



**University of
Leicester**

Archaeological Services

**Archaeological Fieldwork in advance
of the Earl Shilton Bypass, Leicestershire**

**Site D, north of Mill Lane, Earl Shilton (SP479 979)
and Breach Lane, Earl Shilton (SP474 970)**

Wayne Jarvis



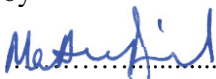

ULAS Report No 2008-110
©2009

**Archaeological Fieldwork in advance
of the Earl Shilton Bypass, Leicestershire**

**Site D, north of Mill Lane, Earl Shilton (SP479 979)
and Breach Lane, Earl Shilton (SP474 970)**

**Wayne Jarvis, with contributions from
M. Beamish, L. Cooper, N. Cooper,
M. Hawkes, L. Hunt, A. Hyam, P. Marsden,
A. Monckton, G. Morgan, J. Thomas**

For: Leicestershire County Council

Checked by
Signed:  Date: .11.11.2009.....
Name: Matthew Beamish.....
Approved by
Signed: ...  Date: .17.11.2009.
Name: ... Patrick Clay.....

University of Leicester
Archaeological Services
University Rd., Leicester, LE1 7RH
Tel: (0116) 2522848 Fax: (0116) 2522614
www.le.ac.uk/ulas

ULAS Report Number 2008-110
©2009
Accession Numbers X.A183 2007, X.A241 2007

CONTENTS

Summary	1
1 Introduction	1
2 Background	1
2.1 <i>Location, Topography and Geology</i>	1
2.2 <i>General Historical and Archaeological Background</i>	2
2.3 <i>Previous Archaeological Work at Breach Lane and Site D</i>	3
3 Breach Lane Evaluation (X.A241 2007) by Andrew Hyam and Wayne Jarvis	4
3.1 <i>Evaluation Methodology</i>	4
3.2 <i>Evaluation Results</i>	4
4 Site D (X.A183 2007)	5
4.1 <i>Further Evaluation (2007)</i>	5
4.2 <i>Excavation Methodology</i>	7
4.3 <i>Results</i>	8
4.3.1 <i>Phase 1. Pre-Ring Ditch activity</i>	9
4.3.2 <i>Phase 2. The Ring Ditches and associated features</i>	9
4.3.3 <i>Phase 3 The Pit Alignments and Associated Features</i>	16
4.3.4 <i>Phase 4 Post Pit Alignment Ditch System and associated features</i>	25
4.3.5 <i>Other Features</i>	28
5 Discussion and Conclusions	29
6 Bibliography	32
7 Acknowledgements	34
8 Archive	34
Appendix 1 The Prehistoric and Roman Pottery by Patrick Marsden	36
Appendix 2 The Lithics by Lynden Cooper	41
Appendix 3 The Querns and Worked Stone by John Thomas	43
Appendix 4 Charred plant remains by Angela Monckton and Graham Morgan	45
Charcoal Identification	47
Appendix 5 Radiocarbon Dating by Tandem Accelerator Lab, Uppsala University	47
Appendix 6 Site D Context Index	48
Appendix 7 Leicestershire County Council Specifications	58
Appendix 8 ULAS Specification	59
Appendix 9 OASIS Summary	65

FIGURES

Fig. 1 Location of bypass, and area of site D and Breach Lane site. Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey 1:50000. O.S. Licence no. AL10009495	2
Fig. 2 Roadline Areas and sites general plan	3
Fig. 3 Breach Lane site evaluation trenches	5
Fig. 4 Site D location, showing location of cropmark enclosure MLE9772 of possible hengiform type, and trial trenches. See also Fig. 5	6
Fig. 5 Follow up 2007 trial trenches	7
Fig. 6a, b (a) main areas discussed in text (b) main feature groups	8
Fig. 7 All features plan, and areas of detailed Figs.	10
Fig. 8 Ring Ditch 1 and main associated features.	11
Fig. 9 Ring ditch sections (a-c) Ring Ditch 1, (d-e) Ring Ditch 2	15
Fig. 10 Selected North Pit Alignment features	18
Fig. 11 Marker pits associated with South Pit Alignment	19
Fig. 12 Sections (a-f) alignment pits, (g-i) other pits	21
Fig. 13 Sections continued (a) post Pit Alignment ditches, (b, c) north-west/south-east ‘droveway’ gullies and adjacent pit, (d-f) post-holes in middle windrow	26
Fig. 14 Post Pit Alignment ditch system at south-west of Ring Ditch 1	27
Fig. 15 Landscape visualisation of site D environs, with HER data for prehistoric sites/ring ditches ...	30
Fig. 16 Pottery illustrations. 1-3 from alignment pit [54], 4 from post Pit Alignment ditch [156], 5-6 from ‘marker’ pit [10], 7 from layer (140) in east windrow	36

PLATES

Plate 1 Ring Ditch 1 [37] looking north-east. The Pit Alignments and ditches can also be seen in the foreground by the wheelbarrow	12
Plate 2 Ring Ditch 1 [64] sections looking south-west	12
Plate 3 Ring Ditch 2 [218] section looking north-east	16
Plate 4 South Pit Alignment [2] etc. looking south-east	20
Plate 5 Pit [54] in North Pit Alignment looking south-west, showing fill (55), and later post Pit Alignment ditch [83] cutting the pit	22
Plate 6 Pit [142] north of Ring Ditch 1 during excavation, looking south. Concentrated granite fill (141) below later sterile fill	23
Plate 7 Pit [142] north of Ring Ditch 1 after excavation, looking south. Post-hole [215] at base	23
Plate 8 Post Pit Alignment ditch system [156] etc., here running up to Ring Ditch 1 (right background). Cobbles (87) in background suggesting metallurgic of mid-late Iron Age date	24

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1 Fabric group totals - sherd number and weight (g)	35
Table 2 The lithics	40
Table 3 Charred plant remains	44
Table 4 Charcoal identifications	45
Table 5 Context Index (site D)	46

**Archaeological Fieldwork in advance of the Earl Shilton Bypass,
Leicestershire. Site D, north of Mill Lane, Earl Shilton (SP 479 979)
and Breach Lane, Earl Shilton (SP474 970)**

Wayne Jarvis

Summary

A programme of archaeological fieldwork was carried out by ULAS between August 2007 and September 2008, in advance of, and during, work on the A47 Earl Shilton Bypass (SP 476 991 – SP 453 964). This work included photographic and field survey, trial trenching, auger surveying, excavation and watching briefs. Work focussed in particular on two sites, Site A at Elmesthorpe south of Earl Shilton (reported elsewhere), and Site D reported here on land to the North of Mill Lane east of Earl Shilton. At Site D (SP479 979; X.A183 2007) prehistoric and transitional Roman features were exposed including two ring ditches representing ploughed out barrows, pit alignments, and a series of parallel and intercutting ditches. Additional evaluation work also reported here at Breach Lane (SP474 970; X.A241 2007) to the south did not identify any archaeological features, with only two unstratified flints recovered. The work was carried out for Leicestershire County Council. Leicestershire Museums will hold the archives under the Accession numbers X.A183 2007 (site D), XA241 2007 (Breach Lane).

1 Introduction

A programme of archaeological fieldwork was carried out by ULAS between August 2007 and December 2007, in advance of and during work on the A47 Earl Shilton Bypass. This work included trial trenching, photographic and field survey, excavation and a watching brief. Work included two main sites, Site A at Elmesthorpe earthworks south of Earl Shilton (reported separately; Jarvis 2009b), and Site D reported here between Mill Lane and Thurlaston Lane where significant prehistoric and Roman features were exposed (SP 479 979; XA183 2007). Also reported here are the results of an evaluation by trial trenching which was carried out to the south of site D on land at Breach Lane (SP 474 970; X.A241 2007). A watching brief was additionally carried out on the other areas of the bypass line (also reported separately; Jarvis 2009a). The work on Site D and Breach Lane was carried out for Leicestershire County Council. Leicestershire Museums will hold the archives under the Accession numbers X.A183 2007 (Site D), and X.A241 2007 (Breach Lane).

2 Background

2.1 Location, Topography and Geology

The route of the bypass runs from the A47 in the north-east (SP 476 991) across Thurlaston Lane then south-west rejoining the A47 north of Burbage Common (SP 453 964; see Fig. 1). The route crosses a series of agricultural fields, currently of mixed arable and pastoral use. The topography is varied, as the bypass transects a series of shallow east-west valleys. The ground level thus varies between c.88m aOD and 110m aOD. The solid geology of the area is Triassic Mercia Mudstone, with superficial deposits consisting of alluvium (valleys), sands and gravels, and glacial tills (Ordnance Survey Geological Survey of England and Wales, Coalville, sheet 155). The total length of the bypass is c. 4.5km, and the total area within the easement is c.0.215km². Site D reported on here lies between Mill Lane and Thurlaston Lane (SP 479 979), and covers an area of c.5500m². Also reported here is an evaluation by trial trenching on land north of Breach Lane (SP 474

970; X.A241 2007), with the trial trenches covering an area of *c.*270m². Both site D and Breach Lane (Fig. 2) lie at a height of *c.*100m aOD (centre of site).

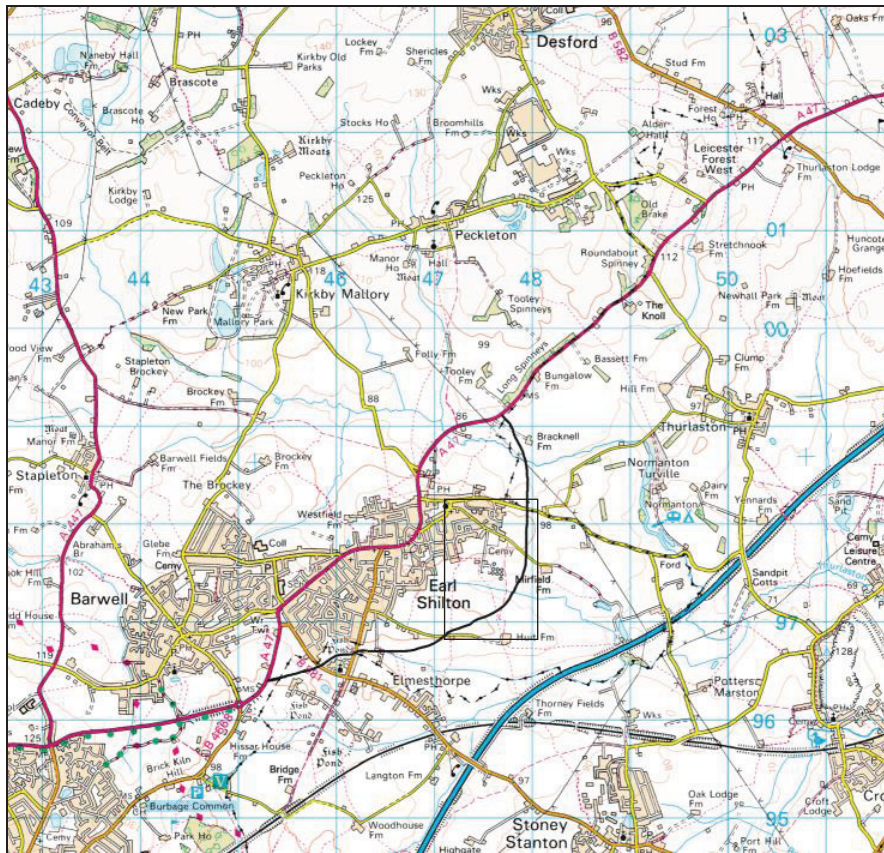


Fig 1: Location of bypass, and area of site D and Breach Lane site, see also Fig. 2.

2.2 General Historical and Archaeological Background

The following is based on updated information (supplied on 27.07.2009) some of which was originally included in the cultural heritage assessment for the by-pass (Challis 2001a). The study area contains known archaeological sites from the prehistoric, Romano-British, Anglo-Saxon, medieval, and later periods. A total of 29 archaeological sites are included in the Leicestershire Historic Environment Record (HER) in the vicinity of the route of the bypass.

The cropmark of a circular enclosure possibly of a Neolithic-Early Bronze Age ‘hengiform’ type, is located close to the eastern edge of Earl Shilton village (SP 477 979; MLE9771). A Bronze Age copper alloy palstave was recorded close to Huit Farm (MLE6349) and a Bronze Age blade from north of Breach Lane farm (MLE9768). Other cropmarks include a possible Iron Age enclosure (MLE17049) while Iron Age pottery and quern fragments have been recovered from fieldwalking (MLE15924). Roman pottery has also been recovered from fieldwalking (MLE10232; MLE15864; MLE159310 and findspots of brooches (MLE9783; MLE10242) and a coin (10243) are also known from this period. A mosaic recorded near Elmsthorpe may also be of Romano-British date (MLE10311).

There is considerable evidence for medieval and later settlement. This includes the settlement cores of Barwell and Earl Shilton (MLE2821; MLE9535), a moat north of Bracknells barn (MLE341) and well-preserved manorial earthworks and fishponds at Elmesthorpe (MLE69-72; MLE75-77; MLE2856; Jarvis 2009b). A deer park and boundary features are known from Tooley Park (MLE3072/3)

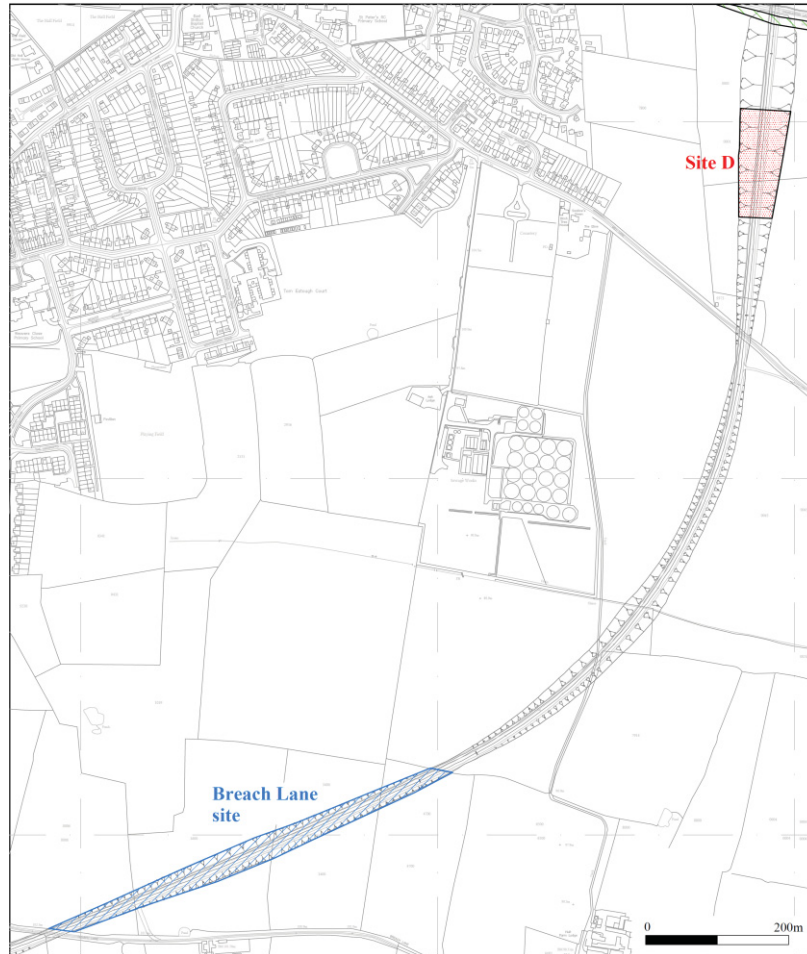


Fig. 2 Roadline in relation to Earl Shilton and location of Sites D and Breach Lane

2.3 Previous Archaeological Work at Breach Lane and Site D

Initial fieldwork in 2001 and 2002 over the area of the proposed Earl Shilton bypass comprised non-intrusive fieldwalking, metal-detecting, auger and geophysical surveys. Few significant finds were recovered during the fieldwalking and metal-detecting, other than small assemblages of medieval pottery and worked flint. The auger survey revealed indications of alluviation close to the existing streams. Little of significance was located in the course of magnetic susceptibility and gradiometer surveys (Browning *et al.* 2002, 1). Further fieldwork by trial-trenching on land adjacent to Breach Lane was scheduled, as the programme of fieldwalking programme during the non-intrusive evaluation of 2001/2002 had indicated that there was some possible evidence for prehistoric and medieval activity. The results of this trial-trenching are reported below (see 3).

Although ferrous and thermoremnant anomalies (brick-type) were detected at Site D, no significant anomalies were identified either within the roadline or over the area of the known cropmark just to the west (above, 2.2, see Fig. 4). Fieldwalked material from Site D consisted of a small assemblage of struck flint, which appeared rather crude and potentially late in date (Bronze Age or Iron Age; Cooper 2002, 9). Follow-up fieldwork at Site D incorporated a test-pit survey and evaluation trenches (Coward 2003). Only the north field here could be evaluated due to standing crop in the south of the area. This work identified several undated ditches and a series of possible post-holes, and finds included worked flint, Romano-British and Saxon pottery. Because of these somewhat inconclusive results, a further stage of evaluation at Site D was also programmed.

3 Breach Lane Evaluation (X.A241 2007) by Andrew Hyam and Wayne Jarvis

3.1 Evaluation Methodology

Initially nine trenches were originally specified in the brief for the trial-trenching. All trenches were to be 30m long and at least 25m away from the adjacent hedge lines. The trenches were sited to target the centre line of the proposed bypass and not encroach closer than 5m from the fenced road corridor boundary. This investigation would provide an approximate 1% sample of the area, *c.* 270m² within a total site area of *c.* 29,000m². Trenches were to be excavated using a JCB 3X mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. To avoid possible disturbance to Great Crested Newts, machine tracking on site was to be kept to a minimum, and trenches were rapidly backfilled after recording. .

3.2 Evaluation Results

Six trenches were excavated rather than nine as per the agreed method statement, targeting the flint and 12th-13th century pottery spread (see Fig. 3). All trenches were excavated using a JCB 3X mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. The trenches measured 30m by 1.6m and fieldwork was carried out on the 19th and 20th of December 2007. After recording the trenches were backfilled as per the brief.

Trench 1 was situated in a field where no earlier work had been undertaken. Topsoil and subsoil were removed to reveal a variable natural substratum 0.52m and 0.84m below current ground level, consisting of sandy-gravel patches alternating with sandy-clay between. Three horseshoe shaped land drains were also observed running north to south cutting into the natural substratum. No archaeological features or deposits were observed within this trench. Trenches 2 and 3 were located in the field where fieldwalking in 2002 recovered a small quantity of worked flint of possible Bronze or Iron Age date, and also some early medieval and medieval pottery. Removal of topsoil and subsoil during trenching revealed a mix of orange sandy-clay and blue-grey clay with chalky inclusions. A possible ditch was located cutting into the subsoil at the western end of Trench 2 but this did not reach the natural substratum and had a land drain at its base. This may be associated with the north to south hedgeline north of this trench. In trenches 4 and 5 the natural substratum was of a similar nature to that seen in Trench 1. Faint traces of ridge and furrow could be seen running on a north to south alignment on the surface of this field. Evidence of ridge and furrow continued through the subsoil onto the natural substratum. More land drains were located in both trenches following the slope of the field but no archaeological features or deposits were observed, despite removing all furrow fills. One flint flake and a flint chunk were recovered from the surface of the field approximately 25m north-east of Trench 3. Removal of topsoil and subsoil in trench 6 revealed the same natural substratum as in Trench 1. No further evidence of ridge and furrow was present but more horseshoe land drains were located running on a north to south alignment. No archaeological features or deposits were observed within this trench.

No archaeological features or deposits were observed and only unstratified finds were recovered during the evaluation work.

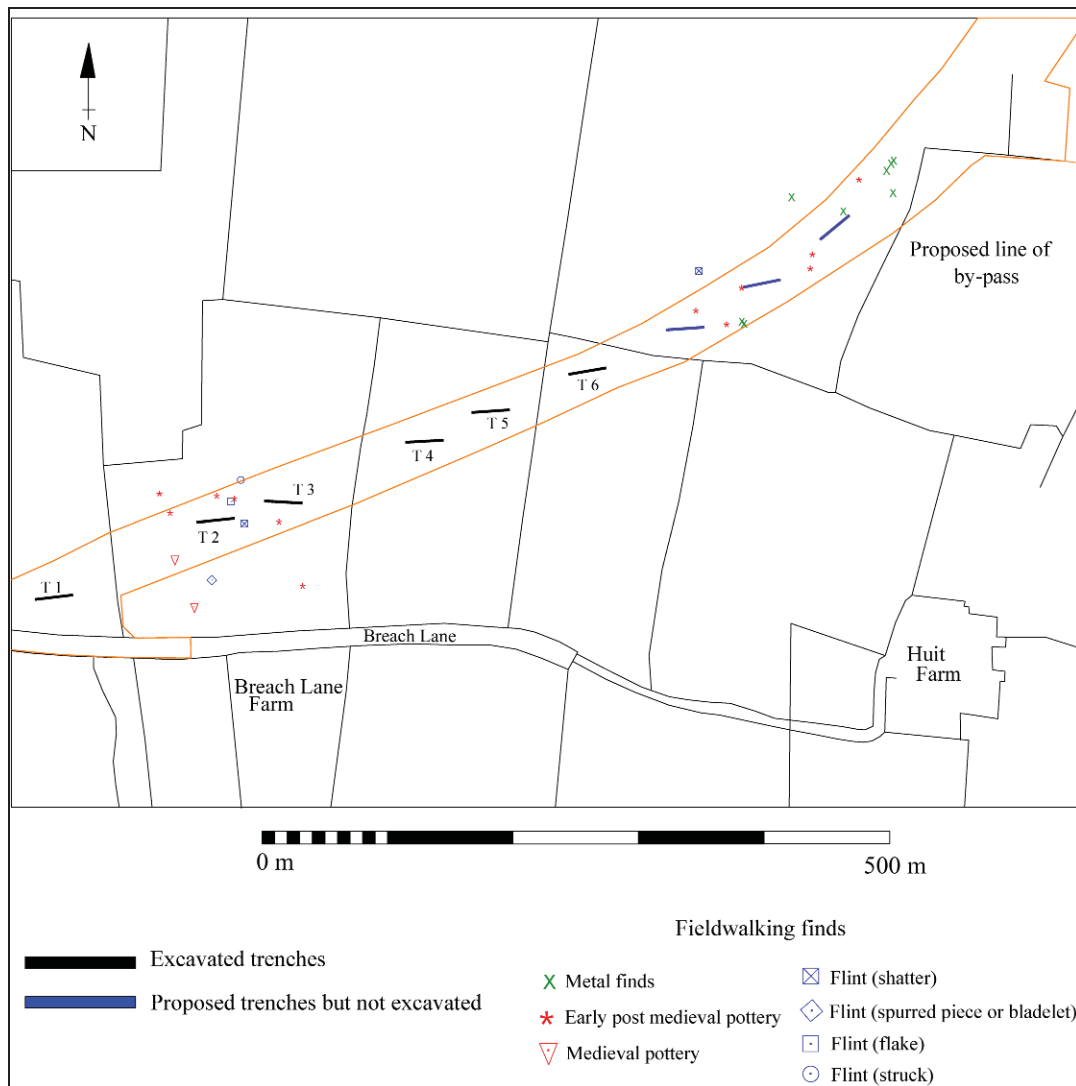


Fig. 3 Breach Lane site evaluation trenches

4 Site D (X.A183 2007)

4.1 Further Evaluation (2007)

4.1.1 Evaluation Methodology

Further trial trenching was to be carried out at site D as a follow up to the test pitting and trial trenching undertaken in 2003 (Coward 2003), predominantly as the initial work could only be completed in the north half of targeted area due to a standing crop in the south (Clark 2007a). Initially it was proposed that two 50m trenches were to be excavated, aligned north-south and east-west with a further trench to be added as necessary. The trenches were to be located just south of the crest of the hill with the land dropping off down to Mill Lane, and close to the known cropmark (see Fig. 4).

4.1.2 Evaluation Results

Initially three trenches were machine excavated, two east-west aligned trenches measuring 27m and 25m, and a third north-south aligned trench measuring 53m (see Fig. 5). The trench lengths were at variance from the original brief so as to fit them in the land-take for the bypass. The north-south trench (trench 2) did not expose any archaeological features and no finds were recovered. The northern trench (trench 1) exposed several features

including a pit and two north-south aligned linear gullies. Additionally, unstratified Iron Age pottery was recovered from the overburden. The parallel trench to the south (trench 3) also identified a further north-south linear feature, a pit or ditch on a probable continuation of the alignment seen in the northern trench, and a further pit at the east end which produced late Iron Age - early Romano British pottery and a fragment of a saddle quern. An additional 12m long fourth trench was added to the south also running east-west, and this again exposed a continuation of the main north-south alignment.

