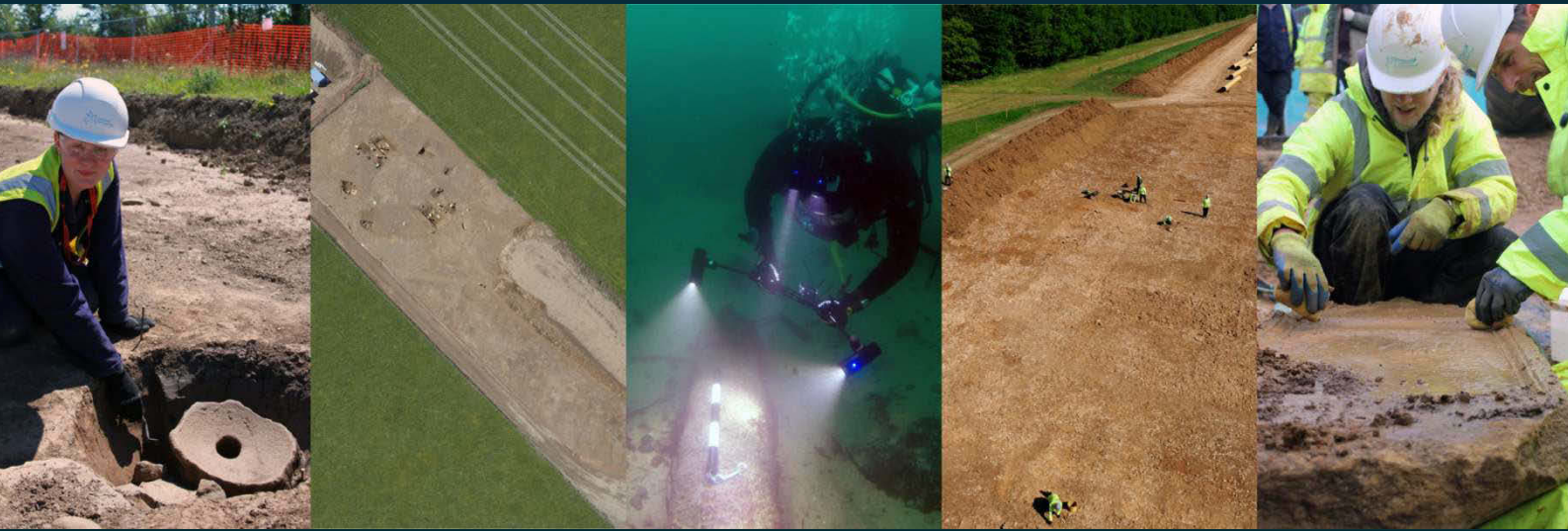


Land to the rear of 18 Russell Close Powick Worcestershire

Archaeological Excavation



for
Bovis Homes Ltd

CA Project: 9181
CA Report: 15857

December 2015



Land to the rear of 18 Russell Close
Powick
Worcestershire

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SUMMARY

Project Name:	Land to the rear of 18 Russell Close, Powick
Location:	Worcestershire (Worcestershire County Council)
NGR:	SO 8191 5093
Type:	Excavation
Date:	8 July to 22 August 2014
Planning Reference:	MHDC: APP/J1860/A/13/2200044
Location of Archive:	To be deposited with Worcestershire County Museum
Accession Number:	WSM 57107
Site Code:	LRRC 14

An archaeological excavation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology (CA) in July and August 2014 at land to the rear of 18 Russell Close, Powick, Worcestershire (centred at SO 81917 50938) at the request of Bovis Homes. The site covered about 0.25ha of the 2.8ha housing development area, lying at approximately 55m AOD on gently sloping land. The excavation targeted an area of Middle Iron Age activity identified in the preceding evaluation.

The excavation revealed a small, sub-rectangular enclosure of Middle Iron Age date. The first phase of enclosure was defined by a palisade trench, with a principal entrance to the south-east. There seems to have been an episode of palisade repair before it was replaced by a ditch, mostly cut to a shallower depth. There was also an outer enclosure ditch on two sides mirroring the course of the palisade. The interior was occupied by a scatter of small pits, postholes and gullies that probably represented structures, but it was not clear that this was a settlement and it may rather have been an enclosure for livestock.

Pottery was sparse and there were few other finds or economic and environmental indicators. A deposit of charcoal and cremated bone from a pit near the principal entrance represents an unusual record of Middle Iron Age cremation, although the pyre site appears to have lain elsewhere. A major proportion of the pottery came from two largely complete but fragmentary vessels, one from a ditch at the southern entrance, and the other from colluvial deposits outside the enclosure.



1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In July and August 2014 an archaeological excavation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology (CA) on land to the rear of 18 Russell Close, Powick, Worcestershire (centred on NGR SO 8197 5093; Fig. 1). The work was undertaken at the request of Bovis Homes in advance of housing development over the 2.8ha site.
- 1.2 Planning permission (reference MHDC: APP/J1860/A/13/2200044) for housing development was granted by Malvern Hills District Council conditional on a programme of archaeological work comprising an archaeological excavation targeted upon Iron Age features identified within the development area. The archaeological condition was recommended by Mike Glyde, Historic Environment Planning Officer at the Planning Advisory Section of Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service, who issued a Brief for an archaeological excavation (Glyde 2012). The excavation sought to identify and excavate remains identified in the preceding pre-determination evaluation of the site (CA 2012). An area of c. 0.25ha was ultimately subject to excavation, as described in this report.
- 1.3 The excavation was undertaken in accordance with a detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (2014) and approved by Mike Glyde. The fieldwork also followed *Standard and Guidance: Archaeological Excavation* (ClfA 2014) and the *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991). It was monitored by Mike Glyde, including site visits.

The site

- 1.4 The development site as a whole is approximately 2.8ha in extent and at the time of fieldwork comprised open fields. It is bordered to the north by the A449 Malvern Road, to the east by the Crown Inn public house, to the west by farmland and to the south by houses fronting Russell Close (Figs 2 & 3). The excavation area lay at approximately 55m OD on a hill spur that falls dramatically away to the south and west at the southern limits of the excavation area (Figs 2 & 4), with its eastern side bounded by a north/south-orientated dry valley (formerly a watercourse).
- 1.5 The underlying geology is mapped as Sidmouth Mudstone Formation of the Triassic Period (BGS 2014). The natural substrate, comprising red-brown clay with gravel and sand patches, was exposed across the excavated area.

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 The development site had no archaeological features recorded on the county's Historic Environment Record (HER) prior to a trial trench evaluation by CA, which discovered a ditch and a pit/ditch terminal containing Middle Iron Age pottery in the northern part of the site (CA 2012, Trench 2). Other trenches were largely blank or contained just modern features. Although the Iron Age features were restricted in extent and difficult to interpret, the lack of remains of this type in the locality suggested the site had significance as an example of a less well represented (and relatively invisible) Middle Iron Age occupation.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 Given the uncertain interpretation of the evaluation results, specific research objectives were not defined at the outset. Rather, the excavation was expected to develop lines of enquiry within the overall research frameworks for the area (Glyde 2012; Hurst 2002). The broad objectives of the archaeological mitigation, as outlined in the subsequent WSI (CA 2014), were to:

- record the nature of the main stratigraphic units encountered;
- assess the overall presence, survival and potential of structural and industrial remains;
- assess the overall presence, survival, condition, and potential of artefactual and ecofactual remains.

3.2 The specific aims of the work were to:

- record any evidence of past settlement or other land use, particularly further evidence for the plan form and character of the Iron Age activity identified in evaluation Trench 2;
- recover artefacts to date the evidence of past settlement, trade and land use identified;
- recover material from suspected prehistoric contexts suitable for AMS radiocarbon dates to help refine site chronology;

- sample and analyse environmental remains to create a better understanding of past land use and economy;
- examine any evidence for a change in settlement patterns across the Middle to Late Iron Age transition (CA 2014).

4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 The fieldwork methodology was set out in the WSI (CA 2014). The location of the excavation area covered 250m² upon the higher ground centred on evaluation Trench 2 (Fig. 2). It was set out on OS National Grid (NGR) co-ordinates using Leica SmartRover GPS and surveyed in accordance with CA Technical Manual 4: *Survey Manual*. The excavation area was scanned for live services by CA staff using CAT and Genny equipment in accordance with the CA *Safe System of Work for avoiding underground services*. Adjustments to the excavation area, to expose the extent of the enclosure identified, were made under the advice of Mike Glyde and the final survey area and the features it contained were recorded. Due to the constraints on the site it was not possible to extend the excavation further to the west to reveal the extent of the enclosure 'annexe'.
- 4.2 Fieldwork commenced with the removal of topsoil and subsoil from the excavation area by mechanical excavator with a toothless grading bucket, under archaeological supervision. The generated spoil was monitored to recover artefacts, and all stripped surfaces, features and spoil heaps were scanned with a metal detector to maximise the recovery of metal artefacts. Hand-cleaning of the stripped surface, to better define any identified archaeological features, was undertaken where necessary. The stripped area was left open for at least three weeks to allow time for subtle archaeological features to weather out. Machining ceased at first archaeological horizon or natural substrate.
- 4.3 Examination of features concentrated on recovering their plan and any structural sequences. Particular emphasis was placed upon retrieving a stratigraphic sequence and upon obtaining details of the phasing of the site. All funerary/ritual activity and domestic/industrial deposits were 100% excavated. All discrete features (postholes, pits) were sampled by hand excavation (50–100% sample, depending on quantity of material culture present). Enclosure ditches were sampled to a maximum of 50%. All other linear features (boundary ditches, pathways, etc.) were sampled to a maximum of 10%. Bulk horizontal deposits were 10% (by area) hand-excavated.

- 4.4 All archaeological features revealed were planned and recorded in accordance with Technical Manual 1 *Fieldwork Recording Manual* (CA 2013). Each context was recorded on a pro-forma context sheet by written and measured description; principal deposits were recorded by drawn plans (scale 1:20 or 1:50) or electronically using Leica 1200 series GPS or Total Station (TST) as appropriate, and drawn sections (scale 1:10 or 1:20 as appropriate). Detailed feature planning was undertaken using GPS/TST in accordance with Technical Manual 4 *Survey Manual* (CA 2012). Photographs (digital colour) were taken as appropriate. All finds and samples were bagged separately and related to the context record. All artefacts recovered were retained for processing and analysis in accordance with Technical Manual 3 *Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation* (CA 1995).
- 4.5 Human remains were excavated in accordance with the provisions of the Coroners Unit of the Ministry of Justice.

5. RESULTS

- 5.1 This section provides an overview of the excavation results; details of the contexts, finds, biological evidence, and radiocarbon dating are to be found in Appendices A–I.
- 5.2 Archaeological features included a Middle Iron Age palisade trench forming a sub-square enclosure with an associated annexe, an outer enclosure ditch, gullies, pits and postholes, and the remains of medieval/post-medieval furrows (Fig. 5). There were also some natural features such as probable tree-throw pits and colluvial soil overlying a dry valley to the east of the enclosure.
- 5.3 The features were assigned to periods based on dates from the recovered artefacts, on radiocarbon dates on cremated human bone, and on the spatial relationships and physical characteristics of undated features to those containing dated artefacts.

Period 1: Geology

Period 2: Middle Iron Age (400 BC–100 BC)

Period 3: Roman (AD 43 – AD 410)

Period 4: Medieval/post-medieval (c. AD 1066 – 1800)

5.4 Additionally, it has been possible to identify three distinct phases of the development of the inner enclosure by examining the stratigraphic relationships between the constituent features (Figs 5–6). These phases are labelled as follows:

- Phase 2.1: The construction of a square palisaded enclosure (comprising palisade trenches A, B, C and 2524).
- Phase 2.2: Repair of the palisade in the form of a number of postholes cut into the top of the palisade trench fills its northern and eastern sides.
- Phase 2.3: The replacement and remodelling of the palisaded enclosure with a shallower ditched enclosure.

Period 1: Geology

5.5 The natural geological substrate comprised orange-brown clay with frequent flecks of degraded mudstone and occasional pockets of gravel. Palaeochannel 2122 crossed the north-eastern corner of the excavation area on a broadly north-west/south-east alignment occupying the head of a dry valley (Fig. 5). It was cut by a number of Iron Age features, including the outer enclosure ditch (Ditch I), and was not investigated during the course of the excavation.

Period 2: Middle Iron Age (400 BC–100 BC)

5.6 Due to the limited dating evidence from the excavation it is not possible to closely link the development of the three principle elements of the enclosure. However, the spatially coherent pattern of the features makes it probable that all three elements form part of a single broadly contemporary enclosure most readily interpreted as a small farmstead, but perhaps one of a specialised nature.

5.7 These elements comprise:

- The inner enclosure palisade/ditch
- The pits, postholes, and curvilinear gullies in the centre of the enclosure
- The outer ditch, gullies and postholes



*Inner enclosure palisade/ditch***Phase 2.1**

- 5.8 Stratigraphically the earliest element of the inner complex was a sub-square palisaded enclosure (comprising palisade trenches A, B, C and 2524) (Fig. 5). This had rounded corners and internal dimensions of c. 33m north/south by c. 34m east/west. In section, the palisade trench typically had a nearly vertical inner side and a more moderately sloping outer side, with a flat or slightly concave base. It measured up to 0.8m in width and 0.7m in depth but was more typically 0.6m in width and 0.5m in depth (Fig. 7, sections AA–GG). In a number of excavated sections through the palisade trench a clear, vertically sided, column of darker fill was observed above its base (Figs 11 & 12). Although difficult to observe in plan, it is likely that this fill occupied a post-pipe, suggesting that the palisade was constructed by placing vertical posts side by side. A total of 41 sherds of Iron Age pottery were recovered from the fill of palisade trench A, including 35 sherds from three vessels from terminal 2495. Six sherds of Iron Age pottery were recovered from the fill of palisade trench B. Palisade trenches C and 2524 remained artefactually undated but were clearly of the same phase.
- 5.9 A number of gaps were observed in the circuit of the enclosure defined by the palisade trench. In the south-eastern corner of the enclosure two gaps, 5.6m and 8m long respectively, were identified either side of a further short segment of palisade trench (2524) lying between trenches A and B. Towards the centre of the southern arm of the enclosure was a 1.35m-long gap. A further gap, c. 7m long, lay on the western side of the enclosure. It would appear that these gaps represent deliberate entranceways rather than the effects of later truncation due to the considerable depth of the palisade trench and the presence of intentional terminals between trench segments.
- 5.10 West of the palisaded enclosure, palisade trench D appeared to form part of an annexe. The surviving stretches of this feature were shallower and narrower (up to 0.4m in width and 0.35m in depth) than those of the main enclosure (Fig. 7, Section GG). It remained artefactually undated but was clearly of similar design to the main enclosure, although perhaps was an addition. It is possible that a similar palisade abutted the main enclosure on the northern side, although this would have been removed by the later ditch (Fig. 6, Ditch K, cut 2323).

Phase 2.2

- 5.11 Evidence for decay and repair of the palisade was identified along its northern and eastern sides in the form of a number of postholes (2017, 2023, 2444, 2414, 2488 and 2550) cut into the top of the palisade trench fill (Figs 5; 7, section AA). These features measured between 0.24m and 0.5m in width and 0.05m and 0.18m in depth and contained single, undated fills. In view of their shallowness it seems probable that they were not intended as a complete replacement for the palisade, but for *ad hoc* support as needed.

