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SCOTCH CORNER 33KV DIVERSION

prepared for

Balfour Beatty

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NAA 19-103
September 2020

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QUALITY ASSURANCE	
Project Number	2009
Report Number	19–103
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Edit	David W. Fell, Helen Devonshire
Authorised	AD Crowson
Issue 1	21-09-2020
Issue 2	

Client	Balfour Beatty
Location	Scotch Corner
District	Richmondshire
Planning Ref	
Grid Ref	NZ 21102 04397, NZ 21249 05454
HER No	TBA
OASIS Ref	TBA
Dates of Fieldwork	October 2019 – January 2020

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
FINAL REPORT

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Summary

This document presents the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken to monitor the installation of an underground electrical cable in North Yorkshire. The cable route was 1.4km long running to the west of Scotch Corner roundabout and southwards along the A6108. Monitoring was carried out by Northern Archaeological Associates (NAA) for Balfour Beatty as part of works associated with the diversion of services prior to the construction of new retail development to the south-west of Scotch Corner roundabout.

The archaeological remains discovered during monitoring dated to the period of Roman conquest in northern England and represented elements of settlement and agricultural land focused around the junction of two major thoroughfares – the south–north road Dere Street and the trans-Pennine Stainmore Pass. Features recorded during the works included large agricultural boundary ditches, elements of rectilinear, nucleated enclosures, a double-ditched trackway, and remains associated with at least three roundhouses. The pottery assemblage contained a substantial proportion of imported Gallo-Belgic wares that intimated the importance of the settlement and flourishing trade relationships with the continent, which were already established by the 1st century AD. The assemblage also indicated that the settlement in the area of Zone 1 was relatively short-lived, between the 1st and 2nd centuries AD before activity in the area became more focused around other routeways, highlighted by the establishment of a north-east to south-west trackway running through both Horizontal Direct Drilling pits and the connector trench towards the end of the 1st century AD.

The scheme succeeded in identifying features belonging to the known Late Iron Age and Early Roman period landscape, as well as tracing and gaining additional information from features excavated during previous archaeological work by Oxford Archaeology North (Zant and Howard-Davis 2013) and Northern Archaeological Associates (2017a; Fell 2020).

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 This report presents the results of the archaeological watching brief of groundworks executed during the diversion and undergrounding of an overhead power line at Scotch Corner, North Yorkshire (Fig. 1). The diversion is required to accommodate the construction of a new retail park to the south-west of Scotch Corner roundabout. Archaeological work was carried out intermittently between October 2019 and January 2020.

1.2 The underground cable was laid in a trench excavated along the western and southern edges of a field to the north of the A66 (NZ 21255 05441; Fig. 2) and it crossed beneath the edge of Scotch Corner roundabout via Horizontal Direct Drilling (HDD). The route continued along the western side of the A6108 in a trench excavated past the Scotch Corner Hotel, a caravan park to the south and the site of the new retail park, before crossing the road west of the local access road roundabout and running in a trench through the field to the south for c.100m (NZ 21112 04409).

1.3 The cable route passed through busy areas of Late Iron Age and Early Roman settlement at the junction of two major ancient thoroughfares – the south–north road Dere Street and the trans-Pennine Stainmore Pass – and revealed the remains of agricultural ditches, rectilinear enclosures and curvilinear structures. Previous archaeological work in the vicinity of Scotch Corner had identified an extensive archaeological landscape dating to the period between the 1st century BC and 2nd century AD, which centred around the junction but was known to extend for a considerable distance to the west (Fell 2017; 2020; NAA 2017a, 2017b; Zant and Howard-Davis 2013). Monitoring associated with excavation of the new cable trench identified further features of the known Late Iron Age and Early Roman landscape, as well as tracing and gaining additional information from features excavated during previous archaeological work by Oxford Archaeology North (Zant 2013; Zant and Howard-Davis 2013) and Northern Archaeological Associates (NAA 2017a, 2017b; Fell 2020).

1.4 This report has been produced by Northern Archaeological Associates (NAA) on behalf of Balfour Beatty and in accordance with a mitigation methodology agreed by North Yorkshire County Council Heritage Team.

2.0 LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

Location (Fig. 1, Fig. 2)

2.1 The route for the new underground cable extended for approximately 1.4km and has been divided into three zones to aid with description of the recorded archaeological remains. Zone 1 was a field to the north of the A66, at its junction with Scotch Corner roundabout, which marked the northern extent of the cable route. The northern terminus of the cable trench was at the north-western corner of the field, aligned with the extant overhead power line. It then ran south and east along the western and southern edges of the field to join a HDD reception pit in the south-eastern corner of the field. Directional drilling enabled the cable to be inserted beneath the A66 junction.

2.2 Zone 2 marked the central section of the route. It ran south from a HDD launch pit on the verge to the east of the Scotch Corner Hotel, along the western verge of the A6108, to the local access road roundabout and Barracks Bank on the A6108 towards Richmond.

2.3 Zone 3 represented the southern end of the route and comprised a 100m-long, 4m-wide strip in a field to the south of Barracks Bank A6108, to the west of the hard-standing and access gate. The trench ran roughly north to south, following the line of the overhead cables.

Geology and soils

2.4 The superficial geology around Scotch Corner comprises glacial tills that include firm sandy, gravelly boulder clays that overlie the solid geology of sandstone, limestone or mudstone of the Carboniferous Limestone series that belong to the Zeichstein Group of Dolomitised Limestone and Dolomite (British Geological Survey 2017).

2.5 Limestone bedrock had been exposed beneath soil deposits at various points around Scotch Corner during previous archaeological excavations (Fell 2020).

Topography and land-use

2.6 Zones 1 and 3 are currently utilised as agricultural land and have seemingly suffered little disturbance beneath the plough soil, whereas Zone 2 has been heavily disturbed by works associated with the A6108, and most recently by the installation of storm drains and a local access roundabout.

3.0 SUMMARY ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 There have been extensive archaeological investigations in the immediate vicinity of Scotch Corner during recent years and in the wider landscape as part of road-widening schemes along the A66 and more lately the A1. The archaeological works have included geophysical and topographic survey followed by large-scale episodes of evaluation trenching and open-area excavation.

3.2 The most notable schemes of archaeological work include excavations carried out along the A66 by Oxford Archaeology North (OAN) (Zant 2013; Zant and Howard-Davis 2013) and by Northern Archaeological Associates (NAA) as part of the A1 Leeming to Barton (A1L2B) road-widening scheme (NAA 2017a; Fell 2020). Both schemes incorporated geophysical surveys, evaluation trenching and large open-area excavations that uncovered archaeological remains corresponding to those revealed during the current monitoring scheme. Those two major programmes of excavation inform the archaeological and historical background discussed below; the current work confirms and expands on their results. Site plans from the previous excavations in the vicinity of Zone 1 have been integrated with the recent results on Figure 3.

3.3 The archaeology recorded by NAA for the 2013–17 A1L2B motorway upgrade scheme in the environs of Scotch Corner described a vast network of enclosures and dwellings orientated along a series of interconnecting roads, ditched trackways and hollow-ways. The majority of the settlement evidence related to traditional native roundhouses within putative enclosures, but also related to industrial zones involving quarrying and metalworking, as well as agricultural field systems (Fell 2020).

3.4 Elements of this extensive archaeological landscape had previously been identified by OAN during a widening programme along the A66 (Zant and Howard-Davis 2013) and by excavations on the site of the Scotch Corner Hotel and the Vintage Hotel (Abramson 1995). Geophysical survey of the field referred to in the current works as Zone 1 also highlighted a dense concentration of enclosures and potential trackways (Fig. 3; Casey *et al*. 1995; GeoQuest Associates 1999; NAA 2016).

3.5 The archaeological remains contiguous with those recorded in Zone 1 had been excavated first by OAN (site SCA15) during the widening of the A66 junction with Scotch Corner roundabout (Zant 2013). During the A1L2B scheme, NAA excavated an adjacent and parallel transect (Field 267a) along the verge directly to the north of site SCA15 (NAA 2017a). Excavations along the verge to the south of Zone 1 revealed a

series of nucleated enclosures, orientated north-west to south-east. Within these enclosures were the footprints of curvilinear gullies relating to domestic roundhouses as well as numerous postholes, stakeholes and linear gullies that represented subsidiary structures and internal fence-lines. A number of small hollow-ways were recorded running between the enclosures in addition to a well-defined double-ditched trackway identified both in site SCA15 and Field 267a.

3.6 South of the roundabout, the area termed Zone 2 had been excavated in its entirety during the A1L2B scheme as Field 223 (NAA 2017b) and had been subject to a previous geophysical survey and evaluation trial trenching (ASDU 2014a-b, 2015). The works revealed a series of linked enclosures defined by east-to-west ditches that were concentrated to the east of the site where they were orientated perpendicular to the former line of Dere Street. In common with Zone 1, the enclosures encapsulated the curving gullies of roundhouses, with postholes, stakeholes and shallow gullies representing subsidiary features and interior sub-divisions.

3.7 The ASDU geophysical survey and the results of the evaluation in the area to the west of Zone 2 demonstrated that the density of settlement diminished further from the immediate roadside corridor. This was confirmed by excavations in A1L2B Field 220 (NAA 2017b), the site named Zone 3 in the current monitoring scheme. A single sub-square structure was identified along with a minor trackway and fragmentary gullies plausibly relating to further structures, although the dense concentration of enclosure ditches and subsidiary features as seen to the north was notably absent.

3.8 In addition to a large corpus of native hand-made wares, the pottery assemblage recovered from Scotch Corner during the A66 and A1L2B schemes included a substantial quantity of wheel-thrown and imported Roman pottery, which dated to the main period of occupation during the 1st centuries BC and AD. It is likely that sparse native settlement existed at the junction prior to this period but was subject to a substantial influx of population and remodelling of enclosure boundaries from the 1st century BC onwards, possibly influenced by interactions with Romans. Formalisation of the settlement was also accompanied by increased use of copper-alloy and iron objects, along with a proclivity for high-status items including rare glass vessels, brooches, and examples of unique items, including a miniature sword and an amber statuette (Fell 2020).

3.9 Scotch Corner lay within a wider hinterland of developed Iron Age settlement highlighted by the road-widening schemes along the A66 and A1. The proliferation of settlement in the area is likely to be related to the large oppidum at Stanwick, located c.5km to the north-west of Scotch Corner and believed to have been a tribal centre of the Brigantes (Haselgrove 2016). Between Scotch Corner and Stanwick, the 'Stanwick hoard'—a substantial assemblage of high-quality metalwork including horse harnesses and chariot fittings—was uncovered in 1843 at Melsonby. A small-scale excavation and geophysical survey around Melsonby has demonstrated a further dense network of enclosures along a north-west to south-east alignment, which probably indicates a corridor of settlement linking Stanwick with the outlying settlement at Scotch Corner (Fell 2020).

3.10 Previous archaeological work around the junction at Scotch Corner has also highlighted the relative absence of archaeology from the period between the abandonment of the settlement at the beginning of the 2nd century AD and the construction of the modern road network in the post-medieval period. Following the abandonment of the settlement it appears that the land in the area around Scotch Corner became purely agricultural in its use, as evidenced by the prominent ridge and furrow in the field to the north of Zone 1. There is also evidence of post-Roman quarrying of copper ore at Crookacre Plantation, the quarry itself cutting through the line of Dere Street 300m to the north of the Scotch Corner roundabout (Hornshaw 1975).

4.0 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

4.1 A primary aim of the current monitoring scheme was to enable the installation of the underground cable along the 1.4km route while minimising the potential impact to significant archaeological remains known to be present in the area. Outlined in the methodology below are the innovative measures such as the installation of track panels, which helped minimise the area that needed to be stripped and consequent damage to the archaeological resource.

4.2 Where archaeology was present in Zone 1, a subsequent aim was, where possible, to tie the excavated features to those recorded previously by OAN (Zant 2013) and NAA (2017a) along the northern verge of the A66 junction. This approach met with considerable success despite the narrow width of the cable trench and easement.

5.0 METHODOLOGY

5.1 The differing excavation methodologies employed in Zones 1–3 are outlined below.

Zone 1

5.2 Due to the density of known and suspected archaeological remains in Zone 1, the cable trench was excavated from trackway panels placed to either side, which negated the requirement for a wider topsoil stripped easement. Trenches in this area were 0.6m wide and 1.3m deep and were excavated using a 360º excavator fitted with a 0.5m-wide toothless bucket, operating at all times under the supervision of an archaeologist.

5.3 Initial trench excavation involved the stripping of topsoil, which was then transported for off-site storage. Machine stripping of subsoil then occurred in spits to the level of in situ archaeological remains or the natural clay geology, whichever appeared first. Discrete archaeological features were excavated by hand, while larger features such as ditches were excavated in shallow spits by machine, due to the limited width of the trench and depth restrictions. Nevertheless, this provided opportunities for stratified environmental samples to be taken and for artefact recovery. Hand excavation of the larger features was undertaken where circumstances permitted, allowing for the identification and accurate recording of more complex stratigraphic relationships. The cable trenches were then excavated to their full depth of 1.3m, with the larger features recorded in section in the trench sides. Subsoil and removed archaeological deposits were stored off-site, separate from the topsoil, and were reused to backfill the trenches when archaeological work was complete, and the ducting installed.

Zones 2 and 3

5.4 Due to the significant disturbance in Zone 2 and extensive previous archaeological works along the verge of the A6108 by NAA (2017b; Fell 2020), the potential for unrecorded archaeology in this area was deemed minimal and no further archaeological works were carried out here during the current monitoring scheme.

5.5 Previous archaeological work to the south of Scotch Corner roundabout has shown that the density of archaeological remains lessens towards the south (Headland Archaeology, in prep.). The decreased potential for archaeological remains in Zone 3 negated the use of trackway panels and allowed for the stripping of a 4m-wide easement, running from north to south for 100m. The area was first stripped of topsoil and then subsoil under archaeological supervision, to the level of archaeology or the natural clay geology, using

a 360º excavator fitted with a 1.2m-wide toothless bucket. The topsoil and subsoil were then stored separately along the western edge of the excavation and subsequently used to backfill the trench on the completion of works.

5.6 All identified archaeological features in Zones 1 and 3 were hand excavated where possible to specifications as follows:

- all intersections and other relationships between features;
- a minimum of 10% of linear features such as ditches;
- a minimum of 50% of postholes, pits or other features of a domestic or industrial nature;
- up to 100% of features of a funerary or ritual nature; and
- a representative sample of securely stratified deposits such as buried soils.

5.7 In all zones, accurate trench locations were provided by the principal contractor. The trench edges then formed a baseline from which the location of archaeological features was recorded using hand-drawn sections and plans to appropriate scales.

5.8 Digital photography was used to record the general location, plan and section views of archaeological features and included a graduated metric scale and contextual information.

5.9 Written descriptions of archaeological features/deposits and recovered environmental samples were recorded on NAA pro-forma context sheets.

5.10 Environmental samples were recovered from securely stratified archaeological deposits where possible and in accordance with published guidelines (Campbell *et al.* 2011).

5.11 Pottery, building materials, flint and animal bone were collected as bulk samples, with significant artefacts three-dimensionally located prior to their removal. All recovered finds were appropriately packaged and stored in accordance with published guidelines (English Heritage 1995; Watkinson and Neal 2001).

5.12 No items identified as Treasure were uncovered during the works.

5.13 No human remains were identified during the works.

6.0 RESULTS

Zone 1 (Fig. 3, Fig. 4)

6.1 The archaeological works in Zone 1 centred around the undergrounding of the electrical cable across an agricultural field at the north-west corner of the Scotch Corner roundabout and to the north of the A66 junction. The cable was inserted beneath the A66 junction from Zone 2 via HDD drilling and entered a reception pit in the south-east corner of the field. A 0.6m-wide trench was excavated along the southern and western edges of the field where it would connect to the existing overhead supply. The cable was installed within plastic ducting at a depth of 1.3m.

6.2 As stated in para 5.2, the high potential for archaeological remains within Zone 1 influenced a change in methodology to reduce any impact. The excavation of the narrow trenches was conducted by machine to a safe depth of 1.2m to allow recording of any features by the archaeologist. When recording was complete, the trenches were dug to the formation depth of 1.3m and the ducting installed. The excavation was carried out in spits, the excavated soil from a new section being used to backfill the previous segment.

6.3 The previous geophysical surveys of the field labelled as Zone 1 (GeoQuest Associates 1999; NAA 2016) indicated a series of rectilinear enclosures and the potential for curvilinear structures inside them. This was confirmed by the subsequent archaeological excavations along the corner verge of the A66 and A1 slip-road, directly to the south and east of the current fence-line (Zant 2013; NAA 2017a). The excavations revealed a suite of intercutting ditches that outlined a series of sub-rectilinear plots and encompassed a number of roundhouse structures, large pits, postholes and discrete features. A number of potential trackways were also identified, along with a section through the western edge of the Roman road Dere Street.

6.4 The proximity of the current works to what was excavated as Field 267a by the A1L2B scheme (NAA 2017a) presented a distinct possibility that many of the same linear features would be identified. Where possible, it has been attempted to reconcile archaeological features recorded during the current phase of work with those documented from previous excavations.

6.5 The work in Zone 1 comprised a narrow L-shaped trench running along the western and southern edges of the field. The archaeology in Zone 1 is therefore discussed in

terms of location within the western or southern trenches. Work initially began in the southern trench, in the south-eastern field corner; however, due to adverse weather and flooding in that area, it was agreed the western trench would be dug first, followed by the southern trench, allowing for the south-eastern field corner to drain. The western trench was excavated from north to south and the archaeological features are discussed below in the order they were excavated.

6.6 Spot dating of features was achieved from pottery identification and was attributed to Roman dynastical phases (Appendix B, Table B1). The chronology is outlined in the table below:

Table 1: Dates of dynastic phases used in pottery identification and referred to in the text

Dynastic Phase	Date Range
Late/Pre-Roman Iron Age (PRIA)	55BC–AD15
Tiberio–Claudian	AD15–AD55
Neronian-Flavian	AD55–AD96

6.7 The topsoil (**01**) in the trenches in Zone 1 was a consistent thickness of 0.3m, with no subsoil present. The depths of the archaeological features as described in the text exclude the topsoil thickness.