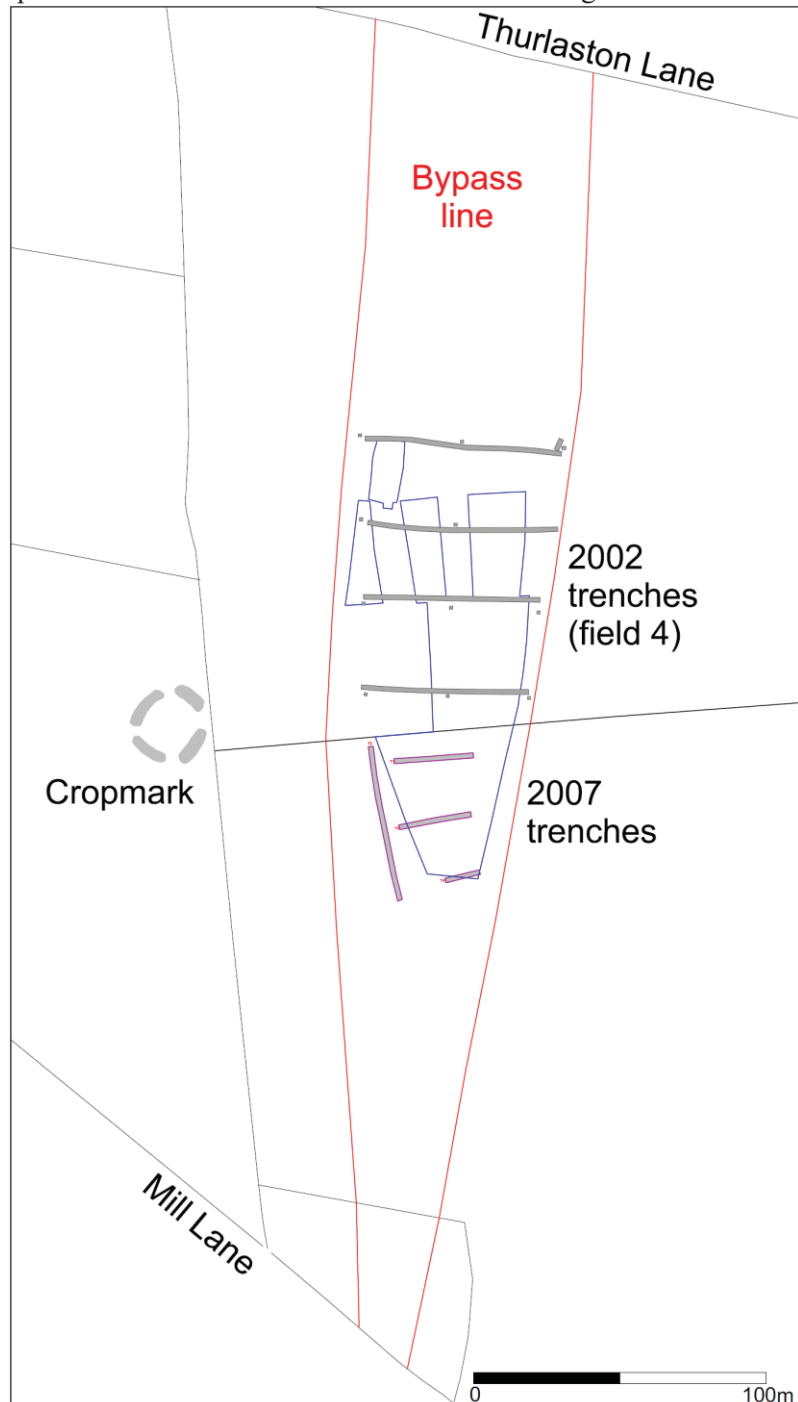


Fig. 4 Site D main areas, showing cropmark (MLE9772), trial trenches, and area of site D excavation (blue). See also Fig. 5.

Following on from these results the Senior Planning Archaeologist at Leicestershire County Council recommended a scheme of archaeological investigation and a 'brief' was produced (Clark 2007b).

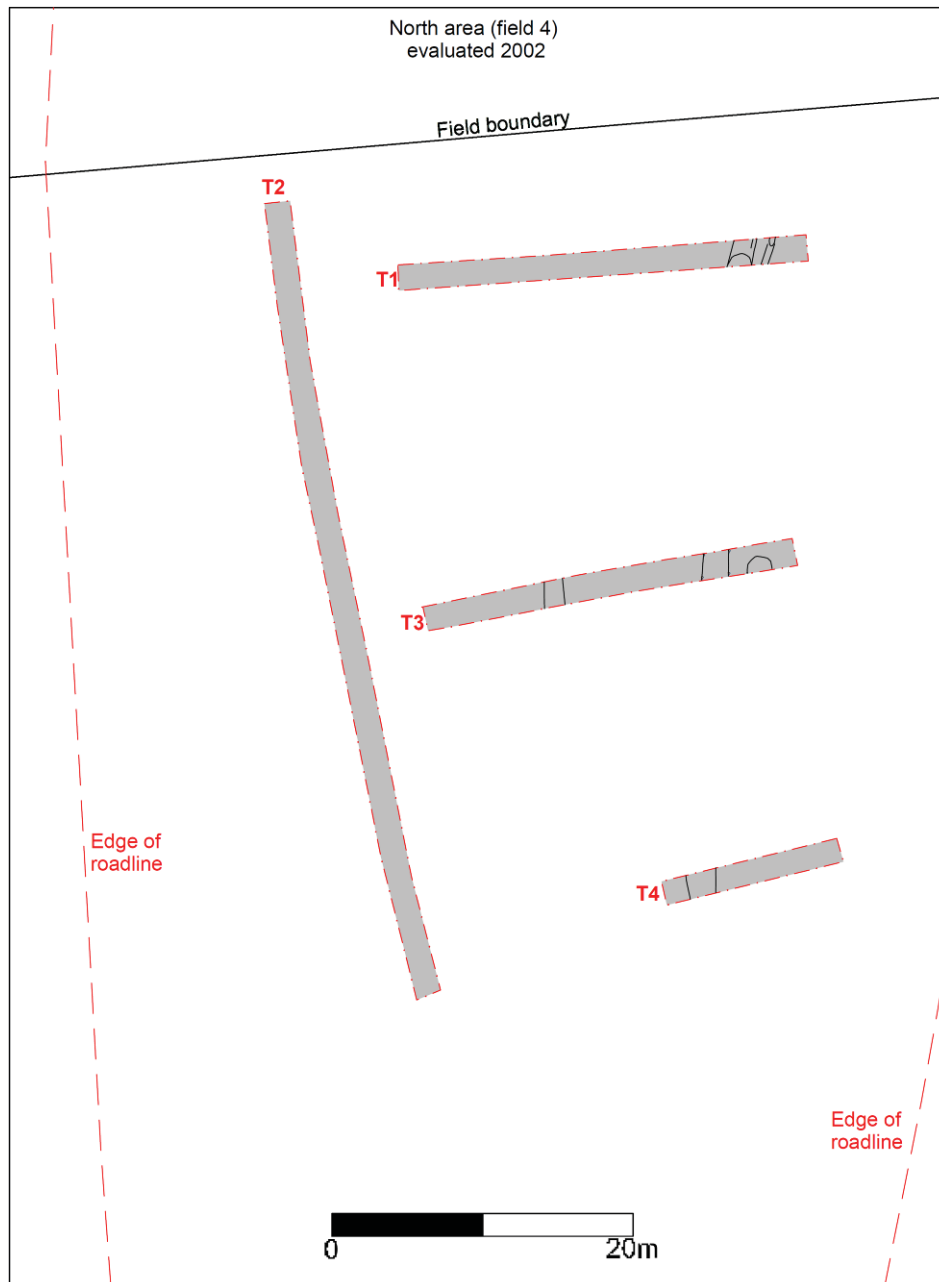


Fig. 5 Follow up 2007 trial trenches

4.2 Excavation Methodology

The initial methodology would involve dealing with Site D as two elements, areas A and B (Clark 2007b, Clay 2007c, appendices 9.3.3). Area A, mainly south of the east-west field boundary and the area of the 2007 trial trenching would be fully stripped prior to open area excavation. Area B, to the north of the field boundary would target the areas of archaeology from the earlier evaluation and be partially stripped in 'windrows' (Coward 2003). Where significant archaeological remains were located further stripping would be undertaken to clarify the initial results.

4.3 Results

Stripping commenced on 19/09/07 using a 360 excavator and ditching bucket for archaeological levels, with a toothed bucket being reserved for removal of the initial ploughsoil. In total some 5200 sq. m was stripped. Area A (some 1900 square metres) extended for 50m south from the field boundary and 25m north, and was stripped first before commencing to the windrow system in area B. Stripping here exposed a group of pits and ditches on the same north-south alignment, with a similarly aligned ditch c.10m to the west. Area B was initially stripped northwards from the field boundary, however as a possible ring ditch was located this was fully exposed. Windrows were excavated to the north of this area, some 45m beyond the field boundary, to evaluate whether there was any continuation of features (see Fig. 6a). These further exposed archaeological features including a second ring ditch, two parallel north-west to south-east aligned gullies, and pits and ditches in the east, so an additional open area of 200 sq m. was stripped and further trial trenches were added down slope towards Thurlaston Lane. These east-west trial trenches exposed little further archaeology, although a further pit was identified 70m north of the stripped area B (trench 7). This is dealt with in the Pit-Alignments section, as it is likely that this is a continuation of the same feature. A possible feature was also identified at the east end of trench 5.

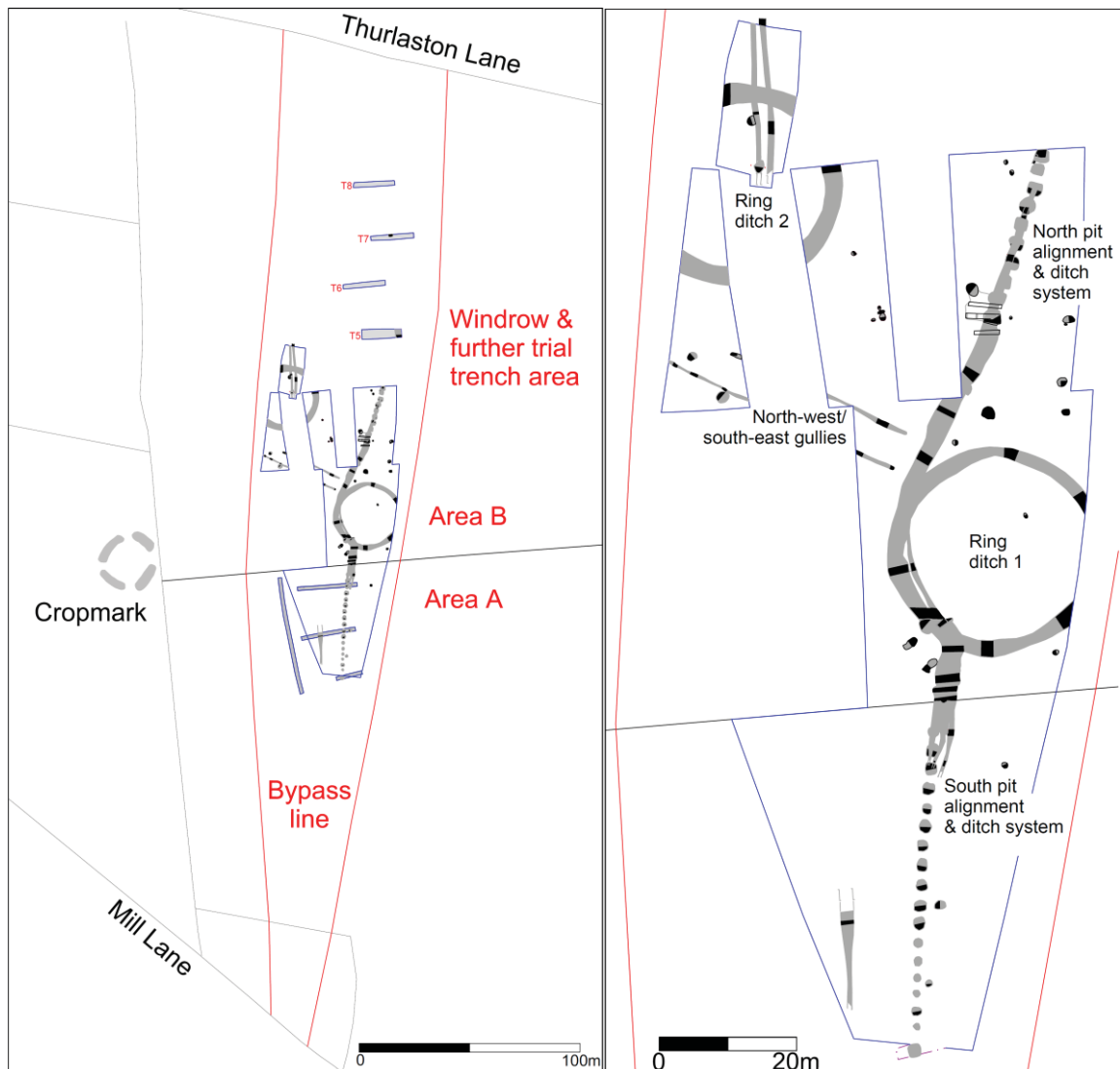


Fig. 6, (a) main areas discussed in text. (b) main feature groups.

For the purposes of reporting the site can be divided into basic phases, and feature groups (shown on Fig. 6b) as follows:-

Phase 1) Pre-ring ditch activity

Phase 2) Ring Ditches 1 (south ring ditch) and 2 (north ring ditch) and associated features

Phase 3) North Pit Alignment and associated features

South Pit Alignment and associated features

?Parallel north-west/south-east 'droveway' gullies

Phase 4) Later ditch system and associated features

Other Features:-

Later north-south ditches to west of main alignment

Other unphased features

4.3.1 Phase 1. Pre-Ring Ditch activity

There was a small Mesolithic component of unstratified flint. This included two blade-like flakes (area B), a flake with bladelet scars and a truncated bladelet, possibly an obliquely truncated point (both from Area A; see Cooper, this volume 9.2.2)

Additionally a single sherd of Neolithic pottery (possibly Peterborough Ware) was recovered in a residual context, from Ring Ditch 1 fill (72). On the basis of current understandings of its chronology, Peterborough Ware, dates to between 3530 and 2880BC (Marshall et al in press).

4.3.2 Phase 2. The Ring Ditches and associated features

Figs. 7-9, plates 1-3

Ring Ditch 1 (south) – [37=56=64=109=186=199]

Ring Ditch 2 (north) – [218=259]

Location

The ring ditches are situated on the eastern end of a spur of land – the ground falls off to east, south, and north. Ring Ditch 1 was sited on the northern edge of this ridge of ground which continues to the west, having a very slight slope down to the north. Ring Ditch 2 was situated slightly off this ridge, some 35m to the north-west, and on a more pronounced north facing slope. Both ring ditches lie some 100m north-east of the circular enclosure cropmark MLE9772 referred to above (SP 477 979), with the latter on the south-facing slope.

This siting of monuments on a 'false crest' is commonplace, with the monuments acting as territorial markers from below, and also perhaps allowing audience observation of rites from upslope to the west.

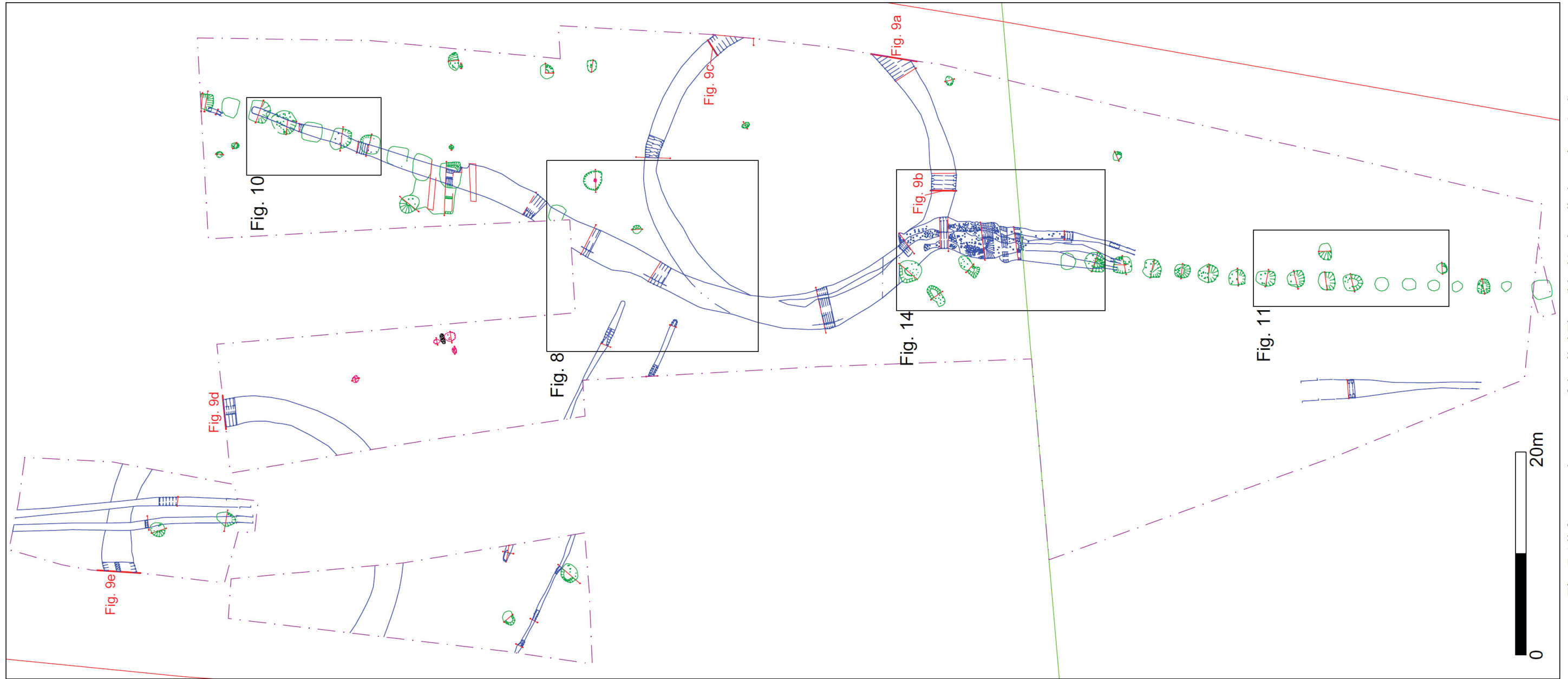


Fig. 7 All features plan, areas of detailed Figs. (black), ring ditch sections (red).

Form of ring ditches 1 and 2

Ring Ditch 1 measured 26m in internal diameter, whilst Ring Ditch 2 to the north-west was slightly smaller at 25m; both are significantly larger than the cropmark MLE9772 to the west. Ring ditches 1 and 2 compare closely in size to other excavated barrows in Leicestershire, - the Cossington 3 barrow was almost exactly the same diameter as Ring Ditch 2 (at 25m; Thomas 2008a), and also Lockington barrow VI (Hughes 2000). Both excavated ring ditch features at site D are very close to true circles, and there is no evidence for any of their sides being flattened. Neither of the two excavated ring ditches have entrances as would be expected for henges, however the cropmark may have possible entrances (Challis and Brown 2001). The two rings ditches are interpreted as round barrows that along enclosure MLE9772 collectively form a hilltop cemetery.

Where it could definitely be ascertained, the width of Ring Ditch 1 varied between 1.33m (north excavated section) to as wide as 2.49m in the excavated south-east section. The apparent narrowness in unexcavated sections (e.g. 1.25m in the north) may best be explained by the redeposited natural fills masking the true edge of the feature which would have been wider. This was also observed with the alignment pits, which turned out to be larger than the initial plan view suggested (see below). Ring Ditch 2 is more substantial in width (and depth, see below), varying where excavated between 2.72m wide at the east, to 3.05m in the north section. Although the cropmark MLE9772 is unexcavated, it does appear to have a proportionately wider, more substantial, ring ditch compared to its diameter than the excavated ring ditches.

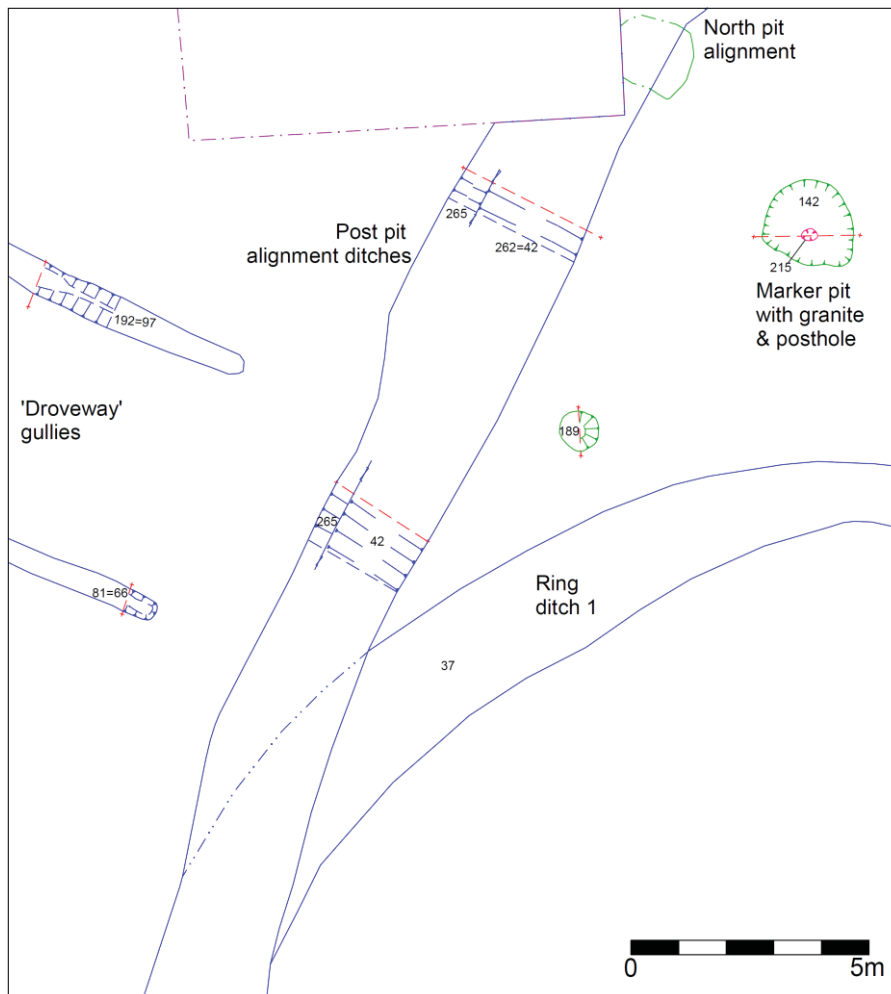


Fig. 8 Ring Ditch 1 and main associated features



Plate 1 Ring Ditch 1 [37] looking north-east. The pit alignments and ditches can also be seen in the foreground by the wheelbarrow



Plate 2 Ring Ditch 1 [64] sections looking south-west

The profile of Ring Ditch 1 is a shallow open U-shape, tending towards being flat-bottomed (Fig. 9a-c, Plate 2). It is in fact proportionately very shallow in comparison to its width; - a maximum depth of 0.71m was recorded. Ring Ditch 2 is completely different in the form of its profile, being steep and V-shaped (Fig. 9d-e, Plate 3). It was considered during excavation whether this may have been due to variations in the natural substrata between the two ring ditch areas. Ring Ditch 1 cuts clayey substrata, whilst to the northern Ring Ditch 2 is on more sandy levels. It might follow from this that Ring Ditch 2 infilled

relatively quickly (perhaps deliberately), preserving the V-shaped profile with little erosion, and may have survived only as a mound and partly infilled ditch. That Ring Ditch 1 survived as a landscape feature is certainly supported by the fact that both pit alignments clearly reference it, whilst Ring Ditch 2 has little evidence of being referenced by later features (but cf. pit [217], below). Additionally, Ring Ditch 1 has later pottery and features more clearly associated with it. An alternative explanation for the difference in profiles is that the two features were not cut at a similar time (i.e. they are not contemporary), although there is no absolute dating evidence to support this. It is also possible that both ring ditches were at least partly recut at some stage, as suggested by the profiles. Neither ring ditch showed any survival of bank material, either as a central or external mound, with asymmetry in the ditch fills being most likely due to an undated recutting episode.

Of the 250 ring-ditches known from cropmarks in the county, only 27 show evidence of surviving mounds (Clay 1999). This absence of any mound survival is almost certainly due to plough truncation, although the mounds might have been rather insubstantial features in any case considering the proportion of the ditch volume to the internal diameter of these features. The absence of surviving mound material may also explain the absence of burials as these might have been placed in the mounds, although soil acidity would additionally hinder the preservation of bone. There are however 'cenotaph' barrows known i.e. without any burial evidence, for example at Grendon, Northants (Gibson and Mc Cormick 1985). Within the county, both the aforementioned barrows at Cossington 3 and Lockington VI also lacked central burials (Thomas 2008a, Hughes 2000), and it is clear that burial in deep pits was not occurring on these sites.

