



## Litlington Cambridgeshire

Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Results



Ref: 71511  
November 2010





**LITLINGTON, CAMBRIDGESHIRE**

**Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Results**

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Report reference: 71511.01  
Path: X/projects/71511/post ex/TT Litlington report (ed LNM)

**November 2010**

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## QUALITY ASSURANCE

Site Code	71511	Accession Code	Client Code
Planning application Ref.		NGR	531174 242553, 531250 242452 and 531458 242188

Version	status*	Prepared by	APPROVED BY	Approver's Signature	Date	File
01	f	NH	kew		16/11/10	TT litlington report (ed lnm)

\* I= Internal Draft E= External Draft F= Final

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## LITLINGTON, CAMBRIDGESHIRE

### Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Results

#### Summary

In October 2009 an archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Channel 4's 'Time Team' at the site within the village of Litlington in Cambridgeshire. This explored three distinct areas (NGRs 531174 242553, 531250 242452 and 531458 242188) on the south-western edge of the village, with the aim of locating the 'Litlington villa' identified and excavated by the Reverend W. Clack in the 1820s, and a nearby Roman walled cemetery known as 'Heaven's Walls', found during quarrying, also in the 1820s. Nothing now survives from Clack's excavations; his records were lost and the finds sold. Further small excavations over the 19th and early 20th century found further evidence of the 'villa', and a recent evaluation by the Cambridge Archaeological Unit just to the east of the presumed villa site found a quantity of Romano-British ceramic building material and wall plaster.

The evaluation carried out by Time Team, comprising ten trenches and eleven testpits, was able to confirm the position of the 'Litlington villa', though it was not possible to determine its full extent or layout. Newspaper accounts of the villa from the time of its discovery, describing it as being a very well appointed structure containing 30 rooms and a bathhouse, with many fine tessellated pavements, may be exaggerated, but some painted wall plaster was recovered, as well as significant quantities of ceramic building material, including box flue tiles from a hypocaust, and the remains of some (monochrome) tessellated pavements did survive *in situ*. In other respects, however, the material culture seems to have been fairly limited in its range; few coins or other metal objects were found, and only one piece of vessel glass. The presumed bathhouse identified during the 19th century was not located.

The position of the 'Heaven's Walls' cemetery was also confirmed, to the south-east of the villa. Here it seems that although 19th century quarrying had been extensive, some remains might still survive – one slightly truncated inhumation grave was revealed, although the remains were left *in situ*. Further disarticulated human bone was found within the backfill of the quarry pits.

The testpit evidence suggested that further Roman remains may have been destroyed by the housing estate which lay to the north-east of the villa site.

No further analysis is considered necessary, and a summary of the results of the evaluation will be submitted to the *Proceedings of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society*, for inclusion in the annual round-up of archaeology in the county.

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## **LITLINGTON, CAMBRIDGESHIRE**

### **Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Results**

#### **Acknowledgements**

This programme of post-excavation and assessment work was commissioned and funded by Videotext Communications Ltd, and Wessex Archaeology would like to thank the staff at Videotext, and in particular Michael Douglas (Series Editor), Jane Hammond (Production Manager), Ben Knappett (Assistant Producer), Tom Scott (Researcher) and Anna Cosgrave (Production Coordinator) for their considerable help during the recording and post-excavation work.

The geophysical survey was undertaken by John Gater, Jimmy Adcock and Emma Wood of GSB Prospection. The field survey was undertaken by Henry Chapman, University of Birmingham and landscape survey and map regression was undertaken by Stewart Ainsworth of English Heritage. The excavation strategy was devised by Ben Robinson (Peterborough Museum). The on-site recording was co-ordinated by Naomi Hall, and on-site finds processing was carried out by Helen MacIntyre, both of Wessex Archaeology.

The excavations were undertaken by Time Team's retained archaeologists, Phil Harding (Wessex Archaeology), Matt Williams, Ian Powlesland, Faye Simpson, Raksha Dave and Tracey Smith, assisted by Jon House, Shannon Hogan, Sarah Heney, Gareth Rees, Matt Adams and Chris Pole. The metal detector survey was carried out by Len and Ben Eeles.

The archive was collated and all post-excavation assessment and analysis undertaken by Wessex Archaeology. This report was compiled by Naomi Hall with specialist reports prepared by Jacqueline McKinley (human bone), Lorrain Higbee (animal bone), Kevin Hayward (stone identification), Rob Perrin (pottery) and Lorraine Mephram (other material types). The environmental samples were processed by Marta Perez-Fernandez and were assessed by Sarah F. Wyles. The illustrations were prepared by Kenneth Lymer. The post-excavation project was managed on behalf of Wessex Archaeology by Lorraine Mephram.

Thanks are extended to the landowners, Mr and Mrs May, Ms. F. Jones, Mrs Frier, Mrs Bright, Mr. F. Catchpole, Ms. G. Blake, Ms. H. Bathmaker, Mr and Mrs Lodge, Mr. K. McClelland, Cambridge County Council and their current tenant farmer Mr. R. Huffer, for allowing access to the Site for geophysical survey and archaeological evaluation.

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## LITLINGTON, CAMBRIDGESHIRE

### Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Results

## 1 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Project Background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Videotext Communications Ltd to undertake a programme of archaeological recording and post-excavation work on an archaeological evaluation undertaken by Channel 4's 'Time Team' at the site of Litlington, Cambridgeshire (hereafter the 'Site') (**Figure 1**).
- 1.1.2 This report documents the results of archaeological survey and evaluation undertaken by Time Team, and presents an assessment of the results of these works.

### 1.2 Site Location, Topography and Geology

- 1.2.1 The Site consisted of three main areas of investigation as well as numerous testpits within the gardens of Anvil Avenue, Cockhall Lane and Cockhall Close. The Site as a whole lies on the south-western edge of the village of Litlington and within the parish of the same name. Area 1, centred on NGR 531174 242553, consisted of a large field under pasture within Manor Farm, bordered by Church Street to the north-east. Immediately to the south-east of this was Area 2, a small copse centred on NGR 531250 242452. Further to the south-east was Area 3, a large field currently under plough, located behind the houses to the south-west of Royston Road and centred on NGR 531458 242188. Litlington is approximately 13.5km to the north-east of Letchworth Garden City and 4.5km to the north-west of Royston.
- 1.2.2 All three areas were generally level, although a number of parallel south-west – north-east earthworks were visible in Area 1. Earthworks to the south-west of Area 2 are thought to be the remains of old spoil heaps. Area 1 occupies a height of between 37.44-37.80m aOD (above Ordnance Datum), Area 2 of 38.92m aOD and Area 3 of between 36.20-36.30m aOD. The underlying geology consists of chalk marl with thin flint beds (British Geological Survey, sheet (204).
- ### 1.3 Archaeological Background
- Prehistoric**
- 1.3.1 Prehistoric activity in the area is indicated by the discovery of three Neolithic stone axes (Historic Environment Record (HER) reference 03070) and a Mesolithic macehead and flint core (HER 03071).
- 1.3.2 Ashwell Street (now a track), part of the Icknield Way, a major prehistoric route still used in the Roman period, forms the south-east boundary of the field in which Area 3 is located.
- 1.3.3 A number of cropmarks are listed in the HER; most of these are undated but they seem to indicate activity in the immediate area of Litlington from the



prehistoric through to the medieval period. Cropmarks indicating a rectangular enclosure and an immediately adjacent sub-oval enclosure are visible within the fields directly to the south and west of the Site. Within the rectangular enclosure is a smaller, possible ring ditch feature (visible on aerial photographs held by the National Monuments Record (NMR), reference numbers NMR 23041/20 and 23068/04).

### ***Romano-British***

- 1.3.4 Approximately 1.2km to the south-east lies the site of Limlow Hill. Here a barrow, destroyed in 1888, lay within a rectangular Romano-British enclosure (HER 03293). The Ordnance Survey map for 1886 records that human remains and associated Roman coins were discovered here in 1883. Trial excavations in 1934 dated the enclosure ditch to the 2nd century AD (Liversidge 1977, 31-32). Cropmarks may suggest further, possibly earlier barrows.
- 1.3.5 Roman finds have been discovered in the garden of 13 Cockhall Close (HER MCB17646). A number of other local residents also report finding Roman artefacts (various, *pers. comm.*). These are likely to be related to the possible Roman villa known from 19th century sources (see **Section 1.4**, below).

### ***Medieval and post-medieval***

- 1.3.6 There is much visible activity relating to settlement in this area in the medieval period. St Catherine's Church in the north-western part of the village contains 13th century architectural elements (HER CB14887). Remnants of a moat are still in evidence at Manor Farm, immediately to the north-west of the Site; this was originally the Manor House of Huntingfield (HER 01235). A large moated site is also visible on the northern outskirts of the village adjacent to Bury Farm. This was the location of another manor house (HER 01236). Further moated sites lie 1.8km to the north of Site (Scheduled Monument Number (SMN) 33596) 1.4km to the north-west at Down Hall Farm and 2.4km to the north-east at Bury Yard (SMN 33602).
- 1.3.7 Just to the south of the village is the deserted settlement of Bramston (HER 08075) (TL 31 42).

## **1.4 Antiquarian discoveries**

### ***The Roman villa (HER 03186)***

- 1.4.1 The original discovery of a possible villa site was made in the 1820s by the curate of Steeple Morden, Reverend W. Clack. However, all his notes from the time have been lost and the finds since sold, and details of what was discovered can only be pieced together from local newspapers. The *Cambridge Chronicle* (29th May 1829, 2) reports the discovery and says that "the floors... were in many instances, we hear, extremely beautiful but unluckily became prey to the idle curiosity of the uninformed". It later describes Reverend Clack reporting the existence of "two tessellated pavements and coloured chamber walls" (*Cambridge Chronicle*, 8th May 1841) and that it was "a large Roman villa, with more than thirty apartments, and a bath" (*Cambridge Chronicle*, 11th December 1841).

- 1.4.2 A notebook owned by E. B. Nunn (original manuscript held by Cambridge Museum) records an excavation from the 1st – 12th July 1856, which dug a hole in Mr Andrew Gray's field to a depth of 6ft and discovered a hypocaust and a floor composed of "grout and broken bricks". A number of other trial holes found some further areas of hypocaust and tessellated pavement. Babington (1881) notes a further discovery in 1881 of an area of pavement and a hypocaust.
- 1.4.3 Villa remains were also uncovered in 1913 by Mr McLaren at the Manor Farm: "several portions of the villa were visible, among which may be mentioned some well-preserved remains of the bath" (Anon. 1914-15, 4).

***The 'Heaven's Walls' cemetery (HER 03262)***

- 1.4.4 This site was found 1821 within a field previously known as Heaven's Walls and with a apparently supernatural reputation, just north of the Icknield Way. The most extensive report of the discovery is by Kempe (1836). He reported that a flint and 'Roman brick' wall was discovered by workmen when digging for gravel. Under the direction of Reverend Dr. Webb, then the rector of Litlington, the workmen uncovered the extent of these walls. These were found to enclose a rectangular area of around 34.7 x 24.7m. Within this enclosure, a number of urned cremation graves were located in rows aligned with the Icknield Way. Glass vessels were also found, and at least one had also been utilised to contain cremated remains. Some of the graves had been lined or covered with tiles and there was evidence that some individuals may have been placed within a casket. A number of inhumation burials were also found, which were observed mostly to disturb and therefore post-date the urned burials. In the south-east and south-west corners, deposits of "ashes" from "*ustrina*" (*in situ* pyres) were found. Coins found during the work suggest the cemetery was in use throughout the Roman period. To the north of the walled enclosure a stone sarcophagus was discovered within a buttressed building.
- 1.4.5 A plan accompanies the 1836 article in *Archaeologia*, but the underlying street plan shows this to be inaccurate. It does, however, show the relative positions of the cemetery, the sarcophagus and the villa. The villa is shown as a large building on a courtyard plan, aligned south-west – north-east.
- 1.4.6 The vessels from the cemetery still surviving are held in the Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology (previously the Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology), University of Cambridge, and a reference to them in a later account by Liversidge (1977, 29) reports that 80 urns and 250 inhumation graves were discovered.

**1.5 Previous Archaeological Work**

- 1.5.1 In 1995 a small evaluation was carried out by the Cambridge Archaeological Unit before the construction of garages at Manor Farm Barns, Cockhall Lane (Cambridge Archaeological Unit 1995). Three trenches identified a sequence of compacted chalk barn floors overlying a ploughsoil, and yielded substantial amounts of Romano-British material including tile, tesserae and wall plaster. The evaluation also located two north-north-west – south-south-east aligned gullies, one containing Roman pottery and the other Late Iron Age pottery. An Iron Age rubbish pit was also found.

- 1.5.2 In 2002 a small scale resistivity survey (60x70m) was undertaken by pupils attending a summer school at Bassingbourne Village College, immediately adjacent to the copse (Cott 2002). High resistance readings in the south-west part of the survey area were interpreted as south-west – north-east and south-east – north-west aligned walls. A north-east – south-west linear trend was also seen near the north-western edge of the plot.
- 1.5.3 Excavations at the former Oblic Engineering House at the north end of Church Street in 2003 and 2005 located Saxon and medieval boundary ditches thought to enclose a burial ground connected to an earlier church. A number of inhumation graves aligned in the east – west Christian tradition were also recovered (Woolhouse 2007).

## **2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

- 2.1.1 A project design for the work was compiled (Videotext Communications 2009), providing full details of the research aims and methods. A brief summary is provided here.
- 2.1.2 The overall aim of the project was to locate the known Roman sites excavated in the early 19th century, specifically the Roman villa investigated by the Reverend Clack and any further remains of the Heaven's Walls cemetery referred to by Alfred John Kempe. In order to address this, this three specific research aims were formulated:
- *Research Aim 1:*  
To characterise the extent, condition, form of and spatial and chronological relationships between possible Roman features (the 'villa') of Area 2 on the Site known through aerial photography and documentary references.
  - *Research Aim 2:*  
To characterise the extent, condition, form of and spatial and chronological relationships between possible Roman features within Area 1 which may be associated with Area 2, known through documentary references and discussion with local landowners.
  - *Research Aim 3:*  
To characterise the extent, condition, form of and spatial and chronological relationships between possible Roman mortuary features (the 'Heaven's Walls' site) of Area 3, known through aerial photography and documentary references.

## **3 METHODOLOGY**

### **3.1 Geophysical Survey**

- 3.1.1 Prior to the excavation of evaluation trenches, a geophysical survey was carried out across the Site using a combination of resistance and magnetic survey. The survey grid was set out by Dr Henry Chapman and tied in to the Ordnance Survey grid using a Trimble real time differential GPS system.