6.8 To the north of the extant pole for the overhead electrical cable, an area measuring c.25m by 3m was stripped of topsoil to accommodate shallow burying of the underground cable prior to the connection to the overhead supply. The topsoil strip revealed the north-eastern corner of a rectilinear enclosure (Enclosure A), defined by a 2m-wide ditch (**139**) containing a mid-yellowish brown fill (**140**). Enclosure A was orientated north-west to south-east and corresponded to features recorded on the geophysical surveys of the field (GeoQuest Associates 1999; NAA 2016). Approximately 3m to the north was a 1.5m-wide ditch (**141**), running parallel to the northern edge of Enclosure A, which was infilled with a charcoal-rich deposit of mid-bluish grey silty clay (**142**). Both infilled ditches were cut by a 0.8m-wide curvilinear gully (**143**; Structure 1) that had been infilled with a dark bluish grey deposit that contained a distinctive dump of vitrified clay and charcoal (**136**). Also associated with gully **143** was a black layer of charcoal-rich material (**135**), which overlay ditches **139** and **141** and most likely corresponded to the occupation of Structure 1 after the infilling of the northern boundary of Enclosure A (Plate 1). A sherd from a Verulamium white ware flagon was recovered from deposit **135** and dates to the Neronian–early Flavian

period, representing the latest Roman occupation recorded within Zone 1 (Appendix B).

Plate 1: Overview of Structure 1 and Enclosure A.

6.9 No further excavation of the area to the north of the extant electricity pole was required and therefore the features discussed above needed only to be recorded in plan. The western trench to accommodate the underground installation of the electrical cable was begun adjacent to the pole and continued to the south for c.105m. The forms and orientations of archaeological features spanning the trench were usually difficult or impossible to determine.

6.10 At the northern end of the western trench a shallow linear gully (**137**), measuring 0.4m wide by 0.15m deep, was orientated north-east to south-west and was likely indicative of a fence-line internal to Enclosure A. Approximately 3m to the south of gully **137** the eastern terminus of a second gully (**132**), 0.55m wide by 0.3m deep, was infilled with large cobbles (**133**) over which a dark bluish deposit fill (**134**) had accumulated, containing charcoal, flecks of daub and two fragments of oxidised silty ware dating to the Tiberio–Claudian period (Appendix B). It is possible that gully **132** represents either the entrance or part of a roundhouse within Enclosure A; the deposit of large stones perhaps representing packing material around wooden posts, supporting the structure's walls (Plate 2). Similar gullies with integral stone packing were recorded in A1L2B Field 267a to the south (NAA 2017a; Fell 2020).

*Plate 2: South-west facing section of gully terminus **132** showing stone packing **131**.*

6.11 Approximately 3m to the south of gully **132** was a 2.4m-wide ditch (**26**) that appeared to be on a slight north-east to south-west alignment and probably represented the south-eastern boundary of Enclosure A (Plate 3, Fig. 4 Section 3). Its profile had a steeply sloping northern edge while the southern edge followed a shallower gradient. The base was located beyond the depth limitations of the trench, although owing to the projected profile of ditch **26**, this would probably not have been far beyond its excavated depth of 1m. Ditch **26** had been filled with three distinct deposits: primary fill (**27**) of redeposited yellow clay measuring 0.2m thick, a secondary fill (**28**) of mid-bluish grey silty clay up to 0.4m thick, and an upper fill of dark bluish grey silty clay (**29**) containing abundant charcoal, ceramic building material and burnt stone fragments. The accumulation of primary and secondary fills **27** and **28** along the southern ditch edge suggests that there may once have been an internal bank, which gradually eroded into ditch **26**. Tertiary fill **29** points to the ditch being used for the deposition of refuse towards the end of its life as a boundary, and potentially marks a change in the activities carried out within the enclosure and perhaps intensification of domestic activity around Enclosure A. A body sherd from a small hand-made jar and a heavily abraded sherd of a potential *terra nigra* platter point to this activity occurring in the Claudio–Flavian period (Appendix B), although any deposits relating to subsequent occupation may have been truncated by groundworks associated with the existing overhead power lines.

*Plate 3: West-facing section of enclosure ditch **26**, Enclosure A.*

6.12 Approximately 15m to the south of ditch **26** was a 0.54m-wide gully (**33**) running approximately north-east to south-west across the trench. Gully **33** was 0.3m deep and

filled with a primary deposit of greyish yellow silty clay (**34**) and an upper mid bluish grey silt fill (**35**) containing frequent flecks of charcoal (Plate 4; Fig. 4 Section 4).

6.13 Due to the narrow width of the cable trench it is difficult to interpret feature **33**, although due to its small profile it was perhaps a linear boundary fence internal to a larger enclosure. Alternatively, it is possible that gully **33** represented part of a roundhouse, being located centrally within an enclosure. While no return of the feature was indicated elsewhere in the cable trench, the frequent siting of entrances for roundhouses facing south-east could mean that the north to south cable trench exited through the putative entrance, thus explaining that absence.

*Plate 4: West-facing section of gully **33**.*

6.14 Approximately 10m to the south of gully **33**, a 2m-wide ditch (**36**) orientated east to west (Plate 5) appeared to delimit an enclosure boundary recorded by geophysical survey (Fig. 3; GeoQuest Associates 1999; NAA 2016). Ditch **36** had steeply sloping sides and a wide flat base with an overall depth of 0.6m. It had been predominantly filled with dark bluish grey clayey silt **37**, which contained charcoal, sandstone fragments and a single sherd of a North Gaulish butt beaker, dating from the Tiberio–Claudian period (Appendix B). The ditch was capped by a 80mm-thick light grey silty deposit (**38**).

*Plate 5: East-facing section of ditch **36**.*

6.15 Six metres to the south of boundary ditch **36** was a section of curvilinear gully (**39**), crossing the trench from north-north-east to south-south-west (Plate 6, Fig. 4 Section 5). Gully **39** measured 0.5m wide by 0.26m deep and contained a primary fill of greyish yellow silty clay (**40**) and an upper fill of mid-bluish grey silt (**41**) containing flecks of charcoal, small fragments of sandstone and five sherds from a North Gaulish butt beaker, of the same type identified in fill **37** of ditch **36** to the north (see above; Appendix B). The dimensions of gully **39** and the character of its two fills closely echoed those in gully **33** to the north and also probably represent the remains of a roundhouse or fence-line inside an enclosure.

*Plate 6: North-east-facing section of gully **39**.*

6.16 A possible continuation or return of gully **39** was recorded c.11.5m to the south (**121**); the two segments potentially outlining the western arc of a roundhouse (Plate 7). Unable to be recorded in plan due to poor ground conditions, the sides of the trench demonstrated feature **121** entered the trench on an oblique north-west to south-east line. Its dimensions were c.0.5m wide by 0.3m deep and it contained two fills of comparable character and thickness to those of **39**; a primary fill of greyish yellow silty clay (**122**), and an upper fill of mid-bluish grey silty clay (**123**). The interpretation of **39** and **121** as sections of a roundhouse gully is also supported by the accumulation of the primary fills along what would have been the external edge, deposit **40** from the north-west and deposit **122** from the south-west.

*Plate 7: West-facing section of **121**, potential return of gully **39**.*

6.17 To the south of the putative roundhouse demarcated by gullies **39** and **121**, large ditch **42** was orientated east to west, measured 2.7m wide by 1.2m deep, and corresponded with a north-east to south-west enclosure boundary identified on the geophysical survey (Plate 8, Fig. 3). The profile of ditch **42** had steeply sloping edges that adjoined a flat base, the southern edge incorporated a shallow step at its upper extent. A primary colluvial fill of mid yellowish brown clay (**43**), a maximum of 0.2m thick, had accumulated along both edges and the base, followed by a predominant, secondary fill of dark bluish brown silty clay (**44**), 0.8m thick and containing charcoal flecks, three sherds of medieval pottery (Appendix C) and a fragment of fired clay displaying traces of iron corrosion (Appendix E).

6.18 The similarity of secondary fill **44** to the natural boulder clay, coupled with its thickness, uniformity and pottery inclusions suggests that this main deposit in ditch **42** was backfill intended to close the feature and had not accumulated gradually. A 0.2m-thick tertiary fill of soft bluish grey silt (**47**) capped ditch **42** and possibly represents a buried soil that had sunk into the top after it had been put out of use. The deliberate backfilling of ditch **42** potentially reflects the redefinition of field boundaries, perhaps relating to the repurposing of the enclosure. The sherds of medieval pottery from fill **44** suggests that this occurred between the 12th–14th centuries and may relate to ridge-and-furrow ploughing that survived in the field to the north.

*Plate 8: East-facing section of ditch **42**.*

6.19 An additional large ditch (**48**) also extending from east to west lay c.17m to the south of ditch **42**. Ditch **48** measured 3m wide by 0.65m deep, with a shallow profile and wide, flat base (Plate 9, Fig. 4 Section 6). An 80mm-thick primary fill of light yellowish grey soft clay (**49**) had accumulated along the southern edge. The secondary fill comprised a compact mid yellowish brown firm clay (**50**), up to 0.5m thick, which appeared to have accumulated from both edges of the ditch and contained frequent fragments of sandstone measuring up to 0.3m in diameter. The upper fill was a soft, loose, grey/bluish brown material, with frequent charcoal inclusions and small orange flecks of burnt material, possibly daub, which may represent rubbish disposal from a nearby dwelling such as Structure 2 to the south (see below).

*Plate 9: West-facing section of ditch **48**.*

6.20 In the area between large ditches **42** and **48** was a single east–west shallow gully (**45**), measuring 0.6m wide by 0.14m deep (Fig. 4 Section 7). It contained a single fill of mid bluish grey clay silt with charcoal flecks (**46**) and could have represented a small boundary or structural gully, the narrow width of the excavations limiting any definite interpretation.

6.21 Approximately 11m to the south of ditch **48** a section of curving gully (**52**) was orientated north-east to south-west. In contrast to the other gully sections excavated to the north (**33**, **39**, **45**, **121**), which displayed U-shaped profiles, gully **52** had a stepped 0.3m-deep, south-eastern edge that descended sharply to a narrow, rounded base adjoined by a steep north-western edge (Plate 10, Fig. 4 Section 13). It measured 0.85m wide by a maximum depth of 0.45m and was filled by a uniform deposit of soft, dark greyish blue silty clay (**53**) that contained frequent charcoal inclusions and abraded sandstone fragments, which appeared to be distributed primarily along the south-eastern edge. A softer column of fill was noted within fill **53**, which could have denoted a beam slot in gully **52**, but no distinct cut was visible. The 13 pottery sherds retrieved from fill **53** included 12 abraded sherds of oxidised silty ware and a sherd of a North Gaulish butt beaker dating to the Tiberio–Claudian period (Appendix B).

*Plate 10: North-east-facing section of gully **52**.*

6.22 Located 1.2m from the southern edge of gully **52** was a roughly semi-circular deposit of charcoal and burnt orange clay (**54**), measuring 0.6m in diameter and extending from the western edge of the cable trench. The burnt deposit measured 0.1m thick and owing to its form and composition plausibly represents the base of a hearth that was inside Structure 2 (Plate 11).

*Plate 11: Hearth deposit **54**, looking north to gully **52**.*

6.23 Many of the archaeological features recorded in the southern cable trench were potentially continuations of those recorded in the excavations along the A66 verge by OAN (Zant 2013; Zant and Howard-Davis 2013) and NAA (2017a; Fell 2020) and where possible the related feature numbers are listed in the following text and indicated

on Figure 3. The features in the southern cable trench are described from west to east, reflecting the order in which they were excavated.

6.24 At the west end of the southern trench was a small, shallow north to south orientated gully (**55**) that measured 0.3m wide by 70mm deep (Plate 12). This small gully appears to align with two parallel, linear gullies identified to the south in the A1L2B excavations of Field 267a (features 32523 and 32525, NAA 2017a) and the earlier work at SCA15 (features 14981 and 14982; Zant and Howard-Davis 2013). There was suggestion of a second gully to the west of **55**, although it was too poorly defined for effective recording.

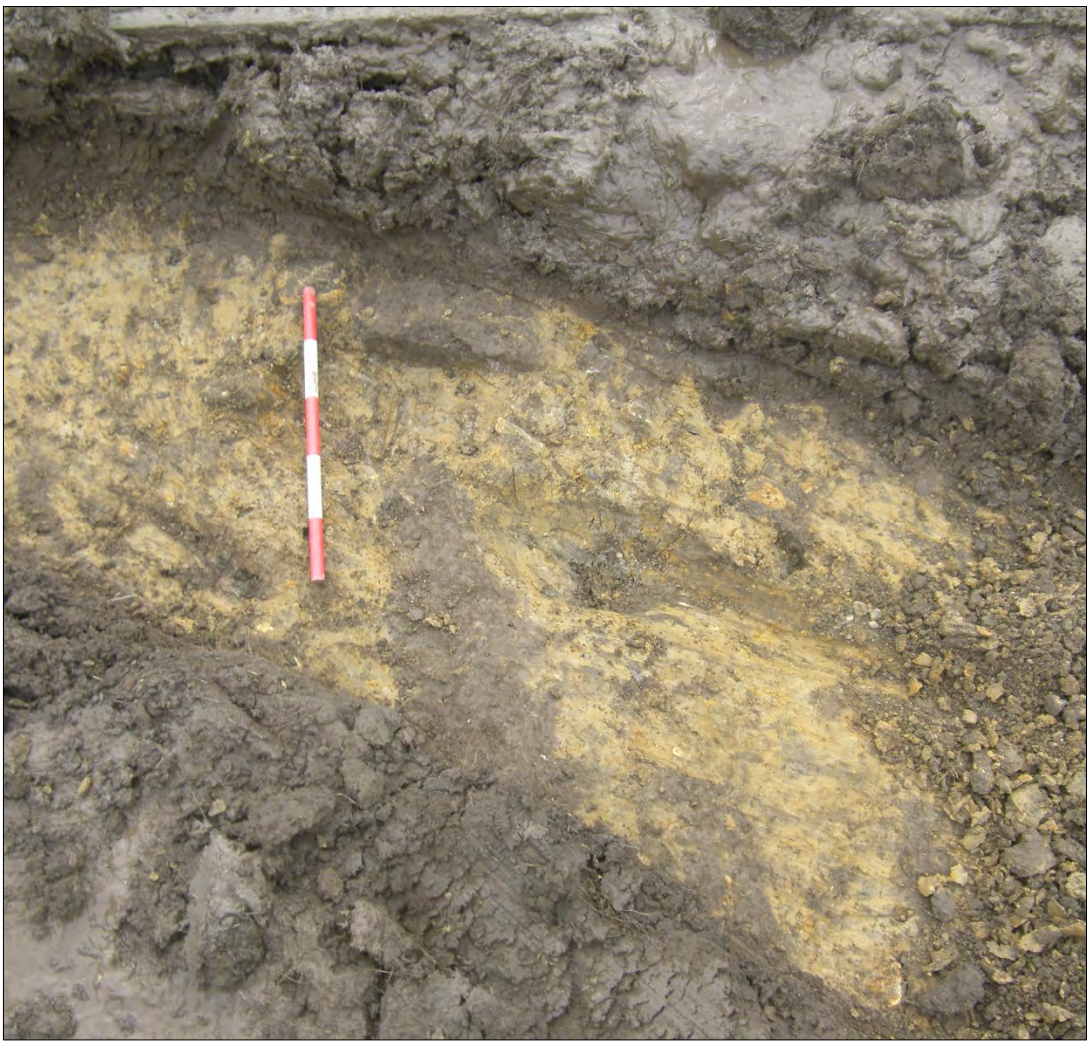

*Plate 12: Gully **55**, looking south.*

6.25 Approximately 3.5m to the east of gully **55** was an area of stratified archaeological remains, extending for c.13.5m within the southern cable trench and bounded at the western and eastern edges by two large north to south orientated ditches (**72** and **68** respectively; Fig. 5). This area corresponds to the route of a ditched trackway labelled

as 'Trackway 32327' or 'Routeway 8' in Field 267a (Fell 2020) and labelled 'Trackway 4' in site SCA15 (Zant and Howard-Davis 2013).

6.26 Ditches **72** and **68** were both c.1.8m wide with similar steep-sided profiles and flat bases c.0.8m deep. The comparable fill sequences comprised thin primary fills of redeposited yellow clay (**73**, **69**,) deposited along both edges and the base. These deposits were overlain by thick mid greyish brown fills with inclusions of charcoal and abraded sandstone fragments (**74**, **70**). Eastern ditch **68** had an additional tertiary 0.3m-thick fill of redeposited yellow clay (**71**) that appeared to represent a deliberate backfilling event, perhaps the levelling of an associated bank. No dating evidence was retrieved from either ditch; however, owing to the similarities in their profiles, dimensions and primary and secondary fills, it is highly probable that ditches **72** and **68** were contemporary. These ditches appear to correspond with ditches 32495 and 32529 excavated in Field 267a (NAA 2017a; Fell 2020) and 14680 and 14679 recorded in site SCA15 (Zant and Howard-Davis 2013).

6.27 Between ditches **72** and **68** there were two parallel north–south orientated gullies (**64**, **57**), separated by c.5m, and which had not been identified previously. Both gullies measured 0.5m wide by a maximum of 0.3m deep and were filled with identical deposits of mid bluish grey silty clay (**65**, **58**) that contained charcoal flecks and small sandstone fragments. Gullies **64** and **57** delineated an area where two buried soil horizons had accumulated. The earliest of these layers (**67**) comprised a basal deposit of abraded sandstone fragments upon which a dark greyish brown clayey silt had accumulated to a consistent thickness of 0.2m. Two sherds of hand-made pottery from the Pre-Roman Iron Age (PRIA) to Roman transition were recovered from this lower horizon (Appendix B). The upper deposit was a lighter, mid greyish brown clayey silt (**66**), also 0.2m thick, which contained charcoal flecks and occasional abraded sandstone fragments, but no pottery. Similar deposits were recorded by NAA (Fell 2020, features 32326, 32327; NAA 2017a) and by OAN in the excavation of 'Trackway 4' (14924, 14925; Zant and Howard-Davis 2013). These horizons were thought likely to be associated with use of the thoroughfare, including an initial thin metalled surface indicated by the basal layer of sandstone fragments in deposit **67** and 32326/32327 in Field 267a (NAA 2017a).

