STANWICK QUARRY, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

RAUNDS AREA PROJECT: PHASING THE IRON AGE AND ROMANO-BRITISH SETTLEMENT AT STANWICK, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE (EXCAVATIONS 1984-1992)

ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORT: VOLUME 2

Vicky Crosby and Liz Muldowney, with illustrations by Eddie Lyons



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Raunds Area Project Phasing the Iron Age and Romano-British settlement at Stanwick, Northamptonshire (excavations 1984-1992)

Volume Two: Figures

Vicky Crosby and Liz Muldowney Illustrations by Eddie Lyons

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SUMMARY

Extensive excavations of the rural settlement at Stanwick, Northants (SP972716) were carried out in advance of gravel extraction between 1984 and 1992. Extensive and productive in their own right, in the broader context of the Raunds Area Project they offer a unique opportunity to examine the development of Iron Age and Romano-British rural settlement, society and economy in a landscape setting and in the context of earlier and later evidence for settlement and agriculture.

This report describes the early Iron Age to fifth/sixth century AD phases of the site. The phasing methodology is outlined, describing the problems encountered and solutions reached.

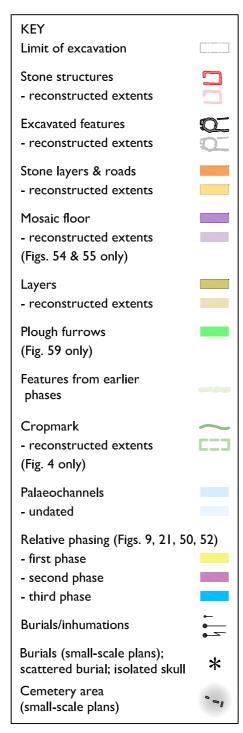
Fields and droveways of mid/late Bronze Age date formed the backdrop to scattered occupation from the earliest Iron Age and continued to influence the landscape. An unenclosed settlement developed in an organised landscape from the middle Iron Age. A circular enclosure containing a single structure lay northeast of the main occupation during the late Iron Age. The trackways and enclosures established in the first century AD formed the framework for the development of an agricultural village in the late first to third centuries AD. Stone construction was gradually introduced in buildings and yard walls replaced ditches, but circular buildings persisted alongside rectilinear. More complex building types appeared from the mid third century AD, and one aisled building was increasingly elaborated, finally being incorporated into a corridor villa in the late fourth century AD. This was accompanied by significant change in the settlement layout – the villa was fronted by a large enclosure which cut across existing boundaries, and nearby building groups declined or went out of use. Occupation continued in well into the fifth century AD, but with a marked change in character. The villa enclosure remained in use and burials were placed along the outside of its wall as late as the mid fifth or sixth century AD.

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1	Locations of the Raunds Area Project, and the Stanwick excavations.
Figure 2	The Stanwick excavations and their environs.
Figure 3	Stanwick excavations, showing all planned features (excluding layers).
Figure 4	Phase 01: Neolithic and Early Bronze Age.
Figure 5	Phase 02: Mid to Late Bronze Age field system(s).
Figure 6	Phase 02: a. Building 192161, in relation to the MLBA field system b. Building 191135.
Figure 7	Phase 03: Late Bronze Age to Early/Middle Iron Age - scattered occupation evidence.
Figure 8	Phase 03: a. Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age transition - pit 38646 in relationship to the MLBA field system b. Buildings 192024 and 192036.
Figure 9	Phase 03: Sequence of activity post-dating the MLBA field system.
Figure 10	Phase 04: Mid/Late Iron Age occupation.
Figure 11	Phase 04: Building 192011, pit cluster 192013 and boundary 192014.
Figure 12	Phase 04: Building 191008, phase I.
Figure 13	Phase 04: Building 191038 a. phase I b. phase II.
Figure 14	Phase 04: Enclosure 191029, phase I, with roundhouse 191030.
Figure 15	Phase 05: Late Iron Age - development of the unenclosed settlement.
Figure 16	Phase 05: Building 192051, phase I.
Figure 17	Phase 05: Building 192051, phase II.
Figure 18	Phase 05: Building 191008, phase II.
Figure 19	Phase 05: Building 191008, phase III.
Figure 20	Phase 06: Early/Mid 1st Century AD - construction of enclosures.