Phase 2.3

- 5.12 In the final phase of the enclosure, the palisade was replaced by a ditch (comprising ditches E and F) excavated on a similar alignment, but cut to a slightly shallower depth than the palisade trench (Fig. 6). In addition, Ditch K formed the northern arm of the annexe and may have replaced a shallower palisade trench here. Ditch E had a maximum width of 0.97m and a maximum depth of 0.5m. It contained a single clay sand fill and had moderately sloping sides and a concave base (e.g. Fig. 7, section CC). Twenty-one sherds of Iron Age pottery were recovered from the fill of this feature. Ditch F had a maximum width of 1m and a maximum depth of 0.44m. It contained up to five fills and had a rounded 'V'-shaped profile (e.g. Fig. 7, section FF). A total of 32 sherds of Iron Age pottery were recovered from its primary fill. The palisade between the two entrances in the south-eastern corner of the enclosure (palisade trench 2524) was also recut by a short ditch segment, 2496, which contained 22 sherds of Iron Age pottery from at least four vessels, as well charcoal and burnt stone in the upper fill (Fig. 15).
- 5.13 At the same time (or possibly subsequently) the southern boundary of the inner enclosure appears to have been remodelled as Ditch G. This had a maximum width of 0.81m and a maximum depth of 0.33m. It contained up to two fills and had a variable but generally 'V'-shaped profile. This made this southern boundary straighter and moved the southern entrance of the enclosure c. 1.6m to the north. This entrance became more complex over time and appears to have been partly blocked by a short length of ditch, 2185/2198, at some stage. This ditch was subsequently replaced by two large postholes, 2193 and 2201, which may have been for posts to either side of a narrow gateway between ditches F and G. Both postholes measured over 0.5m in width and 0.4m in depth, had steeply sloping sides and flat bases. Pottery recovered from the fills of these features suggests an Iron Age rather than later date.

Pits, postholes, and other features within the inner enclosure

- 5.14 A number of pits and postholes were identified that were seemingly bounded by the inner enclosure. These features were varied in shape and size but were generally shallow (often less than 0.1m in depth) and contained similar dark homogenous fills (eg. pit 2305, Fig. 16). Small quantities of Iron Age pottery were recovered from the fills of pits 2293, 2295 and 2540 and postholes 2042, 2330 and 2492.
- 5.15 The remaining pits/postholes in this group produced no artefactual material. However, in view of the concentration of features inside the enclosure, it is likely that some if not all of the remaining undated features in this group were broadly contemporary with those artefactually dated to Period 2. It is likely that many of the identified pits/postholes in this group represent the remains of post-built structures. Probably due to the shallow nature of these features and the likelihood that later truncation had removed further similar features, no structures are clearly identifiable in plan. There is room for a roundhouse of about 11m in diameter in the centre of the enclosure. To the south, two broad shallow pits, 2293 and 2295, contained some burnt clay and charcoal (Fig. 9 sections JJ, LL; Fig. 14), but as there was no *in situ* burning evident, it is not certain that these were hearths or fire-pits.
- 5.16 Shallow curvilinear ditch/gully L was located towards the centre of the inner enclosure (Fig. 5). The feature had been severely truncated by later ploughing; however, it may represent part of a 'ring-groove' or drip-gully around the outside of a roundhouse or partly circular structure (perhaps forming an annexe to a central roundhouse). It is possible that some of the small pits and postholes (2261, 2347, 2343, 2298, 2308 and 2335) located in immediate proximity to this feature are contemporary and also form part of this postulated structure. However, this interpretation remains somewhat tenuous.

Outer enclosure ditches

- 5.17 The outer enclosure, comprising ditches H, I and J, was located approximately 6m outside the inner enclosure on its northern and eastern sides. It continued to the south-west, beyond the south-eastern corner of the inner enclosure, and outside of the stripped area (Figs 5, 6).
- 5.18 Ditch H contained two sand-clay fills, had a maximum width of 0.65m and a maximum depth of 0.46m and had a broadly 'U'-shaped profile. Ditch I contained up to five fills, had a maximum width of 2.02m, a maximum depth of 0.76m and had an

irregular but generally U-shaped profile (Fig. 8, section II). Pottery of Iron Age date was recovered from a number of excavated sections of ditch I. Ditch J had a maximum width of 0.6m and a maximum depth of 0.18m and had an irregular profile. Five sherds of Iron Age pottery were recovered from the fills of this feature. A narrow entrance, measuring c. 0.6m in width, was identified on the northern side of the enclosure, defined by a gap between ditches H and I. A more substantial entrance, c. 1.7m in width, was identified in the south-eastern corner of the enclosure, between the terminals of ditches I and J.

- 5.19 A c. 11.5m length of the eastern arm of enclosure ditch I had been re-cut. The re-cut was about 1.95m wide and was about 0.93m deep (Fig. 8, section HH). There was the suggestion of a possible palisade trench at the base, which may have belonged to an earlier phase, but this was not clearly established and was not evident elsewhere around the ditch circuit. No artefactual material was recovered from the fills of this feature and the reasons for this episode of re-cutting remain unclear.

Gullies, pits and postholes inside the outer enclosure

- 5.20 A number of pits/postholes and gullies were identified between the ditches of the inner and outer enclosures, mostly in the eastern part of the site.
- 5.21 The pits and postholes here varied in size and shape but were generally shallow (the majority measuring less than 0.15m in depth) and contained single homogenous fills. Due to their shallowness, to which truncation had contributed, it was not possible to determine if these features relate to post-built structures whose shallower elements have been lost. Several sherds of Iron Age pottery came from pit 2034 near the northern entrance and a single sherd was recovered from the fill of pit/posthole 2093. The remaining pits/postholes in this group produced no artefactual material. Despite a lack of dating evidence, these features are tentatively assigned to Period 2 based on their location, contained by the outer enclosure.
- 5.22 A group of short, narrow ditches/gullies (2447/2176, 2459/2457 and 2455/2452) were also identified between the inner and outer enclosures. The function of these features is unclear but they may represent agricultural features (possibly forming small pens/enclosures) or beam slots for possible structures. All remained artefactually undated, though ditch/gully 2447/2176 was stratigraphically earlier than the re-cut of ditch I.

Cremation deposit

- 5.23 Two charcoal-rich deposits, 2035 and 2036, containing fragments of cremated human bone were identified at the north-eastern terminal of ditch J (Fig. 10, section UU, Fig. 17). Deposit 2036 appeared to represent a final, deliberately dumped fill within the ditch terminal and it is likely to have been pyre debris or a cremation-related deposit (Appendix H). No evidence of *in situ* heating/burning was identified within ditch J; therefore it is likely that the material had been re-deposited. Above 2036, deposit 2035 was an area of subsoil which had subsequently had burnt bone and charcoal incorporated in to it through plough action or bioturbation, although there was relatively little material identifiable to species (Appendix G). Radiocarbon dating on cremated human bone from deposit 2036 has provided one date of 352–55 BC (95.4% probability) which may be refined to 211–86 BC (73.6%: SUERC-62336). A second bone sample from deposit 2036 provided a date of 196–42 BC (95.4%: SUERC-62367) (Appendix I). At face value, these would indicate overall dating of activity on the site to no later than the early 1st century BC.

Period 3: Roman

- 5.24 A single pit, 2257, is assigned to Period 3 based on the recovery of a single sherd of Roman pottery from its fill, 2258. It was located to the east of (and therefore outside) the outer Iron Age enclosure and had an irregular shape in both plan and profile. Another fragment of Roman pottery from posthole 2234 in the inner enclosure is considered likely to be intrusive. No further demonstrably contemporary features were identified during the course of the excavation and the general lack of any Roman material, such as pottery, brick or tile, suggests that the sherds are casual rubbish from manuring or other agricultural activity in the Roman period.

Period 4: Medieval to Modern cultivation

- 5.25 A series of broadly north/south-orientated furrows were identified running across the southern half of the stripped area at approximately 3 to 4m intervals; these are indicative of medieval/post-medieval agricultural activity (Figs 5, 6). It would appear that these features originally continued into the northern half of the stripped area but had been largely removed in this area by the effects of later ploughing. The furrows had the effect of obscuring likely Iron Age features and, although every effort was

made to identify them both on site and subsequently, it remains possible that some of the shallow features are the bases of furrows rather than minor Iron Age features.

6. THE FINDS

6.1 Finds recovered are listed in the table below. Details are to be found in Appendices B to E.

Type	Category	Count	Weight (g)
Pottery	Late prehistoric	559	3223
	Roman	2	3
	<i>Total</i>	<i>561</i>	<i>3226</i>
Worked flint		1	-
Worked/utilised stone	Quartzite polisher	1	-
Metalwork	Cu alloy coin (mod.)	1	-
	Fe ?knife tang (med.?)	1	-
	Fe other (mod.?)	3	-
CBM	Modern/superficial	11	224
Fired clay	Amorphous	14	18
	Briquetage (?)	2	3

6.2 The finds from this site are very limited in quantity and range. Material relating to the Iron Age occupation comprises almost exclusively pottery, not closely datable within the broad later Iron Age range.

7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

7.1 Biological evidence recovered is listed in the table below. Details are to be found in Appendices F to I.

Type	Category	Count
Animal bone	Fragments	88 (4 ident.)
Human bone	Cremated fragments	323.7g
Samples	Environmental	34
Samples	Radiocarbon (human bone)	2

7.2 Biological evidence was sparse and not well-preserved. There was some emmer/spelt wheat and weeds, as well as wood charcoal indicative of general domestic waste. Of greater significance is the cremated human bone and oak

charcoal, the bone providing two radiocarbon dates. Unburnt bone was very sparse and degraded due to acidic soil conditions.

8. DISCUSSION

- 8.1 The excavation uncovered subtle and unexpected remains of a Middle Iron Age enclosure, which in its first phase was defined by a palisade that was repaired and later was redefined by a ditch with an assumed (but not demonstrated) bank. The palisade enclosure was mirrored on its northern and eastern sides by an outer enclosure ditch, itself partially recut, which may have had an early phase of palisade. It is perhaps likely that the outer and inner enclosures were contemporary throughout the duration of settlement, although this was not possible to verify stratigraphically or by associated pottery. Ditches running to the west of the inner enclosure suggest the presence of an annexe here, although further excavations were restricted so this annexe remained not fully defined.
- 8.2 The interior of the enclosure contained a scatter of shallow gullies, pits and postholes concentrated towards its centre. There was no clear pattern of features, although curving gully L may have marked part of the wall of a structure positioned just north of centrally. There were also small pits or postholes and short sections of gully between the inner and outer enclosure ditches. Although these patterns of features were similarly unclear, it seems likely that they formed small agricultural or stock management features such as animal pens. A central roundhouse is also a possibility (with posthole 2259 perhaps as a central post), although this interpretation is speculative.
- 8.3 The early palisade (Phase 2.1) was defined by a narrow but relatively deep trench generally visible beneath the later recut. Individual post-pipes were not identifiable and it seems likely that the palisade was constructed of contiguous or nearly contiguous posts, probably inserted from the exterior up against a vertical inner edge. Based upon the estimate that stable free-standing posts need one-third of their length in the ground (Dixon 2002, 90–91), it can be suggested that the palisade was about 1.5m tall from the contemporary ground surface. The evidence for refurbishment of the palisade (Phase 2.2) includes postholes mostly lying outside the original circuit, perhaps also suggesting construction from that side. This interpretation of the construction implies that the gaps in the palisade circuit were

real ones. There were wide entrances on the south-eastern corner and western side, and a narrow entrance on the southern side, although any of these may have been closed with lighter or temporary fences. It is not possible to say whether the western 'entrance' served anything more than the annexe. If the outer enclosure ditch was contemporary with the inner one, it seems that the layout was designed to manage access to and from the south via the southern and south-eastern entrances, and to limit access on the other sides.

- 8.4 In Phase 2.3 a ditch replaced the earlier palisade, largely on the same circuit but to a shallower depth. However, on the south-east side the alignment was modified and the entrance made narrower with the replacement of the section of palisade with Ditch G. Two short sections of gully (2485 and 2483/2481) may further have narrowed the entrance to the east, while the southern entrance also appears to have been modified or elaborated, as represented by a series of pits or postholes. Among these, postholes 2201 and 2193 may have marked a narrow gateway about 1m wide. This may have been designed to exclude animals such as cattle, although it may have been suited to sheep as well as people.
- 8.5 The outer enclosure ditch (I) was generally more substantial than the inner one, although its size varied which does not suggest an overall unity of design. It was steep-sided in places and may have included an early phase with post-settings. It is possible that it replaced an earlier palisade for which negligible evidence has survived. It followed the course of the inner enclosure boundary but truncated several minor internal features, so in its final form it seems to have been relatively late, an observation supported by an apparent diversion around a group of features in the north-eastern corner.
- 8.6 The features internal to the enclosure do not form clear patterns that can be interpreted as structures. Curving gully L may have partly defined the location of a roundhouse c. 6m across, but the gully itself did not form the arc of a circle and it is possible that it formed or partly formed another structure such as a screen. It is therefore not clear that the enclosure contained a human habitation although there is room for a roundhouse to have existed in the central area. To the south a group of small pits/postholes and gullies may relate to other structures whose form is uncertain. They may have something in common with linear gullies 2452/2455 and 2459/2457 in the north-eastern corner of the outer enclosure, each 3–4m long which may have held timber beams. Short single or paired ditch slots are sometimes found

on Iron Age settlement sites, with suggestions that they may have been the more deeply founded elements of agricultural structures, or perhaps drying racks or planting trenches (e.g. Upex *et al.* 2010, 74).

- 8.7 There are also groups of two or three postholes to the west of the pits and slots, perhaps the sites of other agricultural features such as tethering posts. To the south were two large, shallow pits containing burnt clay and charcoal (2293 and 2295), the latter with small quantities of wheat and wood charcoal suggesting the processing of cereals nearby. Charcoal, together with emmer/spelt wheat and burnt stones, also came from ditch segment 2496 near the south-eastern entrance. This ditch segment also contained one of the only two sherds of pottery displaying decoration, although the significance of this is not clear. The lack of evidence of burning on the base or sides of these features makes it doubtful that they actually contained fires. Other internal features included relatively broad but shallow depressions, which may have been tree-root disturbances or created in some other way, for instance by confined animals.
- 8.8 There were a small number of unusual deposits that may be considered deliberate or 'special' placements. In the terminal (2177) of Ditch G by the southern entrance was recovered most of an Iron Age vessel (104 sherds, or 19% of the entire site assemblage by sherd count). It is possible that this was a deliberate placement of a complete vessel, or sherds of a vessel already broken. Similarly in a layer (2121) to the east of the enclosure were 124 sherds of another broken vessel (22% of the site assemblage). This may have been originally placed whole in a shallow pit but no feature edges were definable and the soil layer, overlying the palaeochannel and protected from later ploughing in a shallow depression, was just 100mm deep at most. Relatively large numbers of sherds (35) also came from the south-eastern terminal 2495 of palisade trench A in Period 2.1, and from ditch segment 2496 (22 sherds), on the opposite side of the south-eastern entrance, in Period 2.3, but these are fragments from several vessels and probably represent more fortuitous collections of rubbish, perhaps from nearby middens.
- 8.9 The top fills of ditch J terminal 2253 (fills 2035 and 2036), which occupied the southern arm of the south-eastern entrance to the outer enclosure, contained a spread of charcoal and cremated human bone. The bone, while confirmed as containing human remains, possibly of more than one individual, is too fragmentary to determine anything more about the individual or individuals represented.

Radiocarbon dates on two bone fragments were focused on calibrated ranges in the 1st or 2nd centuries BC, confirming their association with the Middle Iron Age occupation.

- 8.10 The deposit of bone also contained wood charcoal, where identifiable overwhelmingly oak, which is typical of pyre debris. Other remains included amorphous fragments of fired clay of uncertain derivation, and small pieces of what may be briquetage (Appendix E). The evidence shows that this deposit represents the remains of cremated individuals together with debris from the pyre. There is, however, no clear indication that this was the site of the pyre. It is perhaps more probable that pyre deposits were collected unsorted and put in the top of the ditch on the southern side of the enclosure entrance. The effects of subsequent erosion and ploughing have undoubtedly resulted in truncation and so it is not clear how much of the original deposit has been lost.
- 8.11 The cremation deposit appears to represent an example of Middle Iron Age mortuary ritual that is, so far, unique in the county. It is clearly distinct from the Late Iron Age rite of cremation found in south-east England (sometimes referred to as Aylesford-type burials) where the dead were disposed of in formal cemeteries, often accompanied by vessels and other offerings, and adjacent to recognisable pyre sites (Fitzpatrick 1997, 208–13; Pearce 1997).
- 8.12 Mortuary rites in the Middle Iron Age are most often characterised by disarticulated remains or sometimes complete burials in pits in and around settlements, or in boundary features, although there is considerable regional variation (Cunliffe 2005, 544–9). Middle Iron Age cremation burials are occasionally found. In the west of England, isolated examples come from Cotswold Community, and perhaps Horcott Pit, both in the upper Thames Valley (Powell *et al.* 2010, 82; Lamdin-Whymark *et al.* 2009, 107). In Leicestershire, cremated human bone came from outside the entrance to a roundhouse at Enderby (Meek *et al.* 2004, 13) and from the centre of a large four-post structure at Wanlip (Beamish 1998, 13–16). Middle Iron Age cremated bone, not certainly human, also came from an enclosure at Cawston, Warwickshire (Powell forthcoming). In common with deposits of uncremated bone from settlement sites elsewhere, these rites may be seen as incorporating the deceased into domestic life, reflecting complex beliefs relating to death, fertility and renewal. At Powick it would seem significant that the cremated remains were

deposited adjacent to the south-eastern entrance – both a boundary and a location that has wide resonance as a location of structured deposition at this time (e.g. Woodward and Hughes 2007). It also represented the final filling of this ditch and may have reflected a deliberate act of closure of the site as a whole.

