



## Land East of Wall Garden Farm, London Borough of Hillingdon

Post-Excavation Assessment Report

Planning Reference:3952/APP/2008/1176



Ref: 59705.01

Museum of London Site Code: WGA 07

December 2009

**Land East of Wall Garden Farm,  
London Borough of Hillingdon:  
Post-Excavation Assessment Report**

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**Planning reference: 3952/APP/2008/1176**

**Ref: 59705.1**

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# **Land East of Wall Garden Farm, London Borough of Hillingdon: Post-Excavation Assessment Report**

## **Summary**

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Henry Streeter (Sand and Ballast) Ltd (HSL) through their agent, the Guildhouse Consultancy, to undertake an archaeological excavation in advance of sand and gravel extraction on c. 4 hectares of land centred on NGR 508600 178200, in the London Borough of Hillingdon. The Site, which lies south of the M4 motorway and east of Wall Garden Farm, is situated immediately east of the existing workings at RMC Land, Harlington. The potential of the Site was established by an archaeological evaluation in 2007, as well as by the results of the adjacent excavations of RMC Land.

This document provides an interim statement and assessment of the combined stratigraphical, finds and environmental results of the evaluation and excavation (both carried out under Museum of London site code WGA 07), with provisional conclusions on the phasing and dating of the archaeological remains. It assesses the potential of the evidence and provides details for a costed programme of limited further analysis of elements of the finds and environmental evidence.

A range of archaeological features was encountered across the Site. Features were exposed after the removal of c. 0.5m of topsoil and subsoil, and cut the natural brickearth, a few also cutting the underlying gravels. The density of features varied, with the highest concentrations in the central and northern areas of the Site. Features have been phased on the basis of their artefactual contents, stratigraphical relationships and spatial associations, and in some cases this phasing is tentative. The majority of the features appear to be of late Saxon/early medieval date (10th/11th century), with a much smaller number phased to the Neolithic, late prehistoric, Romano-British, early/middle Saxon and post-medieval periods. A significant number of features remain unphased.

Prehistoric features included Neolithic pits, and part of the late prehistoric field system, recorded more widely across the landscape, with associated pits. A number of ditches may date to the Romano-British period, although it is possible that the small quantities of Romano-British pottery recovered from them are residual. A small number of pits and ditches suggest activity in the early/middle Saxon period, but the level of activity increases substantially in the late Saxon/early medieval period, when an extensive field system was laid out across the northern part of the Site, associated with further pits, wells and a waterhole. Unphased features include a small rectangular post-built structure.

The dates, distribution, nature, form and contents of the features recorded on the Site appear almost wholly consistent with, and represent an eastern continuation of, those recorded more extensively to the west on RMC Land, as well as to the south at Imperial College Sports Ground. As a result, it is proposed that the combined results of the evaluation and excavation of the Site are incorporated within the Wessex Archaeology monograph currently in preparation, which presents the combined results of the excavations at RMC Land and Imperial College Sports Ground.

# **Land East of Wall Garden Farm, London Borough of Hillingdon: Post-Excavation Assessment Report**

## **Acknowledgements**

Wessex Archaeology is grateful to Henry Streeter (Sand and Ballast) Ltd for commissioning the work and to their consultant Adrian Havercroft of the Guildhouse Consultancy for his assistance. Monitoring of the works on behalf of the Mineral Planning Authority, the London Borough of Hillingdon, was undertaken by Kim Stabler of GLAAS (English Heritage), whose advice is acknowledged. Thanks are also due to John Wyatt, quarry manager, for his invaluable practical assistance.

The fieldwork was directed by John Martin (Project Officer) assisted by Becky Fitzpatrick, Neil Fitzpatrick, Tom Wells, Darryl Freer, Daniel Joyce, Matthew Kendal and Piotr Orcewzski. The site was surveyed by Darryl Freer.

This report was written by John Martin and Andrew Powell with contributions by Lorraine Mephram (finds), Philippa Bradley (worked and burnt flint), Jessica Grimm (animal bone) and Chris Stevens (environmental remains). The environmental samples were processed by Marta Perez-Fernandez. They were assessed by Sarah F. Wyles. Soils and sediments (including requirement and sampling for micro-fossils) were assessed by David Norcott. The illustrations were prepared by Rob Goller. The project was managed for Wessex Archaeology by Paul McCulloch and Alistair Barclay.

# Land East of Wall Garden Farm, London Borough of Hillingdon: Post-Excavation Assessment Report

## 1 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Project background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Henry Streeter (Sand and Ballast) Ltd (HSL) through their agent, the Guildhouse Consultancy, to undertake an archaeological excavation in advance of sand and gravel extraction on c. 4 hectares of land centred on NGR 508600 178200, in the London Borough of Hillingdon (hereafter 'the Site') (**Fig. 1**).

1.1.2 HSL was granted planning permission for mineral extraction at the Site by the Mineral Planning Authority (MPA) – the London Borough of Hillingdon – in December 2008 (Planning reference 3952/APP/2008/1176). Planning permission is subject to an archaeological condition (22) following advice from the Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service (GLAAS), a part of English Heritage. The condition states:

*'No development shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Thereafter development shall only take place in accordance with the approved scheme. The archaeological works shall be carried out by a suitably qualified body acceptable to the Local Planning Authority.'*

1.1.3 That advice was based on the results of an archaeological evaluation of the Site, comprising ten trenches (Trenches 1-9 and 11) which established the Site's archaeological potential (Wessex Archaeology 2007) (**Fig. 1**).

1.1.4 The excavation was carried out in accordance with a project design prepared by Wessex Archaeology (Wessex Archaeology 2009), which was submitted to and approved by GLAAS on behalf of the MPA. The work comprised continuous observation of mechanical stripping, detailed mapping of archaeological features and their excavation. This work followed on from, and was located to the immediate east of RMC Land Phase 5 North. The work was carried out between June and September 2009.

1.1.5 This document provides an interim statement and assessment of the combined results of the evaluation and excavation (both carried out under Museum of London site code WGA 07), with provisional conclusions on the phasing and dating of the archaeological remains. Finds and environmental samples are also assessed.

## 1.2 Site location, geology, topography and landuse

1.2.1 The Site lies immediately west of the historic village of Harlington, south of the M4 motorway, and east of the area of existing mineral extraction at RMC Land (**Fig. 1**). It lies on gravel forming the Taplow Gravel Terrace, which is overlain by 'brickearth', a silty sand deposit up to 2m thick, more formally referred to as the Langley Silt Complex. The Site is broadly level, rising imperceptibly from 25.7m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) at the northeast to 26.5m aOD at the southwest corner. Prior to excavation the bulk of the land had been used for pasture and was divided into a series of small paddocks.

## 1.3 Archaeological background

1.3.1 The archaeological background to the Site was comprehensively described in the desk-based assessment prepared by the Guildhouse Consultancy (2006) and was summarised, along with the results of the archaeological evaluation (Wessex Archaeology 2007), in the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (Guildhouse Consultancy 2009).

1.3.2 During the evaluation, archaeological features were revealed in seven of the ten trenches. They included ditches, pits and postholes that appeared, on the basis of the small number of finds, to date from the Neolithic to the medieval period (**Figs 2 and 3**). The dating, distribution, density, character and quality of survival of the archaeological features were consistent with the results of the excavations at RMC Land, as was the potential of the environmental remains. No significant evidence was found for a late Saxon, medieval or post-medieval focus related to the settlement of Harlington, to the east of the Site.

1.3.3 There appeared to be a greater density of archaeological features in the northern half of the Site, which included a relatively large curvilinear feature, possibly a section of an enclosure ditch that contained significant quantities of Late Bronze Age pottery. The presence of a coherent monument, as may be represented by the possible enclosure ditch, could suggest a focus to the wider distribution of features of a similar date known to the west of the Site and, as such, was judged to be of significance.

1.3.4 Given all the available information, the archaeological potential of the Site was summarised in the Project Design (**Table 1**).

**Table 1:** Summary of archaeological potential of the Site

Period	Potential	Nature
Palaeolithic	Very low	Deposits and finds
Mesolithic	Low	Deposits and finds
Neolithic, Early/Middle Bronze Age	Very high	Including discrete pits/groups; Medium – discrete ?ritual monuments
Later Bronze Age – Iron Age	Very high	
Late Iron Age – Romano-British	Very high	Medium – high – discrete foci
Early Anglo-Saxon	Medium high	
Late Anglo-Saxon/Early medieval	Very high	
Medieval	Very high	
Post-medieval	Medium	Eastern margins, low elsewhere
Environmental Remains	Medium-high	Discrete features



## 2 AIMS AND METHODS

### 2.1 Aims and objectives

2.1.1 The objective of the excavation was to enhance understanding of the organisational history and spatial distribution of human activity within the landscape with particular reference to the Middle Thames Valley. Five broad research themes were presented in the Project Design:

- The archaeology and environment during the Middle and Late Pleistocene (Lower to Upper Palaeolithic; 500,000-10,000 BC);
- Archaeology and environment during the transition between the Late Pleistocene and early Holocene epochs (i.e. Late Glacial to Early Post-Glacial transition; Late Upper Palaeolithic/Mesolithic; 12,000-8,500 BC);
- Development of the organised landscape during the Neolithic (4,000-2,400 BC) and Early Bronze Age (2,400-1,500 BC);
- Development of the settled landscape. Middle Bronze Age (1,500-1,100 BC) to Iron Age (700 BC-AD 43);
- Development of rural settlement in the hinterland of London. Romano-British (AD 43-410) to post-medieval (AD 1500- present).

2.1.2 The principal aim of the fieldwork was to record all significant archaeological deposits/features through hand excavation and appropriate artefact and ecofact sampling strategies, thus enabling an interpretation and understanding of the social structure and exploitation of the landscape. The fieldwork aimed to ascertain the range of past activities, and specifically whether the evidence suggests transient human activity, domestic/settled occupation, burial, industry, agriculture, ritual/ceremonial and/or combinations of these. Linked to this, the fieldwork aimed to recover stratified assemblages of artefacts and ecofacts which are capable of analysis and research to assist in determining the date and function of the Site during different periods.

2.1.3 Analysis of environmental data aimed to address the relationship between man and his contemporaneous environment, including man's responses to the local environment and the effects of human habitation and exploitation of the landscape on local environmental conditions.

### 2.2 Methods

2.2.1 The main excavation area comprised a subrectangular parcel of land measuring c. 212 m north-south by 60m east-west (**Fig. 1**). It was bounded to the north by the M4 (and a stand off for a Gas Main), and to the east by a soil bund that protected the Sipson North East extension sewer (SIPNE). The western side of the Site extended approximately 10m into RMC Land, following the line of a bund marking the edge of the present quarry face. At the southwest of the Site, this 10m wide strip turned west then south, following the northern and western boundaries of a paddock at the southwest.

- 2.2.2 The excavation area covered only the northwestern part of the area evaluated, and incorporated the location of a single evaluation trench (Tr. 1) (**Fig. 2**). The paddock at the southwest, which is proposed for future extraction, will be subject to a forthcoming excavation.
- 2.2.3 The topsoil and subsoil overburden were removed by HSL using a 360° tracked excavator under archaeological supervision to the surface of undisturbed geological deposits or the level at which archaeological features could be identified. Generally this equated to the surface of the undisturbed brickearth c. 0.5 m below the modern ground surface.
- 2.2.4 The Site boundary and archaeological features were tied to the Ordnance Survey National Grid using a GPS unit. All survey, plan and contour data was collected using an on-site Total Station, for production of digitised mapping and plotting via AutoCAD.
- 2.2.5 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* recording system. A sample of natural features, such as tree-throw holes, was excavated. The context number sequence was a continuation of that used at RMC Land. All site plans were drawn at a minimum scale of 1:100, detail plans at 1:20, and sections were drawn at 1:10. A full photographic record was maintained using colour transparencies, black and white negatives (on 35mm film) and digital format.

### **3 RESULTS**

#### **3.1 Introduction**

- 3.1.1 A range of archaeological features was encountered across the Site; these include ditches, gullies, pits, postholes, tree-throw holes and a waterhole. The density of features varied, with the highest concentrations in the central and northern areas. Features have been phased on the basis of their artefactual contents, stratigraphical relationships and spatial associations; in some cases their phasing is tentative. The majority of the features appear to be of late Saxon/early medieval date, with a much smaller number phased to the Neolithic, late prehistoric, Romano-British, early/middle Saxon and post-medieval periods. A number of features remain unphased.
- 3.1.2 Prehistoric and Romano-British features are shown on **Fig. 2**. Saxon and later (and undated) features are shown on **Fig. 3**, with detail of the northern part of the Site in **Fig. 4**.

#### **3.2 Deposit sequence**

- 3.2.1 The topsoil was a dark greyish brown silty clay loam with rare, small, rounded and sub-rounded flint inclusions. This overlay the upper subsoil which was pale orange brown silty clay with rare small flint inclusions. Archaeological features became visible below this upper subsoil layer. Together the topsoil and subsoil were approximately 0.5m thick.
- 3.2.2 The natural geology was a 2-3m thick, orange brown silty clay brickearth with rare small flint inclusions, which overlay gravel deposits.

#### **3.3 Neolithic**

- 3.3.1 Neolithic activity is indicated by small quantities of Neolithic pottery (42 sherds) and struck flint, some of it residual in later features. Only five features are identified as of probable or possible Neolithic date (**Fig. 2**).
- 3.3.2 Pit **7217**, in the northeast corner of the Site, measured c. 0.8m in diameter and 0.1m deep and had a single fill (**7218**) that contained 12 pieces of struck flint, including a scraper and two serrated flakes. It is similar in form to the Neolithic pits encountered on RMC Land.
- 3.3.3 Pit **4003**, recorded in evaluation Trench 4 to the east of the main excavation area, measured c. 1.6m wide and 0.3m deep. Its single fill (**4004**) contained 16 sherds of Neolithic pottery.
- 3.3.4 Pit **9006**, recorded during evaluation Trench 9, southeast of the main excavation area, measured c. 0.4m in diameter and 0.2m deep. Its single fill (**9007**) produced one sherd of Neolithic pottery.
- 3.3.5 A larger, sub-oval pit (**7177**), measuring c. 2.1m by 1.4m and 1.2m deep, was located in an isolated position on the south western edge of the Site. It contained a sequence of 15 fills, two of which, near the top of the pit, produced dating evidence; fill **7190** contained three sherds of Neolithic pottery, with a further sherd and a serrated flint flake being recovered from fill **7191** (**Fig. 5**). The feature is significantly larger than the many Neolithic pits recorded on RMC Land, but is comparable in size and form to a number of other features of uncertain date on that site. The absence of later material in these features means that a Neolithic date cannot be ruled out, although a late prehistoric date is also possible.
- 3.3.6 In addition, a tree-throw hole (**7287**) near the centre of the Site contained four sherds of Neolithic pottery and burnt flint, and tree-throw hole **9020** (in evaluation Trench 9) contained five sherds of Neolithic pottery and 32 pieces of struck flint.
- 3.3.7 Among the finds in later features were three chisel arrowheads recovered from ditches **7622**, **7866** and **9018** (in evaluation Trench 9), all probably forming part of the late prehistoric field system (below). It is possible that these objects were residual finds; alternatively, they may have been collected, curated and deliberately deposited.

### **3.4 Late prehistoric**

- 3.4.1 Late prehistoric activity, probably spanning the Middle Bronze Age to Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age, is indicated by a range of features, including ditches forming part of a field system, pits and waterholes/wells (**Fig. 2**), as well as by an assemblage of late prehistoric pottery (217 sherds).

#### *Field system*

- 3.4.2 Although ditches of many phases were recorded on the Site, it has been possible to identify a number as belonging to an extensive, late prehistoric, rectilinear field system, both on stratigraphic and artefactual grounds and by their relationship to the field system ditches recorded immediately to the west on RMC Land. The main axes of the field system in this area are orientated approximately north-south and east-west.

