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Greys Farm, Horseley Fen, Chatteris, Cambridgeshire

An archaeological evaluation of a sample of the cropmarks

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Greys Farm, Chatteris, Cambridgeshire Archaeological Evaluation

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Parish: Chatteris

Grid Reference: TL 410 833

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Summary

Archaeological evaluation of an area adjacent to Greys Farm, Horseley Fen, confirmed that a number of previously identified cropmark anomalies were the result of sub-surface archaeological features. These would appear to relate to an agricultural landscape comprising field boundaries and a ritual landscape consisting of a number of ring ditches interpreted as round barrows. An accurate chronology for the archaeology could not be established due to a complete absence of any datable artefactual material. However, a loose chronology has been suggested based on the presence or absence of peat within the fills of the features combined with the present state of knowledge of the chronology of peat formation on the Chatteris island.

1. Introduction

A limited field evaluation of a number of the cropmarks identified at Greys Farm Chatteris was undertaken in October 1998 to further elucidate the nature and chronology of the archaeological landscape. The work was not intended to serve as a definitive evaluation of the archaeological resource, rather a qualitative statement on a sample of the identified cropmark evidence. The work was commissioned by RMC Aggregates (Eastern Counties) Ltd and undertaken by Headland Archaeology.

2. Location and Topography (Fig. 1)

The evaluation focussed on a group of cropmarks located to the south west of Greys Farm, Horseley Fen, Chatteris (Moloney 1998, Fig. 1, Area C). The land is currently under cultivation and has recently produced harvests of sugar beat and wheat. The ground is level at c. 1.5 m above OD. The area of investigation is identified as Area C in the Aerial Photographic Assessment (Moloney 1998, Appendix 3). The environmental development of the Chatteris area has been discussed in detail by Waller (1994). The Proposed Development Area (PDA) lies on the margins of the Chatteris island, one of the many raised gravel areas in the fens. Peat formed early and Horseley Fen was covered by the first marine inundation that deposited marine clay during the Early Bronze Age (Hall 1992, Fig. 53). During the Late Bronze Age, peat began to develop at the edges of the Chatteris island and by the Iron Age it covered an area comparable to that of the Middle Ages including Horseley Fen. No further marine deposition occurred at Chatteris. The Chatteris Fens rose to 3.5 m by the 17th century. Since the 17th century drainage has caused the peat to waste from Horseley Fen leaving extensive tracts of gravelly skirt soils. The PDA would have been suitable for human habitation either before the Iron Age or subsequent to drainage in the 17th century AD.

3. Archaeological Background

The archaeology of the entire PDA is summarised in the Desk Assessment (Moloney 1998). The cropmark evidence identified in the Desk Assessment as Area C comprises two distinct archaeological landscapes. The first is a field system which has previously been ascribed a Neolithic date. The second is a ritual landscape of likely Bronze Age date. The field system consists of a number of linear anomalies interpreted as boundary ditches. The ritual landscape consists of several circular anomalies interpreted as barrows.

4. Evaluation Objectives

The objective of the evaluation was to assess a sample of the cropmarks in order to further enhance our understanding of their nature and chronology.

5. Evaluation Method

The evaluation consisted of a series of nine machine cut trenches (Fig. 1 & 2). The trenches were located using a total station theodolite and were positioned to intersect a number of cropmarks identified in the desk assessment. The topsoil was removed under direct archaeological supervision using a flat bladed bucket on a JCB3CX mechanical excavator. The resulting surface was hand cleaned and inspected for archaeological activity. Any archaeological features thus identified were recorded in plan with a small number of sections excavated in order to determine the nature of deposits, their date and state of preservation. All excavated features were thoroughly recorded in plan and section on written, photographic and drawn media.

6. Evaluation Results

The evaluation confirmed the presence of sub-surface features at the locations of all the cropmark anomalies with the exception of the ditch expected in Trench 1 (Fig. 2). The topsoil ranged from between 0.25 m to 0.32 m in depth across the site but on average was less than 0.3 m.

Trench 1

Trench 1 was aligned north-east to south-west and measured 100 m in length by 1.55 m in width. The trench was positioned to intersect a linear anomaly aligned north-west to southeast. No archaeological features, artefacts or deposits were identified.

Trench 2 & Trench 3 (Fig. 3)

Trench 2 was aligned north-west to south-east and measured 100 m in length by 1.55 m in width. The trench was positioned to intersect a circular anomaly interpreted as a barrow. Trench 3 was aligned north-east to south-west and measured 100 m in length by 1.55 m in width. It intersected with the centre of Trench 2 and was also designed to investigate the possible barrow. Three features were identified in these trenches. In Trench 2, two linear features interpreted as the ditch for the barrow were investigated.

Ditch 004 measured 0.65 m in depth by 1.8 m in width. In profile the cut (004) broke sharply from surface and sloped gently to meet a concave base. The primary fill (018) consisted of very compacted brown orange fine sandy silt with frequent inclusions of flint gravel and occasional charcoal flecks. The secondary fill (003) consisted of a very compact pale grey brown sandy silt which contained frequent inclusions of flint gravel. Animal bone was retrieved from this deposit and this is discussed in Appendix 1.

Ditch 011 measured 0.9 m in depth and 2.15 m in width. The cut was u-shaped in profile with a sharp break of slope from surface and steep straight sides which sloped gradually to form a rounded base. The primary fill (010) consisted of a very compact orange brown sandy silt with frequent inclusions of flint gravel, frequent mineral concretions and occasional charcoal flecks. A number of gravel lenses were also identified within context 010. The ditch was sealed by a deposit of pale grey brown sandy silt (008) similar to context 003 in

Ditch 004.