### **3.2 Landscape and Earthwork Survey**

- 3.2.1 A landscape survey and analysis of the cartographic evidence was undertaken by Stewart Ainsworth, Senior Investigator of the Archaeological Survey and Investigation Team, English Heritage. A summary of the findings is incorporated in this report.

### **3.3 Evaluation Trenches**

- 3.3.1 Twenty-one trenches (nos. 1-4, 10-12, 15, 19, 21) and testpits (nos. 5-9, 13-14, 16-18, 20) of varying sizes were excavated, their locations determined in order to investigate and to clarify geophysical anomalies and address specific research objectives (**Figures 1-3**).
- 3.3.2 The trenches were excavated using a combination of machine and hand digging. All machine trenches were excavated under constant archaeological supervision and ceased at the identification of significant archaeological remains, or at natural geology if this was encountered first. When machine excavation had ceased all trenches were cleaned by hand and archaeological deposits investigated.
- 3.3.3 At various stages during excavation the deposits were scanned by a metal detector and signals marked in order to facilitate investigation. The excavated up-cast was scanned by metal detector.
- 3.3.4 All archaeological deposits were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* record sheets with a unique numbering system for individual contexts. Trenches were located using a Trimble Real Time Differential GPS survey system. All archaeological features and deposits were planned at a scale of 1:20 with sections drawn at 1:10. All principal strata and features were related to the Ordnance Survey datum.
- 3.3.5 A full photographic record of the investigations and individual features was maintained, utilising digital images. The photographic record illustrated both the detail and general context of the archaeology revealed and the Site as a whole.
- 3.3.6 At the completion of the work, all trenches were reinstated using the excavated soil. Terram was laid over significant archaeological features before backfilling.
- 3.3.7 The work was carried out on the 29th September – 2nd October 2009. The archive and all artefacts were subsequently transported to the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Salisbury where they were processed and assessed for this report.

### **3.4 Copyright**

- 3.4.1 This report may contain material that is non-Wessex Archaeology copyright (e.g. Ordnance Survey, British Geological Survey, Crown Copyright), or the intellectual property of third parties, which we are able to provide for limited reproduction under the terms of our own copyright licences, but for which copyright itself is non-transferrable by Wessex Archaeology. You are reminded that you remain bound by the conditions of the Copyright, Designs



and Patents Act 1988 with regard to multiple copying and electronic dissemination of the report.

## **4 RESULTS**

### **4.1 Introduction**

- 4.1.1 Details of individual excavated contexts and features, the full geophysical report (GSB 2009), the summary of the landscape and earthwork survey and all artefactual and environmental data, are retained in the archive. Summaries of the excavated sequences can be found in **Appendix 1**.

### **4.2 Geophysical Survey**

- 4.2.1 Geophysical survey was carried out over a total area of 2.65ha using a Fluxgate Gradiometer (**Figures 2 and 3**). The following discussion and accompanying data is taken from the report compiled by GSB (2009).

#### **Area 1 (Figure 2)**

- 4.2.2 A number of parallel linear ditches have been located within this area. These are likely to represent former field divisions, some perhaps of medieval date, according to early maps (S Ainsworth, *pers. comm.*). The easternmost ditch, which turns at its southern end, was evaluated by a small trench (Trench 10) and found to be Romano-British in date.
- 4.2.3 Apart from the above linear responses, the magnetic results failed to show any archaeological type anomalies and certainly none of the responses (or 'noise') which have been found on numerous sites elsewhere and which are normally associated with Roman villa buildings. Yet all the evidence from previous investigations into the location of the villa at Litlington suggested its presence within this field. Trial trenching confirmed the results of the geophysics - that is, a lack of any structural remains - or even Romano-British artefacts in any sizeable quantities.
- 4.2.4 Along the northern limit of the dataset, large ferrous anomalies may be associated with Nissen Huts which are marked on a 1947 map.

#### **Area 2 (Figure 2)**

- 4.2.5 These small areas were surveyed in an attempt to locate any buildings or features possibly associated with the villa, although due to their small size the results were inconclusive. Any interpretation was hindered by the presence of modern interferences such as pipes and fences.

#### **Area 3 (Figure 3)**

- 4.2.6 To the south-east of the postulated villa, antiquarian excavations carried out after small-scale gravel extraction discovered a Roman walled cemetery referred to as 'Heaven's Walls'. Although burials were subsequently discovered in Area 3, it is not thought that the magnetic anomalies were directly related; it is more likely that the anomalies reflect the ground disturbance associated with the old, back-filled gravel workings. As a consequence, a number of anomalies have been given the category of 'Uncertain'. The geophysics failed to find any evidence for the walled enclosure.

- 4.2.7 Despite the lack of success in pinpointing the cemetery, the magnetic survey did identify a large, ditched enclosure thought to be Iron Age in date. There is also evidence for some form of trackway extending into the adjacent field.

### **Conclusions**

- 4.2.8 Results from the magnetic survey were initially disappointing in the fact that they provided no evidence for the villa building being in its presumed location. Roman building remains were subsequently located in gardens to the east, areas which were too small to investigate geophysically. Survey work in and around the site of a Roman cemetery to the south-east did identify a large, possibly prehistoric enclosure, the full extent of which could not be determined in the time available.

## **4.3 Evaluation Trenches**

### **Introduction**

- 4.3.1 Ten trenches and eleven testpits were excavated during this evaluation. Their location is set out in **Table 1**, and the trenches and testpits are discussed by area.

**Table 1: Trench and testpit locations**

<b>Trench/ testpit number</b>	<b>Location</b>
Trench 1	Area 2: within the copse
Trench 2	Area 2: within the copse
Trench 3	Area 1: Manor Farm
Trench 4	Area 1: Manor Farm
Testpit 5	5, Anvil Avenue
Testpit 6	6, Anvil Avenue
Testpit 7	7, Anvil Avenue
Testpit 8	2, Manor Farm Barns
Testpit 9	2, Anvil Avenue
Trench 10	Area 1: Manor Farm
Trench 11	Area 3: Lay Hill Farm
Trench 12	Area 1: Manor Farm
Testpit 13	2, Manor Farm Barns
Testpit 14	3, Anvil Avenue
Trench 15	Area 3: Lay Hill Farm
Testpit 16	Walnut House, Cockhall Lane
Testpit 17	Walnut House, Cockhall Lane
Testpit 18	Area 2: Within the copse
Trench 19	Area 3: Lay Hill Farm
Testpit 20	1-2 Cockhall Close
Trench 21	Area 3: Lay Hill Farm

**Area 1**

- 4.3.2 The archaeology was encountered at a relatively low depth within the trenches in Area 1. As well as the removal of 0.27-0.50m of topsoil and 0.15-0.32m of subsoil, all four trenches encountered buried soil horizons thought to date to the Romano-British period. The trenches lay at heights between 37.34 and 39.27m aOD. The natural geology was a mixture of silty sand and chalk.

**Trench 3 (Figure 4)**

- 4.3.3 Trench 3 was located over the westernmost of a pair of parallel linear anomalies identified from the geophysical survey. A considerable depth of modern topsoil and subsoil was found to overlie a buried soil horizon (303). Pottery from this buried soil dates to the 2nd or 3rd century AD. Archaeological features and deposits were found at a depth of 0.84m below the ground surface, comprising a series of intercutting linear features.
- 4.3.4 Running beyond the limits of the trench was boundary ditch (315), which contained Romano-British pottery. This ditch may have been a later and more substantial re-cutting of ditch (307), but neither ditch was fully exposed in plan. Running parallel with and along the north-eastern edge of (315), but terminating within the trench, was gully (309), containing a number of pieces of ceramic building material (CBM).
- 4.3.5 Both (309) and (315) cut through a large north-east – south-west ditch (305), which corresponded to the geophysical anomaly. Despite being nearly 2.5m wide and 1m deep, this contained a single fill which is likely to represent a long period of gradual silting and accumulation. A single sherd of Romano-British pottery was recovered from this fill. Ditch (305) cut through two irregular features, (311) to the south and (313) to the north. Excavation of (313) showed this to be shallow and irregular and it was most probably a tree throw hole or natural feature, as was (311), unexcavated but also irregular in plan.
- 4.3.6 CBM recovered from Trench 3 included identifiable fragments of Romano-British roof tile, tesserae, and a few fragments of box flue tile.

**Trench 4 (Figure 5)**

- 4.3.7 Trench 4 was positioned just to the north-west of Trenches 1 and 2 (see below, Area 2) and it was hoped it would reveal more of the villa building. However, removal of the topsoil revealed a number of modern features. Cutting through the subsoil (402) in the north-east facing section a deep trench (423) could be seen, this contained modern brick and cut through ditch (418), which contained a number of tin cans from the period of the Second World War. Another later feature (419) could be seen in the north-eastern part of the trench, and although its shape and alignment were not clear it cut through demolition debris (403) and a small area of metallurgy (406). Deposit (406) overlay an area of compacted chalk. The results from the 1995 evaluation (Cambridge Archaeological Unit 1995) suggest that this could be surfacing for a barn or outbuilding.

- 4.3.8 Two demolition spreads, (403) and (410), may be equivalent. Pottery from (403) was dated to the 2nd to 3rd century AD, and fragments of wall plaster, *tegula* roof tiles and a fragment of roller-stamped box flue tile were found within this deposit. Deposit (410), seen at the southern end of the trench, was overlain by a possible buried soil (415). Romano-British material was also recovered from (410). Deposit (410) in turn overlay another buried soil deposit (411), while (403) overlay buried soil horizon (414); mollusc evidence and charred plant remains (including wheat and barley) from this latter deposit suggests an open, arable landscape. The deposit also contained sherds of Romano-British pottery, tile and a stone roof tile.
- 4.3.9 Two north-west – south-east aligned ditches (417) and (424) were seen in the south portion of the trench (**Figure 5, Plate 4**). The more southerly and earlier ditch (417) contained a sequence of alternating secondary deposits and deliberate backfilling events, and was sealed by the buried soil (411). The latest deposit within the ditch, a deliberate backfill of possible midden waste (412), contained charred remains indicating a range of cereal crops. This deposit also contained the highest concentration of animal bone recovered from the site (55 fragments), as well as pottery dated to the 1st or 2nd century AD, but no CBM. The third deposit in the infilling sequence, (425), was cut by ditch (424). Ceramic tiles and tesserae were recovered from the upper secondary fill of this ditch (409).
- 4.3.10 Ditch (417) cut through another buried soil horizon (420), similar and perhaps equivalent to (414). This overlay the natural sand geology.

#### Trench 10 (Figure 5)

- 4.3.11 Trench 10 was opened just to the north-west of Trench 4 in an attempt to establish the extent of the demolition spread and modern disturbance.
- 4.3.12 A mixed demolition spread (1002) was seen directly beneath the topsoil and burying an earlier ploughsoil (1003). This in turn overlay an earlier subsoil (1004). Archaeological deposits were revealed beneath this at around 0.76m below the ground surface, consisting of a north – south aligned ditch (1005). The upper fill of this (1006) contained fragments of Romano-British CBM, but the ditch remained unexcavated. Finds from the topsoil (1001) included some large fragments of roof tile and a few tesserae. The geophysical results show this feature turning to the north-east just beyond the limits of the trench.
- 4.3.13 The geophysical survey showed the ditch (1005) turning slightly to the south-east beyond the southern limit of the trench. It was not possible to survey any further south but it seems likely that (1005) is the same feature recorded in Trench 4 as (424).

#### Trench 12 (Figure 5)

- 4.3.14 Trench 12 lay to the north-west of Trench 10. The same sequence of a demolition rubble-rich layer (1202) beneath the modern topsoil and overlying an earlier ploughsoil (1203) was observed. An east – west aligned ditch (1204) was encountered at 0.60m below the current ground surface. The full width of this feature was not seen within the trench, and it remained unexcavated. Pottery collected from its upper fill was dated to the 1st or 2nd



century AD, and some sherds bear a similar decoration to sherds from (412), the possible midden waste dump within ditch (417).

## **Area 2**

- 4.3.15 Trenches 1 and 2 and Testpit 18 were situated within an area of rough woodland to the south-east of Area 1. Within Trenches 1 and 2, archaeological deposits were encountered directly beneath the modern topsoil which was between 0.15-0.42m deep. The trenches lay at heights between 38.60-38.92m aOD. The natural geology was not reached.

### Trench 1 (Figure 6)

- 4.3.16 Trench 1 was initially opened as a small testpit with the intention of locating the bathhouse remains mentioned in the earlier sources. Immediately beneath a shallow overburden a plaster floor surface was seen with a number of tesserae still *in situ*. The trench was then extended a number of times in response to the remains encountered.
- 4.3.17 The northern part of the trench, centred on the original testpit, revealed a moderately substantial area of intact tessellated pavement (102) (**Figure 6, Plate 6**). This was bedded into a layer of pale yellow-white lime mortar (103) which rested upon a levelling layer (121). This butted up against a north-east – south-west aligned chalk and tile built wall (120) (**Figure 6, Plate 6**). The eastern return of this wall implies that the tessellated pavement lies within a corridor and that (120) enclosed a room to the north-east. Only a small portion of this room lay within the limits of the trench, but another small fragment of flooring was exposed in this area, of which only a few tesserae remained (126); the mortar bedding seems to have been lost as the tesserae directly overlay a levelling layer (127), equivalent to (121).
- 4.3.18 Another small remnant of flooring was found in the south-eastern part of the trench. Here no tesserae remained but the mortar bedding layer (117) could be seen overlying levelling layer (125). The height of this floor, at 38.78m aOD, was 0.12m above mortar layer (103). A further floor remnant was seen in section in the western part of the trench; here only the mortar levelling (135) remained, equivalent to (121)/(125)/(127). The height of this mortar layer, at 38.69m aOD, was at a similar height to mortar layer (117). The levelling layer beneath (117), (125), in turn was built upon another levelling layer (118), and a similar layer (136) lay beneath (135). The chalk- and mortar-rich levelling layer (118) was possibly equivalent to layer (211) in the adjacent trench (see below). Layer (118) overlay another mortar-rich deposit (114), which in turn overlay another mortar-rich levelling layer (119). This latter deposit may be equivalent to (212) in the adjacent trench. A possible tree-throw hole or robber cut (116) could be seen cutting through (114) on the southern edge of the trench.
- 4.3.19 A similar sequence of mortar deposits was recorded just to the north-west. Here there was a north-east – south-west block of material (141) with a clearly defined north-west return (131) (**Figure 6, Plate 5**) - although separate numbers were assigned to these deposits they were identical. A small area of material overlying (141), (130), could be seen on the north-eastern end of this 'pedestal'. The upper surface of this was considerably smoother and more level than (131) or (141) and may be a vestige of a floor

surface. Both (131) and (141) lay stratigraphically above a further levelling layer (132).