Figure 21 Phase 06: Relationship between enclosure ditches and earlier Building 192149. Figure 22 Phase 06: Enclosure 191014 with rectilinear?structure. Figure 23 Phase 07: Mid 1st Century to Early 2nd Century - development of settlement enclosures. Figure 24 Phase 07: Enclosure 192150 a. phase II b. phase III. Figure 25 Phase 08: Early/Mid 2nd Century - continued development of settlement enclosures. Figure 26 Phase 08: Enclosure 192037, phase IV. Figure 27 Phase 08: Enclosure 192037, phase V. Phase 08: Enclosure 192037, phase VI. Figure 28 Figure 29 Phase 08: a. Infant inhumations inserted below the floor of Building 192047 b. Crouched inhumation burial adjacent to Building 192026. Figure 30 Phase 9: Mid/Late 2nd Century to Early 3rd Century - introduction of walled enclosures. Figure 31 Phase 9: Enclosure 192037, phase VII, and houses south of road 190016. Figure 32 Phase 9: Building 192061. Figure 33 Phase 9: Building 192040 and ?annexe 192039. Figure 34 Phase 9: Enclosure 192037, phase VIII. Figure 35 Phase 9: Enclosure 192037, phase IX. Figure 36 Phase 9: Building 192157, phases i and ii. Figure 37 Phase 9: Building 192157, phases iii and iv. Figure 38 Phase 9: Enclosure 192225 south of Road 190031. Figure 39 Phase 9: Enclosure 190057 and evidence for subdivision of the area south of Road 190031. Figure 40 Phase 9: South-west corner of enclosure 192231 with buildings 192158 and 191138.

Figure 41 Phase 9: Sequence of activity south of Road 192007 a. (LP175116) b. (LP175117). Figure 42 Phase 9: Rectilinear building 192002 replacing earlier roundhouse 192009. Figure 43 Phase 10: Mid 3rd Century. Appearance of elaborate buildings within the established settlement. Figure 44 Phase 10: Buildings 192040 and 192041 cut through earlier boundary wall. Figure 45 Phase 10: Alterations to Building Complex 190115. Figure 46 Phase 10: Temple 192158, phase II. Figure 47 Phase 10: Building 191058. Figure 48 Phase 10: Enclosure south of Road 190031 a. phase I b. phase II. Figure 49 Phase 10: Building 190041. Figure 50 Phase 10: Proposed phasing of Enclosure 191114. Figure 51 Phase II: Late 3rd Century to Early/Mid 4th Century. Figure 52 Phase II: The villa building. Figure 53 Phase II: Western end of the triangular enclosure 192232. Figure 54 Phase 12: Mid/Late 4th Century to ?Early 5th Century. Expansion of the villa (192235) and reorganisation of the settlement. Figure 55 Phase 12: Mid-Late 4th Century elaboration of the villa (192235). Figure 56 Phase 12: Building 192040 and associated activity. Figure 57 Phase 13: ?Early/Mid 5th Century. Figure 58 Phase 13: The decaying villa complex Figure 59 Phase 14: Medieval activity, including plough furrows and Cotton Lane as shown on the Ordnance Survey 1:2,500 map of 1886.



Key to colours and symbols on Figs. 4 to 59.