Ring ditch fills

Sections through the ring ditches identified a series of fills, from four fills in Ring Ditch 1 to eight in Ring Ditch 2 (Figs. 9b, e). The fills generally consisted of rather leached and sterile material, brown silty clay sands with sub-rounded gravel, being a combination of weathering and eroding material from the natural, and probably some slumping of mound material. Occasional concentrations of distinctive material (e.g. coarse pebbly material (e.g. (274)) could not be traced for any distance, hence it is impossible to say what structure the mound may have had. Infrequent lenses of more productive material produced some pottery, and charcoal suitable for species identification and C¹⁴ analysis, although these were recovered only from later fills.

Dating of the ring ditches

Excavated sections through Ring Ditch 2 produced no pottery dating evidence, or material suitable for C¹⁴ dating. Ring Ditch 1 upper fills (38 and 72, Fig. 9 a, b) produced a small and mixed assemblage of pottery, including one sherd (4g) of Neolithic pottery (probably Peterborough Ware), two sherds (7g) of early to middle Bronze Age date (quartz and grog tempered, see below Marsden, 9.2.1), and 13 sherds (74g) of late Bronze Age - Iron Age wares. The likely date for these upper fills is the late Bronze Age - Iron Age, with the earlier pottery being residual in later contexts, but suggesting some activity in the area in the middle Neolithic, and at around c.1500 BC (transition between Early to Middle Bronze Age. Additionally two ¹⁴C samples for part silting up of Ring Ditch 1 also produced similar dates of 2140BC-1680BC, 1690BC-1490-BC (95.4% probability). These dates towards the end of the early Bronze Age are relatively late for round barrows (cf. Sproxton, Clay 1981), but within the period in which these monuments were in use. This relatively late date may explain the paucity of typical early Bronze Age material on site. However these dates all come from relatively late in the stratigraphic sequence for the barrow, and it may be that the actual construction of the monument was somewhat earlier with continued use or reuse at this later date. Continuity or reuse of early Bronze Age barrows in the middle Bronze Age has also been identified at a other sites in the area (e.g. Castle Donington, Cossington, Melton Mowbray and Tixover; Clay 1999, 3). The charcoal used for ¹⁴C

dating came from a concentration within the partially infilled ring ditch which is also paralleled at several other sites (e.g. Cossington and Eaton; Thomas 2008a, 43; Clay 1981). At these sites also, charcoal concentrations appear at the base of secondary slumping in the ditches, perhaps indicating a redefinition of the feature and its continued significance.

Features possibly contemporary with ring ditches 1 and 2 – [101], [113], [189], [191], [198], [217], [244] (Figs. 8, 14)

A series of features were excavated adjacent to the ring ditches. Cut [101] was a shallow pit or scoop, *c.* 0.7m north-south by 0.46m east-west and 0.12m deep, located approximately midway between the centre and the ditch within Ring Ditch 1. Its fill, a mid-orangey brown clayey sandy-silt, contained occasional charcoal flecks but no other material. Pit [113] was 2m south-east of Ring Ditch 1, and measured *c.* 0.83m across and 0.28m deep. The main fill, a mid-orangey brown sandy-silt, also contained charcoal but no other cultural material. Shallow pit [189] was between Ring Ditch 1 and the North Pit Alignment and later ditch system (see [42] etc). This pit measured 0.9m across and 0.15m deep, and its fill of a light-orangey brown silty-sand produced no archaeological material. Cuts [191] and [198] were both adjacent to and outside the south-west arc of Ring Ditch 1, and similar in nature to each other (Fig. 14). Both consisted of elongated north-east to south-west shallow cuts, *c.* 2.3m long x *c.* 1.25m wide, just 0.13m and 0.28m deep respectively, and with greyey brown to orange silty sand fills with frequent coarse gravel. Their distinctive form and proximity to the ring ditch suggested they were possibly contemporary features. In plan they somewhat resembled grave cuts, although the absence of any artefactual material makes this impossible to verify. Pit [217] was a shallow feature some 1.37m in diameter x 0.21m deep, within the interior area of Ring Ditch 2 (Fig. 12h). Its main fill (223), a mid to dark brown sandy-silt, contained flint, five sherds of late Bronze Age – Iron Age pottery, and occasional burnt stone fragments. Pit [244] measured 1.7m across and *c.* 0.4m deep, and was located close to the centre of Ring Ditch 2 (Fig. 12i). The main fill (245) consisted of a light-yellowish brown silty-sand, free of archaeological finds, below which was a mixed sandy deposit, perhaps the disturbed natural substratum.

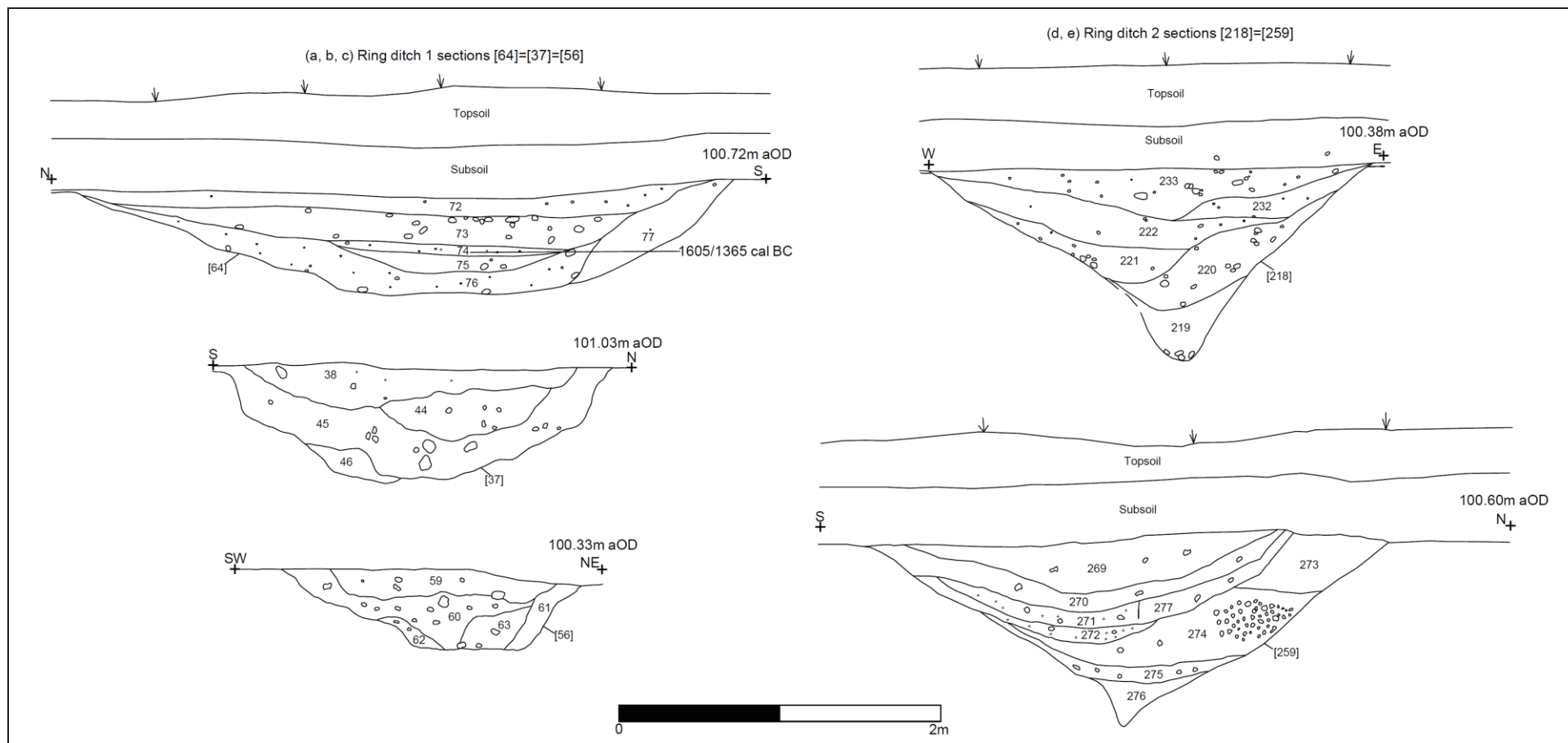


Fig. 9 Ring ditch sections (a-c) Ring Ditch 1, (d-e) Ring Ditch 2. Location of sections shown on Fig. 7



Plate 3 Ring Ditch 2 [218] section looking north-east

4.3.3 Phase 3 The Pit Alignments and Associated Features

Figs. 7, 10-12, plates 4-5

North Pit Alignment – cuts [54], [129], [133], [136], [160], [173]

South Pit Alignment – cuts [2], [14], [17], [19], [21], [23], [25], [27], [29], [31], [50], [105]

Location

North Pit Alignment

The North Pit Alignment could be traced across the stripped area for 37m, running north-north-east to south-south-west (Figs. 7, 8, 10), and consisted of 11 pits (of which six were excavated, see cuts above). A further pit [153] located in trial trench 7 and 70m to the north is very similar in form to the main alignment pits, but appears to be on a slightly different line (Fig. 6a). If this pit is within the same alignment the alignment would have curved to the west as it travelled northwards (downslope). Close to Ring Ditch 1 the North Pit Alignment appears to veer to the west slightly, before intersecting with the ring ditch at the western edge of the monument. In this area, and between the North Pit Alignment and Ring Ditch 1 a large pit was located [142] possibly functioning as a ‘marker’ (Fig. 8, see below).

South Pit Alignment

The South Pit Alignment was traced for 47m within the excavated area (Figs. 7, 11), with 18 pits in the alignment of which 12 were excavated. This alignment is on a slightly different axis, being closer to true north-south and perpendicular to the contour of the hill, and appearing to intersect with the south side of Ring Ditch 1 at a sharper angle. East of the southern alignment are two pits [10] and [107] (Fig. 11), possibly ‘marker’ pits (see below)

Form of the Pit Alignments

In plan the pits are more or less sub-rectangular, and this shape conforms to Hingley’s suggestions on forms varying by date (Hingley 1989, 2-3), with this shape of pit tending to

date to the late Bronze Age to middle Iron Age. The site D alignment pit sides were always steep to vertical, and the bases close to being flat-bottomed.

There is little variation in the form, size and spacing of the pits through the linear sequence. The pits in both alignments are on average 1.8m across (north-south) by 1.77m (east-west), although this varies. The north pits were slightly wider (east-west) compared to their north-south axis, whereas the southern pits were slightly elongated on their north-south axis. The latter pattern is paralleled at the Eye Kettleby pit alignment in that the long axis of the pit corresponded with the axis of the alignment as a whole (N. Finn pers. comm.). The southern alignment pits also appear to increase in plan size slightly as they approach Ring Ditch 1. However this could not be verified after excavation and this may be an artefact of the visibility of the fills in that the unexcavated pits at the south end do not show their true plan size. On average the northern pits were very slightly deeper (0.6m compared to 0.54m), although this may be due to variations in the level of truncation.

Most of the alignment pits had more than one fill. Primary and single fills were invariably clayey sands with occasional gravels, naturally derived material from primary silting though somewhat sandier than the natural substratum and later pit fills. Upper fills were similar eroded material. Only two alignment pits had fills different to this pattern, pits [54] and [160], and these were adjacent to each other midway along the North Pit Alignment. Both contained secondary fills (55 and 163) in the form of thin layers rich in charcoal (see Fig. 12f, and plate 5 for [54]). Fill (55) produced 66 sherds (648g) of late Bronze Age – Iron Age pottery, the largest assemblage from any context on site, in addition to flint and burnt bone flecks. Additionally the fill above this (85) produced a further 28 sherds (182g) of pottery of the same date. It is difficult to explain these fills as being related to occupation, as no other features occurred in the vicinity, and they may best be treated as ‘special’ deposits within features after an initial silting episode. The burnt bone could not be identified in analysis, and may be animal or human bone.

None of the pits showed evidence for being recut or holding posts, and no surviving bank could be identified, although this would have been truncated by the plough. None of the fills suggested erosion of a bank or upcast either. As discussed below it is possible that the eastern gap at the ends of the ‘droveway’ ditches [66] and [97] indicates a former bank, but this gap could be associated with a lost bank associated with the post pit alignment ditches. It is unclear whether they were maintained as open features or ever held posts, and excavation of other pit alignments has only occasionally shown evidence for how the pits ‘functioned’. Surviving banks do occasionally survive however, and at Eye Kettleby the possibility was explored that large fieldstones in the pit fills indicated a collapsed bank, rather than post-packing (N. Finn pers. comm.).

The spacing of the pits in both alignments is very regular, to within 5cm (centre to centre). Also the *average* spacing between the pits (centre to centre) for the Northern Pit Alignment is 2.75m, and for the southern alignment the measurement is virtually the same at 2.76m. Although there are slight variations in the form of the pits, it is perhaps more significant how *little* difference there is. It seems more than likely that the alignments were contemporary, and from the similar dimensions of pits and spacings, were laid out in a formal manner.

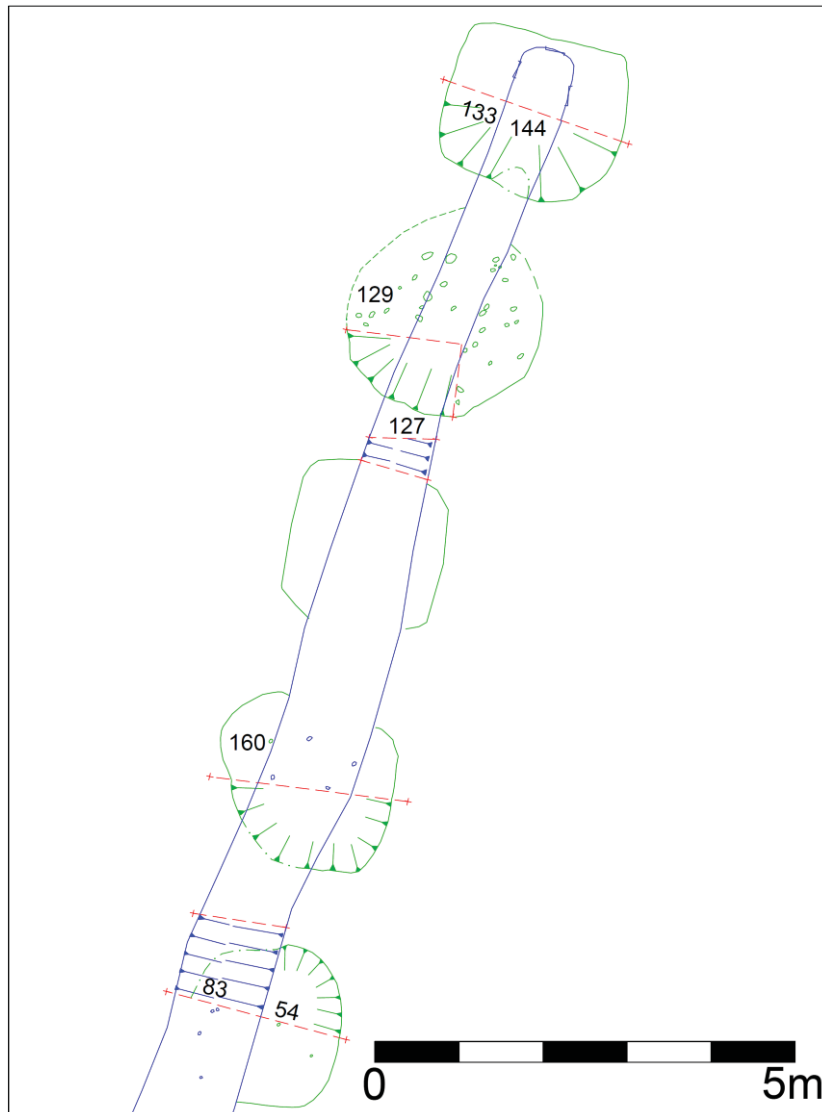


Fig. 10 Selected North Pit Alignment features

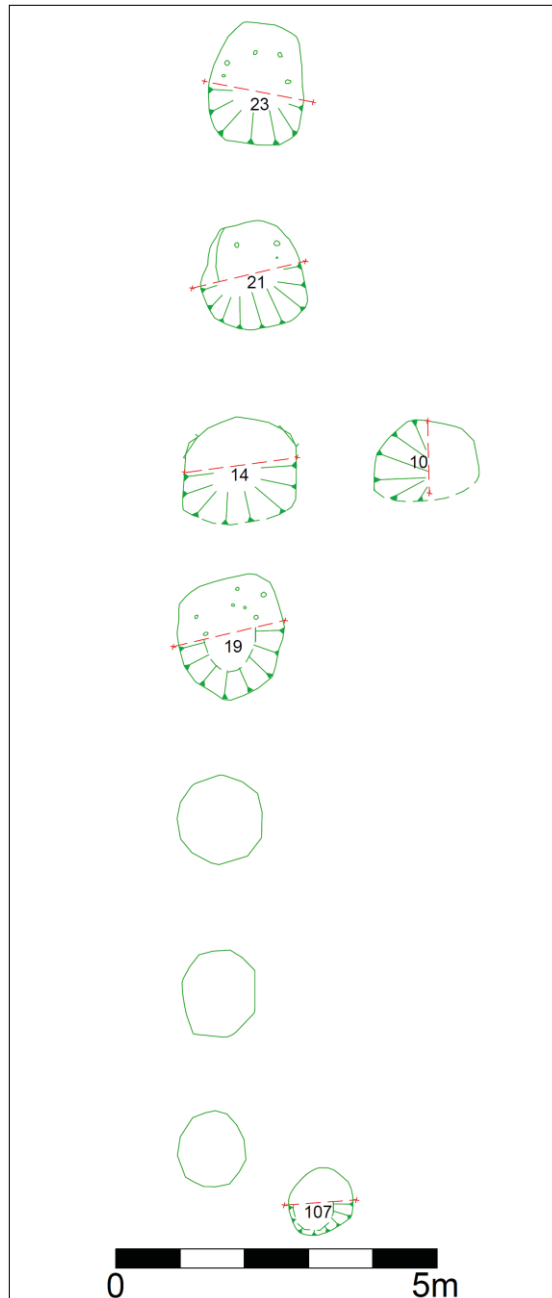


Fig. 11 Possible 'marker' pits [10], [107] associated with South Pit Alignment

It is unclear whether the two pit alignments formed one single linear feature as the junction was truncated by the later ditch system in the western extent of Ring Ditch 1. However as the form of the pits in both alignments is remarkably similar (see above), it is likely that they were contemporary. In the east windrow the ditches cutting the pit alignment widen considerably, destroying any convincing trace of the pit alignment. However, a possible pit was located 5m to the north-west of 'marker' pit [142], which would correspond with the spacing for the alignment. This would suggest a further three pits have not survived the truncation of the pit alignment by the ditch system. The North Pit Alignment may have continued southwards further towards Ring Ditch 1, but the ditches were more substantial here and would have truncated all trace of the pits. Similarly, just to the south of Ring Ditch 1 the South Pit Alignment appears to terminate *c.* 12m from the ring ditch, where it is 'replaced' by the ditch system. A single pit [180] in the south-west arc of the ring ditch may indicate that the South Pit Alignment did continue up to the ring ditch. If this was the

case five further pits may also have been destroyed by the ditch system between this pit and the South Pit Alignment.

The pit alignments divide ring ditches 1 and 2 from each other. This is very closely paralleled at a cropmark site just to the east (SP 490 983), where two ring ditches are also bisected by a pit alignment (Pickering and Hartley 1985, HER refs: MLE346, MLE347). This is a common attribute for the siting of pit alignments, which frequently reference both natural and man-made features (Hingley 1989, Finn forthcoming). Additionally, both pit alignments bisect their respective hillslope, and by doing this redefine the earlier boundary line suggested by the ring ditches where the line would have followed the east-west ridge. It is also likely that both of the pit alignments continued further downslope, quite probably continuing north and south and as far as the east-west streams in both valleys which run perpendicular to the alignments. Settings of pit alignments at right angles to streams and river courses is one of their common situations (Hingley 1989), and this location is clearly seen on the landscape visualisation (Fig. 16). The pit alignments are likely to originally have been associated with banks which would both have been significant boundaries when looked at from each of these lower slopes i.e. either side of the east-west crest that they run up to and on which the ring ditches were earlier located.



Plate 4 South Pit Alignment [2] looking south-east

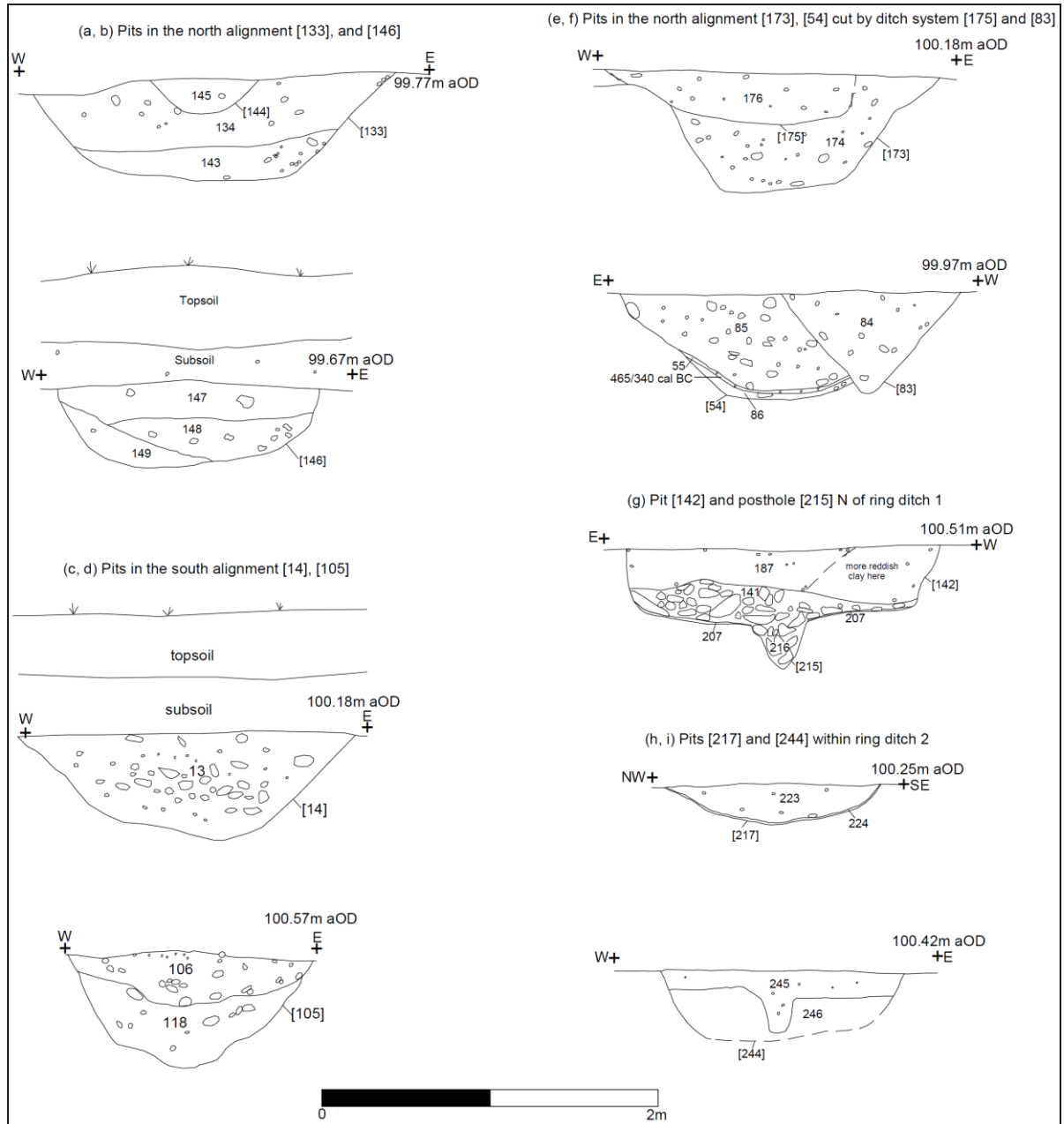


Fig. 12 Sections (a-f) alignment pits, (g-i) other pits

Dating of the Pit Alignments

In addition to the broad date range (late Bronze Age - Iron Age) suggested from the pottery evidence, the lack of diagnostic late Bronze Age pottery suggests an early-middle Iron Age date for the pit alignments (Marsden below, 9.2.1). To clarify the dating evidence, charred material (short lived woody species, see appendices 9.2.4) was extracted from fill (55) in the North Pit Alignment and sent for ¹⁴C dating. The results indicated calibrated dates of 410BC-200BC, 750BC-390BC (95% probability). The pit alignments therefore post-date Ring Ditch 1 (and most probably Ring Ditch 2) by more than c.1000 years. The dating conforms to the pattern that pit alignments are broadly 1st millennium BC in date, although earlier and later dates are also known (Hingley 1989). Few pit alignments have produced direct dating evidence in the region. Two relatively short pit alignments at Husbands Bosworth are thought likely to be of late Bronze Age - early Iron Age date (Beamish and Coward 2002). At Willow Farm, Castle Donington a pit alignment was associated with a late Bronze Age settlement (Coward and Ripper 1999), but the lack of material of this date

in the pit fills might suggest a later date. The aforementioned Eye Kettleby pit alignments are slightly earlier, most probably being pre Late Bronze Age in date (N. Finn pers comm.).