- 4.3.20 All these floor remnants (excluding 126 and 131) were cut by a south-east - north-west aligned cut (104). This was filled with a sequence of deliberate backfill deposits (106), (107) and (105), all rich in demolition rubble. This cut could well be part of the 19th or early 20th century investigations as it lay directly beneath the topsoil and cut through the latest Roman levels.
- 4.3.21 Two robber cuts, (108) and (134), were recorded (**Figure 6, Plate 5**). These were both aligned north-east – south-west and intersected (104) on its south-eastern edge. The westernmost of these, (134), cut through floor remnant (135) on its north-west edge. However, on its south-east edge it then appeared to follow an earlier cut or edge along (130) and (131). It does not appear to have disturbed (131). Robber cut (108) cut through (117) to the north-east and (130) on the south-west edge.
- 4.3.22 The north-eastern edge of cut (104) allowed the opportunity to examine the stratigraphy beneath the floor (102)/(103)/(121). At the north-western end of this section, rubble-rich deposits (143) and (144), had built up against a possible masonry deposit (111), possibly a wall. It is possible that there had been a robbing event along this edge of (111), filled with (143) and (144).
- 4.3.23 The mortar of (111) was a distinctive pink-red colour. Either abutting this or being abutted by (111) to the south-east was another possible wall (112). This contrasted with (111), being constructed from a pale-yellow grey sandy mortar with large flint and chalk blocks. The lower portion of (112) extended further to the south-west than (111), and may have been aligned south-west – north-east. Both (111) and (112) appeared to be constructed on a levelling layer of fine silty sand (122). Also abutting or being abutted by (112) was another possible wall (113), which contained similar pink-red mortar to (111). The relationship between these three possible walls is not certain but (113) may be a later insertion.
- 4.3.24 A similar sequence of masonry deposits lay beneath (136), exposed by the north-western edge of robber cut (134) (**Figure 6, Plate 8**). Here, built up against (145), the vertical cut through (131) and possible wall (137), was deposit (138). This appears to have been a deliberate backfill event prior to a new phase of construction, represented by layer (136). Deposit (137) was a relatively discrete area of chalk fragments within a pale mortar, lying directly upon a more compact area of masonry (139), and could have been a patch of levelling or repair to this structure. Possible wall (139) was similar to (112) - flint and chalk blocks within a pale yellow-white mortar. Up against the north-east of this and also directly beneath (136) was possible wall (140). The mortar of this was pink-red in colour, similar to (111), but it contained tiles laid horizontally at frequent intervals throughout its structure.
- 4.3.25 Along the north-eastern edge of (130) was a narrow cut (142), filled with (129). This was only clearly visible beneath the demolition rubble (107), and cut through levelling deposit (122). This may well be another robber cut or the remnant of a construction cut. The level exposed beneath (122) was (128), which consisted of flint nodules and degraded mortar and which appeared to be another levelling deposit.

- 4.3.26 Beneath robber cut (134) was another levelling or surface deposit (133) similar to (122). Although the relationship was not fully investigated the masonry deposits (139) and (140), as well as the mortar levelling layer (131), appear to have been constructed on this level.

**Trench 2 (Figure 7)**

- 4.3.27 Trench 2 was initially opened as a small testpit with the intention of locating the bathhouse remains mentioned in the earlier sources. The overburden here was deeper in places, with a maximum depth of 0.42m. However, the top of a flint and chalk wall was visible within the initial excavated area some 0.14m below ground level. This trench was extended as far as the surrounding vegetation would allow.
- 4.3.28 The wall (206) initially uncovered was found to be the earliest stratigraphic event investigated within the trench. Surviving to a height of at least 0.75m, it was composed of six courses of roughly shaped flint and chalk nodules bonded by a pale pink lime mortar (**Figure 7, Plates 9 and 10**). Its full height was not seen, and nor was the construction cut exposed. Part of the southern end of the north-west face had been removed by robber cut (202), and this could have been one of the antiquarian excavations from the 19th and early 20th centuries.
- 4.3.29 At the lowest limit of the exposed wall on the north-west side was a possible surface (214). This was largely unexcavated but was seen to overlay a distinctive red-brown surface (217) which may have been composed of mortar containing crushed *opus signinum*. Above (214) was a thin possible levelling deposit (213). Above this, a deep layer of demolition material (212) contained significant amounts of stone rubble and fragments of ceramic tile.
- 4.3.30 The layer directly above (212), (211), contained large numbers of small stone tesserae and a large number of fragments of painted wall plaster. The tesserae from this deposit are in contrast to those from the rest of the Site which were predominantly ceramic and larger in size. This demolition material appears to have been compacted to form a foundation for the later lime mortar surface (207). *In situ* mortar (208) adhering to the north-west face of wall (206) appears to relate to this floor level. A layer (205) banked up against this plaster may be a yet later surface or may possibly represent the collapse of (208) from higher up the wall. Overlying this was a spread of wall collapse (204).
- 4.3.31 The south-western face of wall (206) appeared to have been robbed and disturbed. At the base of the exposed wall was a surface deposit (216) which was similar to the red mortar deposit (217) seen on the other side of the wall. This had a thin lens of occupation debris overlying it (215). Above this and against the wall was a dark, charcoal-rich deposit (209) containing large fragments of ceramic tile and some mortar. Although this deposit appeared to be well sealed, a fragment of medieval or later roof tile was also found in the deposit, probably intrusive here. An environmental sample confirmed that the deposit contained a large amount of wood charcoal, mostly mature wood. The profile of this deposit, angled downwards away from the wall, and the abundance of charcoal suggests that this could represent collapse of material into a void left by the removal of elements of a hypocaust system. Overlying this deposit was demolition debris (210).

Testpit 18 (not illustrated)

- 4.3.32 Testpit 18 was situated on the south-east fringe of the copse. At 0.60m below the ground surface traces of an *in situ* mortar surface (1803) was found. This was potentially truncated by a north – south cut (1805). This remained unexcavated.

**Area 3 (Figure 3, Plate 1)**

- 4.3.33 The archaeology in this area lay beneath between 0.30-0.40m of modern ploughsoil. A thin subsoil was also found in Trench 15. The trenches lay at heights of between 36.18 and 36.69m aOD. The natural geology was chalk.

Trench 11 (Figure 8)

- 4.3.34 This trench was positioned in the known area of the Roman cemetery and over the southern arm of a large rectangular enclosure identified from the geophysical survey.

- 4.3.35 A discrete anomaly identified from the geophysical survey proved to be a series of intercutting quarry pits (1103, 1106, 1119). These were filled with a number of deliberate backfills of quarried material (**Figure 8, Plate 11**). Quarry pit (1103) contained Romano-British pottery, as well as several fragments of disarticulated human bone within deposit (1102). The pit beneath this, (1104), also contained disarticulated human bone. This indicates the likelihood of a number of burials in the vicinity, disturbed by later quarrying, and accords with what was already known from the 19th century sources.

- 4.3.36 The geophysical anomaly proved to be a very substantial ditch (1114) some 3.5m wide (**Figure 8, Plate 12**). One of the lower fills (1108) contained a sherd of Romano-British pottery and some tile fragments. This is possibly the re-cut of an earlier ditch (1115) on the same alignment. Both ditches contained a long sequence of secondary fills and little artefactual material.

Trench 15 (Figure 9)

- 4.3.37 This trench was positioned within the known area of the Romano-British cemetery. Despite widespread disturbance by quarrying in the 19th century (evidenced by quarry pits 1504, 1508 and 1510), one grave cut (1506) was found, aligned north-west to south-east (**Figure 9, Plate 14**). This had been partly truncated by quarry pit (1508), but most of the grave appeared intact. The grave was not fully exposed within the trench and the remains were left *in situ*, but it was found to contain the coffined burial of a young adult (1512). No diagnostic finds were found associated with this burial, but due to its location it is likely to be Romano-British.

Trench 19 (not illustrated)

- 4.3.38 This trench was positioned in the known area of the Roman cemetery. Removal of the ploughsoil showed that this area had been extensively disturbed by quarrying, 21 and it therefore remained unexcavated.

Trench (not illustrated)

- 4.3.39 This trench was situated over a trend identified from the geophysical survey. It was also hoped that the trench might reveal more of the Roman cemetery.



4.3.40 Removal of the topsoil showed it to be over an area of quarry disturbance, and therefore after recording, excavation ceased.

4.3.41 Anvil Avenue, Cockhall Lane and Cockhall Close

4.3.42 A number of testpits were dug in the back gardens bordering the Site to the north-east, and to the south-east. It was hoped that this would establish the extent of any Roman remains and their likely preservation.

Testpits 5, 6 and 7 (not illustrated)

4.3.43 After the removal of up to 0.59m of modern overburden, both Testpit 5 and Testpit 6 revealed layers of disturbed natural geology. This overlay the natural geology which was a soliflucted chalk with areas of sand. Testpit 7 was slightly deeper, with an additional soily layer beneath the subsoil, possibly the result of bioturbation.

4.3.44 All three testpits contained a range of post-medieval and modern finds with some possible residual material, but no *in situ* archaeological deposits were encountered.

Testpits 8 and 13 (not illustrated)

4.3.45 Testpits 8 and 13 were situated just to the north-east of the copse in the hope of determining any preservation or continuation of the structures seen in Trenches 1 and 2.

4.3.46 After the removal of the topsoil and subsoil a layer of modern made ground was encountered in Testpit 8, but the layer beneath this (804) contained Romano-British material. This layer was not fully excavated. To the north-east of this was Testpit 13. This proved to be beyond the area of modern disturbance and revealed a deep demolition deposit (1303), which was not fully excavated. The composition of chalk and flint nodules along with fragments of CBM suggests that this may represent demolition from Roman structures.

Testpit 9 (not illustrated)

4.3.47 Initially Testpit 9 was thought to have uncovered some *in situ* tesserae (903); however, subsequent excavation made this uncertain as the remains were very patchy. The majority of the testpit was not excavated below the level of (905), the disturbed ground overlying (903). A possible cut (906) was seen to be aligned north-west – south-east in the western part of the testpit, but very little of this was exposed. Some possible *in situ* plaster was seen along the edge of this.

Testpit 14 (not illustrated)

4.3.48 After removing 0.36m of modern overburden this testpit came onto a layer of modern made ground. At a depth of 0.66m below ground level this was still not bottomed, and excavation ceased.

Testpits 16 and 17 (not illustrated)

4.3.49 Both these testpits contained demolition or rubble deposits beneath the modern subsoil. Beneath this in Testpit 16 was a more silty deposit (1604) which contained fragments of painted wall plaster and tesserae. This overlay a similar deposit (1605) which was still not bottomed at a depth of 1.25m

below ground surface. The demolition deposit in Testpit 17 (1703) was deeper, and beneath this lay a band of compacted chalk and mortar (1704) which may have been the remains of a wall foundation. Banked up against this was a silty layer (1703). Both these deposits remained unexcavated.

#### Testpit 20 (not illustrated)

- 4.3.50 Although further south than Testpits 16 and 17, the sequence in Testpit 20 was very similar, with a rubble demolition debris (2003) lying underneath the modern overburden. However, only a shallow depth of this was excavated. Pottery recovered from the top of this deposit was post-medieval in date.

## **5 FINDS**

### **5.1 Introduction**

- 5.1.1 Finds were recovered from nine of the ten trenches excavated (none were recovered from Trench 19), although finds from Trenches 15 and 21 were minimal. Finds were also recovered from the testpits. The assemblage is very largely of Romano-British date, with a few medieval and some post-medieval items. The later material was largely confined to the testpits
- 5.1.2 All finds have been quantified by material type within each context, and totals by material type and by trench are presented in **Table 1**. Following quantification, all finds have been at least visually scanned, in order to ascertain their nature, probable date range, and condition. Spot dates have been recorded for datable material (pottery). This information provides the basis for an assessment of the potential of the finds assemblage to contribute to an understanding of the site, with particular reference to the construction and occupation of the 'Litlington villa' and the adjacent walled cemetery.

### **5.2 Pottery**

- 5.2.1 In the absence of a fabric reference collection for the region, the Roman pottery was recorded using simple fabric classifications, based on principal inclusion (e.g. shell-gritted ware) or firing technique (e.g. grey ware); some known ware types have been identified (e.g. Lower Nene Valley wares).
- 5.2.2 The 21 trenches and test-pits produced a relatively small amount of pottery, 346 sherds weighing just under 6 kilos, of which 56 sherds (917 gms) are post-medieval or modern in date (**Table 2**). Sixty-eight sherds (1842 gms) of the Roman pottery came from unstratified contexts. The testpits in the properties along Anvil Avenue, Cockhall Lane and Cockhall Close contained only post-medieval or modern pottery and no pottery was recovered from Trench 19 and Testpit 9. Trenches 4 and 12 and Testpit 8, all in the Manor Farm, main villa site, area, produced the most Roman pottery. Sherds from three vessels occurred in different contexts in the main villa site area, as follows: Trenches 4, 12 and unstratified; Trench 4 and Testpit 8; Trench 12 and unstratified. Little of the Roman pottery is closely dateable, but appears to span the whole Roman period. The average sherd weight is just under 17g.
- 5.2.3 A rim sherd from a form 18/31 Central Gaulish samian dish (Trench 2 topsoil) and a sherd of Dressel 2-4 amphora (gully 309) are the only

imported pottery. Non-local wares comprise vessels from the Lower Nene Valley, Oxfordshire and Colchester. An oxidised imitation samian ware dish or bowl (modern ditch 418) is possibly the product of the Hadham kilns and a storage jar sherd (unstratified) is likely to have been made in the Horningsea kilns near Cambridge.

- 5.2.4 **Table 3** shows the pottery assemblage by ware type. Various reduced grey wares dominated the assemblage, accounting for 57% by sherd count and 63% by weight. Visually, there is much variety in the grey ware with different coloured fabrics and surfaces; there is also some variety in hardness and inclusions. Most of the recognisable grey ware forms are jars with various rims types, although bowls and dishes are also represented. One carinated dish (buried soil 411) is reminiscent of Gallo-Belgic vessels and another dish has a block of burnished lattice decoration internally, together with an indication that it may have had one or more handles (made ground in Testpit 8). A number of sherds are from vessels decorated with burnished lines, girth grooves or rouletting. One of these, a jar with incised horizontal scoring, is one of the vessels which occurred in three different contexts (ditch 417; ditch 1205; unstratified).
- 5.2.5 One variety of grey ware is reminiscent of BB1, having a similar fabric, colour and finish. Recognisable forms in this fabric comprise a jar and a plain rimmed dish. Most of the shell-gritted ware forms are also jars, including a number with lid-seated or undercut rims. The oxidised ware forms comprise a flagon, a wide mouthed jar or bowl and a lid-seated jar with a frilled rim; this vessel occurred in two different contexts (ditch 1205 and unstratified).
- 5.2.6 The Oxfordshire ware sherds are from a white-slipped red ware mortarium and a wall-sided bowl in a reddish-yellow fabric with a cream slip and red paint. The Nene Valley colour-coated ware vessels comprise a probable flagon and beaker. Another colour-coated curved rim bowl may be from an imitation samian form 36 bowl and its dark grey colour coat is reminiscent of vessels made in the kilns at Stanground. A colour-coated bowl of uncertain source occurred in two different contexts (modern ditch 418; made ground in Testpit 8).
- 5.2.7 It is likely that all of the grey wares are the products of local kilns. The various kiln sites around Cambridge are probable sources, but other local kiln sites undoubtedly await discovery. The Horningsea sherd, however, shows that some of the pottery could have come from slightly further away and the kilns at Hadham and Godmanchester are other potential sources.