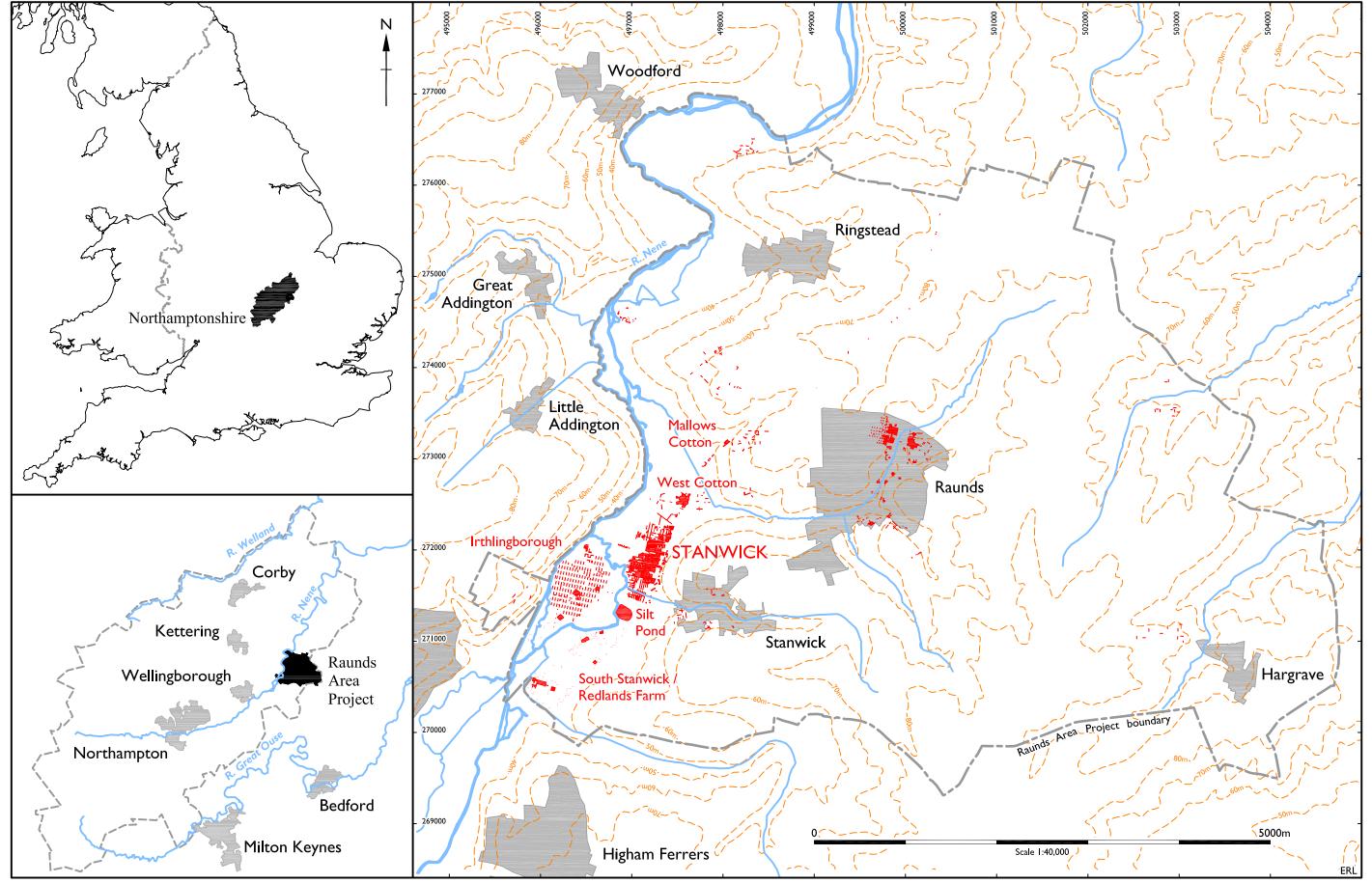


Figure 1. Locations of the Raunds Area Project, and the Stanwick excavations. Excavated areas are shown in red.

