Cotswold Archaeology

Land South of the A379
Newcourt
Exeter

Archaeological Excavation

on behalf of
IKEA Ltd

CA Project: 889010
CA Report: 17442

October 2017

Andover Cirencester Exeter Milton Keynes

Land South of the A379
Newcourt
Exeter

Archaeological Strip, Map and Sample

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SUMMARY

Project Name:	Land south of the A379
Location:	Newcourt, Exeter
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Type:	Strip, map and sample
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An archaeological strip, map and sample (SMS) excavation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology from November 2016 to January 2017 on land south of the A379, Newcourt, Exeter. An area of 1.27ha was excavated.

The excavation identified activity of Mesolithic, later Early Bronze Age to early Middle Bronze Age, and post-medieval to modern date. The majority of features contained no dating evidence, but it is likely that many result from prehistoric activity on the site. Three pits, with holes dug into their bases, were identified as Mesolithic in origin, on the basis of two radiocarbon determinations from one of the pits. A group of later Early Bronze Age pottery had been placed in a pit in the north-west of the site. A vessel deposited in a ditch in the south-east of the site, discovered during the evaluation, had previously been assigned a Middle Bronze Age date but may be broadly contemporary. A second ditch, ran perpendicular to it. The Bronze Age activity is presumably related to the enclosure, roundhouses and field system identified to the south and west of the current excavation area by previous archaeological investigations. Three round pits showing signs of burning – possibly from a domestic use such as an oven – were also revealed. Although undated, a prehistoric use, possibly during the Iron Age, is likely. Scattered across the whole excavation area were numerous pits and possible postholes; no structure or date could be ascertained for these. There were also several undated tree-throw holes.

The results of the excavation produced the first evidence for Mesolithic features in this area, and further evidence for activity in the earlier Bronze Age. A short report will be produced for publication in the *Proceedings of the Devon Archaeological Society.*

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Between November 2016 and January 2017, Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological strip, map and sample (SMS) excavation for IKEA Ltd on land south of the A379, Newcourt, Exeter (centred on NGR: 295650 090738; Fig. 1).

1.2 Outline planning consent (Planning ref: 13/4525/01) for the erection of an IKEA retail store and ancillary facilities, plus associated access, car parking, and landscaping, has been granted by Exeter City Council (ECC), the local planning authority, conditional (5) on a programme of archaeological work. The work included an archaeological strip, map and record excavation targeted upon Bronze Age and undated features previously uncovered along the western and southern parts of the development area. The archaeological condition was recommended by Andrew Pye, Exeter City Council Principal Project Manager (Heritage), informed by the results of a preceding archaeological evaluation (CA 2016a).

1.3 The excavation was carried out in accordance with a detailed Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by CA (2016b) and approved by ECC. The fieldwork also followed *Standard and Guidance: Archaeological Excavation* (CIfA 2014); the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Manager's Guide* (Historic England 2015a) and accompanying *PPN3: Archaeological Excavation* (Historic England 2015b). It was monitored by Andrew Pye, including a site visit on 11th January 2017.

The site

1.4 The excavation area forms part of a wider development site, subject to two planning applications. The western part of the site comprises the above mentioned (section 1.2) retail store and ancillary facilities. The eastern part of the development site is the proposed location for a residential development site (Exeter City Council planning ref: 13/4524/01). It encloses an area of *c.* 4.3ha and was subject to an evaluation of two trenches (CA 2016c).

1.5 The retail site is approximately 6.5ha in area and occupies two fields to the south of the A379. It is bounded to the north by the A379, to the east by a former looped slip road, with Old Rydon Close beyond, to the south by a recent housing development and to the west by Newcourt Way (Fig 2). At the time of excavation, the eastern field

was open grassland and the western field was scrubland. Part of Newcourt Way and a roundabout are within the boundary of the site in the south-western corner, and were previously investigated by John Moore Heritage Services (Gilbert 2012). The north-western area of the site lies on higher ground at *c*. 40m AOD, sloping down to *c.* 25m AOD to the south-east.

1.6 The excavation area consisted of the western field (barring a small area in the southwest corner of the site) and an adjacent area in the southwestern corner of the eastern field where a prior evaluation (CA 2016a) had revealed archaeological features. The excavation area covered an area of 1.27ha. Four additional areas totalling 120m² were excavated around the south-eastern edge of the site in order to check the extent of features in this area.

1.7 The underlying bedrock geology of the site is mapped as Dawlish Sandstone Formation, formed 251 to 299 million years ago in the Permian Period (BGS 2016). A small area of Permian Heavitree Breccia Formation, formed in the same period, is also recorded in the north-western corner of the site. No superficial deposits are recorded within the boundary of the site, however, the natural substrate uncovered during the excavation was a red brown silty sand.

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 The development site has been subject to a series of archaeological investigations, comprising a desk-based heritage assessment (JMHS 2006a), a geophysical survey (Stratascan 2006a) and a heritage statement (CA 2013), which summarised the results of a number of more recent archaeological investigations carried out in the vicinity of the site.

2.2 Moreover, a number of archaeological investigations have been undertaken in the area immediately the surrounding the site (Figs. 1 and 2) including a geophysical survey covering the areas to the south and west (Stratascan 2006b). The corridor of Newcourt Way, located immediately to the west of the IKEA site, has been investigated by evaluation (JMHS 2006b) and excavation (JMHS 2010; Gilbert 2012). The fields to the south, at Old Rydon Lane, have also been investigated (JMHS 2007a, 2007b, 2010; Gilbert 2012; Pears and Rainbird forthcoming). Other excavations have been carried out at the site of the former Royal Navy Stores Depot (RNSD), located *c.* 500m to the south (Pearce *et al.* 2011), and at Newcourt

Drive, located to the west of the RSND site (Wessex Archaeology 2014, Farnell and Fairclough forthcoming). Archaeological investigations of nine sites in the Digby area, located to the north, have been brought together and published by Quinnell and Farnell (2016).

2.3 The following background incorporates the results of the recent heritage statement (CA 2013), previous investigations undertaken at the site, and the available results of fieldwork projects conducted in the surrounding area.

Earlier Prehistoric (500,000 BC – 2400 BC)

2.4 While there is limited evidence for Mesolithic activity uncovered within or surrounding the site, a small assemblage of lithics of Mesolithic date was found during excavations in the area immediately to the west of the site (Gilbert 2012, 80). Flint bladelets and a microburin have been recovered from Land at Hill Barton, to the north of the site, suggestive of Mesolithic activity in this area (Sommerville 2017). Two microliths, of possible Mesolithic date, were also recovered from a site along the route of the M5, located approximately 1.5km to the south (Jarvis 1976, 53).

2.5 An Early Neolithic pit was found at the Old Rydon Lane site, containing a single sherd of pottery and a small quantity of cremated human bone (Pears and Rainbird, forthcoming). A flint axe head, of Middle to Late Neolithic date, was found in a tree throw hole at Old Rydon Lane; a stone axe was also recovered from a Bronze Age ditch at the site, but is thought to have originated from a similar context to the flint tool (Pears and Rainbird forthcoming).

2.6 A small quantity of residual Early to Middle Neolithic pottery was recovered from Hill Barton (CA 2017). Evidence for Middle Neolithic activity was identified at Digby Drive (Digby Site 5), with the discovery of a pit containing burnt stone, four flint flakes and seven sherds of pottery. A radiocarbon date of 3500-3110 BC was obtained for the feature (Quinnell and Farnell 2016, 93).

2.7 Archaeological investigation of the former Royal Navy Stores Depot at Old Rydon Lane, by Exeter Archaeology in 2009, revealed an east-west aligned line of pits. Radiocarbon dating of a charcoal sample, of an unidentified type, provided a *terminus post quem* of 3710-3530 cal BC for the feature, placing the pit alignment in

the Early Neolithic (Pearce *et al*. 2011, 45). The excavators suggested the pit alignment may have continued to the west (Pearce *et al.* 2011, 45).

2.8 Excavation by Wessex Archaeology in 2013 was carried out to the west of the RNSD site, at Newcourt Drive. The works revealed an arc of eight circular pits, broadly north to south-aligned, with an outlying ninth pit. Radiocarbon dating of a sample of mature oak from one pit returned a date in the Early Neolithic period, whilst two samples from the outlying pit were inconsistent – one, of charred hazelnut shell provided a Middle Neolithic date, and one of mature oak was of Early Bronze Age date. An age offset of up to 500 years for the oak suggests that two phases of burning are represented, one of Middle Neolithic date and one of Early Bronze Age date (WA 2014, 6-7). The outlying pit is therefore unlikely to have been contemporary with those on the line. The excavators suggested the aligned pits were probably part of a circular post-ring monument, and associated with the east-west line of pits found at the RNSD site. Although the date obtained by Exeter Archaeology was indicative of activity during the Early Neolithic, Wessex Archaeology have suggested the activity may have been later, if the date was obtained from a sample of mature oak, and instead represent use of the site during the Middle Neolithic (WA 2014, 7). The dating of this pit alignment is therefore problematic, with more recent interpretations preferring to view the features as indicative of activity in this area during the Neolithic and Bronze Age, rather than assigning a date to the pits (Farnell and Fairclough, forthcoming).

2.9 Evidence for Late Neolithic activity had also been found at the RNSD site, including a tree-throw hole, located *c.* 5.5m from the pit alignment, containing ten sherds of Grooved Ware pottery; radiocarbon dates of 2880-2580 cal BC and 2850-2810 cal BC were obtained from charcoal samples of gorse/broom (Pearce *et al.* 2011, 45). The feature had been cut by a ditch of a Bronze Age field system. A pit, also containing 15 sherds of Grooved Ware, was located 8m from the tree-throw hole. Its upper layers contained charcoal lenses and occasional burnt stones. Six postholes found nearby were undated.

2.10 Two Late Neolithic pits, containing Grooved Ware pottery and lithics, were discovered at the Rydon Lane Retail Park (Digby Site 6, Area 1), and associated with a radiocarbon determination of 2890-2630 cal BC (Quinnell and Farnell 2016, 80).

2.11 At Topham, excavation in 1975 revealed a number of pits and *c.* 1500 flints, indicating the site of a Late Neolithic settlement (Jarvis and Maxfield 1975).

Later Prehistoric (2400 BC – AD 43)

Bronze Age (2400 BC–700 BC)

2.12 A number of investigations in the area surrounding the site have provided evidence for Bronze Age occupation, revealing a landscape characterised by field systems and scattered farmsteads.

2.13 A series of Bronze Age features was recorded during the archaeological works at the Digby Tesco site (Digby Site 8), including a number of the pits containing pottery and lithics that are indicative of an Early Bronze Age date; this phasing was supported by a radiocarbon date of 1950-1750 cal BC from burnt residue on an Early Bronze Age urn (Quinnell and Farnell 2016, 71-72). The shape and size of some of the pits suggests they may have been used as graves, but the soil conditions are such that the bone would not have survived (Quinnell and Farnell 2016, 72, 159).

2.14 Sherds from an Early Bronze Age Collared Urn were recorded from a pit at the Rydon Lane Retail Park (Digby Site 6, Area 1), whilst another pit contained domestic Beaker sherds. Other pits on this site could not be dated. An oval enclosure, measuring 46.5m in length and 37.5m wide, was also discovered at this site. Its fills contained worked lithics, a stone disc and animal bone, but no pottery.

2.15 A pit containing a deposit of pottery and worked flint was found at the Newcourt Drive site, and radiocarbon dated to 1665-1501 cal BC (Farnell and Fairclough, forthcoming).

2.16 A number of ring ditches were excavated on the Digby sites, including one at Digby Drive (Digby Site 5) that enclosed two pits, each containing cremated human remains with pottery vessels, radiocarbon dated to 1440-1260 cal BC (Quinnell and Farnell 2016, 93). The other four ring ditches from the Digby sites had no evidence of a funerary function and may have been structural; only one produced dating evidence – a pottery rim of Early to Middle Bronze Age date (Quinnell and Farnell 2016, 159). A ring ditch, thought to represent a barrow, was also located to the immediate south-east of the IKEA site (Pears and Rainbird, forthcoming). A rim from

a Trevisker vessel, found in the ring ditch, is of early to Middle Bronze Age date. A single Bronze Age sherd also came from one of five pits located within the ditch (Quinnell, forthcoming). Other ring ditches found in the Exeter area have a potential date range of Neolithic to Middle Bronze Age (Quinnell and Farnell 2016, 160). Part of a possible oval enclosure was excavated at St Peter's High School, Heavitree (Digby Site 1); a radiocarbon date of 1420-1260 cal BC was obtained from charcoal in its fills.

2.17 The archaeological works in advance of Newcourt Way, to the immediate west of the present site, recorded a substantial trapezoidal enclosure, measuring 49.5m along its shorter, eastern side and approximately 60m in length. Only part was present within the area of excavation, but a south-east entrance was revealed, with a probable gate structure (Gilbert 2012, 72). Part of a Middle Bronze Age biconical vessel, a stone mace-head or hammer and part of a quern stone, had been deposited in the western terminal of the ditch (Raymond 2012, 76; Gilbert 2012, 72). A structure, comprising two concentric circles of postholes (11m in diameter externally and 8m internally), with three internal postholes, was located within the enclosure and is probably contemporary with it (shown in green on Figure 2). Two possible structures were found just to the south-east of the enclosure, both post-built and circular in plan, one possibly associated with a fence (shown in blue on Figure 2; Gilbert 2012). To the south of these, probable structures comprising one of three posts in a triangular formation, and a rectangular arrangement of four posts, were also located. Ditches interpreted as a larger enclosure were revealed to the south-west of the trapezoidal enclosure, with sides of approximately 250m. However, further investigation by AC archaeology has revealed that these ditches are more likely to form field boundaries rather than an enclosure. A gap in the line of a north-east to south-west aligned ditch is interpreted as a possible former gateway (Pears and Rainbird, forthcoming). At the northern limit of the site, adjacent to the A379, were another two circular post-built structures.

2.18 A Bronze Age field system, including a droveway or trackway, was found at the RNSD site during an evaluation in 2007 and subsequent excavation in 2009, and continued into the adjoining Newcourt Drive site. Modifications to the field system involved the cutting of deeper ditches during the Middle Bronze Age, with dating provided by a small quantity of pottery and radiocarbon determinations from cherry and willow/poplar charcoal samples: 1380-1120 cal BC and 1430-1270 cal BC respectively (Pearce *et al.* 2011, 36). The boundary ditches found at Old Rydon

Lane, the RSND site and at Newcourt Drive appear to form part of a rectangular field system (Pears and Rainbird, forthcoming). Evidence for Bronze Age field systems have been found at other sites in the area, including a trackway found across two sites at Digby (Digby Sites 4 and 5).

Iron Age (700 BC–AD 43)

2.19 There is limited evidence for Iron Age activity in the area, and none for the earlier part of the period. A Middle Iron Age settlement, represented by the ring gullies of four structures, was found at Clyst Heath School (Digby Site 4). The gullies were *c.* 10m in diameter; up to three of the structures may have co-existed (Quinnell and Farnell 2016, 163). Burnt residue from one of the replacement gullies provided a radiocarbon date of 360-110 cal BC (Quinnell and Farnell 2016, 106). Dates of 370-180 cal BC and 370-110 cal BC were also obtained from two of the other structures. Three large pits were found within the area enclosed by one of the ring gullies; they contained fired clay (including triangular bricks) and burnt stone. A small number of pits, located near to the structure, contained charcoal fragments and burnt stone.

2.20 A roundhouse, comprising a penannular gully with internal diameter of 8.5m and a south-east facing entrance, was found at the Newcourt Drive site. Pottery of Middle to Late Iron Age date was recovered from its fills (Farnell and Fairclough forthcoming).

2.21 Three ovens, found on Digby Site 5, were contemporary, with pottery and radiocarbon dating indicative of Middle Iron Age activity (370-170 cal BC). There was no evidence for cereal drying but these features may have been used for baking (Quinnell and Farnell 2016, 95). The best preserved example was lined with burnt clay along its base; the clay lining appeared to be related to several stakeholes, possibly from supports for the superstructure (Quinnell and Farnell 2016, 95). Stone from the structure was found within its fills.