### 5.3 Ceramic Building Material (CBM)

#### *Introduction*

- 5.3.1 The assemblage of CBM was very largely of Romano-British date, but also included some medieval and post-medieval fragments. The quantity retained and quantified in **Table 2** excludes a further seven sample sacks of CBM from Trench 1 that were discarded on site (prior scanning revealed nothing within this discarded sample of intrinsic interest).

5.3.2 A rigorous retention policy was also adopted for the retained CBM. The whole assemblage was quantified by type (*imbrex*, *tegula*, etc) within each context, with features such as paw prints, 'signatures' and selected dimensions also recorded. Most pieces were then discarded, retaining only those with complete surviving dimensions, paw prints, decorative roller stamping. Fabric type was not recorded, as the majority of the assemblage comprised fragments in non-distinctive hard-fired, slightly sandy fabrics firing orange-red, but variations from this were noted, and a small sample of different fabric types retained. The most distinctive of these was a coarse shelly fabric observed on a number in the east Midlands and east Anglia, and identified as a probable product of the Harrold kilns in Bedfordshire (Brown 1994). There were examples of this fabric type amongst the *tegulae*, *imbrices* and box flue tiles, and at least one tessera had been cut down from a shelly ware tile.

5.3.3 **Table 4** gives the breakdown of CBM types. The Romano-British assemblage included roof tiles (*tegulae* and *imbrices*), tesserae from flooring, and box flue tiles from a hypocaust heating system. A significant proportion comprised flat fragments lacking diagnostic features on which to assign them to specific tile or brick types; these were divided into those less than 30mm in thickness, and those of a greater thickness; the former are likely to represent further examples of *tegulae*, *imbrices* and box flue tiles, while the latter probably derive from bricks of various forms, including those utilised in the *pilae* of underfloor heating systems.

#### ***Tegulae***

5.3.4 No complete dimensions were noted amongst the *tegulae*, although it was apparent that thickness, as well as flange width and height, varied. Flange height is generally considered to be roughly twice the tile thickness – in this instance it ranged from 36 to 60mm, and the width from 20-35mm; flange profile was either squared or curved. A number of cut-aways were observed, both on top and underneath the *tegulae*; the bottom cut-aways were all of Brodribb's type 5, where they could be identified (Brodribb 1987). Several curved 'signatures' noted were probably from *tegulae*, although none were on diagnostic fragments. Likewise, two fragments with nail holes were probably also from *tegulae*. Most examples of *tegulae* came from Trenches 1 and 2.

#### ***Imbrices***

5.3.5 One complete *imbrex* profile survived (demolition debris 1303), which was 135mm in width and 70mm high; it had a curvilinear finger-smeared 'signature' along the top. Interestingly, the numbers of *imbrices* are greater than those of *tegulae* (the ratio is approximately 3:2); the more normal pattern is for the opposite to be the case (Brodribb 1987, 24). In this instance the distribution and relative numbers of the two types across the Site generally coincides, but not in every case; the distribution of *imbrices* is wider, and more even.

#### ***Tesserae***

5.3.6 The tesserae had all been cut down from larger tiles, and ranged in size from around 20mm square to 30mm square, although the larger examples were more frequently rectangular rather than absolutely square. At least one



tessera had the characteristic combing of a box flue tile on one surface. The largest group came from Trench 1 (mainly from topsoil), with smaller groups from Trenches 4 (mainly from topsoil) and 9 (topsoil and demolition debris 905).

#### **Box flue tile (*tubuli*)**

- 5.3.7 Most box flue fragments carried some form of keying for mortar. This is generally in the form of combing, either linear (often cross-hatched) or curvilinear. Two fragments had wide-spaced lattice scoring, and two fragments were roller-stamped. Roller-stamped tiles were made in Britain from the late 1st to the late 2nd or early 3rd century AD. Both of these examples appear to carry W-Chevron designs (Betts *et al.* fig. 27a), although the design on one example (demolition debris 403) was partially obscured by mortar. The second example was found unstratified. The W-chevron design has previously been recorded from Litlington (*ibid.*, 26).
- 5.3.8 Two tiles showed the edges of cut-outs – cut-out vents were made in the sides of flue tiles to allow air circulation. In addition, one fragment had a paw print, impressed when the tile was drying after manufacture.
- 5.3.9 Most flue tiles came from Trenches 1 and 9 (from topsoil in both cases), with small numbers found elsewhere.

#### **Flat fragments**

- 5.3.10 The miscellaneous and otherwise undiagnostic flat fragments have been divided into those less than 30mm in thickness, and those of 30mm or more. The former are likely to derive from further *tegulae*, *imbrices* or box flue tiles, while the latter could represent bricks, possibly used in the construction of piers or pillars (*pilae*) to support the floor suspended above a hypocaust. No complete dimensions survived.

#### **Medieval and post-medieval CBM**

- 5.3.11 There were small quantities of medieval or post-medieval flat (peg) roof tiles from contexts across the Site, largely from topsoil. Eight post-medieval pantile fragments came from Trench 8, and are probably from a single tile. There are also three small post-medieval brick fragments.

### **5.4 Opus signinum**

- 5.4.1 A few small fragments of *opus signinum* were recovered. This concrete-like building material was used to line water tanks, and also to cover floors.

### **5.5 Fired Clay**

- 5.5.1 One context in Trench 12 (upper fill of ditch 1205) produced fragments of a flat slab (27mm thick), with a slightly bevelled edge; one surface appears to have been burnt or sooted. The date and function of this object are unknown.

### **5.6 Wall Plaster and Mortar**

- 5.6.1 A small quantity of wall plaster was recovered, dominated by one group of 104 fragments from Trench 2 (compacted demolition debris layer 211). The small assemblage includes both monochrome (93) and polychrome

fragments (63). The colour palette is limited, and includes dark red, yellow, pale green, dark grey and white. These colours appear in various combinations: red or white stripes on red; yellow stripes on grey; pale green and red zones divided by a white stripe; pale green and grey zones divided by a white stripe; red and grey zones with a yellow stripe. Most of this decoration is linear, although two fragments with curvilinear banding were observed in Trench 1 topsoil. The only attempt at a more elaborate decorative scheme is a single fragment from layer (211) with red and grey zones divided by a white stripe, and with pale green 'splattering' on the grey.

- 5.6.2 Mortar fragments without adhering plaster were also recovered from a few contexts in Trenches 1, 4, 5 and 11.

## **5.7 Stone**

- 5.7.1 Most of the stone comprises tesserae (225 examples), or waste from tessera manufacture (459 fragments from demolition debris 211). As for the ceramic tesserae, these mainly fall into two sizes, although there is variation within each. The smaller size is around 13-15mm square, although there are some smaller examples; the larger size is between 25-30mm square. A few examples appear to fall in between the two size ranges. The smaller tesserae are in two stone types - a grey calcareous mudstone, probably from a flaggy ragstone unit of the Upper Jurassic (e.g. Corallian) or Lower Cretaceous (e.g. Greensand); and a hard, white, indurated chalk, probably local (Upper Cretaceous). The larger tesserae are nearly all in the grey calcareous mudstone, with one example noted in a reddish stone. Most of the tesserae came from Trenches 1 and 2.

- 5.7.2 Four fragments of limestone roof tile were recovered; the largest came from the fill of modern ditch (418) and has a nail hole surviving, but apart from the thickness (15mm), no complete dimensions were recorded. These tiles are in calcareous mudstone, but of a different type to the tesserae - these are most likely to be from a Middle Jurassic tilestone such as Collyweston Slate, quarried about 30 miles to the north-west between Weldon (Northamptonshire) and Ketton (Rutland). The use of stone roofing tiles is more likely to belong to a later Roman building phase, as ceramic tiles were the preferred material during the early Roman period, but they could also be of later (medieval or post-medieval) date.

- 5.7.3 Other building material comprises fragments of two worked chalk blocks (cut 104; demolition debris 210).

- 5.7.4 Two portable objects were identified: a fragment of a lava quernstone (unstratified from Trench 3), and a broken schist whetstone (Trench 2 topsoil). The quernstone is almost certainly of Romano-British date (although such types were also imported in the Saxon and early medieval periods), while the whetstone is of uncertain date.

## **5.8 Glass**

- 5.8.1 Apart from one very small fragment of probable Romano-British date from possible cavity collapse layer (209), all of the glass recovered is post-medieval or modern (19th/20th century), comprising bottle and jar fragments. The modern material has been discarded.

## 5.9 Metalwork

### **Coins**

- 5.9.1 Seven coins were recovered, all from topsoil contexts. Six are copper alloy, whilst the seventh is silvered copper alloy. All of the coins show some signs of corrosion, whilst a number also show signs of pre-depositional wear. All but one of the coins date to the Roman period, with the single exception being a shilling of Elizabeth II, minted in 1955 (Trench 17 topsoil).
- 5.9.2 The six Roman coins all date from the late 3rd and 4th centuries AD. Five of the six were sufficiently legible to be dated to period. Three of these are radiate *antoniniani* of the late 3rd century AD, all from Trench 4 topsoil. Two of these are Barbarous Radiates; these are contemporary copies of 'official' coinage, possibly struck to compensate for gaps in supply of coinage to Britain and to supply sufficient small change for the provinces needs. It is unclear whether these copies were officially sanctioned, if at all, but they are not uncommon as site finds, and seem to have circulated in the same fashion as officially struck coins.
- 5.9.3 Two of the remaining three can be dated to the 4th century AD – one a 'Gloria Exercitus' issue minted between AD 335 and 345 (Trench 3 topsoil) and the second a Constantinopolis issue of the House of Constantine struck in the AD 330s (Trench 10 topsoil). Both of these coins are contemporary copies of 'official' coins. They both show signs of significant wear, and were probably in circulation for some time prior to their deposition. The sixth Roman coin from the site is too badly worn and corroded to identify closely (Trench 12 topsoil). However, from its size and shape, it is likely to be a small copper alloy coin of the late 3rd and 4th century AD.

### **Copper alloy**

- 5.9.4 Apart from coins, the copper alloy comprises seven objects, of which most are probably or certainly of post-medieval date (two buttons, small plain belt mount or strapend, a seal, a plain disc and a small ring, both of unknown function). All these objects came from topsoil or modern subsoil contexts. One other object, a short length of curved rod, from Trench 3 topsoil, could be part of a harness ring, but the identification is very tentative and the date is uncertain.

### **Iron**

- 5.9.5 The ironwork consists largely of nails (24 examples), with other structural items (hook, joiner's dog). Other identifiable items are limited to a horseshoe of post-medieval type. Two plate fragments, a ring and a short length of possible wire are of unknown function. Most objects again came from topsoil or other modern or disturbed contexts, but five nails came from Romano-British deposits (one from buried soil 303, one from ditch 305, and four from layer 804).

## 5.10 Human Bone

- 5.10.1 The area of what is recorded as comprising a Romano-British walled cemetery, 'Heaven's Walls', was subject to intensive gravel quarrying in the early 19th century (Kempe 1836). The remains of a large number of burials, both cremation and inhumation, were reported to have been recovered; 'at

least 250 [coffined] human skeletons' and 80 urned cremation burials, together with large quantities of 'ashes' [pyre debris?] from *ustrina* located in the southern corners of the cemetery (*Cambridge Chronicle*, 18th May 1821; Liversidge 1977). Many of the finds from the graves have been described (*ibid*; *Cambridge Chronicle*, 18th May 1821; Kemp 1836; Jessup 1959) and 137 items recorded as having derived from the cemetery are currently held in the Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology at Cambridge University (A. Taylor *pers. comm.*). Amongst the latter are nine cremation urns with *in situ* fills, but the fate of the rest of the human bone from the cemetery is unrecorded and remains unknown.

- 5.10.2 The *in situ* remains of one coffined burial (grave 1506), made prone (SE-NW), were recovered towards the northern edge of the area believed to have contained the cemetery (Trench 15). The upper levels of the proximal end of the grave were cut by quarry pit (1508) but quarrying had missed the remains of the burial itself (**Figure 9, Plate 14**). The skeletal remains (moderately root marked; grade 2-3 (McKinley 2004)) were left *in situ* but appeared to represent those of a relatively young (c. 20-35 yr.) adult, possibly male.
- 5.10.3 Redeposited human bone was recovered from two fills within intercutting quarry pits (1103) and (1106) in Trench 11, located c.15m to the south of Trench 15. Fragments of skull (left parietal and occipital) and upper limb (left proximal humerus) were recovered from the base of the earlier pit (1106). One of the central fills of a subsequent pit (1103), cutting (1106) and its later fills, contained fragments of skull (right parietal and occipital) and lower limb (two right femora, a minimum of two left and one right tibia). The skull bone from both deposits is in good condition or slightly eroded (grades 1-2), but the lower limb bone is mostly root marked and heavily eroded (grades 5-5+).
- 5.10.4 The redeposited remains represent those of a minimum of two adults, at least one over 45 years of age and a minimum of one male. The variable condition of the bone suggests that it derived from slightly different burial environments, some burials probably having been made within the pockets of free-draining gravel later subject to quarrying and others in the silty clay natural.

## **5.11 Animal Bone**

- 5.11.1 A total of 228 fragments of animal bone were recovered from the Site during the normal course of hand-excavation. Conjoining fragments from individual bones have been counted once therefore the total count is likely to be lower than that given in the general finds quantification table. Bone preservation is good to fair, but a few include bones in different states of preservation and this could indicate the presence of residual or intrusive material. The frequency of gnaw marks is relatively low at only 4%.
- 5.11.2 Animal bone was recovered from 35 separate contexts. A large proportion (49%) of the assemblage is from modern layers and robber cuts; the rest is from layers and features mostly of Romano-British date.
- 5.11.3 The assemblage was rapidly scanned and quantified (for method see Davis 1992). Approximately 26% of fragments are identifiable to species and element. Sheep/goat (N = 19) and cattle (N = 16) bones are common.