Feature 049 was identified at the junction of Trenches 2 and 3. This feature did not coincide with any of the cropmark anomalies previously recorded. The cut extended beyond the boundaries of the trench and it could not be determined whether it represented a large pit or ditch. The feature was 4.9 m wide and 0.95 m deep. The cut (049) sloped gradually from the surface with a sharp break of slope at the centre to form a central depression. The primary fill (048) consisted of compact bluish grey clay with orange sand mottling which contained occasional charcoal flecks and fragments. The secondary fill (050) comprised a very compact pale grey orange sandy silt. The secondary fill was truncated by a re-cut of the feature. This secondary cut (012) was also broad and sloped gradually to a central depression. The primary fill (014) consisted of mid-grey brown dessicated peat which contained fine roots and flint gravel. The upper fill (013) consisted of compact, iron rich, light orange brown silty sand which contained flint gravel. The feature was sealed by the modern ploughsoil.

Trench 4

Trench 4 was aligned north-west to south-east and measured 100 m in length by 1.55 m in width. This trench was intended to act as a control and was positioned in an area not responsive to aerial photographic survey. No archaeological features or deposits were identified in this trench.

Trench 5 (Fig. 4)

Trench 5 was aligned north-east to south-west and measured 100 m in length by 1.55 m in width. The trench was located to investigate a possible barrow. Five linear features were identified in the trench.

Two curvilinear ditches (028, 030) were interpreted as representing the ditch of the barrow identified from aerial photographs. One of these, ditch 028, was sectioned and showed that the cut measured 3.45 m in width and 0.75 m in depth. The south-west side sloped sharply to meet the gently sloping north-eastern side forming a V shaped base. The feature contained a single fill (029) which comprised an extremely compact light yellow brown sandy clay which contained flint gravel and charcoal flecks. Ditch 030 was not sectioned.

To the north-east of Ditch 028 three parallel and very similar linear features (020, 022, 023) were identified. These features were aligned with the modern field system and contained a very similar fill to the modern topsoil and have therefore been interpreted as modern.

Trench 6 (Fig. 5)

Trench 6 was aligned north-west to south-east and measured 50 m in length by 1.55 m in width. It was located to investigate part of a field/paddock system identified from aerial photographs. A single linear feature was identified in the trench in a corresponding position to the cropmark. This consisted of a ditch measuring 3.25 m in width by 0.45 m in depth. The cut (006) had a gently sloping profile which gradually levelled out to form a concave base. The fill (005) consisted of a grey black dessicated peat with orange lenses of iron rich sandy silt.

Trench 7 (Fig. 5)

Trench 7 was aligned north-east to south-west and measured 175 m in length by 1.55 m in width. This trench was also located to identify the boundary of the paddock and a probable barrow. Both these features were located in the positions identified through aerial photographs.

The paddock boundary was identified as a peat filled ditch which had been re-cut. The primary cut (045) was 1.05 m wide and 0.26 m deep with a gradual break of slope from surface and a concave profile. The fill (044) consisted of a moderately compact mid grey brown sandy silt. The secondary cut (017) broke sharply from surface, the sides sloped regularly at 45 degrees and met sharply to form a V-shaped base. The cut measured 1 m in width by 0.38 m in depth. The primary fill (043) consisted of a loose light grey brown sandy silt. The secondary fill (016) comprised a loose black dessicated peat which contained an undiagnostic flint blade (*pers comm* C Wickham-Jones).

Two linear features, 20 m apart, were identified as corresponding with the cropmarks of the ditch for the barrow. A small pit containing burnt material was identified within these ditches and has been associated with them for ease of recording. The easternmost ditch was sectioned. This consisted of a cut (032) measuring 2.6 m wide and 0.48 m deep. The primary fill (035) was 0.12 m thick and consisted of a very compact light greyish orange silty sand. The secondary fill (034) consisted of 0.23 m of a light grey iron rich sandy silt. The feature was sealed by a deposit of 0.18 m of grey black dessicated peat (033). The western ditch was not investigated in section. Between the ditches was a single small pit. This comprised a circular cut with a concave profile which measured 0.5 m in diameter and 0.16 m in depth. The fill (047) consisted of reddish brown coarse gravelly sand which contained frequent lenses of charcoal. The feature was reddened around the edges suggesting that the fill material was burnt in situ.

Trench 8 (Fig. 5)

Trench 8 was aligned north-west to south-east and measured 50 m in length by 1.55 m in width. The trench was positioned to sample a boundary ditch of the paddock system. A linear feature was identified corresponding to the position of the cropmark anomaly. This comprised a linear cut (038) 1.45 m wide and 0.5 m deep. The cut broke sharply from surface and the sides were slightly concave and met a concave base with a gradual break of slope. The primary fill (037) consisted of a very compact grey brown sandy silt which included frequent flint gravel and moderate charcoal flecks. The secondary fill (036) comprised pale grey brown sandy silt which contained one fragment of animal bone (see Appendix 1). Two further parallel ditches (041, 042) were identified in the trench. These were interpreted as modern as they respected the modern field system and were filled with material not unlike the modern topsoil.

Trench 9 (Fig. 2)

Trench 9 was aligned north-west to south-east and measured 33 m in length by 1.55 m in width. This trench was positioned to intersect a linear anomaly interpreted as forming part of a neolithic field system. A linear feature was identified corresponding to the position of the cropmark anomaly in this area. This comprised a shallow ditch (027) measuring 0.73 m in

width by 0.32 m in depth. The cut was regular with a sharp break of slope from surface, with sides sloping at c. 45 degrees and a rounded base. The fill (026) comprised compact grey brown sandy silt.