- 3.4.3 A number of the ditches, most less than 1m wide and 0.4m deep, form the eastern part of a field or enclosure, previously recorded in RMC Land 5 North, with overall dimensions of c. 60m east-west by 44m north-south. These included ditches **7852** on the north side, ditch **7862** at the curved northeastern corner, ditches **7876-7** on the east side and by ditches **7864-6** on the south side.
- 3.4.4 On the east side, narrow and shallow ditch **7877** became wider (c. 1.3m) and deeper (c. 0.6m) towards its northern terminus, perhaps forming a sump, this section (**7450**) having four fills containing struck flint, burnt flint, and flecks of charcoal and fired clay; fill **7452** produced 17 sherds of late prehistoric pottery.
- 3.4.5 Gaps in these ditches may result from truncation by later ploughing and machine stripping, although some gaps, as at the southeastern corner of the field and just south of the northeastern corner (where the ditches are slightly offset), may indicate access points between adjacent fields. The gap on the east side was c. 6.6m wide, and a ditch (**7868**) running east from close to its north side, represents a continuation of the field system to the east, with another possible access point to the north. A parallel but unphased gully (**7869**) on the southern side of ditch **7868** is probably contemporary.
- 3.4.6 To the south of the field, a short ditch (**7860**) terminating 4.4m from the western edge of the Site appears to be a continuation of another field system ditch in RMC Land. Its terminus contained burnt flint but no dating evidence.
- 3.4.7 A number of short ditch segments (**7622** and **7886**) to the south may represent the southward continuation of the field's eastern side, while others further to the south (**7787**, **7890** and **7893**), including in evaluation Trench 9 (**9018**) also have a similar orientation to the field system.
- 3.4.8 Three shallow ditches in the southeast corner of the Site, **7895** and **7896** lying parallel aligned east-west, and **7897** aligned north-south at their eastern ends, appear to form the corner of another field or enclosure. Ditches **7896** and **7897** each contained one struck flint.
- 3.4.9 In the southwestern extension of the Site, north-south ditch **7899** was a continuation of the field system recorded in RMC Land Phase 5 South. It was c. 0.6m wide and 0.14m deep, and contained one piece of struck flint. Similarly, east-west ditch **7120** was a continuation of the field system recorded in RMC Land Phase 4 South; it was c. 0.4m wide and 0.3m deep, and contained three residual Neolithic sherds.
- 3.4.10 Finds from the ditches included late prehistoric (and earlier) pottery and struck and burnt flint. Most of the Neolithic finds from the ditches are likely to be residual, although the recovery of three Neolithic chisel arrowheads (see 3.3.7 above) suggest that some objects may have been collected, curated and deliberately deposited.
- Curved ditch*
- 3.4.11 A distinctly curved ditch (**2004**), orientated approximately east-west, was recorded at the northeast of the Site, in evaluation Trench 2. It was c. 1.2m wide and 0.5m deep, with three fills, the uppermost of which (**2005**) contained 132 sherds of Late Bronze Age pottery, by far the largest assemblage of prehistoric pottery recovered from a single feature from the

Site. The curvature of the ditch contrasts with the ditches of the rectilinear field system, suggesting some other function, possibly part of a rounded enclosure. It was not possible to investigate the area south of the trench, as this area is to remain unextracted. However, the ditch was not recorded in Trench 3 to the southeast.

#### *Other features*

- 3.4.12 A number of pits and a tree-throw hole also produced late prehistoric pottery. Pit **7004** (evaluation Trench 7), at the southeast of the Site, was c. 0.8m in diameter and 0.2m deep. Its two fills contained 11 sherds of late prehistoric pottery, fired clay, struck flint and burnt flint.
- 3.4.13 Pit **7292**, to the immediate southwest of the main excavation area, was sub-oval in plan with stepped sides, measuring c. 2.4m by 1.9m wide and 0.8m deep (**Fig. 5**). It had seven fills, fill **7296** containing 14 sherds of late prehistoric pottery, a fragment of fired clay, a struck flint and two pieces of burnt flint, and fill **7299** containing four sherds of late prehistoric pottery.
- 3.4.14 Pit **7254**, close to the western edge of the Site, was c. 0.7m in diameter and 0.2m deep. It single fill (**7255**) contained one sherd of late prehistoric pottery. It cut sub-oval pit **7256**, which measured c. 1.7m by 1.2m wide and was 0.4m deep, and which produced struck and burnt flint but no chronologically diagnostic finds.
- 3.4.15 Pit **7316**, in the southwest corner of the identifiable field/enclosure, was oval in plan, measuring c. 1.2m by 0.9m and 0.25m deep. Its two fills appear to represent the deliberate backfilling with hearth waste, the upper fill (**7318**) containing one sherd of pottery that could only be assigned a prehistoric date, along with burnt flint and quantities of charcoal.
- 3.4.16 Subcircular pit **7405**, east of the identifiable field/enclosure, measured c. 1.7m by 1.6m and 0.4m deep (**Fig. 5**). Its two fills (**7406** and **7407**) contained one sherd of late prehistoric pottery, fired clay, struck flint, burnt flint, animal bone and charcoal. Environmental sampling revealed small quantities of cereals including spelt, hulled wheat, and barley grain fragments.
- 3.4.17 Sub-oval pit **7454**, situated near the centre of the identifiable field/enclosure, and cut on its western edge by modern hedge line **7859**, measured c. 1.6m by 0.6m and 0.8m deep. It had seven fills and produced late prehistoric pottery, struck flint, burnt flint, animal bone and charcoal flecks. One fill (**7456**) contained a serrated or retouched flake.
- 3.4.18 Sub-oval pit **7668**, near the eastern side of the main excavation area, measured c. 1.1m by 0.6m and 0.3m deep. One of its three fills (**7671**) contained two sherds of late prehistoric pottery, struck flint and burnt flint. It was cut by the terminus of possible early/middle Saxon ditch **7858**.
- 3.4.19 Two other pits in this area, both containing struck and burnt flint, may be of this general date. Pit **7513** was c. 0.8m in diameter and 0.1m deep and, to its southeast, oval pit **7632** measured c. 1.3m by 0.9m and 0.2m deep.

### **3.5 Romano British**

- 3.5.1 A low level of Romano-British activity on the Site is suggested by the small pottery assemblage (34 sherds), and only seven features (two ditches, three

pits and a tree-throw hole) can be very tentatively dated to this period. Although none of the sections through these feature produced more than two small sherds of pottery, which may prove to be residual, five of the features have stratigraphic relationships with other features that are not inconsistent with this phasing.

#### *Ditches*

- 3.5.2 Two ditches in the eastern part of the main excavation area may belong to this phase. L-shaped ditch (**7888**) ran west for 10.7m from the eastern side of the Site, then north for a further 16.3m. It may represent the truncated remnants of a rectangular field/enclosure. It produced a single sherd of Romano-British pottery (from section **7725**). At the north it petered out, rather than terminated, immediately to the south of late Saxon/early medieval ditch **7861**, and it was cut by another late Saxon/early medieval ditch (**7887**).
- 3.5.3 To its immediate northeast, and close to the eastern side of the main excavation area, ditch **7883** ran north-south for 19.8m. It had a slightly irregular line and varied considerably in width and depth. It contained two sherds of Romano-British pottery and an iron object (**SF 13022**), perhaps a small hook or a bent nail. This section was c. 1.m wide and 1m deep, over twice the width and depth of other excavated sections, and may have functioned as a sump. The ditch cut through a short, unphased east-west ditch (**7884**) and was cut at its northern end by a post-medieval ditch (**7882**).

#### *Other features*

- 3.5.4 Three further sherds of Romano-British pottery were recovered from two pits in evaluation Trench 3, one from pit **3004**, and two from pit **3016**.
- 3.5.5 A kidney-shaped feature (**7025**), possibly a tree-throw hole, in the northwest corner of the Site measured c. 1.5m by 1m and 0.9m deep. It contained a single sherd of Romano-British pottery, along with burnt flint, animal bone and charcoal. However, it was one of a loose cluster of mostly unphased pits in this area and it is possible that the sherd is residual.
- 3.5.6 A tree-throw hole (**7238**) on the western boundary of the Site contained one sherd of Romano-British pottery (fill **7240**). It was cut on its south side by late Saxon/early medieval ditch **7861**.

### **3.6 Early/middle Saxon**

- 3.6.1 Four ditches, four pits and a posthole have been tentatively assigned an early/middle Saxon date (**Fig. 4**).

#### *Ditches*

- 3.6.2 Ditch (**7856**), a 15m long curvilinear feature recorded close to the western boundary of the Site, curved from a terminus at the west towards northeast where it was cut by modern hedge line **7859**. It was c. 0.9m wide and 0.3m deep, and its single fill contained one early/middle Saxon sherd and one Romano-British sherd. It was cut by late Saxon/early medieval ditch **7855**.
- 3.6.3 To its immediate northwest was another slightly curving ditch (**7853**), running northwest from the western side of the Site for c. 12m. Although its fills, which produced fired clay, burnt flint and animal bone, contained no firm dating evidence, its similarity to ditch **7856** suggests that the two may have been associated, perhaps defining a small semi-enclosed area.

- 3.6.4 To the south of these ditches, ditch **7858** ran on a curving line from the western side of the Site and terminated close to the eastern side of the main excavation area. It cut late prehistoric field system ditch **7865** and late prehistoric pit **7668**. It also cut a tree-throw hole (**7332**) containing early/middle Saxon pottery, but was cut by late Saxon/early medieval ditches **7878** and **7879**. Although two sherds of Romano-British pottery were recovered from section **7161**, it is provisionally assigned to this period on the basis of its stratigraphical relationships and its possible spatial association with ditches **7856** and **7853**. A short ditch (**7863**) ran south from near its western end, but their stratigraphic relationship is unclear.
- 3.6.5 A 8.3m length of ditch (**7857**), parallel to and immediately north of the western end of ditch **7858**, may be associated with it, although it contained only a single struck flint.

*Other features*

- 3.6.6 Three intercutting pits (**7549**, **7556** and **7558**) and a posthole (**7547**) were situated on the eastern edge of the main excavation area towards the northwest corner. The largest, subcircular, pit (**7549**) cut pits **7556** and **7558** and was cut in turn by late Saxon/early medieval ditch **7873**. Only part of the southern edge and base of pit **7556** remained, indicating that it was a steep sided, sub-oval feature, c. 0.7m wide and 0.3m deep; no finds were recovered from the surviving basal fill. Subcircular pit **7558**, cut on its northern edge by pit **7549**, was c. 1.4m in diameter and 0.45m deep. It contained burnt flint and charcoal but no pottery, although a small fragment of sheet iron (**SF 13019**) was recovered from fill **7559**. Pit **7549** was c. 2.5m in diameter and 0.8m, and contained two sherds of early/middle Saxon pottery, burnt flint, animal bone and charcoal. Posthole **7547**, which cut into the northern edge of pit **7549**, was c. 0.3m in diameter and 0.2m deep; it contained no finds.
- 3.6.7 Approximately 20m to the northwest, there was a subrectangular pit (**7462**), c. 1.m by 0.7m wide and 0.3m deep (**Fig. 5**). The uppermost of its four fills (**7466**) produced two sherds of early/middle Saxon pottery and fired clay.
- 3.6.8 On the western side of the Site, pit **7064** was 2.1m by 1.7m and 1.1m deep with steep irregular side, and had four fills, the lowest of which contained a single early/middle Saxon sherd (**7068**), fired clay, burnt flint and animal bone (**Fig. 5**).

**3.7 Late Saxon/early medieval**

- 3.7.1 The majority of the features on the Site are of late Saxon/early medieval date. These comprised 18 ditches/gullies forming part of a field system, 15 pits (two of which may have functioned as wells) and three postholes (**Fig. 4**).

*Field system*

- 3.7.2 Ditch **7861**, which ran west-east across the main excavation area, is a continuation of one of the main late Saxon/early medieval ditches recorded on RMC Land Phase 5 North and South, and 3 North. At 1.1m wide and 0.45m deep, it one of the larger ditches recorded on the Site. The westernmost excavated section (**7233**) contained two sherds of late Saxon/early medieval pottery, struck flint, fragments of quern stone, slag and burnt flint.

- 3.7.3 L-shaped ditch **7887** ran west from the eastern side of the main excavation area for c. 31m, parallel to ditch **7861** and c. 4.6m to its south, the two ditches possibly forming a length of trackway. It then turned to the south for at least a further 17m, where its line was followed by modern hedge line **7859**, and further south by a late medieval ditch (**7894**, below). Ditch **7887** was c. 1.6m wide and 0.4m deep, and contained small quantities of late Saxon/early medieval pottery, along with struck flint, burnt flint, fired clay and animal bone. This ditch, which cut the north-south arm of Romano-British ditch **7888**, appears to mark the southerly extent of the late Saxon/ medieval features on the Site.
- 3.7.4 North of ditch **7861** there was an extensive if rather irregular arrangement of ditches forming a field system, the majority with approximate north-south orientations. Among these was slightly sinuous ditch **7878** which averaged c. 0.6m wide and 0.2m deep. It was c. 42m long, its southern terminal lying just north of ditch **7861** and contained small quantities of late Saxon/early medieval pottery. A line of shallow, narrow 'pits' (**7509**, **7495**, **7497**, **7499**, **7585**, **7576** and **7565**) running north then northeast from the northern terminus of ditch **7878** may represent its truncated continuation, surviving only in short sections; two of them (**7509**, **7585**) contained small quantities of late Saxon/early medieval pottery.
- 3.7.5 Ditch **7878** appears to be contemporary with a 6.8m long ditch (**7879**) which curves northeast from it. There was a possible sump (**7535**) cutting ditch **7861** near the point where these two ditches converged. Ditch **7878** was c. 0.5m wide by 0.2m deep and contained a sherd of late Saxon/early medieval pottery, a pair of iron shears (**SF 13018**) and a struck flint. Both ditches cut early/middle Saxon ditch **7858**, while ditch **7878** was cut by post-medieval ditch **7882**.
- 3.7.6 Although ditch **7878** cut across the eastern end of ditch **7880**, which was aligned approximately east-southeast to west-northwest, these two ditches appear to be broadly contemporary elements of the field system. The latter was 0.8m wide and 0.3m deep, and produced four sherds of late Saxon/early medieval pottery, burnt flint and fired clay. A subrectangular feature (**7374**) which cut the ditch's western terminus was c. 2.1m long, 1.1m wide and 0.6m deep with four fills that produced pottery, burnt flint and animal bone. Fill **7375** contained one sherd of late prehistoric and two sherds of late Saxon/early medieval pottery, with another late Saxon/early medieval sherd from fill **7377**. It may have functioned as a sump or shallow well, collecting water for the adjacent fields.
- 3.7.7 After a 4m break, the line of ditch **7880** was continued westwards by ditch **7855**, which was c. 0.7m wide and 0.2m deep, and produced a single sherd of late Saxon/early medieval pottery from its eastern terminus. Ditch **7855** ran to the western side of the Site, but was not recorded in RMC Land; nor was a short length of parallel gully (**7205**), c. 0.2m wide and 0.1m deep, to its immediate north, whose single fill produced one sherd of late Saxon/early medieval pottery.
- 3.7.8 Ditch **7854** ran perpendicular from the northern side of ditch **7855** for c. 22m, the two ditches appearing to be contemporary. It was c. 0.6m wide 0.1m, and produced a single late Saxon/early medieval sherd. Its northern terminus was cut by an unphased posthole (**7132**), c. 0.25m in diameter and 0.3m deep.



- 3.7.9 The southern end of ditch **7874** was located c. 3m west of ditch **7878**, but on a slightly different alignment, running to the north-northwest for c. 15m. It was c. 0.7m wide and 0.15m deep, and produced two late Saxon/early medieval sherds.
- 3.7.10 At the east of the Site, ditches **7872** and **7873** appear to be components of the same field boundary, separated by a deep sub-oval 'sump' (**7398**), c. 2m long, 0.9m wide and 1m deep and containing five late Saxon/early medieval sherds. The southern component of the boundary, ditch **7872**, was c. 0.7m wide and 0.6m deep. Its northern terminus, which emptied into the sump, contained seven sherds of late Saxon/early medieval pottery, fired clay, fragments of quern stone and three iron objects (two possible knife blades and an unidentified object). Its southern terminus produced another unidentified iron object.
- 3.7.11 The northern component of the boundary, ditch **7873**, also appears to have emptied into the sump. It produced small quantities of late Saxon/early medieval pottery along with slag, quern stone, fired clay and animal bone. At its north, the ditch divided into two, before cutting across late prehistoric ditch **7868** and gully **7869** and curving towards the northeast. It also cut the western edge of early/middle Saxon pit **7549**, and was cut, in turn, by late Saxon/medieval ditch **7867**.
- 3.7.12 A short ditch (**7875**) curved from south to northeast where it terminated less than 1m to the west of ditch **7872**. Its southern terminus, which contained one sherd of late Saxon/early medieval pottery, burnt flint and fired clay, expanded into a shallow irregularly shaped pit (**7637**) that appears to be contemporary with it.
- 3.7.13 In the northeast corner of the Site, ditch **7867** ran south for c. 26m from the northern edge of the excavation (recorded as **1012** in evaluation Trench 1) before turning east-southeast for at least a further 10m. It cut across late prehistoric ditch **7868** and gully **7869**, and late Saxon/medieval ditch **7873**. It contained one sherd of late Saxon/early medieval pottery, burnt flint, struck flint, ceramic building material (CBM), quern stone fragments, and a small fragment of possible Romano-British vessel glass.
- 3.7.14 Within the area bounded by ditch **7867** was a large waterhole (**7900**, below). This was cut by three closely spaced, parallel ditches aligned approximately north-south and continuing beyond the eastern edge of the main excavation area (west to east – **7870**, **7871** and **7742**) (**Fig. 5**). Ditch **7870**, which cut into a pit (**7646**, not on plan) which itself cut the top layers of the waterhole, was c. 0.2m wide and 0.06m deep; it produced two sherds of late Saxon/early medieval pottery. Ditch **7871** was c. 0.6m wide and 0.1m deep, and contained small quantities of late Saxon/early medieval pottery, along with daub (with wattle impressions), struck flint and animal bone. Ditch **7742** was c. 0.9m wide and 0.7m deep, with four fills which produced three sherds of late Saxon/early medieval pottery, animal bone, fired clay, wattle-impressed daub and burnt flint.
- 3.7.15 In the northwest corner of the Site, a c. 10m length of ditch **7851** ran approximately east from the western side of the excavation. It was c. 0.4m wide and 0.2m deep, and produced one sherd of late Saxon/early medieval pottery. Its stratigraphic relationship with two parallel, narrow and shallow

unphased ditches (**7049/7036** and **7053**, Unphased, below) with which it intersected at right angles, was unclear.