2.22 Two pits, found at the Old Rydon Lane site, are of possible Late Iron Age/Roman date (Pears and Rainbird forthcoming).

Roman (AD 43–AD 410)

2.23 Known Roman activity in the area is mainly focused around the road leading from Exeter to the port at Topsham (*c.* 1.5km south of the present site). This includes

recent evidence for a stone footed building and timber storehouses (Farnell and Payne 2016; Garland and Orellana forthcoming). A roundhouse, posthole structures and two sub-rectangular ditched enclosures have been located at Hill Barton, 2.5km to the north (CA 2017). Limited evidence for activity in this period was also found at the Digby sites, with a single ditch of 2nd century date, but no features of Late Roman date (Quinnell and Farnell 2016, 164).

Early medieval (AD 410–1066), medieval (1066–1539), post-medieval (1540–1800) and modern (1800–present)

2.24 The area of the site appears to have remained in agricultural use throughout these periods.

Previous Investigation

2.25 A geophysical survey was conducted of the site in 2006 (Stratascan 2006a) and revealed a series of disjointed linear anomalies (marked in orange on Figure 2). The alignments of these anomalies do not generally correspond to the known features uncovered in other excavation areas adjacent to the site, perhaps partly due to survey and mapping variations. An evaluation of the site was carried out by CA in February and March 2016 (CA 2016a). Twenty-two evaluation trenches were excavated, revealing a Middle Bronze Age ditch that cut an earlier pit. The ditch had previously been identified as a geophysical anomaly. A total of 183 sherds (1,790g) of pottery were recovered from the fill of this ditch (1105, T11). All of the pottery originated from a single Middle Bronze Age vessel, which was apparently deposited substantially intact. Four undated pits were found which may also have been prehistoric in date. Four post-medieval or modern pits were also uncovered.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 The objectives of the strip, map and sample (CA 2016b) works were to:

- record any evidence of past settlement or other land use prior to destruction by the new development;
- recover artefactual evidence to date any archaeological remains that may be identified;

- sample and analyse environmental remains to create a better understanding of past land use and economy and;
- archive and report on the SMS results at a level appropriate to their significance.

4. METHODOLOGY

4.1 The fieldwork followed the methodology set out within the WSI (CA 2016b). The location of the excavation area was agreed with Andrew Pye (ECC), informed by the results of the archaeological evaluation (CA 2016a) and the areas of proposed development. An excavation area measuring approximately 200m by 70m was set out on OS National Grid (NGR) co-ordinates using Leica GPS and surveyed in accordance with CA Technical Manual 4: *Survey Manual*. The excavation area was scanned for live services by trained CA staff using CAT and Genny equipment in accordance with the CA *Safe System of Work for avoiding underground services*.

4.2 The extent of the excavation area was kept under review during the course of the stripping. Some adjustments to the area were made around its south-eastern border, in agreement with Andrew Pye and the client, in order to investigate the extent of features near the limit of excavation and to avoid modern services. Furthermore, a number of trenches were excavated in the area to the east of the main excavation area in order to trace the line of a prehistoric ditch (section 5.23).

4.3 Topsoil and subsoil layers were stripped from the trenches and SMS areas by a mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless grading bucket. In agreement with the Andrew Pye, the compacted made ground found across much of the western field was removed using a toothed bucket as this material being too hard to remove with a grading bucket.

4.4 The archaeological features thus exposed were hand-excavated to the bottom of archaeological stratigraphy. All features were planned and recorded in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual*.

4.5 Deposits were assessed for their environmental potential and ten features considered to have potential for characterising the earlier phases of activity were sampled in accordance with CA Technical Manual 2: *The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites*.

4.6 Artefacts were recovered and retained for processing and analysis in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 3: Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation*.

5. RESULTS

5.1 This section provides an overview of the excavation results; detailed summaries of the contexts, finds and environmental samples (biological evidence) are to be found in Appendices A–I.

5.2 Archaeological features were identified across the site, but predominantly in the western and southern area, and included ditches, pits and postholes (Fig. 3). The features recorded were assigned to periods based on dates of recovered artefacts, radiocarbon dating and on the spatial relationships of undated features to those containing dated artefacts. Analysis of the features has indicated three distinguishable phases of activity. Some features could not be definitively assigned a phase due to a lack of recovered artefacts and remained unphased, but are likely to be of prehistoric date.

- Geology
- Mesolithic (10,000 – 4000 BC)
- Later Early Bronze Age to early Middle Bronze Age (1600 – 1450 BC)
- Undated, but likely to be prehistoric (10,000 BC - AD 43)
- Post-Medieval/Modern (1539-Present)

Geology

5.3 The natural geology comprised a brown orange silty sand, with frequent bands/patches of stone and gravel. In the southern extension of the site, the natural substrate (3004) was generally exposed 0.6m below ground level (bgl). It was sealed by 0.3m of sandy silt subsoil (3003), which was overlain by 0.3m of plough soil (3002). In the western field, the natural substrate was generally exposed 0.5–1.5m bpgl. The natural substrate in the western field was sealed by 0.1m–0.3m of sandy silt subsoil, which was in turn covered by a layer of compact sandy silt topsoil (3000), generally 0.2-0.3m thick.

Tree-throw holes

5.4 Sixteen features were found scattered across the western part of the site and were identified as tree-throw holes on the basis of their irregular form. They were concentrated in the northwest and southern part of the site. No dating evidence was found within these features except for tree-throw hole 3043, which contained a single struck flint that was likely residual. There were no stratigraphic relationships between these or any features to demonstrate their relative dates.

Mesolithic

5.5 Across the south of the excavation area three substantial, roughly circular pits were found (Figs. 3-6). Pit 3205 lay in the southeast of the site, 3327 about 70m to the west and 3252 around 20m northwest of that. All were similar in form being round with moderate to steep sloping sides and a slightly concave base. Also, all three had a round hole (possibly a post hole) cut into their base – 3416, 3421 and 3451 respectively. None contained artefactual material but radiocarbon dating of one, 3327, indicated a Mesolithic date for the features.

5.6 Pit 3205 was substantially larger than the other pits being 2.97m wide and 1.3m deep, compared to 3252: 2.0m wide, 0.95m deep, and 3327: 1.9m wide, 0.93m deep. The holes in the base of 3205 and 3421 were both 0.3m in diameter, 3205 was 0.45m deep and 3421 was 0.35m deep; 3451 was 0.18m in diameter and 0.36m deep. These holes had near vertical sides and slightly concave to flat bases. The fills of all three pits largely took the form of tipping deposits, some may have been the product of erosion but others are more substantial and likely to have been deliberate filling of the pits – especially given the presence of fairly substantial quantities of charcoal in the layers (Fig. 4).

5.7 The holes in the base of the pits had single, light grey sandy fills. These were sealed by the earliest layers within the pits themselves. The exception to this occurred within pit 3205 where the inner hole 3416 cut 3206, the lowest fill of the pit. This layer was a thin deposit of natural, likely to have been eroded from the edge of the pit. Such a layer could have formed almost immediately after the pit was dug into the fairly soft silt-sand substrate. If these central holes did hold posts it seems likely that they were raised soon after the pits were dug but removed before they were filled as little trace of them can be seen in the layers within the pits.

5.8 In pit 3205, fills 3206, 3418 and 3419 all appeared to be areas of redeposited natural against the eastern edge of the pit. Secondary fills 3207, 3208, 3209, 3210, 3420 and 3211/3212 were a yellowish brown to grey sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks. A recut was made in the centre of this pit (3213), after these deposits had accumulated. The three layers within the recut were darker in colour that the earlier fills: the lowest, 3215, was a dark brown sandy clay, this was overlain by two fills (3215, 3216) of yellowish brown to dark brown sandy silt.

5.9 Pit 3327 contained four fills. The primary deposit (3326) was a fairly clean light brown grey sandy silt with few stones and very little charcoal. The excavator noted a possible shadow from a post but this was not clear. The overlying fill (3325) was a light grey brown sandy silt with common inclusions of charcoal. Radiocarbon dating of samples of alder/hazel charcoal, and oak charcoal, have provided dates of 7050-6769 cal BC (SUERC-74051) and 7036-6700 cal BC (SUERC-74972) respectively (Cobain, Appendix I). Overlying fill 3324 was similar in colour and texture but with less charcoal. The uppermost fill, 3323, was more mixed in colour, with buff-coloured patches noted. The circular feature cut into the base of the pit, 3421, was filled with a mid grey sandy silt with sparse to moderate charcoal in the upper part of the fill (3422).

5.10 The lowest fill of pit 3525 extended up against the northern side of the pit and comprised a grey to yellowish brown sandy silt. Overlying fill 3250 was similar but also contained charcoal fragments; this was in turn covered by fill 3249. The pit may then have been recut, and filled by a further four deposits (3248, 3247, 3246 and 3245), all a light yellowish brown to grey brown sandy silt. Feature 3415, dug into the base of the pit appeared to have been contemporary with the pit. It contained a single fill (3414) of pale grey sandy clay.

Later Early Bronze Age to early Middle Bronze Age (1600-1450 BC)

5.11 Two features were positively identified as Bronze Age in date - pit 3011 and ditch 1. A third feature, ditch 2, did not produce any dating evidence but is likely to have been contemporary with ditch 1.

5.12 Pit 3011 (Fig. 7) lay in the northwest of the site, isolated from any other significant features or structures. It was rectangular in plan, with rounded corners, 1.35m long and 0.65m wide. It was very shallow, just 0.08mm, indicating that this feature had probably been truncated by ploughing. Its fill contained 400 sherds (9345g) of

Trevisker-style pottery, from two vessels, together making up approximately 20% of the pit's fill (section 6 and Appendix B). A carbonised bean (*Vicia faba)*, found in the fabric of the rim of one of the vessels, provided a radiocarbon date of 1625-1465 cal BC (SUERC-74052) for the manufacture of the pot (Cobain, Appendix I).

5.13 Ditch 1 (Figs 4 and 8) ran southwest to northeast across the south-eastern part of the excavation area. It was initially encountered during CA's earlier evaluation of the site (CA 2016a), with dating evidence provided by a group of pottery (183 sherds, 1,790g) from intervention 1105 (evaluation trench 11), comprising large sherds from a single vessel, decorated with a band of fingernail impressions. The form is indicative of a Middle Bronze Age date (Quinnell 2016b, 16). Geophysical survey had shown that the ditch continued beyond the limit of excavation to the northeast so three further trenches were dug (Areas 2, 3 and 4), demonstrating that it extended beyond the limit identified as a geophysical anomaly. In discussion with the ECCPPMH it was decided not to follow this feature further. The entirety of ditch 1 within the SMS area was excavated (cuts 3181, 3191, 3201, 3202 and 3366) but produced only a single flint flake. The ditch varied from 0.54-1.6m in width and 0.17-0.9m deep. It was notably narrower and more shallow toward its southern end, probably as a consequence of truncation from ploughing (Fig. 8). The ditch had moderately sloping sides and a flat or gently concave base; it was filled by a grey- or red-brown silt sand. With the absence of any return to this ditch in the area stripped for the SMS to the west, or in the numerous evaluation trenches dug throughout the eastern field (Fig. 2 and CA 2016a), it was decided not to trace it any further. It is best interpreted as the boundary of a field or some other extensive land division rather than an enclosure.

5.14 A ditch of similar proportions, shape and fill (ditch 2) ran across the southernmost area of the site at near to perpendicular to ditch 1. It was undated but its spatial relationship to ditch 1 suggests the features were contemporary. Ditch 2 (cuts 3179 and 3368) ran northwest to southeast, a length of c.20m was exposed between the limits of excavation. Toward its northwest end it was 0.54m wide and 0.17m deep, becoming wider (0.98m) and deeper (0.35m) toward the southeast (Fig. 9). The difference is probably the result of truncation by ploughing to the northwest.

5.15 Ditch 2 was similar in shape and proportions to ditch 1 and had a comparable, brown silt sand fill. Unfortunately the point where these features would have converged (assuming they continued to run straight) lies under the end of a modern

roadway. Also, it would likely have been truncated by the post-medieval boundary ditch running across the site. Therefore it is not possible to ascertain the relationship between ditches 1 and 2 although their similarity in form and fill suggests they are part of the same system.

Undated, but likely to have been prehistoric (10,000 BC – AD 43)

5.16 In the southeast of the site three pits were revealed (3187, 3192 and 3348) lying roughly 10m apart in a north-south line (Fig. 4). All were round, had sides that were near vertical (in the case of 3192 slightly undercut) and near flat, slightly irregular bases. The bases of all of them showed signs of being heat affected – the natural substrate being a dark red, orange or purple colour and somewhat hardened. The lower fills of these pits were also similar – a dark, charcoal-rich layer over a thin, light-grey deposit. Only one, 3192, contained any finds – a single flint flake and a small fragment (8g) of iron slag. The pits are therefore undated, but probably result from prehistoric activity at the site. The iron slag suggests an Iron Age, or later, date, but no firm conclusions may be drawn from such a small piece.

5.17 Pit 3192 was the largest, measuring 1.3m in diameter and 0.52m deep. Pits 3187 and 3348 were similar in size, being 1.1m and 1.0m across and 0.35m and 0.28m deep respectively. As well as being larger 3192 also showed more complexity. In the northeast part of its base lay a layer of light grey sandy ashy material (3400) overlain by deposits of hardened, heat-affected redeposited natural (3401 and 3402), covered by ashy deposit 3353 (Fig. 10b). In the northwest of the pit, an arc of four stakeholes (3406, 3408, 3410 and 3412) ran across the base of the feature (Fig. 10b). These were small features, 0.06-0.11m across at their top, tapering down to bases 0.04-0.13m deep. They had dark, brown-grey fills that were sealed by 3193, the lowest fill of the pit in this area and of very similar colour and texture to the fills of the stakeholes (a dark brownish grey silty sand, becoming a little more sandy in the stakeholes), suggesting fill 3193 was laid down after the removal of the stakes. This was overlain by fill 3194, a mid brownish grey silty sand with occasional flat stones, 0.1-0.15m in size, some of which appeared to have been placed at the sides of the pit. Two large stones were also found in overlying fill 3195. The feature bears some similarity to a Middle Iron Age oven from Digby Drive (Digby Site 5) but the Digby feature contained large quantities of burnt clay, including a clay lining (Quinnell and Farnell 2016, 95).

5.18 The base of pit 3348 also appeared to be heat-affected (Fig. 10a). The lowest fill was an ashy deposit (3349), overlain by a layer with frequent charcoal inclusions (3350). The quantity of charcoal decreased in upper fills 3351 and 3352. Pit 3187 contained a series of four sandy fills, with occasional charcoal fragments in one (Fig. 10a).

5.19 Each pit was also accompanied by a clear post hole (or in the case of 3187 a pair of post holes directly next to each other). These all lay 2-3m away from the pit and may have been related to the pits. Posthole 3358 was 0.33m in diameter and 0.33m deep. Its fill was very similar to fills 3193 and 3194 of adjacent pit 3192. Postholes 3345 and 3347 were 0.25m in diameter and 0.15m deep; posthole 3357 was 0.2m wide and 0.1m deep.

5.20 The vast majority of other features across the site were small pits (under 1.0m across and 0.4m deep) or possible post holes with concave bases and slightly irregular forms. Many showed signs of bioturbation from roots and burrowing animals. Almost all had single fills of grey brown sand silt and produced no finds. There were a few larger pits but their form and fill was similar.

5.21 These features were more common across the west and south of the site but no particular pattern could be discerned. Although some small clusters of these features were present none formed coherent shapes that might be interpreted as structures.

Post-medieval and Modern (1540-Present)

5.22 Running northwest to southeast across the southern part of the site were a pair of ditches clearly related to boundaries that have only recently been removed as part of development in the area (Fig. 3). The fills contained modern finds and the ditches are part of relatively modern field systems. Occasional postholes adjacent to these were also shown to be modern.

5.23 Scattered across the site were several pits that, judging by their shape and/or fills, were evidently the product of modern waste burial or geotechnical investigations.