Plate 5 Pit [54] in North Pit Alignment looking south-west. Section showing fill (55), and later post pit alignment ditch [83] cutting the pit

Other features probably associated with the Pit Alignments

'Marker' pits [10], [107], [142], [172]

These outlying pits are most likely related to the pit alignments based on their locations and dates. These 'marker' pits are quite different in form to the alignment pits however, and also at variance to each other. Just to the east of the South Pit Alignment two sub-circular pits were excavated [10] and [107]. Pit [10] was 1.59m (east-west) by 1.24m (north-south) and 0.24m deep, and located 1.2m east of the alignment. It contained two fills of clayey sand which contained later Iron Age or 'transitional' Conquest period pottery, seven sherds of late Bronze Age - Iron Age pottery (?residual) and a substantial fragment of a saddle quern (Thomas below, 9.2.4). Pit [107] averaged 1.02m in diameter, was 0.09m deep, and lay 0.7m east of the alignment. The clayey sand fill contained three sherds of late Bronze Age - Iron Age pottery.

Pit [142] was sited between the North Pit Alignment and Ring Ditch 1 (Figs. 8, 12g, plates 6-7). This pit was D-shaped in plan, 1.94m east-west by 1.75m north-south. The sides were near vertical and the base was flat, and the feature had a depth of 0.45m. A series of fills were identified, (207) the primary fill consisting of disturbed natural orangey red sand and clay incorporating burnt bone flecks, charcoal and pottery. The pottery assemblage comprised 16 late Bronze Age - Iron Age sherds (101g), and one sherd (27g) of Iron Age Scored ware. This primary fill was overlain by fill (141), a 0.23m deep concentration of granite chunks each up to 0.2m across, and in a matrix of pale orange clayey sand. Six more sherds of similar date occurred in this fill. At the centre of the feature was a likely post-setting [215] showing clearly in section and plan, and extending down for 0.27m beyond the base of the pit. The post-hole itself was packed with granite, but did not produce any dating evidence. It was not possible to determine the relationship between this feature and the pit itself, but it is most likely that the post was set within the larger pit that was also completely packed with stone. The upper disuse fill (187) contained three further small sherds (9g) of late Bronze Age - Iron Age pottery. Eleven metres to the east of this

feature a further possible post-hole [104] was identified, also packed with granite. This was very truncated and disturbed by the plough however, measuring 0.55m in diameter by 0.13m deep, and contained no finds.

To the west of the North Pit Alignment by 3.6m, a further possible pit [172] was excavated measuring approximately 1.75m in diameter, and 0.6m deep (Fig. 7). This was adjacent to a large possible feature (208) which was excavated but produced no finds, and represented a disturbed area of ground of uncertain origin.



Plate 6 Pit [142] north of Ring Ditch 1 during excavation, looking south. Concentrated granite fill (141) below later sterile fill



Plate 7 Pit [142] north of Ring Ditch 1 after excavation, looking south. Post-hole [215] at base
Parallel north-west to south-east gullies [66], [97]

Two linear gullies could be traced for 36.3m and 28.2m respectively running north-west from near Ring Ditch 1, to the south of Ring Ditch 2 (Figs. 7, 8, 13b, c).

Linear gully feature [66] was up to c.0.52m wide, and 0.19m deep, and contained a single fill, a mid-red brown sandy-silt. Feature [97] was up to 0.65m wide and 0.24m deep, and again contained a single fill, a mid-orangey brown silty sand. Neither feature contained pottery, although a single piece of iron tap slag and a flint shatter piece were recovered from one section through gully [66] fill (78).

The gullies ran parallel to each other, some 4.95m apart, and terminated 3.8m and 6.4m from Ring Ditch 1. It may be that this terminal was deliberate, although alternatively their relationship with the North Pit Alignment and/or north-south ditch series may be significant. The gap between the gully terminals and these features to the east might be explained if a bank was upcast from either the North Pit Alignment and/or north-south ditch series. The more northerly linear feature, cut [97] also terminated directly south of Ring Ditch 2, whilst [66] continued westwards beyond the site boundary. These gullies perhaps demarcated a trackway or mark the line of a lost hedgeline running up to the already extant features. It is impossible to interpret whether such a track way was intended for people, livestock, or both.



Plate 8 Post pit alignment ditch system [156] with Ring Ditch 1 (right background). Cobbles (87) in background suggest metallurg of mid-late Iron Age date

4.3.4 Phase 4 Post Pit Alignment Ditch System and associated features

Figs 7-8, 10, 12e-f, 13a, 14 plate 8

[4=165=181=230=225=201?], [6], [42=53=262], [83=127=144=175], [125],

[156=267?=195=200=234=226?], [168=228], [265]

Location

A series of ditches were recorded running both north and south from Ring Ditch 1, on the same alignment as, and cutting, the earlier pit alignments. The northern ditch series extended northwards and downslope 46m from the ring ditch, where ditch [144] terminated. Three metres further north the ditch system restarted with cut [125] and continued beyond the edge of the stripped area. The southern ditch series extended for c.19m southwards from the ring ditch where the ditches petered out. It is likely that both ditch systems were longer than this but have been truncated by ploughing. Narrow gully-like features [195] and [265] almost certainly represent a continuation of the ditch system in the west arc of the ring ditch (Figs. 14, 8). This 'replacement' of pit alignments by ditches is very common (Thomas 2008c), and represents a more formal approach to landscape division (e.g. Eye Kettleby, Finn forthcoming) i.e. a 'functional' ditch replacing a pit alignment. It is likely that further pit alignments will also only be identified when for example cropmark 'ditch' features are excavated exposing previously unidentified pits.

Form and Dating

The northern ditch system consisted of at least two parallel and intercutting ditches, as shown for example by [42] and [265] (Fig. 8). The southern system was more complex with up to four parallel and intercutting ditches being observable (Fig. 13a, plate 8). The ditch profiles were quite variable, although the deeper ditches also tended to be the V-shaped features. The dimensions of the ditches also varied greatly along their length, and between features, with some being very insubstantial, probably in part due to later truncation. Features [195] and [265] were 0.7m and 0.8m wide, and only c.3m deep. Ditch [53] in the north system was a substantial feature, being 2.25m wide and 0.88m deep. Feature [156] was one of the largest in the south ditch series, being c.2.3m wide and up to 0.8m deep, and with multiple fills (Fig. 13a, plate 8). The upper fill (87) was very stony,

perhaps indicating a deliberate consolidation of metalling in this area. It also produced 22 sherds (556g) of pottery, the majority of which was undiagnostic late Bronze Age - Iron Age in date. Nine sherds of Scored ware suggest a middle to late Iron Age date for this fill. Similarly stony at the top, the adjacent fill (170) from ditch [168] produced a fragment of a Hunsbury type (rotary) quern, also suggesting a late (or possibly mid) Iron Age date for these fills. A single sherd of late Bronze Age - Iron Age pottery was also recovered from this context, and an additional sherd of similar date from ditch fill (236) also in cut [156]. Four sherds in a grog-tempered fabric from upper fills contexts (47), and (176) in the north ditch sequence push the dating of the final fills into the 1st century AD, being of transitional forms. Close to these contexts a spread of material at subsoil level context (140) produced further transitional pottery, and it is likely this represents a disturbed feature. No further dating evidence was recovered from the ditches. It was difficult to identify relationships stratigraphically, although the absence of diagnostic pottery of an earlier or later date than the late Iron Age would suggest broad contemporaneity. It is highly likely that multiple ditches were open at the same time, parallel examples for this being known in the region, and additionally that multiple ditch systems are known to 'replace' pit alignments (Thomas 2008c). Long-term continuity of these boundary lines is known, with examples being fossilised even in modern field boundaries (Palmer 2002b).

In the middle windrow, a setting of three post-holes was identified (cuts [249], [251], and [258]; Fig. 13d-f). In plan these looked like three surviving features in a four-post arrangement approximately 1.5m square. These were between 0.21m and 0.61m deep, 0.41m and 0.69m in diameter, and all had packing stones in the fills. No finds were recovered from these, but it was considered that they were cutting from slightly higher in the soil profile. It seems likely that these may also be of transitional date, although the initial test-pitting recovered a sherd of Saxon pottery nearby (Coward 2003).

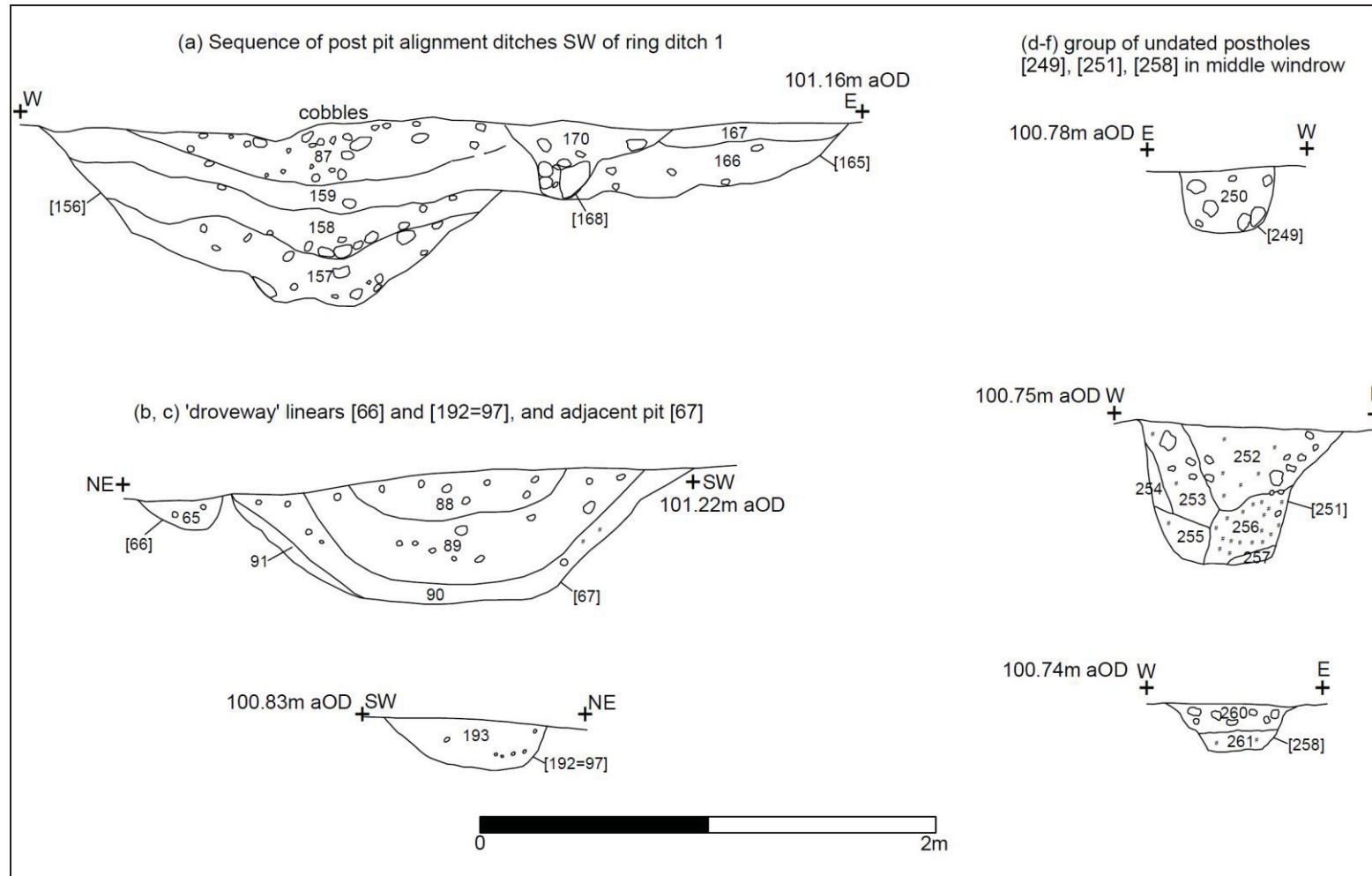


Fig. 13 Sections continued (a) post pit alignment ditches (b, c) north-west/south-east 'droveway' gullies and adjacent pit (d-f) post-holes in middle windrow

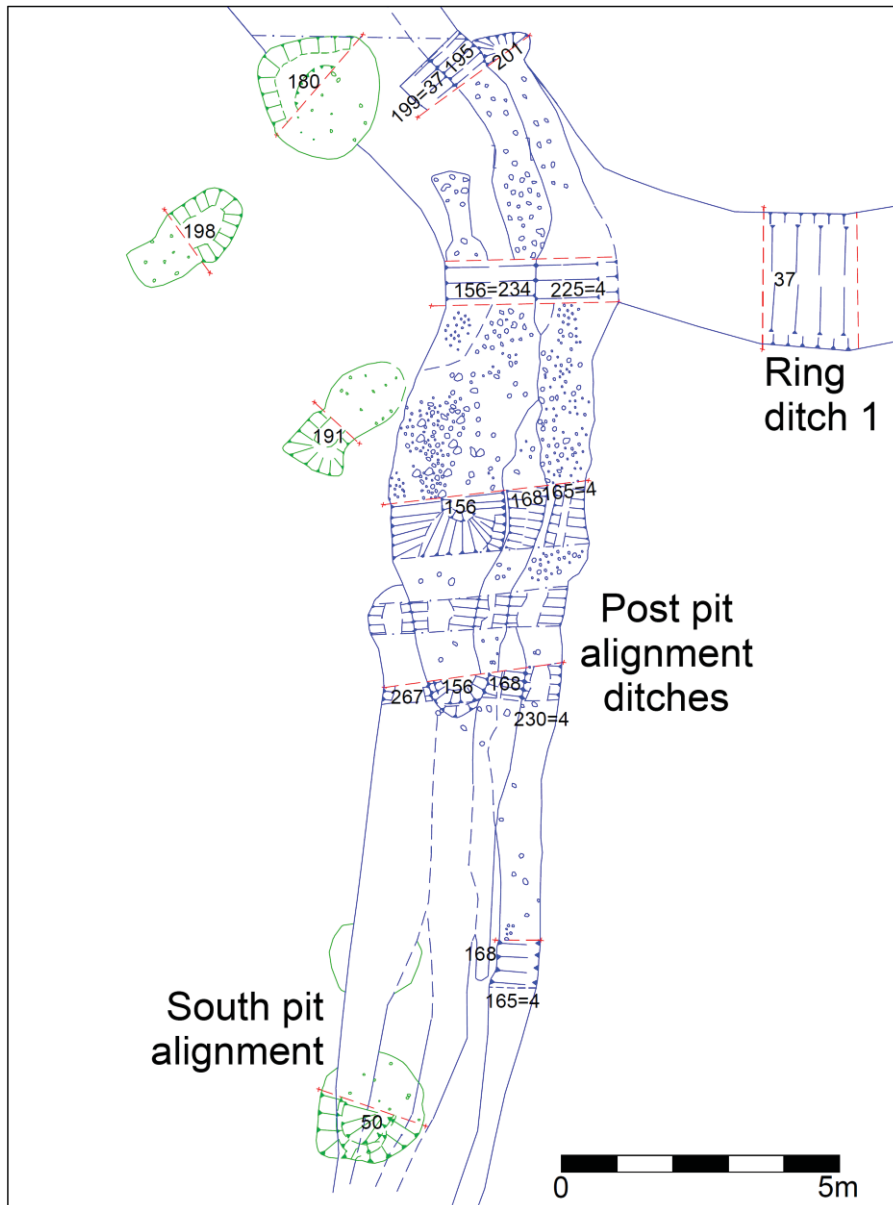


Fig. 14 Post pit alignment ditch system at south-west of Ring Ditch 1

4.3.5 Other Features

Late north-south ditches to west of main alignment

[12=210=213], [243]

A pair of insubstantial ditches was recorded in the west part of site, and running north-south (Fig. 7). They were most clear where cutting Ring Ditch 2, where they could be seen to be 1.3m apart, each c.0.8m wide and up to 0.3m deep. Their fills were all brown-orange sands with very occasional clays and gravels. A probable continuation of this alignment was seen in the south area (cut [12] in trial trench 3). Both ditches appeared to be cutting from slightly higher in the soil profile and the fill of [210] produced a complete brick. These features most likely are late field boundary features, although it is worth noting their similar orientation to the south prehistoric pit and ditch alignment.

Other unphased features

Pits [67], [99], [113], [117], [122], [132], [138]

?Post-holes [119] and [124]

Pit [67] (Fig. 13b) was sited just south of the parallel north-west to south-east gullies [66], [97] described above (4.3.3). This was 1.7m in diameter, 0.52m deep, and had four fills, none of which produced any finds. Pit [99] was seven metres north-west of this, and sited between the two gullies. This pit was 0.98m in diameter, only 0.2m deep, and had a single sterile fill. Pit [113] was located 2.2m south-east of Ring Ditch 1, 0.75m wide and 0.28m in depth. Upper fill (114) was a charcoal rich sandy-silt but lacking finds. The lower fill (115) was a thin pale brown-grey sandy-clay, also without finds. Pit? [117] was in the east windrow close to [104] described above. This was 0.9m across and 0.3m deep, with a rather loose and disturbed fill of sterile silty sand. To the north, pit/scoop [122] was 1.7m by 1.0m across, 0.17m deep and containing a dark brown sandy-silt. Just to the south of this was a possible post-hole [124], which was 0.42m by 0.29m and 0.23m deep. A single pebbly fill (123) of a dark brown sandy-silt produced one sherd (4g) of late Bronze Age – Iron Age pottery. Eight metres to the west of this, and adjacent to the North Pit Alignment, was a further pit/post-hole [119]. This was 0.45m across, 0.11m deep and again had a single sterile fill (120) of a mid-orangery grey loamy-clay. Pits/scoops [132] and [138] were at the north end of the east windrow; neither of these features produced any finds. Pit [132] was 0.54m across and just 0.09m deep with a light brown grey sandy-silt, whereas [138] was slightly more substantial, 0.7m across and 0.22m deep, and with a similar sterile fill.

5 Discussion and Conclusions

Despite the limited potential suggested by the fieldwalking results no archaeological features were identified at Breach Lane, and only two unstratified flints were found. The faint traces of ridge and furrow that were observed both as earthworks and as cut features indicate arable land use probably during the medieval period.

Excavations at Site D identified a series of substantial features dating from *c.*1500 BC through to the first century AD. The earliest evidence is for part of a barrow cemetery dating from the later part of the Early Bronze Age. The presence of a sherd of Neolithic Peterborough ware suggests some earlier activity. Bronze Age cemeteries are often in dispersed or nucleated form and in this case it is possible that the close grouping of the ring ditches and cropmark to the west suggests some nucleation. With the end of the cemetery's use there is a change from a funerary landscape to one of agricultural use in the 1st millennium BC. The Barrow monuments were clearly still visible when the Pit alignment boundary systems were constructed in the Iron Age as they are respected by these boundaries. This is a phenomenon observed elsewhere with standing monuments often incorporated into boundary systems (Willis 2006, 123). The boundary systems would have been the beginnings of managing the landscape for agricultural purposes perhaps dividing the area along the lines of 'ownership or demarcating certain rights.'

As separate features – barrow ring ditches, pit alignments and ditch systems, they find regional parallels with close similarities, but they also add to the body of knowledge for these monuments. Excavated evidence from here has provided additional information for the form of these monuments, their function, environmental background, and dating from pottery and other finds. Additionally, the careful selection of material for ¹⁴C analysis has provided absolute dates for the disuse of one of the two ring ditches and the infilling of the North Pit Alignment. This has both added to our knowledge for the date for these features in general, but also for the time span involved in their use and reuse.

It is however in how these features related to each other and to the landscape that they are much more significant. They show the interaction between the built environment and the landscape, and a continuity of respect for these monuments over a long period of time. They also demonstrate how these features were referenced, 'reclaimed' and reworked, and additionally how the landscape was subdivided in a more formal manner, in the course of time. The increased occurrence of finds associated with domestic activity in the later

periods (Iron Age Scored ware and transitional Roman pottery, querns), and the gradual change from a ritual landscape to formal ditched boundaries reveals a gradual but very significant change in land use and territoriality over time.

Prior to the excavations at Site D there was relatively little evidence for the survival of these significant features. The presence of the barrows, pit alignments and ditch systems was not known from aerial photography, nor did the geophysical survey or surface scatter suggest their survival. The substantial cover of subsoil may have hindered results from aerial photography, geophysical prospection, and fieldwalking, and the comparatively small assemblage of finds from the excavation stage partly explains the lack of material in the surface scatter. It does indicate that many more monuments survive than are known, and also that what may appear as apparently isolated monuments of a single period may in fact have a long history of use and reuse. The presence of the ring ditch cropmark MLE 9772 immediately to the west was the only suggestion of this complex of monuments. Fig. 16 shows other known monuments of comparable form and date in the environs of site D. The double ring ditch and pit alignment features identified through aerial photography just to the east (at SP 490 983; HER references MLE 346, MLE347) and discussed above are so similar in form and location as to warrant particular note. However, the presence of 22 other ring ditches, ditch systems and pit alignments within 5km of Site D is also significant, and it is possible that these may in fact be multi-period sites with a long history of use and reuse.