#### *Waterhole*

- 3.7.16 Waterhole **7900** was situated in the extreme northeast corner of the Site, the feature continuing beyond the eastern boundary. What was visible was rounded in shape, measuring at least 8.7m by 6.3m, its extended southwest edge possibly forming a sloping walk way into the feature (**Fig. 5**). The waterhole was machine excavated to a depth of 1.5m then hand augered for a further 0.95m; it was not possible to excavate the feature fully due to its proximity to the northern boundary of the Site and a gas main.
- 3.7.17 It is tentatively dated to this period although the evidence is not conclusive. It was cut by late Saxon/early medieval ditches **7742**, **7870**, **7871** and pit **7646** and its upper fill contained late Saxon/early medieval pottery, fired clay and wattle-impressed daub. Although no direct dating evidence was recovered from the lower fills, environmental samples from the fills revealed strong evidence for Saxon or medieval settlement but very little evidence for earlier activity. The late Saxon/early medieval features cut into the surface of the waterhole suggest reuse/backfill of an existing, visible pit or depression.

#### *Other features*

- 3.7.18 A number of pits and postholes were recorded across the northern part of the site, all of them lying to the north of the main east-west boundary ditch (**7861**). Some of the features were closely grouped, but most were quite widely dispersed through the field system.
- 3.7.19 Pit **7019** was located in the northwest corner of the Site immediately to the southeast of the terminus of late Saxon/early medieval ditch **7851**. It was c. 1.3m in diameter and 1.6m deep, with almost vertical sides and a flat base. Its single fill (**7020**) contained one sherd of early/middle Saxon pottery and 28 sherds from an early medieval St. Neot's-type ware bowl with post-firing perforations. It is possible that this feature was a well, although it was not as deep as the other possible well features.
- 3.7.20 To its south, oval pit **7108** was c. 1.4m by 1.2m and 0.9m deep, with a series of fills (**7109-7118**) producing slag, burnt flint, animal bone, fired clay and a sarsen pebble. Although it contained no pottery, it is comparable with many of the other pits of this period and has been phased accordingly.
- 3.7.21 Pit **7069**, which lay immediately east of late Saxon/early medieval ditch **7854**, was sub-rectangular in plan and measured c. 1.5m by 1.3m and 0.5m deep. The upper of its two fills (**7070**) contained 18 sherds of late Saxon/early medieval pottery, burnt flint, animal bone and an iron object (possibly a knife handle).
- 3.7.22 Pit **7276**, situated 2.5m north of late Saxon/early medieval ditch **7855**, was an irregular, elongated oval shape c. 3.1m long, 1.1m wide and 0.5m deep. Fills **7278** and **7279** contained flecks of charcoal and fired clay, while fill **7277** contained six sherds of late Saxon/early medieval pottery, struck flint, daub and charcoal. The fills suggested hearth waste, and the edges of the feature did not display signs of heavy burning.
- 3.7.23 Pit **7097**, possibly a well, lay immediately north of ditch **7861**, near the western side of the Site. It was c. 2.1m in diameter and 1.9m deep, and

produced one sherd of late Saxon/early medieval pottery, fired clay, struck flint and animal bone (**Fig. 5**).

- 3.7.24 Pit **7367**, towards the east, also lay just north of ditch **7861**, and just west of ditch **7878**. It was c. 2.3m by 2.2m and 1.1m deep with vertical sides undercutting in places. There were six fills which produced pottery dated to the Romano-British, early/middle Saxon and late Saxon/early medieval periods, along with burnt flint and struck flint.
- 3.7.25 Pits **7698** and **7700** were situated adjacent to each other towards the eastern boundary of the main excavation area. Pit **7698**, which was irregular in plan with steep sides, measured c. 1.6m by 1.2m and 0.4m deep. Its single fill (**7699**) contained one sherd of late Saxon/early medieval pottery, an unidentifiable iron object, struck flint and burnt flint. To its immediate northeast, pit **7700** was c. 0.8m in diameter and 0.7m deep with vertical sides. Its two fills yielded seven sherds of late Saxon/early medieval pottery, two fragments of wall plaster, fired clay, struck flint and burnt flint.
- 3.7.26 A small group of four, probably contemporary features (**7881**, **7426**, **7420** and **7422**) lay north of late Saxon/early medieval ditch **7880**. Feature **7881** was a 4.1m long linear feature aligned approximately north-south, its southern end crossing the ditch and its northern end abutting the edge of pit **7426**. It was c. 0.9m wide and 0.35m deep, with a single fill containing fired clay but no dating material. Sub-oval pit **7426** was c. 2.8m long, 1.4m wide and 1m deep with steep, undercutting sides, and two wedge-shaped 'steps' cut into the natural on its western edge; there was no evidence of any form of revetting of these steps. It contained six fills (**7430-5**) which produced one sherd of Romano-British pottery, two sherds of late Saxon/early medieval pottery, burnt flint, animal bone and fired clay. A small pit (**7420**), c. 0.8m in diameter and 0.1m deep with a single fill, was located on the southeast edge of the pit, while a posthole (**7422**), c. 0.3m in diameter and 0.3m deep, was situated on its northeast edge; the posthole contained one sherd of probably residual Neolithic pottery.
- 3.7.27 Three features (**7471**, **7480** and **7482**) straddled the line of late Saxon/early medieval ditch **7878** near its northern end. Sub-oval pit **7471**, which cut the eastern edge the ditch, was c. 1.5m long, 0.9m wide and 0.9m deep with steep sides. It contained charcoal, animal bone and an unidentified metal object (**SF 13017**). It cut through pit **7482** to the west and posthole **7480** to the south. Pit **7482** contained animal bone and fragments of quern stone but there were no finds from posthole **7480**.
- 3.7.28 Oval pit **7682**, which lay immediately to the east of late Saxon/early medieval ditch **7875**, measured c. 0.9m by 0.6m and 0.2m deep, with almost vertical sides. It contained one sherd of late Saxon/early medieval pottery and burnt flint (fill **7683**).
- 3.7.29 Subcircular pit **7362**, in the northeast part of the main excavation area, measured c. 1.1m by 0.9m and was 0.8m deep, with steep, stepped sides and a concave base. Its two fills contained burnt flint, struck flint, fired clay, animal bone and slag. Although containing no datable finds, the environmental remains suggest a Saxon to early medieval date.
- 3.7.30 Nearby, subsquare pit **7505**, positioned just outside the corner of L-shaped ditch **7867**, was c. 1.2m wide and 0.45m deep with a pronounced step on the

western edge and vertical sides to the east. Its single fill (**7506**) yielded four sherds of late Saxon/early medieval pottery, animal bone and fired clay. The pit's western edge was cut by sub-oval posthole **7511**, while sub-rectangular posthole **7507** was located on its eastern edge.

- 3.7.31 Pit **7703** was positioned close to the western edge of waterhole **7900**, in the northeast corner of the main excavation area. It was c. 0.9m in diameter and 0.4m deep. Fill **7704** contained fired clay, animal bone and charcoal and was very similar in makeup to the fills of the ditches to the immediate east (**7870**, **7871** and **7742**). Although containing no datable finds, this feature is probably late Saxon/early medieval in date.
- 3.7.32 Pit **4010** (evaluation Trench 4) was c. 1.4m in and 1m deep (**Fig. 3**); fill **4011** contained one large sherd of late Saxon/early medieval pottery.

### **3.8 Late medieval**

- 3.8.1 One feature, ditch **7894**, was dated to the late medieval period on the basis of 22 sherds representing the lower part of a late medieval (14th/15th century) jug. This ditch lay on the same line (to the south of a small unstripped area) as the north-south arm of late Saxon/early medieval ditch **7887**, and modern hedge line **7859** (**Fig. 3**). It was c. 1.1m wide and 0.6m deep. Other finds from the four excavated sections include five sherds of late prehistoric pottery, five sherds of Romano-British pottery and four sherds of late Saxon/early medieval pottery.
- 3.8.2 Four closely spaced, parallel ditches ran east from ditch **7894** (north to south **7827**, **7889**, **7891** and **7892**). Ditch **7827** was modern in date, but the other three may be associated with ditch **7894**. Ditch **7889**, measuring c. 1.2m wide and 0.4m deep and truncated to the east by modern pit **7825**, contained burnt and struck flint but no dating evidence. Ditch **7891** was c. 1.2m wide and 0.6m deep and produced two sherds of probably residual Romano-British pottery. Ditch **7892** was c. 1.5m wide and 0.9m deep and contained three sherds of early/middle Saxon pottery; it cut gully **7893** which may be part of the late prehistoric field system. The dating of three southern east-west ditches is ambiguous, and their function unclear, but they appear to be associated with ditch **7894**, and are therefore tentatively assigned to this phase.

### **3.9 Post-medieval and modern**

- 3.9.1 Modern hedge line **7859** ran north-south from the northern side of the Site, to the small unstripped area at the south of the main excavation area, where it ran parallel to the line of late Saxon/early medieval ditch **7887** (**Fig. 4**). It was also aligned on late medieval ditch **7894** south of the unstripped area.
- 3.9.2 A large feature **7825**, over 11m wide, was located on the eastern edge of the main excavation towards the southeast (**Fig. 3**). A machine slot through the feature uncovered brick, glass and scrap iron.
- 3.9.3 Ditch **7827** ran west from feature **7825** (**Fig. 3**). It was 1.3m wide and also contained brick and glass. This ditch may be the east-west axis of the modern hedge line (**7859**) recorded to the northwest.

- 3.9.4 Ditch **7882**, aligned east-west across the centre of the main excavation area (**Fig. 4**), was c. 21m long, 0.5m wide and 0.1m deep. Its fills contained fragments of CBM, clinker, medieval roof tile and a broken post-medieval wine bottle. It cut a number of earlier ditches (**7858**, **7877**, **7878**, **7880**, **7881**, and **7883**).
- 3.9.5 In the centre of the main excavation area, subrectangular pit **7225** measured c. 2m long by 1.9m (**Fig. 4**). Its upper fill (**7226**) contained brick, glass, a lead object, a flint scraper and a piece of copper alloy sheet. Subcircular pit **7493**, which cut late prehistoric ditch **7877**, contained a fragment of post-medieval window glass.
- 3.9.6 Two postholes (**7789** and **7801**) close to the eastern side of the main excavation area, were the remnants of a modern fence line (**Fig. 3**).

### **3.10 Unphased features**

- 3.10.1 A number of excavated features did not produce any direct dating evidence, although some can be broadly dated by association and have been previously mentioned in the text.

#### *Post-built rectangular structure*

- 3.10.2 In the southwestern extension to the Site, structure **7898** comprised a rectangular arrangement of up to ten postholes (**Fig. 3 inset**). It was c. 4.8m long, aligned southwest-northeast, and 2.3m wide at the ends, although slightly narrower (1.9m) towards the centre. The spacings of the postholes along the sides were uneven, averaging c. 0.8m towards the ends, but 1.9m in the centre. The northeastern end had a central posthole, but there was no corresponding posthole at the southwest. The postholes were all were less than 0.5m in diameter and 0.13m deep. The only find was a fragment of burnt flint from posthole **7087**. The tenth, and largest posthole (**7083**), near the western corner, appears to be an addition, or was possibly not part of the structure; another unphased posthole (**7119**), c. 0.7m in diameter and 0.4m deep, lay 2.5m to the south of the structure.

#### *Ditches*

- 3.10.3 Three possibly associated ditches (**7036**, **7049** and **7053**) were situated in the northwest corner of the Site, all aligned north-south (**Fig. 4**). Ditch **7049** pre-dated late Saxon/early medieval ditch **7851** but they are otherwise unphased, ditch **7036** containing three burnt flints and two fragments of fired clay. All were less than 0.7m wide and 0.2m deep.
- 3.10.4 Ditch **7847**, ran southwest-northeast for 13.6m to the eastern edge of the main excavation area (**Fig. 4**). It was too ephemeral to excavate a section, and there were no surface finds. There was also a short length of northwest-southeast aligned ditch (**7596**) towards the northeast of the excavation area.

#### *Other features*

- 3.10.5 There was an irregular scatter of unphased features west of modern hedge **7859** line in the northwest part of the Site (**Fig. 4**). They included pits **7003**, **7011**, **7021**, **7023**, **7030**, **7041**, **7044**, **7057**, **7061** and **7214**, none of which contained any finds, and posthole **7017** which contained two fragments of animal bone. The pits were generally subcircular or oval in plan and less than 0.5m deep. There was an isolated subcircular pit (**7136**) further south on the

west side of the Site, which was c. 0.6m by 0.5m wide and 0.1m deep, also containing no finds.

- 3.10.6 There was a group of three pits (**7327**, **7343** and **7358**) west of late prehistoric field ditch **7876**, and a fourth (**7520**) cutting the ditch terminal (**Fig. 4**). Oval pit **7327** was c. 1.1m long by 0.8m and 0.2m deep, and contained animal bone, burnt flint and charcoal. Sub-rectangular pit **7343** was c. 1.5m long by 0.7m wide and 0.35m deep, and contained animal bone, struck flint, burnt flint, charcoal and fired clay. Oval pit **7358** was c. 1m by 0.9m wide and 0.3m deep, and contained animal bone, charcoal, burnt flint, struck flint and fired clay. None of these pits displayed evidence of *in situ* burning, but all appear to have been backfilled with hearth/cooking debris. A sample taken from pit **7358** (fill **7359**) contained hulled wheat, barley grain fragments and glume fragments. Oval pit **7520**, which was 1.4m by 0.9m and 0.3m deep contained burnt and struck flint, but rare charcoal.
- 3.10.7 A posthole **7440** and an adjacent short linear feature **7438** were recorded in the central northern part of the main excavation area (**Fig. 4**); neither produced any finds, although an adjacent tree-throw hole (**7354**) contained a flint scraper (**SF 13008**).
- 3.10.8 Towards the east of the main excavation area, pit **7610**, east of late Saxon/early medieval ditch **7872** and close to the eastern boundary of the Site, was c. 1m in diameter and 0.2m deep, with two fills (**Fig. 4**).
- 3.10.9 A well (**7125**) was excavated in the extension southwest of the main excavation area (**Fig. 3**). It was 1.8m in diameter and 2.6m deep with near vertical sides and a flat base. Its 16 fills yielded a single sherd of probably residual Neolithic pottery from near the base (fill **7148**), but no other dating evidence.
- 3.10.10 There was an isolated posthole (**7811**) at the southeast of the Site, c. 0.2m in diameter and 0.1m deep, and an apparently isolated pit (**7122**), c. 0.7m in diameter, in the southwestern extension of the Site (**Fig. 3**).

## **4 FINDS**

### **4.1 Introduction**

- 4.1.1 This section provides a brief overview of the finds assemblage from the Site, deriving from both evaluation and excavation. As might be expected, the range of material, in terms both of date and material/object types, is very similar to that encountered on the adjacent site at RMC Land (Wessex Archaeology 2008), although the overall quantity is relatively limited. Only pottery, animal bone and burnt, unworked flint occurred in any significant quantities.
- 4.1.2 Early prehistoric, later prehistoric, Romano-British, early/middle Saxon, late Saxon/early medieval and post-medieval periods are all represented, although the emphasis is on the late Saxon to early medieval period (10th to 11th century).
- 4.1.3 Condition varies, but in general is fair to poor. The ceramic materials in particular have suffered high levels of fragmentation and abrasion.

- 4.1.4 All finds have been quantified by material type within each context, and overall totals are presented in **Table 2**. As part of this assessment process, all finds have been at least visually scanned, in order to ascertain their nature, potential date range and condition. Broad spot dates (e.g. early prehistoric, Romano-British, *etc*) have been recorded for datable material (pottery, ceramic building material).
- 4.1.5 It is on this information that an assessment of the potential of these finds to inform an understanding of the Site is based, with particular reference to the assemblage recovered from the adjacent site, and from other sites in the immediate area of west London.