- 8.13 In conclusion, it is difficult to determine whether the enclosure complex was a permanent farming settlement. The palisade would certainly have been an effective way of controlling livestock and a detectable concern with defining entrances may also have been primarily to do with managing animals. The features in the interior are not typical of Middle Iron Age settlements where penannular gullies are a defining feature. Examples from within the county have been reported from the extensive settlement at Beckford (Britnell 1974). They have also been recorded at Wychbold (Jones and Evans 2006) and Bredon (Upex et al. 2010) although in neither case are these gullies deep and more than average vertical truncation might have removed all evidence of roundhouses completely. At the large enclosed site at Blackstone in the north of the county, pits and postholes were common, but Iron Age buildings were difficult to define making the nature of the occupation uncertain (Hurst 2012, 36). This site also had evidence for a palisade construction in one of the phases of enclosure, but in respect of its size and defensive architecture it is very different to the Powick enclosure.
- 8.14 While none of the interior features at Powick can be interpreted very specifically, it is possible that the site contained less permanent structures primarily associated with tending livestock. This may have been on a temporary or seasonal basis, and perhaps done by certain members of the farming community, leaving a less easily interpretable signature of their presence than is found on other settlements. This clearly did not entail less attention to some aspects of the settlement, such as the construction of the palisade and certain deliberate deposits of pottery and human remains, and the site can be assumed to have had a degree of importance whatever its specific status.

Significance of the site

- 8.14 The findings at Russell Close, Powick, are a rare example of a Middle Iron Age site that is not a hillfort and also lies away from the river valleys of the region such as those in the Bredon and Kemerton area (Dinn and Evans 1990; Hurst 2002, 3-4; Wigley 2002, 1). The site lies on clay not conducive to cropmarks, and was relatively

invisible even following topsoil and subsoil removal. Features were shallow and the evidence therefore fragile, and associated material culture was sparse.

- 8.15 Palisaded enclosures of this date appear to be unusual and the range of internal features not typical of Iron Age farmsteads more widely. It is possible that the site had a specialist function, perhaps relating to livestock within a wider network of farming activity. The pottery profile is also not typical, perhaps reflecting storage more than other activities.
- 8.16 The discovery of cremated human remains is an aspect of the site that is rare nationally (Carr and Knüsel 1997), as well as regionally, where the shortage of any Iron Age human burials has been remarked upon (Hurst 2002, 4).
- 8.17 For these reasons the results of the excavations warrant a brief publication report in the county archaeological journal, *Transactions of the Worcestershire Archaeological Society*.

9. CA PROJECT TEAM

- 9.1 Fieldwork was undertaken by Peter (Buzz) Busby, Jon Pick, Alex Thomson, Hazel O'Neill, Franco Vartuca, Chris Morley, Sophie Wood, Paolo Clemente, Dane Wright, Cameron Hardie, Ian Towle, Jason White, Phoebe Smith and Alastair Sweeting. The report was written by Peter Busby and Steve Sheldon. The pottery, worked flint and metal finds were examined by E.R. McSloy, the faunal remains by Andy Clarke, the human remains by Sharon Clough and the plant microfossils and charcoal by Sarah Cobain, who also managed the programme of radiocarbon dating. The illustrations are by Rosanna Price. The archive is to be compiled and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The fieldwork was managed for CA by Simon Cox and the post-excavation work was managed by Andrew Mudd.

10. STORAGE AND CURATION

- 10.1 The archive is currently held at CA offices in Cirencester. Upon completion of the project, and with the agreement of the legal landowners, the site archive and artefactual collection will be deposited with Worcestershire County Museum, which has agreed in principle to accept the archive. A summary of information from this project, set out in Appendix J, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

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APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Context Number	Context Type	Fill of	Context Description	Feature Label	Spot Date
2001	layer		Topsoil		
2002	layer		Subsoil		
2003	layer		Natural		
2004	fill	2005	Fill of posthole		
2005	cut		Circular posthole		
2006	fill	2007	Fill of posthole		
2007	cut		Circular posthole		
2008	fill	2009	Fill of posthole		
2009	cut		Circular posthole		
2010	fill	2011	Fill of ditch	Enclosure Ditch I	IA
2011	cut		E/W aligned ditch	Enclosure Ditch I	
2012	fill	2013	Fill of posthole		
2013	cut		Circular posthole		
2014	fill	2015	Fill of ditch. Charcoal rich	Enclosure Ditch I	
2015	cut		Part of Enclosure I	Enclosure Ditch I	
2016	fill	2017	Fill of Posthole		
2017	cut		Sub-circular posthole.		
2018	fill	2019	Upper fill of palisade trench	Palisade Trench A	
2019	cut		E/W aligned palisade trench	Palisade Trench A	
2020	fill	2021	Fill of ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2021	cut		E/W aligned ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2022	fill	2023	Fill of posthole		
2023	cut		Sub-circular posthole		
2024	fill	2024	Fill of postpipe		
2025	cut		Postpipe		
2026	fill	2027	Upper fill of palisade trench	Palisade Trench A	
2027	cut		E/W aligned palisade trench	Palisade Trench A	
2028	fill	2019	Lower fill of palisade trench	Palisade Trench A	
2029	fill	2027	Lower fill of palisade trench	Palisade Trench A	
2030	fill	2032	Upper fill of ditch	Enclosure Ditch H	
2031	fill	2032	Lower fill of ditch	Enclosure Ditch H	
2032	cut		NE/SW aligned ditch	Enclosure Ditch H	
2033	fill	2034	Fill of pit		IA
2034	cut		Sub-oval pit		
2035	layer		Subsoil		
2036	fill	2253	Upper fill of ditch. Possible cremation	Enclosure Ditch J	IA
2037	cut		Oval Pit		
2038	fill	2037	Lower fill of pit		
2039	fill	2037	Upper fill of pit		
2040	cut		Circular posthole		
2041	fill	2040	Fill of posthole		
2042	cut		Oval posthole		
2043	fill	2042	Fill of posthole		IA
2044	cut		Circular posthole		
2045	fill	2044	Fill of posthole		
2046	cut		E/W aligned ditch	Enclosure Ditch F	
2047	fill	2046	Fill of ditch	Enclosure Ditch F	
2048	cut		Part of Enclosure F	Enclosure Ditch F	
2049	fill	2048	Fill of ditch	Enclosure Ditch F	
2050	cut		E/W aligned palisade trench	Palisade Trench D	
2051	fill	2050	Fill of palisade trench	Palisade Trench D	
2052	layer		Sondage		
2053	fill	2098	Upper fill of ditch	Enclosure Ditch F	
2054	fill	2098	Lower fill of ditch	Enclosure Ditch F	IA
2055	fill	2056	Fill of palisade trench		
2056	cut		SW corner of palisade trench		
2057	fill	2058	Fill of ditch	Enclosure Ditch F	
2058	cut		SW corner of ditch	Enclosure Ditch F	

Context Number	Context Type	Fill of	Context Description	Feature Label	Spot Date
2059	fill	2575	Upper fill of ditch	Enclosure Ditch F	IA
2060	fill	2575	Lower fill of ditch	Enclosure Ditch F	IA
2061	fill	2072	Upper fill of pit		IA
2062	fill	2072	Upper fill of pit		
2063	fill	2072	Upper fill of pit		
2064	fill	2072	Upper fill of pit		
2065	fill	2072	Fill of pit		IA
2066	fill	2072	Fill of pit		
2067	fill	2072	Fill of pit		
2068	fill	2072	Fill of pit		IA
2069	fill	2072	Lower fill of pit		IA
2070	fill	2072	Fill of pit - Primary		
2071	fill	2072	Fill of pit - Primary		IA
2072	cut		Large pit		
2073	fill	2079	Upper fill of ditch	Enclosure Ditch I	
2074	fill	2079	Fill of ditch	Enclosure Ditch I	
2075	fill	2079	Fill of ditch	Enclosure Ditch I	
2076	fill	2079	Fill of ditch	Enclosure Ditch I	
2077	fill	2079	Fill of ditch	Enclosure Ditch I	
2078	fill	2079	Fill of ditch - Primary	Enclosure Ditch I	
2079	cut		Part of Enclosure I	Enclosure Ditch I	
2080	fill	2081	Fill of posthole		
2081	cut		Sub-oval posthole		
2082	fill	2083	Fill of ditch	Enclosure Ditch I	
2083	cut		Part of Enclosure I. Eastern terminus	Enclosure Ditch I	
2084	fill	2085	Fill of ditch	Enclosure Ditch I	
2085	cut		Part of Enclosure I. Western terminus	Enclosure Ditch I	
2086	cut		N/S aligned ditch. Southern terminus	Enclosure Ditch E	
2087	fill	2086	Lower fill of ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2088	fill	2086	Upper fill of ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2089	fill	2090	Fill of posthole		
2090	cut		Oval posthole		
2091	fill	2093	Upper fill of posthole		IA
2092	fill	2093	Lower fill of posthole		
2093	cut		Oval posthole		
2094	fill	2095	Fill of posthole		
2095	cut		Circular posthole		
2096	fill	2097	Fill of ditch		
2097	cut		E/W aligned ditch		
2098	cut		Part of Enclosure F	Enclosure Ditch F	
2099	fill	2101	Upper fill of ditch	Enclosure Ditch F	
2100	fill	2101	Lower fill of ditch	Enclosure Ditch F	IA
2101	cut		Part of Enclosure F	Enclosure Ditch F	
2102	fill	2103	Fill of ditch	Enclosure Ditch F	
2103	cut		Part of Enclosure F	Enclosure Ditch F	
2104	fill	2105	Fill of posthole		
2105	cut		Oval posthole		
2106	fill	2107	Fill of posthole		
2107	cut		Circular posthole		
2108	fill	2109	Fill of short slot		
2109	cut		N/S short slot		
2110	fill	2111	Fill of slot	Enclosure Ditch I	
2111	cut		Part of Enclosure I	Enclosure Ditch I	
2112	fill	2113	Fill of ditch	Enclosure Ditch I	
2113	cut		Part of Enclosure I	Enclosure Ditch I	
2114	cut		Circular posthole		
2115	fill	2114	Fill of posthole		
2116	cut		Oval posthole		
2117	fill	2116	Postpipe fill of posthole		
2118	fill	2116	Packing fill of posthole		
2119	cut		Posthole		
2120	fill	2119	Fill of posthole		

Context Number	Context Type	Fill of	Context Description	Feature Label	Spot Date
2121	layer		Relic soil		
2122	fill		Fill of palaeochannel		
2123	fill	2124	Fill of posthole		
2124	cut		Circular posthole		
2125	fill	2127	Lower fill of posthole		
2126	fill	2127	Upper fill of posthole		
2127	cut		Circular posthole		
2128	cut		N/S aligned ditch or natural feature		
2129	fill	2128	Fill of ditch		
2130	cut		E/W aligned palisade trench. W terminus	Palisade Trench C	
2131	fill	2130	Lower fill of palisade trench	Palisade Trench C	
2132	fill	2130	Upper fill of palisade trench	Palisade Trench C	
2133	cut		Oval pit		
2134	fill	2133	Fill of pit		
2135	cut		Tree throw		
2136	fill	2135	Fill of tree throw		
2137	fill	2135	Fill of tree throw		
2138	cut		Part of Palisade Trench C	Palisade Trench C	
2139	fill	2138	Lower fill of palisade trench	Palisade Trench C	
2140	fill	2138	Upper fill of palisade trench	Palisade Trench C	
2141	cut		NW/SE aligned ditch		
2142	fill	2141	Fill of ditch		
2143	fill	2050	Upper fill of palisade trench	Palisade Trench D	
2144	cut		Sub-rectangular posthole		
2145	fill	2144	Fill of posthole		
2146	cut		Circular posthole		
2147	fill	2146	Upper fill of posthole		
2148	fill	2146	Lower fill of posthole		
2149	cut		Circular telegraph pole		
2150	fill	2149	Fill of telegraph pole		
2151	cut		Circular posthole		
2152	fill	2151	Postpipe fill of posthole		
2153	fill	2151	Packing fill of posthole		
2154	cut		Circular posthole		
2155	fill	2155	Fill of posthole		
2156	cut		Part of palisade Trench D	Palisade Trench D	
2157	fill	2156	Lower fill of palisade trench	Palisade Trench D	
2158	fill	2156	Upper fill of palisade trench	Palisade Trench D	
2159	cut		Circular posthole		
2160	cut		N/S furrow		
2161	fill	2159	Fill of posthole. Charcoal rich		
2162	cut		N/S furrow		
2163	fill	2162	Fill of furrow		
2164	cut		Oval posthole		
2165	fill	2164	Fill of posthole		
2166	fill	2167	Fill of ditch	Enclosure Ditch I	
2167	cut		Part of Enclosure I	Enclosure Ditch I	
2168	fill	2174	Upper fill of ditch	Enclosure Ditch I	
2169	fill	2174	Fill of ditch	Enclosure Ditch I	
2170	fill	2174	Fill of ditch	Enclosure Ditch I	
2171	fill	2174	Fill of ditch	Enclosure Ditch I	
2172	fill	2174	Fill of ditch	Enclosure Ditch I	
2173	fill	2174	Fill of ditch – Primary	Enclosure Ditch I	
2174	cut		Part of Enclosure I	Enclosure Ditch I	
2175	fill	2176	Fill of ditch		
2176	cut		E/W aligned ditch		
2177	cut		E/W aligned ditch. E terminus	Enclosure Ditch G	
2178	fill	2177	Lower fill of ditch	Enclosure Ditch G	
2179	fill	2177	Fill of ditch	Enclosure Ditch G	
2180	fill	2177	Upper fill of ditch	Enclosure Ditch G	
2181	fill	2182	Fill of posthole		
2182	cut		Sub-circular posthole		

Context Number	Context Type	Fill of	Context Description	Feature Label	Spot Date
2183	fill	2184	Fill of posthole		
2184	cut		Sub-circular posthole		
2185	cut		E/W aligned ditch. E terminus		
2186	fill	2185	Lower fill of ditch		
2187	fill	2185	Fill of ditch		
2188	fill	2185	Upper fill of ditch		
2189	fill	2190	Fill of furrow		
2190	cut		N/S aligned furrow		
2191	cut		N/S aligned furrow		
2192	fill	2191	Fill of furrow		
2193	cut		Posthole		
2194	fill	1293	Fill of posthole – Primary		
2195	fill	1293	Fill of posthole		
2196	fill	1293	Fill of posthole		
2197	fill	1293	Upper fill of posthole		
2198	cut		E/W aligned ditch. W terminus		
2199	fill	1298	Lower fill of ditch		
2200	fill	1298	Upper fill of ditch		
2201	Cut		Cut of posthole cutting blocking ditch		
2202	Deposit	2201	Primary fill of posthole		
2203	Deposit	2201	Middle fill of posthole		IA
2204	Deposit	2201	Upper fill of posthole		
2205	Deposit	2006	Single fill of furrow		
2206	Cut		Cut of N/S furrow.		
2207	Deposit	2208	Single fill of furrow.		
2208	Cut		Cut of N/S furrow.		
2209	Cut		Cut of N/S inner enclosure ditch.	Enclosure Ditch E	
2210	Deposit	2209	Fill of N/S inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2211	Deposit	2212	Fill of furrow		
2212	Cut		Cut of N/S furrow.		
2213	Deposit	2209	Fill of inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2214	Cut		Cut of circular posthole.		
2215	Deposit	2214	Fill of posthole		
2216	Cut		Cut of the SW terminus of enclosure	Enclosure Ditch F	
2217	Deposit	2216	Fill of the enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch F	
2218	Deposit	2216	Fill of the enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch F	
2219	Cut		Cut of western annex palisade trench.	Palisade Trench D	
2220	Deposit	2219	Fill of western annex palisade trench	Palisade Trench D	
2221	Deposit	2219	Fill of western annex palisade trench	Palisade Trench D	
2222	Deposit	2216	Fill of the enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch F	
2223	Deposit	2209	Fill of N/S inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2224	Deposit		Void number not used		
2225	Cut		Cut of circular posthole.		
2226	Deposit	2225	Single fill of posthole		
2227	Cut		Cut of circular posthole.		
2228	Deposit	2227	Primary fill of posthole		
2229	Deposit	2227	Upper fill of posthole		
2230	Cut		Cut of shallow circular posthole.		
2231	Deposit	2230	Single fill of posthole		
2232	Cut		Cut of shallow circular posthole.		
2233	Deposit	2232	Single fill of posthole		
2234	Cut		Cut of circular posthole.		
2235	Deposit	2234	Single fill of posthole.		RB
2236	Cut		Cut of circular posthole.		
2237	Deposit	2236	Single fill of posthole		
2238	Cut		Cut of treethrow.		
2239	Deposit	2238	Single fill of treethrow		
2240	Cut		Cut of shallow circular posthole.		
2241	Deposit	2240	Single fill of posthole		
2242	Cut		Cut of shallow circular posthole.		
2243	Deposit	2242	Single fill of posthole.		
2244	Cut		Cut of circular posthole.		