7. Discussion

The archaeological information recovered from the evaluation has greatly enhanced the information previously gained through the desk top study. The aerial photographic record has been shown to be a very accurate account of the sub-surface archaeology (Fig. 2). With the exception of peat filled features, the archaeology is extremely difficult to recognise on the ground and is very similar in appearance to variations in the natural subsoil. In addition, plough truncation of the features is quite severe. Modern cultivation marks were evident cutting as deep as 0.1 m into the subsoil and archaeology suggesting the field has recently been subjected to subsoiling.

Although no diagnostic artefactual evidence was recovered, a loose chronology can be identified using the presence or absence of peat in the fills of features. As discussed by Hall (1992, 84) the peat began to creep up the edges of the Chatteris island during the late Bronze Age and by the Iron Age the island would have been completely covered with peat. It would appear that a number of features survived as substantial earthworks when the peat began to form on the site and the peat is now preserved as secondary fills within these features. A second group of features appear to have been completely levelled before the peat began to develop. It is possible therefore to identify a loose chronology with sandy silt filled features pre-dating peat filled features and peat filled features dating to the middle or late Bronze Age. However it has to be bourne in mind that certain features may have been in use for a considerable period of time and therefore periodic maintenance may have been undertaken. This is evident in the recut of the paddock ditch identified in Trench 7.

The field system surrounding Greys Farm appears to be of greater antiquity having been back filled before the formation of peat in the area. Similarly two of the barrows investigated contained no peat and would again seem to be of greater antiquity. It is likely that these features pre-date or are contemporary with the middle Bronze Age.

The paddock system and remaining barrow are peat filled and therefore of likely later Bronze Age date. This contradicts the findings of the Fenland Project which suggests a Neolithic date for the paddock system (Hall 1992, Fig. 52). The dating argument provided for this date by Hall is also stratigraphically flawed (Hall 1992, 84).

The presence of peat in the upper fill of one of the barrows would be consistent with a middle/late Bronze Age date although the other two barrows investigated appear to have been completely infilled with the same compact and gleyed sandy silt as contained in the Greys Farm field system. These monuments are most likely to date to the early Bronze Age although a late Neolithic date has been attributed to a ring ditch at West Stow (West 1990) which suggests a late Neolithic date would not be impossible. The monument type would however fit more consistently with an early/mid Bronze Age date. The possibility therefore exists that the entire landscape dates to the Bronze Age and no Neolithic component is

present. This would appear to indicate that the field system and barrow cemetery co-existed and that the landscape had both ritual and agricultural functions.

The results of the field investigation will be invaluable in assisting with the formulation of any evaluation programme for the proposed development area. It has been demonstrated that, although the aerial photographic evidence is an accurate depiction of the spatial distribution of the archaeological monuments, there is a large gap in our understanding of the chronology, inter-relationship and nature of the archaeology of the Chatteris island. Detailed and extensive field investigation of the various monuments is required before the value and significance of the archaeology can be determined.

8. Bibliography

| Hall, D. N., 1992 | The Fenland Project, 6: The south-western Cambridgeshire Fenlands, EAA, 56 |
|-------------------|--|
| Moloney, C., 1998 | Greys Farm, Chatteris, Cambridgeshire; Archaeological Desk-Top Assessment, Headland Archaeology Client Report |
| Waller, M., 1994 | The Fenland Project, 9: Flandrian Environmental Change in Fenland, EAA, 70 |
| West, S., 1990 | West Stow: The Prehistoric and Roman-British Occupation, E. Anglian Archaeol. 48 |

Appendix 1 The Animal Bone

by Catherine Smith

Two deposits of animal bone were recovered from the excavation: from Contexts 036 (Find No 2) and 003 (Find No 3). Examination of the fragments revealed them to be animal in origin rather than human.

Context 036, Find No 2

One fragment, measuring 30 x 25 x 15 mm, was recovered from this context. The fragment was stained dark brown in colour and had been cut or broken in two directions, probably in antiquity. There was no evidence as to whether the breakage was deliberate or accidental. The bone retained the traces of one articular surface. It was identified as a tarsal, most probably from cattle, and was almost certainly the distal part of an os calcis (also known as the calcaneum), a bone of the hock joint.

Context 003, Find No 3

Three fragments of bone were recovered from this context. The pieces were in poorer condition than that from Context 036. One of the fragments came from a large mammal, most probably cattle, and almost certainly originated from the posterior distal part of the shaft of a right humerus (upper fore limb). This fragment (dimensions $82 \times 41 \times 8$ mm) was stained dark brown and showed some evidence of recent breakage. Although the remaining two fragments did not conjoin, the thickness of their shafts were similar to the main humerus fragment and it is possible that they were part of the same bone (dimensions $58 \times 29 \times 80$ mm and $40 \times 11 \times 9$ mm). The larger of the two remaining fragments showed some evidence of an old break in the sagittal plane, but as with Find No 2, it was not possible to determine whether this had been caused intentionally.

Appendix 2 Assessment of Soil samples from Chatteris Cambridgeshire by Dr T Holden

Method

Fifteen sediment samples were taken for the purposes of assessment. These were submitted to flotation and wet-sieving in a Siraf-style flotation machine. The floating debris (the flot) was collected in a $300\mu m$ sieve and, once dry, scanned using a binocular microscope (Table 1). Residues were wet-sieved down to 1 mm and fully sorted by a trained technician and the results are recorded in Table 2.

Results

Bone preservation proved to be very poor with only four pieces of large mammal bone recovered by hand retrieval from two contexts.

Charcoal was encountered in all except one of the samples. Those with sufficient carbon for an AMS date are highlighted in Table 1. No other identifiable plant remains were recovered but the survival of charcoal indicates that charred cereal grain and other elements would be expected to survive had they been present.