6. THE FINDS

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

Table 1: Quantification of finds

Type	Category	Count	Weight (g)
Pottery	Bronze Age	400	9345
	Post-medieval and modern	17	314
	Total	*417*	*9659*
Worked flint		8	99
Worked stone		3	866
CBM		2	86
fired/burnt clay		19	95
Clay tobacco pipe		1	3
Glass		2	47
Iron slag		1	8

6.2 A large group of pottery (272 sherds, 9012g; fig 7) was hand recovered from pit 3011, with a further 128 sherds (333g) removed from a bulk soil sample of the single fill of this feature. All are in a rock-gritted fabric, but appear to derive from two vessels. One is represented by parts of the rim, body and base; the second by body sherds. The vessels may have been deposited largely intact, but the pit had been severely truncated, probably by ploughing. The more complete of the two displays a number of traits of the Trevisker style of pottery, including impressed cord decoration, although the motifs (horizontal lines and chevrons) are rather irregularly applied on this example. Radiocarbon dating of a charred bean from the fabric of the vessel indicates it was made towards the end of the Early Bronze Age. The second vessel has vertically and horizontally applied cordons, similar to the ribs of the South Lodge Type barrel urns of the Deverel Rimbury tradition. The ceramics from this pit therefore show stylistic affinities with those from the neighbouring areas of Dorset and Cornwall. Burnt residue on the internal surface of a number of sherds indicates their use to cook food. The rarity of ceramics on this site, and the wider area, suggests these vessels may have held a special significance for the inhabitants of the site.

6.3 Other finds of possible prehistoric date include eight worked flint flakes, a stone rubber, a small fragment of fired clay and one of iron slag.

6.4 Finds of post-medieval or modern date include 17 sherds (314g) of pottery, all refined white wares or stonewares; a stem fragment from a clay tobacco pipe, two pieces of glass and two fragments of ceramic building material.

6.5 A hone stone from the topsoil is undated.

7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

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

Table 2: Quantification of biological evidence

Type	Category	Count
Animal bone	Fragments (ID to species)	2
Samples	Environmental	12

Animal Bone

7.2 Two fragments of animal bone (39g) were recovered from deposit 3177, the fill of ditch 3178. Artefacts dating to the post-medieval/modern era were also recovered from this deposit. The animal bone was only moderately well preserved but each fragment was identifiable as a partial limb bone, a femur and a tibia, both of which were cattle (*Bos taurus*). No cut and/or chop marks were observed to suggest an origin in butchery waste and no further useful information, beyond species identification, was obtained.

Plant macrofossils

7.3 Twelve bulk soil samples (209 litres of soil) were analysed from a range of pits, postholes and a ditch across the site. Five of the samples were from Mesolithic pits and postholes, two samples were from a later Early Bronze Age-early Middle Bronze Age ditch and pit and five samples were from pits which are undated but possibly prehistoric.

7.4 Samples from Mesolithic pits 3252 and 3327 produced low numbers of charred plant remains. These included a few small fragments of hazelnut shell and seeds of vetch/wild pea (*Vicia/Lathyrus* sp.) and knotgrass (Polygonaceae). The weed seeds are of typical grassland species and the hazelnut shell may be reflective of the exploitation of the wild food resource.

7.5 The small assemblages from later Early Bronze Age to early Middle Bronze Age pit 3011 and from ditch 1 included remains of hulled wheat, emmer or spelt (*Triticum dicoccum/spelta*), grain, celtic bean (cf. *Vicia faba*), vetch/wild pea, buds and monocot stem/rootlet fragments. Celtic beans have been recorded from deposits of Neolithic and earlier Bronze Age date rarely but are observed more frequently within later Bronze Age assemblages, in particular those from coastal sites (Treasure and Church 2016). A single charred seed of probable celtic bean was also recovered from within the fabric of a Trevisker-style pottery sherd from fill 3012 of pit 3011.

7.6 Small quantities of charred plant remains were recorded from pits 3187, 3192, 3213 and 3348, while no charred plant remains were observed from pit 1103. The assemblages include seeds of vetch/wild pea, knotweeds, brambles (*Rubus* sp.) and docks (*Rumex* sp.), buds, tuber fragments and monocot stem/rootlet fragments. There is no indication of the date of these features from these samples although they may be prehistoric.

Charcoal

7.7 A limited range of five taxa were positively identified: *Quercus* sp. (oak), *Betula* sp. (birch), *Corylus avellana* (hazel), *Populus/Salix* (poplar/willow) and *Cytisus/Ulex* (broom/gorse).

7.8 The majority of the charcoal from the pits derived from oak, including mature heartwood. The preferential use of oak is indicative of the availability of native oak-hazel woodland. Traces of other sources, including wetground (poplar/willow) and heathland (broom/gorse) are indicated. Birch is a coloniser tree, which indicates open conditions. The results from this site are similar to the charcoal assemblages assessed from Middle Bronze Age contexts at the nearby sites of Old Rydon Lane (Barnett 2014) and Former Navy Depot (Challinor 2011), although the latter included a component of hedgerow/scrub type taxa.

8. DISCUSSION

8.1 The investigations have recorded the presence and survival of archaeological remains across the site and allowed the investigation of the evidence for past occupation. The survival and intelligibility of the site stratigraphy was good with archaeological remains having survived as negative features despite later post-medieval agricultural activities. The site stratigraphy has been analysed as far as the evidence allows and features have been dated by associated finds, radiocarbon dating, stratigraphic relationships and spatial logic where possible. Although the recovered finds assemblage recovered was limited in quantity, the excavation has identified three definite phases of activity and although the majority of the features were undated, a general 'prehistoric' date is inferred.

8.2 The discovery of three features of Mesolithic date is highly significant for this area. Previously, the only evidence for activity during this period was the presence of occasional worked flints, but none were stratified. Dating was confirmed during the current works by two radiocarbon dates of 7050–6769 cal BC and 7036-6700 cal BC) from pit 3327. The similarity between the form of pits 3327, 3205 and 3252 suggests these features are contempory. All three had a central hole dug into their bases, one of which appeared to be dug through the lowest layer of silting. If these holes were used to hold a post, the posts were removed prior to the infilling of the pits. The features are not spatially related, beyond being located in the southern area of the site, and their function is unknown. Small pits of possible Mesolithic date have been found at Midsomer Norton, Somerset (UCL 2005) with some evidence for Mesolithic features at Exmoor and Mendip, but such structural or occupational evidence for the period is very limited (Bell *et al.* 2015, 24). More massive postholes (1.5-2m diameter 1.3m deep) of this period were discovered at Stonehenge, and assigned a possible ceremonial function (Allen 1995).

8.3 Evidence of activity at the end of the Early Bronze Age was found in pit 3011 (Fig. 7). This pit lay somewhat isolated in the northwest of the excavation area. However, around 60m to the south lies the Bronze Age enclosure and roundhouse identified by the earlier work of JMHS (Gilbert 2012, 69-72). It seems probable that this pit represents an outlier of the activity associated with this enclosure.

8.4 Two vessels had been deposited in the pit, which had suffered considerable truncation, probably by ploughing, with only 0.08m vertical survival. At least one

vessel was probably complete at the time of deposition, with parts of the rim, body and base surviving. The second vessel was represented only by body sherds, and it was not possible to ascertain if this was the result of selective deposition of certain parts of the pot, or removal during truncation of the feature. The vessel with surviving rim displays traits of the Trevisker pottery tradition, including the impressed cord decorative motif, yet the second vessel, with its horizontal and vertical cordons, or ribs, is more typical of the South Lodge barrel urns of Dorset. This assimilation of styles from other regions is not uncommon in Devon (Quinnell 1988) and in this particular area has been recognised in a vessel found at the nearby Old Rydon Lane site (Raymond 2012, 78-79).

8.5 Radiocarbon dating of a charred bean from within the fabric of the vessel rim from pit 3011 indicates it was made at the end of the Early Bronze Age, at a time when Trevisker-styled vessels are more commonly encountered in funerary, rather than domestic contexts (Quinnell 2012, 156). The deliberate deposition of such vessels, in an area where pottery does not appear to have been in common use, is significant and may represent a symbolic act rather than the disposal of refuse. Across the Exteter area this pattern of the deposition of large portions of vessels, specifically those assigned a Middle Bronze Age date, is repeated at Old Rydon Lane (Gilbert 2012) and the RNSD site (Pearce *et al*. 2011). A large part of a single vessel (183 sherds, 1790g) was also found in ditch 1 during the evaluation of the IKEA site (Quinnell 2016b, 16). The presence of burnt residue on the interior of the vessels from the pit and ditch at the IKEA site indicate they were used as cooking vessels, perhaps as part of a communal feast at important times of year, or the opening/closing of a site. The general lack of everyday pottery in a range of features, and the deposition of large parts (or all) of single vessels in just two features, suggests a more ceremonial than mundane end to the life of these pots.

8.6 As noted above, ditch 1, running southwest to northeast across the eastern part of the SMS, also contained a large deposit of Bronze Age pottery unearthed in the earlier evaluation of the area (CA 2016a, ditch 1105). This ditch was shown to run across the landscape without a nearby return or junction suggesting that it was a field boundary. Previous work to the south also shows similar ditches that have been dated to the Bronze Age (Gilbert 2012; AC 2016; see Fig. 2 above). Therefore it seems reasonable to assume that ditch 1 was part of an extensive field system laid out around the enclosure and roundhouse lying to the west of the SMS area. Ditch 2

is possibly also part of this although its direct relationship to ditch 1 cannot be proved.

8.7 Three pits (3187, 3192 and 3348) in the southeast of the excavation area all displayed evidence of heating on their bases. Pits containing burnt deposits, some with evidence of *in situ* burning, have been found on other sites in this area, including three ovens of Middle Iron Age date from Digby Drive (Quinnell and Farnell 2016; Gilbert 2012). The larger and more complex of the IKEA pits, 3192, had stakeholes in its base, perhaps the remains of part of a structure or windbreak. Stone slabs found placed at the sides of the pits are also likely to derive from a structural use. The features may result from craft or industrial activity, or perhaps from a domestic use as ovens. Certainly the limited evidence for the use of pottery vessels during the prehistoric period in this area is suggestive of methods of food preparation that did not involve boiling, and perhaps a greater emphasis on the use of ovens for baking. The date of these examples has not been ascertained, but a later prehistoric, perhaps Iron Age, use seems likely. The area excavations carried out by AC archaeology to the south and southwest of the excavation are as yet unpublished but might shed more light upon the matter.

8.8 The majority of features scattered across the site are not amenable to detailed discussion since they are undated; also their form, location and fills give no indication of their purpose. Some of them may be related to the Bronze Age enclosure and field system lying to the west and south of the SMS area, an impression borne out by the greater concentration of features toward those parts of the site. Previous work nearby also showed a scattering of undated features nearby (Gilbert 2012, AC 2016). However, none of the features found in this excavation appeared to continue possible structures identified in the previous work. These features may have been created across a wide range of time; furthermore, the somewhat irregular form of many may indicate they are the product of plant rooting or animal burrowing.

8.9 In summary, the majority of features on the site cannot be ascribed to any particular period, structure or purpose; however, those which can seem to bear out the results of previous investigations to the west and south of the SMS area. The Bronze Age enclosure and roundhouse to the southwest appear to sit within a field system; the SMS revealed scattered features on the periphery of this settlement. The inhabitants at the time seem to have carefully and purposefully deposited their ceramic vessels

within boundary ditches or pits; this material may have been rare and/or carefully curated at the end of its use – hence the dearth of pottery found. Features with *in situ* burnt remains may have had a domestic use associated with food preparation. Perhaps the most significant findings of the current archaeological investigations is the identification of features of Mesolithic date, hitherto unknown in this area, and the evidence for the deposition of the Trevisker-style pottery, made at the end of the Early Bronze Age, and perhaps providing indication of a communal gathering or feast. These are of regional and local significance (respectively).

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10. STORAGE AND CURATION

10.1 The archive is currently held at CA offices in Andover whilst post-excavation work proceeds. Upon completion of the project, and with the agreement of the legal landowners, the site archive and artefactual collection will be deposited with Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter, under accession number RAMM 16/49. Any artefacts that the RAMM do not wish to retain will be offered to the landowner, and then discarded or added to teaching/reference collections. The digital archive and scanned images of the primary site archive will be submitted to the appropriate Trusted Digital Repository (the Archaeological Data Service (ADS)). A summary of

information from this project, set out within Appendix A, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

11. PUBLICATION PROPOSALS

11.1 It is recommended that the results presented here, as well as illustrations of the pottery and a note on the petrological analysis, are published as a short summary report in the *Proceedings of the Devon Archaeological Society*. This report will be made available on-line. The publication will be quality assured by Karen Walker MCIfA (Principal Post-excavation Manager) and managed by Grace Jones MCIfA (Finds Manager).

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APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Context no.	Type	Fill of	Context Interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
3000	layer		topsoil	grey brown silt loam in west field	>150	>65	0.3	modern
3001	layer		made-ground	brown-red, compacted silt sand with modern construction waste in west field	>150	>65	0.1-0.8	modern
3002	layer		buried topsoil	dark brown-grey, compacted sand silt with modern construction waste in west field	>150	>65	0.2-0.8	modern
3003	layer		subsoil	grey brown sand silt in west field	>150	>65	0.1-0.3	
3004	layer		natural substrate	mixed brown-red, brown-orange and brown-purple silt-sand and sand-silt with grit and stone, entire site				
3005	cut		pit	oval, concave base	0.46	0.44	0.12	
3006	fill	3005	single fill	grey silt sand	0.46	0.44	0.12	
3007	cut		pit	round, flat base	0.64	0.6	0.17	
3008	fill	3007	single fill	grey silt sand	0.64	0.6	0.17	
3009	cut		pit/posthole	round, steep sides, concave base	0.39	0.37	0.2	
3010	fill	3009	single fill	grey sand silt	0.39	0.37	0.2	
3011	cut		pit	rectangle, rounded corners, irregular base	1.35	0.65	0.08	Bronze Age
3012	fill	3011	single fill	grey brown sand silt, c.20% Bronze-Age pottery	1.35	0.65	0.08	Bronze Age
3013	cut		pit	oval, flat base	0.33	0.24	0.05	
3014	fill	3013	single fill	brown grey, silt sand	0.33	0.24	0.05	
3015	cut		pit	oval, flat base	0.54	0.32	0.09	
3016	fill	3015	single fill	brown grey, silt clay	0.54	0.32	0.09	
3017	cut		pit	oval, irregular shape and base	0.55	0.43	0.19	
3018	fill	3017	single fill	grey brown, silt sand	0.55	0.43	0.19	
3019	cut		pit/posthole	oval, steep sides, concave base	0.46	0.4	0.29	
3020	fill	3019	single fill	orange grey, silt sand	0.46	0.4	0.29	
3021	cut		pit	oval, steep sides, concave base	0.6	0.5	0.4	
3022	fill	3021	single fill	pink grey, silt sand	0.6	0.5	0.4	
3023	cut		pit	oval, irregular shape and base	1.15	0.96	0.2	
3024	fill	3023	single fill	brown grey, silt sand	1.15	0.96	0.2	
3025	cut		pit	oval, flat base	0.48	0.33	0.19	
3026	fill	3025	single fill	grey brown, silt sand	0.48	0.33	0.19	
3027	cut		pit	oval, concave base	1.2	0.9	0.21	
3028	fill	3027	single fill	pink brown, silt sand	1.2	0.9	0.21	
3029	cut		pit	oval, concave base	0.56	0.46	0.08	
3030	fill	3029	single fill	pink brown, silt sand	0.56	0.46	0.08	
3031	cut		pit/posthole	round, steep sides, concave base	0.29	0.29	0.05	
3032	fill	3031	single fill	mid brown silt sand	0.29	0.29	0.05	
3033	cut		pit/posthole	round, concave base	0.28	0.3	0.06	
3034	fill	3033	single fill	brown silt sand	0.28	0.3	0.06	
3035	cut		pit/posthole	oval, steep sides, flat base	0.35	0.25	0.25	
3036	fill	3035	single fill	black grey sand silt	0.35	0.25	0.25	
3037	cut		pit/posthole	oval, steep sides, flat base	0.2	0.15	0.12	
3038	fill	3037	single fill	black grey sand silt	0.2	0.15	0.12	
3039	cut		pit/posthole	round, concave base	0.42	0.41	0.18	
3040	fill	3039	single fill	orange brown silt sand	0.42	0.41	0.18	
3041	cut		pit	oval, concave base	0.55	0.3	0.1	
3042	fill	3041	single fill	orange brown silt sand	0.55	0.3	0.1	
3043	cut		tree throw	irregular shape and base	3.3	3.0	0.34	
3044	fill	3043	tree throw fill	yellow brown silt sand	3.3	1.4	0.34	
3045	fill	3043	tree throw fill	mixed grey and pink silt sand		0.3	0.14	
3046	cut		pit	round, concave base	0.45	0.45	0.12	
3047	fill	3046	single fill	brown grey sand silt	0.45	0.45	0.12	
3048	fill	3043	tree throw fill	orange pink silt sand, redeposited natural	0.3	0.88	0.26	
3049	cut		pit	oval, concave base	0.8	0.5	0.11	
3050	fill	3049	single fill	grey brown sand silt	0.8	0.5	0.11	
3051	fill	3043	tree throw fill	brown grey silt sand		1.48	0.22	