**Table 2:** Finds totals by material type

Material type	Evaluation		Excavation		Total	
	No.	Wt. (g)	No.	Wt. (g)	No.	Wt. (g)
Pottery	202	2124	336	3216	538	5340
<i>Early prehistoric</i>	22	-	20	-	42	-
<i>Late prehistoric</i>	156	-	61	-	217	-
<i>Prehistoric unspec.</i>	-	-	6	-	6	-
<i>Romano-British</i>	11	-	23	-	34	-
<i>Early/middle Saxon</i>	-	-	21	-	21	-
<i>Late Saxon/medieval</i>	13	-	180	-	193	-
<i>Post-medieval</i>	-	-	2	-	2	-
<i>Undated</i>	-	-	1	-	1	-
Ceramic building material	6	209	41	3793	47	4002
Fired clay	17	228	178	3007	195	3235
Stone	5	64	100	3445	105	3509
Worked flint	53	297	170	2803	223	3100
Burnt flint	190	1354	432	4133	622	5487
Glass	1	1	10	613	11	614
Slag	2	12	20	351	22	363
Metalwork	1	-	16	-	17	-
<i>Copper alloy</i>	-	-	1	-	1	-
<i>Lead</i>	-	-	1	-	1	-
<i>Iron</i>	1	-	14	-	15	-
Animal bone	63	314	618	2057	681	2371

## 4.2 Pottery

- 4.2.1 The small pottery assemblage includes material of early prehistoric, late prehistoric, Romano-British, Saxon, medieval and post-medieval date, although most falls within either the late prehistoric or the late Saxon to early medieval periods. One sherd, very small, abraded and of uncertain fabric type, remains unphased at this stage.
- 4.2.2 Condition is generally fair to poor – the assemblage is highly fragmentary, and the majority of sherds show at least some signs of surface/edge abrasion; mean sherd weight is 9.9g. Calcareous inclusions have invariably leached out of clay matrices, leaving voids.
- 4.2.3 At this stage, the assemblage has been subjected to a brief scan and broadly quantified by period (**Table 1**), but no more detailed attribution to fabric/ware types has been undertaken. This information has informed the preliminary site phasing, although it must be stressed that the low level distribution and generally poor condition of the pottery means that its use as a dating tool is somewhat limited; many of these sherds could be regarded as residual in the contexts in which they were found.

*Early prehistoric*

- 4.2.4 A small number of sherds, from 13 contexts, have been identified as Neolithic, with varying degrees of confidence. Some sherds, such as rim or decorated body sherds, are clearly diagnostic, while others have been more tentatively dated on the basis of fabric alone, and are visually very similar to some of the later prehistoric wares (see below). All these sherds are small and abraded, and reliance on their presence for dating purposes is therefore unwise, since they could easily be redeposited in these contexts. None were associated with the possible Neolithic flintwork in pit **7217** (see below)

*Late prehistoric*

- 4.2.5 A larger group of sherds is of late prehistoric date, and this makes up the largest single chronological group within the assemblage (40% of the total by sherd count). This quantity is skewed, however, by a deposit of 132 sherds from a single context (ditch **2004** in evaluation trench 2), which appears to represent parts of several vessels, and includes both coarse- and finewares. These sherds, and others within this chronological group are nearly all in flint-tempered fabrics, with one or two sandy wares. There are very few diagnostic sherds, and no reconstructable vessel profiles, but on fabric grounds these sherds can fairly confidently be assigned to the plainware phase of the post-Deverel-Rimbury ceramic tradition, probably falling within the Late Bronze Age.

*Romano-British*

- 4.2.6 Romano-British wares are sparsely represented, and most if not all can be regarded as redeposited within later contexts. All sherds are coarsewares, and there are very few diagnostic sherds.

*Early/middle Saxon*

- 4.2.7 Sherds in organic-tempered fabrics can be confidently dated as early/middle Saxon (5th to 8th century), although there are no diagnostic pieces. The sherds derived in very small quantities from several features across the Site (ditches, pits, tree throw hole and well).

*Late Saxon/early medieval*

- 4.2.8 Just over one-third of the assemblage (36% of the total by sherd count) is made up of late Saxon to early medieval wares, with a probable date range of 10th to 12th century. Very similar wares were recovered in some quantity from the adjacent site. The assemblage from the current Site appears, from the visual scan, to lie within the earlier part of the date range (10th to 11th century), with an emphasis on shelly rather than sandy wares. Sherds are mostly small and abraded, but one context group warrants further comment – several sherds from a bowl in St Neot's-type ware, with two post-firing perforations below the rim (well **7019**).

- 4.2.9 Twenty-two sherds from one context (in ditch **7894**) represent the lower part of a late medieval (14th/15th century) jug in a fine, sandy fabric.

*Post-medieval*

- 4.2.10 Post-medieval material is notable by its absence; only two sherds were recovered; both coarse redwares.



### 4.3 Ceramic building material (CBM)

4.3.1 Amongst the CBM are three probable fragments of Romano-British brick/tile, 37 fragments of medieval roof tile, one very coarse brick, probably early post-medieval, and several undiagnostic fragments. Quantities are insufficient to suggest anything other than the dispersal (e.g. through manuring) of CBM fragments incidentally incorporated into rubbish deposits, rather than the presence on the Site of any substantial buildings.

### 4.4 Fired clay

4.4.1 The fired clay consists largely of small, abraded and featureless fragments of uncertain origin. Several contexts, however, yielded pieces with surfaces and/or wattle impressions, suggesting that much of this material may be of structural origin. Certainly no portable objects such as loomweights or spindlewhorls were definitively identified, although one fragment with a curved surface from ditch **7883** could be from such an object. Approximately half of the fired clay (by number of fragments) came from contexts associated with late Saxon/early medieval pottery, with most of the remainder from unphased contexts.

### 4.5 Stone

4.5.1 Most of the stone comprises fragments of lava quern stone; given the associated pottery, this is assumed to be largely if not all of late Saxon or early medieval date (10th/11th century).

4.5.2 Also present are two pieces of sarsen and one flint/quartz pebble, none of which show obvious signs of utilisation.

### 4.6 Worked and burnt flint

#### *Introduction*

4.6.1 A small assemblage of 223 pieces of worked flint was recovered from a variety of features including two possible Neolithic pits. The flint is closely comparable to the much more substantial assemblage recovered from RMC Land (Bradley in prep.). Diagnostic pieces of Middle Neolithic date were recovered, whilst some cruder elements are likely to be of later prehistoric date. The flint is summarised in **Table 3**.

4.6.2 The flint has been quantified and recorded according to broad typological categories, notes on general condition, raw materials and other details was also made.

**Table 3:** Summary of worked flint

Flakes	Blades	Irregular debitage	Cores, core fragments	Retouched forms	Total
169	5	13	9	27	223

#### *Raw materials and condition*

4.6.3 The majority of the flint is fairly poor quality gravel nodules, a few pieces of Bullhead flint (Shepherd 1972), and two flakes from polished implements were also recovered. The condition of the flint is variable with some pieces very fresh and sharp whilst others exhibit post-depositional damage. A few pieces of worked flint have been burnt.

#### *Assemblage composition*

- 4.6.4 The assemblage is largely composed of debitage, mainly flakes, with a few blades or blade-like flakes, cores and some pieces of irregularly debitage. Two small flake cores, weighing 19g and 23g respectively, one of which has been made on a small Bullhead pebble, the other is fairly poor quality flint. A rather rough flake core, weighing 72.5g was also recovered. The core fragments were all from flake cores and as far as could be established these were from similar small flint pebbles. A number of roughly worked tested nodules were also recovered; these seem to belong to a more expedient technology and may be of Late Bronze Age date. A few blades were recovered, but there were insufficient to indicate that these were deliberate removals.
- 4.6.5 Diagnostic retouched pieces were limited to four complete chisel arrowheads (ditch **9018** and Trench 4 unstratified, ditch **7866** and ditch **7622**), and a probable broken chisel arrowhead was also recovered from pit **7256**. Other retouched pieces include serrated flakes, scrapers, a piercer, a variety of knives and retouched flakes. A number of miscellaneous retouched pieces include irregularly retouched flakes and atypical pieces. A possible scraper re-sharpening flake was recovered from ditch **7856**, indicating that tools were being maintained on the Site. Two flakes from polished axes were recovered (ditches **7856** and **7861**); the latter has been minimally retouched and is also burnt. The majority of these retouched pieces would not be out of place in a Neolithic context. A couple of pieces are likely to be Bronze Age in date, including a bifacially worked piece, which may possibly be the tang from a dagger, or more probably a fragment from an elaborately flaked knife (evaluation trench 4), a knife from ditch **7863**, and a piercer (ditch **7894**).
- 4.6.6 Only two contexts contained ten or more pieces of flint (fill **7218**, pit **7217** (possibly Neolithic); fill **9021**, tree-throw hole **9020**). Pit **7217** contained 12 pieces of flint (a core, eight flakes, a scraper and two serrated flakes), which would be consistent with a Neolithic date. The material from tree-throw hole **9020** consists entirely of debitage (flakes and two core fragments). Another possible Neolithic pit (**7177**) contained a single irregularly serrated flake from fill **7191**.
- 4.6.7 Burnt, unworked flint was recovered in some quantity. This material type, although intrinsically undatable, is frequently taken as an indicator of prehistoric activity. In this instance, however, the largest proportion (38% by weight) came from unphased contexts, with a further 29% from late Saxon/early medieval contexts. The distribution of the burnt flint across the Site was low level; no contexts contained more than 500g of burnt flint, and only 12 produced more than 100g.

#### **4.7 Glass**

- 4.7.1 One small fragment of vessel glass (Object No 13021, context 7618) has been identified (by Rachael Seager Smith) as Romano-British (late Saxon-early medieval ditch **7867**). This is a rim piece in pale blue glass, with a narrow diameter, perhaps from a small flask. The remaining glass is post-medieval; it consists largely of green wine bottle fragments, amongst which two bases can be identified as deriving from bottles of 'onion' form (c. 1680-1730). There are also two very small pieces of post-medieval window glass.

## 4.8 Slag

4.8.1 Material classified as 'slag' includes clinker, fuel ash slag, and a few fragments of a light, vesicular material which has been observed on other sites in the west London area in contexts of varying dates. In other words, this category can be considered to comprise the products of pyrotechnical activities, but not necessarily metalworking. Quantities, in any case, are very small.

## 4.9 Metalwork

4.9.1 The metalwork includes objects of copper alloy, lead and iron. Objects from datable contexts were all associated with late Saxon/early medieval (10th/11th century) pottery.

4.9.2 Non-ferrous items comprise a fragment of copper alloy sheet, of unknown function, and a lump of waste lead.

4.9.3 The ironwork is all extremely corroded, and identifications cannot be made with any confidence at this stage, in advance of X-radiography. There are two probable nails (one bent into a hook shape), three possible knife blades, and a possible knife handle and a pair of shears.

## 4.10 Animal bone

4.10.1 A total of 265 animal bones were recovered from the Site. Conjoining fragments that were demonstrably from the same bone were counted as one bone in order to minimise distortion, and therefore specimen counts (NISP) given here differ from the absolute raw fragment counts in **Table 2**. No fragments were recorded as 'medium mammal' or 'large mammal'; these were instead consigned to the unidentified category. The extent of mechanical or chemical attrition to the bone surface was recorded; the numbers of gnawed bone were also noted. The majority of the bone from datable contexts came from late Saxon/early medieval features, with a little from late prehistoric contexts.

4.10.2 The bone is in a very fragmentary condition, and this is reflected in the very high proportion of unidentifiable bones, and also loose teeth (**Table 4**). All of the bone was recorded as being in a fair to poor condition; some fragments were burnt, and a few showed gnawing marks. Only a few bones can be measured and/or aged.

**Table 4:** Animal bone condition and potential

NISP	Unid.	Burnt	Gnawed	Loose teeth	Measureable	Ageable	Total no. frags
60	205	15	4	22	3	14	265

4.10.3 **Table 5** shows that the assemblage consists solely of the remains from domesticated animals. Beef and mutton would have been regularly consumed, with some pork. A pair of cattle mandibles came from well **7125**.

**Table 5:** Identified animal bones

Total no. identified fragments (NISP)	Horse	Cattle	Sheep/goat	Pig
60	3	44	11	2

## 5 ENVIRONMENT

### 5.1.1 Introduction

5.1.2 In total, 48 bulk samples were taken from features of different phases (**Table 6**) and processed for the recovery and assessment of charred plant remains and wood charcoal. Two further samples were taken during the evaluation stage from the fill of a possible medieval pit **3016**, in Trench 3 and a possible Late Bronze Age ditch **9018** in Trench 9.

5.1.3 In addition, two monolith samples were taken from waterhole **7900** (cuts **7738** (**Fig. 5**) and **7831**) for detailed sediment descriptions. The breakdown of the bulk samples into phase groups is shown in **Table 6**.

**Table 6:** Environmental sample provenance summary

Phase	No of samples	Volume (l)	Feature types
Prehistoric	8	110	Pits, well/pit, ditches, gully
Late Prehistoric	3	50	Pits, ditch
?Prehistoric	1	10	Pit
Early/middle Saxon	4	59	Pits, ditch
Late Saxon/early medieval	19	229	Pits, well/pit, ditches
?Saxon or Later	10	150	Pits, waterholes, ditch
Unphased	3	40	Pit
<b>Totals</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>648</b>	

5.1.4 The bulk samples were processed by standard flotation methods; the flot retained on a 0.5mm mesh, residues fractionated into 5.6mm, 2mm and 1mm fractions and dried. The coarse fractions (>5.6mm) were sorted, weighed and discarded. Flots were scanned under a x10 – x40 stereo-binocular microscope and the presence of charred remains quantified (**Table 7**) to record the preservation and nature of the charred plant and wood charcoal remains. Preliminary identifications of dominant or important taxa are noted below, following the nomenclature of Stace (1997).

5.1.5 The flots varied in size with low to high numbers of roots and modern seeds that may be indicative of the degree of contamination by later intrusive elements. Charred material comprised varying degrees of preservation.

## 5.2 Charred plant remains

### *Prehistoric and late prehistoric*

5.2.1 The majority of the charred remains from these samples were not well preserved. The small assemblage from possible Neolithic pit **7217** provides no indication as to its date. Three of the samples, those from, pit **7316**, pit **7405** and ditch **7877** (section **7450**), contained moderate to high numbers of cereal remains. These cereal remains include grain fragments of hulled wheat, emmer or spelt (*Triticum dicoccum/spelta* sl), glumes of spelt wheat (*Triticum spelta* sl), grain and rachis fragments of barley (*Hordeum vulgare* sl) and grain fragments of free-threshing wheat (*Triticum turgidum/aestivum* sl). The two pit samples also contain a large quantity of weed seeds, including seeds of oats/brome grass (*Avena/Bromus* sp.), vetch/wild peas (*Vicia/Lathyrus* sp.), celtic beans (*Vicia faba*), knot grass (Polygonaceae), brassicas (Brassicaceae), redshank (*Persicaria* sp.), buttercup (*Ranunculus* sp.) goosefoots (*Chenopodium* sp.) and fragments of hazel nut shell (*Corylus*

*avellana*). These weed seed assemblages are comparable with those recovered from arable contexts.

- 5.2.2 A fourth potential prehistoric sample came from ditch **7868** (section **7412**) but contained mainly grains of free-threshing wheat and even some fragments of possible coal. However, the feature did also contain a few glumes of spelt wheat. Given the presence of occasional large modern weed seeds, it is possible that such material is intrusive, although potentially the feature may of course be later in date.
- 5.2.3 The sample from evaluation Trench 9, ditch **9018** contained very little charred material in general, other than a small possible fragment of hazelnut (*Corylus avellana*).
- 5.2.4 Most of these assemblages are likely to contain intrusive material as there was a significant quantity of rooty material within these samples. This is supported by the finds of free-threshing wheat within these features which are more probably Saxon or medieval in date, and have been shown by radiocarbon dating on the adjacent RMC Land and ICSG sites to be intrusive in shallow pre-Saxon features.

#### *Early/middle Saxon*

- 5.2.5 Rich charred assemblages were observed in the three samples from pits **7064**, **7462** and **7549**. The cereal remains include grain and rachis fragments of free-threshing wheat and barley and possible grains of rye (*Secale cereale*). There were also fragments of hazel nut shell and sloe stone (*Prunus spinosa*). The high numbers of weed seeds included those of oat/brome grass, vetch/ wild peas, knotgrass, poa grass (Poaceae), brassicas, orache, stinking mayweed (*Anthemis cotula*), scentless mayweed (*Tripleurospermum inodorum*) and rye-grass/ fescue (*Lolium/Festuca* sp.)
- 5.2.6 These assemblages are typical of those found from arable contexts from the Saxon period onwards. The presence of stinking mayweed is indicative of the exploitation of clay soils, and therefore represents a shift onto such soils and/or an increase in the amount of land under cultivation.

#### *Late Saxon/early medieval*

- 5.2.7 The late Saxon/early medieval features generally produced large quantities of well preserved charred plant remains, in particular ditch **7742**, which cut waterhole **7900**. The cereal remains were the same as those observed in the early/middle Saxon features. The weed seed assemblages also comprised the same range of species with the addition of seeds of celtic beans, corncockle (*Agrostemma githago*), ribwort plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*), speedwell (*Veronica* sp.), medick/clover (*Medicago/Trifolium* sp.), bedstraws (*Galium* sp.) and sedge (*Carex* sp.).
- 5.2.8 Although charred plant material was recovered, no waterlogged plant remains, fresh-water snails or insect remains were observed within the well/pit **7097**.
- 5.2.9 The increased diversity of weed seeds recorded may be due to further expansion of the area and range of soils under cultivation and an increased exploitation of more marginal habitats, such as field margins. The presence of a number of legumes, such as celtic beans, and clovers within at least six of the samples, may indicate some management of condition of the soil,

through crop-rotation (within two- or three-field systems) as these species are nitrogen fixing.