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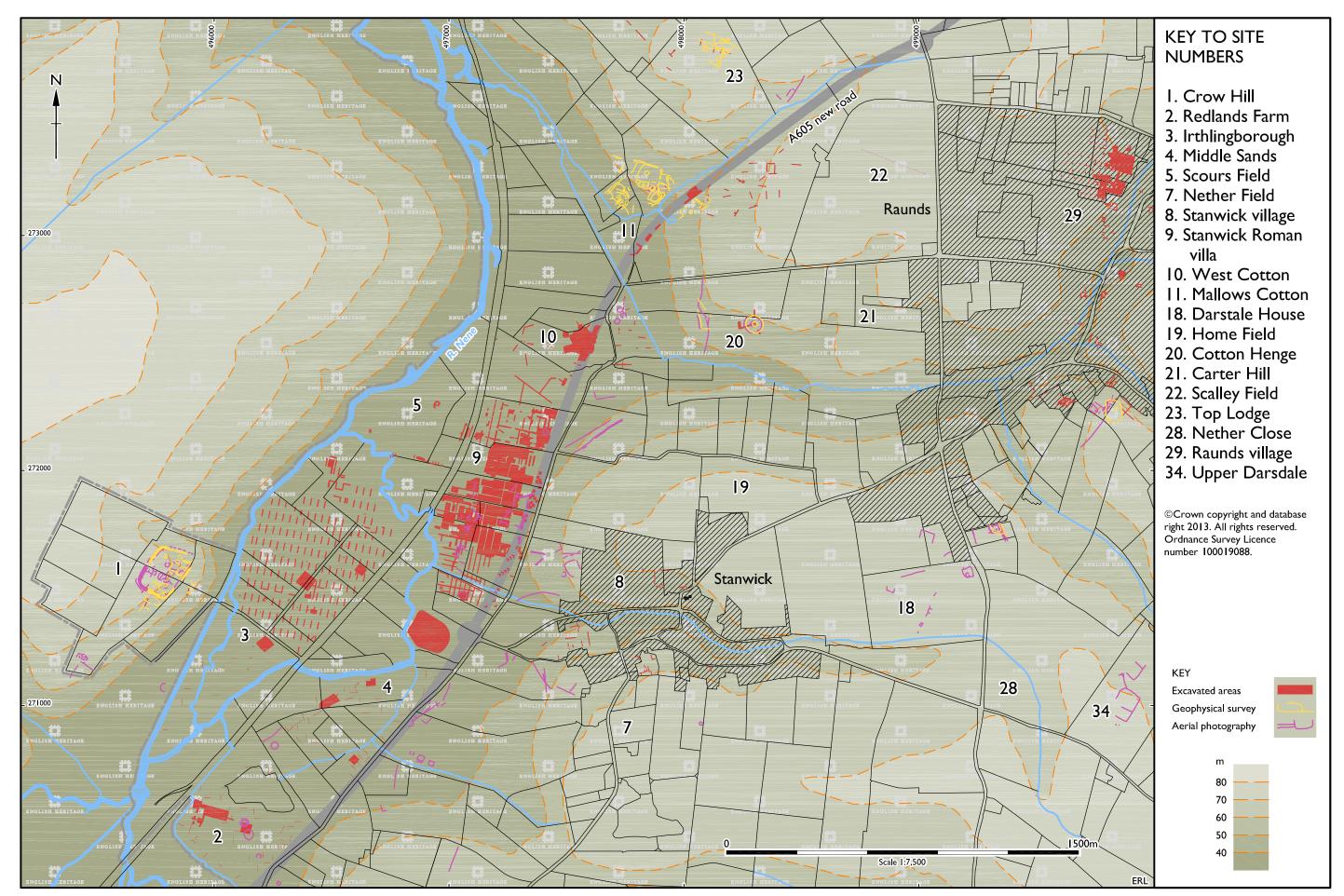


Figure 2. The Stanwick excavations and their environs. (Site numbers are those used in Parry (2006).)