Other identified species include pig (N = 7), horse (N = 4), rabbit (N = 1) and domestic fowl (N = 13). The rabbit bone is an unstratified find and all of the fowl bones are from modern topsoil. The rest of the assemblage is made-up of non-countable fragments of long bone shaft, rib and vertebra from large (25%) and medium (18%) sized mammals, and birds (9%). Small unidentifiable splinters (22%) are also fairly common.

5.11.4 The butchery evidence noted on cattle bones from secure Roman contexts follows a typical pattern for this period (Lauwerier 1988, Maltby 1985, 1989; Dobney 2001). A pathological specimen was noted from possible buried subsoil (303), the bones are from the lower back (i.e. lower thoracic/lumbar region) of a horse and the individual vertebrae have fused together (or ankylosed) by the formation of new bone.

5.11.5 The quantity of detailed information relating to the age, size and conformation of species is quite limited. Epiphysial fusion data is available for 30 post-cranial bones, biometric data is available for 17 specimens and tooth eruption/wear data is available for three sheep/goat mandibles, one from topsoil and the other two from Roman ditch (417). The two Roman mandibles are from animals aged between 3-4 years and 6-8 years (or MWS =F and G; after Payne 1973).

## **5.12 Marine Shell**

5.12.1 The shell consists entirely of oyster. Both right and left valves are represented, i.e. both preparation and consumption waste.

## **5.13 Other Finds**

5.13.1 Other finds comprise very small quantities of worked flint, burnt (unworked) flint, and metalworking slag. Apart from the worked flint, which has a presumed prehistoric date, none of these finds are closely datable.

## **5.14 Potential and Recommendations**

5.14.1 This is a relatively small finds assemblage, of which a high proportion derived from topsoil or demolition contexts. The range of Romano-British material culture overall is fairly limited, only pottery, animal bone and building material (both ceramic and stone) occurring in any quantity. There are few coins, and only one possible fragment of glass.

5.14.2 The finds have all been recorded to an appropriate archive level, and no further work is proposed.

# **6 PALAEO-ENVIRONMENTAL SUMMARY**

## **6.1 Introduction**

6.1.1 Three bulk samples were taken from deposits within Trenches 2 and 4 and were processed for the recovery and assessment of charred plant remains and charcoals.

6.1.2 Bulk samples were processed by standard flotation methods; the flot retained on a 0.5 mm 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 5**) 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).

- 6.1.3 The flots varied in size with between 5 and 30% rooty material that may be indicative of the degree of contamination by later intrusive elements. Charred material comprised varying degrees of preservation.

## **6.2 Charred Plant Remains**

- 6.2.1 The possible cavity collapse layer (209) within Trench 2 only produced a small quantity of charred plant remains. These included a few indeterminate grain fragments and charred weed seeds of vetches/wild peas (*Vicia/Lathyrus* spp.), oats/brome grass (*Avena/Bromus* spp.) and stitchwort (*Stellaria* sp.).
- 6.2.2 A large quantity of charred plant remains was recovered from ditch (417) within Trench 4. The cereal remains included grain fragments of hulled wheat, emmer and spelt (*Triticum diccicum/spelta*) and barley (*Hordeum vulgare*), and glume fragments of hulled wheat. The charred weed seeds included seeds of oats/brome grass, poa grass (Poaceae), goosefoots (*Chenopodium* spp.), brassicas (Brassicaceae), vetches/wild peas, corn gromwell (*Lithospermum arvense*), knotgrass (Polygonaceae), rye-grass/fescue (*Lolium/Festuca* spp.) and sedge (*Carex* sp.). There was also a tuber.
- 6.2.3 The buried soil (414) in Trench 4 produced high numbers of charred remains. The cereal remains comprised grain fragments of hulled wheat and barley and glume fragments of hulled wheat. The charred weed seeds observed included seeds of poa grass, oats/brome grass, rye-grass/fescue, cleavers (*Galium* sp.), goosefoot and stitchwort.
- 6.2.4 This charred plant assemblage is comparable with others recovered from rural Romano-British settlements in the area, such as at Eaton Socon (Stevens and Clapham 2003), but is different from those assemblages recovered from the Romano-British settlements at Cambourne New Settlement, where the charred cereal remains were heavily dominated by chaff fragments (Stevens 2009). The assemblage appears to be indicative of a low status site rather than a high status villa site, with the absence of more exotic plant remains such as were recovered at the Romano-British site at Great Holts Farm, Boreham, which included remains of stone pine, olive and chestnut (Murphy 2003).

## **6.3 Wood Charcoal**

- 6.3.1 Wood charcoal was noted from the flots of the bulk samples and is recorded in **Table 5**. A large quantity of wood charcoal fragments was retrieved from layer (209) within Trench 2. These were mainly mature wood fragments but included some round wood pieces. Some of this charcoal was fragments of oak (*Quercus* sp.). Very little wood charcoal was observed in the two samples from Trench 4, from ditch (417) and buried soil (414).

## 6.4 Land and fresh/brackish water molluscs

- 6.4.1 No samples or sequences of samples were taken specifically for the retrieval of molluscs. Nevertheless snails were noted within the bulk samples and preliminary identifications provided to assist in broadly characterising the nature of the local landscape. Nomenclature is according to Kerney (1999).
- 6.4.2 The sample from layer (209) within Trench 2 contained both land snails and freshwater species. The land snail assemblage included the open country species *Vallonia* spp. and *Vertigo pygmaea*, the intermediate species *Trichia hispida* and *Vitrina pellucida* and the shade-loving species *Aegopinella* spp., *Oxychilus cellarius*, *Discus rotundatus*, *Vitrea* spp. and *Clausilia bidentata*. The few freshwater specimens included valves of *Pisidium* spp.
- 6.4.3 The large mollusc assemblage recovered from ditch (417) in Trench 4 included mainly terrestrial species together with a few freshwater molluscs. The land snail assemblage included the open country species *Vallonia* spp., *Pupilla muscorum*, *Vertigo pygmaea*, *Helicella itala*, and Introduced Helicellids, the intermediate species *Trichia hispida* and *Cochlicopa* spp. and the shade-loving species *Discus rotundatus*, *Aegopinella* spp., *Oxychilus cellarius* and *Vitrea* spp. The small freshwater component included *Lymnaea* spp.
- 6.4.4 A high number of molluscs were observed within the sample from the buried soil (414) within Trench 4. This assemblage comprised the open country species *Vallonia* spp., *Helicella itala*, *Pupilla muscorum*, *Vertigo pygmaea* and the Introduced Helicellids, the intermediate species *Trichia hispida* and *Cochlicopa* spp. and the marsh loving species *Succinea/Oxyloma* spp. There were no fresh or brackish water species within the assemblage.
- 6.4.5 The molluscs are indicative of the presence of a variety of local environments within the vicinity. The local area appears to be a generally open landscape, one of grassland and/or arable, probably with patches of longer grass in some areas, such as within and along the edges of some of the ditches. There may also be evidence for occasional flooding in some areas.

## 6.5 Potential and recommendations

### ***Charred plant remains***

- 6.5.1 Analysis of the charred plant remains has the potential to provide limited information on the agricultural processes and crop processing techniques employed on the villa site. There are few archaeobotanical assemblages from villa excavations within this part of East Anglia and further study of the assemblage could assist in determining the status of the villa site. If further information on the status and nature of the villa site is required, detailed analysis of the charred plant remains could be considered, but from a single sample the results would be limited.

### ***Wood charcoal***

- 6.5.2 The wood charcoal from dump (209) within Trench 2 has the potential to provide information on the management and exploitation of the local woodland resource and whether any selection criteria was employed to provide fuel for the heating system. Detailed analysis of the wood charcoal

from dump (209), Trench 2 could be considered if this information is required, but from a single sample the results would be limited. Moreover, the presence of a piece of medieval or later roof tile within this deposit (see above, 4.3.31) casts some doubt on its stratigraphic integrity.

#### ***Land snails and fresh/brackish water molluscs***

- 6.5.3 There is only limited potential for further analysis of the mollusc assemblages to provide detailed information on the local landscape and pattern of land-use due to the nature of the sampled deposits. No further work is warranted.

## **7 DISCUSSION**

### **7.1 Introduction**

- 7.1.1 This evaluation, although limited in its extent, confirmed the existence of the villa identified by Reverend Clack in the 1820s. It also confirmed the position of the 'Heaven's Walls' cemetery to the south-east, where it seems that although 19th century quarrying had been extensive, some remains might still survive. A number of testpits suggested that further Roman structures may have been destroyed by the housing estate to the north-east.

### **7.2 Romano-British**

#### ***The villa and its estate (Areas 1 and 2)***

- 7.2.1 This evaluation was able to confirm the location of the Roman building referenced by antiquarian accounts. Although most of the reports refer to it as a 'villa' there is some speculation that it may have been a *mansio* (Kempe 1836, 4). Although only a small part of the building was excavated during the Time Team evaluation, the remains are consistent with those of a villa and there were no more unusual items recovered within the finds assemblage suggesting a different, possibly more official function.
- 7.2.2 Trenches 1 and 2 were located in the area previously thought to contain the villa's bathhouse. Box flue tile was found in these trenches, but not in any concentration – 18 fragments in all, and the same quantity was recovered from Testpit 9, to the east in Anvil Avenue. The function of the rooms seen in Trenches 1 and 2 must therefore remain uncertain. On the 1899 edition of the Ordnance Survey map, just to the east of the Roman Villa site, is marked 'Roman pavement and Hypocaust found'; this spot now lies beneath Anvil Avenue.
- 7.2.3 The environmental evidence obtained is consistent with a relatively low status villa site. In addition, only six Romano-British coins were recovered, dating to the late 3rd to 4th century AD and all of relatively low value. In contrast, evidence from Trench 2 suggests that the parts of the building uncovered there may have been decorated to a finer standard, with fine tesserae and painted wall plaster, which derived from a demolition layer compacted to form a foundation for a later floor surface. In other words, this could relate to an earlier phase of building than was represented in other trenches. Beyond a few sherds of broadly dated Romano-British pottery, however, no firm dating evidence was recovered from Trench 2.

- 7.2.4 Earlier mapping suggests that the position of the villa lay within Area 1, but the map published by Kempe in 1836 is clearly inaccurate. The plan does show a north-east – south-west aligned building and this is consistent with walls identified. It also depicts a villa on a courtyard plan, but room divisions are indicated only in north-east and south-east wings. This suggests only partial excavation and subsequent extrapolation. The entry in the *Cambridge Chronicle* (11th December 1841) refers to 30 rooms, but in the light of the lack of high status indications during this excavation, this may be an exaggeration.
- 7.2.5 Trenches 3, 4, 10 and 12 revealed a number of linear features likely to relate to the estate or farmstead associated with the villa. These features suggest at least two and probably three phases of ditch alignments. Ditches (305), (1005) and (1205) were all visible as trends on the geophysical survey, but none of the remainder of the linear features were visible. The density of archaeology may therefore be significantly greater than that suggested by the geophysical survey.
- 7.2.6 Evidence from ditch (417) in Trench 4 suggests Roman activity from the 1st to 2nd century AD, implying the relatively early establishment of a Roman villa or farmstead. No Iron Age or earlier pottery was recovered from the Site, and the villa is therefore unlikely to represent continuation of an older farmstead or dwelling, although the substantial enclosure ditch in Area 3 could indicate an area of earlier activity.

### ***Testpits***

- 7.2.7 The testpits within Cockhall Lane and Cockhall Close suggested that there may have been further Roman remains to the east but that these have been disturbed by the construction of the housing estate.

### ***The 'Heaven's Walls' cemetery (Area 3)***

- 7.2.8 This area was shown to be substantially disturbed by quarrying but the presence of grave cut (1506) confirmed that this was the location of the cemetery as well as indicating that some undisturbed remains may still survive. The presence of disarticulated human bone within some of the quarry backfills confirms that not all the inhumations were removed prior to quarrying taking place. Interestingly the 19th century mapping (1886 OS) suggests that the cemetery lay further to the south-west, but this may be due to the inaccuracies of the surviving plan of the site (seen in Kempe 1836).
- 7.2.9 The location of the disarticulated human remains at the base or in the lower levels of the fills of the quarry pits was anticipated given the date and mode of discovery of the burial remains; whilst it would be in character that artefactual remains would be collected, the retention of the human remains is less likely. The large quantity of burial remains recorded as having been discovered within the c. 34.7 x 24.7m area of the cemetery must have been densely distributed, the cremation graves reportedly being set c. 0.91m apart but disturbed by the insertion of later inhumation burials (Liversidge 1977). Consequently, if reburial within the quarry pits was the only or even the main manner of disposal of human remains one would anticipate the presence of far larger quantities of material from individual pits. This suggests that either human remains were removed from the site for burial

elsewhere or that they were collected together for re-burial within one or a few specifically designated pits.

- 7.2.10 The ditch visible on the geophysical survey and excavated in Trench 11, (1115), represents a substantial enclosure ditch, which appears to have been re-cut at least once. No mention of this feature is noted in the 1836 article. The position of the grave and presence of disarticulated bone suggest that the Heaven's Walls cemetery lay in the south-western part of this enclosure. Clearly a much larger area was enclosed than the stated measurements of the cemetery, suggesting that other structures and/or activities were also located here. These may not have been as visually or archaeologically distinctive to the 19th century excavators as funerary urns.
- 7.2.11 A link between the walled cemetery and the villa c.350m to the north-west has been considered likely since the discovery of the former. Jessup (1957) highlighted the potential association between villa sites and the few Romano-British walled cemeteries known in the UK, chiefly within south-west England. The contemporaneity of the villa and cemetery and the projected size of the villa should help illustrate how likely and exclusive such a connection could have been. Given the large number of individuals reportedly buried within the confines of the walls, it seems likely that the cemetery served a wider rural area rather than the villa alone.

### **7.3 Medieval, post-medieval and modern activity**

- 7.3.1 A nineteenth century enclosure map shows a number of strip divisions within Areas 1 and 2. Some of these are likely to correspond to some of the south-west – north-east trends identified from the geophysical survey. There were a number of visible earthworks in Area 1, but the depth of the archaeology in this area suggests that these are much later and are likely to relate to the post-medieval use of this area.
- 7.3.2 The evidence from Area 2 seems to confirm the documentary sources concerning the degree of disturbance that affected the Roman building. In Area 3 the impact of the quarrying was also clearly visible. In contrast, activity in Area 1 appears to have buried and preserved much of the Roman remains.
- 7.3.3 There were a number of modern features in Trench 4, one of which seems to relate to activity during the Second World War.

## **8 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 8.1.1 The fact that the Time Team evaluation has confirmed the existence of the Roman villa and nearby cemetery, first discovered in the 19th century, is of both local and regional importance, although details of the extent, construction and chronological sequence of the villa are somewhat limited, and little further evidence was uncovered from the cemetery.
- 8.1.2 No further analysis is considered necessary, and a summary of the results will be submitted to the *Proceedings of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society*, for inclusion in the annual round-up of archaeology in the county.