6.28 Cut into the upper fill of western trackway ditch **72**, curving gully **59** arced from south-west to north-east (Fig. 5). Gully **59** measured 0.6m wide by 0.3m deep and was filled with two distinct deposits. The initial fill (**61**) of gully **59** was a charcoal-rich deposit

along the south-eastern edge, up to 0.15m thick, which contained substantial amounts of daub. Deposit **61** appeared to relate to a single event of refuse disposal, presumably originating from the internal area enclosed by gully **59**. The upper fill of the gully was soft greyish brown clayey silt **60** that bore a marked similarity to the upper fill of ditch **72**, which perhaps derived from the same source.

6.29 Gully **59** represented activity that post-dated use of the trackway, which was also implied by the deliberate backfilling of eastern trackway ditch **68** with redeposited natural clay (**71**). The form of gully **59** is analogous with that of a drip-gully relating to an internal roundhouse structure, suggesting that at this location the trackway was repurposed for habitation. A second curving gully (**62**) was cut into the natural clay to the east of **59**, but followed an opposing south-east to north-west alignment. Any intersection of the two features would have been located outside the cable trench to the north, but it is reasonable to speculate that this gully also related to a structure post-dating the trackway.

6.30 The excavations of OAN to the south of the current scheme recorded a hearth/kiln and associated rake-out pits in the vicinity of the western trackway ditch (Zant and Howard-Davis 2013, features 14983 and 14989) and it is plausible that the concentrations of burnt material recorded in fill **61** of curvilinear gully **59** originated from this feature.

6.31 The trackway described above defined the western boundary of a rectilinear enclosure, here labelled Enclosure B and also elsewhere known as the 'northern central enclosure', which was occupied by a dense concentration of linear and curvilinear gullies and groups of discrete features (Fell 2020).

6.32 Excavations revealed two distinct phases of activity within Enclosure B. The earlier activity was denoted by a series of ring-gully sections relating to two separate structures. Structure 3 comprised the northern arm of a curving structural gully (**94**) with an east-facing entrance, surrounded by a substantial outer drip-gully (**90**/**103**). Structural gully **94** was a maximum of 0.6m wide by 0.35m deep, becoming narrower and shallower towards its north-eastern terminus (Plate 13). It was filled with compact mid brownish grey clayey silt (**95**) that contained moderate charcoal inclusions, flecks of burnt clay and burnt sandstone fragments. The large outer drip-gully was represented by eastern section **90** and western section **103**. No direct relationship was visible within the narrow easement of the cable trench, but the alignment and similarity in profile of the

two sections implies they are part of the same feature. If this was indeed the case, then the outer gully of Structure 3 had a projected internal diameter in excess of 14m.

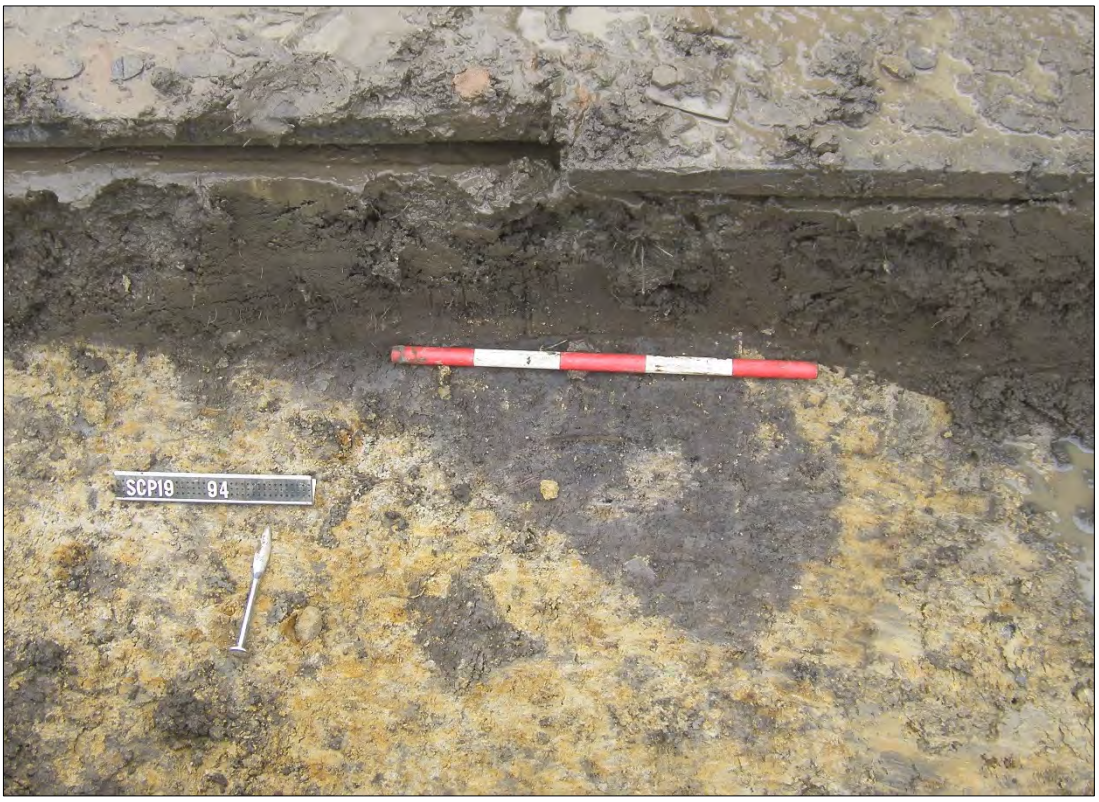

*Plate 13: Gully terminus **94**, Structure 3, pre-excavation.*

6.33 Eastern section **90** had a shallow-sloping, U-shaped profile measuring 0.9m wide by 0.3m deep. It was filled with a loose greyish black silt deposit (**91**) that was charcoal-rich and contained small to medium fragments of sandstone. This section of the outer gully had recut an earlier, deeper feature along the same alignment (**98**) that was not identified in western section **103** (Plate 14, Fig. 4 Section 9). Feature **98** had visible measurements of 0.5m wide by 0.53m deep and had a very steep-sided profile and narrow, rounded base. A 40mm-thick primary deposit of yellow clay (**100**) had accumulated along the eastern edge followed by a main deposit of fine, black and sticky silty material (**99**). It is possible that feature **98** represents an earlier palisade that was comparable to features recorded in Field 267a (Fell 2020, 119; feature 32220).

*Plate 14: South-facing section of outer gully **90** and deep-cut feature **98**, Structure 3.*

6.34 Western section **103** had a comparable shallow-sloping profile to that of gully **90**, measuring 1m wide by 0.4m deep and filled by three deposits that all appeared to have entered from its eastern edge (Plate 15). The primary fill (**104**) was a thin layer of light bluish grey plastic clay that had been deposited solely along the eastern edge of **103** and which contained large sherds of Pre-Roman Iron Age hand-made pottery as well as six refitting sherds of a well-preserved girth beaker. Comparable girth beakers were excavated at Verulamium dating from AD9–50 and related to structured deposits, suggesting that the sherds here may have belonged to a full beaker deliberately deposited along the base of gully **103** (Appendix B). Secondary fill **105** was a loose, light-brownish grey silt containing small flecks of charcoal and ceramic building material and this was succeeded by charcoal-rich upper fill **106**, neither of which contained any dateable material.

*Plate 15: South-facing section of ditch **107** cutting outer gully **103**.*

6.35 A large pit (**92**), 0.9m in diameter and 0.47m deep, was located between the structural and outer drip gullies of Structure 3 on its eastern side (Plate 16, Fig. 4 Section 8). The vertical upper edges of pit **92** tapered to a shallow, rounded base and the pit had been infilled with a dark bluish grey deposit of clayey silt (**93**). Horizonal lenses of orange clay and charcoal within fill **93** indicated that the accumulation of the deposit had occurred over an extended period. Four sherds of North Gaulish white ware and a single abraded sherd of oxidised ware were recovered from fill **93**, demonstrating that the feature was active between the Tiberio–Claudian and Neronian–early Flavian periods (Appendix B). Owing to its location between the concentric gullies and in the vicinity of the entranceway, it is probable that pit **92** was contemporary with Structure 3.

*Plate 16: North-facing section of pit **92**.*

6.36 Structure 4 was located c.6m to the east of outer gully **90** of Structure 3 and comprised the south-eastern terminus of a curving gully (**88**). The dimensions of gully **88** in the south-facing section of the cable trench were 0.6m wide by 0.35m deep, becoming narrow and shallow towards the terminus. It had been filled with a single colluvial deposit of mid brownish grey silty clay (**89**) containing occasional flecks of charcoal.

6.37 The second phase of activity within Enclosure B relates to two ditches that were recorded cutting the outer and structural gullies of Structure 3.

6.38 Truncating western outer gully **103** was a large north-east to south-west ditch with a shallow-sloping U-shaped profile (**107**), that measured 2.1m wide by 0.6m deep (Plate 15). Ditch **107** was filled with a thin primary deposit of yellow clay (**108**), followed by successions of dark clayey silt fills (**109**, **110**, **111**), each 0.2m thick and none of which contained any finds.

6.39 Inner gully **94** of Structure 3 had been truncated centrally by a V-shaped ditch (**101**) that measured 0.65m wide by 0.56m deep (Plate 17). It was filled in the north-facing section of the cable trench by a mid yellowish grey fill of redeposited clay (**102**), which changed in the south-facing section to a soft dark grey fill where it cut through gully **94**.

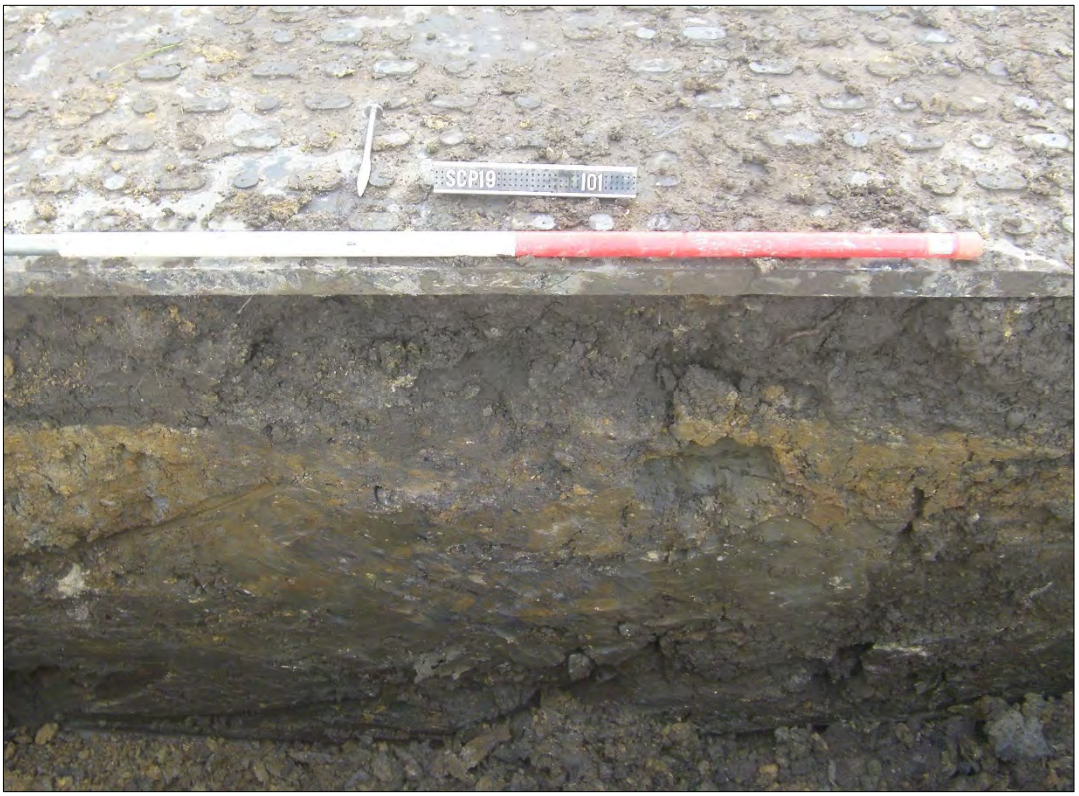

*Plate 17: North-facing section of ditch **101**.*

6.40 To the east of the trackway, three features (**112**, **96**, **86**) were recorded within Enclosure B but could not be attributed to a particular period of activity.

6.41 The first of these features was a shallow north-east to south-west orientated linear gully (**112**) that measured 0.6m wide by 0.2m deep and was filled with a sterile, grey, colluvial fill (**113**). This feature did not appear to correspond with any linear features recorded in the earlier excavations to the south.

6.42 Approximately 9.5m to the east of gully **112** was a shallow pit/posthole (**96**) with a diameter of 0.4m and depth of 0.1m, situated along the western edge of ditch **107** (Plate 18).

*Plate 18: Shallow posthole **96**, pre-excavation.*

6.43 The third feature was a shallow north to south orientated gully (**86**) located between Structure 3 and Structure 4 (section 7.11). It measured 0.3m wide by 0.08m deep and was cut into the natural clay. The insubstantial nature of this feature suggests that it may denote a fence-line, possibly related to Structure 4 (gully **88**), which was 1.2m to the east. A single abraded fragment of heavily fired clay was recovered from fill **87** of gully **86** (Appendix E).

6.44 To the west of Structure 4 were three intercutting north-west to south-east ditches (Plate 19), which marked the boundary between Enclosure B and rectilinear Enclosure C to the east (labelled as 'northern front enclosure' and Group 32645 in Fell 2020).

*Plate 19: North-facing section of intercutting ditches **76**, **78**, **81**, Enclosures B/C.*

6.45 The initial phase of Enclosure C was defined by ditch **78**, which had a moderate to steep-sided profile measuring 0.6m deep with a flat base. It was filled with a primary charcoal-rich deposit (**79**), most likely a dump of domestic refuse along the western edge, succeeded by a thick secondary fill of mid-bluish grey silt (**80**). A dump of redeposited natural clay (**84**) occupied the upper western edge, but its relationship to the other fills was obscured by ditch **81** (section 6.46).

6.46 V-shaped ditch **76** had been cut along the eastern edge of ditch **78**. It was 1m wide by 0.5m deep, and had been infilled with a single soft, mid-bluish grey clayey silt (**77**) that contained a single sherd of Pre-Roman Iron Age hand-made pottery (Appendix B). The western edge of ditch **78** was truncated by U-shaped ditch **81**, measuring 0.6m wide by 0.24m deep. Ditch **81** was filled with a single mid-bluish grey clayey silt that bore comparison to the fill of ditch **77** and to upper fill **80** of earlier ditch **78**. The recutting events represented by ditches **76** and **81** possibly indicate episodic redefinition of separate boundaries for Enclosures B and C, where a single large ditch had once sufficed.

6.47 Two large intercutting north-east to south-west ditches located c.25m to the east of **76**, **78**, **81** marked the south eastern side of Enclosure C (Groups 32645, 32646, Fell 2020). The earlier of the two ditches (**30**) aligned with that of ditch 32505 in Field 267a (NAA 2017a). Ditch **30** was in excess of 1.5m wide and extended below the 0.6m-deep trench to an unknown depth. A primary fill of mixed yellow clay with charcoal and grey silt lenses (**31**) had been deposited along the south-eastern edge, followed by a dark grey secondary fill of soft, silty clay (**32**). Ditch **30** had been truncated along the south-eastern edge by 3m-wide ditch (**22**), which had a shallow-sloping profile to a depth of 0.6m. It was filled with a single charcoal-rich deposit of dark grey silty clay but contained no finds. Due to the narrow cable trench, the orientation of ditch **22** was unclear and it is uncertain whether this feature respects the orientation of ditch **30** or represents the recut of the enclosure boundary on an alternative alignment (Plate 20).

*Plate 20: South-facing section of intercutting enclosure ditches **30** and **22**, Enclosure C.*

6.48 A section of curving gully (**24**) lay immediately to the west of ditch **30** on a east-northeast to west-southwest alignment. It measured 0.6m wide by a maximum of 0.2m deep, was infilled with a single colluvial deposit of dark grey silty clay (**25**) and probably denoted a curvilinear structure (roundhouse) within the interior of Enclosure C.

6.49 A steep-sided, U-shaped ditch (**20**) was located to the east of ditches **22** and **30**. Running north to south, it measured 1mwide by 0.6m deep and was filled with a single colluvial fill of yellow clay (**21**) that contained horizonal lenses of grey silt and charcoal (Plate 21).

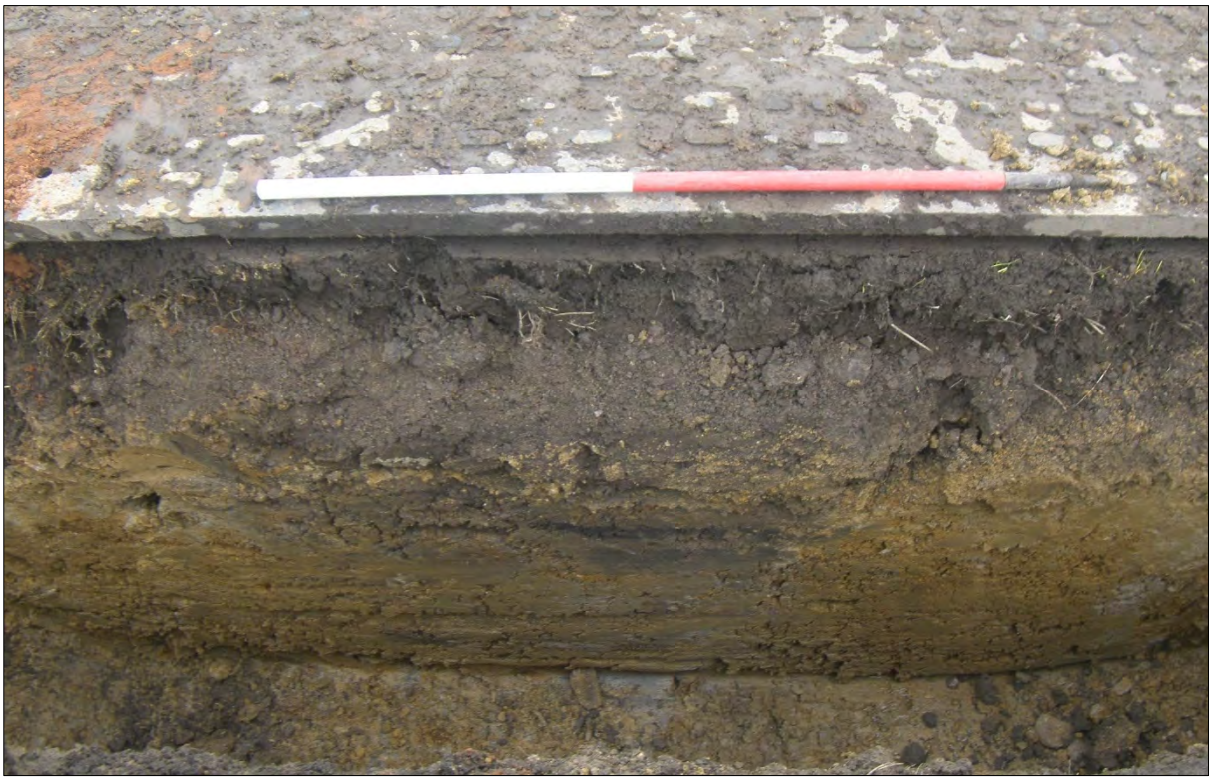

*Plate 21: South-facing section of ditch **20**.*

6.50 All the archaeological features between ditch **81** in the west to ditch **20** in the east were sealed by a grey buried soil horizon that measured up to 0.15m thick (**124**). A comparable deposit was recorded in Field 267a to the south (32402, NAA 2017a), where it also overlay many of the features in the eastern area and was associated with a late period of occupation (*ibid.* 16).