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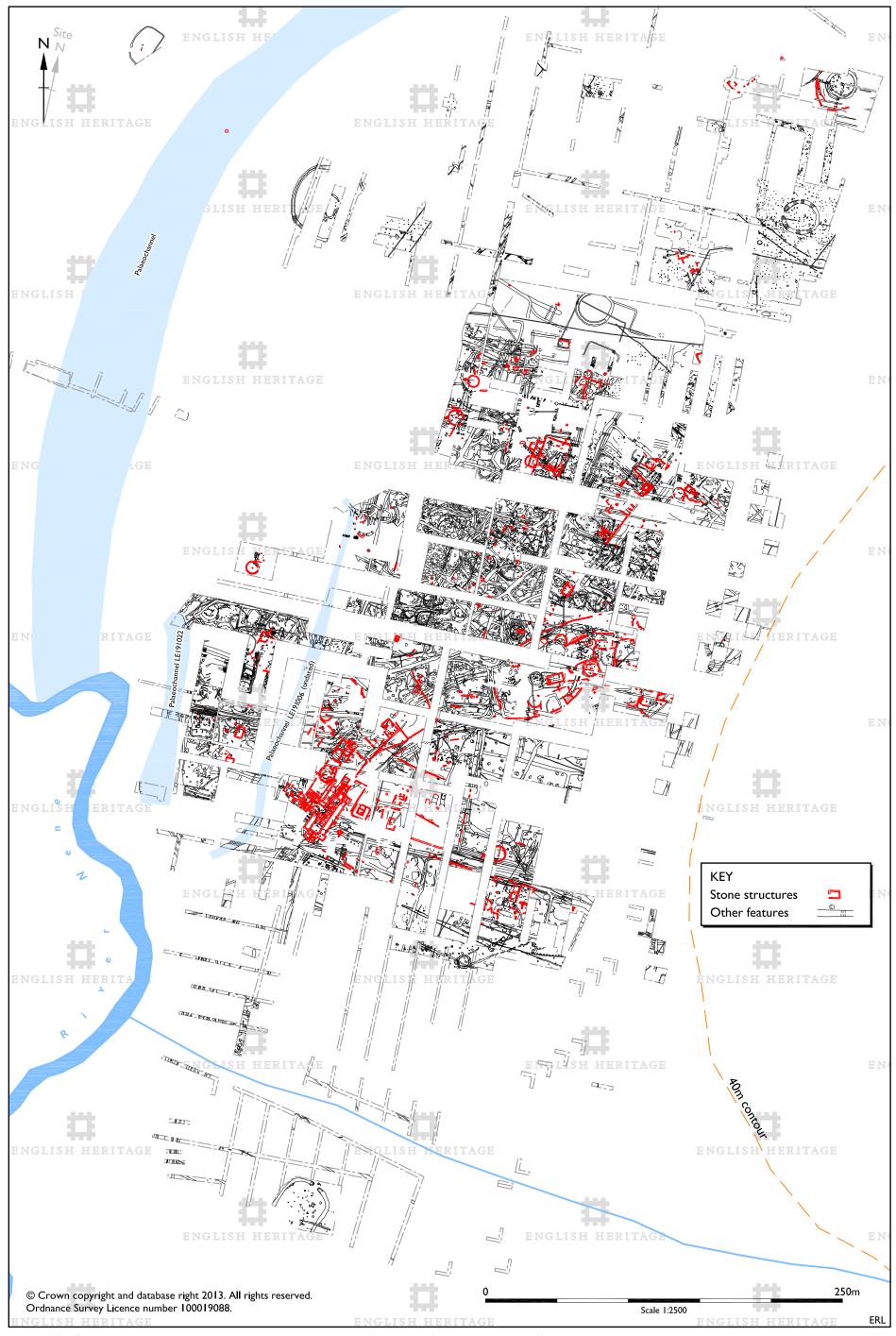


Figure 3. Stanwick excavations, showing all planned features (excluding layers).