*Saxon or later*

- 5.2.10 Nine unphased features produced large assemblages of well preserved plant remains, in particular pits **7362** and **7703**. These assemblages resembled those recovered from the early/middle Saxon and late Saxon/early medieval features. The weed seed assemblages included seeds from some additional species, such as redshank, buttercup, mallow (*Malva* sp.), runch (*Raphanus raphanistrum*), violet (*Viola* sp.) and nipplewort (*Lapsana communis*).
- 5.2.11 Although charred plant material was recovered, no waterlogged plant remains, fresh-water snails or insect remains were observed within the waterhole **7900**.

*Unphased*

- 5.2.12 A high number of poorly preserved cereal remains, including possible grain fragments of hulled wheat, barley grain fragments and a few hulled wheat glumes, were recorded in pit **7358**. The moderate number of weed seeds observed included those of oats/brome grass, vetch/wild peas, brassicas, orache (*Atriplex* sp.) and goosefoot. The weed seed assemblage is comparable with those recovered from arable contexts in earlier stages of the project.
- 5.2.13 Very little charred plant material and no waterlogged plant remains, fresh-water snails or insect remains were observed within the well/pit **7125**.
- 5.2.14 The small charred plant assemblage recovered from pit **7632** provides no indication of its date.
- 5.2.15 The sample from evaluation Trench 3, pit **3016** contained several hundred grains of free-threshing wheat (*Triticum aestivum* sl.), and lesser numbers of barley (*Hordeum vulgare* sl), and rye (*Secale cereale*). There were also a few rachises, mainly of free-threshing wheat and a possible half cotyledon of pea (*Pisum sativum*). The sample also contained several grains of oats (*Avena* sp.). Other finds included a few seeds of brome grass (*Bromus* sp.), vetches/wild pea (*Vicia/ Lathyrus* sp.), curled leaved dock (*Rumex crispus*), cleavers (*Galium aparine*), knapweed (*Centaurea* sp.) and scentless mayweed (*Tripleurospermum inodorum*). While the feature did contain two fragments of Romano-British pottery, the assemblage is much more in keeping with the Late Saxon/Early medieval assemblages known on the Site.

### **5.3 Wood charcoal**

- 5.3.1 Wood charcoal was noted from the flots of the bulk samples and is recorded in **Table 7**. The wood charcoal observed was mainly from mature wood. Only small quantities of charcoal fragments >4mm were retrieved from the prehistoric, late prehistoric and Romano-British features. Moderate quantities were recorded in the early/middle Saxon pit **7064**, late Saxon/early medieval pit **7505** and ditch **7742**. The Saxon or later pits **7362** and **7471** contained large amounts of wood charcoal remains.
- 5.3.2 From the evaluation Trenches, the sample from pit **3016** was reasonably rich in wood charcoal, with some obvious small twig/branch material present, while that from the prehistoric ditch **9018** contained little to no wood charcoal.

## 5.4 Sediments

- 5.4.1 Monolith samples <437> and <446> were taken from waterhole **7900** (sections **7738** and **7831**, respectively) at depths of 1m. A desktop review of the samples was undertaken which involved examination of the section drawings, photographs and sample sheets. Both sequences were relatively shallow; in the case of section **7831** the feature itself was not deep, and in section **7738** only the upper (post-use or backfilled) fills were accessible and sampled.
- 5.4.2 Bulk sample assessment has shown no waterlogged material to be present in the fills from either feature, indicating that the deposits have been subjected to oxidation. Given the known conditions in the area from previous work, it is likely that the features will have been subjected to repeated wetting/drying episodes, greatly reducing the potential of the sequences for pollen survival.

## 6 POTENTIAL

### 6.1 Stratigraphic

- 6.1.1 The dates, distribution, nature, form and contents of the features recorded on the Site appear almost wholly consistent with, and represent an eastern continuation of, those recorded more extensively to the west on RMC Land, and well as to the south at Imperial College Sports Ground (ICSG) (Wessex Archaeology 2008) (**Fig. 6**).

#### *Neolithic*

- 6.1.2 At least three Neolithic pits, and residual Neolithic pottery and flints in later features, reflect the wider pattern of activity and add to the unique concentration of pits recorded at RMC Land and ICSG. The pits were isolated features, rather than forming groups, and they lie well outside the area of greatest density of Middle Neolithic pits (and pit groups) in RMC Land Phases 2 and 3; their most dispersed distribution is comparable to the pits in the western part of RMC Land.

#### *Late prehistoric*

- 6.1.3 The arrangement of late prehistoric ditches recorded on the Site represents the eastward continuation of the extensive field system, shown to have been established in the Middle Bronze Age, recorded at RMC Land and ICSG. The orientation of the boundary ditches conforms to the pattern of shifting orientation recorded at the other site, There was no evidence for clear focus of settlement activity within the Site, as was the case more widely across the other sites where such activity appeared to be quite localised.
- 6.1.4 However, the curved ditch (2004) in evaluation Trench 2, which contained a deposit of Late Bronze Age pottery, may indicate the presence of some form of enclosure distinct from the rectilinear arrangement of the Middle Bronze Age field system. As the possible interior of such an enclosure was not included in the excavation area, the nature of this feature could not be further examined.
- 6.1.5 As at RMC Land, there was no evidence of Iron Age activity on the Site. A small nucleated settlement and enclosure were recorded at ICSG to the south.

### *Romano-British*

- 6.1.6 The limited evidence for Romano-British activity is also comparable to RMC Land, and it is not certain that those features containing Romano-British pottery actually date to this period, rather than containing residual finds. A Romano-British settlement, comprising a series of track-side enclosures of early to late Romano-British date, was recorded at ICSG with a distinct orientation not replicated in earlier or later field systems. If ditches **7883** and **7888** are genuinely of Romano-British date, they are on a different orientation to the ICSG features, although this may merely reflect their distance (c. 560m) from them.

### *Saxon and medieval*

- 6.1.7 Activity in the early/middle Saxon period was represented mainly by a thin scatter of pits, although a number of curving gullies/ditches, which do not fit in the largely rectilinear arrangement of the later, late Saxon/early medieval field system, may also belong to this phase, possibly indicating irregular land division and/or a small enclosure.
- 6.1.8 The late Saxon/early medieval field system recorded on the Site was shown to be an eastward continuation of that recorded at RMC Land, and was again largely bounded to the south by a major east-west ditch (**7861**). The range of other features, including a variety of pits and a waterhole, is comparable to that recorded to the west. The possible southward extension of the field system on the eastern side of the main excavation area, as represented by ditch **7887**, and the possible trackway between it and ditch **7861**, may reflect the Site's proximity to the historic village of Harlington.
- 6.1.9 As at RMC Land, and in contrast to ICSG to the south, there was little evidence for later medieval activity.

## **6.2 Finds**

- 6.2.1 The finds assemblage can clearly be closely related to that from the adjacent site at RMC Land; the date and range of material/object types can all be paralleled at the latter site, although it is the late Saxon/early medieval material which is most apparent here. Within this chronological group the pottery suggests an emphasis on the earlier part of the date range observed at RMC Land (10th to 11th century), and thus an early focus of activity close to the historic village.
- 6.2.2 Prehistoric material, too, is relatively well represented, mainly lithics, but with some pottery, although much of this material may be residual.
- 6.2.3 Romano-British material is not well represented, and indicates a steep drop-off from the low-level distribution seen across the site at RMC Land.

## **6.3 Environment**

### *Charred plant remains*

- 6.3.1 The analysis of the charred plant remains from the early/middle Saxon, late Saxon/early medieval and Saxon or ?later periods have the potential to provide information on the crop processing and agricultural techniques, the land-use and local site economy. This analysis would augment the information gathered from the work carried out earlier on the site at RMC Land and ICSG and would confirm whether the trends for these periods were



localised within parts of the Site or generally more widely distributed across the Site.

#### *Wood charcoal*

- 6.3.2 The comparison of the analysis of wood charcoal from early/middle Saxon, late Saxon/early medieval and Saxon or ?later periods with the analytical results obtained from earlier work at RMC Land and ICSG has the potential to address questions on whether the increase in beech is widespread and the extent the marginal hedgerow areas were being exploited. This would be additional to the information on the management and exploitation of the local woodland resource and any selective practices.

#### *Sediments*

- 6.3.3 Description of the sediments themselves are unlikely to add in any measure to the interpretation of these features.

#### *Pollen*

- 6.3.4 The sequences sampled by monolith are aerated and are likely to have been subject to repeated wetting/drying. The potential for pollen survival is therefore low.

#### *Radiocarbon dating*

- 6.3.5 There are two samples which are extremely rich in charred plant remains, but would require radiocarbon dating to justify their analysis. These are pits **7362** and **7703**. In both cases the charred remains suggest a date lying somewhere between the Early Saxon to even a potential post-medieval date. However, the concentration of settlement activity in the Saxon to early medieval period suggests such a date would be most likely. A further cereal-rich deposit suitable for radiocarbon dating came from ditch **7871** (section **7765**, context **7766**), probably of late Saxon/early medieval date.
- 6.3.6 Two late prehistoric features, pit **7405 (7407)** and ditch **7868** (section **7412**, context **7413**) have cereal remains and have some potential for radiocarbon dating. That from pit **7405** was reasonably rich in remains of cereal and charcoal and so represents a suitable dump of material for radiocarbon dating. That from ditch **7868** has fewer charred remains and is probably less suitable for dating.

## **7 PROPOSALS FOR PUBLICATION, ANALYSIS AND ARCHIVE**

### **7.1 Publication (tasks 11-15, 18-19, 20-24)**

- 7.1.1 The combined results of the evaluation and excavation of the Site are consistent with, and add to, those obtained from the excavations on RMC Land to the immediate west. It is proposed, therefore, that publication of the results be incorporated within the Wessex Archaeology monograph currently in preparation, which presents the combined results of the excavations at RMC Land and Imperial College Sports Ground (Wessex Archaeology 2008).

### **7.2 Stratigraphy (tasks 11-15)**

- 7.2.1 No further stratigraphical analysis beyond that undertaken for this assessment is proposed. The information as presented here will be incorporated into the existing structural text for RMC Land by period, and

tabulated data updated. This will have most impact on the prehistoric and post-Roman sections. The existing site illustrations will also require updating.

### **7.3 Finds**

- 7.3.1 It is anticipated that, for the purposes of analysis and publication, the finds assemblage from the current site will be incorporated into that from RMC Land. Some material categories, by virtue of their small quantities and lack of intrinsic interest, will merit merely an archive record (e.g. CBM, fired clay, glass, slag), while others will be added to the analytical datasets.

#### *Pottery (tasks 5-7)*

- 7.3.2 All pottery will be added to the analytical datasets by period (prehistoric, Romano-British, post-Roman) and recorded to the same level as the assemblage from RMC Land. Some additional comment on the Neolithic pottery may be possible, but otherwise prehistoric and Romano-British data will merely supplement the existing quantifications rather than the text. It is possible that two or three Neolithic sherds may be illustrated.

- 7.3.3 Post-Roman quantifications will be updated, and the discussion on chronological sequence and spatial distribution expanded to cover the current site. The St. Neot's-type ware bowl with post-firing perforations will be illustrated.

#### *Worked flint (task 8)*

- 7.3.4 It is recommended that the flint be incorporated into the forthcoming publication of the adjacent site. The two fragments from polished axes will be compared to those from RMC Land. No illustrations of this material will be required.

#### *Stone (task 9)*

- 7.3.5 The stone consists largely of lava quern fragments, and will necessitate only an updating of existing quantifications, with any necessary amendment to the spatial distribution.

#### *Metalwork (tasks 4 and 9)*

- 7.3.6 All metalwork (except the lead object) will be X-radiographed to aid identification, and catalogue entries updated accordingly. It is unlikely that any objects will warrant further conservation treatment, but a contingency will be made for the partial cleaning of three iron objects, to confirm identifications made from the X-radiographs, and/or to elucidate details of construction.

- 7.3.7 Quantifications will be updated, and existing texts augmented where appropriate; it is anticipated that this will affect the post-Roman assemblage most, but will still have only a minimal impact.

#### *Other finds (task 9)*

- 7.3.8 Other finds (CBM, fired clay, slag, glass) will not be analysed further; sufficient details are already recorded on the project database. For the CBM, fired clay and slag, existing reports will be updated in terms of quantifications, but texts are unlikely to require significant amendment. No illustration is necessary. A comment on the Romano-British glass vessel fragment will be included in the publication report.

*Animal bone (task 10)*

- 7.3.9 All animal bone will be added to the analytical dataset, and recorded to the same level as the assemblage from RMC Land. It is unlikely that this extra data will generate additional comment within the existing report, but existing quantifications will be updated.

## 7.4 Environment

*Charred plant remains (tasks 1-2)*

- 7.4.1 Eight features (10 samples) from the early/middle Saxon and late Saxon/early medieval periods and one sample from an late prehistoric pit **7405 (7407)** have been chosen for detailed analysis to provide a comparison with and augmentation to the earlier analytical work at RMC Land and ICSG.

- 7.4.2 These selected Saxon to medieval features are single samples from pits **7064, 7462** and **7505** and ditch **7873** (section **7630**) and two from ditch **7742**. A further three features have been selected for analysis, as they produced the richest charred plant assemblages, if the date of these features is ascertained. These features are pits **7362** and **7703** and two from ditch **7871** (section **7765**).

- 7.4.3 All identifiable charred plant macrofossils will be extracted from the 2 and 1mm residues together with the flot. Identification will be undertaken using stereo incident light microscopy at magnifications of up to x40 using a Leica MS5 microscope, following the nomenclature of Stace (1997) and with reference to modern reference collections where appropriate, quantified and the results tabulated.

*Wood charcoal (tasks 1 and 3)*

- 7.4.4 The wood charcoal from three features of early/middle Saxon and late Saxon/early medieval date has been proposed for analysis to compliment the work already carried out in the area. These features are pits **7064** and **7505** and ditch **7742**. The wood charcoal from pit **7362** should also be considered for analysis if this feature is radiocarbon dated.

- 7.4.5 Identifiable charcoal will be extracted from the 2mm residue together and the flot (>2mm). Larger richer samples will be sub-sampled. Fragments will be prepared for identification according to the standard methodology of Leney and Casteel (1975, see also Gale and Cutler 2000). Charcoal pieces will be fractured with a razor blade so that three planes can be seen: transverse section (TS), radial longitudinal section (RL) and tangential longitudinal section (TL). They will then be examined under bi-focal epi-illuminated microscopy at magnifications of x50, x100 and x400 using a Kyowa ME-LUX2 microscope. Identification will be undertaken according to the anatomical characteristics described by Schweingruber (1990) and Butterfield and Meylan (1980). Identification will be to the lowest taxonomic level possible, usually that of genus and nomenclature according to Stace (1997), individual taxon (mature and twig) will be separated, quantified, and the results tabulated.

*Sediments*

- 7.4.6 Given the low potential for pollen survival pollen it is recommended that no further work be carried out on these samples.

### *Pollen*

- 7.4.7 Given the low potential for pollen survival pollen it is recommended that no work be carried out on these samples.

### *Radiocarbon dating (tasks 16-17)*

- 7.4.8 It is proposed to date material from the late prehistoric pit **7405 (7407)**, along with two from probable late Saxon/early medieval pits **7362 (7363)** and **7703 (7704)**.

## **7.5 Task list**

- 7.5.1 **Table 8** sets out the tasks required to carry out the programme of work described above.

**Table 8:** Task list

<b>Task</b>	<b>Post-excavation analysis</b>	<b>Staff</b>	<b>Days</b>
1	Extract environmental	Wyles S	10
2	Charred plant remains	Stevens S	10
3	Charcoal	Challinor D	5
4	Conservation- includes x-ray & cleaning	WCC	1
5	Pottery- prehistoric	Leivers M	1.5
6	Pottery – Romano-British	Seager Smith R	1
7	Pottery- saxon & med	Mephram L	5
8	Worked and burnt flint	Bradley P	2.5
9	Other finds: worked stone, cbm, slag, metalwork, fired clay, glass	Various	3
10	Animal bone	Grimm J	1.5
	<b>Report</b>		
11	Stratigraphic: prehistoric and Romano-British	Powell A	3
12	Stratigraphic: post-Romano-British	Mephram L	5
13	Discussion: prehistoric and Romano-British	Powell A	0.5
14	Discussion: post-Romano-British	Mephram L	1.5
15	Discussion: environmental	Stevens C	1
16	Select radiocarbon samples and report	Barclay A	1
17	Radiocarbon dates (x 3)	SUERC	1
18	Complete digitisation of figures	Goller R	3
19	Illustrations	Goller R	5
	<b>Manage, publication and archive</b>		
20	Finds management	Mephram L	1
21	Enviro management	Stevens C	1
22	Management	Barclay A	5
23	Contribution towards publication		1
24	Archiving costs		1

## **7.6 Archive storage and curation**

### *Museum*

- 7.6.1 The project archive resulting from the excavation will be deposited with the Museum of London (MoL). The Museum has agreed in principle to accept the project archive on completion of the project, under the site code WGA 07. Deposition of the finds with the Museum will only be carried out with the full agreement of the landowner.