Context no.	Type	Fill of	Context Interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
3052	cut		pit	irregular oval, flat base	1.35	0.7	0.16	
3053	fill	3052	pit fill	orange brown silt sand, redeposited natural	0.55	0.4	0.12	
3054	fill	3052	pit fill	orange brown silt sand, redeposited natural	0.6	0.38	0.11	
3055	fill	3052	pit fill	yellow brown sand silt	0.77	0.65	0.16	
3056	cut		pit/posthole	round, flat base	0.4	0.4	0.07	
3057	fill	3056	single fill	grey brown sand silt	0.4	0.4	0.07	
3058	cut		pit/posthole	oval, steep sided, concave base	0.29	0.27	0.22	
3059	fill	3058	single fill	brown grey silt sand	0.29	0.27	0.22	
3060	cut		pit/posthole	round, concave base	0.26	0.26	0.07	
3061	fill	3060	single fill	red brown silt sand	0.26	0.26	0.07	
3062	cut		pit	oval, steep sides and concave base	0.8	0.4	0.25	
3063	fill	3062	single fill	grey brown sand silt	0.8	0.4	0.25	
3064	cut		pit	oval, concave base	0.8	0.4	0.14	
3065	fill	3064	single fill	red brown sand silt	0.8	0.4	0.14	
3066	cut		pit	oval, concave base	0.47	0.31	0.13	
3067	fill	3066	single fill	pink brown silt sand	0.47	0.31	0.13	
3068	cut		pit	oval, flat base	0.9	0.8	0.19	
3069	fill	3068	single fill	grey brown silt sand	0.9	0.8	0.19	
3070	cut		pit	irregular oval, concave base	0.76	0.6	0.26	
3071	fill	3070	single fill	brown grey silt sand	0.76	0.6	0.26	
3072	cut		tree throw	irregular oval, irregular base	2.55	2.2	0.56	
3073	fill	3072	tree throw fill	pink brown sand silt	2.55	0.6	0.56	
3074	fill	3072	tree throw fill	orange brown sand silt	1.4	0.44	0.16	
3075	fill	3072	tree throw fill	mixed orange and yellow brown silt sand	2.2	1.7	0.45	
3076	cut		pit/posthole	round, flat base	0.18	0.2	0.03	
3077	fill	3076	single fill	brown grey sand silt	0.18	0.2	0.03	
3078	cut		pit/posthole	round, flat base	0.5	0.45	0.06	
3079	fill	3078	single fill	brown grey sand silt	0.5	0.45	0.06	
3080	cut		tree throw	rounded, irregular	4.0	2.5	0.3	
3081	fill	3080	tree throw fill	grey brown silt sand	2.2	1.25	0.3	
3082	fill	3080	tree throw fill	pink orange silt sand	0.55	0.25	0.24	
3083	fill	3080	tree throw fill	grey brown silt sand	4.0	1.25	0.22	
3084	cut		pit	oval, flat base	0.44	0.15	0.22	
3085	fill	3084	single fill	white brown silt sand	0.44	0.15	0.22	
3086	cut		pit	oval, steep sides, flat base	0.68	0.48	0.23	
3087	fill	3086	single fill	brown grey, silt sand	0.68	0.48	0.23	
3088	cut		pit/posthole	round, steep sides, flat base	0.22	0.22	0.22	
3089	fill	3088	lower fill	purple grey silt sand with frequent gravels	0.11	0.11	0.08	
3090	fill	3088	middle fill	pink orange silt sand	0.18	0.18	0.07	
3091	fill	3088	upper fill	dark brown grey silt sand	0.22	0.22	0.08	
3092	cut		tree throw	irregular rounded, concave base	2.55	2.1	0.4	
3093	fill	3092	tree throw fill	brown grey sand silt	2.0	0.3	0.27	
3094	fill	3092	tree throw fill	brown red sand silt	2.55	0.7	0.4	
3095	fill	3092	tree throw fill	brown grey sand silt	2.55	1.1	0.4	
3096	cut		pit/posthole	round, steep sides, flat base	0.28	0.28	0.17	
3097	fill	3096	lower fill	orange brown silt sand	0.28	0.2	0.17	
3098	fill	3096	middle fill	orange silt sand	0.16	0.2	0.13	
3099	fill	3096	upper fill	brown grey silt sand	0.15	0.15	0.08	
3100	cut		pit/posthole	round, concave base	0.22	0.22	0.07	
3101	fill	3100	single fill	brown grey sand silt	0.22	0.22	0.07	
3102	cut		tree throw	irregular rounded shape and base	2.9	2.3	0.35	
3103	fill	3102	tree throw fill	yellow brown sand silt	>0.4	1.2	0.35	
3104	fill	3102	tree throw fill	yellow brown sand silt	>0.4	0.45	0.34	
3105	fill	3102	tree throw fill	mixed orange and brown red silt sand	>0.4	1.3	0.3	
3106	cut		pit	oval, concave base	0.64	0.55	0.06	
3107	fill	3106	single fill	pink grey silt sand	0.64	0.55	0.06	
3108	cut		pit/posthole	round, steep sides, concave base	0.18	0.18	0.12	
3109	fill	3108	single fill	pink brown silt sand	0.18	0.18	0.12	
3110	cut		pit/posthole	round, flat base	0.3	0.3	0.06	
3111	fill	3110	single fill	brown grey sand silt	0.3	0.3	0.06	
3112	cut		pit/posthole	round, concave base	0.38	0.4	0.08	
3113	fill	3112	single fill	brown grey sand silt	0.38	0.4	0.08	

Context no.	Type	Fill of	Context Interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
3114	cut		pit	oval, concave base	0.5	0.3	0.2	
3115	fill	3114	single fill	brown grey sand silt	0.5	0.3	0.2	
3116	cut		tree throw	irregular rounded shape and base	1.2	0.8	0.2	
3117	fill	3116	tree throw fill	yellow brown sand silt	>0.5	0.45	0.2	
3118	fill	3116	tree throw fill	yellow brown sand silt	>0.5	0.35	0.12	
3119	fill	3116	tree throw fill	mixed red and orange brown silt sand	>0.5	0.55	0.13	
3120	cut		pit	oval, irregular base	0.7	0.5	0.08	
3121	fill	3120	single fill	brown grey silt sand	0.7	0.5	0.08	
3122	cut		pit/posthole	round, steep sides, concave base	0.22	0.23	0.12	
3123	fill	3122	single fill	black grey silt sand	0.22	0.23	0.12	
3124	cut		pit	oval, concave base	0.78	0.64	0.1	
3125	fill	3124	single fill	brown grey silt sand	0.78	0.64	0.1	
3126	cut		pit	oval, flat base, disturbed	0.8	0.64	0.1	
3127	fill	3126	single fill	yellow grey silt sand	0.8	0.64	0.1	
3128	cut		tree throw	irregular rounded shape and base	4.0	2.17	0.4	
3129	fill	3128	tree throw fill	red grey sand silt	2.0	0.3	0.2	
3130	fill	3128	tree throw fill	brown red sand silt	2.0	0.7	0.36	
3131	fill	3128	tree throw fill	brown grey sand silt	4.0	1.2	0.4	
3132	cut		pit	oval, concave base, disturbed	0.5	0.34	0.09	
3133	fill	3132	single fill	grey silt sand	0.5	0.34	0.09	
3134	cut		pit	oval, concave base, disturbed	0.46	0.38	0.1	
3135	fill	3134	single fill	brown grey silt sand	0.46	0.38	0.1	
3136	cut		pit	oval, steep sided, concave base	0.36	0.42	0.09	
3137	fill	3136	single fill	orange brown silt sand	0.36	0.42	0.09	
3138	cut		pit	oval, steep sides, concave base	0.53	0.38	0.12	
3139	fill	3138	single fill	red brown silt sand	0.53	0.38	0.12	
3140	cut		tree throw	irregular oval, flat base	1.9	1.4	0.12	
3141	fill	3140	tree throw fill	pink brown sand silt	>0.4	0.6	0.12	
3142	fill	3140	tree throw fill	pink brown sand silt	>0.4	0.9	0.12	
3143	fill	3140	tree throw fill	mixed red orange and red brown silt sand	>0.4	0.67	0.12	
3144	cut		pit/posthole	round, concave base	0.2	0.2	0.1	
3145	fill	3144	single fill	brown grey sand silt	0.2	0.2	0.1	
3146	cut		pit	irregular oval, concave base	0.45	0.25	0.15	
3147	fill	3146	single fill	grey brown sand silt	0.45	0.25	0.15	
3148	cut		pit	oval, irregular base	0.8	0.6	0.07	
3149	fill	3148	single fill	brown grey sand silt	0.8	0.6	0.07	
3150	cut		pit	round, concave base	0.6	0.7	0.15	
3151	fill	3150	single fill	brown grey sand silt	0.6	0.7	0.15	
3152	cut		pit/posthole	rhomboidal, steep sides, flat base	0.22	0.14	0.2	
3153	fill	3152	single fill	grey sand silt	0.22	0.14	0.2	
3154	cut		pit	oval, irregular base	1.28	0.7	0.1	
3155	fill	3154	single fill	grey brown sand silt	1.28	0.7	0.1	
3156	cut		tree throw	irregular oval, irregular base	2.8	0.17	0.26	
3157	fill	3156	tree throw fill	grey brown sand silt	>1.4	0.7	0.2	
3158	fill	3156	tree throw fill	mixed orange and brown pink silt sand	>1.4	0.4	0.22	
3159	cut		pit/posthole	oval, concave base	0.2	0.28	0.13	
3160	fill	3159	single fill	pink brown silt sand	0.2	0.28	0.13	
3161	cut		pit/posthole	round, concave base	0.3	0.3	0.11	
3162	fill	3161	single fill	pink brown silt sand	0.3	0.3	0.11	
3163	fill	3164	single fill	grey brown silt sand	0.32	0.32	0.08	
3164	cut		pit/posthole	round, concave base	0.32	0.32	0.08	
3165	fill	3166	single fill	grey brown silt sand	0.43	0.43	0.05	
3166	cut		pit/posthole	round, concave base	0.43	0.43	0.05	
3167	fill	3168	single fill	grey brown silt sand	0.5	0.5	0.06	
3168	cut		pit/posthole	round, concave base	0.5	0.5	0.06	
3169	cut		pit	oval, concave base	0.44	0.48	0.12	
3170	fill	3169	single fill	pink brown silt sand	0.44	0.48	0.12	
3171	fill	3172	single fill	grey brown silt sand	0.2	0.2	0.1	
3172	cut		pit/posthole	round, concave base	0.2	0.2	0.1	
3173	cut		tree throw	irregular oval shape and base	2.3	2.36	0.28	
3174	fill	3173	tree throw fill	red brown silt sand	2.3	>0.4	0.28	
3175	fill	3173	tree throw fill	brown red silt sand	2.3	>0.4	0.18	
3176	fill	3173	tree throw fill	red brown silt sand	2.3	>0.4	0.11	
3177	fill	3178	ditch fill	brown sand silt	1.6	>1.0	0.3	Post-medieval/modern

Context no.	Type	Fill of	Context Interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
3178	cut		field boundary ditch	linear, irregular base, bioturbated	1.6	>1.0	0.3	Post-medieval/modern
3179	cut		ditch 2	linear, concave base	0.52	>1.0	0.09	
3180	fill	3179	ditch fill	red brown silt sand	0.52	>1.0	0.09	
3181	cut		ditch 1	linear, concave base	0.54	>1.0	0.17	Bronze Age
3182	fill	3181	ditch fill	red brown silt sand	0.54	>1.0	0.17	Bronze Age
3183	fill	3187	pit fill	brown sand silt		0.9	0.21	
3184	fill	3187	pit fill	grey brown sand silt		0.75	0.15	
3185	fill	3187	pit fill	light grey silt sand		0.75	0.05	
3186	fill	3187	pit fill	orange brown silt sand		0.45	0.29	
3187	cut		pit	round, vertical sides, slightly irregular base – heat affected	1.1	1.1	0.35	
3188	layer		topsoil	brown grey silt loam in east field	>50	>50	0.3	modern
3189	layer		subsoil	grey brown sand silt	>50	>50	0.3	modern
3190	fill	3191	ditch fill	brown sand silt	>0.8	0.75	0.4	Bronze Age
3191	cut		ditch 1	linear, concave base	>0.8	0.75	0.4	Bronze Age
3192	cut		pit	round, undercut sides, slightly irregular base – heat affected	1.3	1.3	0.52	
3193	fill	3192	pit fill	dark brown grey silt sand	>0.45	1.3	0.13	
3194	fill	3192	pit fill	brown grey silt sand with some stones	>0.45	1.3	0.39	
3195	fill	3192	pit fill	light grey brown silt sand	>0.45	0.54	0.26	
3196	cut		modern service	substantial linear at eastern extremity of excavation				modern
3197	fill	3196	fill of service trench	redeposited natural with modern waste				modern
3198	cut		modern service	substantial linear at eastern extremity of excavation				modern
3199	fill	3198	fill of service trench	redeposited natural with modern waste				modern
3200	fill	3201	ditch fill	brown sand silt	>0.8	1.6	0.9	Bronze Age
3201	cut		ditch 1	linear, concave base	>0.8	1.6	0.9	Bronze Age
3202	cut		ditch 1	linear, concave base	>0.8	1.44	0.68	Bronze Age
3203	fill	3202	lower ditch fill	brown grey silt sand	>0.8	0.9	0.37	Bronze Age
3204	fill	3202	upper ditch fill	pink brown silt sand	>0.8	1.44	0.3	Bronze Age
3205	cut		pit	sub-round, steep to moderate sides, concave base with posthole 3416	2.97	2.7	1.3	
3206	fill	3205	lower pit fill	red brown sand silt	>0.4	0.5	0.18	
3207	fill	3205	pit fill	mixed yellow brown and grey silt sand	>0.7	0.85	0.15	
3208	fill	3205	pit fill	yellow brown sand silt	>0.7	0.7	0.37	
3209	fill	3205	pit fill	mixed yellow brown and grey sand silt	>0.73	1.1	0.15	
3210	fill	3205	pit fill	pink brown silt sand	>0.6	0.9	0.4	
3211	fill	3205	pit fill	yellow brown sand silt	>0.73	1.05	1.05	
3212	fill	3205	pit fill	yellow brown sand silt	>0.73	0.3	0.55	
3213	cut		pit recut within pit 3205	round, concave base	1.52	1.45	0.95	
3214	fill	3213	pit fill	dark brown sand clay	>0.58	0.8	0.3	
3215	fill	3213	pit fill	mixed yellow and brown sand silt	>0.57	0.95	0.28	
3216	fill	3213	pit fill	dark brown sand silt	1.44	1.53	0.57	
3217	cut		pit	oval, concave base, bioturbated	2.6	0.94	0.32	
3218	fill	3217	pit fill	red grey silt sand, stony	2.6	0.58	0.32	
3219	fill	3217	pit fill	orange grey silt sand	0.8	0.36	0.26	
3220	fill	3237	pit fill	pink grey silt sand	0.9	0.48	0.08	
3221	cut		tree throw	irregular rounded shape and base	2.46	2.2	0.4	
3222	fill	3221	tree throw fill	dark red silt sand	>0.4	0.63	0.17	
3223	fill	3221	tree throw fill	brown grey silt sand	>0.4	0.9	0.27	
3224	fill	3221	tree throw fill	grey pink silt sand	>0.4	0.3	0.27	
3225	fill	3221	tree throw fill	orange silt sand	>0.4	0.2	0.3	
3226	fill	3221	tree throw fill	grey silt sand	2.46	0.94	0.4	
3227	cut		tree throw	irregular rounded shape and base	3.8	3.4	0.4	
3228	fill	3227	tree throw fill	red grey sand silt	3.8	1.8	0.2	
3229	fill	3227	tree throw fill	brown red sand silt	3.6	11.5	0.4	
3230	fill	3227	tree throw fill	red grey sand silt	2.4	0.4	0.2	
3231	cut		pit/posthole	round, steep sides, concave base	0.33	0.32	0.13	
3232	fill	3231	single fill	grey brown sand silt	0.33	0.32	0.13	
3233	cut		pit/posthole	round, concave base	0.33	0.31	0.18	