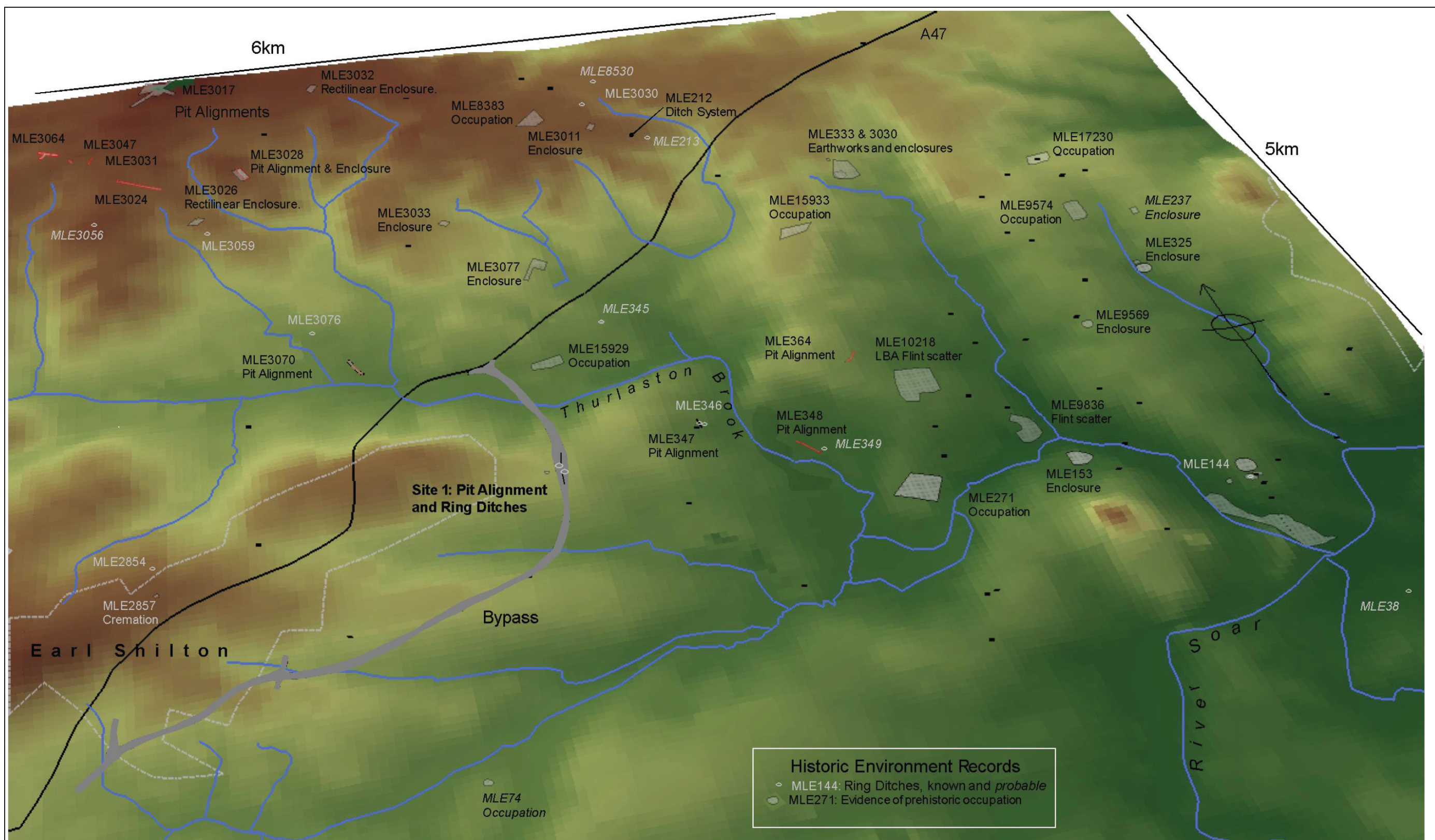


Fig. 15 Landscape visualisation of Site D environs, with HER data for prehistoric sites/ring ditches

6 Bibliography

- Beamish, M., 'A Middle Iron Age Site at Wanlip, Leicestershire', *Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society*, **72**, 1-91.
- Beamish, M., and Coward, J., 2002 'Husbands Bosworth (SP 635 825): Living on the Edge – the environs of a Neolithic causewayed enclosure', *Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society* **76**, 109-113.
- Browning J., Butler, A., and Coward, J., 2002 *A Programme Of Non-Intrusive Archaeological Evaluation In Advance Of The Proposed Earl Shilton Bypass, Leics.* ULAS Report No. 2002-213 (Supersedes 2002-023).
- Butler, A., 2003 *A47 Earl Shilton Bypass Additional Geophysical Survey At Elmesthorpe, Leics.* ULAS Report No. 2003-001.
- Challis, K., 2001a *A47 Earl Shilton Bypass.* DMRB Stage 2.
- Challis, K., 2001b *A47 Earl Shilton Bypass. DMRB Stage 3 Evaluation Design Stage A: Non-Intrusive Surveys.* Trent and Peak Archaeological Unit Code ESB.1.
- Challis, K., and Brown, J., 2001 *A47 Earl Shilton Bypass.* DMRB Stage 1.
- Charles, B., M., Parkinson, A., and Foreman, S., 'A Bronze Age Ditch and Iron Age settlement at Elms Farm, Humberstone, Leicestershire', *Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society* **74**, 113-220.
- Clark, R., 2007a *A Brief For Archaeological Evaluation and Investigation: Earl Shilton Bypass A47 (Trial Trenching Sites A and D, Survey and Investigation: Elmesthorpe Fishpond)*, Historic and Natural Environment Team, Environment and Heritage Services Department, Leicestershire County Council. Brief prepared on 05/09/2007.
- Clark, R., 2007b *A Brief For The Archaeological Excavation: Land North Of Mill Lane, Earl Shilton, Leicestershire (Site D)*, Historic and Natural Environment Team, Environment and Heritage Services Department, Leicestershire County Council. Brief prepared on 05/09/2007.
- Clay, P., 1981 *Two Multi-phase Barrow Sites at Sproxton and Eaton, Leicestershire* Leicestershire Museums, Art Galleries and Records Service, Archaeological reports series
- Clay, P., 1992 'Other finds', in P. Clay 'An Iron Age Farmstead at Grove Farm, Enderby, Leicestershire', in *Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society* **66**, 54.
- Clay, P., 1999 *An Archaeological Resource Assessment of the Neolithic and Bronze Age Leicestershire and Rutland*, East Midlands Archaeological Research Framework <http://www.le.ac.uk/archaeology/research/projects/eastmidsw/pdfs/12leicneba.pdf>, accessed 07/07/09
- Clay, P., 2007a *Design Specification For Archaeological Work: Earl Shilton By-pass (all sites), Leicestershire.* ULAS Job no. 07-688-9.
- Clay, P., 2007b *Design Specification For Archaeological Work: Evaluation at Site D Earl Shilton By-pass, Leics.* ULAS Job no. 08-518.
- Clay, P., 2007c *Design Specification For Archaeological Work: Excavation at Site D Earl Shilton By-pass, Leics.* ULAS Job no. 08-518.
- Clay, P., and Score, V., 2007 *Earl Shilton by-pass Archaeological Work Site Works Method Statement and Health and Safety Assessment.* ULAS Job no. 07-688/9 Prepared on 06/09/2007.
- Coward, J., 2003 *An Archaeological Evaluation Along The Line Of The Proposed By-pass, East Of Earl Shilton, Leics.* ULAS Report No. 2003-068.
- Coward, J., and Ripper, S., 1999 'Castle Donington. Willow Farm (SK 445 288)', in *Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society*, **73**, 87-91.
- Finn, N., forthcoming 'Excavations at Eye Kettleby, Leicestershire: the Prehistoric Landscape'.

- Gibson, A.M., and McCormick, A., 1985 'Archaeology at Grendon Quarry, Northamptonshire. Part 1: Neolithic and Bronze Age sites excavated in 1974-75', in *Northamptonshire Archaeology* **20**, 23-66.
- Greig, J., 1991 The British Isles in W. van Zeist, K. Wasylikowa and K. Behre eds. *Progress in Old World Palaeoethnobotany*. Rotterdam: Balkema, 299-334.
- Hartley, R. F., 1989 *The Medieval Earthworks of Central Leicestershire*. Leicester: Leicestershire Museums, Art Galleries and Records Service.
- Hartley, R. F., 2008 *The Medieval Earthworks of South-West Leicestershire: Hinckley and Bosworth*. Leicester: Leicestershire Museums, Art Galleries and Records Service.
- Hingley, R., 1989 *Monuments Protection Programme Single Monument Class Descriptions: Pit Alignment Boundaries*. English Heritage.
- Hughes, G., 2000 *The Lockington Gold Hoard, An Early Bronze Age Barrow Cemetery at Lockington, Leicestershire*. Oxford: Oxbow Books.
- Ingle, C., 1993-4 'The Quernstones from Hunsbury Hillfort, Northamptonshire', in *Northamptonshire Archaeology* **25**, 21-34.
- Jarvis, W., 2009a *An Archaeological Watching Brief as part of the Earl Shilton A47 Bypass, Leics*. ULAS Report No. 2009-006.
- Jarvis, W., 2009b *Archaeological Fieldwork as part of the Earl Shilton A47 Bypass, Leics. Site A only (Elmesthorpe/fishponds)* ULAS Report No. 2009-085.
- Knight, D., 2002 'A regional ceramic sequence: pottery of the first millennium BC between the Humber and the Nene'. In Woodward, A. and Hill J.D. (eds) *Prehistoric Britain; the Ceramic Basis*, 119-42. Oxbow books, Oxford.
- Knight, D., Marsden, P., and Carney, J., 2003 'Local or non-local? Prehistoric granodiorite-tempered pottery in the East Midlands' in A. Gibson, (ed.) *Prehistoric Pottery: People, Pattern and Purpose*. PCRG Occ Publication 4. Oxford: BAR International Series 1156, 111-125.
- Marsden, P., 1998a 'The Querns' in M. Beamish 1998, 62-3.
- Marsden, P., 1998b 'The prehistoric pottery' in M. Beamish 1998, 44-62.
- Marsden, P., 2000 'The prehistoric pottery' in B.M.Charles, *et al* 2000, 170-186.
- Marsden P., forthcoming 'The Iron Age Pottery' in J.Thomas, *Iron Age Aggregated settlements in the Environs of Leicester. Excavations at Humberstone and Beaumont Leys* Leicester: Leicester Archaeology Monograph .
- Marshall P., Hamilton W.D., Beamish M.G., Woodward W., van der Plicht J., Bronk Ramsey G., Cook G., Goslar T., *in press*, Scientific Dating in Beamish M.G., Neolithic and Bronze Age activity on the Trent Flood Plain. Excavations at Willington Quarry Extension 1998-2001, *Derbyshire Archaeological Journal* **129**
- Moffett, L., 1999 'The environment through time' in S.C.Palmer. 'Excavations in the Arrow Valley, Warwickshire', *Birmingham and Warwickshire Archaeological Transactions*, **103**, 211-216.
- Monckton, A., 2004 'Investigating past environments, farming and food in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland: the evidence from plant and animal remains', in P. Liddle and P. Bowman (eds.) *Leicestershire Landscapes*. Leicestershire Museums Archaeological Fieldwork Group, Monograph No.1, 2004, 154-171.
- Nichols J., 1811 *The History and Antiquities of Leicestershire*, Vol. 4, pt. 2.
- Palmer S. C., 2002a 'An Archaeological Resource Assessment for the Middle Bronze Age to Iron Age in Warwickshire and Solihull', *Warwickshire Archaeology in 2002: Summary reports on fieldwork*. Warwickshire Museum Field Archaeology Projects Group, Warwickshire County Council.
- Palmer, S. C., 2002b *Ling Hall Quarry, Church Lawford, Warwickshire, Archaeological Excavations 1989-1999*, Warwickshire Museum Report 0210.
- Pickering, J., and Hartley, R. F., 1985 *Past worlds in a landscape: archaeological crop marks in Leicestershire*. Leicester: Leicestershire Museums, Art Galleries and Records Service.

- Pollard, R., 1994 'The Iron Age and Roman Pottery' in Clay, P., and Pollard, R., *Iron Age and Roman occupation in the West Bridge Area, Leicester Excavations 1962-1971*. Leicester: Leicestershire Museums, Art Galleries and Records Service, 51-114.
- Robinson, M., 1988 'The significance of the tubers of *Arrhenatherum elatius* (L.) Beauv. from site 4, cremation 15/11' in G. Lambrick *The Rollright Stones: megaliths, monuments, and settlement in a prehistoric landscape* English Heritage Report no 6, 102.
- Roe, F., 2000 'The Worked Stone' in B.M.Charles et al, 2000, 188-9.
- Stace, C., 1991 *New Flora of the British Isles*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Thomas, J., 2008a *Monument, Memory, and Myth: Use and Re-use of Three Bronze Age Round Barrows at Cossington, Leicestershire* Leicester Archaeology Monographs No. 14.
- Thomas, J., 2008b 'The Quernstones' in J. Thomas *Excavation of an Iron Age Settlement adjacent to Beaumont Leys Lane, Beaumont Leys, Leicester*. ULAS Report No. 2008-114.
- Thomas, J., 2008c 'An empty hole, or a meaningful whole? Approaches to the study of Pit Alignments' in Chadwick A. M. (ed.) *Recent Approaches to the Archaeology of Land Allotment* Oxford: BAR International Series 1875.
- Thomas J., forthcoming a *The Quernstones from Manor Farm, Humberstone, Leicester*.
- Thomas J., 2009 'The Quernstones' in G.Speed *Excavations from Hallam Fields Birstall, Leicester*.
- Willis, S., 2006, 'The Later Bronze Age and Iron Age' in N.J. Cooper, *The Archaeology of the East Midlands. An Archaeological Resource Assessment and Research Agenda*. Leicester: Leicester Archaeology Monograph 13, 86-136.

7 Acknowledgements

Thanks go to Matt Beamish, Jennifer Browning, Lynden Cooper, Nicholas Cooper, Andy Hyam, Neil Finn, Harriet Anne Jacklin, Patrick Marsden, Grahame Morgan, Angela Monckton, John Thomas, and to the site staff Luke Benfey, Siobhan Brocklehurst, Adam Clapton, Leon Hunt, Steve Jones, Roy Poulter, and Dan Prior. I am also grateful to the clients Leicestershire County Council, and Alfred McAlpine plc, and to Patrick Clay of ULAS for project management.

8 Archive

Leicestershire Museums, Arts and Records Service will hold the finds and documentary archive under the Accession numbers XA183 2007 (Site D), and XA241 2007 (Breach Lane). The archives consist of

XA183 2007 (Site D)

- 1 box of finds,
- CD of digital photographs and associated contact prints,
- black and white negatives and contact prints,
- site record sheets,
- CD and printout of raw survey data.

XA241 2007 (Breach Lane)

- 1 bag of finds,
- CD of digital photographs and associated contact prints,
- black and white negatives and contact prints,
- site record sheets,
- CD and printout of raw survey data.

Wayne Jarvis
ULAS
University of Leicester

University Road
Leicester LE1 7RH
Tel:0116 252 2848
Fax: 0116 252 2614
Email: wj5@le.ac.uk

27.07.2009

Appendix 1 The Prehistoric and Roman Pottery by Patrick Marsden

Neolithic

A single sherd (4g) of Neolithic pottery, probably Peterborough Ware, in a fabric containing large rock inclusions, came from the latest fill (context 72) of the Barrow 1 ring ditch (cut [64]). This fill also contained two sherds of late Bronze Age or Iron Age ceramics.

Early to middle Bronze Age

Two sherds of early to middle Bronze Age pottery weighing 7g were also recovered from the upper fill of the ring ditch of Barrow 1 (38) cut [37]. The fabric of these is characteristic of this period, containing large grog and quartz inclusions. This upper fill also contained late Bronze-Iron Age pottery.

Late Bronze Age-Iron Age

Fabrics

Q1 sandy fabric

R1 sandy fabric with granitic rock inclusions

R2 granitic rock inclusions

Q4 sandy fabric with quartz inclusions

S1 shell (similar to Roman fabric CG1 and CG1A)

S2 sandy fabric with shell (similar to Roman fabric CG2 and CG2A)

G2 sandy fabric with grog inclusions

Table 1: Fabric group totals - sherd number and weight (g)

Fabric	Sherd no.	Weight (g)
Granitic rock		
R1	23	202
R2	150	1661
Sandy		
Q1	39	324
Quartz		
Q4	1	3
Shell		
S1	2	11
S2	4	34
Grog		
G2	3	14
TOTAL	222	2249

Note: some possible early Roman is included in group Q1 (equivalent to Roman categories SW, SW2 and SW3)

Note: full descriptions of similar fabrics using these codes will be found in Marsden (forthcoming).

Four of the fabrics can be compared to fabric descriptions published from other Iron Age sites - at Wanlip, Leicestershire (Marsden 1998b, 45 - Q1, R2 (equivalent to Q2) and S1) and Elms Farm, Humberstone, Leicester (Marsden 2000, 171 - Q1, R2 (equivalent to Q2), S1 and S2).

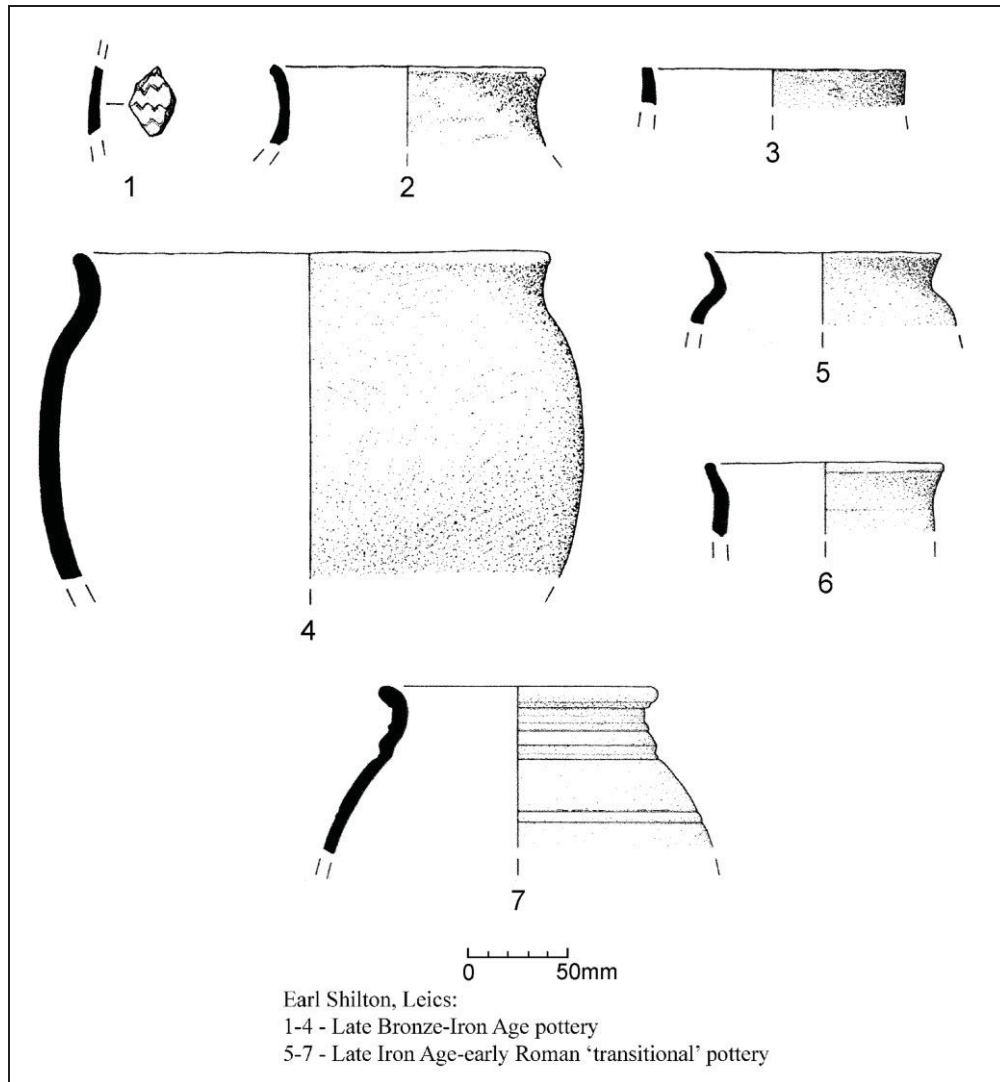


Fig. 16 Pottery illustrations. 1-3 from alignment pit [54], 4 from post pit alignment ditch [156], 5-6 from 'marker' pit [10], 7 from layer (140) in east windrow

Discussion of fabrics

The granitic rock fabrics are dominant, constituting *c.*83% of the late Bronze Age to Iron Age pottery. It is tempting to suggest a Mountsorrel source for such rock inclusions, as they are commonly found in ceramics of this period (Knight *et al* 2003). However, given the proximity of Croft Hill to the site, this source for at least some the inclusions, in the form of quartz diorites, is also worth considering. However, the presence of biotite in the fabrics R1 and R2, a mineral absent from the quartz diorites of Enderby, Croft and Sapcote-Stoney Stanton (*ibid.*, 113), may well point toward the inclusions being Mountsorrel granodiorites. Further thin-section work might help to resolve this problem. It

should also be noted that a pit also contained large quantities of granitic rock (see **Key groups** below) which is likely to represent deliberate importation of the material to the site, possibly amongst its' purposes to use in pottery production. The only other reasonably-sized fabric group, the sandy fabrics (Q1), are probably local in origin.

Key groups

Pit Alignments

The pit alignments produced 108 sherds weighing 904g. The pottery was nearly all from pit [54], described below. Pit [160] also contained 8 sherds of pottery weighing 36g, undiagnostic beyond a late Bronze Age or Iron Age date.

Pit [54] in alignment north of Barrow 1 context (55) 72 sherds weighing 686g (Figs.15.1-3) **and context (85)** 28 sherds weighing 182g

The middle fill of the pit context (55) contained pottery of an Iron Age, or perhaps late Bronze Age, date. A sherd displaying an unusual tooled zig-zag pattern (Fig. 15.1) is difficult to find parallels for and date, although its fabric would seem to be consistent with the later Bronze Age or Iron Age. Two other vessels (Figs. 15.2-3) were also present, one of which has an unusually pronounced flattened rim (Fig. 15.3). Another vessel with a rounded intumed rim in fabric R1 was also recovered from the fill. The thin-walled nature of some of the sherds is more typical of the late Bronze Age and early Iron Age, although a single scored sherd is of a mid or late Iron Age date. Intrusive medieval pottery was also present in the fill.

The small group of pottery from the upper fill (85) includes an everted rounded rim and four scored sherds from the same vessel. Such pottery is typical of East Midlands Scored ware assemblages of the middle to late Iron Age, corresponding to Knight's earlier La Tène ceramic phase for the East Midlands (2002, 133-135).

The scored pottery from the two pit fills could suggest a date of the disuse of the feature in the middle Iron Age and the ¹⁴C dates for charcoal from (55) are consistent with this date (appendix 5). However, caution should be exercised in interpreting the pottery for dating purposes as, due to difficulties distinguishing the two fills on site, some of the pottery from this pit fill may in fact may come from the ditch fill above. A date around the transition from the early to middle Iron Age seems most likely for the pottery from this pit in the pit alignment.

Post Pit Alignment ditch system

The ditch system produced a total of 32 sherds weighing 724g, mostly from the section discussed below. The ditches also contained some early Roman pottery (see **Transitional Roman Discussion** below).

Top fill of north-south ditch [156] context (87) 22 sherds weighing 556g (Fig. 15.4) **and context (236)** 1 sherd weighing 31g.

Most of the pottery from upper ditch fill (87) is scored, and therefore likely to belong to the middle to late Iron Age period (*ibid.*). The illustrated vessel is typical of this tradition (Fig. 15.4). It is, however, possible that this pottery reflects a final silting up or backfilling of the ditch as it went out of use rather than being contemporary. Given the 'transitional' Roman pottery present in other ditch fills, the scored pottery may be part of late Iron Age and early Roman deposition and the ditch going out of use in this period. The secondary fill (236) produced a sherd of pottery in fabric R2.

Marker pits

These pits contained 43 sherds of pottery weighing 409g, almost all of it coming from the two pits described below.

Ritual pit cut [142] contexts (141), (187) and (207) 24 sherds weighing 186g

This feature, which also contained large amounts of granitic rock and some cremated bone, produced Scored ware pottery, so is likely to date to mid to late Iron Age.

Fill of large pit east of South Pit Alignment, cut [10] context (9) 14 sherds weighing 188g (Figs. 15.5-6)

This pit contained pottery from several vessels, all in sandy fabrics. Two vessels are in a Belgic style, dating to the late Iron Age or possibly into the early Roman period, around the middle of the first century AD. They consist of an everted rim jar in a coarse sandy fabric (Q1/SW3, Fig. 15.5) and a possible small bowl in a finer sandy fabric (Q1/SW2, Fig. 15.6). A thick base sherd also present may be from a Scored ware vessel.

Pre-Roman Discussion

The pottery from the pit alignment and subsequent ditch would seem to represent activity at the site from around the end of the early Iron Age to the late Iron Age. However, interpretation of the pottery from these features is hindered by problems such as intrusion and the fact that sherd size is mostly small and diagnostic pieces uncommon. There is a lack of diagnostically late Bronze Age pottery, such as post-Deverel-Rimbury plainwares, or late Bronze Age to early Iron Age forms and decoration, from the post-barrow features. The pottery from the pit alignment is perhaps most likely to date to the early-middle Iron Age transition. Further ceramic evidence could suggest a later Iron Age date for the ditches cutting the pit alignment, although if the ceramics are part of the disuse, the ditch may have been originally constructed prior to this, perhaps in the middle of the Iron Age. Activity during the middle to late Iron Age 'Scored ware period' is more securely represented by pottery from the fill of the 'marker' pit [142]. The presence of later Iron Age or 'transitional' Conquest period pottery in a large pit east of the South Pit Alignment (cut [10]) shows continued activity until at least the end of the Iron Age.

Early Roman

Fabrics

(also see Pollard 1994, 112-114).

GT grog-tempered ware

GT2 fine grog-tempered fabric in Belgic style

GT3 coarse grog-tempered fabric without Belgic features

GT4 fine grog-tempered fabric without Belgic features

SW sandy ware

SW2 fine sandy ware in Belgic style

SW3 coarse sandy ware in Belgic style

Transitional Roman Discussion

A total of 38 sherds of 'transitional' early Roman pottery weighing 545g were recovered from the excavations. Three grog-tempered sherds in fabric GT3 came from an upper fill (47) of the post pit alignment ditch system, suggesting that the feature was probably going out of use around the middle of the first century AD. A single sherd in a grog-tempered fabric came from fill (176), also in the ditch system, and is also likely to be mid-first century AD in date. In addition, 31 sherds weighing 412g were recovered by stripping in the east windrow from layer (140). These are mostly from a Belgic style narrow-necked jar in a grog-tempered fabric (GT2, Fig. 15.7). Similar vessels in grog-tempered fabrics have been found in 'transitional' period levels in Leicester, for example in the West Bridge

area (Pollard 1994 fig.50 no.7). Sherds from two further vessels from (140) are in fabrics SW2 and GT4. The ceramics from this context are all consistent with a mid 1st century AD date. Three other sherds of unstratified 'transitional' grog-tempered pottery came from Area B. The 'transitional' period Roman pottery recovered is contemporary with, or slightly later than, the sandy ware vessels from the large pit east of the South Pit Alignment [10] (9) described above (see **Key groups of Late Bronze Age-Iron Age**).

Catalogue of Illustrations

Late Bronze Age-Iron Age

1. Decorated sherd, R1, zig-zag tooled decoration, pit in north alignment north of Ring Ditch 1, (55) [54].
2. Rim and upper body, R2, thin-walled vessel with everted rounded rim, pit in north alignment north of Ring Ditch 1, (55) [54].
3. Rim, R2, everted rim flattened markedly with tool, pit in north alignment north of Ring Ditch 1, (55) [54].
4. Rim and upper body, R2, everted rounded rim, scoring (light brushing) on external surface, external carbonised residue in neck and shoulder areas, top fill of north-south ditch, (87) [156] south-west of Ring Ditch 1.
5. Rim and upper body, coarse Q1/SW3, neckless jar with everted rounded rim, Belgic style of late Iron Age or early Roman period, fill of 'marker' pit east of the South Pit Alignment, (9) [10].
6. Rim and upper body, Q1/SW2, possible bowl form with everted rounded rim, Belgic style of late Iron Age or early Roman period, fill of 'marker' pit east of the South Pit Alignment, (9) [10].