### *Preparation of archive (task 24)*

- 7.6.2 The complete site archive, which will include paper records, photographic records, graphics, artefacts and ecofacts, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by the Museum of London, and in general following nationally recommended

guidelines (Walker 1990; SMA 1995; Richards and Robinson 2000; Brown 2007).

- 7.6.3 All archive elements are marked with the MoL site code WGA 07, and a full index will be prepared. The contents of the evaluation and excavation are listed in **Table 9**.

**Table 9:** the archive (WGA 07)

NAR Cat	Details	Format	Number of sheets		
			<i>Eval.</i>	<i>Excav.</i>	<i>Total</i>
B	Day book (photocopy)	A4	18	68	<b>86</b>
E	Environmental sample register	A4	1	3	<b>4</b>
E	Environmental sample records	A4	2	49	<b>51</b>
C	Object register	A4	-	3	<b>3</b>
C	Object records	A4	-	31	<b>31</b>
B	Context index	A4	-	32	<b>32</b>
D	Photographic register	A4	10	54	<b>64</b>
D	Photographic register (digital)	A4	4	14	<b>18</b>
B	Graphics register	A4	-	15	<b>15</b>
B	Site graphics	A4	35	146	<b>181</b>
B	Site graphics	A3	3	52	<b>55</b>
B	Site graphics	A1	-	3	<b>3</b>
B	Trial trench record	A4	14	-	<b>14</b>
B	Context records	A4	77	879	<b>956</b>
-	Black and white photo negatives	35mm	166	949	<b>1115</b>
-	Colour slides	35mm	166	949	<b>1115</b>
13 cardboard boxes or airtight plastic boxes of artefacts & ecofacts, ordered by material type					

#### *Conservation*

- 7.6.4 No immediate conservation requirements were noted in the field. Finds which have been identified as of unstable condition and therefore potentially in need of further conservation treatment comprise the metal objects.

- 7.6.5 Metal objects will be X-radiographed, as a basic record and also to aid identification. On the basis of the X-rays, the range of objects present and their provenance on the Site, a maximum of three iron objects will be selected for further conservation treatment, involving investigative cleaning and stabilisation.

#### *Discard policy*

- 7.6.6 Wessex Archaeology follows the guidelines set out in *Selection, Retention and Dispersal* (Society of Museum Archaeologists 1993), which allows for the discard of selected artefact and ecofact categories which are not considered to warrant any future analysis. In this instance, following the MoL guidelines, burnt, unworked flint has already been discarded. No further discard prior to deposition is anticipated.

- 7.6.7 The discard of environmental remains and samples follows the guidelines laid out in Wessex Archaeology's 'Archive and Dispersal Policy for Environmental Remains and Samples'. The archive policy conforms with nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1993; 1995; English Heritage 2002) and is available upon request.

#### *Copyright*

- 7.6.8 The full copyright of the written/illustrative archive relating to the Site is currently by Wessex Archaeology Ltd under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved. On deposition of the archive, full

copyright will be transferred to the Museum of London, enabling use of the archive for educational purposes, including academic research.

*Security copy*

- 7.6.9 In line with current best practice, on completion of the project a security copy of the paper records will be prepared, in the form of microfilm. The master jackets and one diazo copy of the microfilm will be submitted to the National Archaeological Record (English Heritage), a second diazo copy will be deposited with the paper records, and a third diazo copy will be retained by Wessex Archaeology.

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## APPENDIX 1: SPECIALIST TABLES

**Table 7:** Assessment of the charred plant remains and charcoal

Key: A\*\*\* = exceptional, A\*\* = 100+, A\* = 30-99, A = >10, B = 9-5, C = <5;

Analysis: C = charcoal, P = plant,

Feature	Context	Sample	Size (l)	Flot size (ml)	Roots %	Grain	Chaff	Cereal notes	Charred other	Notes	Charcoal 4/2mm	Other	Analysis
<b>Prehistoric</b>													
<i>Pits</i>													
7177	7190	405	20	5	10	C	-	Indet. grain frags	-	-	<1/1 ml	-	
7217	7218	430	20	40	70	B	C	Wheat + barley grain frags, rachis frags	C	<i>Corylus avellana</i> shell frags, <i>Chenopodium</i> (prob. modern)	2/1 ml	-	
7316	7318	411	10	50	60	A	C	?Hulled wheat + barley grain frags, barley rachis	A	<i>Avena/Bromus</i> , <i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> , Brassicaceae, Polygonaceae, <i>Corylus avellana</i> shell frags, <i>Chenopodium</i> (prob. modern)	6/4 ml	-	
7513	7515	429	20	25	50	B	-	Wheat + barley grain frags	C	<i>Avena/Bromus</i> , <i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> , Brassicaceae, <i>Chenopodium</i> (prob. modern)	2/3 ml	-	
<i>Ditches</i>													
7868 s. 7412	7413	418	10	10	50	A	C	F-t wheat +barley grain frags, spelt wheat glume frags	C	<i>Avena/Bromus</i> , Polygonaceae, <i>Chenopodium</i> (prob. modern)	0/2 ml	-	
7893 s. 7767	7768	444	10	10	70	C	-	Indet. grain frags	C	Polygonaceae	<1/<1 ml	-	
7896 s. 7783	7785	442	10	8	70	C	-	?Hulled wheat grain frags	-	-	0/1 ml	-	
9018	9019	2	20	40	30	-	-	-	C	1x hazelnut fragment ( <i>Corylus avellana</i> )	-	-	
<b>Late prehistoric</b>													
<i>Pits</i>													
7292	7301	409	20	5	20	C	-	Indet. grain frags	-	-	1/1 ml	-	
7327	7329	412	10	10	50	B	-	?Hulled wheat + barley grain frags	B	<i>Avena/Bromus</i> , Poaceae, <i>Chenopodium</i> (prob. modern)	2/1 ml	-	
7405	7407	417	20	90	55	A*	C	Hulled wheat, ?F-t wheat +barley grain frags, spelt wheat glume frags	A	<i>Vicia faba</i> , <i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> , <i>Avena/Bromus</i> , Polygonaceae, <i>Persicaria</i> , <i>Ranunculus</i> , Brassicaceae, <i>Chenopodium</i>	10/10 ml	-	P
<i>Ditch</i>													
7877 s. 7450	7451	424	10	25	75	B	C	F-t wheat grain frags, rachis frags	C	<i>Corylus avellana</i> shell frags, <i>Avena/Bromus</i>	1/1 ml	-	
<b>Early/middle Saxon</b>													
<i>Pits</i>													

Feature	Context	Sample	Size (l)	Flot size (ml)	Roots %	Grain	Chaff	Cereal notes	Charred other	Notes	Charcoal 4/2mm	Other	Analysis
7064	7067	400	10	40	8	A	A	F-t wheat + barley grain frags, rachis frags	A	<i>Avena/Bromus</i> , <i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> , Polygonaceae, Poaceae, Brassicaceae, <i>Chenopodium</i> (prob. modern)	10/8 ml	Min. seeds (C) inc. ? <i>Chenopodium</i>	P C
7462	7466	421	20	60	65	A	C	F-t wheat, barley + ?rye grain frags, rachis frags	A*	<i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> , <i>Avena/Bromus</i> , <i>Corylus avellana</i> shell frags, Polygonaceae, <i>Anthemis cotula</i> , <i>Tripleurospermum inodorum</i> , <i>Lolium/Festuca</i> , <i>Prunus spinosa</i> stone frags, Brassicaceae, Poaceae, <i>Atriplex</i> , <i>Chenopodium</i> (prob. modern)	3/2 ml	-	P
7549	7552	427	19	10	40	A	C	F-t wheat + ?barley grain frags	B	<i>Avena/Bromus</i> , <i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> , <i>Chenopodium</i> (prob. modern)	1/1 ml	-	
<i>Ditch</i>													
7861 s. 7772	7774	443	10	5	40	C	-	F-t wheat grain frags	B	<i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> , <i>Avena/Bromus</i> , Poaceae, Brassicaceae, <i>Chenopodium</i> (prob. modern)	0/1 ml	-	
<b>Late Saxon/early medieval</b>													
<i>Pits</i>													
7069	7070	406	20	25	10	A	C	?F-t wheat + barley grain frags, rachis frags	A	<i>Avena/Bromus</i> , <i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> , <i>Plantago lanceolata</i> , <i>Anthemis cotula</i> , <i>Tripleurospermum inodorum</i> , Poaceae, Brassicaceae, <i>Chenopodium</i>	7/2 ml	-	
7276	7277	408	10	15	35	B	-	?F-t wheat + barley grain frags	C	<i>Avena/Bromus</i>	2/1 ml	-	
7398	7399	415	10	15	20	A	C	F-t wheat + barley grain frags, rachis frags	A	<i>Avena/Bromus</i> , <i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> , Brassicaceae, Poaceae, Polygonaceae, <i>Chenopodium</i> (prob. modern)	2/3 ml	fish scale (C)	
7426	7433	419	20	30	70	A	C	F-t wheat, barley + ?rye grain frags, rachis frags	A	<i>Avena/Bromus</i> , <i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> , <i>Medicago/Trifolium</i> , <i>Plantago lanceolata</i> , <i>Anthemis cotula</i> , Polygonaceae, Poaceae, Brassicaceae, <i>Chenopodium</i>	3/3 ml	-	
7505	7506	425	20	80	40	A*	C	F-t wheat, barley + ?rye grain frags, rachis frags	A	<i>Avena/Bromus</i> , <i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> , <i>Anthemis cotula</i> , Polygonaceae, <i>Chenopodium</i> (prob. modern)	15/10 ml	-	P C
7682	7683	433	10	75	60	A	-	F-t wheat + ?rye grain frags	A	<i>Avena/Bromus</i> , <i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> , <i>Corylus avellana</i> shell frags, <i>Chenopodium</i> (prob. modern)	5/15 ml	-	
7698	7699	447	10	30	35	B	C	Wheat + ?barley grain frags, glume frags	A	<i>Corylus avellana</i> shell frags, <i>Avena/Bromus</i> , <i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> , <i>Galium</i> , <i>Lolium/Festuca</i> , Brassicaceae, <i>Chenopodium</i> (prob. modern)	4/2 ml	-	
7700	7702	435	10	30	50	A	C	F-t wheat + barley grain frags, rachis frags	B	<i>Avena/Bromus</i> , <i>Tripleurospermum inodorum</i> , Brassicaceae, <i>Chenopodium</i> (prob. modern)	3/2 ml	-	

Feature	Context	Sample	Size (l)	Flot size (ml)	Roots %	Grain	Chaff	Cereal notes	Charred other	Notes	Charcoal 4/2mm	Other	Analysis
	7702	436	10	25	30	A	C	?F-t wheat + barley grain frags, rachis frags	A	<i>Avena/Bromus</i> , <i>Vicia faba</i> , <i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> , <i>Carex</i> , Polygonaceae, <i>Chenopodium</i> (prob. modern)	3/2 ml		
<i>Well/pit</i>													
7097	7102	401	10	60	5	A	-	F-t wheat, barley + ?rye grain frags	A	<i>Avena/Bromus</i> , <i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> , <i>Veronica</i> , <i>Tripleurospermum inodorum</i> , Brassicaceae	10/7 ml	-	
	7098	402	10	5	40	B	-	F-t wheat + barley grains frags	C	<i>Avena/Bromus</i> , <i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> , <i>Chenopodium</i> (prob. modern)	<1/<1 ml		
<i>Ditches</i>													
7861 s. 7233	7237	407	10	10	10	B	C	F-t wheat +?rye grain frags, rachis frags	A	<i>Avena/Bromus</i> , <i>Lolium/Festuca</i> , <i>Anthemis cotula</i> , Polygonaceae, <i>Veronica</i> , <i>Chenopodium</i>	<1/1 ml	-	
7293 s. 7855	7294	410	10	35	55	A	C	F-t wheat, barley + ?rye grain frags, rachis frags	A	<i>Avena/Bromus</i> , <i>Vicia faba</i> , <i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> , <i>Corylus avellana</i> shell frags, <i>Medicago/Trifolium</i> , <i>Anthemis cotula</i> , Polygonaceae, <i>Chenopodium</i> (prob. modern)	2/1 ml	-	
7874 s. 7393	7394	416	10	40	60	A	C	F-t wheat, barley +?rye grain frags, rachis frags	A	<i>Avena/Bromus</i> , <i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> , <i>Tripleurospermum inodorum</i> , <i>Anthemis cotula</i> , Polygonaceae, <i>Lolium/Festuca</i> , <i>Chenopodium</i>	3/5 ml	-	
7509	7510	423	20	40	35	A*	A	F-t wheat, barley + ?rye grain frags, rachis frags	A*	<i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> , <i>Avena/Bromus</i> , Polygonaceae, <i>Anthemis cotula</i> , <i>Tripleurospermum inodorum</i> , Brassicaceae, <i>Galium</i> , <i>Trifolium/Medicago</i> , Poaceae, <i>Chenopodium</i> (prob. modern)	4/3 ml	-	
7873 s. 7630	7631	445	10	50	70	A*	B	F-t wheat, barley + ?rye grain frags, rachis frags	A*	<i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> , <i>Vicia faba</i> , <i>Prunus spinosa</i> stone frag, <i>Avena/Bromus</i> , Polygonaceae, <i>Anthemis cotula</i> , <i>Tripleurospermum inodorum</i> , Brassicaceae, <i>Persicaria</i> , Poaceae, <i>Chenopodium</i>	3/2 ml	-	P
7875 s. 7637	7638	431	10	50	25	A*	-	F-t wheat, barley + ?rye grain frags, rachis frags	A	<i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> , <i>Avena/Bromus</i> , <i>Corylus avellana</i> shell frags, Polygonaceae, <i>Anthemis cotula</i> , Brassicaceae, Poaceae, <i>Chenopodium</i> (prob. modern)	10/10 ml	-	
7742	7745	438	9	250	5	A***	A*	F-t wheat, barley + ?rye grain frags, rachis frags	A**	<i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> , <i>Vicia faba</i> , <i>Avena/Bromus</i> , <i>Agrostemma githago</i> , <i>Corylus avellana</i> shell frags, <i>Carex</i> , Polygonaceae, <i>Anthemis cotula</i> , <i>Tripleurospermum inodorum</i> , Brassicaceae, <i>Chenopodium</i> , <i>Atriplex</i>	15/10 ml	-	P C

Feature	Context	Sample	Size (l)	Flot size (ml)	Roots %	Grain	Chaff	Cereal notes	Charred other	Notes	Charcoal 4/2mm	Other	Analysis
	7746	439	10	60	40	A**	A*	F-t wheat, barley + ?rye grain frags, rachis frags	A**	<i>Vicia/Lathyrus, Vicia faba, Avena/Bromus, Agrostemma githago seed head and seeds, Ranunculus, Carex, Polygonaceae, Anthemis cotula, Tripleurospermum inodorum, Brassicaceae, Viola, Poaceae, Chenopodium</i>	6/4 ml	-	P
<b>Late Saxon/medieval or later</b>													
<i>Pits</i>													
7343	7344	413	10	60	50	A	C	F-t wheat +?rye grain frags, rachis frags	B	<i>Vicia/Lathyrus, Avena/Bromus, Chenopodium (prob. modern)</i>	15/10 ml	-	
7362	7363	414	20	500	3	A***	A*	F-t wheat, barley + ?rye grain frags, rachis frags	A**	<i>Avena/Bromus, Vicia/Lathyrus, Vicia faba, Medicago/Trifolium, Plantago lanceolata, Anthemis cotula, Persicaria, Tripleurospermum inodorum, Corylus avellana shell frags, Lolium/Festuca, Agrostemma githago, Malva, Ranunculus, Polygonaceae, Poaceae, Brassicaceae, Chenopodium</i>	125/75 ml	smb (B)	P C
7438	7439	420	20	100	60	A*	C	F-t wheat + barley grain frags, rachis frags	A	<i>Avena/Bromus, Vicia/Lathyrus, Persicaria, Atriplex, Brassicaceae, Chenopodium (prob. modern)</i>	10/10 ml	-	
7471	7473	426	10	250	3	A*	C	F-t wheat, barley + ?rye grain frags, rachis frags	A**	<i>Avena/Bromus (A**), Vicia/Lathyrus, Anthemis cotula, Polygonaceae, Chenopodium, Vicia faba, Prunus spinosa stone frags, Corylus avellana shell frags</i>	60/60 ml	-	
7558	7559	428	20	30	65	A	C	F-t wheat, barley + ?rye grain frags, rachis frags	A	<i>Vicia/Lathyrus, Avena/Bromus, Poaceae, Corylus avellana shell frags, Chenopodium (prob. modern)</i>	2/2 ml	-	
7703	7704	432	10	125	10	A***	A*	F-t wheat, barley + ?rye grains, rachis frags	A**	<i>Vicia/Lathyrus, Vicia faba, Avena/Bromus, Agrostemma githago, Polygonaceae, Anthemis cotula, Tripleurospermum inodorum, Brassicaceae, Chenopodium, Raphanus raphanistrum, Lapsana communis, Viola, Poaceae</i>	10/5 ml	-	P
<i>Waterhole</i>													
7900 s. 7738	7756	440	20	15	80	B	C	F-t wheat +?rye grain frags, rachis frags	C	<i>Vicia/Lathyrus, Avena/Bromus</i>	1/<1 ml	-	
7900 s. 7831	7833	448	20	60	75	A	A	F-t wheat, barley + ?rye grain frags, rachis frags, culm nodes	A	<i>Avena/Bromus, Agrostemma githago, Persicaria, Brassicaceae, Chenopodium (prob. modern)</i>	2/2 ml	-	