Context no.	Type	Fill of	Context Interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
3234	fill	3233	single fill	brown grey silt sand	0.33	0.31	0.18	
3235	cut		pit/posthole	oval, concave base	0.31	0.22	0.18	
3236	fill	3235	single fill	grey brown sand silt	0.31	0.22	0.18	
3237	cut		pit	irregular oval, concave base, bioturbated	0.9	0.48	0.08	
3238	cut		pit	oval, concave base	0.6	0.93	0.16	
3239	fill	3238	single fill	pink grey silt sand, frequent stones	0.6	0.93	0.16	
3240	cut		pit/posthole	round, concave tapered base	0.23	0.21	0.11	
3241	fill	3240	single fill	pink grey silt sand	0.23	0.21	0.11	
3242	cut		pit	oval, concave base	0.78	0.55	0.21	
3243	fill	3242	lower pit fill	red brown sand silt	0.7	0.55	0.06	
3244	fill	3242	upper pit fill	grey brown sand silt	0.7	0.55	0.14	
3245	fill	3252	upper pit fill	grey brown sand silt		0.7	0.25	
3246	fill	3252	pit fill	grey brown sand silt		1.05	0.2	
3247	fill	3252	pit fill	light brown sand silt		0.75	0.4	
3248	fill	3252	pit fill	light grey sand silt		1.3	0.29	
3249	fill	3252	pit fill	brown orange sand silt		1.2	0.3	
3250	fill	3252	pit fill	light grey brown sand silt		0.8	0.6	
3251	fill	3252	pit fill	grey orange sand silt		0.1	0.9	
3252	cut		pit	round, steep sides, slightly concave base	2.0	2.0	0.95	
3253	cut		pit/posthole	round, steep sides, tapered base	0.27	0.24	0.25	
3254	fill	3253	single fill	grey sand silt	0.27	0.24	0.25	
3255	cut		tree throw	irregular oval, concave base	2.77	1.65	0.61	
3256	fill	3255	tree throw fill	brown grey silt sand	>0.5	1.27	0.28	
3257	fill	3255	tree throw fill	brown grey silt sand	>0.5	0.1	0.36	
3258	fill	3255	tree throw fill	orange red silt sand	>0.5	1.16	0.35	
3259	cut		pit	oval, concave base	1.3	0.95	0.24	
3260	fill	3259	single fill	brown sand silt	1.3	0.95	0.24	
3261	cut		pit	oval, concave base	0.48	0.4	0.1	
3262	fill	3261	single fill	grey brown sand silt	0.48	0.4	0.1	
3263	cut		pit	oval, concave base	0.53	0.3	0.14	
3264	fill	3263	single fill	grey brown sand silt	0.53	0.3	0.14	
3265	cut		pit	oval, concave base, bioturbated	0.5	0.74	0.21	
3266	fill	3265	single fill	pink grey silt sand	0.5	0.74	0.21	
3267	cut		pit	irregular oval	3.8	1.2	0.2	
3268	fill	3267	single fill	grey brown sand silt	3.8	1.2	0.2	
3269	cut		elongated pit/gully	elongated and curved, concave base	1.22	0.4	0.18	
3270	fill	3269	single fill	grey brown silt sand	1.22	0.4	0.18	
3271	cut		pit	oval, concave base	1.48	1.1	0.2	
3272	fill	3271	single fill	grey brown sand silt	1.48	1.1	0.2	
3273	cut		pit/posthole	round, concave base	0.35	0.34	0.25	
3274	fill	3273	single fill	red grey silt sand	0.35	0.34	0.25	
3275	cut		pit	oval, irregular base	1.5	1.1	0.43	
3276	fill	3275	pit fill	white grey silt sand	>0.35	>0.2	0.07	
3277	fill	3275	pit fill	brown grey silt sand	1.5	1.1	0.43	
3278	cut		pit/posthole	round, tapering base	0.38	0.38	0.18	
3279	fill	3278	single fill	brown grey silt sand	0.38	0.38	0.18	
3280	cut		pit/posthole	round, concave base	0.18	0.17	0.04	
3281	fill	3280	single fill	grey silt sand	0.18	0.17	0.04	
3282	cut		pit	oval, flat base – somewhat irregular	0.3	0.25	0.1	
3283	fill	3282	lower pit fill	pink grey silt sand	0.3	>0.15	0.05	
3284	fill	3282	upper pit fill	brown grey silt sand	0.3	>0.15	0.09	
3285	fill	3286	pit fill	grey brown sand silt	2.7	1.25	0.45	
3286	cut		pit	oval, irregular base	2.7	1.25	0.45	
3287	cut		pit	oval, concave base	0.5	0.73	0.1	
3288	fill	3287	single fill	pink grey silt sand	0.5	0.73	0.1	
3289	cut		post hole	round, tapered base	0.27	0.24	0.1	modern
3290	fill	3289	single fill	pink grey silt sand	0.27	0.24	0.1	modern
3291	cut		post throw	round, tapered base	0.25	0.23	0.09	modern
3292	fill	3291	single fill	pink grey silt sand	0.25	0.23	0.09	modern
3293	fill	3275	upper pit fill	grey brown silt sand	0.9	>0.5	0.19	
3294	cut		pit	oval, irregular shape and base	1.78	0.9	0.2	
3295	fill		single fill	grey brown sand silt	1.78	0.9	0.2	
3296	cut		pit	oval, irregular shape and base	2.3	1.3	0.28	

Context no.	Type	Fill of	Context Interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
3297	fill		single fill	red brown silt sand	2.3	1.3	0.28	
3298	cut		pit	irregular and elongated, concave base, bioturbated	1.35	0.56	0.23	
3299	fill	3298	single fill	pink grey silt sand	1.35	0.56	0.23	
3300	fill	3301	single fill	grey brown silt sand	2.3	0.9	0.35	
3301	cut		pit	elongated oval, concave base	2.3	0.9	0.35	
3302	cut		pit	oval, concave base	0.6	0.7	0.19	
3303	fill	3302	single fill	red grey sand silt	0.6	0.7	0.19	
3304	cut		pit/posthole	round, steep sided, plat base	0.22	0.2	0.15	
3305	fill	3304	single fill	grey sand silt	0.22	0.2	0.15	
3306	cut		tree throw	oval, irregular shape and base	1.3	1.64	0.38	
3307	fill	3306	tree throw fill	grey red silt sand	1.3	0.15	0.09	
3308	fill	3306	tree throw fill	grey orange silt sand	1.2	0.94	0.17	
3309	fill	3306	tree throw fill	orange grey silt sand	0.9	0.36	0.04	
3310	fill	3306	tree throw fill	red grey silt sand	1.3	0.96	0.38	
3311	cut		pit	oval, concave base – bioturbated	0.5	0.32	0.16	
3312	fill	3311	single fill	pink grey silt sand	0.5	0.32	0.16	
3313	cut		pit	oval, irregular shape and base – bioturbated	0.73	1.41	0.28	
3314	fill	3313	single fill	pink grey silt sand	0.73	1.41	0.28	
3315	cut		tree throw	oval, irregular shape and base	1.98	1.6	0.45	
3316	fill	3315	tree throw fill	grey brown silt sand	1.55	>0.5	0.45	
3317	fill	3315	tree throw fill	red brown silt sand	0.7	>0.3	0.1	
3318	fill	3315	tree throw fill	brown silt sand	1.3	>0.45	0.1	
3319	fill	3315	tree throw fill	grey brown	0.57	>0.3	0.13	
3320	fill	3315	tree throw fill	grey brown sand silt	1.13	>0.3	0.14	
3321	cut		pit	oval, concave base	0.65	0.4	0.09	
3322	fill	3321	single fill	red grey silt sand	0.65	0.4	0.09	
3323	fill	3327	pit fill	grey sand silt		0.7	0.33	
3324	fill	3327	pit fill	grey brown sand silt		1.9	0.7	
3325	fill	3327	pit fill	grey brown sand silt		1.9	0.2	
3326	fill	3327	pit fill	brown grey silt sand		1.6	0.5	
3327	cut		pit	round, steep sides, slightly concave base	1.9	1.9	0.93	
3328	cut		field boundary ditch	linear, concave base	>0.6	1.5	0.17	post medieval/ modern
3329	fill	3328	ditch fill	light grey sand silt	>0.6	1.5	0.17	post medieval/ modern
3330	cut		pit	oval, concave base	0.7	0.5	0.12	
3331	fill	3330	single fill	grey brown sand silt	0.7	0.5	0.12	
3332	cut		pit/posthole	round, tapered base	0.3	0.25	0.15	
3333	fill	3332	single fill	pink grey sand silt	0.3	0.25	0.15	
3334	cut		posthole	round, tapered base	0.16	0.16	0.14	
3335	fill	3334	single fill	brown grey sand silt	0.16	0.16	0.14	
3336	cut		pit	oval, concave base	0.45	0.4	0.12	
3337	fill	3336	single fill	grey brown sand silt	0.45	0.4	0.12	
3338	cut		pit	irregular oval, concave base – bioturbated	2.2	1.28	0.22	
3339	fill	3338	single fill	pink grey silt sand	2.2	1.28	0.22	
3340	cut		pit	oval, concave base	0.66	0.63	0.19	
3341	fill	3340	single fill	grey brown silt sand	0.66	0.63	0.19	
3342	cut		pit	oval, concave base	0.58	0.5	0.17	
3343	fill	3342	single fill	red brown silt sand	0.58	0.5	0.17	
3344	fill	3345	single fill	grey brown silt sand – bioturbated	0.25	0.25	0.15	
3345	cut		post hole	round, steep sides, concave base	0.25	0.25	0.15	
3346	fill	3347	single fill	grey brown silt sand – bioturbated	0.25	0.25	0.17	
3347	cut		post hole	round, steep sides, concave base	0.25	0.25	0.17	
3348	cut		pit	round, steep sides, slightly irregular flat base – heat affected	1.0	0.85	0.28	
3349	fill	3348	pit fill	light grey clay silt	>0.5	0.15	0.06	
3350	fill	3348	pit fill	brown black clay sand	>0.5	0.82	0.1	
3351	fill	3348	pit fill	brown grey clay sand	>0.5	0.82	0.06	
3352	fill	3348	pit fill	brown grey sand silt	>0.5	0.85	0.18	
3353	fill	3192	pit fill	pink grey sand silt	1.02	0.17	0.05	
3354	cut		pit/posthole	oval, steep sided, slightly concave base	0.4	0.36	0.18	
3355	fill	3354	single fill	brown grey sand silt	0.4	0.36	0.18	
3356	fill	3357	single fill	grey brown sand silt	0.2	0.2	0.1	

Context no.	Type	Fill of	Context Interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
3357	cut		post hole	round, steep sides, concave base	0.2	0.2	0.1	
3358	cut		post hole	round, steep sides, tapered base	0.33	0.3	0.33	
3359	fill	3358	single fill	brown grey silt sand	0.33	0.3	0.33	
3360	fill	3361	single fill	grey brown sand silt	0.38	0.38	0.08	
3361	cut		pit/posthole	round, irregular base - bioturbated	0.38	0.38	0.08	
3362	cut		pit	oval, concave base	1.2	0.9	0.23	
3363	fill	3362	single fill	brown grey sand silt	1.2	0.9	0.23	
3364	cut		pit	oval, irregular base	1.57	0.95	0.2	
3365	fill	3364	single fill	brown grey sand silt	1.57	0.95	0.2	
3366	cut		ditch 1	linear, flat base	>1.0	1.12	0.47	Bronze Age
3367	fill	3366	single fill	brown grey silt sand	>1.0	1.12	0.47	Bronze Age
3368	cut		ditch 2	linear, concave base	>1.0	0.98	0.35	
3369	fill	3368	single fill	brown grey silt sand	>1.0	0.98	0.35	
3370	cut		pit	oval, irregular base	1.27	1.2	0.32	
3371	fill	3370	single fill	grey brown silt clay	1.27	1.2	0.32	
3372	cut		pit	oval, concave base	1.0	0.92	0.14	
3373	fill	3372	single fill	grey brown silt clay	1.0	0.92	0.14	
3374	cut		pit/posthole	oval, concave base	0.3	0.38	0.09	
3375	fill	3374	single fill	brown grey silt sand	0.3	0.38	0.09	
3376	cut		pit	oval, concave base	0.49	0.28	0.07	
3377	fill	3376	single fill	brown grey silt sand	0.49	0.28	0.07	
3378	cut		posthole	round, steep sided, slightly concave	0.25	0.23	0.09	
3379	fill	3378	single fill	brown grey sand silt	0.25	0.23	0.09	
3380	cut		pit/posthole	oval, steep sided, slightly concave	0.23	0.17	0.08	
3381	fill	3380	single fill	brown grey sand silt	0.23	0.17	0.08	
3382	cut		pit	oval, concave base	0.6	0.49	0.1	
3383	fill	3382	pit fill	pink grey silt sand	0.14	0.14	0.04	
3384	fill	3382	pit fill	pink grey silt sand	0.6	0.49	0.09	
3385	cut		pit	oval, flat base	0.74	0.6	0.1	
3386	fill	3385	single fill	yellow brown silt sand	0.74	0.6	0.1	
3387	cut		post hole	round, flat base	0.3	0.29	0.04	modern
3388	fill	3387	single fill	red grey silt sand	0.3	0.29	0.04	modern
3389	cut		pit	oval, concave base	1.05	0.7	0.24	
3390	fill	3389	single fill	pink grey silt sand	1.05	0.7	0.24	
3391	cut		pit	oval, concave base	1.3	1.06	0.25	
3392	fill	3391	single fill	brown grey silt sand	1.3	1.06	0.25	
3393	cut		pit	oval, concave base	1.65	1.3	0.65	
3394	fill	3393	pit fill	grey sand silt	1.2	>0.8	0.2	
3395	fill	3393	pit fill	white pink sand silt	0.93	>0.8	0.2	
3396	fill	3393	pit fill	black grey sand silt	1.3	>0.8	0.52	
3397	cut		pit	round, concave base	1.74	1.75	0.68	
3398	fill	3397	pit fill	grey red sand silt	>0.5	0.4	0.35	
3399	fill	3397	pit fill	grey black sand silt	1.74	1.75	0.68	
3400	fill	3192	fill	white grey silt sand	0.4	0.21	0.01	
3401	fill	3192	fill	red orange compact silt sand	0.61	0.15	0.03	
3402	fill	3192	fill	pink orange compact silt sand	0.31	0.21	0.1	
3403	cut		tree throw	irregular shape and base	3.9	1.85	0.6	
3404	fill	3403	tree throw fill	green grey clay sand	3.9	1.5	0.6	
3405	fill	3403	tree throw fill	grey brown sand silt	2.9	0.4	0.4	
3406	cut		stakehole	oval, tapered point	0.09	0.07	0.13	
3407	fill	3406	stakehole fill	brown grey silt sand	0.09	0.07	0.13	
3408	cut		stakehole	oval, tapered point	0.11	0.05	0.04	
3409	fill	3408	stakehole fill	brown grey silt sand	0.11	0.05	0.04	
3410	cut		stakehole	oval, tapered point	0.1	0.06	0.06	
3411	fill	3410	stakehole fill	brown grey silt sand	0.1	0.06	0.06	
3412	cut		stakehole	oval, tapered point	0.06	0.05	0.05	
3413	fill	3412	stakehole fill	brown grey silt sand	0.06	0.05	0.05	
3414	fill	3415	single fill	grey clay sand	0.18	0.18	0.36	
3415	cut		post hole within pit 3252	round, vertical sided, slightly concave base	0.18	0.18	0.36	
3416	cut		post hole within pit 3205	round, vertical sided, flat base	0.3	0.3	0.45	
3417	fill	3416	single fill	grey silt sand	0.3	0.3	0.45	
3418	fill	3205	fill of pit	yellow grey silt sand	>0.3	0.8	0.1	
3419	fill	3205	fill of pit	pink brown silt sand	0.4	0.8	0.2	

Context no.	Type	Fill of	Context Interpretation	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
3420	fill	3205	fill of pit	mixed orange and grey brown sand silt	>0.6	1.0	0.25	
3421	cut		post hole within pit 3327	round, steep sides, flat base	0.25	0.25	0.4	
3422	fill	3421	single fill	grey sand silt	0.25	0.25	0.4	

APPENDIX B: POTTERY

By Grace Perpetua Jones

Pottery amounting to 417 sherds (9659g), of earlier Bronze Age and post-medieval to modern date, was hand-recovered. A further 128 sherds (333g) of Bronze Age pottery was recovered from bulk soil samples. The pottery assemblage has been fully recorded according to the Guidelines of the Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group (2010). The Bronze Age pottery all derived from a single feature, pit 3011, and is in poor condition, despite a mean sherd weight of 33.1g, probably a resulting from a relatively low firing temperature. The more recent pottery was all from the topsoil.