Zone 1 HDD pits (Fig. 3)

6.51 Two 2m-by-4m reception pits for Horizontal Directional Drilling were excavated to a depth of 1.5m in the south-eastern corner of Zone 1. The first pit (HDD1) exposed the southern edge of a linear feature (**114**), 0.4m deep and running east to west. It had been infilled with a single compact, grey silty clay fill (**115**) that contained a single sherd of Roman grey ware of late Neronian–early Flavian date (Plate 22, Appendix B).

*Plate 22: Pre-excavation of linear feature **114**, HDD1.*

6.52 To the west of HDD1, excavation in HDD2 revealed a sequence of deposits overlying a wide shallow feature (**117**), exposed at 1.3m below topsoil with a visible depth of 0.5m. Feature **117** extended across the length of the trench, gradually sloping upwards to the south and was infilled with what appeared to be redeposited boulder clay (**118**). Above fill **118** was a 0.15m-thick light yellowish brown horizon of silty clay and sandstone fragments (**119**), which perhaps represented an initial surface of a trackway. Overlying surface **119** was a black, charcoal-rich deposit (**116**), 0.15m thick that contained 11 sherds of Roman coarseware pottery dated to the late Neronian–early Flavian periods and two sherds of samian ware produced between AD45–85 (Appendix B). The final deposit within HDD2 was a 0.15m-thick loose, light reddish brown clayey silt (**120**) that contained many large fragments of sandstone rubble that had potentially formed an upper trackway surface (Plate 21).

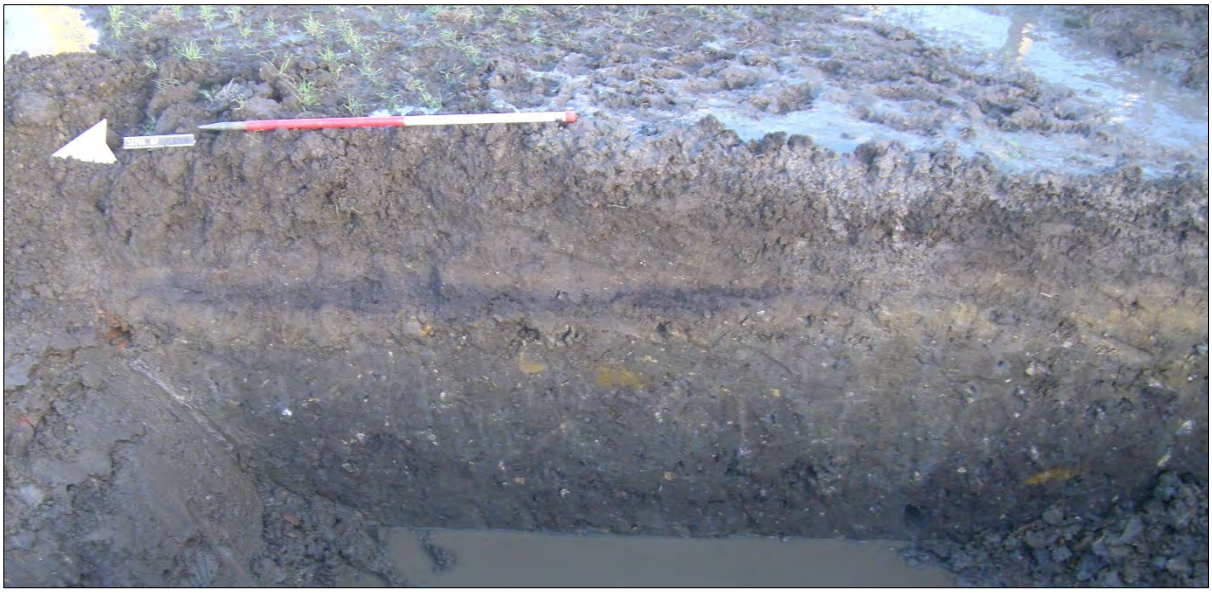

*Plate 23: West-facing section of HDD2, showing potential trackway deposits **119**, **116**, **120**.*

Zone 1 connector trench

6.53 The connector trench extended between HDD2 and the eastern end of the southern cable trench. The trench exposed the continuation of potential trackway deposits **119**, **116** and **120** (see above), running on a roughly east to west alignment with a projected width of c.2m (Plate 24). A north-west to south-east section of curving gully (**127**) was recorded cutting through deposits **116** and **119** c.3.5m to the west of HDD2 and could indicate a later period of occupation overlying the trackway, as was recognised along the western edge of Enclosure B, where the trackway there was later cut by curvilinear gully **59** (see above).

*Plate 24: North-facing section of Connector Trench showing continuation of deposits **119**, **116**, **120** on an oblique north-east to south-west alignment.*

Zone 3 (Fig. 6)

6.54 Archaeological works in Zone 3 comprised the stripping of a 4m-wide, 100m-long easement running north to south across agricultural land, from Barracks Bank A6108 at its northern end southwards into the field. The ground followed a natural slope downwards to the south (Plate 25).

6.55 Geophysical survey of the field (Atwood 2007) indicated that the area to be stripped was largely devoid of features, showing a single east to west linear anomaly and a number of dispersed, fragmentary anomalies that could potentially denote the presence of sub-circular structures. However, a kidney-shaped enclosure with internal sub-circular anomalies was revealed to the west, that along with NAA excavations in Field 220, which recorded a number of structures and an Iron Age routeway (Fell 2020, 48), indicated the potential for settlement to continue within the area of the current scheme.

Plate 25: Overview of Zone 3, looking south.

6.56 Stripping of the easement revealed a 0.3m-thick layer of topsoil (**01**), which had built up above the natural yellow boulder clay (**02**) with no subsoil in-between. The depth of topsoil remained consistent along the length of the easement.

6.57 Below the topsoil and cut into the natural clay were four wide, shallow ditches (**03**, **06**, **09**, **11**). These are described below from north to south.

6.58 The most northerly ditch (**03**) measured 4.3m wide by 0.5m deep following an east to west alignment c.10m from the north end of the trench (Plate 26). Its profile had gradually sloping, irregular edges to a shallow, concave base filled with two identifiable deposits. The primary fill (**04**) was compact mid greyish brown silty clay, 0.12m thick that contained occasional small sub-angular sandstone fragments. The secondary, upper fill (**05**) was a less compacted mid greyish brown silty clay with a maximum thickness of 0.46m and infrequent small, sub-angular sandstone inclusions. Both sterile fills were colluvial in origin, containing no evidence of nearby human activity.

*Plate 26: West-facing section of ditch **03**.*

6.59 The second ditch (**06**) measured 2m wide 0.24m deep and ran along a north-west to south-east alignment c.40m from the north end of the easement (Plate 27). It had a wide, shallow profile and flat base and was filled by two deposits; a 0.35m-thick fill of mid yellowish brown sandy clay (**08**), and an upper fill of compact mid greyish brown silty clay (**07**) with a maximum thickness of 0.12m. The only inclusions within the fills of ditch **06** were occasional small sub-angular fragments of sandstone.

*Plate 27: South-east-facing section of ditch **06**.*

6.60 On a parallel north-west to south east alignment to ditch **06**, and c.11m to its south, was ditch **09** (Plate 28). Ditch **09** had similar dimensions to ditch **06**, measuring 2.2m wide by 0.25m deep with a comparable shallow profile and flat base. Its single fill was also similar, comprising a fairly compact mid yellowish brown sandy clay with infrequent sub-angular fragments of sandstone, akin to lower fill **08** in ditch **06**. The fills of both these ditches were sterile, with no finds or evidence of human activity present.

*Plate 28: South-east-facing section of ditch **09.***

6.61 The southernmost ditch in Zone 3 was ditch **11**, which was located c.24m to the south of ditch **09** and ran from east to west (Plate 29). This was the largest of the ditches recorded, with a width of 6.2m, but was only 0.8m deep. Its northern edge followed a shallow slope to the south for c.3m where it sloped more sharply to a narrow base. The southern edge also followed a shallow slope to the north for a distance of 1.2m before descending steeply to join the base, creating a wide, V-shaped profile. A primary fill of mid greyish brown silty clay (**12**) had accumulated along the deepest section of the northern edge, over which was a secondary fill of comparable, but slightly more yellow material (**13**) along the shallow slope. An analogous primary deposit to **12** had built up along the moderately sloping southern edge (**14**) and had a corresponding depth of 0.14m. Ditch **11** had subsequently filled with a uniform mid brownish grey silty clay containing occasional angular sandstone fragments and gravel (**15**).

*Plate 29: West-facing section of ditch **11**.*

6.62 The form of ditch **11** and the sequence of deposits suggest that initially the feature was narrower, with a moderate V-shaped profile and was later widened along its northern edge, an event represented by the wide, shallow profile and accumulation of deposit **13**. It is possible that a second ditch is represented here, although due to the sterile and uniform nature of the fills there is no direct evidence for a recut.

6.63 The similarities between ditches **06** and **09** and their parallel alignment could indicate that they delineated a trackway between enclosures (as was seen in Zone 1), but which has been severely truncated by later agriculture. The parallel east to west alignments of the larger ditches (**03**, **11**) also suggest they were contemporary and probably part of a rectilinear enclosure system. The sterility of the fills of all the features within Zone 3 indicate that the potential trackway and enclosures were distant from habitation and that their function was likely to be solely agricultural.

7.0 DISCUSSION

7.1 The results of the archaeological monitoring served to corroborate and expand on the findings of the previous large-scale excavations in the vicinity of Scotch Corner, which indicated a dense concentration of Pre-Roman Iron Age native and Early Roman period settlement along routeways to the north (Zone 1). This petered out to the south into what was probably the agricultural hinterland as it was defined by scattered enclosure ditches yielding no evidence of nearby occupation (Zone 3).

7.2 The pottery assemblage provided the only means of dating for the excavations, the hand-made sherds indicating a potential for 'background' activity within Zone 1 during the Pre-Roman Iron Age. It is likely this related to dispersed settlement sited along trackways, as demonstrated by two sherds of hand-made pottery from lower trackway deposit **67** in the southern trench. There was no definitive evidence for earlier prehistoric activity recovered during the scheme, but many of the features remain undated.

7.3 Most of the Roman era pottery assemblage indicates activity within Zone 1 during the Tiberio–Claudian period (AD15–55), when the bulk of the recorded features appear to have been created. The layout of the nucleated enclosures along routeways to the south, north and west of Zone 1 is synonymous with intentional planning of settlement and agricultural enclaves. This was commensurate with significant quantities of Gallo-Belgic imported wares in the pottery assemblage that indicated access to a substantial trade network (Appendix B). Both of these factors indicate a period of prosperity that attracted settlers to Scotch Corner and influenced a greater need for some degree of social organisation within the large settlement.

7.4 Despite the limitations imposed by the narrow width of the cable trench in Zone 1, the opportunities to identify features relating to the geophysical survey and previous excavations along the northern verge of the A66 were fully realised. The western trench in particular proved pivotal in testing geophysical anomalies that were previously unconfirmed by excavation and thus corroborating the layout of the nucleated enclosures as identified by the survey.

7.5 Up to five potential enclosures were recorded in the western trench. The most well-defined at the northern end was Enclosure A, which was delimited by southern ditch **26** and north-eastern corner ditch **139**. In contrast with the other potential enclosures in the western trench, Enclosure A was orientated from north-east to south-west and was

shown on the geophysical survey to be part of a string of enclosures aligned along a potential routeway, directly to the north. Within the enclosure there was an internal fence-line (**137**) and the terminus of a potential roundhouse gully (**132**) that yielded two sherds of silty oxidised ware that date the feature, and primary activity within Enclosure A, to the Tiberio–Claudian period (Appendix B). A dark, charcoal-rich occupation deposit (**135**) had subsequently accumulated over the interior of Enclosure A and appears to have been contemporary with a large curving gully (**143**, Structure 1), cut into the north-eastern corner of the enclosure. A rim sherd of a Verulamium white ware flagon dates this later activity to after c.AD60 (Appendix B) and points to a continuation and intensification of occupation around Enclosure A in the Neronian–Flavian period, presumably related to its location fronting an active thoroughfare.

7.6 To the south of Enclosure A, four potential additional enclosures were demarcated by large ditches **36**, **42** and **48**. Within each of these there was at least one section of smaller gully that could indicate a structure internal to the enclosure. Only gully **52**, with its curving alignment and potential internal hearth (**54**), could be definitively identified as a coherent structure and was labelled Structure 2. In contrast with Enclosure A to the north, the fills of these features were often derived from natural colluvial silting, with little charcoal and no evidence of continued refuse disposal that would facilitate the need to recut. This indicates that they were removed from the immediate area of active habitation.

7.7 The pottery assemblage from ditch **36** and gullies **39** and **52** was revealing, as each feature contained sherds from North Gaulish butt beakers, implying that outside the denser areas of occupation, imported Gallo-Belgic fine wares were still present, although whether they were being utilised inside the structures or purely a result of refuse disposal is unclear (Appendix B). As the focus of settlement and industry appears to lie along the routeways to the north and south, it is likely that these enclosures represent primarily agricultural plots to the rear of the roadside dwellings, perhaps accounting for their relatively sterile fills.

7.8 Although ditch **42** appears to conform with the north-west to south-east alignment of the enclosures to the south of Enclosure A, the upper fill (**44**) contained three sherds of medieval pottery dating to the 12th–14th centuries, highlighting a potential for this ditch to be much later than its 1st-century counterparts. Fill **44**, however, appeared to be a backfill of redeposited clay, presumably from a bank, and it is therefore plausible that the upper fill merely represents the closure of an earlier agricultural boundary that

remained open into the medieval period. As very scarce evidence has been recorded for any form of activity at Scotch Corner between the post-Roman and post-medieval periods, these three sherds of pottery highlight that background activity was still occurring and may indicate continued usage of the abandoned Roman field systems and their adoption within ridge and furrow agriculture, evidence of which can still be seen in the field to the north of Zone 1.

7.9 The archaeological remains within the southern trench primarily served to support the results of the previous OAN (Zant and Howard-Davis 2013) and NAA (2017a, Fell 2020) excavations in terms of the layout and phasing of the western trackway and recorded enclosures. It also provided an additional window into the interiors of the enclosures to update the understanding of their internal layout.

7.10 Although sections through the western trackway had been cut in both the OAN excavations (Trackway 4, Zant and Howard-Davis 2013a) and those of NAA (32327, 2017a), the current works identified an additional set of trackside gullies (**57**, **62**), running parallel within the outer ditches. These were cut through the trackway deposits and represent a later redefinition of the routeway, which was absent in previous excavations, probably due to poor preservation.

7.11 Previous excavations within Enclosure B indicated that this was a densely occupied area, with intercutting curvilinear structures, fence-lines and pits, postholes and small ovens (Fell 2020, Chapter 3). The cable trench confirms this narrative with evidence for two further structures (Structure 3 and Structure 4), external features (**96**, **98**, **112**) and two late ditches (**101**, **107**).

7.12 Structure 3 comprised a large outer drip gully (**90/103**) that encircled a smaller structural gully (**94**) with an east-facing entrance. The scale of this structure, with an outer diameter of 14m, coupled with its central location within the enclosure suggests that it would have been the centre of activity in Enclosure B. The potential importance of Structure 3 is emphasised by the recovery of six fragments of a well-preserved girth beaker, that may have been deposited complete in gully **103** in the Tiberio–Claudian period, perhaps as a structured deposit (Appendix B). A large pit (**92**) situated between gullies **90/103** and **94** also most likely belongs to the use of Structure 3 and along with a number of sherds from a North Gaulish flagon, yielded a fragment of oxidised ware dating to the later Neronian–early Flavian period that indicates Structure 3 remained a continuing focus throughout the lifetime of the activity in Zone 1. In contrast with

Structure 3, Structure 4 was represented by the south-western arm of a single curving gully (**88**) and a potential north to south fence-line to the rear (**86**).

7.13 In comparison with Enclosure B, the neighbouring enclosure to the east, Enclosure C, revealed very few archaeological remains, aside from the intercutting boundary ditches that had previously been recorded in Field 267a (Groups 32645, 32646, NAA 2017a). The only internal feature was a section of a potential structure (**24**) located directly along the interior of boundary ditch **30**. A buried soil horizon (**85**) extended across the area of Enclosure C and overlay the western (**76**, **78**, **81**) and eastern (**22**, **30**) boundary ditches as well as gully **24**. A single sherd of fine oxidised ware dating to the late Neronian–early Flavian period was recovered from buried soil **85** and indicates that by this time, Enclosure C was most likely abandoned. Deposit **85** is seemingly contiguous with 32402 recorded in Field 267a (NAA 2017a, Fell 2020), which represented a later period of occupation and contained widespread refuse related to cooking and drying (NAA 2017a, 16).