Roman

7. Rim and upper body, GT2, necked jar, Belgic style of 'transitional' Conquest period, stripping layer (140) in east windrow.

Appendix 2 The Lithics by Lynden Cooper

Breach Lane

Two unstratified flints were recovered from the surface of the field approximately 25m north-east of Trench 3. These consisted of one flint flake and a poor quality core.

Site D

Some 53 flints were recovered including four cores, 33 flakes, 11 shatter fragments and five formal tools. The material employed local semi-translucent flint derived from till. This was of variable quality with some poor material evident from the shatter. The majority of the assemblage displays a simple core technology with no platform preparation. The successful debitage comprised broad squat flakes with large butts, prominent bulbs and little core front preparation. The technology and the typology (thumbnail scraper, straight edged scraper and scraper on a potlid blank) are typical of the mid-late Bronze Age.

There was a minimal Mesolithic component including two blade-like flakes, a flake with bladelet scars and a truncated bladelet, possibly an obliquely truncated point.

Table 2: The lithics

Context	Type	Comment
1	3ry flake	
177	Core	
177	7 x shatter	
177	3 x 2ry flake	
177	3ry flake	
242	2 x shatter	Older scars/retouch?
47	3ry flake	
55	2ry flake	
T1	2ry flake	
38	5 x 2ry flake	
87	Thumbnail scraper	Invasive retouch, but non-fancy type
11	Core frag	
T3	Core frag	
150	3ry flake	
184	3ry flake	
Area B	4 x 2ry flake	2 x blade-like with good preparation
Area B	Retouched flake	
16	2ry flake	
55	core	
55	2ry flake	
59	2ry flake	
78	shatter	
T7	2ry flake	
Area A	2 x 2ry flake	Bladelet scars on one
Area A	3ry flake	
Area A	Scraper	Straight edge retouch
Area A	Truncated bladelet	Obliquely truncated point
US	Scraper	On potlid
9	2ry flake	
US	Retouched flake	
236	2ry flake	
223	shatter	
223	3 x 2ry flake	
Area C	2ry flake	

Area B	2ry flake	
--------	-----------	--

Appendix 3 The Querns and Worked Stone by John Thomas

Catalogue

SF1: (9) [10] – Saddle quern fragment – Dimensions: 160x140x60mm thick.

Substantial fragment of saddle quern, probably representing near to half of the original item's size. One corner missing from existing half. Made on a roughly rectangular block of fine-medium grained sandstone, with an irregular four-sided shape. Grinding surface is very smooth and is slightly concave, appears to have originally been prepared by pecking. The underside and lower sides are roughly pitted. The raw material for this quern would have been locally available in the clay subsoil. Found in 'marker pit' [10], lying approximately 2m from the South Pit Alignment. Weight: 2.91kg.

SF2: (170) [168] – 'Beehive' rotary quern fragment – broken fragment from upper stone of 'Beehive' type rotary quern – Hunsbury type. Roughly hemispherical with fairly even curve, horizontal upper 'rim' and straight sided conical hopper. Outer edge prepared by pecking. Grinding surface is very smooth and slightly concave. Approximately 250mm diam at base (if whole) and *c.*100mm thick. The top of the hopper would have been *c.*90mm narrowing to *c.*25mm. Made on Millstone Grit and therefore most likely an imported item. Found in ditch cutting the South Pit Alignment. Weight: 2.25kg.

SF3: U/S – Possible rubber. Roughly rounded Charnwood Granodiorite cobble with flat upper and lower surfaces, one of which is noticeably smoother and may represent a working surface. No real signs of deliberate smoothing or working lines however. Dimensions: 150x140x60mm thick. Weight: 2.35kg.

Lithology

Three different stone types are represented, two of which (SF 1 and SF 3) would have been locally available in the natural clay subsoils. The toughness and resilience of the locally available sandstone cobbles appears to have been very suitable for their use as grinding stones as similar examples have been found on other sites in the county – Wanlip (Marsden 1998a); Beaumont Leys (Thomas 2008b); Humberstone Elms Farm (Roe 2000); Humberstone Manor Farm (Thomas forthcoming a) and Birstall, Hallam Fields (Thomas forthcoming b). The example of Millstone Grit is likely to have been imported from the Pennines.

Morphology

Both saddle and rotary types of quern are represented here. The saddle quern, SF1, has similarities with other such objects found on Iron Age sites in the county (see above) both in shape and choice of raw material. The rotary quern is of the 'Beehive' type and has similarities to Hunsbury type querns as found in abundance at Hunsbury hillfort Northamptonshire (Ingle 1993/4). Locally, the Earl Shilton quern also has similarities to another example from Enderby I, also a Hunsbury type (Clay 1992, 54 and Fig. 30.5).

Dating

The saddle quern is likely to be the earlier of the two objects as the use of this type generally precedes that of rotary querns. The early Middle Iron Age site at Beaumont Leys was associated with a large assemblage of saddle querns (Thomas 2008b) and the Mid-Late Iron Age sites at Elms Farm and Manor Farm, Humberstone also had significantly larger assemblages of saddle querns, with only a few rotary querns finding their way onto the site towards the end of the Iron Age (Roe 2000; Thomas forthcoming a). This sequence fits the general model for the development of quern technology although it is clear that saddle querns had a fairly long currency. In some cases there is also evidence for early introduction of rotary querns, for example the earliest rotary querns from

Leicestershire were found at the Middle Iron Age site at Wanlip (Marsden 1998). Generally however these are thought to be a later innovation. At Humberstone, Elms Farm the rotary querns appear in the later phases of occupation, towards the end of the first century BC (Roe 2000) and this is a pattern also seen at Elms Farm, Humberstone (Thomas forthcoming a). The Enderby example was also associated with later phases of the sites occupation, thought to date to the Late Iron Age.

Appendix 4 Charred plant remains by Angela Monckton and Graham Morgan

Introduction

Excavations were carried out by ULAS directed by Wayne Jarvis. Samples were taken for the recovery of charred plant remains which can give evidence of diet, agriculture or activities on the site in the past. Features of prehistoric date, including Bronze Age ring ditches of possible round barrows and an Iron Age pit alignment, were sampled. Charcoal for radiocarbon dating was also recovered.

Methods

Samples were taken from features with the potential to contain charred plant remains and 15 samples from seven contexts were processed. Samples were wet-sieved in a York tank using a 0.5mm mesh with flotation into a 0.3mm mesh sieve. The residues were air dried and the fraction over 4mm sorted for all finds which are included in the relevant sections of this report. The fractions of the residues below 4mm were scanned for remains but little was present. The flotation fractions (flots) were air dried and packed carefully in self-seal polythene bags. This work was carried out at ULAS by Anita Radini. The flots were examined with a x10-30 stereo microscope, and the plant remains were removed to glass specimen tubes. The plant remains were identified by comparison with modern reference material and noted with an estimate of quantity and tabulated below (table E1). The plant names follow Stace (1991).

Results

Charred plant remains were very few in number and at a very low density. Evidence for crops included single numbers of cereal grains of barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) and glume wheat, either emmer or spelt (*Triticum dicoccum/spelta*). Only one sample contained any chaff, a fragment of a spikelet of glume wheat, probably emmer. There were also a few straw fragments. A few weed seeds were also found including cleavers (*Galium aparine*), vetches (*Vicia* type), persicaria (*Persicaria* sp.) and brome grass (*Bromus* sp.). A tuber of onion couch grass (*Arrhenatherum elatius*) was also found, a plant thought to have been a perennial weed of fields cultivated using the ard plough. All the plants found here could grow as weeds of the crops and are likely to have been brought to the site with the cereals, although fragments of straw may represent kindling. The plants found are typical of later prehistoric sites, Bronze Age to Iron Age, and have been found on other sites in the region (Monckton 2004). Charcoal fragments were present in most of the samples.

Bronze Age samples were from Ring Ditch 1 [64] (74) which contained only charcoal which was extracted for radiocarbon dating. A small pit [124] (123) contained a tuber of onion couch grass which is often found in contexts associated with cremations (Robinson 1988). A ritual pit [142] (207) contained a chaff fragment of emmer and a few seeds of cleavers, persicaria and grass in one sample part. Pit [217] (223) contained single grains of barley and glume wheat with a seed of brome grass. Charred plant remains are often sparse in this period and are not found at all sites. Barley and emmer have been found elsewhere in the region at this time, with spelt appearing towards the end of the period. Onion couch grass is thought to be characteristic of abandoned pasture or arable land and can be used a kindling when dry.

Iron Age samples from a pit [54] (55) of the North Pit Alignment contained a grain of barley, a grain of wheat and ten seeds mainly of grass including brome grass with a seed of vetch. Charcoal was relatively abundant and was extracted for radiocarbon dating. Samples from a pit [105] (106) at the south end of the alignment contained only small charcoal fragments. Cereals are found on most Iron Age occupation sites but not often in features more remote from dwellings. Barley and spelt are the common cereals, and brome grass is a typical crop weed and is a very common find.

Unphased samples from pit [101] (100) contained only flecks of charcoal in the samples.

Conclusions

There is similar slight evidence of some domestic activity in the main phases of the site represented by a few charred cereal grains and weed seeds and a fragment of chaff, probably from cereals cleaned of seeds and chaff before consumption, and the waste burnt in hearths then dumped or accumulated in the features. Although of low concentration, the remains show the crops grown and consumed were glume wheat and barley. The remains could be from temporary occupation during use of the monuments. However, the number of remains is very small and could be redeposited in the later phases.

Table 3: Charred plant remains.

Samp No.	Cont No.	Cut No.	Samp Vol. litres	Flot Vol. mls	Gr ch	Cf ch	Se ch	Se Un	Tu Ch	Oth ch	Chc	Charred plant remains and comments.
BA												
2.1	74	64 Ditch	8	42	-	-	-	+	-	-	++	Charcoal for ¹⁴ C
2.2	74	64	7	40	-	-	-	+	-	-	++	Charcoal for ¹⁴ C
7	123	124 Pit	8	5	fr	-	-	+	1	2st	fl	A tuber of onion couch, 2 straw node frags.
8.1	207	142	8	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
8.2	207	142	7	5	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	Burnt bone tiny frag.
8.3	207	142	8	5	-	1	4	-	-	-	+	A spikelet frag of ?emmer, seeds of cleavers, persicaria and grass.
8.4	207	142	8	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
9.1	223	217 Pit	9	20	1	-	2	-	-	-	+	A wheat grain, emmer or spelt, brome grass seed.
9.2	223	217	9	30	1	-	-	+	-	-	++	A barley grain.
IA												
6.1	55	54 Pit	8	35	2	-	3	+	-	-	++	Grains of barley and wheat, grass and vetch seeds. Charcoal for ¹⁴ C.
6.2	55	54	6	10	-	-	7	+	-	-	++	Grass seeds including Brome grass. Charcoal for ¹⁴ C.
4.1	106	105 Pit	9	7	-	-	-	++	-	-	+	-
4.2	106	105	8	5	-	-	-	++	-	-	+	-
UnPh.												
3.1	100	101 Pit	7	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
3.2	100	101	7	10	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-

Key: Gr = cereal grain, Cf = chaff, Se = seed, ch = charred, un = uncharred, Tu = tuber, Chc = charcoal, Oth = other charred item, st = straw frag, sf = stem frag, fl = flecks, frag = fragments.

+= present, ++ = moderate amount, +++ = abundant. UnPh = unphased.

Charcoal Identification

Table 4: Charcoal identifications.

Context	Sample no.	Species	Description
55	6.2	Oak	Fragments
		Hazel	Fragments, 2 samples selected for C ¹⁴ analysis
		Maple	Fragments
74	2.1	Oak	Fragments
		Oak	Fragments
		Maple, rowan	Fragments selected for ¹⁴ C analysis
74	2.2	Oak	Fragments
		Poplar, rowan	Fragments selected for ¹⁴ C analysis
		Oak	Fragments

Species present: Oak - *Quercus* spec

Field Maple - *Acer campestre*

Poplar - *Populus* or *Salix* spec

Rowan type - *Sorbus* spec

Hazel – *Corylus* spec

Appendix 5 Radiocarbon Dating by Tandem Accelerator Lab, Uppsala University

Four samples of charcoal were sent to the Tandem Accelerator Lab, Uppsala University for ¹⁴C dating. These were short-lived woody species, two samples each from Ring Ditch 1 fill (74) and North Pit Alignment fill (55). The results were as follows:

Ring Ditch 1 ¹⁴C age BP dates **3555** +/-80 (Ua-37275, sample no. 2.1), **3315** +/-40 (Ua-37276, sample no. 2.2)

Ua-37275 2140BC-1680BC (95.4% probability)

Ua-37276 1690BC-1490BC (95.4% probability)

(calibrated dates 1605 cal BC, 1365 cal BC)

North Pit Alignment ¹⁴C age BP dates **2290** +/-35 (Ua-37277, sample no. 6.2/1), **2415** +/-35 (Ua-37278, sample no. 6.2/2)

Ua-37277 410BC-200BC (95.4% probability)

Ua-37278 750BC-390BC (95.4% probability)

(calibrated dates 340 cal BC, 465 cal BC)

Appendix 6 Site D Context Index

Context	Cut	Feat Type	Fill Type	Area	Description
1	2	Pit - Algmt	Single	T1	Deep pit fill E end T1 Eval2, part of pit algmt, flint from top, not full section
2	2	Pit - Algmt	N/A	T1	Deep pit cut E end T1 Eval2, part of pit algmt, flint from top of fill 1, not full section
3	4	Ditch - Post Algmt	Single	T1	Small N-S gully fill, E. end T1, part of post algmt feats, terminates near here
4	4	Ditch - Post Algmt	N/A	T1	Small N-S gully E. cut, end T1, part of post algmt feats, terminates near here
5	6	Ditch - Post Algmt	Single	T1	Small N-S gully E. fill, end T1, part of post algmt feats, terminates near here
6	6	Ditch - Post Algmt	N/A	T1	Small N-S gully E. cut, end T1, part of post algmt feats, terminates near here
7	8	Post-hole	Single	T1	Small Post-hole fill W. end T1, one of the upper shallow iff post-holes
8	8	Post-hole	N/A	T1	Small Post-hole cut W. end T1, one of the upper shallow iff post-holes
9	10	Pit - Marker	Primary	T3	Fill, large pit, E end T3, N'ern ?marker pit just E of pit algmt? Pot (late IA -trans, & residual l BA-IA), flint, saddle quern
10	10	Pit - Marker	N/A	T3	Cut, large pit, E end T3, N'ern ?marker pit just E of pit algmt? finds pot, flint, saddle quern from fill 9
11	12	Ditch - Other	Single	T3	Fill shallow N-S linear, furrow-like in eval T3. PROB late = 209/214, flint
12	12	Ditch - Other	N/A	T3	Cut shallow N-S linear, furrow-like in eval T3. PROB late = 210/213, flint from 11
13	14	Pit - Algmt	Single	T3	Pit fill in algmt as seen in T3 Eval2.
14	14	Pit - Algmt	N/A	T3	Pit cut in algmt as seen in T3 Eval2.
15	10	Pit - Marker	Primary	T3	Fill on edge of large pit, E end T3, N'ern ?marker pit just E of pit algmt?
16	17	Pit - Algmt	Single	T4	Seen only pre-ex in eval T4, most PROB pit algmt feat fill rather than linear. Far S of site, flint
17	17	Pit - Algmt	N/A	T4	Seen only pre-ex in eval T4, most PROB pit algmt feat cut rather than linear. Far S of site, flint from 16
18	18	Post-hole	N/A	A	Cut post-hole, RPs, early stage of stripping. S of ringditch 1, no finds from 43
19	19	Pit - Algmt	N/A	A	Pit cut in algmt, midway in area A, no finds from 20
20	19	Pit - Algmt	2ndary	A	Pit fill in algmt, midway in area A, no finds
21	21	Pit - Algmt	N/A	A	Pit cut in algmt, midway in area A, no finds from 22, 34
22	21	Pit - Algmt	2ndary	A	Pit fill in algmt, midway in area A, no finds
23	23	Pit - Algmt	N/A	A	Pit cut in algmt, midway in area A, no finds from 24, 35
24	23	Pit - Algmt	Upper	A	Pit fill in algmt, midway in area A, no finds
25	25	Pit - Algmt	N/A	A	Pit cut in algmt, midway in area A, no finds from 26, 36
26	25	Pit - Algmt	Upper	A	Pit fill in algmt, midway in area A, no finds
27	27	Pit - Algmt	N/A	A	Pit cut in algmt, midway in area A, no finds from 28, 39, 40
28	27	Pit - Algmt	Upper	A	Pit fill in algmt, upper fill, midway in area A, no finds
29	29	Pit - Algmt	N/A	A	Pit cut in algmt, in N. of area A, no finds from 30, 41
30	29	Pit - Algmt	Upper	A	Pit fill in algmt, in N. of area A, no finds

Context	Cut	Feat Type	Fill Type	Area	Description
31	31	Pit - Algmt	N/A	A	Pit cut in algmt, midway in area A, no finds from 32
32	31	Pit - Algmt	Single	A	Pit fill in algmt, midway in area A, no finds
33	19	Pit - Algmt	Primary	A	pit algmt fill, midway in area A, lower fill, no finds
34	21	Pit - Algmt	Primary	A	Pit fill in algmt, lower fill, midway in area A, no finds
35	23	Pit - Algmt	Primary	A	Pit fill in algmt, midway in area A, no finds
36	25	Pit - Algmt	Primary	A	Pit fill in algmt, midway in area A, no finds
37	37	Ring Ditch	N/A	B	cut ringditch1 , this is RPs S sondage
38	37	Ring Ditch	Top	B	top fill, RPs ringditch1 , has pot, flint - sealing fill so significant dating
39	27	Pit - Algmt	2ndary	A	Pit fill in algmt, 2ndary fill, midway in area A, no finds
40	27	Pit - Algmt	Primary	A	Pit fill in algmt, primary fill, midway in area A, no finds
41	29	Pit - Algmt	Primary	A	Pit fill in algmt, in N. of area A, no finds
42	42	Ditch - Post Algmt	N/A	B	Cut NE-SW RPs Linear just NW of ringditch1, part of boundaries cutting pit algmt. =262=53
43	18	Post-hole	Single	A	Fill post-hole, RPs, early stage of stripping. S of ringditch 1, no finds
44	37	Ring Ditch	2ndary	B	2ndary fill ringditch1 , no finds, sterile
45	37	Ring Ditch	2ndary	B	main fill ringditch1 , no finds, sterile
46	37	Ring Ditch	Primary	B	Primary fill ringditch1 , no finds, sterile
47	42	Ditch - Post Algmt	Upper	B	Upper Fill of NE-SW RPs Linear just NW of ringditch1, part of boundary system postdating pit algmt, pot, flint & fired cly
48	42	Ditch - Post Algmt	Mid	B	Mid Fill of NE-SW RPs Linear just NW of ringditch1, part of boundary system postdating pit algmt, pot
49	42	Ditch - Post Algmt	Primary	B	Primary Fill of NE-SW RPs Linear just NW of ringditch1, part of boundary system postdating pit algmt, (pot??)
50	50	Pit - Algmt	N/A	A	cut, pit in algmt, in N end of area A, fills 51, 52
51	50	Pit - Algmt	Upper	A	Pit algmt fill, in N end of area A, no finds
52	50	Pit - Algmt	Primary	A	Pit algmt fill, in N end of area A, no finds
53	53	Ditch - Post Algmt	N/A	B	Cut LBs big NE-SW boundary ditch, N of ringditch1, pot from 70, no finds from 68, 69, 71. =262
54	54	Pit - Algmt	N/A	B	Cut pit in Algmt, N of ringditch1, this lots of #, pot, mid fill 55
55	54	Pit - Algmt	2ndary	B	Fill pit in Algmt, N of ringditch1, this lots of #, pot, mid fill
56	56	Ring Ditch	N/A	B	?Cut for ringditch1, RPs main slot NE of site,
57	56	Ring Ditch	N/A	B	?same as 56, Cut for ringditch1, RPs main slot NE of site, duplicate number,
58	56	Ring Ditch	N/A	B	?same as 56, Cut for ringditch1, RPs main slot NE of site, duplicate number
59	56	Ring Ditch	Upper	B	Upper fill of ringditch1, RPs main slot NE of site, flint from this
60	56	Ring Ditch	Mid	B	Later fill into ringditch1, RPs main slot NE of site, no finds
61	56	Ring Ditch	Primary	B	Primary/edge fill into ringditch1, RPs main slot NE of site, no finds
62	56	Ring Ditch	Primary	B	Primary/edge fill into ringditch1, RPs main slot NE of site, no finds
63	56	Ring Ditch	2ndary	B	2ndary fill into ringditch1, RPs main slot NE of site, no finds
64	64	Ring Ditch	N/A	B	Cut ringditch1 , AHs slot

Context	Cut	Feat Type	Fill Type	Area	Description
65	66	Ditch - Droveaway	Single	B	fill E-W linear 'droveway' S ditch. SJs. =fills into 79=81=93=95. No pot at all
66	66	Ditch - Droveaway	N/A	B	E-W linear 'droveway' S ditch cut. SJs. =79=81=93=95. No pot at all
67	67	Pit - other	N/A	B	Large Pit cut, W. windrow & just S. of 'droveway' 66, no finds from 88, 89, 90, 91
68	53	Ditch - Post Algmt	Primary	B	Primary fill LBs big NE-SW boundary ditch, N of ringditch1, no finds. =fill 264 in 262
69	53	Ditch - Post Algmt	2ndary	B	2ndary fill LBs big NE-SW boundary ditch, N of ringditch1, no finds. =fill 264 in 262
70	53	Ditch - Post Algmt	Mid	B	Mid Fill of LBs big NE-SW boundary ditch, N of ringditch1, pot. =fill 264 in 262 (264 had no finds)
71	53	Ditch - Post Algmt	Upper	B	Upper Fill of LBs big NE-SW boundary ditch, N of ringditch1, no finds. =fill 264 in 262
72	64	Ring Ditch	Top	B	Top fill ringditch1 , Ahs slot, has pot. Prob =25=27 eval1 (has finds, and 26 over had Potters Marston)
73	64	Ring Ditch	Mid	B	Later fill ringditch1 , AHs slot, no finds.
74	64	Ring Ditch	Mid	B	Mid/late fill ringditch1 , patch of # for C14, AHs slot, no finds
75	64	Ring Ditch	2ndary	B	2ndary fill ringditch1 , under 74(# C14), AHs slot, poss Primary Fill of Recut?no finds
76	64	Ring Ditch	Primary	B	Primary fill ringditch1 , AHs slot, no finds
77	64	Ring Ditch	Primary	B	early/edge Primary or Slump fill ringditch1 , AHs slot, no finds
78	79	Ditch - Droveaway	Single	B	Fill of E-W 'droveway' linears, the S one, SJs area.=fills into 66=81=93=95. Flint & slag only. No pot at all
79	79	Ditch - Droveaway	N/A	B	Cut E-W 'droveway' linears, the S one, SJs area =66=81=93=95. No pot at all
80	81	Ditch - Droveaway	Single	B	E-W linear 'droveway' S ditch fill. SJs. =66=79=93=95. No pot at all
81	81	Ditch - Droveaway	N/A	B	E-W linear 'droveway' S ditch cut. SJs. =66=79=93=95. No pot at all
82	56	Ring Ditch	Mid	B	Edge/side fill of ringditch1, RPs main slot NE of site, no finds
83	83	Ditch - Post Algmt	N/A	B	N-S ditch cut, WJ, cuts algmt pit 54, near V shaped, no finds from 84
84	83	Ditch - Post Algmt	Single	B	N-S ditch fill, WJ, cuts algmt pit 54, near V shaped, no finds
85	54	Pit - Algmt	Upper	B	Fill pit in Algmt, N of ringditch1, upper fill, quite sterile bar cobbles, pot is mid-late IA
86	54	Pit - Algmt	Primary	B	Fill pit in Algmt, N of ringditch1, primary fill, sterile bar cobbles - silting? No pot
87	156	Ditch - Post Algmt	Top	B	Top fill N-S ditch 156, really a no. for pot and cobbles here seen SW of ringditch1 WJ/LB
88	67	Pit - other	Upper	B	Large Pit fill, W. windrow & just S. of 'droveway' 66, no finds
89	67	Pit - other	Mid	B	Large Pit fill, W. windrow & just S. of 'droveway' 66, no finds
90	67	Pit - other	2ndary	B	Large Pit fill, W. windrow & just S. of 'droveway' 66, no finds
91	67	Pit - other	Primary	B	Large Pit fill, W. windrow & just S. of 'droveway' 66, no finds
92	93	Ditch - Droveaway	Single	B	E-W linear 'droveway' S ditch fill. SJs. =fills into 66=79=81=95. No pot at all
93	93	Ditch - Droveaway	N/A	B	E-W linear 'droveway' S ditch cut. SJs. =66=79=81=95. No pot at all
94	95	Ditch - Droveaway	Single	B	E-W linear 'droveway' S ditch fill. SJs. =fills into 66=79=81=93. No pot at all