- 8.1.3 The results of the evaluation will also be included in an online entry through the OASIS project.

## **9 ARCHIVE**

- 9.1.1 The project archive, including plans, photographs and written records, artefacts and ecofacts, is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Salisbury under the project code 71511. It is intended that the archive should ultimately be deposited with Cambridge County Council Archaeological Store, and the archive will be prepared following the guidelines for the deposition of archaeological archives issued by Cambridgeshire County Council (Ref HER 2004/1).

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**Table 2: Finds totals by material type and by trench (number / weight in grammes)**

Material	Tr 1	Tr 2	Tr 3	Tr 4	Tr 10	Tr 11	Tr 12	Tr 15	Tr 21	TPs	Unstrat	TOTAL
Pottery	2/18	8/128	15/128	59/1178	3/122	12/250	96/932	1/2	1/2	85/1345	64/1708	<b>346/5813</b>
<i>Romano-British</i>	1/16	8/128	15/128	59/1178	3/122	6/112	96/932	-	1/2	37/570	64/1708	<b>290/4896</b>
<i>Post-medieval</i>	1/2	-	-	-	-	6/138	-	1/2	-	48/775	-	<b>56/917</b>
Ceramic Building Material	261/21,493	89/13,808	50/2988	96/5900	18/2255	11/896	-	5/35	9/90	293/16,787	5/594	<b>837/64,846</b>
Fired Clay	-	-	-	-	-	-	12/630	-	-	-	-	<b>12/630</b>
Opus Signinum	-	2/4	-	3/130	2/50	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>7/184</b>
Wall Plaster	27/1002	120/3849	-	1/29	-	-	-	-	-	8/1604	-	<b>156/6484</b>
Mortar	15/2786	2/553	-	1/15	-	2/318	-	-	-	3/63	-	<b>23/3735</b>
Stone	35/1561	615/4105	2/158	16/1867	1/1	-	-	-	-	22/581	-	<b>691/8373</b>
Burnt Flint	-	-	-	3/7	-	-	-	-	-	1/11	-	<b>4/18</b>
Flint	-	-	4/18	7/71	-	-	2/4	-	-	2/10	2/10	<b>17/113</b>
Glass	4/366	1/1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15/132	-	<b>20/499</b>
Slag	-	13/110	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>13/110</b>
Metalwork	1	1	5	4	5	5	2	3	2	18	-	<b>46</b>
<i>Coins</i>	-	-	1	3	1	-	1	1	-	1	-	<b>7</b>
<i>Copper Alloy</i>	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	1	-	2	-	<b>7</b>
<i>Iron</i>	1	1	3	-	3	5	-	2	2	15	-	<b>32</b>
Human Bone	-	-	-	-	-	13/70	-	-	-	-	-	<b>13/70</b>
Animal Bone	3/17	4/23	17/438	96/1162	12/519	-	5/38	-	-	96/587	7/79	<b>240/2863</b>
Shell	-	-	4/60	12/499	1/26	-	-	-	-	8/132	-	<b>25/717</b>

**Table 3: Pottery totals by ware type**

Period	Description	No. sherds	Weight (g)
ROMANO-BRITISH	Samian (Central Gaulish)	1	12
	Dressel 2-4 amphora	1	30
	Oxford parchment ware	2	58
	Oxford mortaria (white)	1	134
	Nene Valley colour coat	8	46
	Horningsea	1	170
	Hadham	1	148
	Colchester	1	2
	Coarse greyware	124	1962
	Fine greyware	13	262
	Grey/brown	8	240
	Dark brown/black gritty	20	418
	Grey ware with grog	5	196
	Grey ware with shell	1	6
	Oxidised ware	39	472
	Oxidised ware with grog	31	172
	Shelly	17	306
	Shelly with grog	1	8
	Flint	1	6
	Grog	3	6
	Colour coated	11	242
POST-MEDIEVAL / MODERN	All wares	56	917
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>5813</b>

**Table 4: CBM totals by type**

Date Range	CBM type	Number	Weight (g)
ROMANO-BRITISH	Box flue	48	4045
	Flat frags <30mm	109	10,444
	Flat frags >30mm	16	4898
	Imbrex	107	16,606
	Tegula	69	18,437
	Tessera	351	6356
	Undiagnostic	78	1359
MEDIEVAL/POST-MEDIEVAL	Brick	3	225
	Pantile	8	658
	Peg tile	48	1818
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>837</b>	<b>64,846</b>



**Table 5: Assessment of the charred plant remains and charcoal**

Samples				Flot							
Feature	Context	Sample	Litres	Flot (ml)	% roots	Grain	Chaff	Charred other	Comments	Charcoal >4/2mm	Other
Romano-British											
Trench 2											
Dump											
	209	1	11	900	30	C	-	B	Indet. grain frags, <i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> x 2, <i>Avena/Bromus</i> x 2, <i>Stellaria</i> x1	175/150 ml	Moll-t (A*), Moll-f (B), Sab (C)
Trench 4											
Ditch											
417	412	2	12	60	8	A*	A	A	Hulled wheat and Barley grain frags, Hulled wheat glume frags, Tuber, <i>Avena/Bromus</i> x 3, Poaceae x 4, <i>Chenopodium</i> x 2, Brassicaceae x 2, <i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> x 1, <i>Lithospermum</i> x 2, <i>Carex</i> x 1, <i>Lolium/Festuca</i> x 4, Polygonaceae x 1	<1/2 ml	Moll-t (A**), Moll-f (C), Sab (A)
Buried Soil											
	414	3	11	15	5	A	A	A	Hulled wheat and Barley grain frags, Hulled wheat glume frags, Poaceae x 2, <i>Avena/Bromus</i> x 1, <i>Galium</i> x 1, <i>Lolium/Festuca</i> x 1, <i>Chenopodium</i> x 4, <i>Stellaria</i> x 1	0/1 ml	Moll-t (A**), Sab (C)

**Key:**

A\*\*\* = exceptional, A\*\* = 100+, A\* = 30-99, A = &gt;10, B = 9-5, C = &lt;5

sab = small animal bones, Moll-t = terrestrial molluscs, Moll-f = freshwater molluscs;

## APPENDIX 1: TRENCH SUMMARIES

bgl = below ground level

CBM = ceramic building material (brick and tile)

<b>TRENCH 1</b>			Type:	Hand Excavated
<b>Dimensions:</b> 8.00x5.50m		<b>Max. depth:</b> 1.12m	<b>Ground level:</b> 38.85-38.92m aOD	
Context	Description		Depth	
101	Topsoil	Modern topsoil/overburden. Mid grey silt loam. 2% stone/flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-6cm. Very loose and friable. Contains abundant plaster, CBM and tesserae. Highly bioturbated.	0.00-0.15m bgl	
102	Surface	<i>In situ</i> tessellated pavement, best preserved in northern area of trench, then becomes patchy. Red ceramic tesserae 2-3cm, 1cm deep. Overlies (103). Similar to (126).	0.01m deep	
103	Layer	Mortar bedding for (102). Pale yellow-white lime mortar. Surface degraded and weathered; compact. Overlies (121). Similar to (117).	0.05m deep	
104	Cut	<b>South-east – north-west aligned robber cut. Filled with (105), (106) and (107). Width 1m. Straight, steep sides, flat base. Cuts (103), (117), (129) and (135).</b>	<b>0.75m deep</b>	
105	Deposit	Deliberate backfill of robber cut (104); demolition debris. Pale yellow grey silty sand incorporating degraded mortar. 2% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-6cm. Frequent chalk and mortar fragments. Slightly mixed. Overlies (106)/(107). Similar to (123).	0.44m deep	
106	Deposit	Deliberate backfill of robber cut (104); demolition debris. Mid grey yellow silty sand incorporating degraded mortar. 1% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-6cm. Frequent chalk and mortar fragments. Slightly mixed. Overlies (104).	0.35m deep	
107	Deposit	Deliberate backfill of robber cut (104), corresponds to material removed immediately adjacent and to the east of (111), equivalent/identical to (106). Demolition debris. Mid grey yellow silty sand incorporating degraded mortar. 1% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-6cm. Frequent chalk and mortar fragments. Slightly mixed. Overlies (104).	0.35m deep	
108	Cut	<b>North-east – south-west aligned robber cut. Filled with (109). Width 0.80m. Straight, steep sides, flat base. Cuts (117), (129) and (130).</b>	<b>0.50m deep</b>	
109	Deposit	Deliberate backfill of robber cut (108); demolition debris. Mid grey yellow silty sand incorporating degraded mortar. 1% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-5cm. Frequent chalk and mortar fragments. Slightly mixed. Overlies (108).	0.50m deep	
110	Deposit	Deliberate backfill of robber cut (134); finds under this number may include material from the other robber cuts (104) and (108). Demolition debris. Mid grey yellow silty sand incorporating degraded mortar. 1% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-4cm. Frequent chalk and mortar fragments. Slightly mixed. Overlies (134).	0.32m deep	
111	Masonry	Pale red-grey mortar with occasional chalk fragments. Colour suggests <i>opus signinum</i> . Relationship to (112) unclear. Overlies (122).	0.36m high	
112	Masonry	Pale grey-yellow sandy mortar. Frequent flint and chalk nodules. Relationship to (111) unclear. Overlies (122). May have been south-west – north-east aligned. Not fully revealed.	0.46m+ high	
113	Masonry	Pale grey-yellow sandy mortar. Large chalk blocks, occasional flint nodules. Relationship to (112) unclear but may be later insertion. Not fully revealed.	0.44m+ high	
114	Layer	Levelling/make up beneath (118). Cut by (116). Pale red-grey silt incorporating degraded chalk and mortar. <1% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-2cm. Disturbed/loose. Overlies (119).	0.24m deep	

115	<i>Deposit</i>	Secondary fill of (116). Mid brown-grey silt loam. 10% stone/flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-6cm. Occasional mortar fragments. Fairly loose. Bioturbated. Overlies (116).	0.60m+ deep
116	<b>Cut</b>	<b>Probable area of bioturbation, although could be the edge of another robber cut. Filled with (117). Steep, concave sides. Not fully exposed, nor fully excavated. Cuts (114).</b>	<b>0.60m+ deep</b>
117	<i>Layer</i>	Remnant of mortar bedding for floor. Pale yellow-white lime mortar. Surface degraded and weathered. Compact. Overlies (125). Similar to (103).	0.04m deep
118	<i>Layer</i>	Levelling/make up beneath (125). Pale yellow-grey silt incorporating degraded chalk and mortar. 20% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, 2-7cm. Occasional chalk fragments. Compact. Overlies (114).	0.30m deep
119	<i>Layer</i>	Levelling layer for surface. Pale yellow-grey silt incorporating degraded chalk and mortar. 15% flint/stone, sub-angular – sub-rounded, 1-6cm. Occasional chalk fragments. Fairly compact. Similar to (131).	0.40m+ deep
120	<i>Wall</i>	North-east – south-west aligned masonry wall with eastern return. Mainly composed of chalk blocks but includes occasional tiles (likely reused). Pale yellow-grey lime mortar. Irregular jointing. Rubble core. Only 2 courses remaining, foundation not exposed. Patches of pale yellow-white plaster remaining on north-west face. Left <i>in situ</i> .	0.28m high
121	<i>Layer</i>	Levelling deposit underlying (103). Pale grey-yellow sandy lime mortar. 8% flint, sub-angular, 2-4cm. Compact. Butts against (120). Similar to (125) and (127).	0.22m deep
122	<i>Layer</i>	Foundation/levelling material. Pale yellow-grey silty sand. <1% flint, angular, <1-2cm. Compact. Overlies (128).	0.30m+ deep
123	<i>Deposit</i>	Deliberate backfill/soil build up within robber cut (134). Mid brown-grey silty sand incorporating degraded mortar. 5% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-6cm. Occasional chalk and mortar fragments. Slightly mixed. Overlies (110). Similar to (105).	0.30m deep
124	-	VOID	-
125	<i>Layer</i>	Levelling deposit underlying (117). Pale grey-yellow sandy lime mortar. 25% flint, sub-angular, 2-6cm. Compact. Similar to (121) and (127). Overlying (118).	0.06m deep
126	<i>Surface</i>	Fragment of <i>in situ</i> tessellated pavement. Red ceramic tesserae 2-3cm, 1cm deep. Similar to (102). Mortar bedding layer lost, overlies (127).	0.01m deep
127	<i>Layer</i>	Levelling deposit underlying (126). Pale grey-yellow sandy lime mortar. 8% flint, sub-angular, 2-4cm. Compact. Butts against (120). Similar to (121) and (125). Left <i>in situ</i> .	-
128	<i>Layer</i>	Levelling deposit, degraded yellow lime mortar. 5% flint nodules, sub-angular – sub-rounded, 4-8cm. Compact. Largely unexcavated.	-
129	<i>Deposit</i>	Fill of (142). Very pale, slight pink-grey silt incorporating degraded chalk and mortar. 2% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-2cm. Occasional chalk fragments. Cut by (104) and (108). Overlies (142).	0.40m deep
130	<i>Layer</i>	Levelling layer for surface. Pale yellow grey silt incorporating degraded chalk and mortar. 5% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, 2-7cm. Occasional chalk fragments. Compact. Cut by (108), (134), (142). Overlies (141).	0.06+m deep
131	<i>Layer</i>	Levelling layer for surface. Pale pink-yellow silt incorporating degraded chalk and mortar. 2% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, 1-4cm. Occasional chalk fragments. Fairly compact. Similar to (141).	0.66m deep
132	<i>Layer</i>	Levelling layer beneath (131) and (141). Pale white-grey crushed chalk and mortar. 2% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, 1-4cm. Occasional chalk fragments. Compact. Overlies (128).	-
133	<i>Layer</i>	Foundation/levelling material. Pale yellow-grey silty sand. Sediment largely composed of degraded mortar. 1% flint, angular, <1-2cm.	-

