole and one linear feature within an area of approximately 5m<sup>2</sup>. A subsidence fill (4019, 4022 and 4023) sealed the pit group. This overlying fill had a very mixed assemblage of finds including post-medieval material suggesting that there was later plough disturbance.

The finds from the pits comprised late Bronze Age /early Iron Age pottery, animal bone, slag, charred plant remains, and a small amount of flint knapping debitage. The quantity of the pottery recovered from the pits is not substantial, the majority of the finds were recovered from the fills of the later pits. The pits with the largest sherd count were pits [4013], [4018]/[4027] and pit [4038], the only earlier pit to have pottery. The assemblage contains shell tempered and flint tempered sherds.

The finds assemblage is similar to other contemporary pit groups found in the region; for example on an early Iron Age site found at Chatteris (Atkins and Percival 2014). As on the Chatteris site, the main faunal remains represented were cattle and sheep/goat with butchery marks evident on the some of the cattle bones. Pottery was relatively sparse with not all pits, especially the earlier ones, producing sherds. Overall the assemblages probably derive from domestic waste most likely from a small family or seasonal settlement (ibid, 35). Such settlements were typically unenclosed in the late Bronze Age/early Iron Age in the eastern region (Bryant 1997).

In Area B, a late middle to late Iron Age ditch was uncovered with two postholes on its eastern side. The ditch was left to silt up initially with material slumping from the east. Material filling the western side of the ditch may have derived from an associated bank. The mixed nature of worked flint recovered from the ditch fills may suggest that the ditch was constructed at a location where two phases of prehistoric activity had taken place.

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MOLA Northampton  
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## APPENDIX

| Context No | Context Type | Shape in plan                   | Orientation | Profile   | Base                        | Description<br>Compaction, Colour, Composition, Inclusions, Boundary   | Length<br>Width<br>Depth |
|------------|--------------|---------------------------------|-------------|---|-----------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| 4000       | Top-soil     | -                               | -           | -   | -                           | Firm<br>Mid Grey Brown<br>Silty clay<br>occasional chalk<br>flecks/fragments and flint<br>fragments<br>sharp boundary to natural   | -<br>-<br>0.30m          |
| 4001       | Natural      | -                               | -           | -   | -                           | Compact<br>Light orangey brown<br>Silty clay<br>Moderate chalk flecks and<br>fragments   | -                        |
| 4002       | Pit fill     | -                               | -           | -   | -                           | Firm<br>Mid-dark brownish grey<br>Silty clay<br>Occasional animal bone,<br>chalk flecks/fragments<br>Clear boundary to (4003)  | -<br>0.99m<br>0.34m      |
| 4003       | Pit fill     | -                               | -           | -   | -                           | Firm<br>Mid grey with orangey<br>brown mottling<br>Silty clay<br>Moderate chalk<br>flecks/fragments,<br>occasional flint fragments.<br>Occasional animal bone<br>Sharp boundary to<br>(4007),(4009) and (4001) | -<br>1.06m<br>0.32m      |
| 4004       | Pit cut      | Sub-circular                    | -           | Steep sided,<br>with sharp<br>break of<br>slope at top<br>and gradual<br>at bottom    | Sloping<br>WSW-<br>ENE      | -  | -<br>0.99m<br>0.66m      |
| 4005       | Pit fill     | -                               | -           | -   | -                           | Firm<br>Mid greyish brown<br>Silty clay<br>Occasional chalk fragments<br>and flint fragments<br>Sharp boundary to (4007)<br>and natural  | 1.00m<br>0.36m<br>0.14m  |
| 4006       | Pit cut      | Linear -<br>rounded<br>terminus | NNW-SSE     | Steep sided,<br>with sharp<br>break of<br>slope top<br>and bottom                     | Flat,<br>slightly<br>uneven | -  | 1.77m<br>-<br>0.14m      |
| 4007       | Pit fill     | -                               | -           | -   | -                           | Firm<br>Light brown grey<br>Silty clay<br>Moderate chalk flecks<br>Clear boundary to natural   | -<br>0.99m<br>0.10m      |
| 4008       | Pit cut      | Circular                        | -           | Moderate<br>shallow<br>sides, sharp<br>break of<br>slope top,<br>gradual at<br>bottom | Flat                        | -  | 1.40m<br>1.40m<br>0.10m  |