Context	Cut	Feat Type	Fill Type	Area	Description
95	95	Ditch - Droveaway	N/A	B	E-W linear 'droveaway' S ditch cut. SJs. =66=79=81=93. No pot at all
96	97	Ditch - Droveaway	Single	B	E-W linear 'droveaway' N ditch fill. SJs. =fill into 192. No pot at all
97	97	Ditch - Droveaway	N/A	B	E-W linear 'droveaway' N ditch cut. SJs. =192. No pot at all
98	99	Pit - other	Single	B	Medium sized pit fill, W. edge of W. windrow, within 'droveaway', no finds
99	99	Pit - other	N/A	B	Medium sized pit cut, W. edge of W. windrow, within 'droveaway', no finds
100	101	Pit/Post-hole	Single	B	Fill shallow scoopy pit (?post-hole) in N half of interior ringditch1. Only fill
101	101	Pit/Post-hole	N/A	B	Cut shallow scoopy pit (?post-hole) in N half of interior barrow1. One fill,100. Not significant
102	104	Pit/Post-hole	Upper	B	Granite stone filled post-hole/pit fill, E of main granite pit 142, but later? - poss. Cut from higher. No finds
103	104	Pit/Post-hole	Primary	B	Granite stone filled post-hole/pit fill, E of main granite pit 142, but later? - poss. Cut from higher. No finds
104	104	Pit/Post-hole	N/A	B	Granite stone filled post-hole/pit cut, E of main granite pit 142, but later? - poss. Cut from higher. No finds
105	105	Pit - Algmt	N/A	A	cut, pit in algmt, this at far S end site, fills 106, 118
106	105	Pit - Algmt	Upper	A	Top fill, LBs pit in Algmt, this at far S end site
107	107	Pit - Marker	N/A	A	Cut shallow but real pit, S'ern 'marker pit' just to E of algmt? Fill 108 has pot
108	107	Pit - Marker	Single	A	Fill shallow but real pit, S'ern 'marker pit' just to E of alnmt? Had pot + #.
109	109	Ring Ditch	N/A	B	Cut Ring Ditch 1, machined slot, RPs, no finds
110	109	Ring Ditch	Upper	B	Upper fill Ring Ditch 1, machined slot, RPs, no finds
111	109	Ring Ditch	2ndary	B	2ndary fill Ring Ditch 1, machined slot, RPs, no finds
112	109	Ring Ditch	Primary	B	Primary fill Ring Ditch 1, machined slot, RPs, no finds
113	113	Pit - other	N/A	B	Cut isolated Ahs pit 2m SE of ringditch1, had # in 114 but undated
114	113	Pit - other	Upper	B	Upper fill isolated AHs pit 2m SE of ringditch1 , had # but undated
115	113	Pit - other	Primary	B	Primary fill isolated AHs pit 2m SE of ringditch1 , undated
116	117	Pit - other	Single	B	Shallow pit fill, NE of granite pit 142, no finds
117	117	Pit - other	N/A	B	Shallow pit cut, NE of granite pit 142, no finds
118	105	Pit - Algmt	Primary	A	Lower of 2 fills, pit in algmt, this at far S end site
119	119	Pit - other	N/A	B	Small pit cut, E. windrow & just to E. of pit algmt, no finds from 120
120	119	Pit - other	Single	B	Small pit fill, E. windrow & just to E. of pit algmt, no finds
121	122	Pit - other	Single	B	Scoop pit fill, E. windrow & just to E. of pit algmt, no finds but 'under' RB pot spread, near to 124
122	122	Pit - other	N/A	B	Scoop pit cut, E. windrow & just to E. of pit algmt, no finds but 'under' RB pot spread, near to 124
123	124	Pit/Post-hole	Single	B	Small Pit/PH fill + pot to N of ringditch1, E. windrow, & S of [122], just E of N'ern pit algmt, 'under' RB pot spread140
124	124	Pit/Post-hole	N/A	B	Small Pit/PH cut to N of ringditch1, pot fr 123,E. windrow, & S of [122], just E of N'ern pit algmt, 'under' RB pot spread140

Context	Cut	Feat Type	Fill Type	Area	Description
125	125	Ditch - Post Algmt	N/A	B	Cut RPs shallow gully, adj to [136] ?boundary ditch N end of algmt?
126	125	Ditch - Post Algmt	Single	B	Fill RPs shallow gully, adj to [136] ?boundary ditch N end of algmt? Pot
127	127	Ditch - Post Algmt	N/A	B	Cut N-S ditch/gully in E. windrow & cuts pit algmt, no finds
128	127	Ditch - Post Algmt	Single	B	fill N-S ditch/gully in E. windrow & cuts pit algmt, no finds
129	129	Pit - Algmt	N/A	B	pit in algmt, cut, in N. end of E. windrow, no finds, seen to be cut by ditch 127
130	129	Pit - Algmt	Single	B	pit in algmt, fill, in N. end of E. windrow, no finds, seen to be cut by ditch 127
131	132	Pit - other	Single	B	Small shallow pit fill far N. end of E. windrow, no finds, adj. to 138
132	132	Pit - other	N/A	B	Small shallow pit cut far N. end of E. windrow, no finds, adj. to 138
133	133	Pit - Algmt	N/A	B	pit cut in algmt, far N. end E. windrow, clearly cut by ditch 145, no finds
134	133	Pit - Algmt	2ndary	B	2ndary pit fill in algmt, far N. end E. windrow, clearly cut by ditch 145, no finds
135	136	Pit - Algmt	Upper	B	Pit fill - upper, in algmt (prob!), far N. end of E. windrow, & cut by ditch 125, no finds, nb =fills of 146
136	136	Pit - Algmt	N/A	B	Pit cut, in algmt (prob!), far N. end of E. windrow, & cut by ditch 125, no finds, nb =146
137	138	Pit - other	N/A	B	Small shallow fill cut far N. end of E. windrow, no finds, adj. to 132
138	138	Pit - other	N/A	B	Small shallow pit cut far N. end of E. windrow, no finds, adj. to 132
139	136	Pit - Algmt	Primary	B	Pit fill - lower, in algmt (prob!), far N. end of E. windrow, & cut by ditch 125, no finds, nb =fills of 146
140		Layer	N/A	B	Pot from stripping layer in NE windrow, & over 123, 121
141	142	Pit - Marker	Mid	B	Mid fill into granite ritual pit 142, this is the granite dump, some pot
142	142	Pit - Marker	N/A	B	Cut granite ritual pit 142 just N of ringditch1, large 1.95x1.9m, 0.5m deep
143	133	Pit - Algmt	Primary	B	Primary pit fill in algmt, far N. end E. windrow, clearly cut by ditch 145, no finds
144	144	Ditch - Post Algmt	N/A	B	N-S gully ditch cut, N. end of E. windrow, cuts pits 129, 133 in algmt, no finds
145	144	Ditch - Post Algmt	Single	B	N-S gully ditch fill, N. end of E. windrow, cuts pits 129, 133 in algmt, no finds
146	146	Pit - Algmt	N/A	B	Pit cut in algmt, far N. end of E. windrow, & =136, no finds from 147, 148, 149
147	146	Pit - Algmt	Upper	B	Upper pit fill in algmt, far N. end of E. windrow, & =fills of 136, no finds
148	146	Pit - Algmt	2ndary	B	2ndary pit fill in algmt, far N. end of E. windrow, & =fills of 136, no finds
149	146	Pit - Algmt	Primary	B	Primary pit fill in algmt, far N. end of E. windrow, & =fills of 136, no finds
150	153	Pit - Algmt	Upper	T7	Fill of ACs pit in N trench T7, prob continuation N'wards of pit algmt, flint
151	153	Pit - Algmt	Mid	T7	Fill of ACs pit in N trench T7, prob continuation N'wards of pit algmt

Context	Cut	Feat Type	Fill Type	Area	Description
152	153	Pit - Algmt	Primary	T7	Fill of ACs pit in N trench T7, prob continuation N'wards of pit algmt
153	153	Pit - Algmt	N/A	T7	Cut of ACs pit in N trench T7, prob continuation N'wards of pit algmt, flint only fr 150, no finds 151, 152
154		Layer	N/A	C	Subsoil over ringditch 2; no. given for bone from this (animal)
155		Other - Nat?	N/A	B	Pot is 1 BA – IA from here
156	156	Ditch - Post Algmt	N/A	B	Cut N-S ditch 156, really a no. for pot and cobbles in 87, seen SW of ringditch1. =267. ?=226 WJ/LB
157	156	Ditch - Post Algmt	Primary	B	Primary fill N-S ditch 156, cobble filled ditch seen SW of ringditch1 WJ/LB, no finds
158	156	Ditch - Post Algmt	2ndary	B	2ndary fill N-S ditch 156, cobble filled ditch seen SW of ringditch1 WJ/LB, no finds
159	156	Ditch - Post Algmt	Upper	B	3rdary fill N-S ditch 156, cobble filled ditch seen SW of ringditch1 WJ/LB, no finds
160	160	Pit - Algmt	N/A	B	Cut RPs pit 160, part of N pit algmt, pot in 161. No finds 162,3,4. cut by N-S gully 175 too
161	160	Pit - Algmt	Top	B	Top fill RPs pit 160, part of N pit algmt, pot. cut by N-S gully 175 too
162	160	Pit - Algmt	2ndary	B	3rdary fill RPs pit 160, part of N pit algmt, no finds. cut by N-S gully 175 too
163	160	Pit - Algmt	2ndary	B	2ndary fill RPs pit 160, part of N pit algmt, no finds. cut by N-S gully 175 too
164	160	Pit - Algmt	Primary	B	Primary fill RPs pit 160, part of N pit algmt, pot. cut by N-S gully 175 too
165	165	Ditch - Post Algmt	N/A	B	N-S linear cut, SW of ringditch1, no finds from 166, 167. LBs. =181, =230, & =4 Eval gully, =201?
166	165	Ditch - Post Algmt	Primary	B	N-S linear fill, SW of ringditch1, no finds. LBs. =181, =230, & =4 Eval gully, =206?
167	165	Ditch - Post Algmt	Upper	B	N-S linear fill, SW of ringditch1, no finds. LBs. =181, =230, & =4 Eval gully, =206?
168	168	Ditch - Post Algmt	N/A	B	Cut LBs ditch 168, SW of ringditch1, had large stones inc quern + pot in 170. ?=228
169	156	Ditch - Post Algmt	Top	B	=87, top fill N-S ditch 156, really a no. for pot and cobbles here seen SW of ringditch1 WJ/LB
170	168	Ditch - Post Algmt	Single	B	Fill of LBs ditch 168, SW of ringditch1, had large stones inc beehive quern (mid IA or later) + pot
171	172	Pit - Marker	Single	B	Poss pit fill in E Windrow, RPs, & part of 'animal activity' 208
172	172	Pit - Marker	N/A	B	Poss pit cut in E Windrow, RPs, & part of 'animal activity' 208
173	173	Pit - Algmt	N/A	B	Pit cut in algmt in E. windrow, (animal area) & cut by ditch 175, no finds
174	173	Pit - Algmt	Single	B	Pit fill in algmt in E. windrow, (animal area) & cut by ditch 175, no finds
175	175	Ditch - Post Algmt	N/A	B	Cut AHs N-S linear boundary ditch cuts pit algmt, E windrow, adj to animal area. Pot in 176
176	175	Ditch - Post Algmt	Single	B	Stony fill AHs N-S linear boundary ditch cuts pit algmt, E windrow, adj to animal area. Pot
177	180	Pit - other	Upper	B	Upper fill ACs pit 180. SW of ringditch1, & cuts ring ditch . If so then NOT? Algmt pit, or ditches here are ring ditch1?? Bit of 1 BA-IA pot & flint
178	180	Pit - other	2ndary	B	2ndary fill ACs pit 180. SW of ringditch1, & cuts ring ditch.If so then NOT? Algmt pit, or ditches here are ring ditch1?? No finds

Context	Cut	Feat Type	Fill Type	Area	Description
179	180	Pit - other	Primary	B	primary fill ACs pit 180. SW of ringditch1, & cuts ring ditch.If so then NOT? Algmt pit, or ditches here are ring ditch1?? No finds
180	180	Pit - other	N/A	B	Cut ACs pit, SW of ringditch1, & cuts ringditch.If so then NOT? Algmt pit, or ditches here are ring ditch1?? Pot & flint in 177, no finds 178,9
181	181	Ditch - Post Algmt	N/A	A	N-S linear cut, SW of ringditch1, no finds in 182. LBs. =165, =230, & =4 Eval gully
182	181	Ditch - Post Algmt	Single	A	N-S linear fill, SW of ringditch1, no finds. LBs. =165, =230, & =4 Eval gully
183	186	Ring Ditch	Upper	B	Later fill ringditch1, SJs W slot. No finds
184	186	Ring Ditch	Primary	B	Primary fill ringditch1 , SJs W slot. Flint
185	186	Ring Ditch	Upper	B	Edge/side fill ringditch1 , SJs W slot. No finds
186	186	Ring Ditch	N/A	B	Cut ringditch1 , SJs W slot. Flint in 184, no finds 183,185
187	142	Pit - Marker	Upper	B	Upper fill into granite ritual pit 142, only v. occ granite. some pot
188	189	Pit - other	Single	B	Scoopy pit fill, between ringditch 1and the NE-SW ditches, RPs, no finds. Iffy
189	189	Pit - other	N/A	B	Scoopy pit cut, between ringditch 1and the NE-SW ditches, RPs, no finds. Iffy
190	191	Pit - other	Single	B	Fill, large but shallow scoopy & uneven pit, just SW of ringditch1, looked grave cut like! No finds. Qv 198
191	191	Pit - other	N/A	B	Cut, large but shallow scoopy & uneven pit, just SW of ringditch1, looked grave cut like! No finds. Qv 198
192	192	Ditch - Droveaway	N/A	B	E-W linear 'droveway' N ditch cut. SJs. =97. No pot at all
193	192	Ditch - Droveaway	Single	B	E-W linear 'droveway' N ditch fill. SJs. =fill into 97. No pot at all
194	195	Ditch - Post Algmt	Single	B	N-S curvilinear gully fill, W. of Ring Ditch 1, runs inside main ring ditch, part of post pit algmt ditches &=205,SJs slot. No finds
195	195	Ditch - Post Algmt	N/A	B	N-S curvilinear gully cut, W. of Ring Ditch 1, runs inside main ring ditch, part of post pit algmt ditches &=200,SJs slot. No finds
196	198	Pit - other	Upper	B	Fill, large but shallow scoopy & uneven pit, just SW of ring ditch1, looked grave cut like! No finds. Qv 191
197	198	Pit - other	Primary	B	Fill, large but shallow scoopy & uneven pit, just SW of ring ditch1, looked grave cut like! No finds. Qv 191
198	198	Pit - other	N/A	B	Cut, large but shallow scoopy & uneven pit, just SW of ring ditch1, looked grave cut like! No finds. Qv 191
199	199	Ring Ditch	N/A	B	Cut ringditch1 , RPs slot in SW area. Cut by gully 200. Slag in 202 - but strat iffy
200	200	Ditch - Post Algmt	N/A	B	N-S curvilinear gully cut, W. of Ring Ditch 1, runs inside main ring ditch, part of post pit algmt ditches &=195,RPs slot. No finds
201	201	Ditch - Post Algmt	N/A	B	Post pit algmt N-S ditch/gully cut, RPs slot SW of & internal to Ring Ditch 1, no finds, =165? =225?
202	199	Ring Ditch	Top	B	Top fill ringditch1 , RPs slot in SW area. Cut by gully 200. Slag - but strat iffy
203	201	Ditch - Post Algmt	Mid	B	N-S ditch/gully post pit algmt, RPs slot in SW of Ring Ditch 1 area. No finds, =fill into 165?

Context	Cut	Feat Type	Fill Type	Area	Description
204	201	Ditch - Post Algmt	Lower	B	N-S ditch/gully post pit algmt, RPs slot in SW of Ring Ditch 1 area. No finds, =fill into 165?
205	200	Ditch - Post Algmt	N/A	B	N-S curvilinear gully cut, W. of Ring Ditch 1, runs inside main ring ditch, part of post pit algmt ditches &=194,RPs slot. No finds
206	201	Ditch - Post Algmt	Primary	B	Post pit algmt ditch/gully fill, RPs slot SW of & internal to Ring Ditch 1, no finds, =fill into 165?
207	142	Pit - Marker	Primary	B	Main primary thin fill into granite ritual pit 142, has #, crem bone, pot
208		Other - Nat?	N/A	B	Odd large scoop area in E windrow - animal activity? Bit of pot
209	210	Ditch - Other	Single	C	Fill shallow brick linear, furrow-like. Late = 214 & prob 11
210	210	Ditch - Other	N/A	C	Cut shallow brick linear, furrow-like. Late = 213 & prob 12. =20=42 in eval1 (no finds)
211	211	Pit - other	N/A	B	Iffy pit part of 'animal disturb' in E windrow adj. to pit algmt. No finds. Seen as natural
212	211	Pit - other	Single	B	Iffy pit part of 'animal disturb' in E windrow adj. to pit algmt. No finds. Seen as natural
213	213	Ditch - Other	N/A	C	Cut shallow linear, furrow-like. Late = 210 & prob 12
214	213	Ditch - Other	Single	C	Fill shallow linear, furrow-like. Late = 214 & prob 11
215	215	Post-hole	N/A	B	Cut 'post-hole' in granite pit 142. One fill, no finds
216	215	Post-hole	Single	B	Fill 'post-hole' in granite pit 142. No finds
217	217	Pit - other	N/A	C	pit/scoop cut within barrow Ring Ditch 2, near N edge, shallow but real
218	218	Ring Ditch	N/A	B	Cut ringditch 2, AHs section, N. end of site. No finds at all. =259 (other section dug)
219	218	Ring Ditch	Primary	B	Primary fill ringditch 2, AHs section, N. end of site. No finds. (same as fills in 259)
220	218	Ring Ditch	2ndary	B	2ndary fill ringditch 2, AHs section, N. end of site. No finds. (same as fills in 259)
221	218	Ring Ditch	Upper	B	3rdary fill (possible recut?) ringditch 2, AHs section, N. end of site. No finds. (same as fills in 259)
222	218	Ring Ditch	Upper	B	Later fill ringditch 2 (in possible recut?), AHs section, N. end of site. No finds. (same as fills in 259)
223	217	Pit - other	Upper	C	pit/scoop fill (upper) within barrow Ring Ditch 2, near N edge, has pot & flint, ?burnt bone, HCS, #
224	217	Pit - other	Primary	C	pit/scoop fill (lower) within barrow Ring Ditch 2, near N edge, really an interface between fill/nat.
225	225	Ditch - Post Algmt	N/A	B	N-S ditch/gully cut, RP's slot, SW area of ring ditch1, No finds. 225 cuts 235 etc in 234. =165, & =201?
226	226	Ditch - Post Algmt	N/A	B	N-S linear cut, SW of ringditch1. LBs, no finds. =156? Terminus. Cuts fill 268 of 267
227	226	Ditch - Post Algmt	Primary	B	N-S linear fill, SW of ringditch1. LBs, no finds. =156? Terminus. Cuts fill 268 of 267
228	228	Ditch - Post Algmt	N/A	A	N-S linear cut, SW of ringditch1, LBs. This is mid 1 of ditches ?=168, cuts 226 & 230 fills
229	228	Ditch - Post Algmt	Single	A	N-S linear fill of 228, SW of ringditch1, LBs. This is mid 1 of ditches. Fill of ?=168
230	230	Ditch - Post Algmt	N/A	B	N-S linear cut, SW of ringditch1. LBs, no finds. This E'ern of ditches. =165. Also =225, &=201?
231	230	Ditch - Post Algmt	Primary	B	N-S linear fill, SW of ringditch1. LBs, no finds. This E'ern of ditches. =fills into 165. Also = fills into 225, &=201?

Context	Cut	Feat Type	Fill Type	Area	Description
232	218	Ring Ditch	Upper	B	Later fill ringditch 2 (in possible recut?), AHs section, N. end of site. No finds. (same as fills in 259)
233	218	Ring Ditch	Top	B	Top fill ringditch 2 (in possible recut?), AHs section, N. end of site. No finds. (same as fills in 259)
234	234	Ditch - Post Algmt	N/A	B	Cut RPs N-S gully, adj to & SW of ringditch1 . Most prob=200, 156/168? Finds in 236 only, not 235, 237
235	234	Ditch - Post Algmt	Upper	B	Upper fill RPs N-S gully, adj to & SW of ringditch1 . No finds. Most prob=fills in 200, 156/168?
236	234	Ditch - Post Algmt	2ndary	B	2ndary fill RPs N-S gully, adj to & SW of ringditch1 , pot & flint. Most prob=fills in 200, 156/168?
237	234	Ditch - Post Algmt	Primary	B	Primary/Lower fill RPs N-S gully, adj to & SW of ringditch1 . Most prob=fills in 200, 156/168?
238	225	Ditch - Post Algmt	Upper	B	N-S ditch/gully upper of 2 fills, RP's slot, SW area of ring ditch1, No finds. =fills into 165, & =fills into 201?
239	225	Ditch - Post Algmt	Primary	B	N-S ditch/gully primary fill, RP's slot, SW area of ring ditch1, No finds. =fills into 165, & =fills into 201?
240	226	Ditch - Post Algmt	Upper	B	N-S linear fill, SW of ringditch1. LBs, no finds. =156? Terminus. Cuts fill 268 of 267
241	230	Ditch - Post Algmt	Upper	B	N-S linear fill, SW of ringditch1. LBs, no finds. This E'ern of ditches. =fills into 165. Also = fills into 225, &=201?
242	243	Ditch - Other	Single	C	Fill of ACs gully 243, rather unclear gully to W of late brick gully 210 & related? Post Med pot
243	243	Ditch - Other	N/A	B	Cut ACs gully, rather unclear gully to W of late brick gully 210 & related? Post Med pot in 242
244	244	Pit - other	N/A	C	Scoopy pit cut, CENTRE of Ring Ditch 2 area, No finds, but contemporary? Cut by N-S linear 243 (not brick linear)
245	244	Pit - other	Upper	C	Scoopy pit fill, CENTRE of Ring Ditch 2 area, No finds, but contemporary? Cut by N-S linear 243 (not brick linear)
246	244	Pit - other	Primary	C	Scoopy pit fill, CENTRE of Ring Ditch 2 area, No finds, but contemporary? Cut by N-S linear 243 (not brick linear)
247	247	Pit - other	N/A	B	Small pit cut, 5m SE of Ring Ditch 2 in middle windrow. Iffy. No finds from 248
248	247	Pit - other	Single	B	Small pit fill, 5m SE of Ring Ditch 2 in middle windrow. Iffy. No finds from 248
249	249	Post-hole	N/A	B	Post-hole cut in middle windrow, poss later as cut from higher? No finds. Assoc'd with 251 & 258 qv & poss metalling?
250	249	Post-hole	Single	B	Post-hole fill in middle windrow, poss later as cut from higher? No finds. Assoc'd with 251 & 258 qv & poss metalling?
251	251	Post-hole	N/A	B	Good PH cut in middle windrow, poss later as cut from higher? No finds at all. Assoc'd with 249 & 258 qv & poss metalling?
252	251	Post-hole	Top	B	Good PH top fill in middle windrow, poss later as cut from higher? No finds. Assoc'd with 249 & 258 qv & poss metalling?
253	251	Post-hole	Mid	B	Good PH later fill in middle windrow, poss later as cut from higher? No finds. Assoc'd with 249 & 258 qv & poss metalling?
254	251	Post-hole	2ndary	B	Good PH 2ndary edge fill in middle windrow, poss later as cut from higher? No finds. Assoc'd with 249 & 258 qv & poss metalling?
255	251	Post-hole	2ndary	B	Good PH 2ndary fill in middle windrow, poss later as cut from higher? No finds. Assoc'd with 249 & 258 qv & poss metalling?