Bronze Age pottery

A total of 272 sherds of pottery, weighing 9012g, was hand recovered from pit 3011. A further 128 sherds (333g) was removed from a bulk soil sample of the single fill of this pit. All sherds are in a soft, silty-textured fabric containing a moderate amount (15%) of igneous rock fragments, 1-5mm, angular, moderately sorted, with rare (1%) iron oxides, rounded, 1mm, in a very fine, sandy clay matrix. The sherds are of a similar thickness (11-13mm) and include rim, body and base fragments. Sadly the upper part of the pit had been truncated, probably by ploughing, leaving only the lower 80mm of this feature intact. Attempts to reconstruct the remaining sherds suggests that two vessels are present.

One is a large jar of biconical profile, with internally and externally expanded rim; the rim top sits flat. It is 320mm in diameter, just over one third was recovered (37%). The upper part of the vessel is decorated with double cord impressions typical of the Trevisker Ware ceramic tradition, but its application to this pot was rather irregular. Two parallel lines of impressed cord are present immediately beneath the rim; below these are horizontal running chevrons, again cord-impressed, bound by another horizontal line of cord. These motifs are paralleled at the type-site of Trevisker, Cornwall (ApSimon and Greenfield 1972, fig. 16, 30), however the potter at Exeter also appears to have applied a second zone of decoration below this, seemingly using a combination of impressed cord and incised lines to create a decorative panel, the incised lines possibly created with a small twig or similar; this was then defined by a horizontal cordon. It was not possible to join the two zones of decoration, despite considerable effort, and their relationship could not be confirmed. There was no evidence of any form of handle or lug. The rim exterior and core are unoxidised, the internal margin and internal surface are oxidised; around the shoulder area the external firing is more irregular, with oxidised areas. In terms of its classification amongst the Trevisker series, it may be assigned to Parker Pearson (1990, 10) style 1: large, decorated jars probably used for storage.

A number of joining cordoned sherds appeared to belong to a different vessel, however no rim sherds were recovered. The sherds are all oxidised on the exterior, the core and interior are unoxidised. The presence of burnt residue on the interior of the vessel indicates it use for cooking. The curvature of

the vessel walls suggests that some of the cordons were vertically applied, whilst two joining sherds show the T-shaped junction of a horizontal and vertical cordon. This style of decoration is more commonly associated with the South Lodge type of barrel urns found on sites in Dorset, of Early to Middle Bronze Age date. Cordons are also a feature of some Middle Bronze Age vessels from the Exeter area, but these tend to be horizontally applied. The range of decorative techniques demonstrated on the two vessels from pit 3011 suggest the absoption of influences from the Cornish Trevisker tradition to the west, and the Deverel Rimbury tradition of Dorset to the east, a phenomenon noted by other researchers in this area (Raymond 2012; Quinnell 2016a). Furthermore, Raymond (2012, 79) suggests that 'assimilated ideas were also being used to produce a distinctive and individual repertoire of ceramic styles'. The crudeness of the execution of the decoration on the IKEA pots suggests the potter may not have been particularly experienced in the application of such motifs.

A single base was present, represented by 16 sherds (1189g). It is thick (20mm) with a 20-22mm wide footring around part of the underside, 10mm in parts but thinning to nothing, possibly through wear but there was little evidence of this.

The presence of a charred bean within the fabric of the vessel, from one of the rim sherds, provided a radiocarbon date of 1625-1465 cal BC (95.4% probability, with 94.8% with the period 1625-1497; Cobain, Appendix I). This places the vessel within the accepted range for the Early Bronze Age, at a time when the presence of Trevisker-styled vessels are more commonly encountered in funerary, rather than domestic contexts (Quinnell 2012, 156). Pit 3012 sits amongst a number of other undated pits, postholes and tree throw holes, its interpretation as domestic or funerary is therefore problematic as it cannot be directly linked to a settlement, although it may be related to settlement features revealed during other investigations in this area; it did not contain evidence of use in a funerary rite. Yet the deposition of the vessels appears to have been carried out whilst they were largely complete, but much has been since lost through truncation. The deliberate deposition of such vessels, in an area where pottery does not appear to have been in common use, is significant and represents a symbolic act rather than the disposal of refuse. Furthermore, Quinnell (2016a, 159) notes that the presence of pits of this period is very rare in Devon, whatever their purpose. However, across this area, this pattern of the deposition of large portions of vessels, specifically those assigned a Middle Bronze Age date, is repeated. From ditch 1 at the IKEA site, a large part of a single vessel (183 sherds, 1790g) was found during the evaluation (Quinnell 2016b, 16). This vessel, like those from the excavation, has burnt residue on its internal surface, indicating its use as a cooking vessel. And, like those from pit 3012, appears to have been relatively complete at the time of deposition. It is smaller in size, with a rim diameter of 200mm; it is decorated with a partial band of fingernail impressions. A substantial part of a large vessel (115 sherds, 10,512g) had been deposited in the terminal of a ditch at the Old Rydon Lane site, immediately to the south of the IKEA site. It was decorated with a fingertip-impressed horizontal cordon around its girth and cross ribs in its base (Raymond 2012, 76). A group of 95 sherds, weighing 1805g, was recovered from a shallow ditch at the Royal Navy Stores Depot site, located approximately 500m to the south. Here, a large (*c,* 400mm high and 300mm wide

across the body), single vessel with girth cordon was found, in a rock-gritted fabric (Quinnell with Taylor 2011, 37).

The vessels from this site, and those from the neighbouring sites, appear to represent special deposits. They may have been used to cook food during a communal feast at important times of year, or the opening/closing of a site. The general lack of everyday pottery in a range of features, and the deposition of large parts (or all) of single vessels in within a pit or part of a ditch, suggests a more ceremonial than mundane end to the life of these pots.

Post-medieval and modern pottery

Pottery of 18th to 19th century date was recovered from the topsoil (17 sherds, 314g). The group is dominated by refined whitewares including a plate rim, a bowl base and the base from a square/rectangular dish, stamped 'B' on the underside. A rim sherd from a transfer-refined whiteware is also present. Other types include three stoneware sherds – one from the German Frechen industry and two English types, and a glazed earthenware (Table 3).

Table 3. Quantification of post-medieval pottery from topsoil context 3188

Fabric	**Number**	**Weight (g)**
Refined whiteware	12	253
Transfer-printed refined whiteware	1	10
Frechen stoneware	1	13
English stoneware	2	33
Glazed earthenware	1	5
Total	**17**	**314**

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APPENDIX C: WORKED FLINT

By Katie Marsden

Eight pieces of worked flint (99g) were recovered from seven deposits. The assemblage entirely comprises flakes, which cannot be more closely dated than to the prehistoric period. Two flakes feature further working; retouch on the dorsal face from buried topsoil layer 3002 and micro-denticulation on both long edges from tree throw 3043 (fill 3044).

APPENDIX D: WORKED STONE

By Ruth Shaffrey

A micaceous sandstone cobble, weighing 308g, was recovered from topsoil 3188. It has been used as a hone on several faces so that its sub-oval cross-section is bevelled in parts. There are also a number of fine scratches; some of these may be recent damage but it is likely some represent use of the stone as a point-sharpener. Two pieces of stone (558g) from ditch 2 (fill 3369) do not adjoin but are of the same stone type – a pink vesicular lava with quartz inclusions, which may be from the local trap, although it does not match samples in the author's reference collection very closely. It has smoothed faces and may have been used as a rubber, although the wear is not certainly man-made.

APPENDIX E: OTHER FINDS

By Grace Perpetua Jones

Two fragments of ceramic building material, weighing 86g, were recovered from the topsoil. One is a plain, flat tile fragment, the other is part of a curved tile; both are of post-medieval date.

A single stem fragment (3g) from a clay tobacco pipe was recorded from ditch 3178.

A thick piece of dark green glass, from the base of a vessel with pontil mark, came from feature 3291. A single fragment of colourless vessel glass was recorded from the topsoil. Both are of post-medieval or modern date.

A small piece of iron slag (8g) was recovered from pit 3192. The piece is too small to provide indicative evidence of iron-working on the site.

APPENDIX F: ANIMAL BONE

By Andy Clarke

Table 4: Identified animal species by fragment count (NISP), weight and context

Cut	Fill	BOS	Total	Weight (g)
3178	3177	2	2	39
Total		**2**	**2**	
Weight		**39**	**39**	

Bos = cattle

APPENDIX G: THE PLANT MACROFOSSILS

By Sarah F. Wyles

Twelve bulk soil samples (209 litres of soil) were analysed from a range of pits, postholes and a ditch across the site. Five of the samples were from Mesolithic pits and postholes, two samples were from a later Early Bronze Age-early Middle Bronze Age ditch and pit and five samples were from pits which are undated but possibly prehistoric.

These samples were processed following standard flotation methods, using a 250µm sieve for the recovery of the flot and a 1mm sieve for the collection of the residue. All identifiable charred plant remains were identified following nomenclature of Stace (1997) for wild plants, and traditional nomenclature, as provided by Zohary *et al* (2012) for cereals. The results are recorded in Table 5. Generally only low numbers of charred plant remains were recovered from these samples.

Mesolithic

A fragment of *Alnus glutinosa/Corylus avellana* (alder/hazel) charcoal from fill 3325 of pit 3327 produced a radiocarbon date of 7050-6769 cal BC (7983±32 BP, SUERC-74051) and a fragment of *Quercus* (oak) charcoal from the same context was radiocarbon dated to 7036-6745 cal BC (7954±33 BP, SUERC-74972).

Fill 3250 (sample 3) of pit 3252 and fill 3325 (sample 5) of pit 3327 produced low numbers of charred plant remains. These included a few small fragments of hazelnut shell and seeds of vetch/wild pea (*Vicia/Lathyrus* sp.) and knotgrass (Polygonaceae). The weed seeds are of typical grassland species and the hazelnut shell may be reflective of the exploitation of the wild food resource. No charred plant remains were recovered from pit 3205 (sample 12) or postholes 3241 (sample 6) and 3416 (sample 11).

Later Early Bronze Age to early Middle Bronze Age

A later Early Bronze Age to earlier Middle Bronze Age date of 1625-1465 cal BC (3275±29 BP, SUERC-74052) was obtained by radiocarbon dating a charred seed of probable celtic bean (cf. *Vicia faba*) from within the fabric of some Trevisker-style pottery from fill 3012 of pit 3011.

The small assemblages from pit 3011 (sample 1) and from ditch 1 cut 1105 (sample 1 from the evaluation) included remains of hulled wheat, emmer or spelt (*Triticum dicoccum/spelta*), grain, celtic bean, vetch/wild pea, buds and monocot stem/rootlet fragments.

Celtic beans have been recorded from deposits of Neolithic and earlier Bronze Age date rarely but are observed more frequently within later Bronze Age assemblages, in particular those from coastal site (Treasure and Church 2016). Charred plant remains were also recovered in small quantities or were absent in some assemblages from Neolithic and Bronze Age contexts from previous work on sites in the Old Rydon Lane area (Pearce *et al* 2011; Wessex Archaeology 2014; Gilbert 2012; Quinnell and Farnell 2016).

Undated

Small quantities of charred plant remains were recorded from pits 3187 (sample 7), 3192 (sample 4), 3213 (sample 13) and 3348 (sample 9), while no charred plant remains were observed from pit 1103 (sample 20) from the evaluation. The assemblages include seeds of vetch/wild pea, knotweeds, brambles (*Rubus* sp.) and docks (*Rumex* sp.), buds, tuber fragments and monocot stem/rootlet fragments. There is no indication of date of these features from these samples although they may be prehistoric.

References

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Table 5. Plant macrofossils

Phase		Mesolithic					later Early Bronze Age - early Middle Bronze Age		Undated ?Prehistoric				
Feature type		Pits			Postholes		Ditch	Pit	Pits				
Cut		3205	3252	3327	3241	3416	1105	3011	1103	3187	3192	3213	3348
Context		3209	3250	3325	3422	3417	1106	3012	1104	3184	3193	3214	3350
Sample		12	3	5	6	11	1	1	2	7	4	13	9
Vol (L)		20	14	20	14	7	20	34	5	19	20	16	20
Flot size		60	75	150	10		15	40	50	150	40	150	200
%Roots		5	10	1	5		25	5	5	5	20	2	2
Cereals	**Common Name**												
Triticum dicoccum/spelta (grain)	emmer/spelt wheat	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Other Species													
Corylus avellana L. (fragments)	hazelnut	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Polygonaceae indet.	knotweeds	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-
Rumex sp. L.	docks	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Rubus sp.	brambles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Vicia L./*Lathyrus* sp. L.	vetch/wild pea	-	5	5	-	-	-	1	-	6	-	3	-
Vicia faba	celtic bean	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Monocot. Stem/rootlet frag		-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	1	-
Bud		-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	2	-
Tuber		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1

APPENDIX H: WOOD CHARCOAL

By Dana Challinor

Introduction

The charcoal from a series of prehistoric pits and postholes was examined; including pit 3011 which was C14 dated to the Early Bronze Age and pit 3327 which was c14 dated to the Mesolithic period. Several of the other features examined (pits 3205 and 3252) are likely to also be Mesolithic in date, while pits 1103, 3187, 3192, 3213 and 3348 may be associated with prehistoric activities at the site, though there was no direct dating evidence.

Methodology

Thirty charcoal fragments from each sample were identified following standard procedures, using identification keys (Hather 2000, Schweingruber 1990) and modern reference material. The charcoal was fractured and examined at low magnification (up to X45), with representative fragments examined in longitudinal sections at high magnification (up to X400). Observations on maturity and other features were made where possible. Classification and nomenclature follow Stace 1997.