Several features contained deposits of dry and highly humified peat. These are of little value for their macroscopic component but it is possible that pollen may be preserved. Where the samples are well-sealed these could provide useful information regarding the environment in the period during which the peat formed. Any such peat samples that are still wet will be of particular value and should be sampled with monolith tins if possible.

Table 1- Composition of the flots

| Context no. | Sample no. | Flot vol. | Cereal grain | Seed | Chaff | Charco Qty | al AMS | Snail | Comments |
|-------------|------------|----------------|-----------------|------|-------|---------------|-----------|-------|-----------|
| 3 | 1 | <50ml | | | | ++ | * | | 10 |
| 14 | 2 | 50 - 250ml | | | | + | | | Peat-rich |
| 13 | 3 | 250 - 500ml | | | | ++ | * | | Peat-rich |
| 14 | 4 | 50- 250ml | | | | ++++ | * | | Peat-rich |
| 8 | 5 | <50ml | | | | + | | | |
| 9 | 6 | <50ml | | | | + | | | |
| 10 | 7 | <50ml | | | | + | | | |
| 33 | 8 | 50 - 250ml | | | | ++ | * | | |
| 34 | 9 | 50 - 250ml | | | | +++ | * | | |
| 35 | 10 | <50ml | | | | ++ | * | | |
| 47 | 11 | <50ml | | | | ++ | * | | |
| 16 | 12 | 50 - 250ml | | | | ++ | * | | Peat-rich |
| 43 | 13 | <50ml | | | | + | | | |
| 44 | 14 | | | | | | | | No flot |
| 48 | 15 | <50ml | | | | + | | | |

Key: + = rare, ++ = common, +++ = common, ++++ = abundant

^{* =} large enough charred fragments for a radiocarbon date.

Table 2 - Composition of the retents

| Context no. | Sample no. | Ceramic | Charcoal | Bone | Comments |
|-------------|------------|---------|----------|------|------------------------------|
| 3 | 1 | | | | No finds |
| 14 | 2 | | | | Peat |
| 13 | 3 | | | | Peat |
| 14 | 4 | | | | Peat |
| 8 | 5 | | | | No finds |
| 9 | 6 | | | | No finds |
| 10 | 7 | | | | No finds |
| 33 | 8 | | | | Peat |
| 34 | 9 | | | | No finds |
| 35 | 10 | | | | No finds |
| 47 | 11 | | +++ | + | Small fragment of burnt bone |
| 16 | 12 | | | | Peat |
| 43 | 13 | | | | No finds |
| 44 | 14 | | | | No finds |
| 48 | 15 | | | | No finds |

Key: + = rare, ++ = common, +++ = common, ++++ = abundant

Appendix 3 Archive List

| Cont | Context Summary | | | | | | | |
|------------|-----------------|---------|-------------------------------|---|---|--|--|--|
| Cxt No. | Tr No. | Туре | Colour | Inclusions | Comments | | | |
| 001 | 02 | Deposit | Mid-grey brown | Frequent chert/flint, occasional chalk flecks | Sandy loam topsoil, fairly loose in compaction | | | |
| 002 | 02 | Deposit | Light greyish orange | Frequent chert/flint, oxidised stone | Very compact, iron rich, mixed sands and gravels, ploughmarks visible as negative features. Natural subsoil | | | |
| 003 | 02 | Deposit | Light greyish brown | Frequent chert/flint, occasional bone frags, occasional charcoal | Very compact sandy silt. Peculiar iron stains on surface of deposit. Fill of F004 | | | |
| 004 | 02 | Cut | | | Linear, aligned NNE-SSW. V-shaped profile with wide, rounded base | | | |
| 005 | 02 | Deposit | Greyish black | Lenses of orange, iron rich soil | Fill of boundary ditch F006 | | | |
| 006 | 02 | Cut | | | Linear, aligned SW-NE. Gently sloping concave sides and shallow rounded bottom. Boundary ditch | | | |
| 007 | 06 | Deposit | Brownish black | | Loamy peat with high organic content. Topsoil in Trench 6 | | | |
| 800 | 02 | Deposit | Light greyish brown | Frequent chert/flint, occasional charcoal | Fine silty sand, compact. 0.3m deep, upper fill of ditch cut F011 | | | |
| 009 | 02 | Deposit | Grey | Occasional chert/flint | Compact silty clay lense within fill F010 | | | |
| 010 | 02 | Deposit | Orangey brown | Very frequent chert/flint, occasional charcoal | Very compact sandy silt, primary fill of ditch cut F011 | | | |
| 011 | 02 | Cut | | | Linear, aligned NNW-SSE. Steep straight sides breaking gently to wide rounded base | | | |
| 012 | 03 | Cut | | | Cut slopes gently, slightly concave on S side, then breaks sharply to near vertical sides with irregular base sloping up to meet bottom BoS on N side. Re-cut of pit F049 | | | |
| 013 | 03 | Deposit | Mid-light orangey brown | Occasional chert/flint, occasional small stones | Iron rich silty sand, upper fill of pit recut F012 | | | |