| Context No | Context Type | Shape in plan                      | Orientation | Profile   | Base    | Description<br>Compaction, Colour,<br>Composition, Inclusions,<br>Boundary   | Length<br>Width<br>Depth        |
|------------|--------------|------------------------------------|-------------|---|---------|--|---------------------------------|
| 4009       | Pit fill     | -                                  | -           | -   | -       | Firm<br>Mid orangey brown<br>Silty clay<br>Occasional flint fragments,<br>very occasional medium<br>sub rounded flint nodules<br>Sharp boundary to natural | 0.48m<br>0.78m<br>0.34m         |
| 4010       | Pit cut      | Sub rectangular in truncated state | NW-SE       | Steep sided u shaped profile,<br>Sharp break of slope at top, gradual at bottom | Concave | -  | 0.48m<br>0.78m<br>0.34m         |
| 4011       | Pit fill     | -                                  | -           | -   | -       | Firm<br>Mid greyish brown<br>Slightly silty clay<br>common small stones and chalk<br>Truncated on E side by pit [4018]                                     | -<br>1.64m<br>0.45m             |
| 4012       | Pit fill     | -                                  | -           | -   | -       | Firm<br>Light - mid orangey grey<br>Silty Clay<br>Common small chalk flecks and stones/flint<br>Truncated on eastern extent                                | -<br>1.65m<br>0.17m             |
| 4013       | Pit cut      | Circular                           | -           | U-shaped  | Flat    | -  | -<br>1.65m<br>0.62m             |
| 4014       | Pit fill     | -                                  | -           | -   | -       | Firm<br>Mid greyish brown<br>Silty clay<br>Rare small stones, flint and chalk fragments<br>No edge on south side.  | -<br>1.59m<br>0.26m             |
| 4015       | Pit fill     | -                                  | -           | -   | -       | Firm<br>Mid orangey brown<br>Silty clay<br>common small chalk flecks<br>Clear  | -<br>1.26m<br>0.08m             |
| 4016       | Pit cut      | Sub circular                       | E-W         | U-shaped  | Flat    | -  | -<br>1.59m<br>0.34m             |
| 4017       | Pit fill     | -                                  | -           | -   | -       | Firm<br>Mid-dark greyish brown,<br>patches of orange<br>Slightly silty clay<br>Rare small stone and chalk fragments<br>Clear                               | -<br>0.97m to<br>L.O.E<br>0.56m |
| 4018       | Pit cut      | Circular                           | -           | U shaped  | Flat    | -  | -<br>0.97m to<br>L.O.E<br>0.56m |
| 4019       | Spread layer | -                                  | -           | -   | -       | Firm<br>Dark greyish brown<br>Slightly silty clay<br>Rare small stones, chalk and flint fragments<br>Clear   | 5.00m<br>4.70m<br>0.16m         |

| Context No | Context Type | Shape in plan                | Orientation | Profile  | Base | Description<br>Compaction, Colour, Composition, Inclusions, Boundary   | Length<br>Width<br>Depth |
|------------|--------------|------------------------------|-------------|--|------|--|--------------------------|
| 4020       | Pit fill     | -                            | -           | -  | -    | Firm<br>Light reddish brown<br>Silty clay<br>Common chalk flecks<br>Truncated on southern side by [4018]   | -<br>0.30m<br>0.23m      |
| 4021       | Pit cut      | N/A                          | -           | Concave, gradual sloping side  | N/A  |  | -<br>0.30m<br>0.22m      |
| 4022       | Spread layer | -                            | -           | -  | -    | Firm<br>Dark grey<br>Silty clay<br>Occasional pottery and animal bone. Occasional chalk flecks and fragments. Clear boundary to fills below (4026)(4032)(4035)   | 1.38m<br>0.95m<br>0.16m  |
| 4023       | Spread layer | -                            | -           | -  | -    | Firm<br>Dark brown grey<br>Silty clay<br>Occasional pottery and animal bone. Very occasional fired clay and cbm. Occasional chalk flecks and fragments. Clear boundary to fills (4026)(4024)(4028)(4035) | 1.45m<br>1.40m<br>0.15m  |
| 4024       | Pit fill     | -                            | -           | -  | -    | Firm<br>Mid yellowish brown<br>Silty clay<br>Moderate chalk flecks and fragments<br>Clear to natural   | 0.32m<br>0.12m<br>0.19m  |
| 4025       | Pit cut      | Circular prior to truncation | -           | Moderate steep side with gradual break of slope at bottom  | Flat | -  | 0.32m<br>0.12m<br>0.19m  |
| 4026       | Pit fill     | -                            | -           | -  | -    | Firm<br>Dark Brown grey<br>Silty clay<br>Moderate chalk flecks, occasional small/medium sub angular flint<br>Clear to (4035 (4029) (4028)  | 1.54m<br>0.45m<br>0.46m  |
| 4027       | Pit cut      | Sub rectangular              | N-S         | Asymmetric profile, N-S profile, moderate step to south, steep to north, E-W profile steep U-shaped profile. Sharp break of slope top and bottom | Flat | -  | 1.54m<br>0.45m<br>0.46m  |