7.14 To the east of Enclosure C, a series of potential trackway deposits were identified within HDD1, HDD2 and the Connector Trench. Cut (**114**) followed a north-east to south-west alignment and appeared to correspond with a linear anomaly on the geophysical survey (Fig. 3; GeoQuest Associates 1999, NAA 2016). Pottery recovered from this potential trackway dated exclusively from the late Neronian–early Flavian period, indicating that it is probably contemporary with buried soil horizon **85** and therefore the latest period of occupation in this part of the settlement. The alignment of the trackway suggests it relates to an enclosure to the south, which contained a large well (31848; NAA 2017a,14; Fell 2020, 119) that was found to be active throughout the lifespan of the settlement in Zone 1.

7.15 Only a modest-sized environmental assemblage was recovered from the monitoring scheme and does not appear to alter the findings of previous excavations. In the absence of diagnostic finds, environmental evidence could have aided understanding of the environs in Zone 3, however the samples collected were all sterile, perhaps commensurate to the distance from immediate settlement or as a result of poor survival. Only five fragments of degraded animal bone were collected from Zone 1—poor preservation probably being due to unfavourable soil conditions—and can only indicate a general presence of horses and potentially cattle (Appendix F). The modest archaeobotanical assemblage predominantly comprised charred grains of wheat, rye and barley, typical of Pre-Roman Iron Age and Roman sites in northern Britain

(Appendix G). The charcoal assemblage was more substantial but is yet to be assessed, however the results are considered likely to be comparable to those obtained in the analyses of material from the previous excavations around Scotch Corner (Zant and Howard-Davis 2013; Fell 2020).

7.16 While there was already a substantial corpus of material relating to the development and expansion of settlement at Scotch Corner during the Pre-Roman Iron Age and Early Roman period, monitoring and recording of the cable trench has added more detail to the emerging picture of Scotch Corner and its hinterland. The ceramic evidence highlights the emergence of planned, nucleated enclosures early in the 1st century, and with it an influx of native population and imported wares signifying a period of prosperity. The western and southern trenches in Zone 1 indicate an increased density of settlement along routeways to the north and south, in Enclosures A, B and C, with unmodified boundary ditches in-between implying a central area utilised for agriculture.

7.17 In comparison with the relatively large Tiberio–Claudian pottery assemblage, a small number of later sherds related to scaled-down activity during the Neronian and Flavian periods and were primarily associated with occupation deposits alongside defined trackways (**135** and **85**) and potentially new routeways (**114**). These occupation deposits overlay earlier enclosure ditches indicating their abandonment during this period. A number of curvilinear structures appear to have been contemporary with this later period (Structure 1, **59**, **125**, **127**); however, it seems that by this point the focus of settlement had moved to the area defined as Field 258 to the north-east (Fell 2020, Chapter 4).

7.18 Three sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from ditch **42**, but it is likely that this relates to 'background' agricultural activity, with no evidence of later settlement visible at Scotch Corner after the abandonment of the nucleated enclosures in the early Roman period.

8.0 ARCHIVE DEPOSITION

8.1 The full archive from the archaeological monitoring, including paperwork, drawings, photographs, digital data and the finds assemblage, is to be deposited with the York Museums Trust.

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APPENDIX A

CONTEXT CATALOGUE

Context	Zone	Interpretative description	Relationships	Trench
1	1, 3	Topsoil		
2	1, 3	Natural clay		
3	3	Cut of E-W ditch		
4	3	Primary fill 03		
5	3	Secondary fill 03		
6	3	Cut of NW-SE ditch		
7	3	Secondary fill 06		
8	3	Primary fill 06		
9	3	Cut of NW-SE ditch		
10	3	Fill of 09		
11	3	Cut of E-W ditch		
12	3	Primary fill 11		
13	3	Secondary fill 11		
14	3	Additional secondary fill 11		
15	3	Tertiary fill 11		
16		UNUSED		
17		UNUSED		
18		UNUSED		
19		UNUSED		
20	1	Cut of N-S ditch		Southern
21	1	Fill of 20		Southern
22	1	Cut of large SW-NE ditch	Cuts 30	Southern
23	1	Fill of 22		Southern
24	1	Cut of small SW-NE ditch		Southern
25	1	Fill of 24		Southern
26	1	Cut of NE-SW ditch		Western
27	1	Primary fill 26		Western
28	1	Secondary fill 26		Western
29	1	Upper fill 26		Western
30	1	NE-SW ditch W of 22	Cut by 22	Southern
31	1	Lower fill 30		Southern
32	1	Upper fill 30		Southern
33	1	Cut of small ditch S of 26		Western
34	1	Primary fill 33		Western
35	1	Secondary fill 33		Western
36	1	Cut of large ditch S of 33		Western
37	1	Lower fill 36		Western
38	1	Upper fill 36		Western
39	1	Cut of gully S of 36		Western
40	1	Primary fill 39		Western
41	1	Secondary fill 39		Western
42	1	Cut of ditch S of 39		Western
43	1	Primary fill 42		Western
44	1	Secondary fill 42		Western
45	1	Cut of gully S of 42		Western
46	1	Fill of 45		Western
47	1	Upper fill 42		Western
48	1	Cut of large ditch S of 45		Western
49	1	Primary fill 48		Western
50	1	Secondary fill 48		Western
51	1	Tertiary fill 48		Western
52	1	Cut of stepped gully		Western
53	1	Fill of 52		Western
54	1	Hearth deposit S of 52		Western
55	1	Cut of shallow gully, W end S trench		Southern
56	1	Fill of 55		Southern
57	1	N-S gully at E edge deposit (66)	Trackway	Southern
58	1	Fill of 57		Southern
59	1	Curvilinear gully	Cutting 72 (74)	Southern

Context	Zone	Interpretative description	Relationships	Trench
60	1	Lower fill 59		Southern
61	1	Upper fill 69 with daub		Southern
62	1	NW-SE curving gully, E of 59		Southern
63	1	Fill of 62		Southern
64	1	N-S gully at W edge deposit (66)	Trackway	Southern
65	1	Fill of (64)		Southern
66	1	Upper grey trackway deposit	Trackway	Southern
67	1	Lower dark grey trackway deposit	Trackway	Southern
68	1	Cut of N-S ditch E of trackway	Trackway	Southern
69	1	Primary fill 68		Southern
70	1	Secondary fill 68		Southern
71	1	Tertiary fill 68		Southern
72	1	Cut of N-S ditch W of trackway	Trackway	Southern
73	1	Primary fill 72		Southern
74	1	Secondary fill 72		Southern
75	1	VOID		Southern
76	1	Cut of NNW-SSE ditch	E ditch, cuts 78	Southern
77	1	Fill of 76		Southern
78	1	Central NNW-SSE ditch	Cut by 76 and 81	Southern
79	1	Lower fill 78		Southern
80	1	Upper fill 78		Southern
81	1	Cut of NNW-SSE ditch	W ditch, cuts 78	Southern
82	1	Primary fill W edge 78	Same as (79)	Southern
83	1	Fill of 81		Southern
84	1	Yellow clay deposit, W edge 78	Cut by 81	Southern
85	1	Buried soil overlying 76, 78, 81		Southern
86	1	N-S gully		Southern
87	1	Fill of 86		Southern
88	1	Cut of curvilinear gully		Southern
89	1	Fill of 88		Southern
90	1	Cut of large curvilinear gully	Same as 103	Southern
91	1	Filly of 90		Southern
92	1	Cut of pit		Southern
93	1	Fill of 92		Southern
94	1	Cut of ring gully terminus		Southern
95	1	Fill of 94		Southern
96	1	Cut of posthole		Southern
97	1	Fill of 96		Southern
98	1	Deep cut feature under 90		Southern
99	1	Fill of 98		Southern
100	1	Redeposited natural clay E edge 98		Southern
101	1	V-shaped ditch cutting 94		Southern
102	1	Fill of 101		Southern
103	1	Cut of large curvilinear gully	Same as 90	Southern
104	1	Primary fill 103		Southern
105	1	Secondary fill 103		Southern
106	1	Tertiary fill 103		Southern
107	1	NE-SW ditch cutting 103		Southern
108	1	Primary fill 107		Southern
109	1	Secondary fill 107		Southern
110	1	Tertiary fill 107		Southern
111	1	Quaternary fill 107		Southern
112	1	Cut of NE-SW gully W of 96		Southern
113	1	Fill of 112		Southern
114	1	Potential cut for deposit (115)		HDD1
115	1	Grey deposit in 114		HDD1
116	1	Occupation deposit	Same as 115	HDD2
117	1	Cut of potential ditch		HDD2
118	1	Fill of 117		HDD2
119	1	Metalled surface beneath (116)		HDD2
120	1	Deposit containing large stones		HDD2
121	1	Cut of gully	Possible return of 39	Western

Context	Zone	Interpretative description	Relationships	Trench
122	1	Primary fill 121		Western
123	1	Secondary fill 121		Western
124	1	Buried soil horizon	Same as 85	Southern
125	1	Curvilinear gully cutting 119		HDD2
126	1	Fill of 125		HDD2
127	1	Cut of gully		Connector Pit
128	1	Fill of 127		Connector Pit
129	1	Cut of gully in N facing section		Connector Pit
130	1	Yellow clay fill of 129		Connector Pit
131	1	Dark grey 'trackway' deposit	Same as 115, 116	Connector Pit
132	1	Cut of gully terminus		Western
133	1	Primary fill of 132		Western
134	1	Upper fill of 132		Western
135	1	Cleaning layer over N end of trench		Western
136	1	Dump of burnt material		Western
137	1	Cut of linear gully		Western
138	1	Fill of 137		Western
139	1	NE corner of enclosure	Probable return of 26	Western
140	1	Upper fill of 139		Western
141	1	NEE-SWW ditch	N of 139	Western
142	1	Upper fill of 141		Western
143	1	Large curving gully	Cuts 139 and 141	Western
144	1	Upper fill of 143		Western

APPENDIX B

PRE-ROMAN AND ROMAN PERIOD POTTERY

R.S. Leary

with preliminary samian pottery identifications by G. Monteil

Methodology

This assessment follows the Standard for Pottery Studies in Archaeology (Barclay *et al*. 2016). All the pottery was examined in context groups. The sherds are recorded grouped by ware group and vessel type. Quantification is by sherd weight, count and estimated vessel equivalent (EVES). The ware group, vessel form, vessel type, condition, decoration and any obvious joins are recorded and a spot dating list is given by context.

The dating methodology utilised in this assessment follows that in Fell (2020, table 1.3), with the addition of dynastic periods which have been referred to throughout the main body of this report.

Table B1: Amalgamation of dating terminology from Fell (2020) and this report

Scotch Corner chronological Periods	Nomenclature used in the NAA Monograph	Date Range	Dynastic periods used in this report
Period 1	Late Iron Age	c.55BC–AD15	Pre-Roman Iron Age
Period 2	Pre-Roman Iron Age	c.AD15–55	Tiberio–Claudian
Period 3		c.AD55–70	Neronian-Flavian
Period 4	Early Flavian	c.AD70–85/90	Neronian-Flavian
Period 5	Late Flavian-Hadrianic	c.AD85/90–135/150	–

Outline of the assemblage

An assemblage of 72 sherds of coarse pottery and one samian sherd (674g, 0.92 EVES) was recovered from 14 contexts and an unstratified level. A further 20 fragments retrieved from environmental samples were examined (see below Samples, including two further scraps of samian). The hand-made and grey wares were in good condition but some of the oxidised wares had suffered some surface erosion due to burial conditions.

The assemblage dated from the Tiberio–Claudian period to the late Neronian to early Flavian period. A sherd from a Verulamium white ware flagon from context **135** has the latest possible start date and gives a terminus post quem of c.AD60. The samian sherd was a South Gaulish rim sherd from a DR. 27 cup dated AD65–80 from La Graufesenque and was unstratified. The two samian sherds from samples came from floor deposit **116** and comprised a small bodysherd from a South Gaulish Dr29 bowl (1.2g.) and a South Gaulish cup Dr27 (1.8g.). The assemblage includes a range of wares present at the much more extensive excavations at Scotch Corner (Leary 2020) including hand-made insular tradition pottery, Scotch Corner wares typical of the Tiberio–Claudian Period 2 – imported terra rubra, terra nigra, north Gaulish white ware butt beakers and flagon ware, and silty ware – and wares appearing in the late Neronian and early Flavian pPeriods 3–4 – gritty ware 1, BSB group, oxidised ware OAB19, fine oxidised ware OAA and grey wares GRA32c and GRA30. The distribution of pottery in these chronological groups was predominantly exclusive apart from the NOG WH3 butt beaker sherds found with a small OAB19 scrap in pit **92**. The NOG WH3 sherds in this pit fill are relatively large and in good condition whereas the OAB19 scrap is very small and abraded and may be a late fill addition.

Table B2: Quantity of pottery from contexts with context dating

Zone	Context	Interpretative description	Context date	No.	Weight (g).	EVES
1	23	Fill of 22 large SW-NE ditch	Tiberio–Claudian (sample only)			
	25	Fill of 24 small SW-NE ditch	Tiberio–Claudian (sample only)			
	29	Upper fill 26 NE-SW ditch	Claudio-Flavian	1	16.3	
			PRIA-Roman	1	9.1	
	37	Lower fill 36 large ditch S of 33	Tiberio–Claudian	1	2.6	
	41	Secondary fill 39 gully S of 36	Tiberio–Claudian	5	12.1	
	53	Fill of 52 stepped gully	Tiberio–Claudian	13	6.9	
	67	Lower dark grey trackway deposit	PRIA-Roman	2	8.4	
	77	Fill of 76 NNW-SSE ditch	PRIA-Roman	1	4.3	
	85	Buried soil overlying 76, 78, 81 NNW-SSE ditches	Late Neronian–early Flavian	1	13.3	
	93	Fill of 92 pit	Late Neronian–early Flavian	1	0.5	
			Tiberio–Claudian	4	33.6	
	104	Primary fill 103 Cut of large curvilinear gully	Tiberio–Claudian	6	74.7	0.45
			PRIA-Roman	18	228.5	
	115	Grey deposit in cut 114	Late Neronian–early Flavian	1	5.8	
	116	Occupation deposit	Late Neronian–early Flavian	11	225.8	0.30
	119	Floor surface beneath (116)	Late Neronian–early Flavian	2	17.7	
	134	Upper fill of 132 gully terminus	Tiberio–Claudian	2	6.3	
	135	Cleaning layer over N end of trench	Late Neronian–early Flavian	1	2.8	0.10
	Unstratified		AD65–85	1	5	0.07
Total				71	673.7	0.92

Range and variety of material: wares and forms

Size of inclusions:

subvisible – only just visible at x30 and too small to measure

fine – 0.1–0.25mm

medium – 0.25–0.5mm

coarse – 0.5–1mm

very coarse – over 1mm

BSB group

GRB69 Dark grey with brown margins and grey core. Hard and slightly sandy feel. Moderate, medium subangular quartz, rare, soft, white calcareous inclusions, partially decayed. Body sherd.

Early gritty ware 1

GRB78 dark grey/black. Hard. Sparse/moderate fine quartz, c0.1mm, with sparse medium and coarse quartz. Sparse coarse quartz and silver mica on the surface. Bodysherd from rilled jar. This type was present in Periods 3–4 at Scotch Corner and dates to the late Neronian–early Flavian period.

VER WH Verulamium white ware

FLA8 Verulamium white ware. Tomber and Dore 1998 VER WH. This small incomplete rim sherd is from an upright ring-necked flagon. There VER WH flagons are uncommon and are likely to be contemporary with the Verulamium mortaria, which formed a major component of mortaria groups in the North during the later 1st and early 2nd century. These commenced production c.AD50/55 but perhaps arrived in the North from c.AD60. The flagon form is certainly found pre-AD60 (Marsh and Tyers 1978, 549 type 1B1).

GRA fine grey ware

GRA30 pale grey, possibly with dark grey surfaces. Soft and powdery. Sparse, medium, quite angular quartz. This fabric is found in a rusticated jar form. Probably early Flavian.

GRA32C Pale-medium grey with darker grey surfaces. Moderate fine quartz and sparse medium rounded grey/black inclusions. Hard grey ware. GRA32C is a coarser variant of this hard-fired ware. An undiagnostic sherd.

Hand-made insular tradition wares

H2 fine grey, hard and sandy feel. Irregular fracture, moderate fine quartz and sparse, medium quartz. Body sherd.

H2 igneous grey, hard with very coarse igneous inclusions (2–3mm), protruding from surface. Fine silver mica visible on surfaces. The inclusions are crystalline with white and black crystals including dark mica. A body sherd coming from quite a small jar. The body is just turning out at the neck.

H4 grey ware with brown surfaces. Soapy feel and abundant ill-sorted medium to coarse vesicles. The vesicles are irregular or rhomboidal in shape and are likely to be dissolved calcite or calcite and limestone. Basal and body sherds from a jar.

North Gaulish white wares

NOG WH2 North Gaulish white ware 2, Tomber and Dore 1998 NOG WH2. This ware occurs in Tiberio–Claudian flagon types at Scotch Corner (Leary in Fell 2020, fabric NOG WH2). Body sherds.

NOG WH3 North Gaulish white ware 3, Tomber and Dore 1998 NOG WH3. This ware occurs in Tiberio–Claudian butt beaker forms, Cam 113 at Scotch Corner. Body and basal sherds with rouletting.

OAB19 oxidised ware

OAB19 moderate fine quartz, 0.2mm, with sparse, medium quartz, and both fine and coarse rounded red/brown inclusions. This fabric was used to make late Neronian–early Flavian types at Scotch Corner. A number of sherds from a wide-mouthed jar with quite a thick everted rim with a body sherd, perhaps from a beaker, with a cordon and grooved shoulder and groups of two vertical grooves. This latter vessel might be a butt beaker copy. This form of wide-mouthed jar has not been previously found at Scotch Corner.

Fine oxidised ware

OAA15 orange, soft with moderate fine quartz and sparse large ferrous inclusions characterised by a very fine and silty fabric unlike the common oxidised ware at Catterick. This ware belongs to a group from Scotch Corner used to make vessels of Neronian or early Flavian type. They are united in having sparse fine quartz of c.0.2mm and fine and medium rounded red-brown inclusions. A very abraded footring base, perhaps from a bowl or beaker.

Silty ware oxidised

OAA7 buff or pale orange surface, sometimes grey core, sometimes inside grey Soft and powdery. An unabraded group has a rather smooth buff surface. Sparse fine quartz, 0,2mm, rare fine soft white inclusions. Micaceous. Abraded body sherds only. The forms in this ware at Scotch Corner gave a Tiberio–Claudian date range and compared to imported Gallo-Belgic vessel types including butt and girth beakers.