Context Number	Context Type	Fill of	Context Description	Feature Label	Spot Date
2245	Deposit	2244	Single fill of posthole		
2246	Deposit		Cut of circular posthole.		
2247	Deposit	2246	Single fill of posthole		
2248	Cut		Cut of circular posthole.		
2249	Deposit	2248	Single fill of posthole		
2250	Cut		Cut of sub-circular pit.		
2251	Deposit	2250	Primary fill of sub-circular pit		
2252	Deposit	2250	Upper fill of sub-circular pit		
2253	Cut		Cut of NE/SW outer enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch J	
2254	Deposit	2253	Primary fill of outer enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch J	IA
2255	Cut		Cut of treethrow.		
2256	Deposit	2255	Single fill of treethrow.		
2257	Deposit		Cut of E/W slot.		
2258	Deposit	2257	Single fill of E/W slot		RB
2259	Cut		Cut of circular posthole.		
2260	Deposit	2259	Single fill of posthole		
2261	Cut		Cut of shallow circular pit.		
2262	Deposit	2261	Single fill of pit		
2263	Cut		Cut of E/W ring ditch.		
2264	Deposit	2263	Single fill of E/W ring ditch		
2265	Cut		Cut of shallow circular posthole.		
2266	Deposit	2265	Single fill of posthole		
2267	Cut		Cut of circular posthole.		
2268	Deposit	2267	Single fill of posthole		
2269	Cut		Cut of treethrow.		
2270	Deposit	2269	Single fill of treethrow		
2271	Cut		Cut of sub-circular posthole.		
2272	Deposit	2271	Single fill of posthole.		
2273	Cut		Cut of sub-circular posthole.		
2274	Deposit	2273	Single fill of posthole		
2275	Cut		Cut of sub-circular posthole.		
2276	Deposit	2275	Single fill of posthole		
2277	Deposit		Cut of sub-circular posthole.		
2278	Deposit	2277	Single fill of posthole		
2279	Deposit		Cut of posthole.		
2280	Deposit	2279	Single fill of posthole		
2281	Cut		Cut of NW/SE outer enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch I	
2282	Deposit	2281	Single fill of outer enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch I	
2283	Cut		Cut of sub-circular posthole.		
2284	Deposit	2283	Lower fill of posthole		
2285	Deposit	2283	Upper fill of posthole		
2286	Cut		Cut of N/S slot.		
2287	Deposit	2286	Upper fill of slot		
2288	Deposit	2286	Lower fill of slot		
2289	Cut		Cut of sub-circular posthole.		
2290	Deposit		Single fill of posthole		
2291	Cut		Cut of N/S slot.		
2292	Deposit	2291	Single fill of slot		
2293	Cut		Cut of oval pit.		
2294	Deposit	2293	Single fill of pit		IA
2295	Cut		Cut of oval pit.		
2296	Deposit	2295	Upper fill of pit		IA
2297	Deposit	2298	Single fill of posthole		
2298	Cut		Cut of shallow circular posthole.		
2299	Cut		Cut of circular posthole.		
2300	Deposit	2299	Single fill of posthole		
2301	Cut		Cut of eastern termus of ditch.	Enclosure Ditch I	
2302	Deposit	2301	Single fill of termus of ring ditch	Enclosure Ditch I	
2303	Cut		Cut of circular posthole.		
2304	Deposit	2303	Single fill of posthole		
2305	Cut		Cut of oval pit.		
2306	Deposit	2305	Primary fill of pit		

Context Number	Context Type	Fill of	Context Description	Feature Label	Spot Date
2307	Deposit	2305	Upper fill of pit		
2308	Cut		Cut of oval posthole		
2309	Deposit	2308	Primary fill of posthole		
2310	Deposit		Upper fill of posthole		
2311	Deposit	2313	Upper fill of annex ditch	Annexe Ditch K	
2312	Deposit	2313	Lower fill of annex ditch	Annexe Ditch K	
2313	Cut		Cut of E/W annex ditch (northern).	Annexe Ditch K	
2314	Deposit	2316	Upper fill of inner enclosure ditch	Annexe Ditch K	
2315	Deposit	2316	Lower fill of inner enclosure ditch	Annexe Ditch K	
2316	Deposit		Cut of N/S inner enclosure ditch	Annexe Ditch K	
2317	Deposit	2319	Upper fill of inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2318	Deposit	2319	Lower fill of inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2319	Cut		Cut of N/S inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2320	Deposit	2321	Single fill of Palisade trench	Palisade Trench A	
2321	Cut		Cut of N/S Palisade trench	Palisade Trench A	
2322	Deposit	2322	Single fill of annex ditch	Annexe Ditch K	
2323	Cut		Cut of annex ditch (north).	Annexe Ditch K	
2324	Deposit	2325	Single fill of inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2325	Cut		Cut of E/W inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2326	Deposit	2327	Single fill of inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	IA
2327	Cut		Cut of E/W early inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2328	Deposit	2329	Single fill Palisade trench	Palisade Trench A	IA
2329	Cut		Cut of E/W Palisade trench (north).	Palisade Trench A	
2330	Cut		Cut of circular posthole.		
2331	Deposit	2330	Lower fill of posthole		
2332	Deposit	2330	Upper fill of posthole		IA
2333	Cut		Cut of circular posthole.		
2334	Deposit	2333	Single fill of posthole		
2335	Cut		Cut of circular posthole.		
2336	Deposit	2335	Single fill of posthole		
2337	Cut		Cut of circular posthole.		
2338	Deposit	2337	Single fill of posthole		
2339	Cut		Cut of ring ditch.		
2340	Deposit		Single fill of ring ditch	Gully L	
2341	Cut		Cut of eastern termus of ring ditch.	Gully L	
2342	Deposit	2341	Single fill of ring ditch		
2343	Cut		Cut of shallow circular posthole.		
2344	Deposit	2343	Single fill of posthole		
2345	Cut		Cut of Western termus of ring ditch.	Gully L	
2346	Deposit	2345	Single fill of ring ditch	Gully L	
2347	Cut		Cut of shallow circular posthole.		
2348	Deposit	2347	Single fill of posthole		
2349	Cut		Cut of ring ditch.	Gully L	
2350	Deposit	2349	Single fill of ring ditch	Gully L	
2351	Cut		Cut of ring ditch.		
2352	Deposit	2351	Single fill of ring ditch		
2353	Cut		Cut of eastern termus of ring ditch.		
2354	Deposit	2353	Cut of ring ditch		
2355	Deposit	2356	Primary fill of pit		IA
2356	Deposit	2357	Single fill of ditch		
2357	Cut		Cut of a NW/SE ditch.		
2358	Cut		Cut of a posthole.		
2359	Deposit	2358	Single fill of a posthole		
2360	Deposit		Single fill of outer enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch I	
2361	Cut		Cut of E/W outer enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch I	
2362	Deposit	2363	Single fill of inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2363	Cut		Cut of E/W inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2364	Deposit	2365	Single fill of earlier inner enclosure	Enclosure Ditch E	
2365	Cut		Cut of earlier E/W inner enclosure	Enclosure Ditch E	
2366	Deposit	2367	Single fill of inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2367	Cut		Cut of inner enclosure ditch (north).	Enclosure Ditch E	
2368	Deposit	2369	Single fill of inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	

Context Number	Context Type	Fill of	Context Description	Feature Label	Spot Date
2369	Cut		Cut of E/W inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2370	Deposit	2371	Single fill of inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2371	Cut		Cut of inner enclosure ditch (north).	Enclosure Ditch E	
2372	Deposit	2373	Single fill of early inner enclosure	Enclosure Ditch E	
2373	Cut		Cut of early inner enclosure ditch.	Enclosure Ditch E	
2374	Deposit	2376	Upper fill of inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2375	Deposit	2376	Lower fill of inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2376	Cut		Cut of latest inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2377	Deposit	2378	Single fill of inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2378	Cut		Cut of earlier inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2379	Deposit	2380	Single fill of palisade trench	Palisade Trench A	
2380	Deposit		Cut of palisade trench (south).	Palisade Trench C	
2381	Deposit	2382	Single fill of inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2382	Cut		Cut of E/W inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch F	
2383	Deposit	2384	Single fill of inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2384	Cut		Cut of E/W inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch F	
2385	Deposit	2386	Single fill of palisade trench	Palisade Trench A	
2386	Cut		Cut of E/W palisade trench	Palisade Trench A	
2387	Deposit	2388	Single fill of posthole		
2388	Cut		Cut of circular posthole.		
2389	Deposit	2407	Single fill of pit		
2390	Deposit	2391	Single fill of pit		
2391	Cut		Cut of sub-oval pit.		
2392	Deposit	2393	Single fill of palisade trench	Palisade Trench C	
2393	Cut		Cut of the E/W palisade trench,	Palisade Trench C	
2394	Deposit	2395	Single fill of final inner enclosure ditch	Palisade Trench C	
2395	Cut		Cut of E/W inner enclosure ditch	Palisade Trench C	
2396	Deposit	2397	Single fill of posthole		
2397	Cut		Cut of shallow sub-circular posthole.		
2398	Cut		Cut of the N/S palisade trench	Palisade Trench A	
2399	Deposit	2398	Lower fill of palisade trench	Palisade Trench C	
2400	Deposit	2398	Upper fill of palisade trench	Palisade Trench C	
2401	Cut		Cut of N/S inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2402	Deposit	2401	Single fill of inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2403	Cut		Cut of E/W ditch.		
2404	Deposit	2403	Single fill of ditch		
2405	Cut		Cut of E/W ditch.		
2406	Deposit	2405	Single fill of ditch		
2407	Cut		Cut of sub-oval pit.		
2408	Deposit		Sample of final inner enclosure ditch		
2409	Deposit	2410	Single fill of treethrow		
2410	Cut		Cut of treethrow		
2411	Deposit	2412	Single fill of inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	IA
2412	Cut		Cut of inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2413	Deposit	2414	Single fill of inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2414	Cut		Cut of circular posthole		
2415	Cut		Cut oval pit/ditch of inner enclosure.		
2416	Deposit	2415	Single fill of oval pit/ditch section		
2417	Cut		Cut of geological feature		
2418	Deposit	2417	Single fill of geology.		
2419	Deposit	2420	Single fill of posthole		
2420	Cut		Cut of shallow sub-oval posthole.		
2421	Deposit	2422	Single fill of inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2422	Cut		Cut of E/W inner enclosure ditch.	Enclosure Ditch E	
2423	Deposit	2424	Single fill of posthole		
2424	Cut		Cut of sub-circular posthole		
2425	Deposit		Not used		
2426	Deposit		Not used		
2427	Deposit		Not used		
2428	Deposit		Not used		
2429	Deposit		Not used		
2430	Deposit		Not used		

Context Number	Context Type	Fill of	Context Description	Feature Label	Spot Date
2431	Deposit		Not used		
2432	Deposit		Not used		
2433	Deposit		Not used		
2434	Deposit		Not used		
2435	Deposit		Cut of circular posthole.		
2436	Deposit	2435	Single fill of posthole		
2437	Deposit	2438	Single fill of inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2438	Cut		Cut of E/W inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2439	Deposit	2440	Single fill of posthole 2440.	Enclosure Ditch E	
2440	Cut		Cut of irregular posthole		
2441	Deposit	2442	Single fill of inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2442	Cut		Cut of E/W inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2443	Deposit	2444	Single fill of posthole		
2444	Cut		Cut of irregular posthole		
2445	Cut		Cut of NE/SW outer enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch I	
2446	Deposit	2445	Single fill of outer enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch I	
2447	Cut		Cut of E/W ditch		
2448	Deposit	2447	Single fill of E/W ditch		
2449	Cut		Cut of circular posthole		
2450	Deposit	2449	Stone post packing of posthole		
2451	Deposit	2452	Single fill of ditch		
2452	Cut		Cut of E/W ditch.		
2453	Deposit	2449	Post pipe of posthole		
2454	Deposit	2455	Single fill of ditch		
2455	Cut		Cut of E/W ditch.		
2456	Deposit	2457	Single fill of ditch		
2457	Cut		Cut of N/S ditch.		
2458	Deposit	2459	Single fill of ditch		
2459	Cut		Cut of N/S ditch.		
2460	Deposit		Single fill of treethrow		
2461	Cut		Cut of treethrow.		
2462	Cut		Cut of outer enclosure ditch.	Enclosure Ditch I	
2463	Deposit	2462	Primary fill of ditch		
2464	Deposit	2462	Middle fill of ditch		
2465	Deposit	2462	Upper fill of ditch		IA
2466	Deposit	2467	Single fill of shallow pit		
2467	Cut		Cut of shallow sub-circular pit.		
2468	Deposit	2469	Single fill of shallow short ditch		
2469	Cut		Cut of shallow short ditch.		
2470	Cut		Cut of oval posthole.		
2471	Deposit	2470	Single fill of posthole		
2472	Deposit	2473	Single fill of ditch		
2473	Cut		Cut of N/S inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2474	Deposit	2476	Upper fill of Palisade trench	Palisade Trench C	
2475	Deposit	2476	Lower fill of Palisade trench	Palisade Trench C	
2476	Cut		Cut of Palisade trench (east).	Palisade Trench C	
2477	Deposit	2479	Lower fill of Palisade trench	Palisade Trench C	
2478	Deposit	2479	Upper fill of Palisade trench	Palisade Trench C	
2479	Cut		Cut of Palisade trench (SE corner).	Palisade Trench C	
2480	Deposit	2479	Lower fill of Palisade trench	Palisade Trench C	
2481	Cut		Cut of a short length of E/W ditch		
2482	Deposit	2481	Single fill of ditch		
2483	Cut		Cut of a short length of E/W ditch		
2484	Deposit	2483	Single fill of ditch		
2485	Cut		Cut of shallow E/W ditch.		
2486	Deposit	2485	Single fill of ditch		
2487	Deposit	2488	Single fill of posthole		
2488	Cut		Cut of posthole		
2489	Deposit	2490	Single fill of inner enclosure ditch.	Enclosure Ditch E	
2490	Deposit		Cut of inner enclosure ditch (east).	Enclosure Ditch E	
2491	Deposit	2492	Single fill of posthole		IA
2492	Cut		Cut of circular posthole		