Results

The preservation of the material was variable, with especially poor condition in some samples (soft and with heavy sediment infusion). High levels of vitrification were also recorded. Vivianite (blue-green) staining was noted in the sample from pit 3252, suggesting waterlain conditions. A limited range of five taxa were positively identified (Table 6): *Quercus* sp. (oak), *Betula* sp. (birch), *Corylus avellana* (hazel), *Populus/Salix* (poplar/willow) and *Cytisus/Ulex* (broom/gorse). Poor condition and small fragment size inhibited determination of maturity, but it was clear that mature oak was present in most samples, with some evidence for branch and sapwood. Bark fragments were frequent in sample 5, despite the absence for any evidence of roundwood. This sample also contained a single fragment of *Alnus/Corylus* (identified by Sarah Cobain) which was sent for C14 dating and produced a surprising Mesolithic date. The remaining charcoal appeared to be all oak or bark fragments. A piece of oak from this assemblage was dated and also produced a Mesolithic date.

Two postholes (cuts 3241 & 3416 in the base of Mesolithic pits) produced only a small amount of charcoal, which did not merit analysis, but included traces of *Quercus* and *Alnus/Corylus*.

Table 6: Charcoal from pits

	Phase	Mesolithic			EBA	Undated ?prehistoric				
	Cut	3205	3327	3252	3011	1103	3192	3187	3348	3213
	Context	3209	3325	3250	3012	1104	3193	3184	3350	3214
	Sample	12	5	3	1	2	4	7	9	13
Quercus sp.	oak	16 (hr)	22 (h)	18 (hr)	25	26 (h)	10 (r)	30 (h)	30	30 (hr)
Betula sp.	birch						12 (r)			
Corylus avellana	hazel				2					
Alnus/Corylus	alder/hazel	1r					1			
Populus/Salix	poplar/willow	5		(1)						
Cytisus/Ulex	broom/gorse				3r					
Indeterminate		8		11		4	7			
Bark			8							
Total		**30**	**30**	**30**	**30**	**30**	**30**	**30**	**30**	**30**

h=heartwood; s=sapwood; r=roundwood

Discussion

The majority of the charcoal from the pits derived from oak, including mature heartwood. The preferential use of oak is indicative of the availability of native oak-hazel woodland. Traces of other sources, including wetground (poplar/willow) and heathland (broom/gorse) are indicated. Birch is a coloniser tree, which indicates open conditions. The results from this site are similar to the charcoal assemblages assessed from Middle Bronze Age contexts at the nearby sites of Old Rydon Lane (Barnett 2014) and Former Navy Depot (Challinor 2011), although the latter included a component of hedgerow/scrub type taxa.

References

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APPENDIX I: RADIOCARBON DATING

By Sarah Cobain

Radiocarbon dating was undertaken in order to confirm the date of pits 3325 and pit 3011. The samples were analysed during July and September 2017 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 v4.3.2 (2017) (Bronk Ramsey 2009) using the IntCal13 curve (Reimer *et al.* 2013). The methodology employed by SUERC Radiocarbon Laboratory is outlined in Dunbar *et al.* (2016)

References

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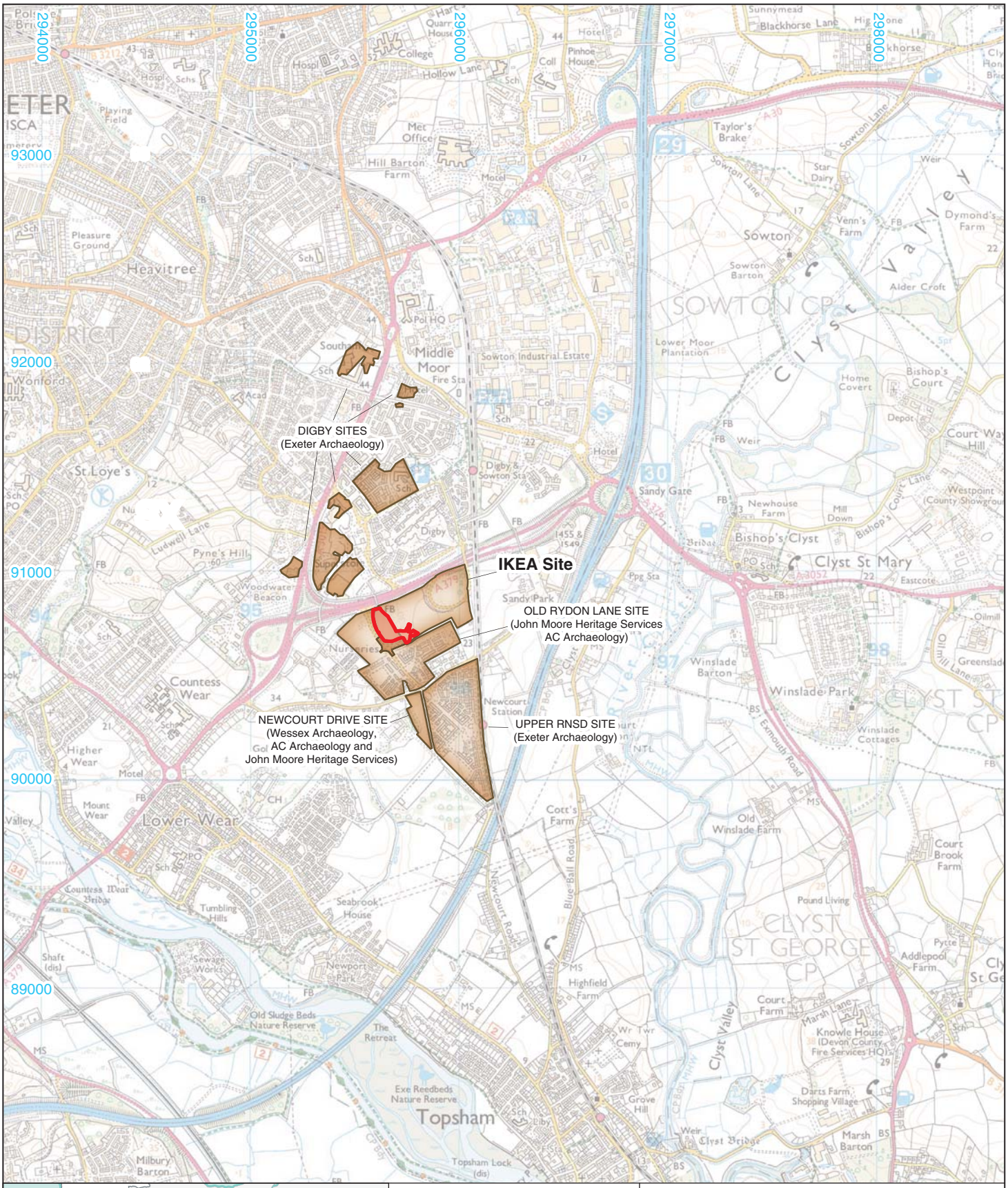
Reimer, P.J., Bard, E., Bayliss, A., Beck, J.W., Blackwell, P.G., Bronk Ramsey, C., Grootes, P.M., Guilderson, T.P., Haflidason, H., Hajdas, I., HattŽ, C., Heaton, T.J., Hoffmann, D.L., Hogg, A.G., Hughen, K.A., Kaiser, K.F., Kromer, B., Manning, S.W., Niu, M., Reimer, R.W., Richards, D.A., Scott, E.M., 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 7 Radiocarbon dating results

Feature	Lab No.	Material	δ ^{13}C	Radiocarbon age	Calibrated radiocarbon age 95.4% probability	Calibrated radiocarbon age 68.2% probability
Context 3325 Pit 3327	SUERC-	Charcoal *Alnus glutinosa/Corylus avellana* (alder/hazel)	-26.1‰	7983 ± 32 yr BP	7050–6769 cal BC (95.4%)	7035–6983 cal BC (20.2%) 6974–6911 cal BC (25.5%) 6885–6829 cal BC (22.5%)
Context 3325 Pit 3327	SUERC-	Charcoal Quercus (oak)	-26.2‰	7954 ± 33 yr BP	7036–6745 cal BC (89.4%) 6738–6735 cal BC (0.5%) 6728–6700 cal BC (5.4%)	7027–6932 cal BC (30.2%) 6919–6878 cal BC (14.3%) 6846–6773 cal BC (23.7%)
Context 3012 Pit 3011	SUERC-	Charred seed cf *Vicia faba* (?celtic bean)	-24.6‰	3275 ± 29 yr BP	1625–1497 cal BC (94.8%) 1470–1465 cal BC (0.6%)	1608–1582 cal BC (24.3%) 1561–1511 cal BC (43.9%)

APPENDIX J: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Land South of the A379, Newcourt, Exeter	
Short description	An archaeological strip, map and sample (SMS) was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in November 2016 to January 2017 on land south of the A379, Newcourt, Exeter. An area of 1.27 hectares was excavated. The SMS recorded three pits with holes dug into their bases; two radiocarbon dates from one indicate they are of Mesolithic date. Evidence for Bronze Age activity includes a shallow pit containing a substantial quantity of Early to Middle Bronze Age pottery, and elements of a field system. Three round pits showing signs of burning; these were undated but are likely to represent domestic activity during the prehistoric (possibly Iron Age) period. Scattered across the whole SMS area were numerous pits and possible postholes; no structure or date could be ascertained for these. There were also several undated tree throws. The Bronze Age activity is presumably related to the enclosure, roundhouses and field system identified to the south and west of the SMS area by previous archaeological investigations.	
Project dates	7 November 2016 – 20 January 2017	
Project type	Strip, Map and Sample	
Previous work	Desk-based assessment (JMHS 2006a) geophysical survey (Stratascan 2006a) heritage statement (CA 2013) archaeological evaluation (CA 2016)	
Future work	None	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Land South of the A379, Newcourt, Exeter	
Study area (m^2/ha)	1.27ha	
Site co-ordinates	295650 090738	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	N/A	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Derek Evans	
Project Supervisor	Martin Gillard	
MONUMENT TYPE	Pit (EBA) Ditches (E-MBA)	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	Pottery (Bronze Age)	
PROJECT ARCHIVES	Intended final location of archive	Content
Physical	Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter (RAMM: 16/49)	Ceramics
Paper	Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter (RAMM: 16/49)	N/A
Digital	Archaeology Data Service (ADS)	Database, digital photos, scanned images of the primary site archive
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2017 *Land South of the A379, Newcourt, Exeter: Archaeological Strip, Map and Sample* CA typescript report **17442**		



N

Extent of present excavation

Previous archaeological investigations

0 1km

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PROJECT TITLE

Land south of A379, Newcourt, Exeter, Devon

FIGURE TITLE

Site location plan and previous archaeological investigations

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APPROVED BY	GJ	SCALE@A4	1:25,000	

295500
295700
295900
90900
90700
90500
A379
NEWCOURT WAY
OLD RYDON LANE
Ditch 1
Ditch 2
Enclosure
(Gilbert 2012)
Ring ditch
(Pears and Rainbird
forthcoming)
N
Limit of present excavations
Geophysical anomalies
Enclosure, roundhouse and field boundaries (Bronze Age)
Possible structures (Bronze Age?)
Pipeline
Area of excavations and watching brief (JMHS 2006-2009)
Evaluation trenches (CA 2016)
AC archaeology
(Pears and Rainbird forthcoming)
Excavation area
Neolithic
Bronze Age
Post-medieval
0
100m

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FIGURE TITLE
Previous archaeological investigations
DRAWN BY EE
CHECKED BY DJB
APPROVED BY GJ
PROJECT NO. 889010
DATE 26/10/2017
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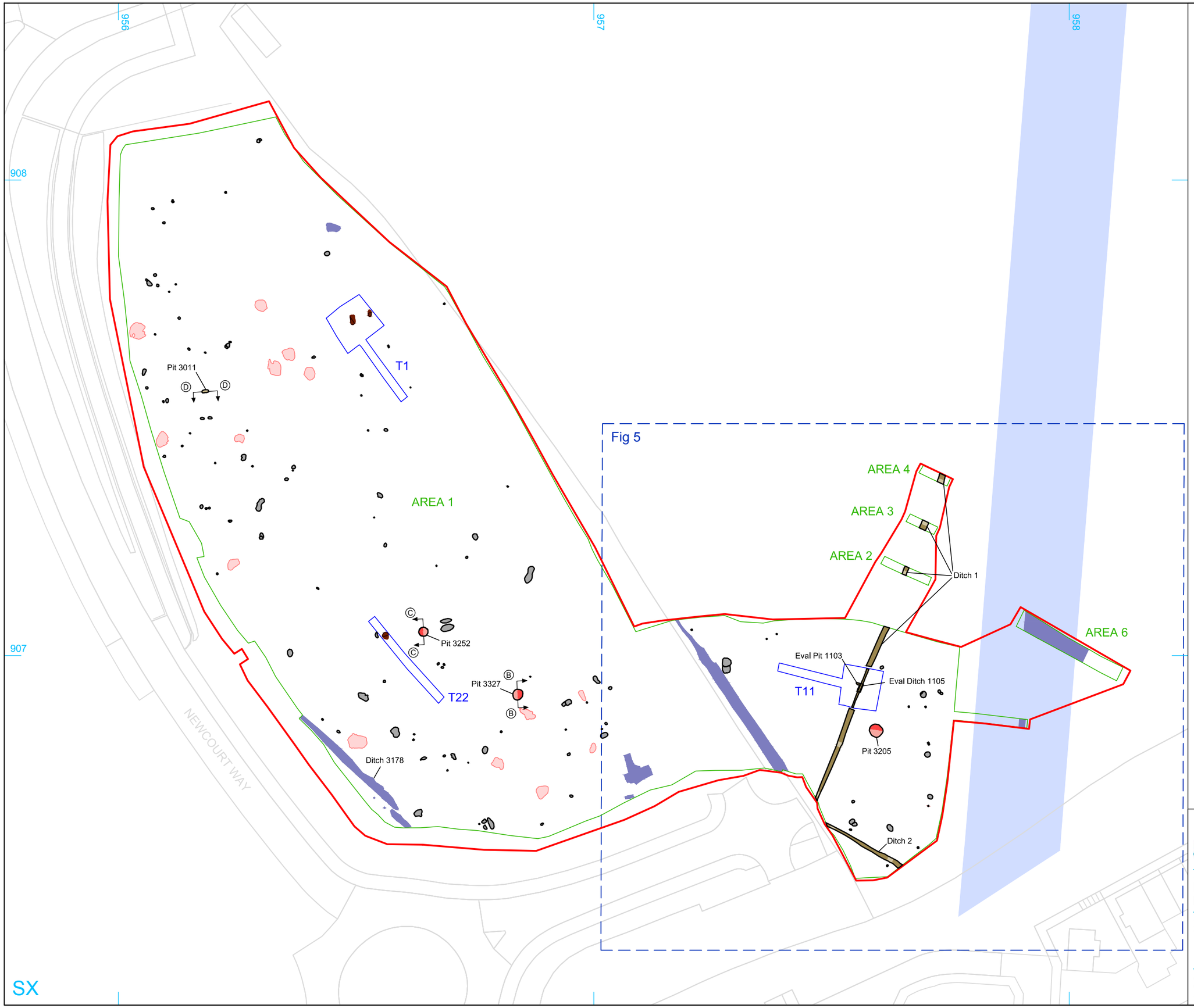
FIGURE NO. 2



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PROJECT TITLE
Land South of A379, Newcourt, Exeter, Devon