| | | | × | | |
|-----|----|---------|---|--|---|
| 014 | 02 | Deposit | Light-mid greyish brown, darker in bottom half of fill | Occasional flint/chert and small stones, becoming more infrequent towards bottom of fill, chalk flecks common | Upper half of fill is dry, friable loamy peat. Bottom half is wetter, plastic loamy peat. Lower fill of pit re-cut F012 |
| 015 | 07 | | Dark brownish black | | Peaty loam with high organic content. Fairly loose. Topsoil in Trench 7 |
| 016 | 07 | Deposit | Brownish black | Flint blade | Dry, friable peat with high organic content, fill of ditch cut F017 |
| 017 | 07 | Cut | | | Linear, N-S aligned, V-shaped profile. Paddock boundary |
| 018 | 02 | Deposit | Orangey brown | Very frequent chert/flint, mineral concretions and Fe staining. Few charcoal | Very dry, concreted sandy silt. Primary fill of ditch cut F004 |
| 019 | 05 | Deposit | Mid brown | | Sandy loam, 0.43m deep. Topsoil in Trench 5 |
| 020 | 05 | Cut | | | Linear, aligned N-S, 0.6m wide by 0.16m deep. Vertical sides and flat base. Modern? |
| 021 | 05 | Deposit | Greyish brown | Moderate flint/chert | Sandy loam, fill of cut F020 |
| 022 | 05 | Cut | | | N-S aligned ditch in trench 5 |
| 023 | 05 | Cut | | | N-S aligned ditch in trench 5 |
| 024 | 05 | Deposit | | , | Fill of ditch cut F022 |
| 025 | 05 | Deposit | | | Fill of ditch cut F023 |
| 026 | 05 | Deposit | Light greyish brown | Moderate flint/chert, occasional charcoal flecks | Dry, compact sandy silt, fill of cut F027 |
| 027 | 05 | Cut | | | Linear, aligned NEE-SWW. V-shaped profile with steep sides with rounded base. |
| 028 | 05 | Cut | Call S | | Curvi-linear aligned N-S. Slightly concave, near vertical sides and rounded base |
| 029 | 05 | Fill | Light yellowish brown | Occasional flint/chert, occasional charcoal flecks | Extremely compact silty clay. Fill of cut F028 |
| 030 | 05 | Cut | | | Curvilinear |

| 031 | 05 | Deposit | | | Fill of F030 |
|-----|----|---------|---|--|---|
| 032 | 07 | Cut | | | Linear, aligned NW-SE. Gently sloping concave sides with flat base. Possibly enclosing ditch for barrow |
| 033 | 07 | Deposit | Dark brownish black | Rare flint/chert and small stones | Fairly loose, friable loamy peat. Upper fill of ditch cut F032 |
| 034 | 07 | Deposit | Light grey | Frequent chert/flint, small stone and chalk flecks | Iron rich sandy silt. Increasing in compaction towards bottom of fill. Secondary fill of cut F032 |
| 035 | 07 | Deposit | Light greyish orange | Frequent small stones and gravel, frequent chert/flint | Iron rich silty sand, very compact. Primary deposit of cut F032. Silting |
| 036 | 08 | Deposit | Light brownish grey | Moderate chert/flint | Fine sandy silt. Upper fill of ditch cut F038 |
| 037 | 08 | Deposit | Light greyish brown | Moderate chert/flint, occasional charcoal flecks | Compact, sandy silt. Iron rich in places. Lower fill of ditch cut F038 |
| 038 | 08 | Cut | | | Linear, N-S aligned. V-shaped in profile. Moderately sloping sides with rounded base |
| 039 | 08 | Deposit | Mixed greyish brown and orange | Moderate chert/flint | Moist, silty sand. Fairly loose. Upper fill of cut F041 |
| 040 | 08 | Deposit | Black | | Loose, peaty loam. Lower fill of cut F041 |
| 041 | 08 | Cut | | | Linear, N-S aligned. U-shaped profile. Near vertical sides with flat base |
| 042 | 08 | Cut | | | Linear, N-S aligned. Only recorded in plan. Similar to F041. Modern? |
| 043 | 07 | Deposit | Light greyish brown | | Loose sandy silt. Primary fill of ditch cut F017 |
| 044 | 07 | Deposit | Mid greyish brown | | Moderately compact, sandy silt. Fill of ditch cut F045 |
| 045 | 07 | Cut | | | Linear, N-S aligned. Concave sides and concave base. |
| 046 | 07 | Cut | | | Circular pit. Concave sides, breaking gently to concave base. |

| 047 | 07 | Deposit | Mid Reddish brown | Frequent charcoal frags, chert/flint and small stones | Coarse, gravelly sand. Heat reddened stones at the edges and high concentration of charcoal in bottom half of fill suggests <i>in situ</i> burnt deposit |
|-----|----|---------|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| 048 | 03 | Deposit | Mottled blueish grey and orange | Occasional charcoal flecks and fragments | Compact clay and sand mix. Primary fill of cut F049 |
| 049 | 03 | Cut | | 4 | Cut is steeply sloping on S side with flat base. N side is gently sloping. Cut by F012 |
| 050 | 03 | Deposit | Mottled, light grey and orange | | Very compact sandy silt. Silting prior to re-cut F012 |