| Context No | Context Type | Shape in plan          | Orientation | Profile  | Base    | Description<br>Compaction, Colour,<br>Composition, Inclusions,<br>Boundary   | Length<br>Width<br>Depth |
|------------|--------------|------------------------|-------------|--|---------|--|--------------------------|
| 4028       | 5p Fill      | -                      | -           | -  | -       | Firm<br>Mid grey brown<br>Silty clay<br>Occasional chalk flecks<br>Clear to (4029)   | 1.16m<br>-<br>0.28m      |
| 4029       | Pit fill     | -                      | -           | -  | -       | Firm<br>Mid orangey brown<br>Silty clay<br>moderate chalk flecks and<br>fragments, occasional<br>small/medium sub angular<br>flints<br>Clear | 1.17m<br>-<br>0.18m      |
| 4030       | Pit cut      | Circular               | -           | Steep,<br>slightly<br>uneven<br>south sides,<br>sharp break<br>of slope at<br>top, gradual<br>at base. | Flat    | -  | 1.24m<br>1.05m<br>0.46m  |
| 4031       | Pit fill     | -                      | -           | -  | -       | Firm<br>Mid grey brown<br>Silty clay<br>Occasional chalk flecks and<br>flint<br>Sharp to natural   | -<br>0.35m<br>0.16m      |
| 4032       | Pit cut      | Sub<br>rectangula<br>r | E-W         | Moderate<br>steep side,<br>gradual<br>break of<br>slope top<br>and bottom                              | Flat    | -  | -<br>0.35m<br>0.16m      |
| 4033       | Pit fill     | -                      | -           | -  | -       | Firm<br>Mid - light brownish grey<br>Silty Clay<br>Occasional chalk flecks and<br>fragments<br>Clear boundary to natural                     | 0.42m<br>0.44m<br>0.14m  |
| 4034       | Pit cut      | Sub-<br>circular       | -           | Moderate<br>shallower<br>sides,<br>gradual<br>break of<br>slope top<br>and bottom                      | Flat    | -  | 0.42m<br>0.44m<br>0.14m  |
| 4035       | Pit fill     | -                      | -           | -  | -       | Firm<br>Mid grey brown<br>Silty clay<br>Occasional chalk flecks,<br>small to medium sub<br>angular flints.<br>Clear                          | 0.17m<br>1.06m<br>0.54m  |
| 4036       | Pit cut      | Circular               | -           | Steep sided,<br>sharp break<br>of slope at<br>top, gradual<br>at bottom                                | Concave | -  | -<br>-<br>0.54m          |
| 4037       | Pit fill     | -                      | -           | -  | -       | Firm<br>Mid grey brown<br>Silty clay<br>Occasional chalk flecks,<br>small sub angular flints<br>Sharp to natural                             | 1.79m<br>0.23m<br>0.15m  |

| Context No | Context Type      | Shape in plan                  | Orientation | Profile   | Base    | Description<br>Compaction, Colour,<br>Composition, Inclusions,<br>Boundary   | Length<br>Width<br>Depth |
|------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|-------------|---|---------|--|--------------------------|
| 4038       | Pit cut           | Linear,<br>rounded<br>terminus | NE-SW       | Very steep<br>sided, u-<br>shaped<br>profile,<br>sharp break<br>of slop top<br>and bottom | Flat    | -  | 1.79m<br>0.84m<br>0.15m  |
| 4101       | Top-soil          | -                              | -           | -   | -       | Firm<br>Mid Grey Brown<br>Silty clay<br>occasional chalk<br>flecks/fragments and flint<br>fragments<br>sharp boundary to natural | -<br>-<br>0.30m          |
| 4102       | Colluvium         | -                              | -           | -   | -       | -  | -<br>-<br>0.45m          |
| 4104       | Ditch fill        | -                              | -           | -   | -       | Firmly compacted<br>Brownish grey<br>Sandy silty clay<br>Occasional charcoal flecks,<br>frequent flint nodules<br>Clear          | -<br>2.25m<br>0.60m      |
| 4105       | Ditch fill        | -                              | -           | -   | -       | Firmly compacted<br>Mid greyish brown<br>Silty sandy clay<br>Occasional flint nodules<br>Clear                                   | -<br>1.12m<br>0.30m      |
| 4106       | Ditch fill        | -                              | -           | -   | -       | Firmly compacted<br>Greyish reddish-brown<br>Silty sandy clay<br>Frequent small stones,<br>large flint nodules<br>Clear          | -<br>1.65m<br>0.55m      |
| 4107       | Ditch fill        | -                              | -           | -   | -       | Firmly compacted<br>Light/pale yellow-brown<br>Silty Sand<br>Frequent large and small<br>angular flint nodules<br>Clear          | -<br>0.85m<br>0.50m      |
| 4108       | Ditch cut         | Linear                         | N-S         | Steep V<br>shaped   | rounded | Linear ditch, prehistoric with<br>worked flint and pottery   | -<br>2.65m<br>1.50m      |
| 4109       | Posthole<br>fill  | -                              | -           | -   | -       | Firm compaction<br>Dark grey<br>Silty clay<br>Occasional small stones<br>Clear   | -<br>0.18m<br>0.07m      |
| 4110       | Post-hole<br>cut  | Circular                       | -           | U shaped<br>near vertical<br>sides  | Flat    | Circular posthole, very<br>shallow   | 0.10m<br>0.16m<br>0.07m  |
| 4111       | Post-hole<br>fill | -                              | -           | -   | -       | Firmly compacted<br>Mid grey<br>Silty clay<br>Few stones<br>Clear  | -<br>0.22m<br>0.05m      |
| 4112       | Post-hole<br>cut  | Circular                       | -           | Vertical<br>sides   | Flat    | Circular posthole, very<br>shallow   | -<br>0.22m<br>0.05m      |



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