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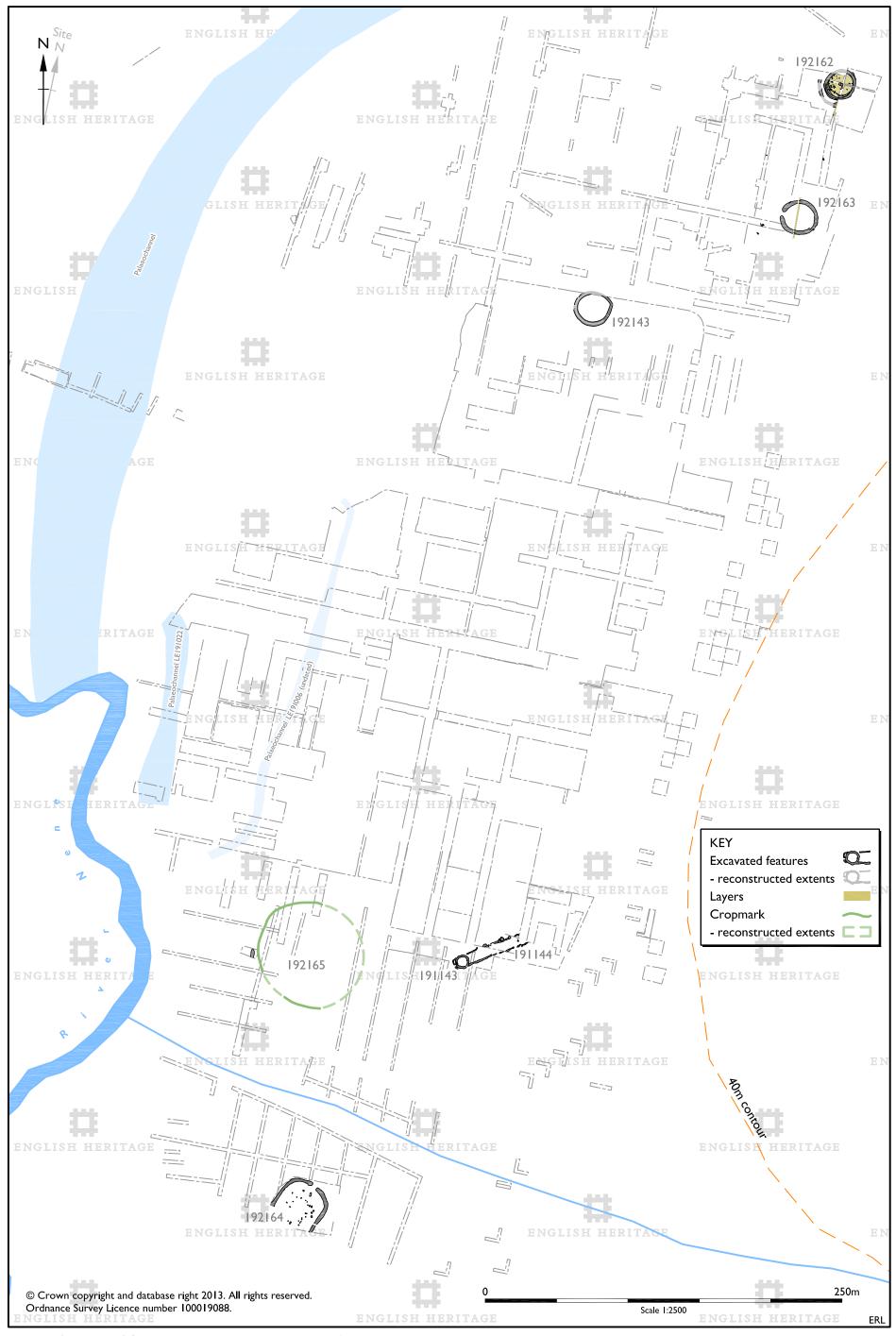


Figure 4. Phase 01: Neolithic and Early Bronze Age.