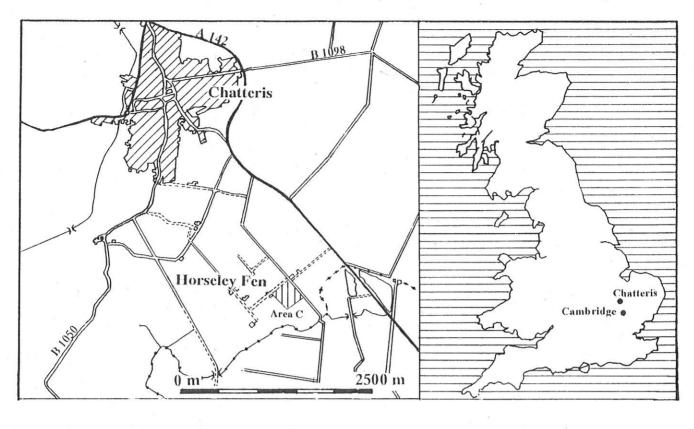
| Drawing L | Drawing List | | | | | |
|-----------|--------------|----------|-------|---|--|--|
| Drg. No | Sheet No | Ctx. No | Scale | Description | | |
| 001 | 01 | 004 | 1:10 | S-Facing section through ditch cut F004 | | |
| 002 | 01 | 004 | 1:20 | Plan of ditch cut F004 | | |
| 003 | 01 | 011 | 1:10 | S-Facing section through cut F011 | | |
| 004 | 02 | 049 | 1:20 | Pre-ex plan of pit F049 | | |
| 005 | 03 | 012 | 1:10 | NW-Facing section through pit re-cut F012 | | |
| 006 | 04 | 028 | 1:10 | E-Facing section through cut F028 | | |
| 007 | 04 | 038 | 1:10 | S-Facing section through cut F038 | | |
| 008 | 04 | 046 | 1:20 | Plan of pit F046 | | |
| 009 | 04 | 046 | 1:10 | W-Facing section through pit F046 | | |
| 010 | 04 | 027 | 1:10 | SW-Facing section through cut F027 | | |
| 011 | 04 | 020 | 1:10 | S-Facing section through cut F020 | | |
| 012 | 04 | 041 | 1:10 | S-Facing section through cut F041 | | |
| 013 | 05 | 017& 045 | 1:10 | S-Facing section through cut F017 & F045 | | |
| 014 | 06 | 032 | 1:10 | SE-Facing section through ditch cut F032 | | |
| 015 | 06 | 049 | 1:10 | E-Facing section through pit cut F049 and re-cut F012 | | |

| Finds List | | | | | | |
|------------|--------|------|--|--|--|--|
| Find No | Cxt No | Qtty | Description | | | |
| 01 | 016 | 1 | Greyish brown flint blade, 30mm long by 15mm wide and 2mm thick. Ventral retouch along left and right hand sides. Ripple lines visible on dorsal face. | | | |
| 02 | 036 | 1 | Anima bone fragment | | | |
| 03 | 003 | 3 | Animal bone fragments | | | |

| Photo List | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|--|----------------------|----------|------------------|--|--|
| Shot Description Number | | Direction taken from | Initials | Number of frames | | |
| 1 | General shot of trench 1 | S | IS | 2 | | |
| 2 | Ditch 004 | Е | AHB | 2 | | |
| 3 | Trench 2/3 intersection after cleaning | N | IS | 2 | | |
| 4 | Ditch 011 | Е | AHB | 1 | | |
| 5 | Ditch 011 | S | AHB | 2 | | |
| 6 | SW facing section of 012 | SW | IS | 1 | | |
| 7 | NE facing section of 012 | NE | ME | 1 | | |
| 8 | Section through ditch 006 | S | СМ | 1 | | |
| 9 | Ditch 004 | S | AHB | 1 | | |
| 10 | Ploughmarks | Е | AHB | 2 | | |
| 11 | Ditch 027 | W | AHB | 2 | | |
| 12 | Ploughmarks | S | AHB | 2 | | |
| 13 | Trench 5 Ringditch 028 | S | CM | 1 | | |
| 14 | Ditch 031 | S | CM | 1 | | |
| 15 | Ditch 20 | N | CM | 1 | | |
| 16 | Ditches 20, 22, 23 | Е | CM | 1 | | |
| 17 | Ditch 32 | SE | IS | 1 | | |
| 18 | Ditch 32 | NW | IS | 1 | | |
| 19 | Ditch 038 | S | AHB | 2 | | |
| 20 | Ditch 038 | SE | AHB | 1 | | |
| 21 | Ditch 041 | S | AHB | 2 | | |

| 22 | Ditch 042 | S | AHB | 2 |
|----|-----------------------------------|----|-----|---|
| 23 | Pit 012 | S | AHB | 2 |
| 24 | Working Shots | sw | CM | 3 |
| 25 | Ditches 17 and 43 | S | CM | 2 |
| 26 | Ditches 17 and 43 | N | CM | 1 |
| 27 | Section through ditches 17 and 43 | S | CM | 2 |
| 28 | Burnt deposit in small pit | W | IS | 2 |

| Sample Li | Sample List | | | | | |
|--------------|---------------|-------------------------|----------------------|--|--|--|
| Sample No | Context No | Quantity (in litres) | Description | | | |
| 1 | 3 | 10L | Ditch fill | | | |
| 2 | 14 | 10L | Dessicated peat | | | |
| 3 | 13 | 10L | Iron rich silty sand | | | |
| 4 | 14 | 10L | Plastic loamy peat | | | |
| 5 | 8 | 10L | Ditch fill | | | |
| 6 | 9 | 10L | Ditch fill | | | |
| 7 | 10 | 10L | Ditch fill | | | |
| 8 | 33 | 10L | Ditch fill | | | |
| 9 | 34 | 10L | Ditch fill | | | |
| 10 | 35 | 10L | Ditch fill | | | |
| 11 | 47 | 10L | Post hole fill | | | |
| 12 | 16 | 10L | Ditch fill | | | |
| 13 | 43 | 10L | Ditch fill | | | |
| 14 | 44 | 10L | Ditch fill | | | |
| 15 | 48 | 10L | Ditch fill | | | |



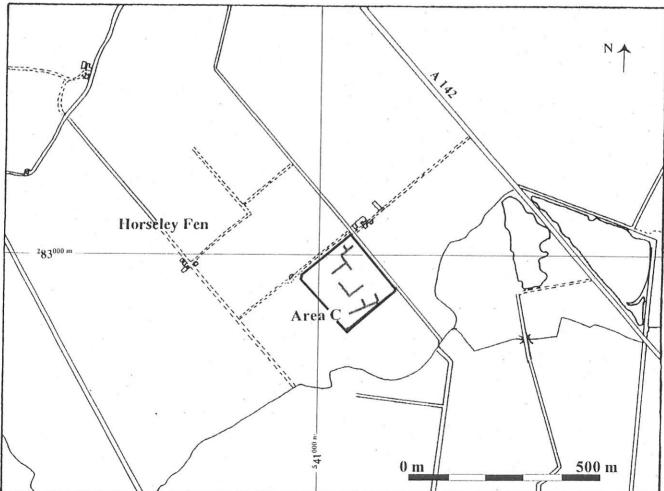


Figure 1: Site location maps.