Context Number	Context Type	Fill of	Context Description	Feature Label	Spot Date
2493	Deposit	2495	Upper fill of palisade trench	Palisade Trench A	IA
2494	Deposit	2495	Lower fill of palisade trench	Palisade Trench A	
2495	Cut		Cut of palisade trench (eastern).	Palisade Trench A	
2496	Cut		Cut of pit or ditch segment		
2497	Deposit	2496	Lower fill of pit or ditch segment		IA
2498	Cut		Cut of inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2499	Deposit	2498	Single fill of final inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2500	Cut		Cut of outer enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch I	
2501	Deposit	2500	Single fill of the outer enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch I	
2502	Cut		Cut of a NE/SW outer enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch I	
2503	Deposit	2502	Single fill of outer enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch I	
2504	Deposit	2508	Upper fill of outer enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch I	IA
2505	Deposit	2508	Fill of outer enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch I	
2506	Deposit	2508	Fill of outer enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch I	IA
2507	Deposit	2508	Primary fill of outer enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch I	
2508	Cut		Cut of outer enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch I	
2509	Cut		Cut of inner N/S enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2510	Deposit	2509	Single fill of inner N/S enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2511	Cut		Cut of N/S palisade trench (west).	Palisade Trench A	
2512	Deposit	2512	Single fill of palisade trench	Palisade Trench A	
2513	Deposit	2529	Primary fill of inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2514	Deposit	2529	Upper fill of inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2515	Cut		Cut of N/S palisade trench (west).	Palisade Trench A	
2516	Deposit	2515	Single fill of palisade trench 2515.	Palisade Trench A	
2517	Deposit	2530	Primary fill of inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2518	Deposit	2530	Fill of inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2519	Cut		Cut of N/S palisade trench (west).	Palisade Trench A	
2520	Deposit		Single fill of palisade trench	Palisade Trench A	
2521	Deposit	2533	Lower fill of inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2522	Deposit	2533	Fill of inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2523	Deposit	2533	Upper fill of inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2524	Cut		Cut of short length of palisade trench	Palisade Trench A	IA
2525	Deposit	2524	Primary fill of palisade trench	Palisade Trench A	
2526	Deposit	2524	Upper fill of palisade trench	Palisade Trench A	
2527	Deposit	2496	Fill of pit or ditch segment		
2528	Deposit	2496	Upper fill of pit or ditch segment		
2529	Cut		Cut of N/S inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2530	Cut		Cut of N/S inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2531	Deposit	2530	Fill of inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2532	Deposit	2530	Upper fill of inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2533	Cut		Cut of N/S inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2534	Deposit	2535	Single fill of inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2535	Cut		Cut of N/S inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2536	Deposit	2495	Middle fill of palisade trench	Palisade Trench A	
2537	Deposit	2540	Upper fill of pit		
2538	Deposit	2540	Midle fill of pit		IA
2539	Deposit	2540	Lower fill of pit		
2540	Cut		Cut of large circular pit	Palisade Trench A	
2541	Deposit	2542	Single fill of posthole	Palisade Trench A	
2542	Cut		Cut of sub-circular posthole.		
2543	Deposit	2544	Single fill of pit		
2544	Cut		Cut of irregular pit.		
2545	Deposit	2546	Single fill of palisade trench	Palisade Trench B	IA
2546	Cut		Cut of E/W palisade trench (south).	Palisade Trench B	
2547	Deposit	2548	Single fill of inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch G	
2548	Cut		Cut of N/S inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2549	Deposit	2550	Single fill of posthole		
2550	Cut		Cut of circular posthole		
2551	Deposit	2553	Upper fill of inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2552	Deposit	2553	Lower fill of inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	
2553	Cut		Cut of inner enclosure ditch (south).	Enclosure Ditch E	
2554	Deposit	2555	Single fill of palisade trench 2555.	Palisade Trench B	IA

Context Number	Context Type	Fill of	Context Description	Feature Label	Spot Date
2555	Cut		Cut of palisade trench (south).	Palisade Trench B	
2556	Deposit	2557	Single fill of palisade trench 2557.	Palisade Trench B	
2557	Cut		Cut of palisade trench	Palisade Trench B	
2558	Deposit		Fill of final inner enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch E	IA
2559	Deposit	2562	Upper fill of outer enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch I	
2560	Deposit	2562	Middle fill of outer enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch I	IA
2561	Deposit	2562	Lower fill of outer enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch I	
2562	Cut		Cut of outer enclosure ditch (east).	Enclosure Ditch I	
2563	Deposit	2564	Single fill of outer enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch I	
2564	Cut		Poss. cut of outer enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch I	
2565	Deposit		Cut of the outer enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch I	
2566	Deposit	2565	Primary fill of the outer enclosure	Enclosure Ditch I	
2567	Deposit	2565	Fill of the outer enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch I	
2568	Deposit	2565	Upper fill of the outer enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch I	
2569	Cut		Cut of outer enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch I	
2570	Deposit	2569	Single fill of outer enclosure ditch	Enclosure Ditch I	
2571	Cut		Cut of N/S inner enclosure ditch.	Enclosure Ditch E	
2572	Deposit	2571	Single fill of N/S inner enclosure ditch.	Enclosure Ditch E	
2573	Cut		Cut of palisade trench.	Enclosure Ditch E	
2574	Deposit	2573	Single fill of palisade trench.	Enclosure Ditch E	
2575	Cut		Cut of N/S ditch given in post ex.		
2576	Deposit	2160	Fill of furrow		



APPENDIX B: LATE PREHISTORIC AND ROMAN POTTERY

By E.R. McSloy

Late Prehistoric

A total of 559 sherds, weighing 3223 g was recovered. The assemblage has been fully recorded; sorted by fabric within context and quantified according to sherd count, weight and rim EVEs. Vessel form/profile and rim morphology were recorded systematically; as have, sherd thickness and firing characteristics (colour). No evidence for use either as carbonised/other residues or use wear was recorded. Pottery fabrics are described and where applicable are matched to the Worcestershire pottery type series.

The assemblage is heavily fragmented and this is reflected in a low mean sherd weight of 5.8g. There are indications that much of the fragmentation has occurred at the time of, or following, deposition and results the fragility of the material most likely brought about by combination of low firing temperature and a hostile burial environment. This is best demonstrated by the two largest context groups: layer 2121 and ditch fill 2179 (section 2177 of enclosure ditch G) (of 124 and 104 sherds respectively), both of which comprise for the most part single, but well-fragmented vessels. Burial environment is also responsible for the chemical leaching of calcareous/argillaceous inclusions inferred for vesicular fabric VES1. It has not however resulted in damage to sherd surfaces, the preservation of which is good.

Assemblage composition

Fabrics

- IG1 Soft with sandy feel and irregular fracture. Dark grey/brown surfaces commonly with red-brown margins/core. Common medium or coarse (0.5–1.5mm) moderately sorted igneous/metamorphic rock inclusions. Peacock's Malvernian group A (Peacock 1968); Worcestershire fabric 3. *Total: 490 sh; 3693g; 0.43 EVEs.*
- IG2 Soft with smooth or slightly sandy feel and irregular fracture. Dark grey/brown throughout. Sparse medium fine (0.5–1mm) moderately sorted igneous/metamorphic rock inclusions. Finer variant Peacock's Malvernian group A (Peacock 1968); Worcestershire fabric 3. *Total: 30 sh; 46g; 0.05 EVEs.*
- QZ1 Soft with sandy feel and finely irregular fracture. Dark grey or dark grey brown throughout. Common to abundant, well-sorted, medium/fine rounded and sub-rounded quartz. *Total: 8 sh; 30g; 0.02 EVEs.*
- VES1 Soft with smooth feel and irregular fracture. Dark grey brown throughout. Common sub-angular voids (c. 0.5-1.5mm), some of which are red-edged. *Total: 31 sh; 54g; 0.10 EVEs.*

The large bulk of the assemblage comprises fabrics (IG1 and IG2) equivalent to Peacock's Group A (1968), the source for being the Malvern Hills located immediately southwest. Pottery manufacture utilising fabrics with rock temper sourced from the Malverns has its roots in the Middle Bronze Age (Timby 2004). By the Middle Iron Age c. 4th to 1st centuries BC the area is associated with a distinctive range of vessel forms/decoration examples of which can be traded well beyond the primary north Gloucestershire/Worcestershire area of use. The sources for the small quantities of pottery in vesicular (VES1) and quartz-tempered (QZ1) which make up the remainder of the group are uncertain, though there are no indications that these are not local.

Only eight rim sherds were recorded in the assemblage and most are too small to confidently determine vessel form. The majority comprise simple rounded or pulled rims (Fig. 18; nos. 3–4). Only vessel no. 2 exhibits any elaboration, this being one of two sherds from the group with decoration in the form of horizontal scoring. Large vessel no. 1 was probably of jar proportions and used for storage. This and the well-fragmented vessels from 2121 and 2179 are thick-walled (in the 15–20mm range).

Dating/discussion

The igneous/metamorphic rock-tempered fabrics which characterise the assemblage are representative of a long-lived tradition. Narrower dating within the Middle Iron Age (c. 4th to 1st centuries BC) is prompted by the few rim and decorated sherds present, and also by an absence of forms common to earlier traditions. 'Duck-stamped' and other distinctively-decorated vessels which characterise some Middle Iron Age assemblages from the region are absent, although vessel no. 2 would fall broadly within this style defined by Cunliffe as the Croft Ambrey–Bredon Hill style (Cunliffe 2005). Whether the absence of 'duck-stamped' or other impressed pottery relates to site type or varying chronology is unclear. A hint that the Powick group can be placed earlier in the suggested date range comes from the absence of Malvernian Palaeozoic limestone tempered ware (Peacock's Group B). Although proximity to source may also come into play, the increasing abundance across the Middle Iron Age has been noted at sites such as Beckford (Ford and Rees forthcoming).

The meagreness of the pottery assemblage from within an area seemingly defining a farmstead or similar habitation site (albeit truncated) is noteworthy. This together with the preponderance of larger storage vessels, the scarcity of smaller/decorated vessels more suited to preparation or consumption of food and an absence of cooking-related residues is perhaps an indication of specialist site use geared to food storage, or perhaps of seasonal occupation.

Illustration catalogue

- 1 Fabric IG1. Large storage vessel (jar). Upright neck with squared rim top. Pit 2072 (fill 2065).
- 2 Fabric IG1. ?jar with flattened/T-shaped rim. Grooves to rim top and below rim. Ditch 2496 (fill 2497).

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- 3 Fabric IG1. ?jar with pulled/sl. everted rim. Outer enclosure ditch J, cut 2253 (fill 2254).
 - 4 Fabric IG1. Large ?jar with short everted rim. Relict soil layer 2121.

Roman

Two small sherds weighing a total of 3g were recorded (Period 3 posthole fill 2235 and pit fill 2258). Both are unfeathered bodysherds in Severn Valley oxidised ware (Worcester fabric 12). As such this material is broadly dateable, across the Roman period.

References

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Table B1: pottery summary quantification

Fabric code	Description	Worcs. TF	Ct.	Wt.(g)	EVEs
IG1	Malverns rock-tempered (Peacock A)	3	490	3693	0.43
IG2	Malverns rock-tempered/sparse inclusions)Peacock A	3	30	46	0.05
QZ1	Quartz-tempered	-	8	30	0.02
VES1	Vesicular (leached limestone/argillaceous	-	31	54	0.10
Totals			559	3823	0.60



APPENDIX C: LITHICS

By E.R. McSloy

Worked or burnt flint

A single worked flint flake and three small chips of burnt flint were recovered.

The (broken) flint flake was recorded from Palisade trench 2555 (fill 2554) (palisade trench B). Raw material is dark grey brown coloured flint which is uncorticated. As an unretouched flake probably representing knapping waste, this item is not dateable, although its association with an Iron Age-dated feature suggests that it is re-deposited.

The burnt flint consists of three small chips/spalls recovered from soil sample <3025> taken from ditch 2253 (fill 2036) (enclosure ditch J).

Worked/utilised stone

A quartzite fragment from enclosure ditch 2281 (fill 2282, enclosure ditch I) with two flat faces which are well-smoothed/polished was the only worked stone item recovered. Similar items are relatively common from Iron Age and Romano-British sites and have been interpreted as polishers, the smooth surfaces resulting from wear from the smoothing of textiles such as linen.

The single fragment of burnt stone from Pit 2072 (fill 2065) is identifiable as of mudstone, almost certainly from the underlying Triassic geology. Only one flat face of this fragment is burnt, hinting at use lining a hearth or oven.

Alone among the recorded stone artefacts the polisher is of some interest, probably indicative of the preparation of textiles at the site. A note describing this item and its probable function should be included in any final publication.



APPENDIX D: METAL ITEMS

By E.R. McSloy

Iron objects

Four objects, all of iron and recorded from topsoil/subsoil type deposits, were recorded. All items exhibit low to moderate levels of corrosion and most are fragmentary.

Object Ra. 3101 from subsoil 2002 consists of a curving length of bar, possibly a fragmentary wall hook or chain link. It cannot be dated by its form, although its relatively uncorroded condition suggests it is probably relatively modern. The remaining finds all come from topsoil deposit 2001: a fragmentary nail and a hinge plate probably date no earlier than the post-medieval period. A small fragment from a tanged implement, probably a 'whittle-tanged' knife, might be medieval or earlier.

Coin (copper alloy)

A single modern coin, a worn penny of Edward VII dated 1907 (Ra. 3103), was recorded from topsoil 2001.

In view of the unstratified provenance of the metal finds and the irrelevance of these items to the main period of archaeological interest, this material is considered of very minimal significance. No further work is warranted and the finds need not be retained.



APPENDIX E: CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL AND FIRED CLAY

By E.R. McSloy

Ceramic Building Material

Small quantities of ceramic building material were recorded (11 fragments weighing 224g). All material was recorded from topsoil or subsoil type deposits (2001 and 2002) and all comprises flat tile fragments in a hard, sandy, orange-firing fabric suggestive of later medieval to post-medieval date.

Fired clay and briquetage

Quantities of fired clay amounting to 16 fragments (21g) were hand-recovered from a single deposit upper ditch fill 2036 containing a probable cremation burial (fill of outer enclosure cut 2253, Ditch J). Further very small fragments, together weighing less than 1g, were extracted from soil sample residues originating from ditch fill 2036 (upper fill of enclosure Ditch J) and from deposit 2035, a subsoil layer overlying feature enclosure Ditch J. The larger (hand-recovered) fragments occur in a quartz-rich (sandy) fabric with sparse organic and ferrous inclusions. Some fragments preserve a smoothed surface, however original function is unclear.

Two small fragments (3g) from ditch fill 2036, which occur in an orange fabric with lighter, pinkish and smoothed surface are identified as Droitwich briquetage. As such this material is representative of the ceramic containers used to dry and transport salt from the Droitwich brine springs. The fabric is distinguished by homogenised clay pellet and some small burnt-out organic inclusions. It approximates to organic/'marly' briquetage fabrics common to the Middle to Late Iron Age.



APPENDIX F: ANIMAL BONE

By Andy Clarke

A total of 88 fragments (26.7g) of animal bone were recovered via a combination of hand excavation and bulk soil samples (Table F1) from the fills of nine features and in association with artefacts dating to the Late Iron Age to 1st Century AD.

The bone was poorly preserved, highly fragmented and displayed frequent evidence of burning, rendering almost the entire assemblage (95%) unidentifiable to species. It was possible to identify the presence of cattle (*Bos taurus*) from isolated and very fragmented molar teeth. However, the number of identifiable fragments is so low that it is impossible to make any useful interpretative inferences as to the contribution made by this species to the site economy.