Terra nigra

TN Terra Nigra, Tomber and Dore 1998 GAB TN 1. The terra nigra ware may have come from the Marne-Vesle potteries. However, other sources are possible, including Trier, Cologne and Bavay and Amiens (Rigby 1989, 126–6). This example, one basal sherd from a platter or dish, is in poor condition and difficult to identify but is likely to belong in the TR group.

Terra rubra

TR3 Terra Rubra 3 Tomber and Dore 1998 GAB TR 3. The source of TR3 is uncertain. The fabric here is very similar to the Silty wares. Six well-preserved sherds from gully 103,

making up nearly half of the rim circumference, came from a single girth beaker, Camulodunum form 84 (Hawkes and Hull 1947) with multiple cordons outside the neck and upper body delimiting a zone with spaced multiple vertical grooves, combing, dated to c.AD9–50 at King Harry Lane (Rigby 1989 type GB22), probably also from the Marne-Vesle potteries.

Table B3: Scotch Corner 33kV Diversion SCP19 wares

Ware group	Fabric	No.	No. %	G.	G.%	EVES	EVES %
BSB group	GRB69	2	2.78%	17.7	2.63%		
Early gritty ware 1	GRB78	1	1.39%	10.2	1.51%		
Fine Oxidised ware	OAA15	1	1.39%	13.3	1.97%		
FLA VER WH	FLA8	1	1.39%	2.8	0.42%	10	10.87%
GRA	GRA30	2	2.78%	7.8	1.16%		
	GRA32C	1	1.39%	5.8	0.86%		
HM	H2 FINE	1	1.39%	4.3	0.64%		
	H2 IGNEOUS	1	1.39%	9.1	1.35%		
	H4	20	27.78%	236.9	35.16%		
NOG WH	NOG WH2	4	5.56%	33.6	4.99%		
	NOG WH3	7	9.72%	16	2.37%		
OAB19	OAB19	9	12.50%	208.3	30.92%	30	32.61%
Silty ware oxidised	OAA7	14	19.44%	11.9	1.77%		
SAMSG	La Graufesenque	1	1.39%	5	0.74%	0,07	7.61
TN	TN	1	1.39%	16.3	2.42%		
TR	OAA12/TR3	6	8.33%	74.7	11.09%	0.45	48.91%
Total		72	100.00%	673.7	100.00%	0.92	100.00%

Chronology

Two H4 sherds from the trackway context **67** are in the hand-made insular tradition dating from the Pre-Roman Iron Age to the Roman period. The sherds are undiagnostic so may be Iron Age or Roman in date. Other pottery from this trackway in SCP15 confirmed a date range within the early 1st century (Zant and Howard-Davis 2013, 73) since it contained black sand Italian amphora sherds and NOG WH butt beaker sherds so although only HM sherds came from the trackway at SCP19, there is no reason to suggest it pre-dates the arrival of Gallo-Belgic imports in the Tiberio–Claudian period. Most of the pottery wares and vessel types fall clearly into two chronological groups equating to Period 2 and Periods 3–4 at Scotch Corner (Leary 2020).

Table B4: Relative quantities of wares in dated groups

	Tiberio–Claudian		Claudio-Flavian		Late Neronian–early Flavian		PRIA-Roman		Total No.	Total G.
Wares	No.	G.	No.	G.	No.	G.	No.	G.		
BSB group					11.76%	6.66%			2.82%	2.65%
Early gritty ware 1					5.88%	3.84%			1.41%	1.53%
Fine Oxidised ware					5.88%	5.00%			1.41%	1.99%
FLA VER WH					5.88%	1.05%			1.41%	0.42%

	Tiberio–Claudian		Claudio-Flavian		Late Neronian–early Flavian		PRIA-Roman		Total No.	Total G.
Wares	No.	G.	No.	G.	No.	G.	No.	G.		
GRA					17.65%	5.11%			4.23%	2.03%
HM	36.73%	62.65%	50.00%	35.83%			100%	100%	30.99%	37.43%
NOG WH	22.45%	13.60%							15.49%	7.42%
OAB19					52.94%	78.34%			12.68%	31.15%
Silty ware oxidised	28.57%	3.26%							19.72%	1.78%
TN			50.00%	64.17%					1.41%	2.44%
TR	12.24%	20.48%							8.45%	11.17%

Compared with the overall patterns of wares from each Period at Scotch Corner the relative quantities of NOG WH wares, silty ware, TR and TN and hand-made insular wares from the Tiberio–Claudian groups here compare well with that from Scotch Corner Period 2 while the Roman wares in the Neronian-Flavian groups compare with Period 4, particularly in terms of more grey wares and less hand-made pottery in Period 4 (Fig. B1). The relative quantities are difficult to compare because no amphora or mortarium sherds were recovered from SCP19 and this makes up most of the missing part of the assemblage from Scotch Corner in Fig. B1. Both mortarium and amphora sherds were recovered to the south in Field 267a and in site SCA15 (Zant and Howard-Davis 2013, 83–7). The fine oxidised group, early gritty ware 1, the fine grey ware group GRA and the BSB ware group are all wares present in Period 3 and continuing into Period 4. The GRA sherd with linear quite subdued rustication is not of the earliest type and is more likely to be contemporary with Period 4 activity in Field 258.

Compared to Field 267a at Scotch Corner, the assemblage supports the dating of the field system here to Period 2 with some later Period 3 infilling and very little activity in Period 4 when this area appears to be periphery to the focus of settlement in Field 258 (Fell 2020). Features belonging in this earlier, Tiberio–Claudian period include gullies **39**, **52**, **132**, curvilinear gully **103**, ditches **23**, **25** and **33** and pit **92**. The large section from a TR3 girth beaker Cam 84 (Hawkes and Hull 1947) from the primary fill of curvilinear gully **103** is worthy of comment. This is in exceptional condition compared to the other oxidised sherds from the site and appear to have some fresh breaks for which no joining sherds are present suggesting it was originally more complete. Given the fragility of these beakers and how susceptible they are to erosion after burial, this may have been deposited deep in the gully as a structured deposit with ritual significance, perhaps complete.

The Neronian–early Flavian pottery is restricted to occupation/trackway deposit **116**, context **115**, cleaning layer **135** and buried soil **85** as well as a very small scrap of pottery from pit **92** and two small OAB19 scraps from the sample, which considering the lager fresher NOG WH2 butt beaker sherds from here, may be a late fill additions. The upper fill of ditch **26** contained a sherd from an H2 (igneous) jar and a basal sherd from a platter probably terra nigra, perhaps dating to c.AD45–75. This last vessel is in such poor condition that the ware identification is uncertain, but given terra nigra has been found previously at Scotch Corner, and this fabric may belong in this somewhat diverse group, a provisional identification and dating is given on this basis.

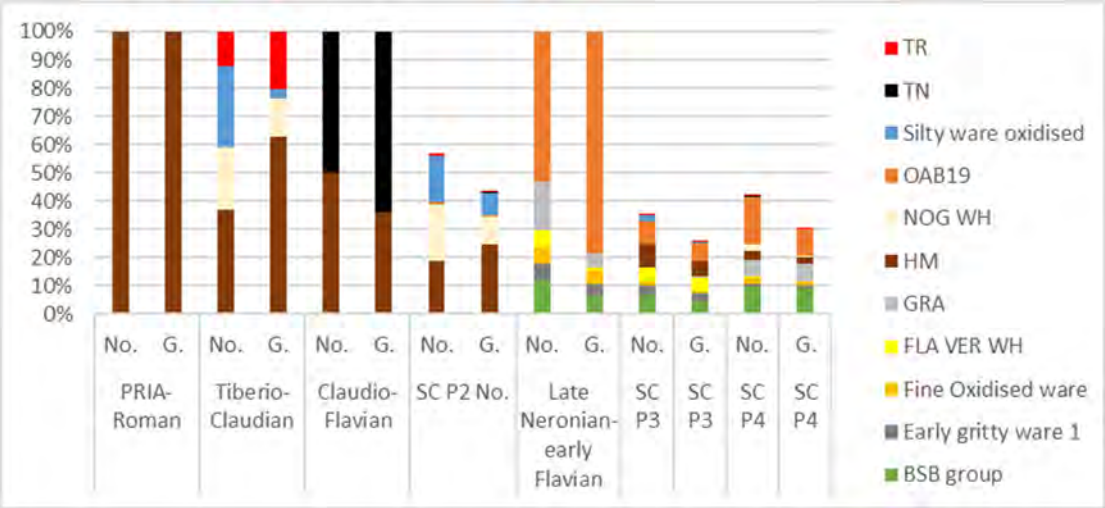

Figure B1: Relative quantities of wares at SCP19 compared with F.267a Scotch Corner (SC) Periods 2–4 (Leary, in Fell 2020).

Function and site status

Table B5: Vessel types (using EVES)

Vessel	EVES	EVES %
beaker	0.45	48.91%
cup	0.07	1.39
flagon	0.10	6.94%
wide-mouthed jar	0.30	32.61%
Total	0.92	100%

The assemblage is dominated by vessels associated with drinking (Table B5) and, although the quantity is far too small for analysis of this type, it confirms the evidence from the much larger assemblage from Scotch Corner. The low level of samian ware is also found at Scotch Corner Field 267a (Fell 2020). The absence of mortarium and amphora sherds is notable, despite the small assemblage, since these wares were present in good numbers in Field 267a and SCA15 (*ibid.*).

Aspects of trade and exchange

The Period 2 pottery includes the Gallo-Belgic imports found at Scotch Corner previously and confirms the widespread distribution of these fine wares in this area of the site. The imports include the types found previously characteristic of Period 2 at Scotch Corner – terra rubra girth beakers, terra nigra platters, silty wares, and North Gaulish butt beakers and flagons. There is a lack of imported fine wares of Period 4, even although Lyon ware was found in Period 4 in Field 267a. All the Neronian–early Flavian wares are likely to be local, on present evidence, except the Verulamium white ware flagon sherd from the St Albans region.

The Scotch Corner fabrics were unfortunately not subject to fabric analysis. However, analysis of the hand-made wares from SCA15 indicated a local source for the calcareous, vesicular wares, equivalent to H4) and both the igneous tempered and sand tempered wares, equivalent to H2 igneous and H2 fine (Quinn 2013, 214–5).

Pottery from samples (see Table B6 for details)

A small group of 31 ceramic fragments were recovered from the samples. Of these 4 appeared to be fired clay scraps and two were not pottery leaving 25 sherds (19.7grams, EVES 0.05). These are listed and quantified separately to the excavated pottery since they comprise very small scraps which would artificially increase the sherd count and the reduce the average sherd weight. The majority were North Gaulish white ware (Tomber and Dore 1998 NOG WH3) with three indeterminate scraps of fine oxidised ware (Leary 2020, OAA), two scraps of OAB19 (Leary 2020) and two samian scraps. The NOG WH3 sherds where identifiable come from the Cam 113 beaker type found at Scotch Corner and dating there to the Tiberio–Claudian period. The oxidised wares OAA and OAB19 are of Neronian–early Flavian date range. The samian has been given a preliminary identification as South Gaulish samian with one scrap from a Dr29 bowl and a partial rim sherd from a Dr27 cup with rather flat-topped rim. Both are of 1st-century date, Dr29 bowls dating to c.AD45–85 and the flat-topped rim of the cup suggesting an early date of c.AD45–80.

Significance of the assemblage

Although a small group, this assemblage is readily compared with larger assemblages excavated at Scotch Corner and confirms the dating of shared features and the overall chronology of settlement in this area of Scotch Corner. Sherds from a girth beaker may represent structured deposition in gully 103, perhaps of ritual significance.

Recommendations

The assemblage is important because of its association with features in large areas excavated previously at Scotch Corner. Although the evidence duplicates that already found, a new wide-mouthed jar form was identified, a possible instance of structured deposition is suggested and a lack of mortarium and amphora sherds are noted. This additional information warrants the data being deposited with ADS.

Storage and curation

The pottery was stable. Care should be taken with the abraded oxidised wares because they tend to abrade further due to their eroded surfaces.

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Table B6: Archive pottery catalogue

Zone	Trench	Interpretative description	Context	Context date	Ware group	Fabric	Fabric certainty	No	G	Part	A	Part of vessel	Type series	Form description	Vessel	rimd	Rim%	Spotdate	Dectec	Motif	Position	Dectec	Motif	Position	Dectec	Motif	Position	Comment	ID
1	Western	Upper fill 26 NE-SW ditch	29	Claudio-Flavian	HM	H2 IGNEOUS		1	9.1	BDY	u	bodysherd	everted rim	everted rim	medium necked jar														22
1	Western	Upper fill 26 NE-SW ditch	29	Claudio-Flavian	TN	TN	very uncertain but sherd is from a dish or platter. Poor condition crackled all over.	1	16.3	BAS	m	simple base sherd	P	platter	platter			c.45–75?											23
1	Western	Lower fill 36 large ditch S of 33	37	Tiberio–Claudian	NOGWH	NOGWH3		1	2.6	BDY	m	bodysherd	KA1	butt beaker with bead rim, cordoned below rim and flat internal surface, Cam 113	beaker														8
1	Western	Secondary fill 39 gully S of 36	41	Tiberio–Claudian	NOGWH	NOGWH3		5	12.1	B+B	a	simple base sherd	KA1	butt beaker with bead rim, cordoned below rim and flat internal surface, Cam 113	beaker														9
1	Western	Fill of 52 stepped gully	53	Tiberio–Claudian	NOGWH	NOGWH3		1	1.3	BDY	v	bodysherd	KA1	butt beaker with bead rim, cordoned below rim and flat internal surface, Cam 113	beaker														12
1	Western	Fill of 52 stepped gully	53	Tiberio–Claudian	Silty ware oxidised	OAA7		12	5.6	SCR	v	scraps																	13
1	Southern	Lower dark grey trackway deposit	67	PRIA-Roman	HM	H4		2	8.4	BDY	m	bodysherd			medium necked jar														20

Zone	Trench	Interpretative description	Context	Context date	Ware group	Fabric	Fabric certainty	No	G	Part	A	Part of vessel	Type series	Form description	Vessel	rimd	Rim %	Spot date	Dectec	Motif	Position	Dectec	Motif	Dectec	Motif	Position	Comment	ID
1	Southern	Fill of 76 NNW-SSE ditch	77	PRIA-Roman	HM	H2 FINE		1	4.3	BDY	m	bodysherd																21
1	Southern	Buried soil overlying 76, 78, 81 NNW-SSE ditches	85	Late Neronian–early Flavian	Fine Oxidised ware	OAA 15		1	13.3	BAS	a	simple base sherd	footring	footring														15
1	Southern	Fill of 92 pit	93	Late Neronian–early Flavian	OAB 19	OAB 19		1	0.5	SCR	v	scrap																11
1	Southern	Fill of 92 pit	93	Tiberio–Claudian	NOG WH	NOG WH2		4	33.6	BDY	m	bodysherd	F	flagon	flagon													10
1	Southern	Primary fill 103 Cut of large curvilinear gully	104	Tiberio–Claudian	HM	H4		18	228.5	BDY	m	bodysherd			medium necked jar													19
1	Southern	Primary fill 103 Cut of large curvilinear gully	104	Tiberio–Claudian	TR	OAA 12/TR3		6	74.7	R+B	u	rim and bodysherd	KA6	Girth beaker as Cam 82–4, Tiberian to post-Conquest	beaker	16	45	c.AD9–50										18
1	HDD Pit 1	Grey deposit in cut 114	115	Late Neronian–early Flavian	GRA	GRA 32C		1	5.8	BDY	u	bodysherd	closed vessel	closed vessel														16

Zone	Trench	Interpretative description	Context	Context date	Ware group	Fabric	Fabric certainty	No	G	Part	A	Part of vessel	Type series	Form description	Vessel	rim d	Rim %	Spot date	Dectec	Motif	Position	Dectec	Motif	Position	Dectec	Motif	Position	Comment	ID
1	HDD Pit 2	Occupation deposit	116	Late Neronian–early Flavian	Early gritty ware 1	GRB 78		1	10.2	BDY	m	bodysherd	JW	rilled jar group, usually with short everted rim	medium necked jar			Late Neronian–early Flavian	rilled		outside body								1
1	HDD Pit 2	Occupation deposit	116	Late Neronian–early Flavian	OAB 19	OAB 19		2	36.7	B+B	v	simple base sherd	plain	plain	medium necked jar			Late Neronian–early Flavian											2
1	HDD Pit 2	Occupation deposit	116	Late Neronian–early Flavian	GRA	GRA 30		2	7.8	BDY	a	bodysherd	JR	rusticated jar	medium necked jar			Late Neronian–early Flavian				rusticated	linear	outside body					6
1	HDD Pit 2	Occupation deposit	116	Late Neronian–early Flavian	OAB 19	OAB 19		2	41.1	BDY	v	bodysherd	closed vessel	closed vessel	medium necked jar			Late Neronian–early Flavian	groove	double	outside body							? Jar with shoulder grooves	3
1	HDD Pit 2	Occupation deposit	116	Late Neronian–early Flavian	OAB 19	OAB 19		1	10.4	BDY	a	bodysherd	closed vessel	closed vessel	beaker			Late Neronian–early Flavian	cordoned		outside body	groove	single	outside shoulder	groove		outsideshoulder	spaced sets of vertical double grooves on shoulder butt beaker	4

Zone	Trench	Interpretative description	Context	Context date	Ware group	Fabric	Fabric certainty	No	G	Part	A	Part of vessel	Type series	Form description	Vessel	rim d	Rim %	Spot date	Dectec	Motif	Position	Dectec	Motif	Position	Dectec	Motif	Position	Comment	ID
																												copy?	
1	HDD Pit 2	Occupation deposit	116	Late Neronian–early Flavian	OAB 19	OAB 19		3	119.6	RIM	v	rim sherd	everted rim	everted rim	wide-mouthed jar	24	30	Late Neronian–early Flavian											5
1	HDD Pit 2	Floor surface beneath (116)	119	Late Neronian–early Flavian	BSB group	GRB 69		2	17.7	BDY	a	bodysherd	closed vessel	closed vessel															7
1	Western	Upper fill of 132 gully terminus	134	Tiberio–Claudian	Silty ware oxidised	OAA 7		2	6.3	BDY	a	bodysherd																	14
1	Western	Cleaning layer over N end of trench	135	Late Neronian–early Flavian	FLA VER WH	FLA8		1	2.8	IRS	m	incomplete rim section	FR1A	ring-necked flagon with upright rim as Gillam 1970 no. 1	flagon	6	10												17