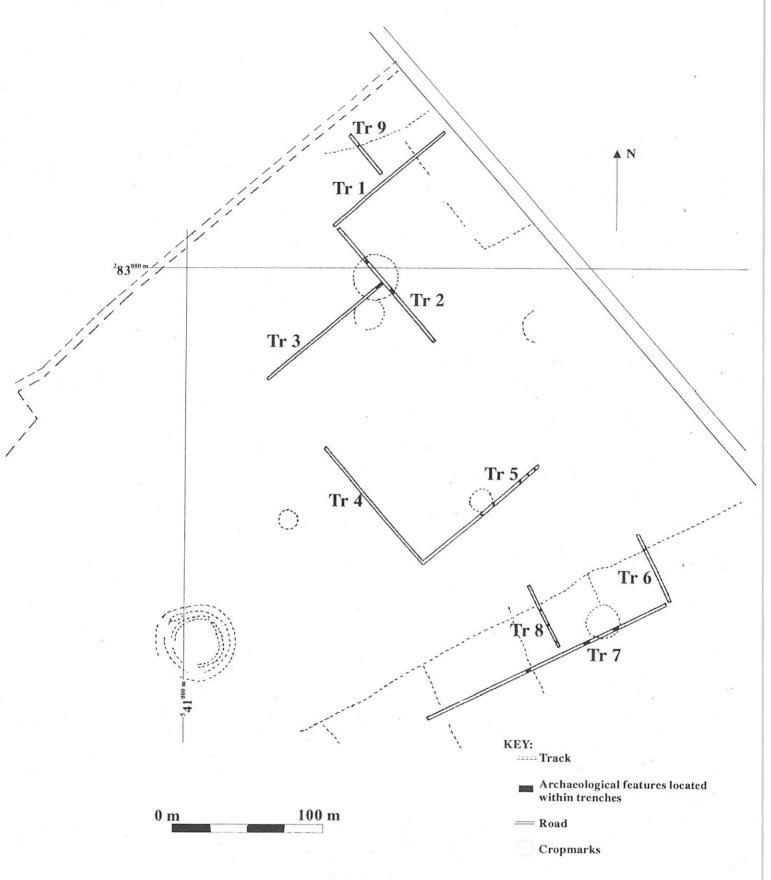


Figure 2: Location of the machine cut trenches in area C Scale 1:2500

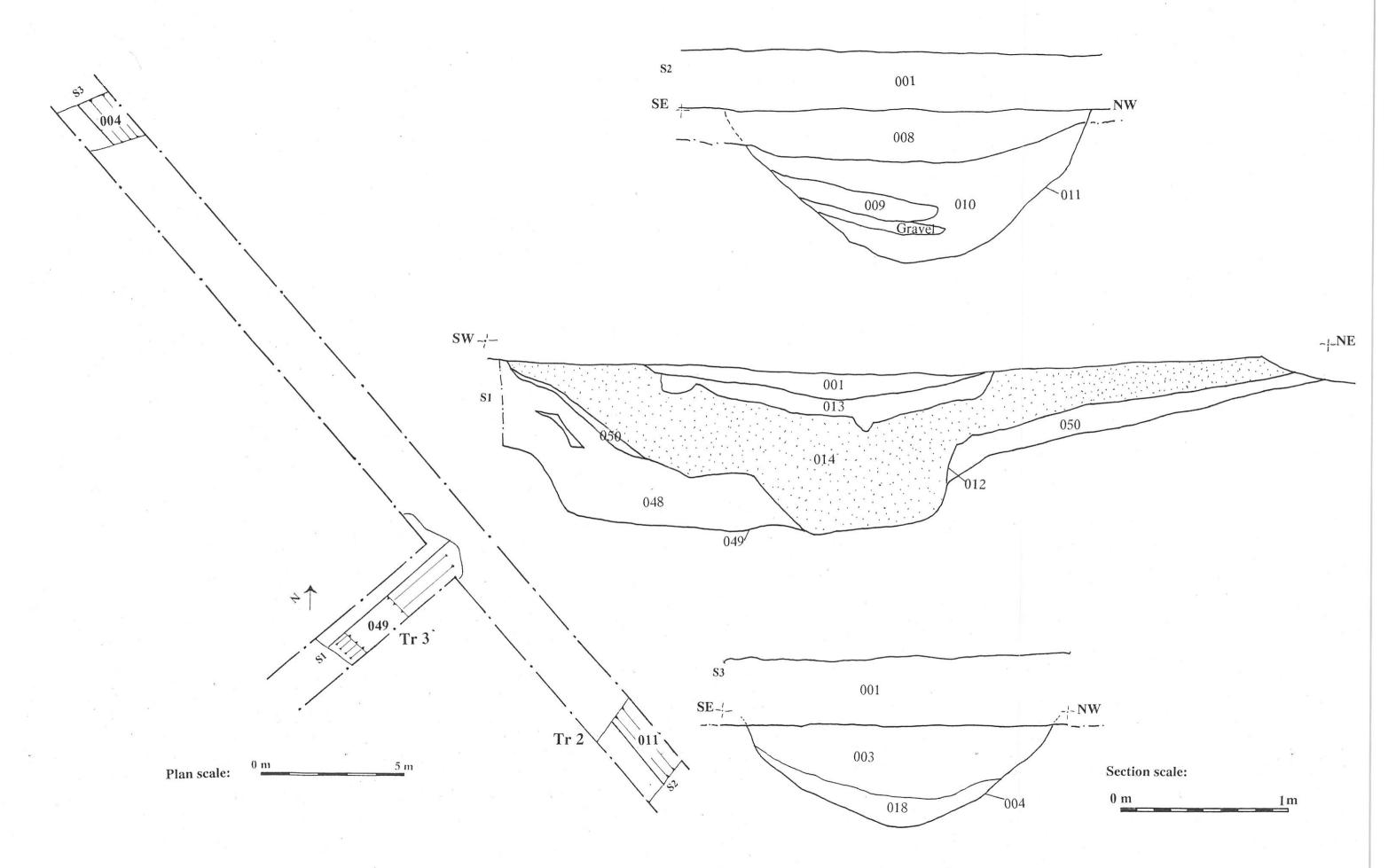
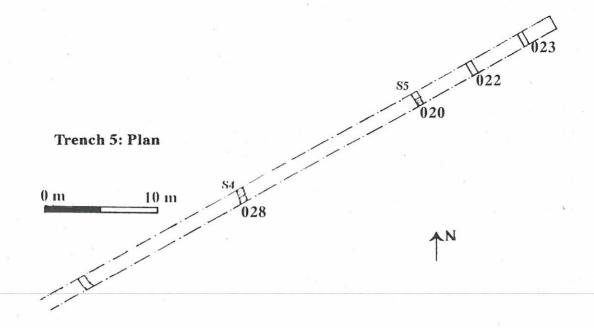