Context	Cut	Feat Type	Fill Type	Area	Description
256	251	Post-hole	2ndary	B	Good PH 2ndary fill in middle windrow, poss later as cut from higher? No finds. Assoc'd with 249 & 258 qv & poss metalling?
257	251	Post-hole	Primary	B	Good PH primary fill in middle windrow, poss later as cut from higher? No finds. Assoc'd with 249 & 258 qv & poss metalling?
258	258	Post-hole	N/A	B	Reasonable post-hole cut in mid windrow. No finds. Assoc'd with 249 & 251 qv & poss metalling?
259	259	Ring Ditch	N/A	C	ringditch 2 cut, (same as 218, other section dug) here for W section (ACs). Sterile - no finds
260	258	Post-hole	Upper	B	Reasonable post-hole upper fill in mid windrow. No finds. Assoc'd with 249 & 251 qv & poss metalling?
261	258	Post-hole	Primary	B	Reasonable post-hole lower fill in mid windrow. No finds. Assoc'd with 249 & 251 qv & poss metalling?
262	262	Ditch - Post Algmt	N/A	B	Cut NE-SW RPs Linear just NW of ringditch1, part of boundaries cutting pit algmt. No finds. =53. cuts 265
263	262	Ditch - Post Algmt	Primary	B	Fill NE-SW RPs Linear just NW of ringditch1, part of boundaries cutting pit algmt. No finds. =53. cuts 265
264	262	Ditch - Post Algmt	Upper	B	Fill NE-SW RPs Linear just NW of ringditch1, part of boundaries cutting pit algmt. No finds. =262=53. cuts 265
265	265	Ditch - Post Algmt	N/A	B	Cut NE-SW AHs small Linear just NW of ringditch1, in RP's slot. Part of boundaries cutting pit algmt. No finds. cut by 262
266	265	Ditch - Post Algmt	N/A	B	Cut NE-SW AHs small Linear just NW of ringditch1, in RP's slot. Part of boundaries cutting pit algmt. No finds. cut by 262
267	267	Ditch - Post Algmt	N/A	B	N-S linear cut, SW of ringditch1 & most W'ern of post algmt ditches. LBs, no finds. ?=156. (LB says ?=226 but not)
268	267	Ditch - Post Algmt	N/A	B	N-S linear cut, SW of ringditch1 & most W'ern of post algmt ditches. LBs, no finds. ?=156. (LB says ?=226 but not)
269	259	Ring Ditch	Top	C	ringditch 2 top fill, (same as fills in 218) here for W section (ACs). no finds
270	259	Ring Ditch	Mid	C	ringditch 2 later fill (in possible recut?), (same as fills in 218) here for W section (ACs). no finds
271	259	Ring Ditch	Mid	C	ringditch 2 later fill (in possible recut?), (same as fills in 218) here for W section (ACs). no finds
272	259	Ring Ditch	Mid	C	ringditch 2 3rdary fill (possible recut?), (same as fills in 218) here for W section (ACs). no finds
273	259	Ring Ditch	2ndary	C	ringditch 2 2ndary fill, (same as fills in 218) here for W section (ACs). no finds
274	259	Ring Ditch	2ndary	C	ringditch 2 2ndary fill, (same as fills in 218) here for W section (ACs). no finds
275	259	Ring Ditch	2ndary	C	ringditch 2 2ndary fill, (same as fills in 218) here for W section (ACs). no finds
276	259	Ring Ditch	Primary	C	ringditch 2 primary fill, (same as fills in 218) here for W section (ACs). no finds
277	259	Ring Ditch	Mid	C	ringditch 2 later fill (in possible recut?), (same as fills in 218) here for W section (ACs). no finds

Appendix 7 Leicestershire County Council Specifications

Specification: Initial Work current phase: Earl Shilton Bypass Archaeological Evaluation and Investigation (extract)

1. All work to be undertaken in accordance with an agreed specification prepared by a professional archaeological contractor.

The evaluation will comprise an intrusive investigation including the following element:

a. Trial trenching Site D (Poss. Late Neolithic enclosure – N of Mill Lane)

A phase of test-pitting and trial trenching was proposed and partially completed along the proposed line of the bypass in 2003. The site was divided into two (north and south) by a field boundary and it was not possible to undertake the proposed fieldwork in the southern area. Consequently, a second phase of trial trenching is now required in the southern field. This will comprise two trenches (c. 50m x 1.8m) excavated at right angles to and across the width of the bypass. Subject to the results of the initial sample a further 50m of trenching (c. 90m²) will be reserved as a contingency to address any unforeseen results warranting further clarification

Specification: Trial Trenching - North of Breach Lane, Earl Shilton

1. Purpose:

The following method statement outlines the framework for a small scale, rapid trial trenching investigation of land immediately north of Breach Lane, Earl Shilton, Leicestershire. Site boundaries and proposed trench locations as per the plan.

2. Scope of Work:

A total of six trenches (1-6 on the plan below) will be excavated, each c.30m in length and will be at least 25m away from the adjacent hedge lines. The trenches are to target the centre line of the proposed bypass and must not encroach closer than 5m from the fenced road corridor boundary. The investigation will provide an approximate 1% sample of the area, c. 270m² within a total site area of c. 29,000m².

Due to the potential presence of newts in the vicinity any machinery used will be the smallest/lightest necessary to achieve the objective required, e.g. 3CX JCB excavator or equivalent, with a back actor and a ditching bucket.

All the trenches would be opened and backfilled as rapidly as possible, recognising the need to deal with any identified archaeological remains. However, no trench will remain open for longer than two days. As far as can be achieved, the trenching will be undertaken as part of a rolling programme of investigation, with each trench being opened and backfilled prior to commencing the next trench.

3. Access:

Access to each field will be gained using existing field entrances. Machines/vehicles will, as far as possible, use a single 'track' from the field entrance to the trench and back to the field entrance. Where more than one trench is to be excavated within a single field, the machine will go from first trench to second, completing the necessary excavation/backfilling, and back to the first trench before returning to the field entrance.

Appendix 8 ULAS Specification

UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

Design Specification for archaeological work

Job title: Site D Earl Shilton by-pass, Leicestershire

NGR: SP 479 979

Client: Leicestershire County Council

Planning Authority: Leicestershire County Council

1 Introduction

1.1 Definition and scope of the specification

This document is a design specification for an archaeological excavation at the above site, in accordance with DOE Planning Policy Guidance note 16 (PPG16, Archaeology and Planning, para.30).

1.2 The definition of archaeological excavation, taken from the Institute of Field Archaeologists Standards and Guidance: for Archaeological Field Evaluation (IFA S&G) is a controlled programme of intrusive fieldwork with defined research objectives which examines, records and interprets archaeological deposits, features, structures, and as appropriate, retrieves artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater. The records made and objects gathered during fieldwork are studied and the results of that study published in detail appropriate to the project design.

2. Background

2.1 Context of the Project

2.1.1 The route of the proposed by-pass runs from the A47 Leicester Road (SP 453 964) to the south-west to Thurlaston Lane (SP 476 991) to the north-east. The route crosses a series of arable and pasture fields.

2.1.2 Archaeological survey and evaluation has been undertaken for parts of the route (ULAS Reports 2002-213; 2003-001, 2003-023 and 2003-068). A further walkover survey was undertaken in April 2007. On the basis of further evaluative work at Site D in August 2007 an archaeological excavation has now been requested by the Senior Planning Archaeologist as detailed in the *Brief for Archaeological Excavation of north of Mill Lane, Earl Shilton, Leicestershire (Site D)* (hereinafter the 'Brief' 05.09.2007).

2.2 Archaeological and Historical Background

2.2.1 The area contains archaeological features including to the north post holes and south enclosure ditches, pits and post holes. Datable features to the south are of Iron Age date.

2.2.2 The area is adjacent to a cropmark, possibly a Neolithic enclosure, close to the eastern edge of Earl Shilton village (SP477 979). Other prehistoric material is known from the vicinity including a Neolithic macehead, a middle Bronze Age cremation burial and a bronze palstave. Cropmarks of ring-ditches may be ploughed out Bronze Age round barrows or could be associated with later prehistoric settlement while other cropmarks include a pit alignment, enclosures and linear ditches which may represent Iron Age and Romano-British settlement and agricultural activity..

3. Archaeological Objectives

3.1 The main objectives of the archaeological work will be:

- to ascertain whether any significant archaeological remains are present and characterise their nature within the area to be developed.
- To establish the chronological development of ritual/settlement occupation/activity. Particular attention will be paid to the potential for survival of economic and environmental data.
- Specifically the excavation will address the potential for Neolithic/Bronze age activity with possible association with the nearby cropmark site and evidence for Iron Age settlement and agricultural activity (Clay 2006; Willis 2006)

4. Methodology

4.1 General Methodology and Standards

4.1.1 All work will follow the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) Code of Conduct and adhere to their *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological excavations* (1999).

4.1.2 Staffing, recording systems, health and safety provisions and insurance details are included below.

4.1.3 Internal monitoring procedures will be undertaken including visits to the site by the project manager. These will ensure that project targets are met and professional standards are maintained.

Provision will be made for external monitoring meetings with the Senior Planning Archaeologist the Planning authority and the Client.

4.2 Open area excavation

4.4.1 The area will be machine stripped under full archaeological control and supervision, followed by further assessment of the detailed recording strategy. The excavation will include the full extent of Area A and 'windrove' strip excavation of Area B (Fig 1).

4.4.2 The topsoil will be removed in spits by machine with toothless ditching bucket (or similar) under supervision, until archaeological deposits or undisturbed substrata are encountered. The topsoil will be kept separate from the subsoil.

4.4.3 The archaeological deposits will be hand-cleaned by trowel or draw hoe. The cleaned surface will be scanned by metal detector.

4.4.4 The archaeological features exposed by the machine stripping will be planned and sample excavated to provide an adequate sample to address the objectives (3.1).

4.4.5 Measured drawings of all archaeological features will be prepared at a scale of 1:20 and tied into an overall site plan of 1:100. All plans will be tied into the National Grid using a Total Station Electronic Distance Measurer (EDM).

4.4.6 The location of the excavation will be surveyed using a GPS or Total Station Electronic Distance Measurer (EDM) linked to a hand held computer.

4.4.7 Archaeological deposits will be excavated and recorded as appropriate to establishing the stratigraphic and chronological sequence of deposits, recognising and excavating structural evidence and recovering economic, artefactual and environmental evidence. All excavated sections will be recorded and drawn at 1:10 or 1:20 scale, levelled and tied into the Ordnance Survey datum. Spot heights will be taken as appropriate.

4.4.8 Any human remains encountered will be initially left in situ and only removed under a Home Office Licence and in compliance with relevant environmental health regulations. Any material recovered which would be regarded as treasure following the Treasure Act 1996 will be reported to the coroner.

4.6.4 Archaeological deposits will be excavated and recorded as appropriate to establishing the stratigraphic and chronological sequence of deposits, recognising and excavating structural evidence and recovering economic, artefactual and environmental evidence. Particular attention will be paid to the potential for buried palaeosols and waterlogged deposits in consultation with ULAS's environmental officer.

4.6.5 All excavated sections will be recorded and drawn at 1:10 or 1:20 scale, levelled and tied into the Ordnance Survey datum. Spot heights will be taken as appropriate.

4.6.6 Any human remains encountered will be initially left *in situ* and only be removed under a Home Office Licence and in compliance with relevant environmental health regulations. The developer, Leicestershire County Council, and the coroner will be informed immediately on their discovery.

4.6.7 Internal monitoring procedures will be undertaken including visits to the site from the project manager. These will ensure that professional standards are being maintained. Provision will be made for monitoring visits with representatives of the owners, Leicestershire County Council, Heritage Services and Charnwood Borough Council.

4.6.8 In the event of significant archaeological remains being located during the watching brief there may be the need for contingency time and finance to be provided to ensure adequate recording is undertaken. On the discovery of potentially significant remains the archaeologist will inform the developer, the Planning Archaeologist at Leicestershire County Council, HNET and the planning authority. If the archaeological remains are identified to be of significance additional contingent archaeological works will be required.

4.7 Recording Systems

4.7.1 The ULAS recording manual will be used as a guide for all recording.

4.7.2 Individual descriptions of all archaeological strata and features excavated or exposed will be entered onto pro-forma recording sheets.

4.7.3 A site location plan based on the current Ordnance Survey 1:1250 map (reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO) will be prepared. This will be supplemented by a trench plan at appropriate scale, which will show the location of the areas investigated in relationship to the investigation area and OS grid.

4.7.4 A record of the full extent in plan of all archaeological deposits encountered will be made. Sections including the half-sections of individual layers of features will be drawn as necessary, typically at a scale of 1:10. The OD height of all principal strata and features will be recorded.

4.7.5 A photographic record of the investigations will be prepared illustrating in both detail and general context the principal features and finds discovered. The photographic record will also include 'working shots' to illustrate more generally the nature of the archaeological operation mounted.

4.7.6 This record will be compiled and checked during the course of the excavations.

5. Finds and Samples

5.1 The IFA *Guidelines for Finds Work* will be adhered to.

5.2 Before commencing work on the site, a Site code/Accession number will be agreed with the Planning Archaeologist that will be used to identify all records and finds from the site.

5.3 During the fieldwork, different sampling strategies may be employed according to the perceived importance of the strata under investigation. Close attention will always be given to sampling for date, structure and environment. If significant archaeological features are sample excavated, the environmental sampling strategy is likely to include the following:

- i. A range of features to represent all feature types, areas and phases will be selected on a judgmental basis. The criteria for selection will be that deposits are datable, well sealed and with little intrusive or residual material.
- ii. Any buried soils or well sealed deposits with concentrations of carbonised material present will be intensively sampled taking a known proportion of the deposit.
- iii. Spot samples will be taken where concentrations of environmental remains are located.
- iv. Waterlogged remains, if present, will be sampled for pollen, plant macrofossils, insect remains and radiocarbon dating provided that they are uncontaminated and datable. Consultation with the specialist will be undertaken.

5.4 All identified finds and artefacts are to be retained, although certain classes of building material will, in some circumstances, be discarded after recording with the approval of the Senior Planning Archaeologist. The IFA *Guidelines for Finds Work* will be adhered to.

5.5 All finds and samples will be treated in a proper manner. Where appropriate they will be cleaned, marked and receive remedial conservation in accordance with recognised best-practice. This will include the site code number, finds number and context number. Bulk finds will be bagged in clear self sealing plastic bags, again marked with site code, finds and context numbers and boxed by material in standard storage boxes (340mm x 270mm x 195mm). All materials will be fully labelled, catalogued and stored in appropriate containers.

6. Report and Archive

6.1 Following an Assessment in accordance with English heritage MORPHE 2006 will be prepared. This will indicate what further analysis, if any, is required. The assessment report will include:

6.2 Interim Report

6.2.1 This will include the aims and methods used, the nature, location, extent, date, significance and quality of data recovered with appropriate illustrative material. It will include an assessment of the effectiveness of the methodologies employed.

6.3 Factual Data

6.3.1. The quantity of material and data including provenance, provisional dating, evidence for contamination and residuality and means of data collection used.

6.3.2. The range and variety of material including any possible biases resulting from collection or sampling methods.

6.3.3. An assessment of the condition of the material including preservation bias and potential for long term storage.

6.3.4. The existence of primary sources or relevant data which may enhance the study of site data.

6.4 Site Assessment

6.4.1 On completion of the fieldwork the site archive will be prepared to ensure accessibility and an interim report prepared. All records will be updated during the assessment stage and all plans sections and photographs indexed.

6.4.2 On completion of the archive an assessment report of the site's potential for further analysis will be prepared incorporating the information from the finds and environmental assessments. Contact will be maintained between the specialists during the assessment stage.

6.5 Finds Assessment

6.5.1 Any pottery recovered will be sorted by form, fabric and decoration following ULAS type series. Sequences will be established where possible in conjunction with the site information. Spot dating will be provided if diagnostic elements are present.

6.5.2 Finds assessment reports will be prepared for each category of find encountered. Consultants will be contacted where necessary.

6.5.3 An assessment of the conservation requirements for material recovered will be undertaken in consultation with the Conservator at the University of Leicester School of Archaeology and Ancient History.

6.6 Environmental Assessment

6.6.1 Sieving and sorting of the coarse residues of sediment will be completed and recorded immediately following the fieldwork phase. The fine residues (0.5-4mm) will be prioritised for sorting and the flots packed and labelled. Any additional samples will have been recorded and stored.

6.6.2 During the assessment phase the following work will be carried out:

- i) The prioritised fine residues (0.5-4mm) will be sorted.
- ii) The flots will be scanned and prioritised. selected flots will have plant remains identified to assess the range, quantity, preservation and potential of the remains. Flots with potential for further analysis will be selected for sorting during the analysis stage.
- iii) Any additional environmental materials will be assessed and considered for analysis.
- iv) Samples of charcoal and cereal grains will be selected for possible ¹⁴C dating if from appropriate deposits.
- v) Any additional samples will be assessed for further sieving.
- vi) Sediment samples will be selected for phosphate analysis, magnetic susceptibility or sediment analysis as appropriate to assist with the interpretation of the site.

6.7 Potential

6.7.1 The data and material will be critically examined in the light of their potential to answer the research aims resulting from the fieldwork including local, regional and national priorities.

6.7.2 In addition each material category report will summarise any site specific questions posed in the project design which

6.7.3 The data and material will be critically examined in the light of their potential to answer the research aims resulting from the fieldwork including local, regional and national priorities.

6.8 Potential

6.8.1 The data and material will be critically examined in the light of their potential to answer the research aims and objectives resulting from the fieldwork including local, regional and national priorities.

7. Report and Archive

7.1 A report on the fieldwork will be provided following analysis of the records and materials.

7.2. The copyright of all original finished documents shall remain vested in ULAS and ULAS will be entitled as of right to publish any material in any form produced as a result of its investigations.

7.3 A full copy of the archive as defined in the 'Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long-term storage' (UKIC 1990), and Standards in the Museum care of archaeological collections (MGC 1992) and 'Guidelines for the preparation of site archives and assessments for all finds (other than fired clay objects) (RFG/FRG 1993) will be presented to an appropriate registered museum within six months of the completion of analysis. This archive will include all written, disk-based, drawn and photographic records relating directly to the investigations undertaken.

7.4 On the completion of fieldwork the originating organisation should complete the on-line OASIS form at <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis> on completion of the fieldwork.

8. Acknowledgement and Publicity

8.1 ULAS shall acknowledge the contribution of the Client in any displays, broadcasts or publications relating to the site or in which the report may be included.

8.2 ULAS and the Client shall each ensure that a senior employee shall be responsible for dealing with any enquiries received from press, television and any other broadcasting media and members of the public. All enquiries made to ULAS shall be directed to the Client for comment.

9. Copyright

9.1 The copyright of all original finished documents shall remain vested in ULAS and ULAS will be entitled as of right to publish any material in any form produced as a result of its investigations.

10. Timetable

10.1 The supervised stripping of Site D is scheduled to start during w.c 10.09.2007 with two staff.

10.2 Following the fieldwork the on-site director/supervisor will carry out the post-excavation work, with time allocated within the costing of the project for analysis of any artefacts found on the site by the relevant in-house specialists at ULAS.

11. Health and Safety

11.1 ULAS is covered by and adheres to the University of Leicester Archaeological Services Health and Safety Policy and Health and Safety manual with appropriate risks assessments for all

archaeological work. A draft Health and Safety statement for this project is attached as Appendix 1. The relevant Health and Safety Executive guidelines will be adhered to as appropriate. The HSE has determined that archaeological investigations are exempt from CDM regulations.

11.2 A Risks assessment will be completed prior to work commencing on-site, and updated as necessary during the site works.

12. Insurance

12.1 All ULAS work is covered by the University of Leicester's Public Liability and Professional Indemnity Insurance. The Public Liability Insurance is with St Pauls Travellers Policy No. UCPOP3651237 while the Professional Indemnity Insurance is with Lloyds Underwriters (50%) and Brit Insurances (50%) Policy No. FUNK3605.

13. Monitoring arrangements

13.1 Unlimited access to monitor the project will be available to both the Client and his representatives and Planning Archaeologist subject to the health and safety requirements of the site. At least one weeks notice will be given to the LCCHS Senior Planning Archaeologist before the commencement of the archaeological evaluation in order that monitoring arrangements can be made.

13.2 All monitoring shall be carried out in accordance with the IFA *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations, excavations or watching briefs* as appropriate.

13.3 Internal monitoring will be carried out by the ULAS project manager.

14. Contingencies and unforeseen circumstances

14.1 In the event that unforeseen archaeological discoveries are made during the project, ULAS shall inform the site agent/project manager, Client and the Planning Archaeologist and Planning Authority and prepare a short written statement with plan detailing the archaeological evidence. Following assessment of the archaeological remains by the Planning Archaeologist, ULAS shall, if required, implement an amended scheme of investigation on behalf of the client as appropriate.

15. Bibliography

- MAP 2 The management of archaeological projects 2nd edition English Heritage 1991
- MGC 1992 Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections 1992 (Museums and Galleries Commission)
- RFG/FRG 1993 Guidelines for the preparation of site archives (Roman Finds Group and Finds Research Group AD 700-1700 1993)
- SMA 1993 Selection, retention and Dispersal of Archaeological Collections. Guidelines for use in England, Wales and Northern Ireland 1993 (Society of Museum Archaeologists)

Patrick Clay
Director
ULAS
University of Leicester
University Road
Leicester LE1 7RH
Tel:0116 252 2848
Fax: 0116 252 2614
Email: pnc3@le.ac.uk

© ULAS 06/09/2007

Draft Project Health and Safety Policy Statement

A risks assessment will be produced by on-site staff, which will be updated and amended during the course of the evaluation.

1. Nature of the work

1.1 Brief description of the work involved e.g.

The work will involve machine excavation by hymax or equivalent during daylight hours to reveal underlying archaeological deposits. Overall depth is likely to be *c.* 0.5 m with possible features excavated to a depth of another 1m. Trenches will not be excavated to a depth exceeding 1.2m. Spoil will be stockpiled no less than 1.5 m from the edge of the excavation, the topsoil and subsoil being kept separate. Remaining works will involve the examination of the exposed surface with hand tools (shovels, trowels etc) and excavation of archaeological features. Deeper features will be fenced with lamp irons and hazard tape. Three staff will be used on the evaluation.

2 Risks Assessment

2.1 Working on an excavation site.

Precautions. Trenches to not be excavated to a depth exceeding 1.2m. Spoil will be kept 1.5m away from the edge of the excavated area to prevent falls of loose debris. Loose spoil heaps will not be walked on. Protective footwear will be worn at all times. Hard hats will be worn when working in deeper sections or with plant. First aid kit to be kept in site accommodation/vehicle. Vehicle and mobile phone to be kept on site in case of emergency.

2.2 Working with plant.

Precautions. Archaeologists experienced in working with machines will supervise topsoil stripping at all times. Hard hats, protective footwear and hazard jackets will be worn at all times. Machine driver to be suitably qualified and insured. If services or wells are encountered machining will be halted until extent has been established by hand excavation or areas where it is safe to machine have been established. Overhead power lines are present to the south of the areas to be evaluated. The machine will maintain a distance of at least 10 m to the north of the powerlines.

2.3 Working within areas prone to waterlogging.

If waterlogging occurs on site preventing work continuing it is proposed to excavate a sump, suitably fenced and clearly marked to enable the water to drain away. If this is insufficient a pump will be used. The sump will be covered when not in use and backfilled if no longer required. Protective clothing will be worn at all times and precautions taken to prevent contact with stagnant water which may carry Wile's disease or similar.

2.4 Working with chemicals.

If chemicals are used to conserve or help lift archaeological material these will only be used by qualified personnel with protective clothing (i.e. a trained conservator) and will be removed from site immediately after use.

2.5 Other risks

Precautions. If there is any suspicion of unforeseen hazards being encountered e.g. chemical contaminants, unexploded bombs, hazardous gases, work will cease immediately. The client and relevant public authorities will be informed immediately.

Appendix 9 OASIS Summary

INFORMATION REQUIRED	
Project Name	Earl Shilton A47 bypass Breach Lane
Project Type	Evaluation
Project Manager	Patrick Clay
Project Supervisor	Andrew Hyam
Previous/Future work	DBA, fieldwalked
Current Land Use	Agricultural (arable)
Development Type	Road bypass
Reason for Investigation	PPG16
Position in the Planning Process	As a condition
Site Co ordinates	SP 474 970
Start/end dates of field work	2007
Archive Recipient	Leicestershire Museums
Study Area *	270m ²

INFORMATION REQUIRED	
Project Name	Earl Shilton A47 bypass Site D
Project Type	Evaluation and excavation
Project Manager	Patrick Clay
Project Supervisor	Wayne Jarvis
Previous/Future work	DBA, fieldwalked, geophys, testpitted
Current Land Use	Agricultural (arable)
Development Type	Road bypass
Reason for Investigation	PPG16
Position in the Planning Process	As a condition
Site Co ordinates	SP479 979
Start/end dates of field work	2007
Archive Recipient	Leicestershire Museums
Study Area *	5500m ²

* Particularly important as this information cannot be found elsewhere

Contact Details

Richard Buckley or Patrick Clay
University of Leicester Archaeological
Services (ULAS)
University of Leicester,
University Road,
Leicester LE1 7RH

T: +44 (0)116 252 2848

F: +44 (0)116 252 2614

E: ulas@le.ac.uk

w: www.le.ac.uk/ulas



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