Feature	Context	Sample	Size (l)	Flot size (ml)	Roots %	Grain	Chaff	Cereal notes	Charred other	Notes	Charcoal 4/2mm	Other	Analysis
<i>itch</i>													
7871 s. 7765	7766	441	10	40	25	A	C	F-t wheat, ?barley + ?rye grain frags, rachis frags	A*	<i>Vicia/Lathyrus, Avena/Bromus, Agrostemma githago, Corylus avellana</i> shell frags, <i>Galium</i> , Brassicaceae, <i>Tripleurospermum inodorum</i> , <i>Anthemis cotula</i> , <i>Ranunculus</i> , Apiaceae, <i>Carex, Malva, Atriplex, Chenopodium</i> (prob. modern)	5/3 ml	-	P
	7766	441*	10	60	20	A*	A	F-t wheat, barley + ?rye grain frags, rachis frags	A*	<i>Vicia/Lathyrus, Avena/Bromus, Agrostemma githago, Vicia faba, Galium</i> , Brassicaceae, <i>Tripleurospermum inodorum, Anthemis cotula</i> , Polygonaceae, <i>Lolium/Festuca, Malva, Atriplex, Chenopodium</i> (prob. modern)	7/3 ml	-	P
<b>Unphased</b>													
<i>Well/pit</i>													
7125	7129	403	20	10	60	C	-	Indet. grain frags	C	Polygonaceae, <i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i>	1/2 ml	-	
	7157	404	10	10	70	C	-	Indet. grain frags	C	<i>Chenopodium</i>	1/1 ml	-	
<i>Pits</i>													
7358	7359	422	10	40	55	A	C	?Hulled wheat + barley grain frags, glume frags	B	<i>Avena/Bromus, Vicia/Lathyrus</i> , Brassicaceae, <i>Atriplex, Chenopodium</i> (prob. modern)	10/5ml	-	
7632	7633	434	10	15	75	-	-	-	-	<i>Chenopodium</i> (prob. modern)	<1/1 ml	-	
pit 3016	3017	1	20	175	30	A**	C	F-t wheat, barley and rye	B	<i>Avena</i> sp, <i>Bromus</i> sp. <i>Vicia/ Lathyrus</i> sp, <i>Rumex crispus, Galium aparine, Centaurea</i> sp., <i>Tripleurospermum inodorum</i>	20/15ml	-	-

## APPENDIX 2: OASIS FORM

### OASIS ID: wessexar1-70070

#### Project details

Project name LAND EAST OF WALLED GARDEN FARM, LONDON BOROUGH OF HILLINGDON

Short description of the project Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Henry Streeter (Sand and Ballast) Ltd to undertake an archaeological excavation in advance of sand and gravel extraction. The Site, which lies south of the M4 and east of Wall Garden Farm, is situated immediately east of the existing workings at RMC Land, Harlington. The potential of the Site was established by archaeological evaluation in 2007, as well as by the results of the adjacent excavations of RMC Land. Features were exposed after the removal of c. 0.5m of topsoil and subsoil, and cut the natural brickearth, a few also cutting the underlying gravels. Features have been phased on the basis of their artefactual contents, stratigraphical relationships and spatial associations, and in some cases this phasing is tentative. The majority of the features appear to be of late Saxon/early medieval date (10th/11th century), with a much smaller number phased to the Neolithic, late prehistoric, Romano-British, early/middle Saxon and post-medieval periods. A significant number of features remain unphased. The dates, distribution, nature, form and contents of the features recorded on the Site appear almost wholly consistent with, and represent an eastern continuation of, those recorded more extensively to the west on RMC Land, as well as to the south at Imperial College Sports Ground.

Project dates Start: 01-06-2009 End: 30-09-2009

Previous/future work Yes / Yes

Any associated project reference codes WGA07 - Museum accession ID

Any associated project reference codes 59705 - Sitecode

Any associated project reference codes 3952/APP/2008/1176 - Planning Application No.

Type of project Field evaluation

Site status None

Current Land use	Cultivated Land 1 - Minimal cultivation
Monument type	PITS Neolithic
Monument type	FIELD SYSTEM Late Prehistoric
Monument type	FIELD SYSTEM Early Medieval
Monument type	STRUCTURE Uncertain
Monument type	DITCH Roman
Significant Finds	POTTERY Neolithic
Significant Finds	WORKED FLINT Neolithic
Significant Finds	POTTERY Late Prehistoric
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Significant Finds	NAIL Early Medieval
Significant Finds	KNIFE BLADE Early Medieval
Methods techniques	& 'Targeted Trenches'
Development type	Mineral extraction (e.g. sand, gravel, stone, coal, ore, etc.)
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON HILLINGDON HILLINGDON Land East of Walled Garden Farm

Study area 4.00 Hectares

Site coordinates TQ 508600 178200 50.9394883734 0.147453174782 50 56 22 N  
000 08 50 E Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 25.70m Max: 26.50m

### Project creators

Name of Wessex Archaeology  
Organisation

Project originator brief Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory  
body

Project originator design Wessex Archaeology

Project director/manager Paul McCulloch

Project director/manager Alistair Barclay

Project supervisor J Martin

### Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Museum of London

Physical Archive ID WGA07

Physical Contents 'Animal Bones','Ceramics','Environmental','Glass','Worked  
stone/lithics'

Digital Archive recipient Museum of London

Digital Archive ID WGA07

Digital Contents 'other'



Digital available Media 'Database','Images raster / digital  
photography','Spreadsheets','Text'

Paper recipient Archive Museum of London

Paper Archive ID WGA07

Paper Contents 'Stratigraphic','other'

Paper available Media 'Context sheet','Photograph','Report','Section','Unspecified Archive'

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### Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Land East of Wall Garden Farm, London Borough of Hillingdon:  
Post-Excavation Report

Author(s)/Editor(s) Martin, J and Powell, A

Other bibliographic details 59705.1

Date 2009

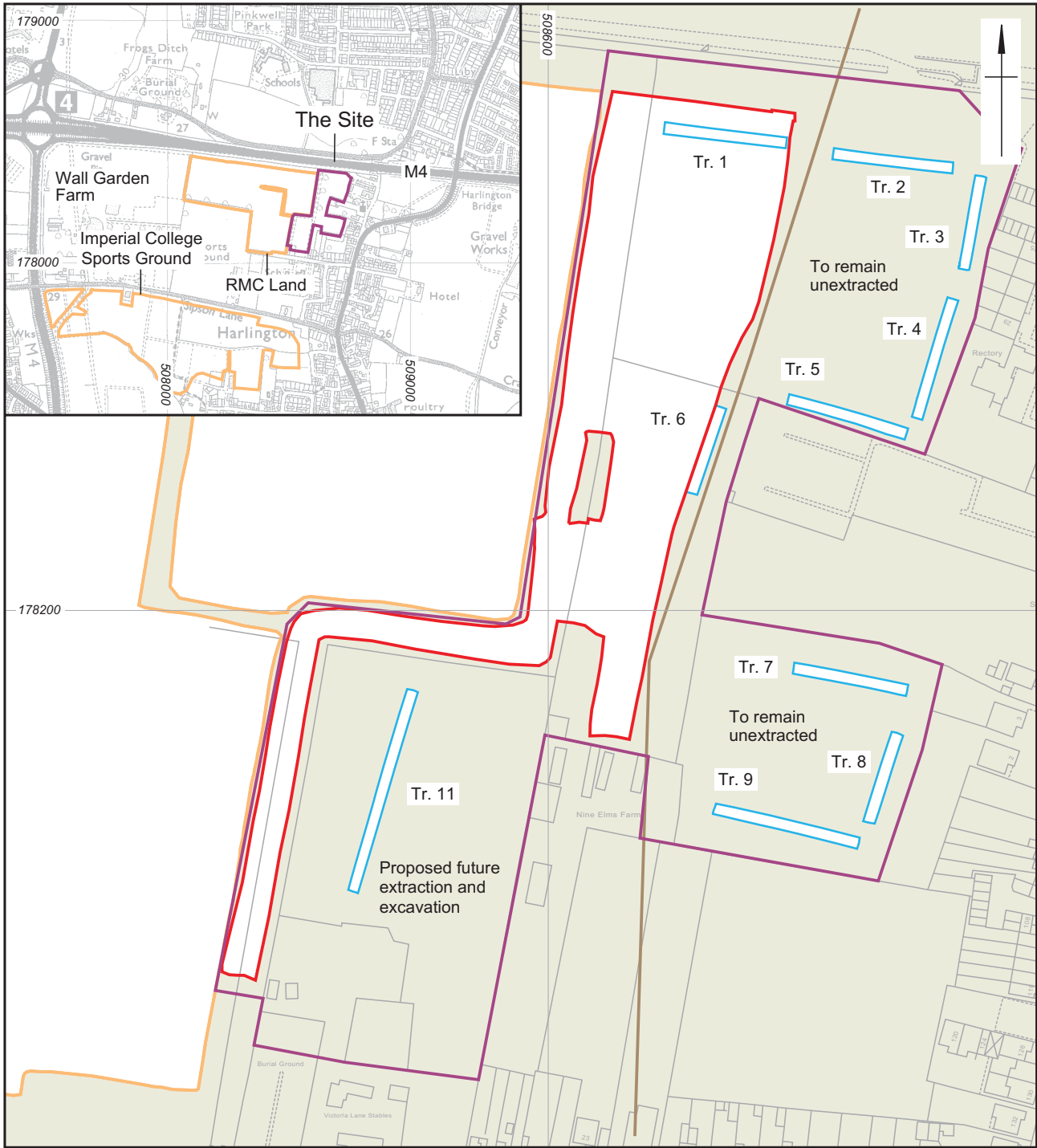
Issuer or publisher Wessex Archaeology






Place of issue or publication Salisbury

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Entered by Stuart Wilkinson (s.wilkinson@wessexarch.co.uk)

Entered on 6 January 2010



-  The Site
-  Excavation area
-  Evaluation trench
-  Previous archaeological excavations by Wessex Archaeology
-  Sipson North East Extention Sewer

0 0.5 km



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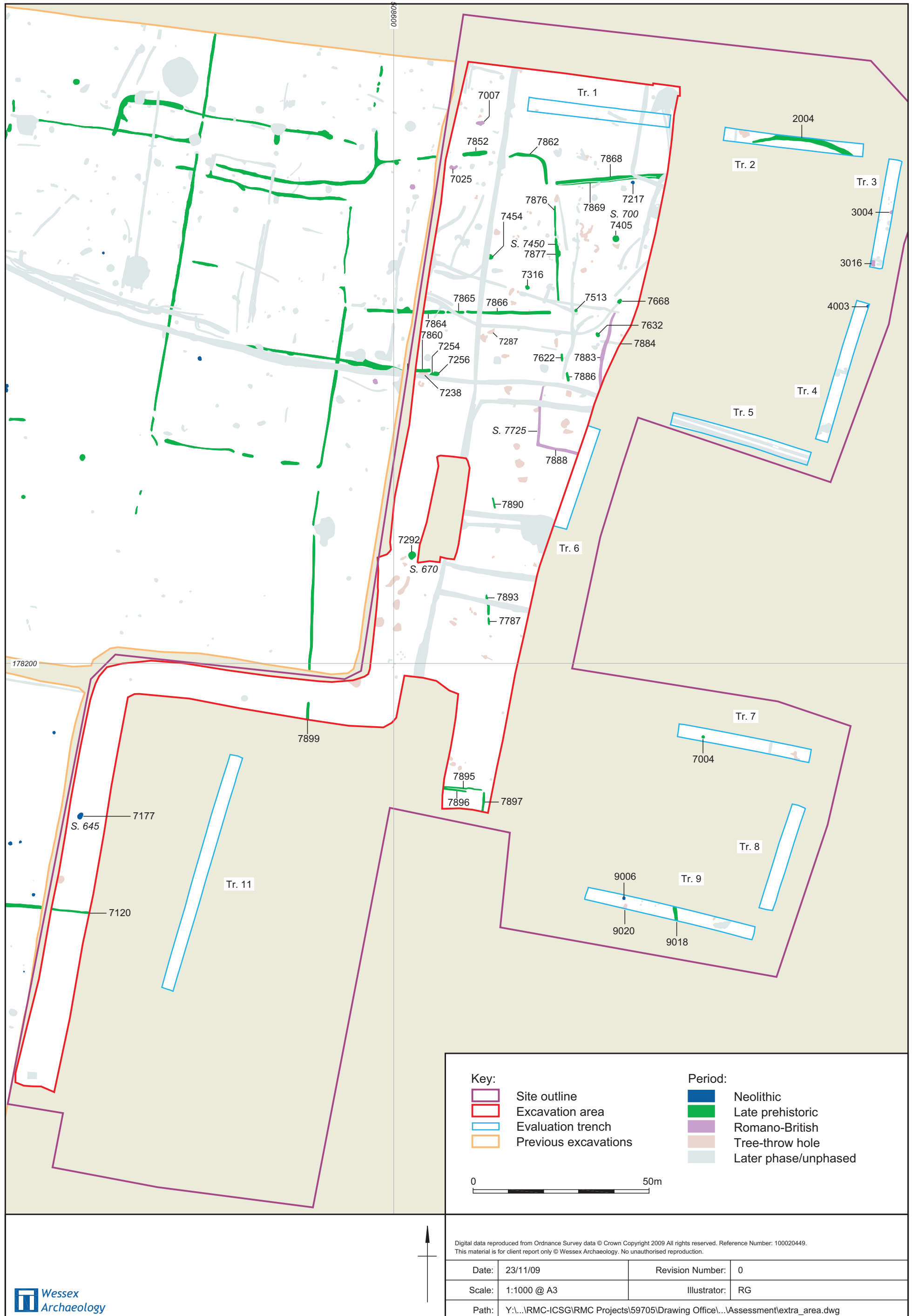
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Site location plan

Figure 1



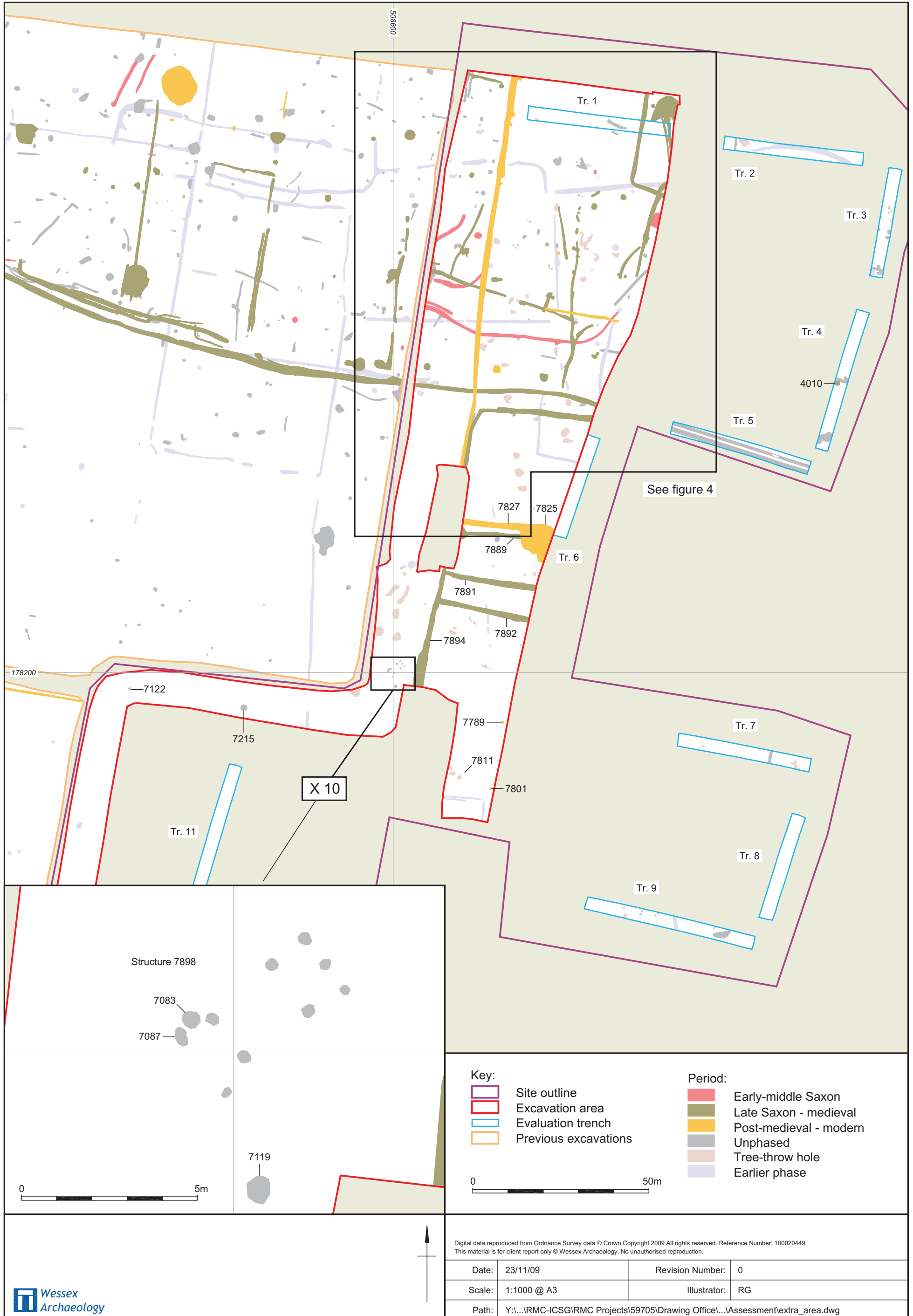
Key:		Period:	
	Site outline		Neolithic
	Excavation area		Late prehistoric
	Evaluation trench		Romano-British
	Previous excavations		Tree-throw hole
			Later phase/unphased