Table F1: Animal bone quantified by fragment count (NISP), weight and context

Cut	Fill	BOS	Ind	un-id SS	Total	Weight (g)
2015 (Ditch E)	2014			37	37	1
2072 (pit)	2061	1			1	1
2098 (Ditch F)	2054	1			1	7
2201 (posthole)	2203	1			1	12
2216 (Ditch F)	2049	1			1	3
2263 (Gully L)	2264		5		5	0.5
2496 (ditch)	2497			26	26	1
2498 (Ditch G)	2558			4	4	0.2
2569 (Ditch I: re-cut)	2570			12	12	1
Total count		4	5	79	88	
Weight (g)		23	0.5	3.2	26.7	

BOS = cattle; Ind = indeterminable; un-id SS = unidentifiable fragments from bulk soil samples



APPENDIX G: THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

By Sarah Cobain

Introduction

A total of 34 bulk soil samples were processed to recover plant macrofossil and charcoal remains from enclosures, ditches and pits dating to the Late Iron Age/Early Roman period. The aim of this report is to provide evidence of socio-economic activities being undertaken on the site (crop husbandry, diet, living conditions of communities, cremation rituals, exploitation of woodlands for fuel, woodland management), and to infer the composition of the local flora and woodlands.

Methodology

Following flotation (CA Technical Manual No 2), the residue was dried and sorted by eye, the floated material scanned and seeds identified using a low power stereo-microscope (Brunel MX1) at magnifications of x10 to x40. Identifications were carried out with reference to images and descriptions by Cappers *et al.* (2006), Neef *et al.* (2012) Berggren (1981) and Anderberg (1994). Nomenclature follows Stace (1997). A selection of charcoal fragments were fractured by hand to reveal the wood anatomy on radial, tangential and transverse planes. The pieces were then supported in a sand bath and identified under an epi-illuminating microscope (Brunel SP400) at magnifications from x40 to x400. Identifications were carried out with reference to images and descriptions by Gale and Cutler (2000) and Schoch *et al.* (2004) and Wheeler *et al.* (1989). Nomenclature of species follows Stace (1997).

Results

The carbonised plant macrofossils and charcoal were recovered in small to moderate quantities and were generally poorly-preserved. The results are presented in tabular form (Tables G1–G8). SS refers to the Soil Sample number. Taxa have been identified as one of two possibilities (for example alder/hazel - *Alnus glutinosa/Corylus avellana*) where the two species exhibit similar morphology but the species are not sufficiently well-preserved to observe subtle anatomical differences required for full identification.

Discussion

Period 2 and Period 2.3 Middle to Late Iron Age

Carbonised plant macrofossils were recovered in small quantities from four main features. Fill 2296 from Period 2 pit 2295, located within the inner enclosure (Ditches E, F and G) contained a small number of indeterminate cereal grains, emmer/spelt wheat (*Triticum spelta/Triticum dicoccum*) glume

bases and a knotgrass (*Polygonum aviculare*) seed. This assemblage composition consisting of fuel, chaff and grain remnants is characteristic of that found within basal fills of grain storage pits, which are fired to sterilise, facilitating further use. However given the truncated nature of the feature along with the absence of any scorched natural, this interpretation cannot be confirmed and it is equally possibly this feature represents a pit containing residual remains, accumulating in the pit from wind-blown hearth debris.

In addition Period 2 Ditch segment 2496 (SS 3031 and 3033) located to the east of the site between the inner and outer enclosure contained a single hazelnut (*Corylus avellana*) shell, six emmer/spelt wheat glume bases, indeterminate cereal grain fragments, a grass stem and an amphibious bistort (*Persicaria amphiba*) and bromes (*Bromus*) seed; fill 2570 within slot 2569 of Period 2 Ditch I (recut) contained the largest number of remains with six bromes seeds, a single emmer/spelt wheat grain and a number of indeterminate cereal grains; and fill 2558 retrieved from slot 2498 of Period 2.3 Ditch G contained a small number of emmer/spelt wheat and indeterminate cereal grains and a poorly preserved cherry (*Prunus*) species pip fragment.

The mechanism by which this material became burnt and accumulated into these features is less certain. The mixture of hazelnut shell and cherry species pip fragments, cereal grains, chaff and weeds is indicative of domestic and/or crop processing waste. However the rarity of this material and high level of truncation means it is not possible to deduce whether this material reflects deliberately dumped hearth debris or residual remains accumulating from wind-blown hearth debris. Given all these features are located to the south and south east of the site, it could be tentatively suggested domestic/crop processing activity was taken place in these areas. However this interpretation may be biased by the high levels of truncation on the site.

A small amount of additional material scattered across site was identified and included three possible emmer/spelt wheat grains within deposits 2035 and 2036 (enclosure ditch J) among the cremation-related material, and a grass species stem within pit 2407. The small numbers of recorded material suggest this material is most likely residual.

Charcoal was moderately abundant, but generally very poorly-preserved mostly due to silt impregnation and heavy abrasion on the outsides of the fragments. This suggests most of the charcoal is residual, resulting from bioturbation/wind-blown hearth debris or had been redeposited from its original source of burning (for example hearth or pyre). The charcoal from cremation deposits 2035 and 2036 was identified dominantly as oak (*Quercus*), with smaller quantities of alder/hazel (*Alnus glutinosa/Corylus avellana*). Charcoal from remaining features was mixed in nature and included oak, alder/hazel, hawthorn/rowan/crab apple (*Crataegus monogyna/Sorbus/Malus sylvestris*), cherry species and blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*). This type of mixed assemblage is characteristic of that seen within domestic waste deposits, and contrasts to that from the pyre

material, where oak was clearly chosen as the dominant fuel/material for construction of the pyre structure.

The poor preservation of the charcoal inhibits any further analysis work, although identifications undertaken suggest that fuel was sought locally from scrub woodland or hedgerows consisting of alder/hazel, hawthorn/rowan/crab apple, cherry species and blackthorn. The presence of oak suggests (most likely small) stands of more mature woodland were present in the area.

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Table G1 Plant macrofossil identifications

Context number				2035	2035	2035	2035	2035	2035	2035	2035	2035
Feature number				-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sample number (SS)				3002	3008	3010	3012	3013	3014	3015	3016	3017
Flot volume (ml)				34	10	1	17	23	7	3	4	5
Sample volume processed (l)				50	7	3	9	8	6	3	2	2
Soil remaining (l)				0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Period				2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Plant macrofossil preservation				Poor	N/A	Poor	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Habitat Code	Family	Species	Common Name									
E	Poaceae	<i>Triticum dicoccum</i> / <i>Triticum spelta</i>	Emmer/spelt wheat grain	? 1		? 1						
Total				1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table G2 Plant macrofossil identifications

Context number				2036	2036	2036	2036	2036	2036	2036	2036	2036		
Feature number				2253	2253	2253	2253	2253	2253	2253	2253	2253		
Feature label				Ditch J	Ditch J	Ditch J	Ditch J	Ditch J	Ditch J	Ditch J	Ditch J	Ditch J		
Sample number (SS)				3003	3007	3018	3019	3020	3021	3022	3023	3024	3025	3026
Flot volume (ml)				80	2	6	3	1	2	2	41	1	1	1
Sample volume processed (l)				23	9	4	7	6	6	2	36	5	6	5
Soil remaining (l)				0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Period				2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Plant macrofossil preservation				Poor	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Habitat Code	Family	Species	Common Name											
E	Poaceae	<i>Triticum dicoccum</i> / <i>Triticum spelta</i>	Emmer/spelt wheat grain	? 1										
Total				1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table G3 Plant macrofossil identifications

Context number				2038	2039	2258	2296	2355	2408	2497	2497
Feature number				2037	2037	2257	2295	2295	2407	2496	2496
Sample number (SS)				3004	3005	3027	3028	3029	3030	3031	3032
Flot volume (ml)				6	20	26	32	8	18	48	13.5
Sample volume processed (l)				28	28	34	29	30	27	19	21
Soil remaining (l)				0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Period				2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2.3
Plant macrofossil preservation				N/A	N/A	N/A	Poor	N/A	Moderate	Moderate	N/A
Habitat Code	Family	Species	Common Name								
HSW	Betulaceae	<i>Corylus avellana</i> L.	Hazelnut shells							1	
E	Poaceae	<i>Triticum dicoccum</i> / <i>Triticum spelta</i>	Emmer/spelt wheat glume base				4			6	
E		<i>Poaceae</i>	Indeterminate cereal grain (whole)				1				
E		<i>Poaceae</i>	Indeterminate cereal grain (fragment)				2			2	
E		<i>Poaceae</i>	Grass species stem						1	1	
M/D	Polygonaceae	<i>Persicaria amphiba</i> (L.) Gray	Amphibious Bistort							1	
D		<i>Polygonum aviculare</i> L.	Knotgrass				1				
Total				0	0	0	8	0	1	11	0

Table G4 Plant macrofossil identifications

Context number	2497	2497	2570	2014	2558	2572
Feature number	2496	2496	2569	2015	2498	2571
Feature Label			Ditch I (recut)	Enclosure Ditch E	Enclosure Ditch G	Enclosure Ditch E
Sample number (SS)	3033	3034	3037	3001	3035	3036
Flot volume (ml)	43	27	55	110	80	31
Sample volume processed (l)	20	12	33	30	29	25
Soil remaining (l)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Period	2.3	2.3	2	2.3	2.3	2.3
Plant macrofossil preservation	Moderate	N/A	Poor	N/A	Poor	N/A
Habitat Code	Family	Species	Common Name			
A/D	Poaceae	<i>Bromus</i> L.	Bromes	1	6	
E		<i>Triticum dicoccum</i> / <i>Triticum spelta</i>	Emmer/spelt wheat grain		1	3
E		<i>Poaceae</i>	Indeterminate cereal grain (whole)		2	2
E		<i>Poaceae</i>	Indeterminate cereal grain (fragment)		17	2
E		<i>Poaceae</i>	Indeterminate cereal grain (fragment <1mm)		++++	
HSW	Rosaceae	<i>Prunus</i> L.	Cherry species pip fragment			1
			Total	1	0	26
				0	0	8
						0

Table G5 Charcoal identifications

Context number	2035	2035	2035	2035	2035	2035	2035	2035	2035
Feature number	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sample number (SS)	3002	3008	3010	3012	3013	3014	3015	3016	3017
Flot volume (ml)	34	10	1	17	23	7	3	4	5
Sample volume processed (l)	50	7	3	9	8	6	3	2	2
Soil remaining (l)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Period	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Charcoal quantity >2mm	++++	++++	++	++++	+++	++	+	++	+++
Charcoal preservation	Poor	Poor	Poor	Poor	Poor	Poor	Poor	Poor	Poor
Family	Species	Common Name							
Betulaceae	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i> (L.) Gaertn./ <i>Corylus avellana</i> L.	Alder/Hazel		2					
Fagaceae	<i>Quercus petraea</i> (Matt.) Liebl./ <i>Quercus robur</i> L.	Sessile Oak/Pedunculate Oak		8					
Total				10	0	0	0	0	0

Table G6 Charcoal identifications

Context number	2036	2036	2036	2036	2036	2036	2036	2036	2036	2036	2036										
Feature number	2253	2253	2253	2253	2253	2253	2253	2253	2253	2253	2253										
Feature Label	Ditch J	Ditch J	Ditch J	Ditch J	Ditch J	Ditch J	Ditch J	Ditch J	Ditch J	Ditch J	Ditch J										
Sample number (SS)	3003	3007	3018	3019	3020	3021	3022	3023	3024	3025	3026										
Flot volume (ml)	80	2	6	3	1	2	2	41	1	1	1										
Sample volume processed (l)	23	9	4	7	6	6	2	36	5	6	5										
Soil remaining (l)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0										
Period	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2										
Charcoal quantity >2mm	++++	+++	+++	+++	++++	++++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++										
Charcoal preservation	Poor	Poor	Poor	Poor	Poor	Poor	Poor	Poor	Poor	Poor	Poor										
Family	Species	Common Name																			
Betulaceae	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i> (L.) Gaertn./ <i>Corylus avellana</i> L.	Alder/Hazel																			
Fagaceae	<i>Quercus petraea</i> (Matt.) Liebl./ <i>Quercus robur</i> L.	Sessile Oak/Pedunculate Oak																			
		Indeterminate																			
Total											10	6	5	4	7	10	7	2	4	5	4

Table G7 Charcoal identifications

Context number			2038	2039	2258	2296	2355	2408	2497	2497
Feature number			2037	2037	2257	2295	2295	2407	2496	2496
Sample number (SS)			3004	3005	3027	3028	3029	3030	3031	3032
Flot volume (ml)			6	20	26	32	8	18	48	13.5
Sample volume processed (l)			28	28	34	29	30	27	19	21
Soil remaining (l)			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Period			2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Charcoal quantity >2mm			++++	++++	++	+++	++	+	++++	++++
Charcoal preservation			Poor	Moderate	Poor	Poor	Poor	Poor	Moderate	Moderate
Family	Species	Common Name								
Betulaceae	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i> (L.) Gaertn./ <i>Corylus avellana</i> L.	Alder/Hazel		1		1			1	1
Fagaceae	<i>Quercus petraea</i> (Matt.) Liebl./ <i>Quercus robur</i> L.	Sessile Oak/Pedunculate Oak	4	5	6	5	1			
	<i>Quercus petraea</i> (Matt.) Liebl./ <i>Quercus robur</i> L.	Sessile Oak/Pedunculate Oak h/w		1						
	<i>Quercus petraea</i> (Matt.) Liebl./ <i>Quercus robur</i> L.	Sessile Oak/Pedunculate Oak r/w	1							
Rosaceae	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i> Jacq./ <i>Sorbus</i> L./ <i>Malus sylvestris</i> (L.) Mill.	Hawthorn/Rowans/Crab apple		1		2	2		1	6
	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i> Jacq./ <i>Sorbus</i> L./ <i>Malus sylvestris</i> (L.) Mill.	Hawthorn/Rowans/Crab apple r/w							6	
	<i>Prunus</i> L.	Cherries r/w							3	
	<i>Prunus</i> L.	Cherries	5	2		1	2		14	18
	<i>Prunus spinosa</i> L.	Blackthorn				1				
		Indeterminate						1		
Total			10	10	6	10	5	0	25	25

Table G8 Charcoal identifications

Context number		2497	2497	2570	2014	2558	2572
Feature number		2496	2496	2569	2015	2498	2571
Feature Label				Ditch I (recut)	Enclosure Ditch E	Enclosure Ditch G	Enclosure Ditch E
Sample number (SS)		3033	3034	3037	3001	3035	3036
Flot volume (ml)		43	27	55	110	80	31
Sample volume processed (l)		20	12	33	30	29	25
Soil remaining (l)		0	0	0	0	0	0
Period		2	2	2	2.3	2.3	2.3
Charcoal quantity >2mm		+++	+++	++++	+++	++++	+
Charcoal preservation		Poor	Poor	Moderate	Moderate	Poor	Poor
Family	Species	Common Name					
Betulaceae	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i> (L.) Gaertn./ <i>Corylus avellana</i> L.	Alder/Hazel		1	2	1	
Fagaceae	<i>Quercus petraea</i> (Matt.) Liebl./ <i>Quercus robur</i> L.	Sessile Oak/Pedunculate Oak		5	3	4	1
	<i>Quercus petraea</i> (Matt.) Liebl./ <i>Quercus robur</i> L.	Sessile Oak/Pedunculate Oak r/w		1			
Rosaceae	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i> Jacq./ <i>Sorbus</i> L./ <i>Malus sylvestris</i> (L.) Mill.	Hawthorn/Rowans/Crab apple		1	7	2	1
	<i>Prunus</i> L.	Cherries		4	8	3	1
	<i>Prunus spinosa</i> L.	Blackthorn				2	1
Total		11	16	10	10	10	1

Key

+ = 1–4 items; ++ = 5–20 items; +++ = 21–40 items; ++++ = 40–99 items; +++++ = 100–500 items; ++++++ = >500 items

r/w = roundwood fragments; hw = heartwood (tyloses present)

A = arable weeds; D = weeds indicative of disturbed environments (opportunistic species); HSW = hedgerow/scrub/woodland species; M = marshland species; E = economic species
*where for example A/D are indicated is acknowledge that whilst these species tend to establish in arable/disturbed environments, they will also grow opportunistically if conditions allow.

All plant remains are carbonised unless otherwise stated.