		Occasional chalk flecks. Compact. Unexcavated.	
<b>134</b>	<b>Cut</b>	<b>North-east – south-west aligned robber cut. Filled with (110) and (123). 1.17m wide. Straight, steep sides. Flat base. Cuts (130) and (135).</b>	<b>0.50m deep</b>
135	Layer	Levelling for mortar surface. Pale grey-yellow sandy lime mortar. 25% flint, sub-angular, 2-6cm. Compact. Similar to (121), (125) and (127). Cut by (104) and (134). Overlies (136).	0.11m deep
136	Layer	Levelling/make up beneath (135). Pale yellow grey silt incorporating degraded chalk and mortar. 20% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, 2-7cm. Occasional chalk fragments. Compact. Similar to (118). Overlies (138) and (140).	0.21m deep
137	Masonry	Possible repair or levelling deposit. Pale white-grey chalky mortar. Frequent chalk rubble, also includes smaller fragments of chalk and mortar. Compact. Overlies (139).	0.25m high
138	Layer	Deliberate backfill prior to new phase of construction. Pale yellow-grey sand. 10% flint, sub-angular, <1-8cm. Very hard and compact. Overlies (137).	0.67m deep
139	Masonry	Pale grey white silty sandy mortar. 10% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, 2-12cm, 10% chalk, sub-rounded, 2-8cm. Hard and compact. Overlies (133).	0.64m high
140	Masonry	Pale pink-red mortar. Contains horizontally laid tiles and 5% flint and chalk, sub-angular, 2-4cm. Hard and compact. Overlies (133).	0.80m high
141	Layer	Levelling layer for surface. Pale pink-yellow silt incorporating degraded chalk and mortar. 2% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, 1-4cm. Occasional chalk fragments. Fairly compact. Similar to (131).	0.50m deep
<b>142</b>	<b>Cut</b>	<b>Possible robber cut or remnant of construction cut, filled with (129). North-west – south-east aligned. Straight, vertical sides, flat base. 0.32m wide. Cuts (122) and (130).</b>	<b>0.40m deep</b>
143	Layer	Possible robber cut fill. Mid grey silt loam. Abundant degraded chalk and mortar. Loose and friable. Heavily bioturbated. Overlies (144).	0.24m deep
144	Layer	Possible robber cut fill. Mid grey silt loam. Frequent large CBM fragments. Occasional degraded chalk and mortar. Loose and friable. Heavily bioturbated. Built up against (111).	0.36m deep

<b>TRENCH 2</b>			<b>Type:</b>	Hand Excavated
<b>Dimensions:</b> 3.00x1.50m		<b>Max. depth:</b> 1.10m	<b>Ground level:</b> 38.61-38.93m aOD	
<b>Context</b>	<b>Description</b>		<b>Depth</b>	
201	Topsoil	Modern topsoil/overburden. Mid grey silt loam. 2% stone/flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-6cm. Very loose and friable; highly bioturbated; fairly homogeneous. Overlies (203), (204) and (210).	0.00-0.42m bgl	
<b>202</b>	<b>Cut</b>	<b>North-west – south-east aligned robber cut. Filled with (203). Vertical straight sides, flat base. Full width not seen, 0.42m+. May not have been bottomed. Cuts (207).</b>	<b>0.70m+ deep</b>	
203	Deposit	Deliberate backfill of robber cut (202). Dark brown-grey silt loam. Very loose and friable; slightly mixed. 15% stone, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-6cm. Highly bioturbated. Overlies (202).	0.70m deep	
204	Layer	Wall collapse to west of wall (206). Pale grey-brown sandy silt loam. 60% chalk, sub-rounded, 2-18cm. 20% flint nodules, sub-angular – sub-rounded, 8-16cm. Fairly loose and friable; bioturbated. Overlies (205).	0.15m deep	
205	Layer	Degraded surface or wall plaster collapse to north-west of wall (206). Mid brown-yellow silt loam. Mixed; loose and friable; bioturbated. Overlies (208).	0.07m deep	
206	Wall	South-west – north-east aligned wall. Pale pink-yellow lime mortar. Face material flint and chalk nodules, rubble core. Regular coursed; 6 courses revealed. 0.62m wide. Foundation level not revealed. Left <i>in situ</i> .	0.75m+ high	

207	Surface	Pale yellow-grey lime mortar surface. Incorporates occasional stone and CBM fragments. Compact. Overlies (211).	0.10m deep
208	Surface	Mortar/rough plastering adhering to wall (206), level associated with wall (206). Friable, gritty. 0.04m wide.	0.15m deep
209	Layer	Possible collapse of cavity, part of hypocaust system. Dark red-grey silt. 10% stone, sub-angular, <1-5cm. Frequent charcoal flecks; frequent tile fragments; occasional mortar fragments. Humic in places. Environmental sample 1. Overlies (215).	0.58m deep
210	Layer	Demolition debris. Mid brown-grey silt loam. 15% stone, sub-angular – angular, <1-20cm. 10% flint, sub-angular, 5-20cm. Frequent CBM fragments. Moderately loose and friable; mixed; some bioturbation. Overlies (209).	0.58m deep
211	Layer	Pale yellow grey silt and degraded mortar. Demolition debris compacted to form foundation for surface (207). Contained abundant fragments of painted plaster	0.20m deep
212	Layer	Demolition debris, possible levelling layer. Pale yellow-grey silt loam and degraded mortar. 30% stone and flint, sub-angular – angular, <1-20cm. Frequent CBM fragments. Loose and friable. Overlies (213).	0.25m deep
213	Layer	Demolition debris, possible levelling layer. Pale yellow-grey silt loam and degraded mortar. 30% stone and flint, sub-angular – angular, <1-10cm. Frequent chalk fragments. Loose and friable. Overlies (214).	0.05m deep
214	Layer	Possible surface. Pale yellow-grey silt. 10% stone, sub-angular, <1-5cm. Friable but relatively compact. Slightly mixed. Overlies (217). Not fully excavated.	0.02m+ deep
215	Layer	Occupation layer overlying surface (216). Dark grey-brown silt loam. 5% chalk, sub-rounded, <1-2cm. Occasional charcoal flecks. Compact; fairly homogeneous.	0.02m deep
216	Surface	Mid brown-red mortar surface, possible <i>opus signinum</i> . Occasional stone fragments. To the east of wall (206). Only partly revealed. Left <i>in situ</i> . Abuts wall (206).	-
217	Surface	Mid brown-red mortar surface, possible <i>opus signinum</i> . Occasional stone fragments. To the west of wall (206). Only partly revealed. Left <i>in situ</i> .	-

TRENCH 3			Type:	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 10.25x1.86m		Max. depth: 1.14/1.76m	Ground level: 37.34-37.78m aOD	
Context	Description		Depth	
301	Topsoil	Modern topsoil under turf. Mid grey silt loam. <1% stone, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-2cm. Rare chalk flecks. Loose and friable; bioturbated; homogeneous. Overlies (302).	0.00-0.30m bgl	
302	Subsoil	Modern subsoil. Pale grey sandy silt loam. 5% chalk, sub-angular, <1-6cm, concentrated in SE corner). 2% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-3cm. Occasional CBM fragments. Slightly mixed; bioturbated; fairly compact. Overlies (303).	0.28-0.60m bgl	
303	Layer	Possible buried subsoil horizon. Mid brown-grey silt loam. 1% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-4cm. Occasional chalk fragments. Occasional CBM and animal bone. Moderately homogeneous and compact. Overlies (308) and (314).	0.59-0.84m bgl	
304	Deposit	Secondary fill of ditch (305). Pale grey-brown silt loam. 5% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-6cm. Occasional chalk fragments. Fairly compact and homogeneous. Overlies (305).	1.00m deep	
305	Cut	<b>Large, north-east – south-west aligned linear. Concave, moderate sides, concave, slightly stepped base. 2.44m wide. Filled with (304). Cuts (310) and (312).</b>	<b>1.00m deep</b>	
306	Deposit	Secondary fill of ditch (307). Pale grey-brown sandy silt loam. 2% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-6cm. Rare chalk fragments. Fairly compact and homogeneous. Overlies (307).	0.27m deep	



307	<i>Cut</i>	<b>North-north-west – south-south-east aligned linear, truncated by (315). Straight, moderate sides, flat base. 0.50m+ wide. Filled with (306). Cuts (316).</b>	<b>0.27m deep</b>
308	<i>Deposit</i>	Secondary fill of ditch (309). Pale grey-brown sandy silt loam. 1% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-6cm. Occasional chalk flecks and fragments. Fairly compact and homogeneous. Overlies (309).	0.22m deep
309	<i>Cut</i>	<b>Small, north-north-west – south-south-east aligned gully. Straight, moderate sides, flat base. 0.50m wide. Filled with (308). Cuts (304).</b>	<b>0.22m deep</b>
310	<i>Deposit</i>	Secondary fill of feature (311). Mid orange-brown sandy silt loam. 2% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-3cm. Moderately compact; fairly homogeneous. Unexcavated. Overlies (311).	-
311	<i>Cut</i>	<b>Irregular feature; possible tree-throw. Filled with (310). Unexcavated.</b>	-
312	<i>Deposit</i>	Secondary fill of feature (313). Mid orange-brown sandy silt loam. 2% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-3cm. Moderately compact; fairly homogeneous. Overlies (313).	0.14m deep
313	<i>Cut</i>	<b>Irregular feature. Possible tree-throw/hedgeline. Concave, shallow sides, undulating base. 0.72m wide. Filled with (312).</b>	<b>0.14m deep</b>
314	<i>Deposit</i>	Secondary fill of ditch (315). Pale grey-brown sandy silt loam. 2% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-6cm. Rare chalk fragments. Fairly compact and homogeneous. Overlies (315).	0.43m deep
315	<i>Cut</i>	<b>North-north-west – south-south-east aligned linear. Straight, moderate sides, flat base. 0.92m wide. Filled with (314). Cuts (304) and (306).</b>	<b>0.43m deep</b>
316	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Pale white chalk. Compact; homogeneous.	0.74m+ bgl

TRENCH 4			Type:	Machine excavated
Dimensions: 8.50x1.80m		Max. depth: 1.53m	Ground level: 39.19-39.27m aOD	
Context	Description			Depth
401	Topsoil	Modern topsoil, under turf. Dark grey-brown sandy silt loam. 2% stone, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-4cm. Loose and friable; bioturbated; homogeneous. Overlies (422).		0.00-0.50m bgl
402	Subsoil	Modern subsoil. Pale brown-grey sandy silt loam. 5% chalk, sub-angular, <1-6cm. 2% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-3cm. Occasional CBM fragments. Slightly mixed; bioturbated; fairly compact. Overlies (405) and (407).		0.43-0.62m bgl
403	Layer	Demolition debris. Pale yellow-grey silt loam. <1% stone/gravel, sub-rounded, <1cm. Frequent chalk and mortar fragments. Frequent CBM fragments. Slightly mixed; moderately compact. Overlies (414). Similar to (410).		0.25m deep
404	Surface	Compacted chalk. Forms base/levelling layer for (406). Unexcavated.		-
405	Deposit	Deliberate backfill of cut (418). Dark brown-grey sandy silt. 10% gravel, sub-angular, <1-2cm. Very loose and friable. Some bioturbation. Contained WWI era tin cans. Overlies (418).		0.50m deep
406	Surface	Possible metallated surface. Sub-angular flint cobbles, 5-8cm. Overlies (404).		0.08m deep
407	Deposit	Fill of cut (419). Probable deliberate backfill, incorporates residual Roman material (CBM, tesserae and mortar). Mid brown sandy silt. 2% gravel, sub-angular, <1-2cm. Moderately compact; slightly mixed. Overlies (419).		0.48m deep
408	Deposit	Secondary fill of ditch (424). Mid orange-brown silty sand. 5% gravel, sub-angular, <1-2cm. Moderately compact; fairly homogeneous. Overlies (424).		0.20m deep
409	Deposit	Secondary fill of ditch (424). Mid grey-brown silt loam. 5% gravel, sub-angular, <1-3cm. Moderately compact; fairly homogeneous. Overlies (408).		0.48m deep

410	Layer	Demolition debris. Pale yellow-grey silt loam. <1% stone/gravel, sub-rounded, <1cm. Frequent chalk and mortar fragments. Frequent CBM fragments. Slightly mixed; moderately compact. Overlies (411). Similar to (403).	0.15m deep
411	Layer	Possible buried soil sealed by demolition (410). Pale grey-brown silty sand. 1% stone, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1cm. Moderately compact; fairly homogeneous. Overlies (412).	0.15m deep
412	Deposit	Deliberate backfill of ditch (417), possible midden waste. Dark black-grey silt loam. 2% stone, sub-rounded – rounded, <1cm. Moderately compact; slightly mixed. Overlies (425). Environmental sample 2.	0.35m deep
413	Deposit	Secondary fill of ditch (417). Mid orange-grey silt loam. 2% stone, sub-rounded, <1-4cm. Moderately compact; fairly homogeneous. Overlies (417).	0.35m deep
414	Buried soil	Buried soil sealed by demolition (403). Mid grey-brown silty sand. 1% stone, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-2cm. Includes chalky lenses. Moderately compact; fairly homogeneous. Overlies (421). Environmental sample 3. Similar/identical to (420).	0.40m deep
415	Layer	Possible buried soil. Pale grey-brown silty sand. 1% stone, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-2cm. Moderately compact; fairly homogeneous. Overlies (410).	0.05m deep
416	Deposit	Deliberate backfill of ditch (417). Mid grey sandy silt. 2% stone, sub-rounded – rounded, 3-5cm. Occasional chalk and mortar fragments. Moderately compact; slightly mixed with orange mottling. Overlies (413).	0.20m deep
417	Cut	<b>North-west – south-east aligned ditch. Filled with (412), (413), (416) and (425). Moderate, concave sides, concave base. 1.5m+ wide. Northern edge blurred by ploughing. Cuts (420).</b>	<b>0.65m deep</b>
418	Cut	<b>Modern cut filled with (405). North-west – south-east aligned. Irregular sides, irregular base. 1.80m wide. Cuts (409) and (415).</b>	<b>0.50m deep</b>
419	Cut	<b>Late/modern cut, filled with (407). Alignment unclear, north-west – south-east or potentially north-south. 1.8m wide. Terminates in trench. Moderate, concave sides, concave base. Cuts (403) and (406).</b>	<b>0.48m deep</b>
420	Buried soil	Buried soil sealed. Mid grey-brown silty sand. 1% stone, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-2cm. Includes chalky lenses. Moderately compact; fairly homogeneous. Overlies (421). Similar/identical to (414).	0.24m deep
421	Natural	Natural geology. Mid red-orange sand. Includes area of mid-yellow (redeposited) chalk.	1.13m+ bgl
422	Deposit	Deliberate backfill of trench (423). Dark black-grey silty sand. 5% stone, sub-angular – angular, <1-3cm. Fairly homogeneous; moderately compact; bioturbated. Includes modern brick. Overlies (423).	1.00m deep
423	Cut	<b>Possible 1920s excavation trench. Filled with (422). 1.25m wide. North-west – south-east aligned. Steep, very slightly concave sides, very slightly concave base. Cuts (402).</b>	<b>1.00m deep</b>
424	Cut	<b>North-west – south-east aligned ditch. Filled with (408) and (409). Steep, convex sides, concave base. 1.9m wide. Cuts (402) and (415).</b>	<b>0.80m deep</b>
425	Deposit	Secondary fill of ditch (417). Pale brown-grey sandy silt. 2% stone, sub-rounded, <1cm. Occasional chalk and mortar fragments. Moderately compact. Slightly mixed. Overlies (416).	0.15m deep