FIGURE TITLE
Site plan

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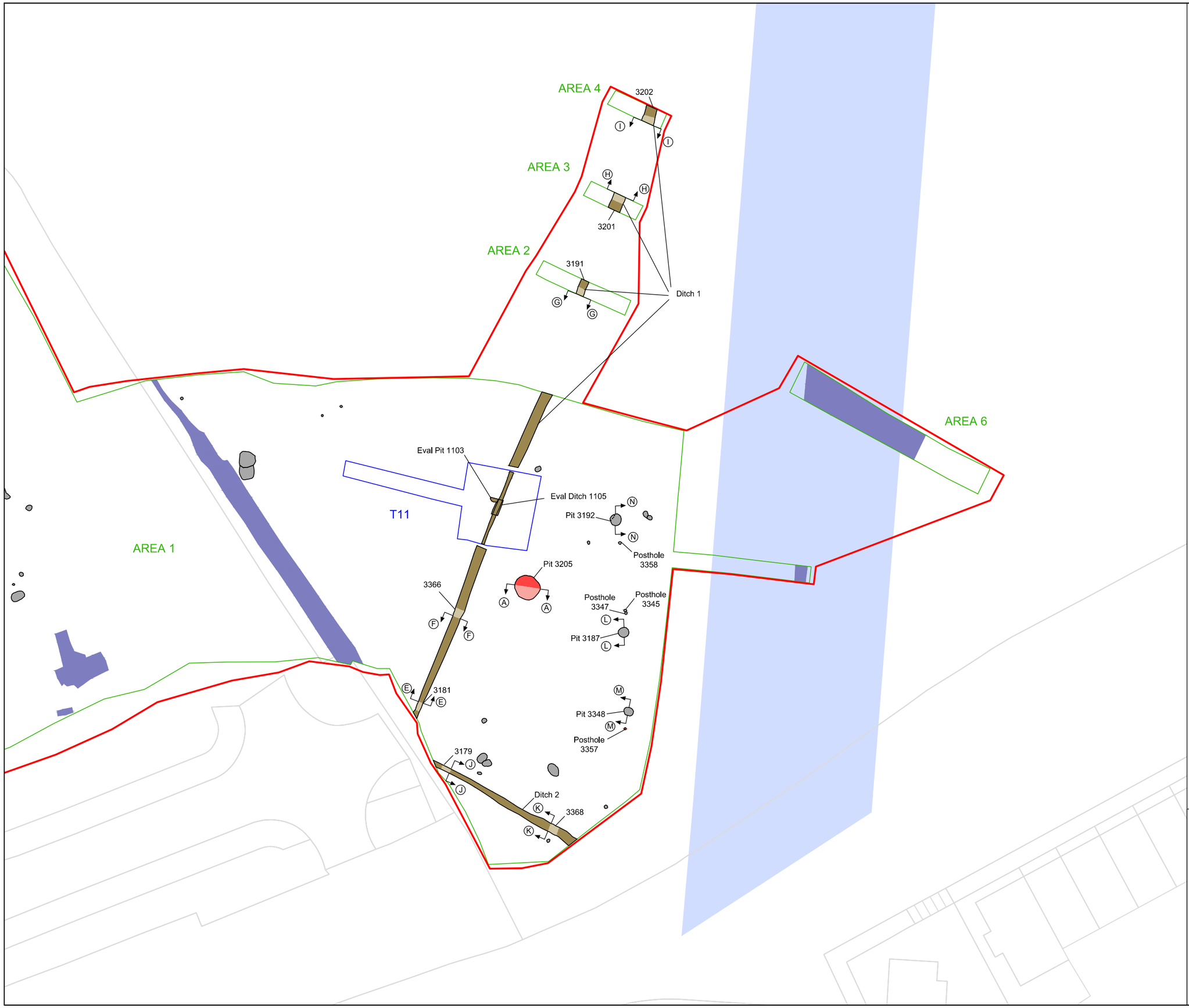

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PROJECT TITLE
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FIGURE TITLE
Plan of south-east of site

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APPROVED BY	GJ	SCALE@A3	1:400	

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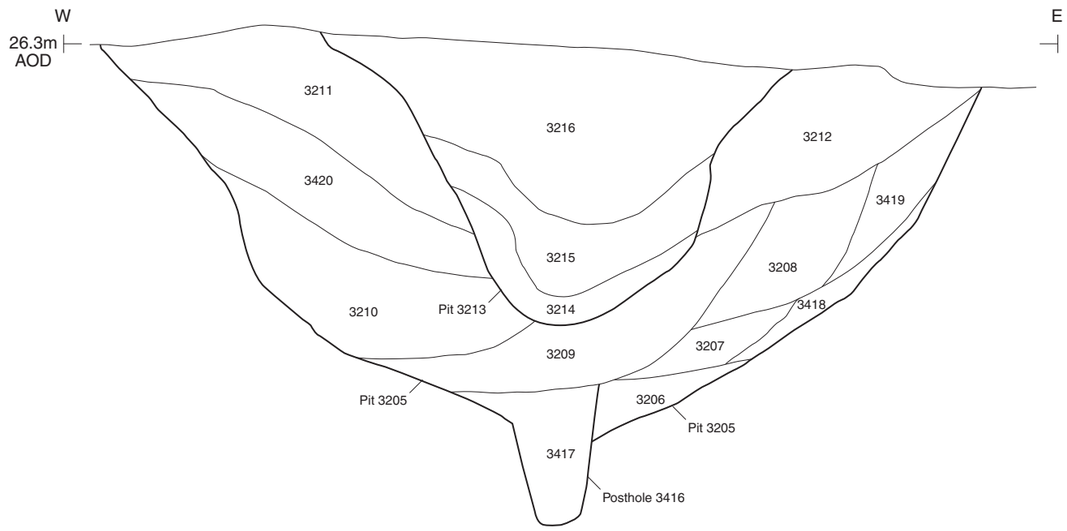

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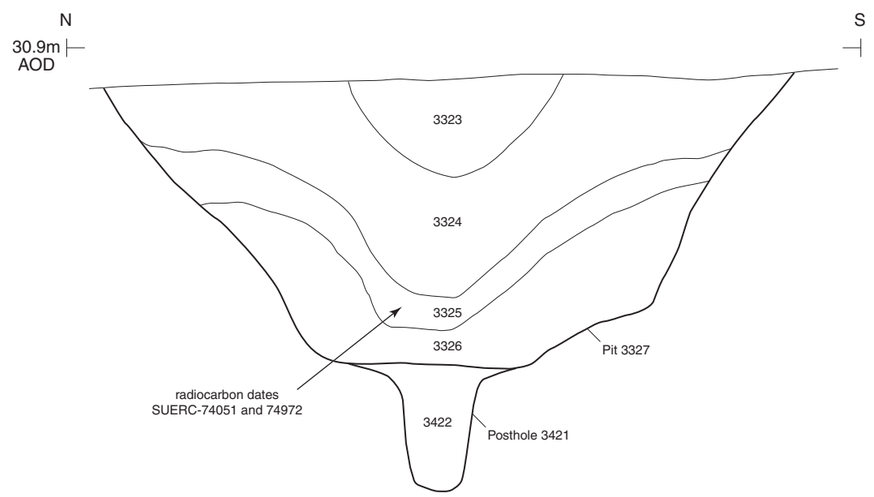

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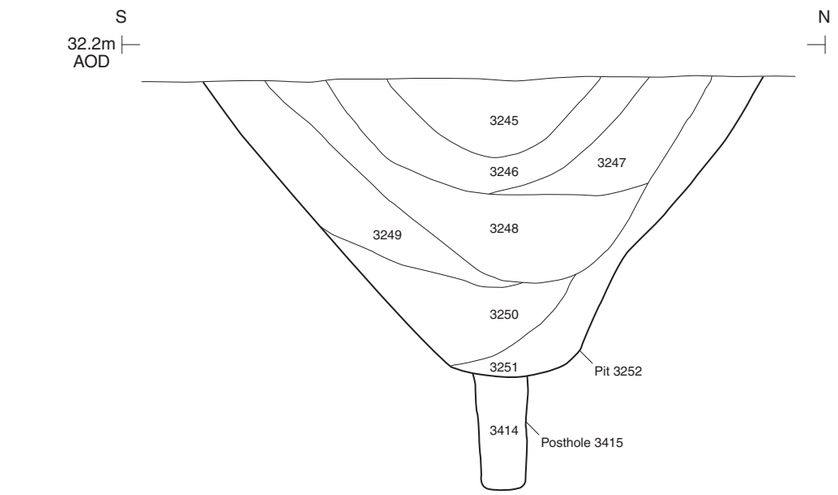

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PROJECT TITLE

Land south of A379, Newcourt, Exeter, Devon

FIGURE TITLE

Pits 3205, 3252 and 3327 sections

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CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**26/10/2017**	**5**
APPROVED BY	**GJ**	*SCALE@A4*	**1:20**	

Pit 3205, looking north-east (scale 1m)

Pit 3252, looking west (scale 1m)

Pit 3252, looking west (scales 1m and 0.3m)

Pit 3327, looking east (scale 1m)

Pit 3327, looking west (scales 1m)

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FIGURE TITLE

Pits 3205, 3252, and 3327 photographs

DRAWN BY	**SO**	*PROJECT NO.*	**889010**	*FIGURE NO.*
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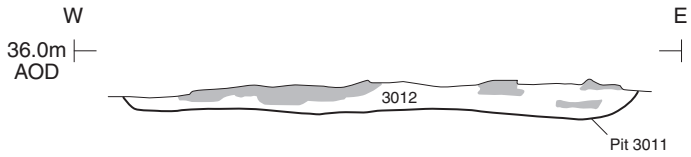
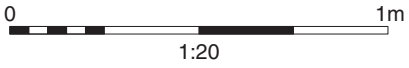


Bronze Age ceramics



Pit 3011, looking north (scale 1m)

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FIGURE TITLE
Pit 3011: section and photograph

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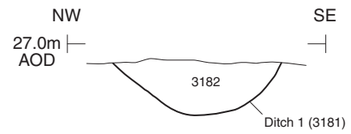

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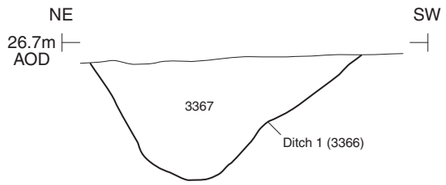

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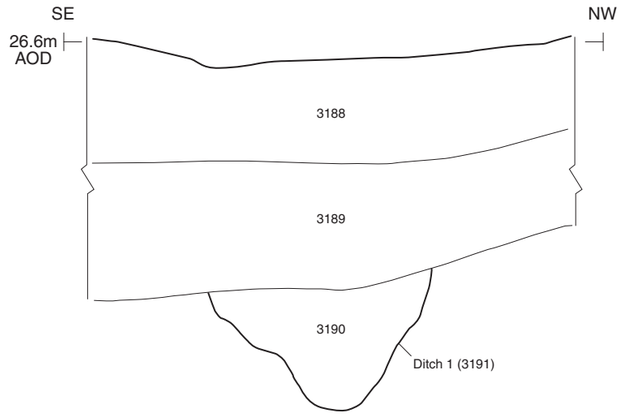

Ditch 1 (3181), looking north-east (scale 0.3m)

Ditch 1 (3366), looking south-west (scale 1m)

Ditch 1 (3191), looking south-west (scale 1m)

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PROJECT TITLE

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FIGURE TITLE

Ditch 1: sections and photographs

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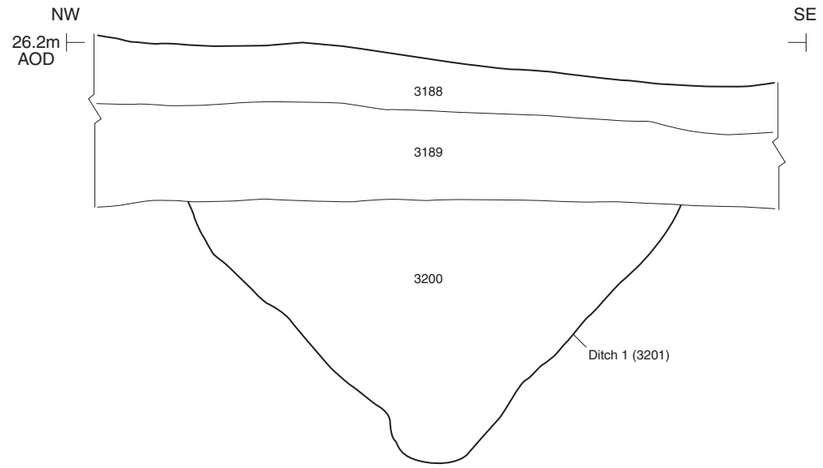
Section HH



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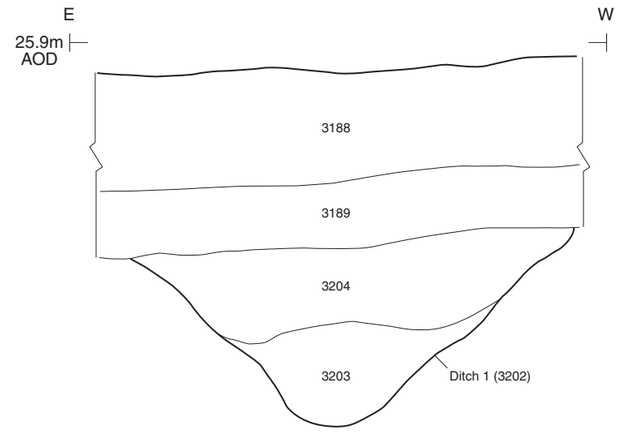

Ditch 1 (3201), looking north (scale 1m)

Ditch 1 (3202), looking south-west (scale 1m)

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PROJECT TITLE

Land south of A379, Newcourt, Exeter, Devon

FIGURE TITLE

Ditch 1: sections and photographs

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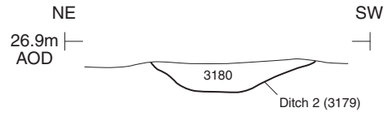

Section KK

Ditch 2 (3179), looking south-east (scale 0.3m)

Ditch 2 (3368), looking north-west (scale 0.5m)

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FIGURE TITLE

Ditch 2: sections and photographs

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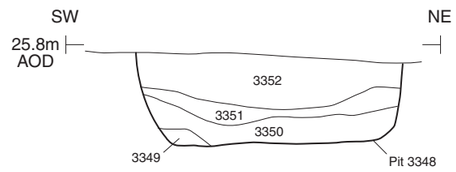
CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**26/10/2017**	**9**
APPROVED BY	**GJ**	*SCALE@A4*	**1:20**	

Section LL

Section MM



Pit 3187, looking west (scale 1m)

Pit 3348, looking north-west (scale 0.5m)

0 1m

1:20

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PROJECT TITLE

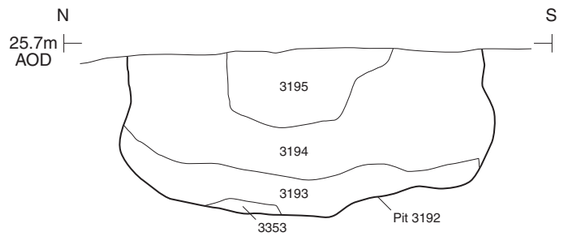
Land south of A379, Newcourt, Exeter
Devon

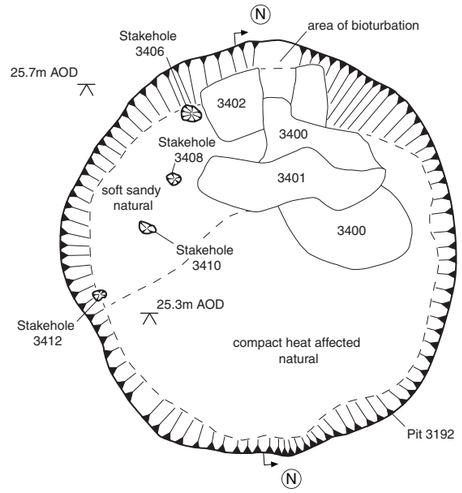
FIGURE TITLE

Pit 3187 and 3348: sections and photographs

DRAWN BY	**SO**	*PROJECT NO.*	**889010**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**26/10/2017**	**10a**
APPROVED BY	**GJ**	*SCALE@A4*	**1:20**	

Section NN





0 1m

1:20

Pit 3192, looking east (scale 1m)

Pit 3192, looking south (scale 1m)

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PROJECT TITLE

Land south of A379, Newcourt, Exeter, Devon

FIGURE TITLE

Pit 3192: sections, photographs and plan

DRAWN BY	**SO**	*PROJECT NO.*	**889010**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**26/10/2017**	**10b**
APPROVED BY	**GJ**	*SCALE@A4*	**1:20**	

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