APPENDIX H: CREMATED HUMAN REMAINS

By Sharon Clough

Two overlying deposits of cremated human bone (2035 and 2036) were recovered from ditch terminus 2253 (enclosure ditch J) dating to Period 2 Iron Age. Deposit (2035) weighed 80.9 g and (2036) weighed 235.2g. The feature is likely to represent a pyre debris deposit or a cremation-related deposit. There was no *in situ* burning and the quantity of charcoal was relatively low. The quantity of burnt bone was limited, and the fragments were small in size. As such bone identification was limited to human and the occasional skull or long bone fragment.

Methodology

Methodology follows the guidelines and standards suggested by McKinley (in Brickley and McKinley 2004). The samples were sieved through stacks of 10, 5 and 2 mm mesh size. The relative weights of bone from each sieve illustrate the degree of bone fragmentation. Identifiable bone was further separated into skull, axial, upper and lower limb categories. This is in order to identify any deliberate collection bias and to examine the bone for age, sex and pathological lesions. The 2mm fraction is not normally included in the weights as it is mixed with grit. However, in this instance there was a substantial amount of bone in the fraction so it was extracted and included. Animal bone (if identified) was also removed.

Results and Discussion

Deposit 2035

This deposit was divided into nine areas using a grid system. The sample 3002 was a general sample taken before the grid was established. The greatest weight of bone came from sample 3002, 3016, 3013 and 3009. The bone in these samples was larger in size (except 3002) with some present in the >10 mm fraction and identifiable to long bone or cranial fragment (Table H1). As the identification was poor and very low in weight these details have not been included in the table.

Deposit 2036

This deposit was also divided into nine areas, with sample 3003 taken before the grid was established. The largest weights are from 3003, 3021 and 3023. These all also have the only fragments in the >10mm fraction. Again only cranial and long bone fragments were identified (Table H2). The 2mm residue from 2036 contained a further 27.5 g of bone and amongst these fragments was part of a tooth root.

The two contexts are considered to be one deposit event, with 2035 a disturbed section of 2036. As such, and since the spread sampling does not appear to present any particular element bias then all the cremated bone is now considered as one event deposit.

The weight of bone per fraction size is therefore:

>10 mm 51.4g

5–10 mm 125.6g

2–5 mm 146.7g (including 27.2g of bone from residue)

The fraction weights demonstrate the high fragmentation level of the deposit, with the largest portion of bone in the 2–5 mm fraction and the least in the >10 mm.

Bone observed was mostly not diagnostic, occasional cranial or long bone fragments were observed. The cranial fragments varied in thickness, suggesting they were not necessarily from the same individual.

The bone was mostly white in colour, fully calcined, however there were a number of fragments which were white on the outer surface, but grey on the inner. This suggests some heat variation across the pyre, but the general efficiency of the cremation was good.

As the majority of fragments were small, this prevented identification of elements, so it has not been possible to establish a minimum number of individuals. As deposit 2035 was mixed into the plough soil this suggests that truncation and fragmentation had taken place after burial and this may be a significant contributing factor to the small fragment size and low weight recovered.

The deposit is likely to be re-deposited pyre debris or re-deposited cremated remains. If it were pyre debris this would suggest the presence of the pyre within the vicinity and that cremations were conducted nearby (McKinley 2000). Pyre debris also usually contains (depending on soil type) burnt flint, burnt stone, burnt clay and fuel ash slag. It is the mixed nature of the deposit which identifies it as pyre debris (McKinley 2000). The total weight of bone, 323.7g, is within the range for pyre-related debris which was found at Westhampnett (McKinley 1997) 0.1–422 g.

References

- Brickley M. and McKinley, J. 2004 *Guidelines to the standards for recording of human remains* IFA Paper No 7
- McKinley, J. 1997 'The cremated human bone from burial and pyre-related contexts', in Fitzpatrick 1997 (ed.) *Archaeological excavations on the route of the A27, Westhampnett bypass, West Sussex, 1992; Volume 2* Wessex Archaeology report **12**, 244–252

McKinley, J. 2000 Phoenix rising: aspects of cremation in Roman Britain, in Pearce, Millett, and Struck (eds) 2000 *Burial, society and context in the Roman world* Oxford, Oxbow Books, 38–44

Table H1 Weight of samples per fraction size context 2035

Context	Sample number	>10 mm weight (g)	5–10 mm weight (g)	5–2 mm weight (g)
2035	3002		12.3	30.9
	3008			0.5
	3009	6.7	2.7	0.5
	3010		2.8	1.9
	3012			>0.1
	3013	4.7	5.7	4.9
	3014			>0.1
	3015			>0.1
	3016	7.6	3.6	1.2
	3017		1	1.5

Table H2 Weight of samples per fraction size context 2036

Context	Sample number	>10 mm weight (g)	5–10 mm weight (g)	5–2 mm weight (g)
2036	3003	10.2	27.1	28.5
	3007			1
	3018			>0.1
	3020			>0.1
	3021	5.4	7.5	7.5
	3022		2.7	5
	3023	16.8	49.2	19.2
	3024		9.7	13.7
	3025			1.4
	3026		1.3	1.8

APPENDIX I: RADIOCARBON DATING

By Sarah Cobain

Radiocarbon dating was undertaken in order to confirm the dates of cremated human bone from ditch J (Table I1). The samples were analysed during September 2015 at Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre (SUERC), Rankine Avenue, Scottish Enterprise Technology Park, East Kilbride, Glasgow, G75 0QF, Scotland.

The uncalibrated dates are conventional radiocarbon ages. The radiocarbon ages were calibrated using the University of Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit calibration programme OxCal 4.2 (Bronk Ramsey 2009) using the IntCal13 curve (Reimer *et al.* 2013).

References

Bronk Ramsey, C. 2009 'Bayesian analysis of radiocarbon dates', *Radiocarbon* 51, 337–360

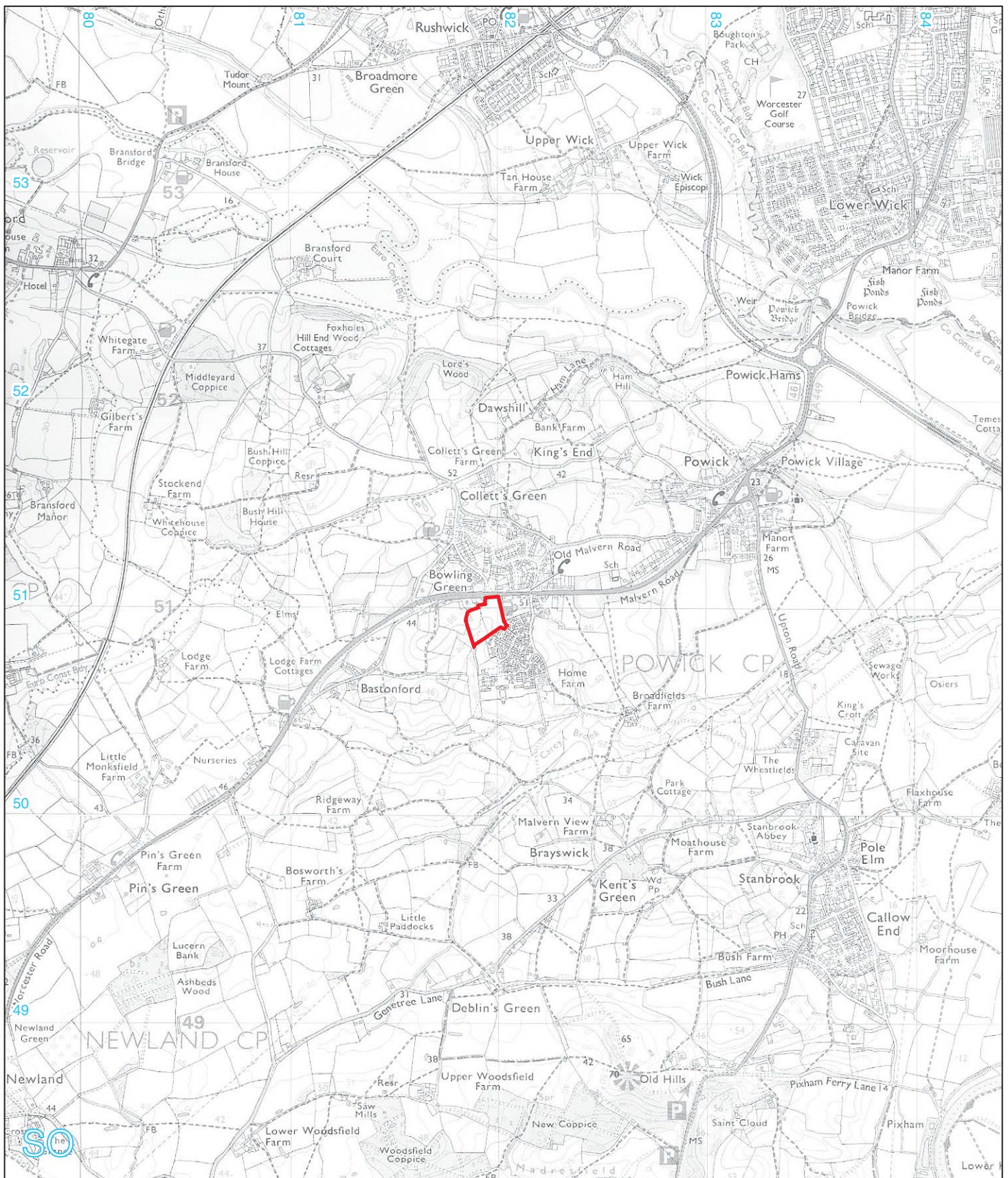
Reimer, P.J., Bard, E., Bayliss, A., Beck, J.W., Blackwell, P.G., Bronk Ramsey, C., Grootes, P.M., Guilderson, T.P., Hafliðason, H., Hajdas, I., HattĚ, C., Heaton, T.J., Hoffmann, D.L., Hogg, A.G., Hughen, K.A., Kaiser, K.F., Kromer, B., Manning, S.W., Niu, M., Reimer, R.W., Richards, D.A., Scott, E.M., Southon, J.R., Staff, R.A., Turney, C.S.M., & van der Plicht, J. 2013 'IntCal13 and Marine13 Radiocarbon Age Calibration Curves 0–50,000 Years cal BP', *Radiocarbon* 55, 1869–1887

Table 11 Radiocarbon dating results

Feature	Lab No.	Material	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$	Radiocarbon age	Calibrated radiocarbon age 95.4% probability	Calibrated radiocarbon age 68.2% probability
Context 2036 Ditch J (intervention 2253)	SUERC- 62367	Cremated human bone – cranium	-21.1‰	2089 ± 30 yr BP	196–42 cal BC (95.4%)	163–129 cal BC (25.4%) 120–87 cal BC (25.7%) 78–55 cal BC (17.1%)
Context 2036 Ditch J (intervention 2253)	SUERC- 62336	Cremated human bone – long bone	-17.3‰	2137 ± 30 yr BP	352–298 cal BC (16.6%) 229–221 cal BC (1.0%) 211–86 cal BC (73.6%) 80–55 cal BC (4.3%)	342–327 cal BC (6.8 %) 204–112 cal BC (61.4%)

APPENDIX J: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Land to the rear of 18 Russell Close, Powick, Worcestershire.	
Short description	<p>An archaeological excavation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology (CA) in July and August 2014 at Powick, Worcestershire (centred at SO 81917 50938) at the request of Bovis Homes. The site covered c. 0.25ha of the 2.8ha housing development area, lying at approximately 55m AOD on gently sloping land. The excavation targeted an area of Middle Iron Age activity identified in the preceding evaluation.</p> <p>The excavation revealed a small, sub-rectangular enclosure of Middle Iron Age date. The first phase of enclosure was defined by a palisade trench, with a principal entrance to the south-east. There seems to have been an episode of palisade repair before it was replaced by a ditch, mostly cut to a shallower depth. There was also an outer enclosure ditch on two sides mirroring the course of the palisade. The interior was occupied by a scatter of small pits, postholes and gullies a number of which probably represented structures, but it was not clear that this was a settlement and it may have been an enclosure for livestock.</p> <p>Pottery was sparse and there were few other finds or economic and environmental indicators. A deposit of charcoal and cremated bone from a pit near the principal entrance represents an unusual record of Middle Iron Age cremation, although the pyre site appears to have lain elsewhere.</p>	
Project dates	Fieldwork in July–August 2014	
Project type	Excavation	
Previous work	Archaeological Evaluation (CA 2014)	
Future work	Summary publication only	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Rear of 18 Russell Close/off A449 Malvern Road, Powick	
Study area	Site: 2.8ha, Excavation area: 0.25ha	
Site co-ordinates (8 Fig Grid Reference)	SO 8191 5093	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	Worcestershire County Council	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Simon Cox	
Project Supervisor	Peter (Buzz) Busby	
MONUMENT TYPE		
	None	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS		
	Human bone	
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Intended final location of archive	Content
Physical	Worcestershire County Museum	Ceramics, animal bone, fired clay, human bone, charred botanical remains
Paper	Worcestershire County Museum	Context sheets, matrices etc
Digital	Worcestershire County Museum	Database, digital photos etc
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2015 <i>Land to the rear of 18 Russell Close, Powick, Worcestershire: Archaeological Excavation Report</i> . CA typescript report 15857		



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PROJECT TITLE

Land to the rear of 18 Russell Close,
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FIGURE TITLE

Site location plan

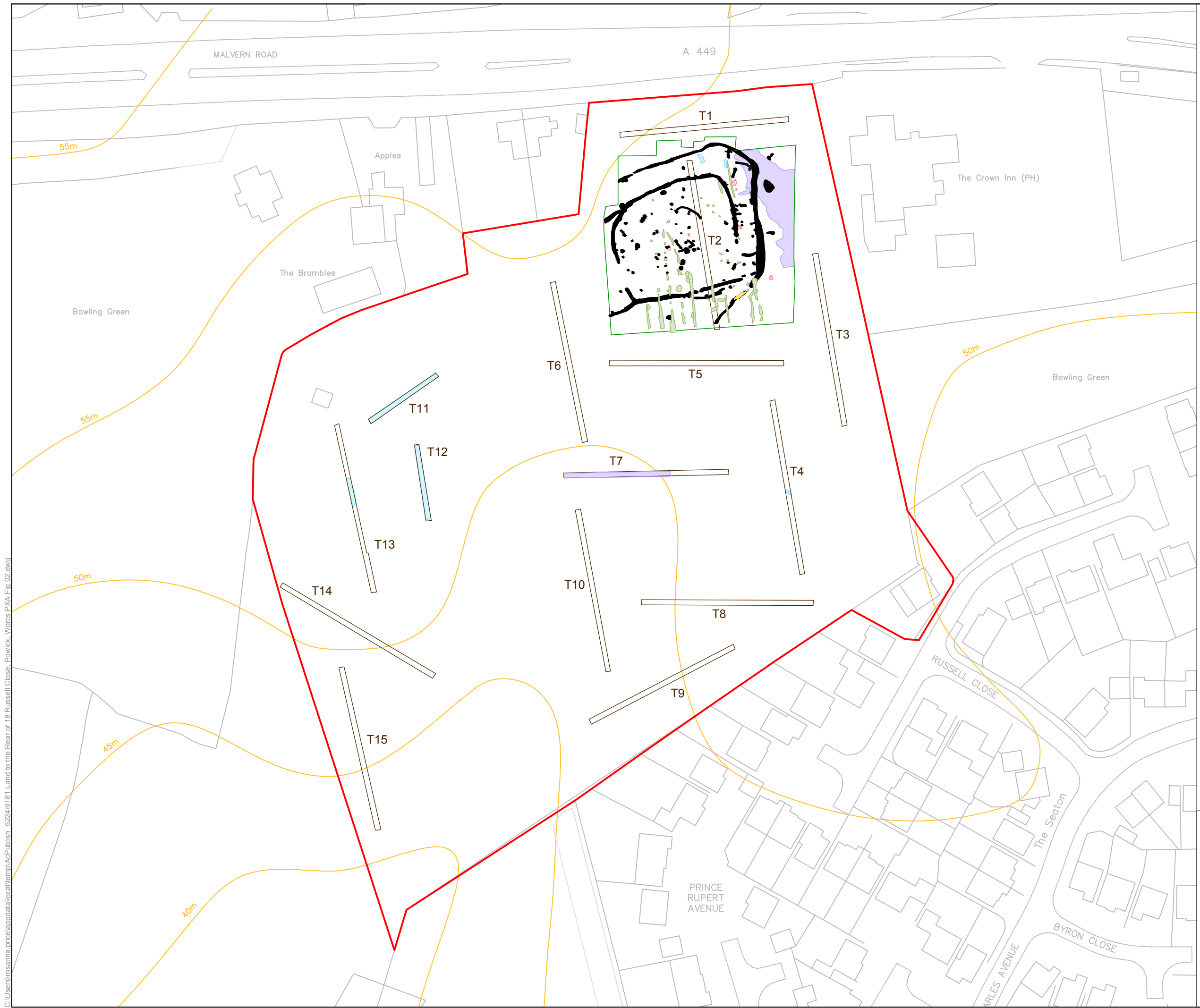


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FIGURE NO.