Table B7: Catalogue of pottery from samples

Zone	Trench	Interpretative description	Context	Sample pottery date	CCC Period	Ware group	Fabric type	No	G	Part	Abrasion	Form	Type series	Form description	.Vessel	rimd	Rim %	Decorative technique	Motif	Position
1	Southern	Fill of 22 large SW-NE ditch	23	Tiberio–Claudian	2	NOG WH	NOG WH3	1	0.9	scrap	moderate	BBKR1	KA1	butt beaker, Cam 113	beaker			rouletting		outside body
1	Southern	Fill of 24 small SW-NE ditch	25	Tiberio–Claudian	2	NOG WH	NOG WH3	1	1	scrap	moderate	BBKR1	KA1	butt beaker, Cam 113	beaker					
1	Western	Fill of 52 stepped gully	53	Tiberio–Claudian to early Flavian		OAA	OAA	3	1.3	scrap	very abraded									
1	Western	Fill of 52 stepped gully	53	Tiberio–Claudian to early Flavian	1–4	HM	H2	1	0.4	scrap	very abraded									
1	Western	Fill of 52 stepped gully	53			FC	fired clay?	4	1.4	crumbs										
1	Southern	Fill of 92 pit	93			NP	not pot	2	0.7											
1	Southern	Fill of 92 pit	93	Tiberio–Claudian		NOG WH	NOG WH3	2	5.1	very abraded	very abraded									
1	Southern	Fill of 92 pit	93	Late Neronian–early Flavian		OAB19	OAB19	2	1.3	very abraded	very abraded									
1	Southern	Fill of 92 pit	93	Tiberio–Claudian		NOG WH	NOG WH3	13	6.7	very abraded	very abraded									

Zone	Trench	Interpretative description	Context	Sample pottery date	CCC Period	Ware group	Fabric type	No	G	Part	Abrasion	Form	Type series	Form description	.Vessel	rimd	Rim %	Decorative technique	Motif	Position
1	HDD Pit 2	Occupation deposit	116	c.AD45–85		SAM		1	1.2	body	very abraded	Dr29	Dr29	Dr29						
1	HDD Pit 2	Occupation deposit	116	c.AD45–80		SAM		1	1.8	rim	very abraded	Dr27	Dr27	Dr27	cup	11	5			

APPENDIX C

MEDIEVAL POTTERY

Charlotte Britton

INTRODUCTION

Three sherds (14.1g) of medieval pottery were recovered from the 2019–20 watching brief carried out at Scotch Corner, North Yorkshire (NZ 21255 05441).

METHOD

This report presents the results of the assessment of that material, which was examined in accordance with Barclay *et al.* (2016). All the material recovered was assessed by eye on 17th February 2020. The material was quantified by count and weight; and ware and date were identified.

OUTLINE OF THE ASSEMBLAGE

The assemblage dated to the medieval period (12th–14th century) and was classified as domestic ware. The three sherds represent a single vessel and were in a very good condition. The pottery was British in origin and was probably produced within the local region. The ware identified was a sandy gritty ware typical of the period and took the form of an unidentifiable hollow ware vessel.

PROVENANCE OF OBJECTS

All the material recovered was from secondary ditch fill **44**, and so was likely recovered from its primary deposition context. The research potential of the material was therefore quite high.

DISCUSSION

The ware and form present were probably utilitarian in nature and were associated with food storage and preparation. The pottery was typical of the region and consistent with what is understood of the ceramic sequence in the general area, at the time. Although limited, the assemblage recovered did indicate that there was domestic human occupation within the area, between the 12th–14th centuries. The sherds were likely recovered from their primary deposition ditch fill, **44**, which potentially constituted backfill, used to close a ditch employed as a field boundary. This backfill was therefore probably used to redefine field boundaries (see 6.17–6.18. The presence of the medieval pottery could therefore help to date this activity, to between the 12th–14th centuries. The period between Roman and post-medieval occupation at Scotch Corner has previously been considered to be agricultural in nature, and the small medieval assemblage would certainly suggest that activity in the area was minimal during this time, although may also simply be due to lack of recovery (Fell 2020, 4–5). The assemblage could therefore tell us little beyond type of vessel that was being used around the site at Scotch Corner during the medieval period, and that it was probably made within the local region.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The medieval pottery recovered dated from 12th–14th century and was in a very good condition. As the material was recovered from a stratified context, it had a high potential to inform us about the people inhabiting the site at Scotch Corner. However, as the material was typical of the area, its significance to ceramic studies beyond this site is very low. No further work is therefore required, and the assemblage is recommended for discard.

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APPENDIX D

CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL

Chrystal Antink

INTRODUCTION

One fragment of post-medieval ceramic building material (CBM) was recovered.

METHOD

The CBM was examined following the Minimum Standards for Recovery, Curation, Analysis, and Publication for Ceramic Building Material (Archaeological Ceramic Building Materials Group, 2002). Fragments were recorded in a Microsoft Access database following McComish (2012, 122) by count, weight, form, and surviving complete dimensions. Any unusual firing characteristics, stamps, and external effects were noted. The fabric was not recorded.

OUTLINE OF THE ASSEMBLAGE

One fragment of post-medieval pantile was recovered from the excavation, weighing 1.7g.

PROVENANCE OF OBJECTS

The CBM was retrieved from context **44**, a secondary fill of a ditch from which three fragments of medieval pottery were also collected (Appendix C).

DISCUSSION

As the material is post-medieval and only a single fragment, it does not add to the focus of archaeological development of the site. It was likely redeposited during manuring of the field, along with post-medieval detritus seen in the topsoil during the archaeological monitoring works and demonstrates continued use of the field for agriculture into the modern era.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The material may be discarded.

REFERENCES

Archaeological Ceramic Building Materials Group, (2002) *Minimum Standards for Recovery, Curation, Analysis, and Publication for Ceramic Building Material* (Draft Minimum Standards, 2002).

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APPENDIX E

FIRED CLAY AND STONE

Julie Shoemark

INTRODUCTION

This report discusses five objects recovered during the course of an archaeological watching brief monitoring the undergrounding of an electrical cable in the vicinity of the Scotch Corner roundabout and the A6108 in North Yorkshire.

Two of the objects from fill **41** of gully **39** were found upon examination to be natural limestone fragments with no signs of human working and are not considered further.

METHOD

The finds were assessed visually on the 1st of April 2020. The assemblage was quantified by count and weight and any distinctive features such as burning, or vitrification were noted where present. The assemblage was then considered in terms of its stratigraphic relationships. This report should be read in conjunction with the accompanying spreadsheet.

OUTLINE OF THE ASSEMBLAGE

The assemblage consisted of three fragments of fired clay. Two fragments, one from context **85** and one from context **44**, were oxidised red-orange, with the fragment from **85** exhibiting a burnt or reduced black patch on one side. Both fragments exhibited traces of iron corrosion product which may indicate that they had been used in ferrous metalworking. A third fragment of highly fired clay, black in colour was recovered from context **87**. The fragment had no diagnostic features. All three fragments are heavily abraded.

PROVENANCE OF OBJECTS

Two of the fragments of fired clay come from the fills of cut features. Context **44** is the fill of ditch **42**, and context **87** is the fill of gully **86**. Context **85** is a buried soil layer.

DISCUSSION

The fired clay assemblage is small and scattered across multiple contexts with few accompanying dateable artefacts. Outside stratified contexts fired clay is difficult to date because it rarely displays temporally diagnostic features. Fill **44** of ditch **42** also produced medieval pottery (Appendix C) and a fragment of modern pantile (Appendix D). The fired clay from this context may be contemporaneous with the medieval pottery or it may be residual and pre-date both. Buried soil layer **85** also produced a scrap of late Neronian – early Flavian pottery (Appendix B), however, both artefacts may be residual. Fill **87** of gully **86** did not produce any other recorded artefacts and it is therefore not possible to posit a date for the fired clay from this context.

The two fragments that retain traces of iron corrosion may be indicative of ferrous metalworking processes being undertaken at Scotch Corner, however, it is not possible to state at what period these were carried out, or the nature of the processes. The fragment of highly fired clay from fill

87 of gully 86 exhibits no diagnostic features and may be as a result of domestic or industrial practices.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The size and condition of the assemblage is such that it can provide no further information regarding the nature of activity at Scotch Corner or contribute to an understanding of the wider area. It is therefore recommended that the entire assemblage be discarded.

APPENDIX F

ANIMAL BONE

Nathan Sleaford

INTRODUCTION

A total of 60.3g of animal bone was recovered from archaeological features investigated during a watching brief at Scotch Corner. Material collected by hand during excavation – comprising five fragments – accounted for much of the total weight (50.1g), with the remaining weight made up by indeterminate mammal bone and teeth fragments recovered during environmental sample processing.

METHOD

The data were entered into a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet, in context order. Identification was undertaken using published catalogues (i.e. Schmid 1972, Cohen and Serjeantson 1996, Hillson 2003) and the author's own reference material. All the animal remains were counted and weighed, and where possible identified to taxon, element, and side. To give an indication of fragmentation, specimens were recorded using the 'diagnostic zone' approach (Dobney and Reilly 1988 for mammals, Cohen and Serjeantson 1996 for birds) with each zone being noted as absent, less than 50% present, or greater than 50% present in each specimen. Where a lack of diagnostic features precluded identification to taxa or element, specimens were assigned to more generalised categories where possible e.g. micro-/small-/medium-/large-sized animals, long bone or crania fragments. The zonation system was also used to record the location, frequency and nature of butchery marks, pathology, and carnivore and rodent activity. Ageing of the equid upper molar was assessed using the tooth eruption and wear values described by Levine (1982). Bone measurements were not taken as there were no suitable specimens in the assemblage. The condition of each specimen was graded with reference to Lyman's wear stages (1994) and graded 0–5 accordingly, with 0 being best preserved and grade 5 representing bone that had deteriorated to the point of being unrecognisable.

No table providing a breakdown of taxa by NISP has been produced due to the limited nature of the assemblage; however, all the relevant data is available in the site archive.

The material was recorded in April 2020.

OUTLINE OF THE ASSEMBLAGE

This is a small assemblage, with only a single specimen – a loose upper second molar of a horse – identified definitively to taxon and element. Cattle and ovicaprines have been tentatively identified by the presence of fragments of teeth, but the evidence these specimens can offer is negligible. Three long bone fragments of a medium-sized mammal were recorded in the hand-collected material, and a fragment of small mammal rib was present in the sorted sample material. The rest of the assemblage consists of indeterminate fragments recovered from environmental samples, which also included a quantity of burnt bone.

PROVENANCE OF MATERIAL

The hand collected animal bone assemblage comprises bones recovered from three contexts. A fragment of tooth, possibly from cattle, was recovered from **104**, the fill of gully **103**. The

medium-sized long bone fragments were recovered from floor surface **119** below occupation deposit **116**. The equid tooth was found in context **13**, the secondary fill of ditch **11**.

Bone from sorted environmental samples was recovered from a wider range of contexts. Fragments of indeterminate bone and teeth were recovered from ditch fills **25** and **44**, and possible ovicaprine tooth fragments were found in ditch fill **27**.

Burnt bone fragments were also recovered from sorted samples and were recorded in four contexts. Ditch fill **28** produced 2.4g of burnt bone, and the small mammal rib. Small quantities of burnt bone were found in gully fill **53** and dump **136**. Occupation layer **116** produced the largest quantity of sorted animal bone (5g), the majority of which (3g) was also burnt.

DISCUSSION

The assemblage is small and extremely fragmentary and offers little for interpretation beyond the presence of certain taxa (horses, and likely ovicaprines and cattle). The equid upper molar, which exhibits a moderate degree of wear, suggests the animal would have been at least three years of age when it died (after Levine 1982), but as an isolated find detached from the mandible it cannot provide more detailed aging information. The burnt bone, particularly the bone found in the occupation layer, probably represents hearth waste, and the entire assemblage as a whole may be considered domestic refuse. Trampling and reworking of deposits might then account for some of the fragmentation observed in the assemblage.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Overall, the assemblage is of limited potential and significance. There is no need to retain the material and it can be discarded.

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APPENDIX G

ARCHAEOBOTANICAL REMAINS

Robin Putland

INTRODUCTION

The charred plant assemblage in this report is typical of the Pre-Roman Iron Age and Roman period in northern Britain, including the predominance of hordeum (barley) and the presence of both cf secale cereale (rye) and *triticum* sp (wheat). There is possible direct and indirect evidence for agriculture and domestic secondary deposition as well as cultivation at, or in the vicinity of, the site. The high frequency of charcoal recovered from the samples has the potential for future identification and analysis of wood exploitation at the site, however this was not addressed at this stage of reporting.

METHOD

The bulk environmental samples were processed at NAA with 0.5 mm retention meshes using the Siraf method of flotation (Williams 1973). The plant remains were identified to species by as far as possible by using Cappers *et al.* (2006), Jacomet (2006).

Charcoal fragments were weighed (see Table G) and stored for future analysis.

OUTLINE OF THE ASSEMBLAGE

The assemblage comprised charred wild seeds and cereals retrieved both from the flot (see Table G1) and the residue (see Table G2). The taxa present were: amaranthaceae (a family of flowering plants including fat hen), *triticum* sp (wheat), cf secale cereale (rye) and *hordeum* sp (barley) as well as a number of indeterminant cereals. Charcoal was frequent and abundant throughout the assemblage; likewise, charred plant remains were also recovered throughout the assemblage.

Charcoal was present throughout the assemblage and has preserved well.

Table G1: Species present and count from the flot – cpr = unidentifiable charred plant remains

Context	Part	Species present	Count
5	AA	sterile	
7	AA	sterile	
8	AA	sterile	
10	AA	*amaranthaceae*	2
12	AA	sterile	
15	AA	sterile	
23	AA	sterile	
25	AA	cpr	3
27	AA	sterile	
28	AA	cpr	6
28	AA	*amaranthaceae*	1
41	AA	charcoal	1
44	AA	sterile	

Context	Part	Species present	Count
46	AA	sterile	
53	AA	*triticum sp*	2
53	AA	cereal indet	3
54	AA	sterile	
61	AA	sterile	
91	AA	cpr	1
93	AA	cpr	1
95	AA	sterile	
99	AA	cereal indet	3
99	AA	cf *secale cereale*	1
116	AA	cpr	1
116	AB	*triticum* sp	1
116	AB	cpr	1
133	AA	sterile	
134	AA	sterile	
136	AA	sterile	

Table G2: Species present and count from the residue

Context	Parts	Species present	Count
23	AA	sterile	
25	AA	sterile	
25	AA	sterile	
28	AA	sterile	
37	AA	sterile	
41	AA	sterile	
44	AA	sterile	
46	AA	sterile	
53	AA	sterile	
54	AA	sterile	
91	AA	hordeum	17
91	AA	cereal indet	14
93	AA	sterile	
95	AA	sterile	
99	AA	hordeum	3
99	AA	cereal indet	1
133	AA	sterile	
134	AA	sterile	
136	AA	sterile	
116	AA	*triticum* sp	1

Table G3: Charcoal by weight

Context	Part	Weight (g)
23	AA	96.5
25	AA	43.1

Context	Part	Weight (g)
28	AA	243.9
37	AA	10.4
41	AA	8.0
44	AA	4.0
46	AA	14.1
53	AA	48.8
54	AA	5.2
91	AA	62.0
93	AA	26.4
95	AA	8.8
99	AA	45.6
116	AA	102.4
116	AB	39.9
133	AA	3.1
134	AA	16.9
136	AA	126.8

PROVENANCE OF OBJECTS

Two *amaranthceae* seeds were recovered from context **10** a compact sandy clay filling ditch **09**.

From the flot from context **25** a colluvial deposit of dark grey silty clay filling gully **24**, three charred plant remains were recovered, however they were not identifiable**.**

Likewise, from the flot from context **28** a mid-bluish grey silty clay, the secondary fill of ditch **26** six unidentified charred plant remains were also recovered as well as one *amaranthceae* seed.

Two grains belonging to the genus *triticum* that could not be identified to species as well as three further unidentifiable cereal grains were recovered from context **53** a dark greyish blue silty clay containing frequent charcoal inclusions and containing a softer fill – a possible beam slot although a distinct cut was not visible, fill of gully **52**.

Seventeen *hordeum,* 14 unidentified cereals, and one unidentifiable charred plant remain were recovered from context **91**, a loose greyish black, charcoal rich, silt deposit filling gully **90.**

The flot of context **93** a bluish grey deposit of clayey silt containing horizontal lenses of orange clay and charcoal indicating an extended period of accumulation, filling a large pit (**92**), contained one charred plant remain that could not be identified.

One grain that compares favourably to *secale cereale*, three grains of *hordeum*, and four identifiable cereal grains were recovered from context **99** a deposit of fine black silty material filling feature **98**.

Two grains belonging to the genus *triticum* that could not be identified to species and one unidentifiable plant remain were recovered from context **116** a black, charcoal-rich occupation deposit containing several sherds of Roman pottery.

DISCUSSION

While the frequency and counts of recovered charred plant remains were low the preservation was good, highlighting the potential for greater recovery in future investigations in the area. The predominance of *hordeum* (barley), and the presence of both cf *secale cereale* (rye) and *triticum* sp (wheat) is typical of the Roman period in northern Britain. The *amaranthceae* family occupy too broad of a habitat range to be useful for environmental reconstruction, and there is a strong likelihood that they may be either intrusive or modern and therefore it cannot be guaranteed that they are of archaeological significance, therefore no further conclusions can be drawn from their presence other than to highlight the potential for the preservation of other wild taxa.

Of particular note are the 17 *hordeum* grains recovered from context **91** the charcoal-rich fill of gully **90.** As they were recovered from a charcoal deposit they may represent some kind of domestic or agricultural deposition event in which they may have been included incidentally as part of the general background distribution of charred cereal grains in use or cultivated at or near the site.

The *secale cereal*e*, hordeum* and unidentifiable cereal grains recovered from the fill of feature **98** are also of interest as they may also represent a domestic or agricultural deposition event, as previously it is likely that the cereal remains entered the deposit incidentally along with the charcoal, however again this highlights the background presence of *hordeum* at the site as well as the possible use/cultivation of rye at or in the vicinity of the site.