Figure 3: Features located in trenches 2 and 3.



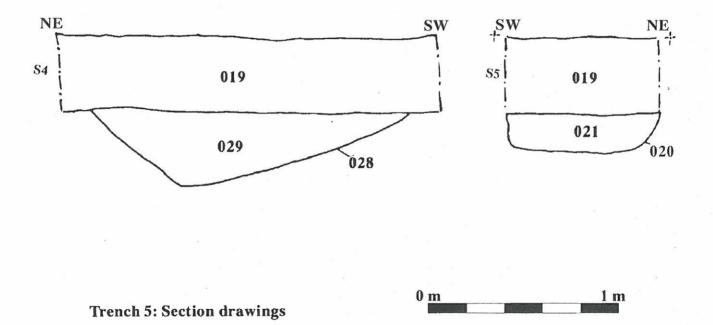


Figure 4: Features located in trench 5.

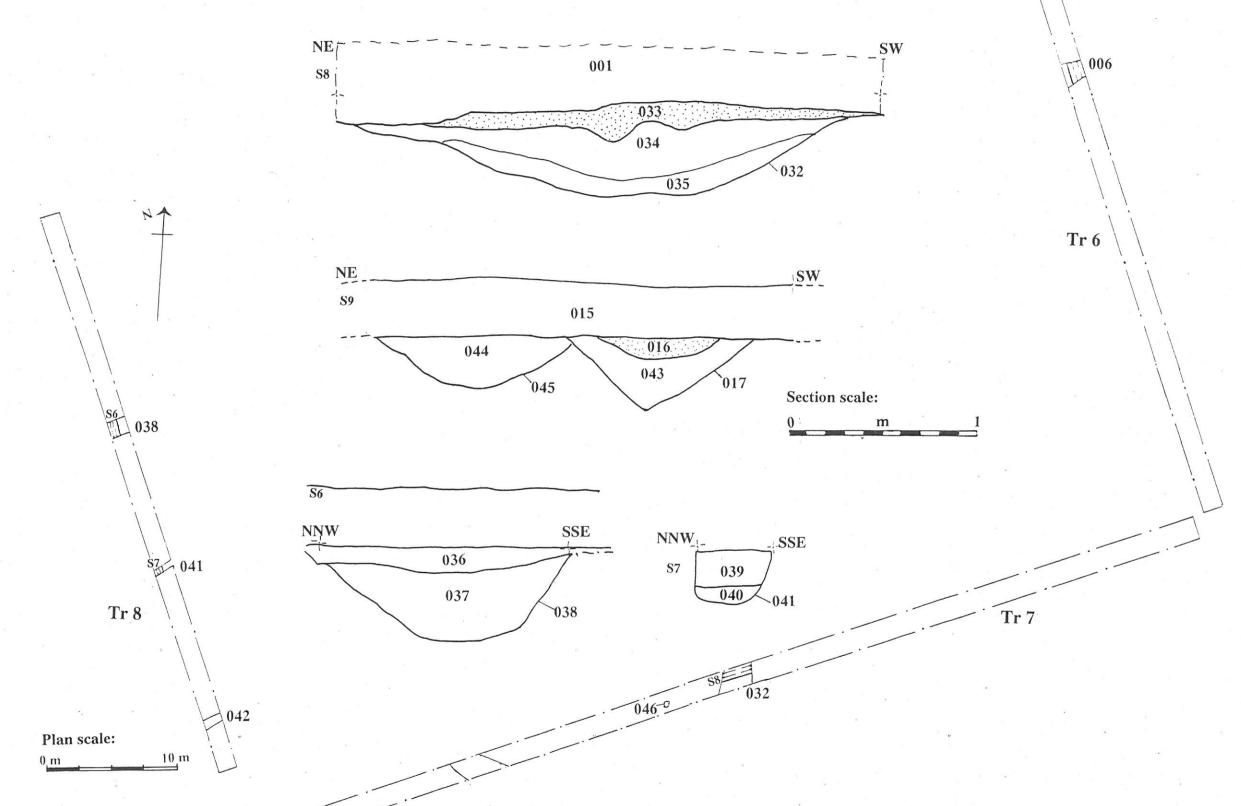


Figure 5: Features located in trenches 6, 7 and 8.

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