1



- site boundary
- excavation area
- evaluation trench (CA 2012)
- archaeological feature
- cremation deposit
- geological feature
- furrow
- modern
- treethrow



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Land to the rear of 18 Russell Close, Powick, Worcestershire

FIGURE TITLE
Site plan, showing location of excavation area and previous evaluation trenches

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CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	27.11.15	2
APPROVED BY	AM	SCALE@A3	1:1000	

C:\Users\rosanna.pricel\appdata\local\temp\AcPublish_522419181\Land to the Rear of 18 Russell Close, Powick, Worcs PXA Fig 02.dwg



3 Excavation area from the south-west corner looking toward Malvern Road and The Crown Inn



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FIGURE TITLE

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<i>CHECKED BY</i>	RP	<i>DATE</i>	21.12.15	3
<i>APPROVED BY</i>	AM	<i>SCALE@A4</i>	N/A	



4 Excavation of the outer enclosure ditch, looking south-west toward the Malvern Hills



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FIGURE TITLE

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<i>APPROVED BY</i>	AM	<i>SCALE@A4</i>	N/A	4

P:\9181 Russell Close Powick PXA\Illustration\Drawings\9181 Land to the Rear of 18 Russell Close, Powick, Worcs PXA Fig 02.dwg



- site boundary
- excavation area
- evaluation trench (CA 2012)
- archaeological feature
- Phase 2
- Phase 2.3
- Phase 3
- palaeochannel
- furrow
- modern
- treethrow
- cremation deposit
- section location



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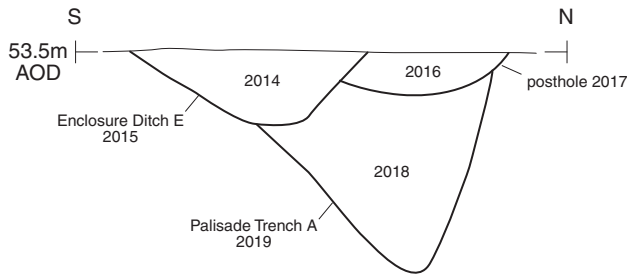
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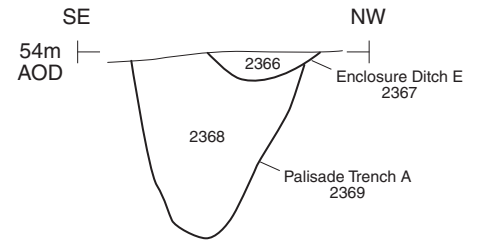
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 Phase 2 and 2.3: archaeological
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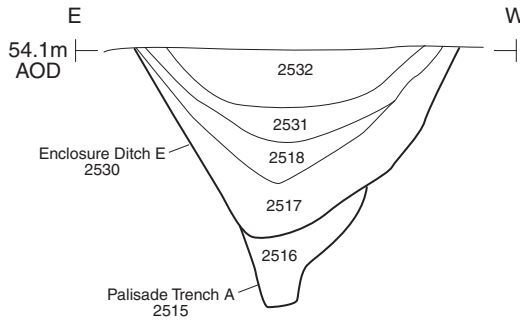
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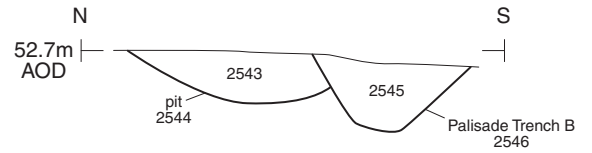
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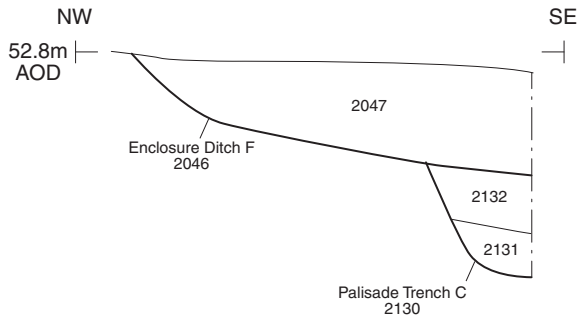
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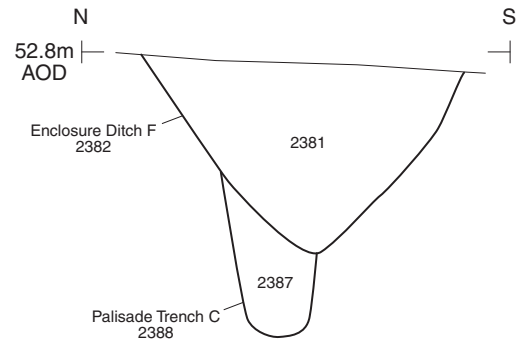
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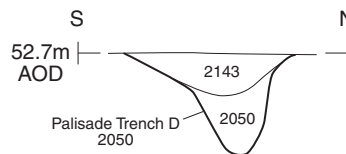
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Section FF



Section GG



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FIGURE TITLE

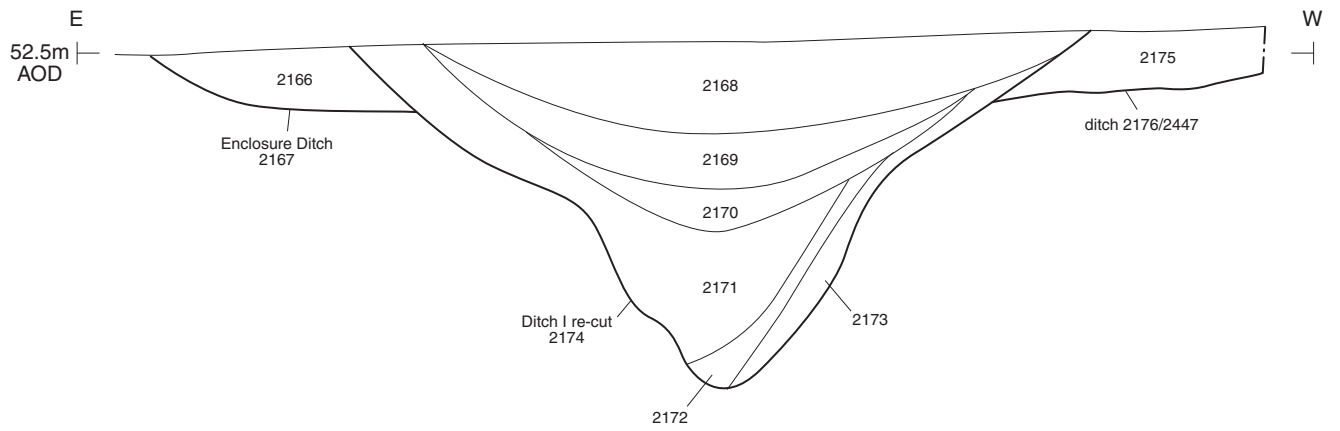
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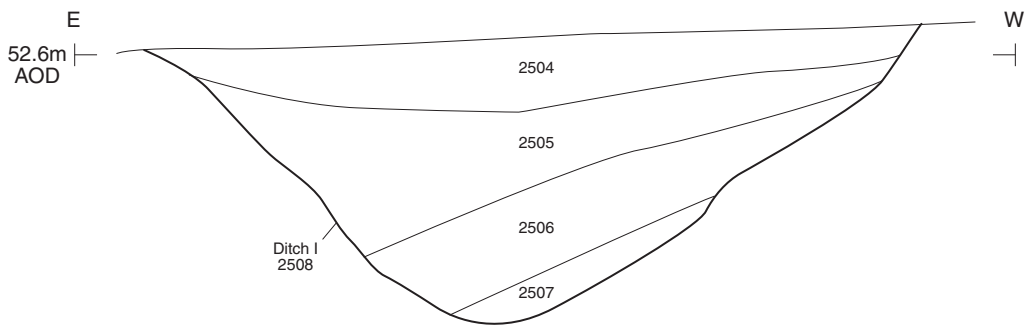
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7

Section HH



Section II



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FIGURE TITLE

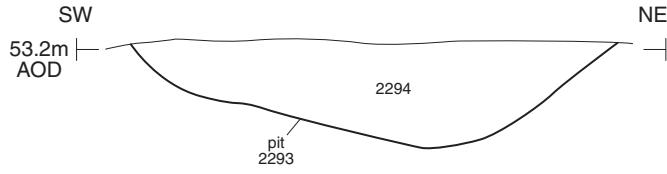
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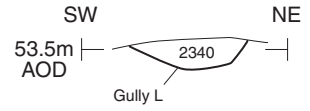
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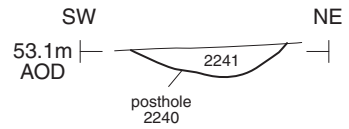
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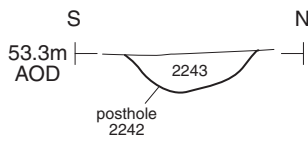
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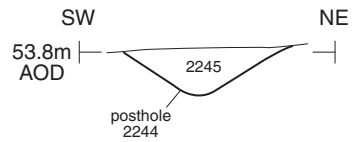
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Section NN



Section OO



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FIGURE TITLE

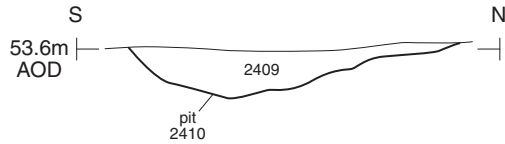
**Sections of gully, pits and postholes
within Inner Enclosure**

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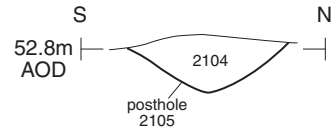
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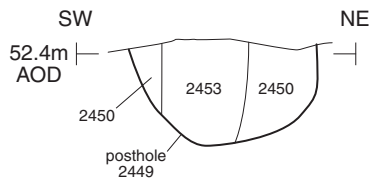
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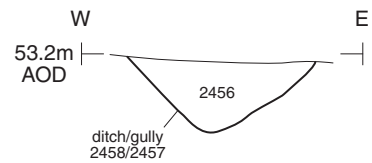
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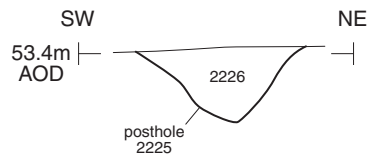
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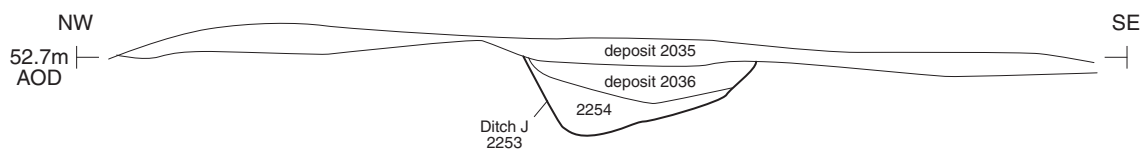
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Section TT



Section UU



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Land to the rear of 18 Russell Close
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FIGURE TITLE

Sections of features within Phase 2
 Outer Enclosure

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FIGURE NO.

10



11 Enclosure ditch E and palisade trench A, looking north-east (scale 0.3m). The box section shows the narrow palisade trench beneath the later ditch cut



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FIGURE NO.

11



12 Enclosure ditch E and palisade trench A, looking south-east (scale 1m). The box section shows the narrow palisade trench beneath the later ditch cut

13 Section through palisade trench D/2050, looking south-west (scale 0.3m)



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FIGURE TITLE

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FIGURE NO.
12 & 13



14 Pit 2295, looking north-west (scale 1m)

15 Pit/ditch segment 2496, showing charcoal rich deposit 2497 and palisade trench 2524 (beneath), looking south-east (scale 0.5m)



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FIGURE TITLE
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FIGURE NO.
14 & 15



16 Pit 2305, looking north-west (scale 0.5m)



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FIGURE NO.

16



17

17 Dark deposit 2036 underlying subsoil 2035 in the top of Ditch J terminal, looking north-east



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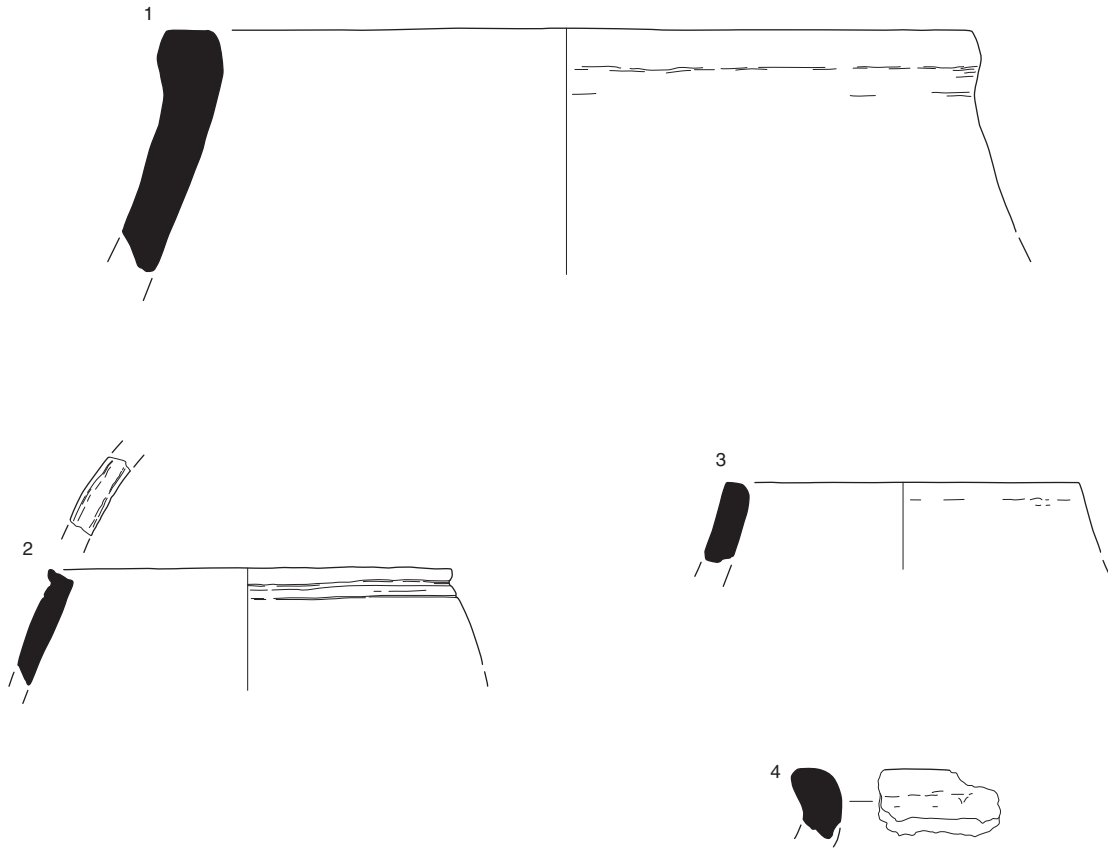
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FIGURE NO.

17



0 150mm
1:3



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PROJECT TITLE

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FIGURE TITLE

Iron Age pottery

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FIGURE NO.

18

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