As the *triticum* sp and charred plants remains from context **116** were recovered from within a charcoal-rich occupation deposit it is likely that these represent primary deposition. This may indicate more direct evidence for the use, processing or consumption of wheat at the site, however it is also possible that these remains could have been brought in incidentally by trampling or other cultural transformation processes from elsewhere in the vicinity. Again, this is a good indication that wheat was present at a background level at the site and for its use or cultivation at or near the site.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the environmental assemblage be retained due to the quantity of charcoal present as it will be viable for future identification and analysis.

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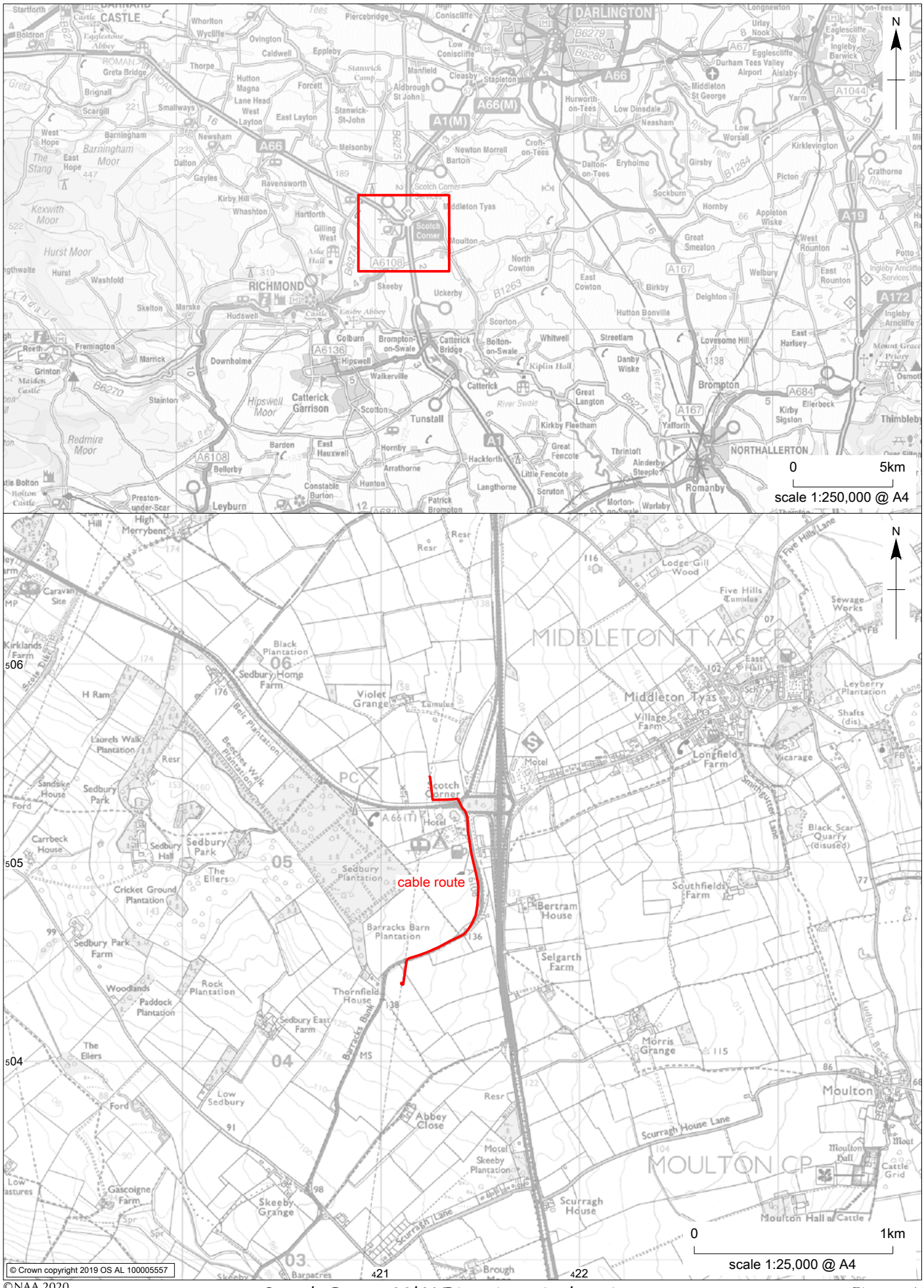
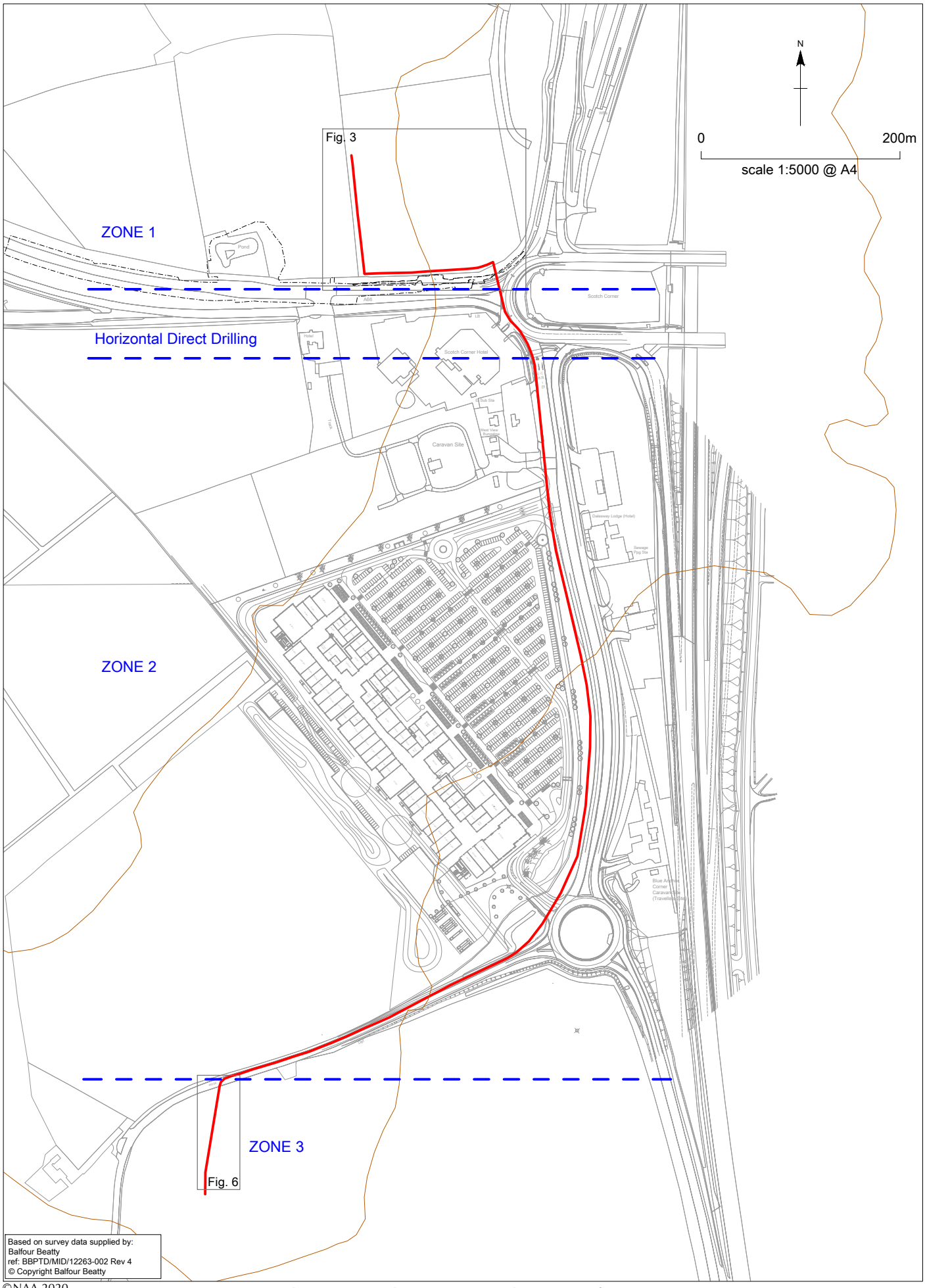


Scotch Corner 33kV Diversion: site location *Figure 1*



Scotch Corner 33kV Diversion: location of zones *Figure 2*

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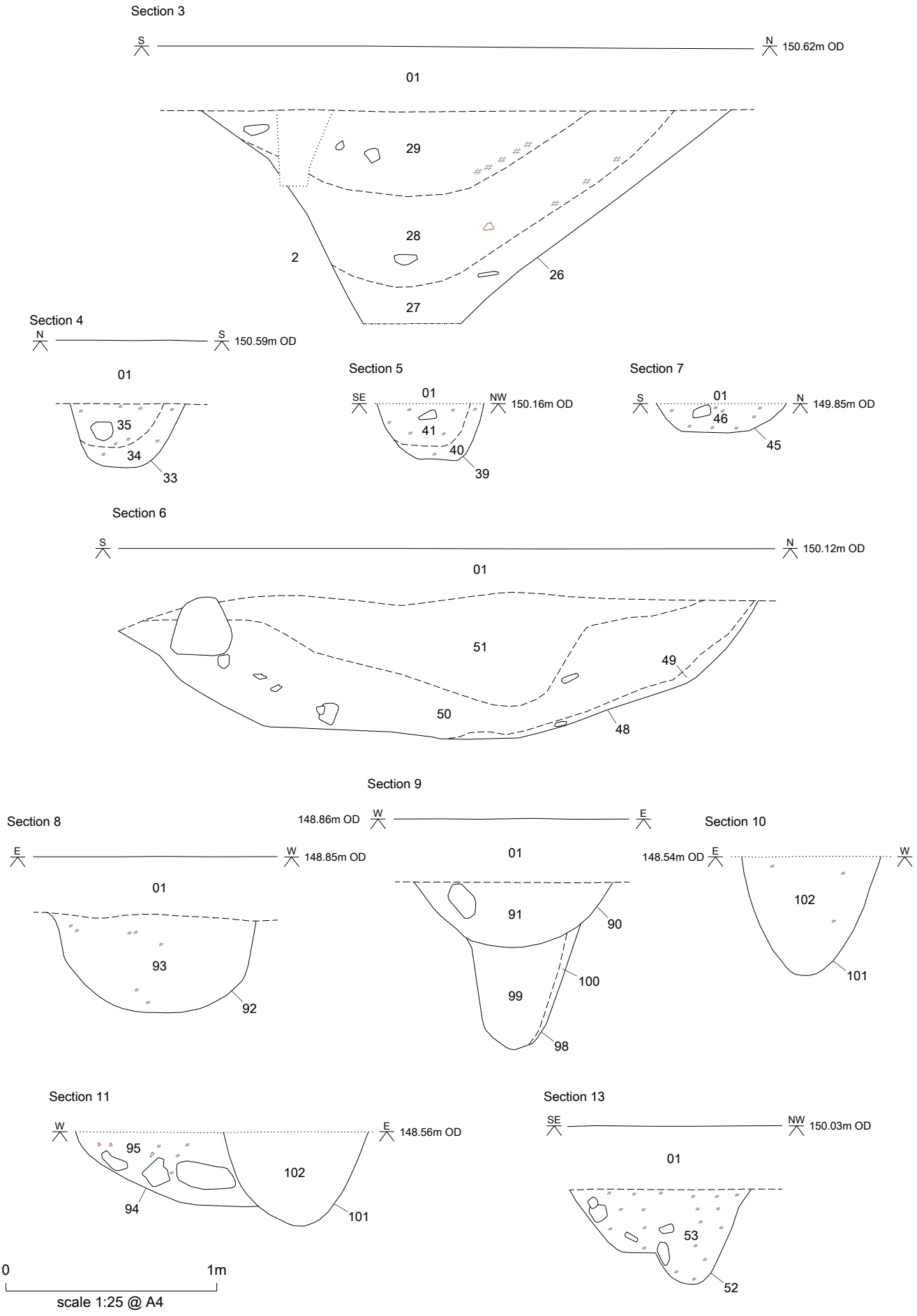
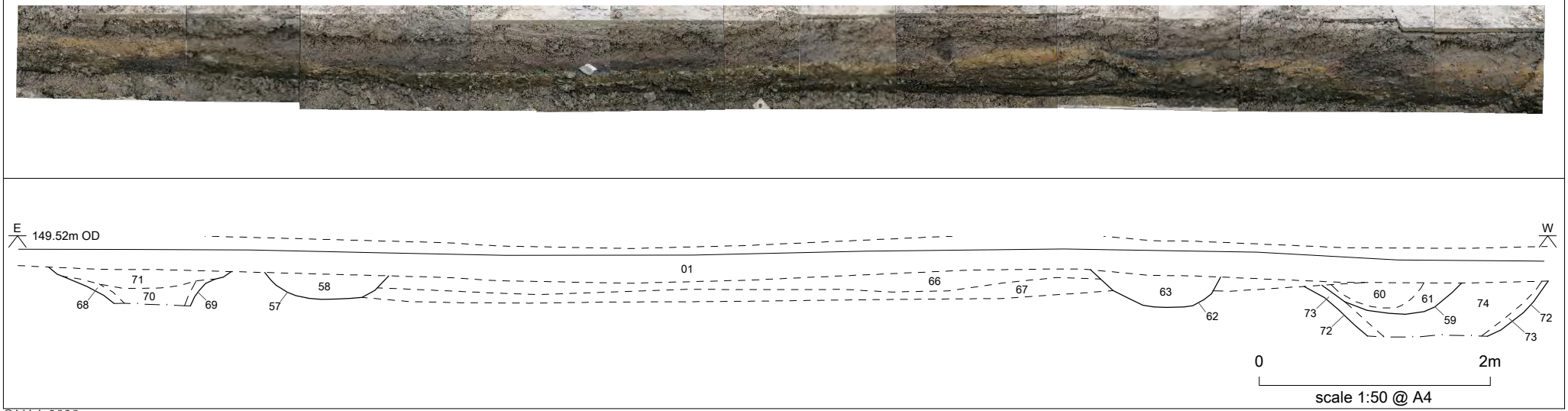
Scotch Corner 33kV Diversion: zone 1

Figure 3

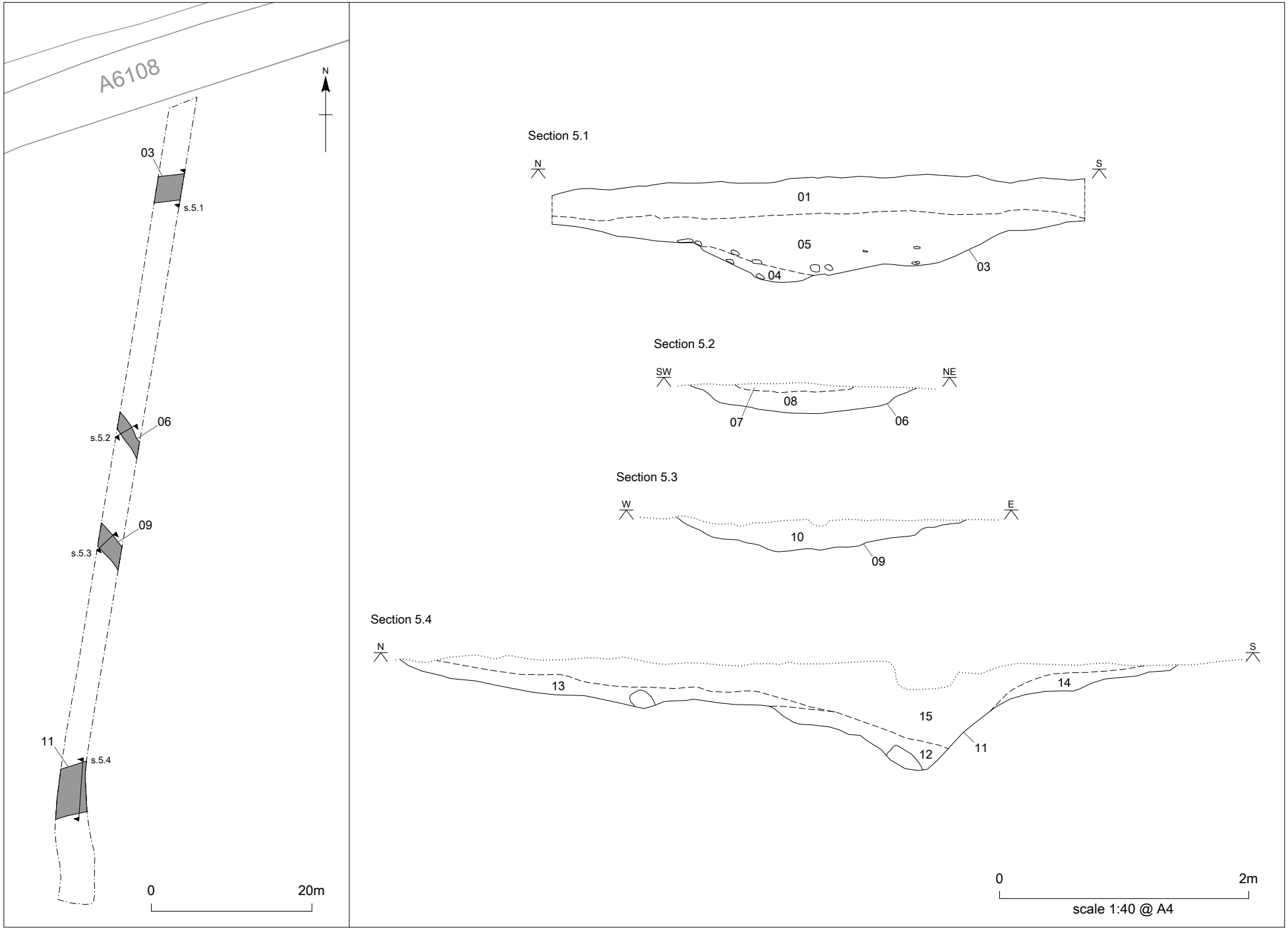


Scotch Corner 33kV Diversion: zone 1 sections *Figure 4*



Scotch Corner 33kV Diversion: north-facing section of trackway

Figure 5



Scotch Corner 33kV Diversion: zone 3, plan and sections

Figure 6