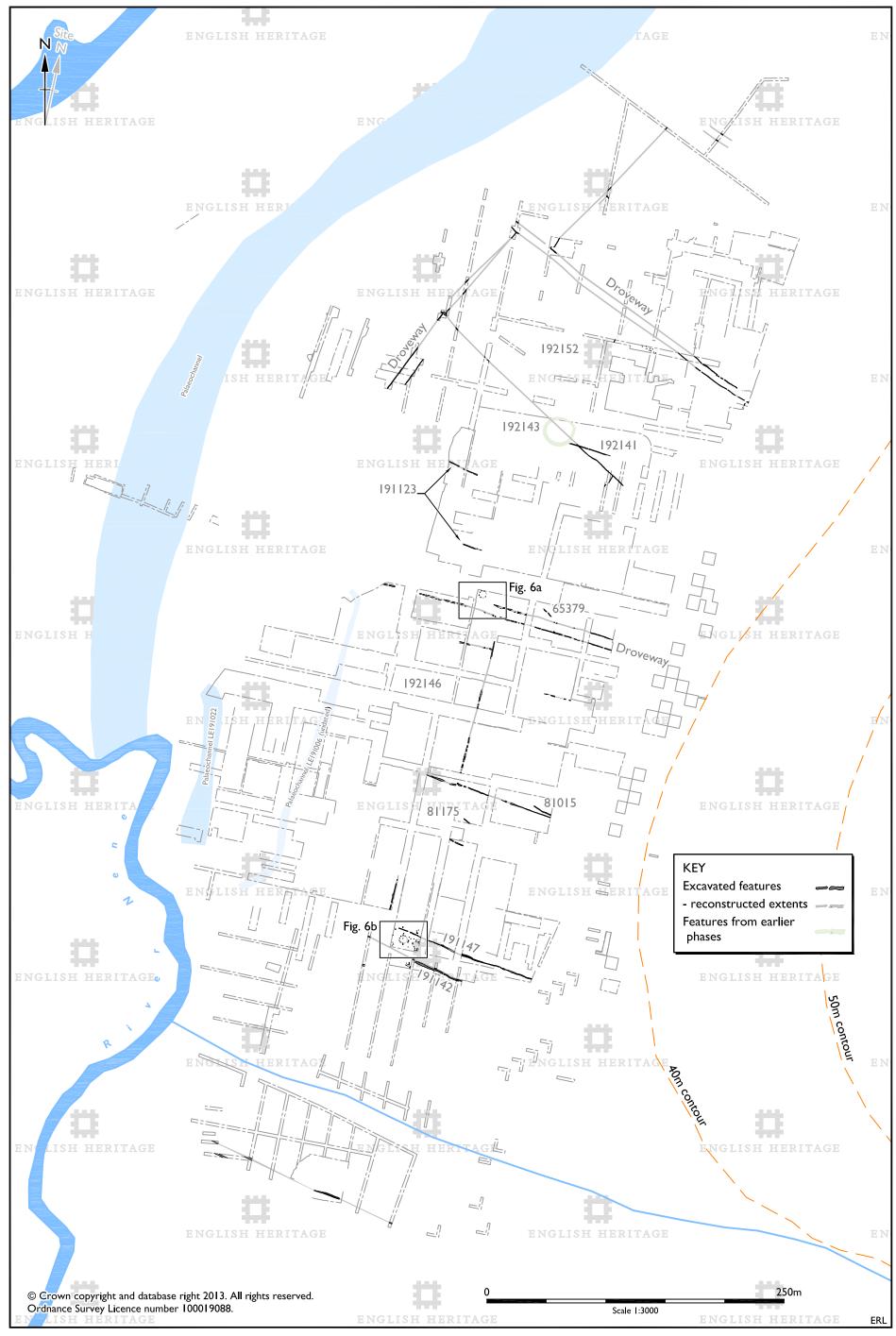


Figure 5. Phase 02: Mid to Late Bronze Age field system(s).

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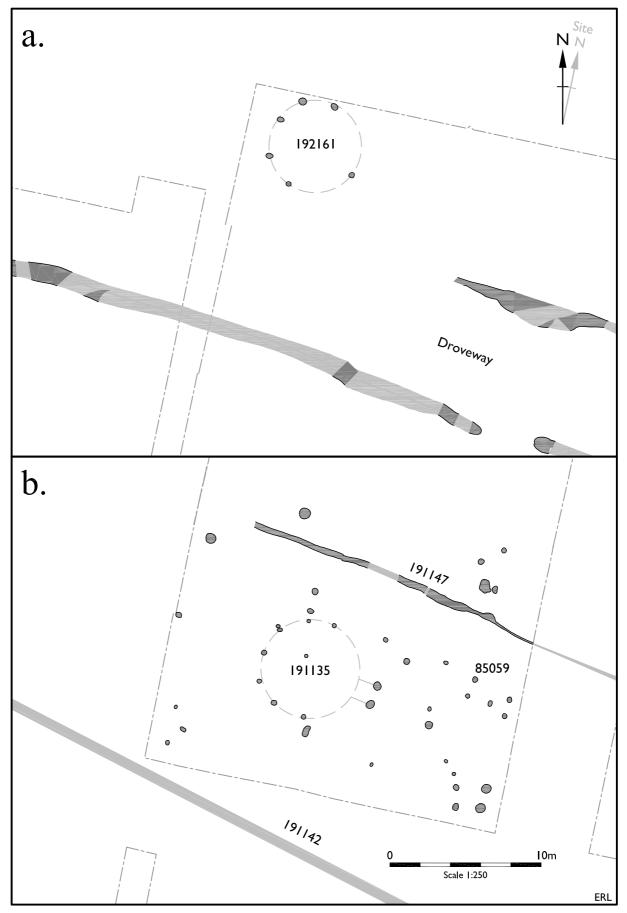


Figure 6. Phase 02: a. Building 192161, in relation to the MLBA field system, and b. Building 191135.