0 50m

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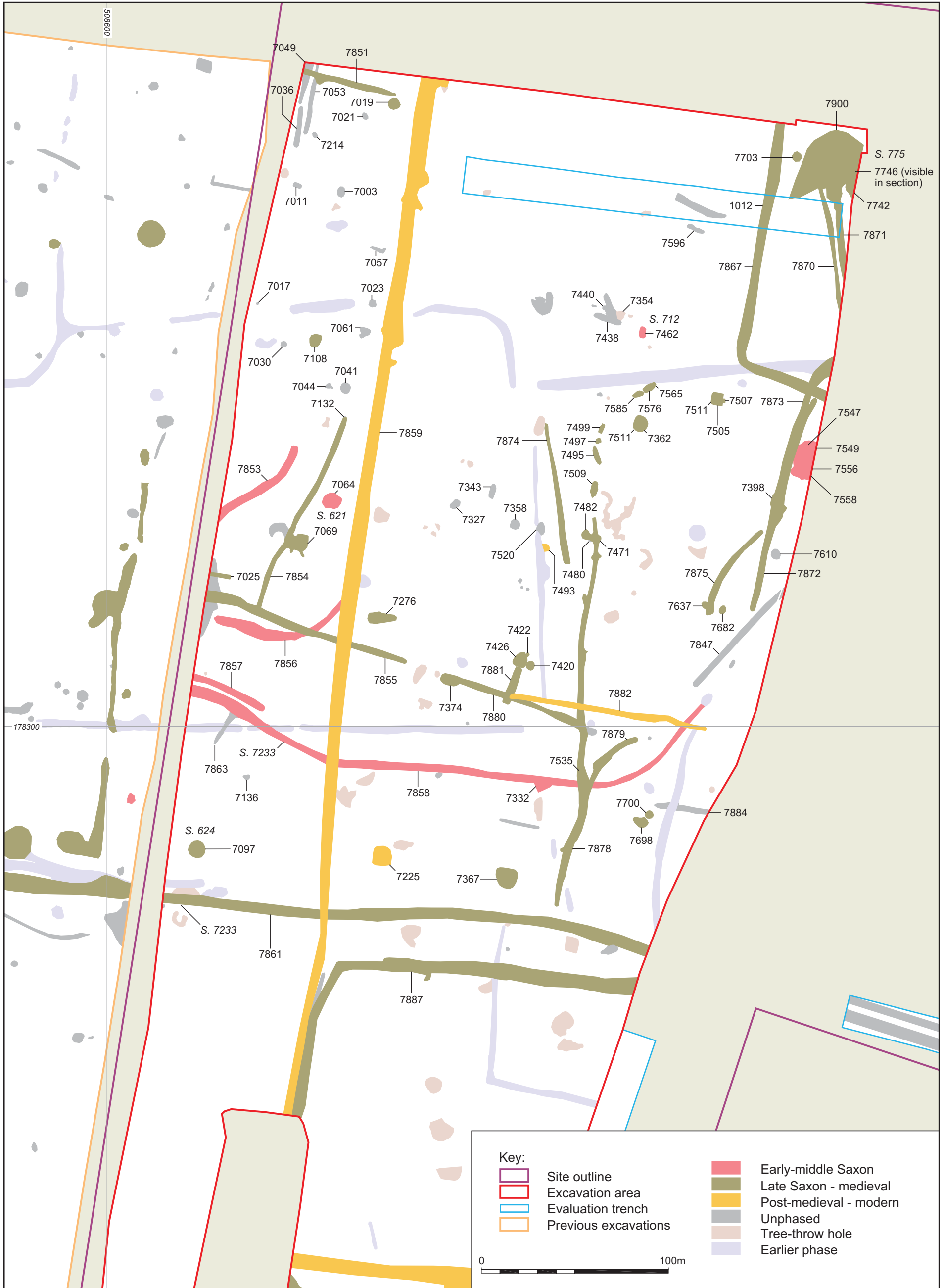
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Saxon, medieval, post-medieval and undated phases

Figure 3



**Key:**

- Site outline
- Excavation area
- Evaluation trench
- Previous excavations
- Early-middle Saxon
- Late Saxon - medieval
- Post-medieval - modern
- Unphased
- Tree-throw hole
- Earlier phase

0 100m

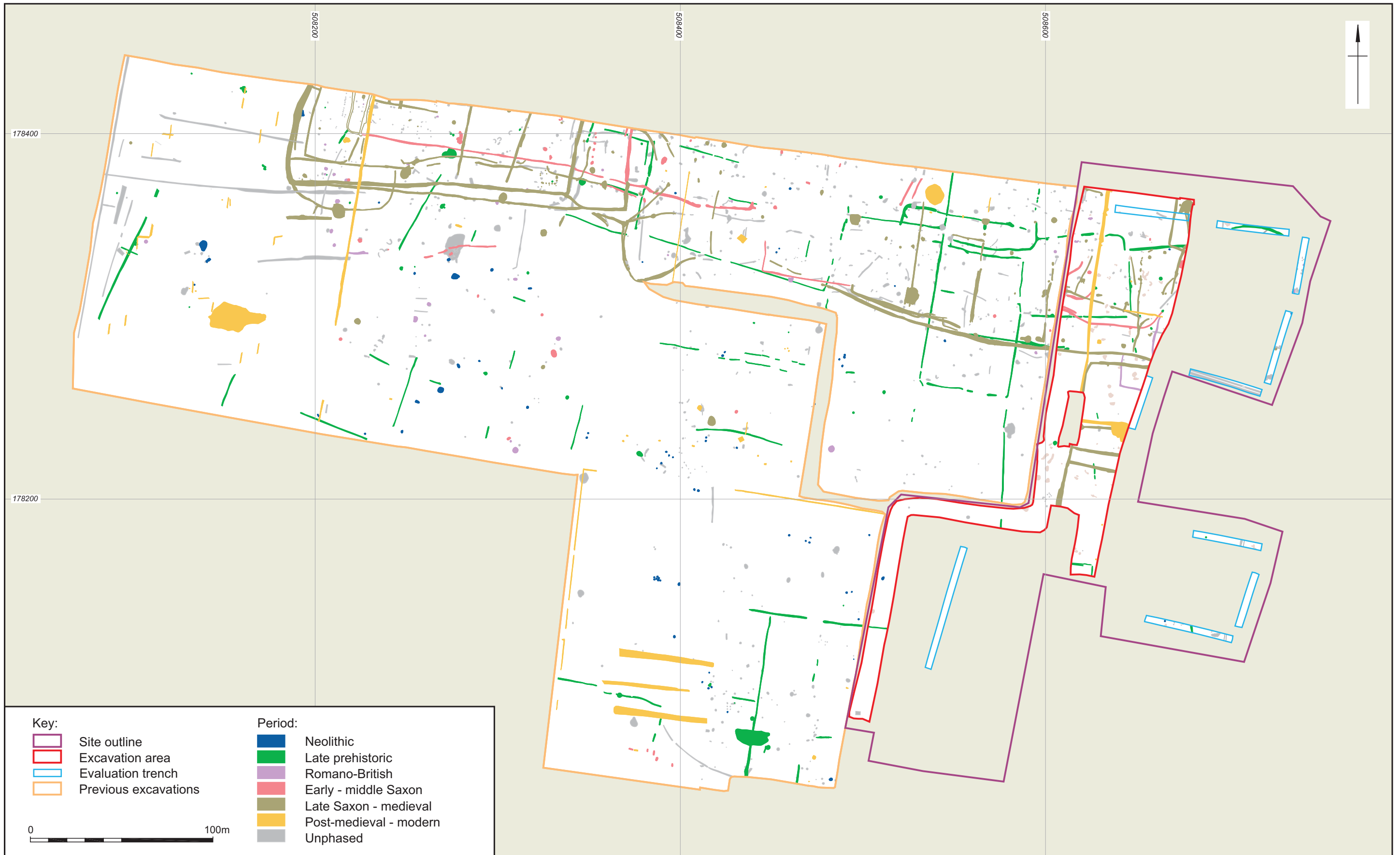
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Detail of the north of the Site: Saxon, medieval, post-medieval and undated phases

Figure 4



<b>Key:</b>		<b>Period:</b>	
	Site outline		Neolithic
	Excavation area		Late prehistoric
	Evaluation trench		Romano-British
	Previous excavations		Early - middle Saxon
			Late Saxon - medieval
			Post-medieval - modern
			Unphased

0 100m

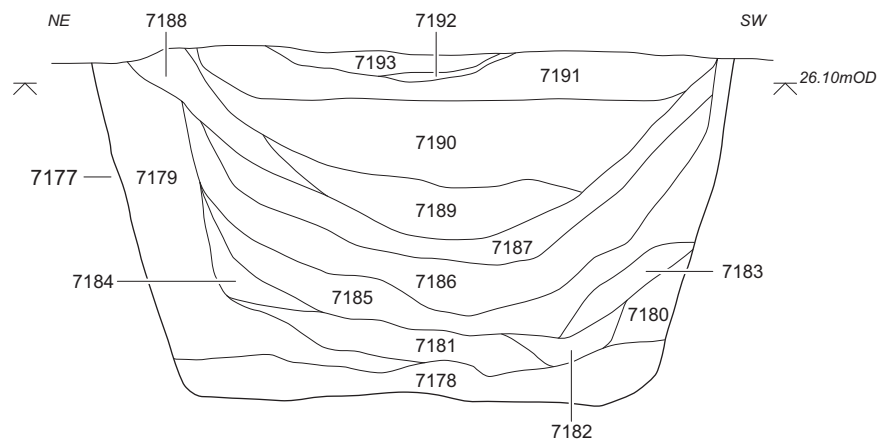
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Combined phase plan of Site and RMC land

Figure 5

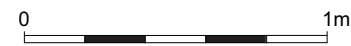
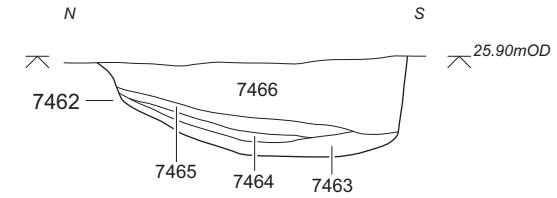
Section 645: Pit 7177



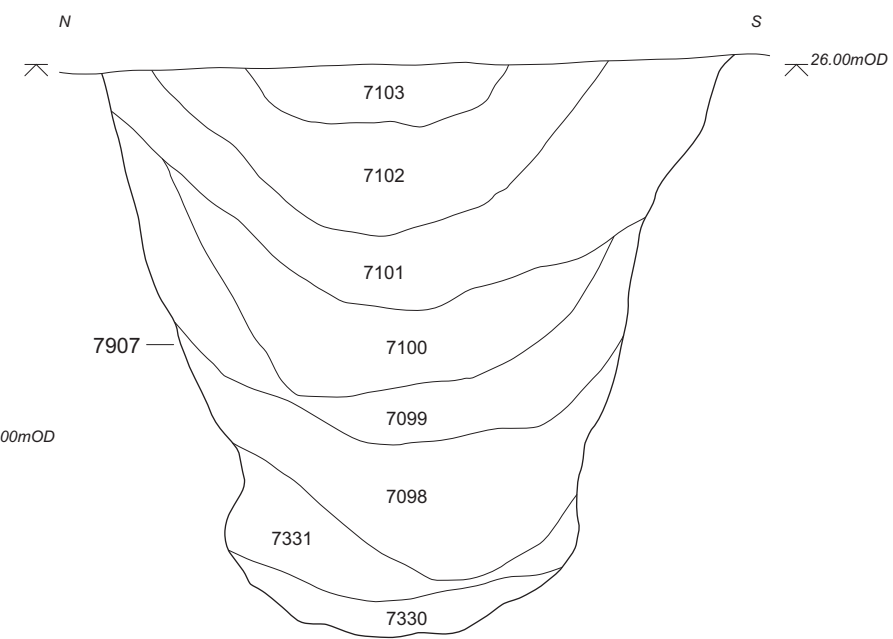
Section 700: Pit 7405



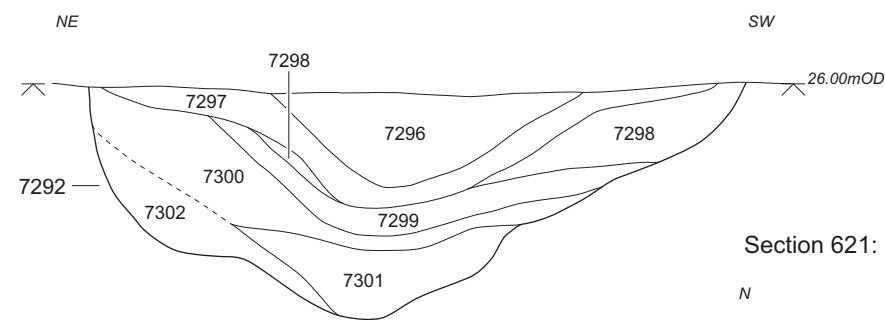
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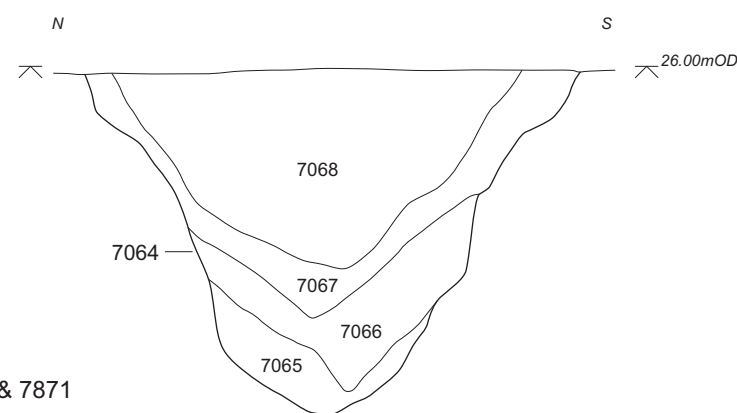
Section 624: Pit 7097



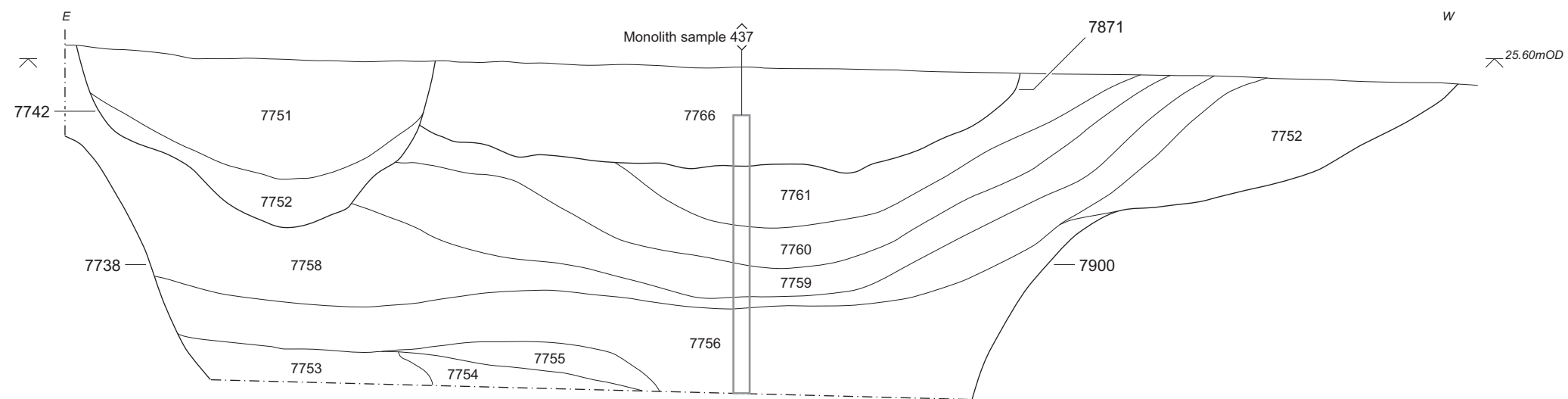
Section 670: Pit 7292



Section 621: Pit 7064



Section 775: Waterhole 7900 and ditches 7742 & 7871



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