<b>TESTPIT 5</b>		<b>Type:</b>	Hand excavated
<b>Dimensions:</b> 1.00x1.00m		<b>Max. depth:</b> 0.64m	<b>Ground level:</b> 37.17-37.21m aOD
<b>Context</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth</b>	
501	Topsoil	Modern topsoil (imported), under turf. Mid grey silt loam. Very loose and friable. <1% stone, sub-rounded, <1-4cm. Bioturbated;	
		0.00-0.28m bgl	

		homogeneous. Overlies (502).	
502	<i>Subsoil</i>	Modern subsoil. Pale grey-brown silt loam. 1% stone, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-5cm. Rare chalk flecks. Some bioturbation; fairly homogeneous; fairly loose and friable. Overlies (503).	0.24-0.42m bgl
503	<i>Layer</i>	Mixed disturbed natural material. Pale yellow-grey silt loam. 5% chalk fragments, sub-angular, <1-5cm. Occasional CBM. Fairly mixed; moderately compact; some bioturbation. Overlies (504).	0.39-0.58m bgl
504	<i>Natural</i>	Natural chalk geology or re-deposited made ground. Slightly mixed/soliflucated. Fairly compact. Overlies (505).	0.39-0.55m bgl
505	<i>Natural</i>	Natural sand. Mid orange sand. Homogeneous; no visible inclusions. Compact.	0.63m+ bgl

TESTPIT 6			Type:	Hand excavated	
Dimensions: 1.00x1.00m		Max. depth: 0.80m	Ground level: 36.77m aOD		
Context	Description			Depth	
601	Topsoil	Modern topsoil (imported), under turf. Mid grey silt loam. Very loose and friable. <1% stone, sub-rounded, <1-4cm. Bioturbated; homogeneous. Overlies (602).			0.00-0.31m bgl
602	Subsoil	Modern subsoil. Pale grey-brown silt loam. 1% stone, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-4cm. Occasional chalk flecks. Some bioturbation; fairly homogeneous; fairly loose and friable. Overlies (603).			0.30-0.59m bgl
603	Layer	Mixed disturbed natural material. Pale yellow-grey silt. 1% chalk flecks. Fairly homogeneous; moderately compact; some bioturbation. Overlies (604).			0.59-0.74m bgl
604	Natural	Natural chalk geology. Slightly mixed/soliflucted. Includes patches of mid yellow silt/chalk. 5% flint, sub-angular, 2-6cm. Hard and compact.			0.68m+ bgl

TESTPIT 7			Type:	Hand excavated	
Dimensions 1.00x1.00m		Max. depth: 1.02m	Ground level: 36.87-37.17m aOD		
Context	Description			Depth	
701	Topsoil	Modern topsoil (imported), under turf. Mid yellow-grey silt loam. Very loose and friable. <1% stone, sub-rounded, <1-4cm. Bioturbated; homogeneous. Overlies (702).			0.00-0.15m bgl
702	Subsoil	Modern subsoil as topsoil in TP5 and TP6. Mid grey silt loam. 1% stone, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-6cm. Occasional chalk flecks and fragments. Some bioturbation; fairly homogeneous; fairly loose and friable. Overlies (703).			0.11-0.47m bgl
703	Layer	Dark grey-brown silt loam – possible result of bioturbation. <1% stone, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-2cm. Occasional chalk and CBM fragments. Bioturbated. Overlies (704).			0.47-0.63m bgl
704	Layer	Made ground/re-deposited chalk. Pale grey silt. <1% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, 2-4cm. Occasional chalk fragments. Moderately friable; fairly homogeneous; some bioturbation. Overlies (705).			0.62-1.00m bgl
705	Natural	Natural chalk geology. Slightly mixed/soliflucted. 2% flint, sub-angular. 2-6cm. Fairly compact.			1.00m+ bgl

TESTPIT 8			Type:	Hand excavated	
Dimensions 1.00x1.00m		Max. depth: 0.80m	Ground level: 39.34-39.38m aOD		
Context	Description			Depth	
801	Topsoil	Modern topsoil, under turf. Mid grey silt loam. <1% stone, sub-rounded, <1-2cm. Bioturbated; fairly loose and friable; homogeneous. Overlies (802).			0.00-0.19m bgl
802	Subsoil	Modern subsoil/built up layer. Pale yellow- grey silt loam. 2% stone, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-3cm. Occasional CBM. Frequent chalk fragments. Cut through by modern service. Bioturbated; slightly mixed; moderately compact. Overlies (803).			0.18-0.44m bgl
803	Layer	Made ground. Mid yellow-grey silt. 2% stone/flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-4cm. Occasional fragments of CBM. Rare chalk flecks. Fairly loose and friable; fairly homogeneous; bioturbated. Overlies (804).			0.43-0.56m bgl
804	Layer	Made ground. Mid yellow-grey silt. <1% stone/flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-4cm. Occasional fragments CBM, animal bone and shell. Occasional chalk flecks. Fairly loose and friable; fairly homogeneous.			0.54m+ bgl

TESTPIT 9			Type:	Hand excavated
Dimensions 1.75x1.75m		Max. depth: 0.66m	Ground level: 38.88-38.92m aOD	
Context	Description		Depth	
901	Topsoil	Modern topsoil, under turf. Mid grey silt loam. <1% stone, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-2cm. Bioturbated; fairly loose and friable; fairly homogeneous. Overlies (902).	0.00-0.18m bgl	
902	Subsoil	Modern subsoil/built up layer. Pale yellow- grey silt loam. 1% stone, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-2cm. Occasional chalk flecks. Bioturbated; moderately loose and friable; fairly homogeneous. Overlies (905).	0.17-0.42m bgl	
903	Surface	Possible fragment of <i>in situ</i> tessellated pavement. Red ceramic tiles 2.5-3.5cm, 1cm deep. Overlies (904).	0.41m bgl	
904	Layer	Remains of mortar surfacing for (903). Pale yellow-white lime mortar. 2% flint, sub-angular, <1-2cm.	0.43m bgl	
905	Layer	Disturbed ground/demolition debris. Mid yellow-grey silt loam. 2% stone, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-3cm. Occasional chalk and mortar flecks. Slightly mixed; fairly loose and friable; bioturbated. Overlies (903).	0.40-0.47m bgl	
906	Cut	<b>North-west – south-east aligned. Seen along south-west edge of testpit. Not fully exposed, nor fully excavated. Probably later disturbance.</b>	-	
907	Deposit	Upper secondary fill of (906). Mid yellow-brown silt loam. 1% stone, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-2cm. Rare chalk fragments. Moderately loose and friable; bioturbated; homogeneous. Unexcavated.	-	

TRENCH 10			Type:	Machine Excavated
Dimensions 3.34x1.54m		Max. depth: 0.95m	Ground level: 39.02-39.11m aOD	
Context	Description		Depth	
1001	Topsoil	Modern topsoil, under turf. Mid grey silt loam. <1% stone, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-2cm. Rare chalk flecks. Loose and friable; bioturbated; homogeneous. Overlies (1002).	0.00-0.33m bgl	
1002	Layer	Subsoil/demolition spread. Mid grey silt loam. 5% chalk, sub-angular, <1-6cm, concentrated in SE corner. <1% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-3cm. Occasional CBM fragments. Slightly mixed; bioturbated; fairly compact. Overlies (1003).	0.33-0.50m bgl	
1003	Layer	Possible early ploughsoil. Mid grey silt loam. <1% flint/stone, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-3cm. 2% chalk, sub-angular, <1-5cm. Rare CBM and mortar fragments. Moderately loose; fairly homogeneous but with occasional lenses of chalk. Base seems to be cut by (1005), but very diffuse at this level.	0.50-0.87m bgl	
1004	Layer	Buried subsoil. Mid grey-brown sandy silt loam. 1% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-2cm. Fairly homogeneous; moderately compact. Overlies (1007).	0.80-0.95m bgl	
1005	Cut	<b>Possible boundary/drainage ditch. 0.86m wide. Unexcavated. North – south aligned. Filled with (1006). Appears to cut base of (1003) but very diffuse at this level.</b>	0.76m+ bgl	
1006	Deposit	Upper secondary fill of ditch (1005). Mid grey-brown sandy silt loam. 2% stone, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-5cm. Occasional chalk flecks. Occasional CBM. Fairly homogeneous; moderately compact. Unexcavated.	0.76m+ bgl	
1007	Natural	Natural geology. Dark orange-brown silty sand. Compact; homogeneous.	0.94m+ bgl	



TRENCH 11			Type:	Machine excavated	
Dimensions 11.36x1.82m		Max. depth: 0.64/1.86m		Ground level: 36.46-36.69m aOD	
Context	Description			Depth	
1101	Topsoil	Modern ploughsoil. Mid grey-yellow silty clay. 2% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-4cm. Occasional chalk flecks. Bioturbated; homogeneous. Overlies (1117).			0.00-0.38m bgl
1102	Deposit	Deliberate backfill of quarry pit (1103). Mid grey brown sandy silt loam. 1% chalk, sub-rounded – rounded, <1-2cm. Moderately compact but friable; fairly homogeneous. Contained disarticulated human bone and residual pottery. Overlies (1122).			0.14m deep
1103	Cut	Cut of quarry pit. Filled with (1102), (1104) and (1121)-(1124). Cuts (1126). Irregular in plan, irregular sides and base. 3.62m wide.			1.02m deep
1104	Deposit	Deliberate backfill of quarry pit (1103). Mid grey-brown sandy silt loam. 2% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-5cm. Moderately compact but friable; homogeneous. Overlies (1103).			
1105	Deposit	Primary fill of quarry pit (1106). Mid grey-brown sandy silt loam. 2% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-6cm. <1% chalk flecks. Friable but compact; very slightly mixed. Overlies (1106).			0.10m deep
1106	Cut	Cut of quarry pit. Filled with (1105), (1125) and (1126). Truncated/cut by (1103). Cuts (1118). Irregular in plan, irregular sides and base. 2.48m wide.			1.30m deep
1107	Deposit	Primary fill of ditch (1115). Mid yellow-brown sandy silt loam. 15% gravel, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-8cm. Fairly compact; slightly mixed. Overlies (1115).			0.08m deep
1108	Deposit	Secondary fill of ditch (1114). Mid brown sandy silty clay. 5% gravel, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-6cm. Fairly compact; fairly homogeneous. Thin chalk lenses throughout fill. Overlies (1114).			0.38m deep
1109	Deposit	Secondary fill of ditch (1114). Pale yellow-brown silt loam. 40% chalk, sub-rounded – rounded, <1-2cm. 1% stone/flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-4cm. Fairly compact; slightly mixed. Overlies (1108).			0.12m deep
1110	Deposit	Secondary fill of ditch (1114). Pale brown sandy silt loam. 15% chalk, sub-rounded – rounded, <1-2cm. 1% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-6cm. Fairly compact; fairly homogeneous. Thin chalk lenses throughout fill. Overlies (1109).			0.40m deep
1111	Deposit	Secondary fill of ditch (1114). Mid brown sandy silt loam. 1% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-6cm. 1% chalk, sub-rounded, <1-2cm. Compact; homogeneous. Overlies (1110).			0.14m deep
1112	Deposit	Secondary fill of ditch (1114). Pale grey-brown sandy silt loam. 2% flint sub-angular – sub-rounded, 2-4cm. 2% chalk, sub-rounded – rounded, <1-2cm. Fairly compact; fairly homogeneous. Overlies (1111).			0.30m deep
1113	Deposit	Secondary fill of ditch (1115). Pale yellow-brown silt loam. <1% flint sub-rounded, <1-2cm. <1% chalk, rounded, <1cm. Compact; fairly homogeneous. Cut by (1114). Overlies (1107).			0.10m deep
1114	Cut	Substantial enclosure ditch. North-east – south-west aligned. Filled with (1108)-(1112). Re-cut of (1115). Straight, moderate sides, concave base. 3.50m wide. Cuts (1113).			1.04m deep
1115	Cut	Substantial enclosure ditch. North-east – south-west aligned. Filled with (1107) and (1113). Almost entirely truncated/re-cut by (1114). Straight, moderate sides, concave base. 2.24m wide. Cuts (1118).			1.12m deep
1116	Subsoil	Modern subsoil/old topsoil. Pale grey-brown silt loam. 2% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-3cm. 2% chalk, sub-rounded, <1-2cm. Fairly compact; fairly homogeneous; some bioturbation. Overlies (1118).			0.24-0.62m bgl

1117	<i>Layer</i>	Plough drag of upper quarry pit fills/spoil. Pale yellow-white silt loam. 60% chalk, sub-rounded, <1cm. Fairly compact; mixed. Discontinuous. Overlies (1116).	0.24-0.36m bgl
1118	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Chalk. Compact.	0.60m+ bgl
<b>1119</b>	<b><i>Cut</i></b>	<b>Cut of quarry pit. Filled with (1128). Cuts (1118). Irregular sides. Only partly seen in section. Unexcavated. 0.98m+ wide.</b>	<b>0.10m+ deep</b>
1120	<i>Deposit</i>	Deliberate backfill of quarry pit (1119). Pale grey-yellow sandy silt loam. 60% chalk, sub-rounded – rounded, <1cm. 1% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-2cm. Moderately compact; mixed. Overlies (1127).	0.10m+ deep
1121	<i>Deposit</i>	Deliberate backfill of quarry pit (1103). Pale yellow-brown silt loam. 90% chalk, sub-rounded, <1-3cm. Compact; mottled with concentrations of chalk. Overlies (1104).	0.40m deep
1122	<i>Deposit</i>	Deliberate backfill of quarry pit (1103). Pale yellow-white silt loam. 90% chalk, sub-rounded – rounded, <1-2cm. Fairly loose; fairly homogeneous. Overlies (1121).	0.14m deep
1123	<i>Deposit</i>	Deliberate backfill of quarry pit (1103). Pale grey-white sandy silt loam. 90% chalk, sub-rounded, <1cm. Fairly loose and friable; fairly homogeneous. Overlies (1102).	0.22m deep
1124	<i>Deposit</i>	Deliberate backfill of quarry pit (1103). Pale grey-brown sandy silt loam. 5% chalk, sub-rounded – rounded, <1-2cm. Moderately compact; fairly homogeneous. Overlies (1123).	0.26m deep
1125	<i>Deposit</i>	Deliberate backfill of quarry pit (1106). Pale yellow-white sandy silt loam. 90% chalk, sub-rounded-rounded, <1cm. Loose and friable; fairly homogeneous. Overlies (1105).	0.44m deep
1126	<i>Deposit</i>	Deliberate backfill of quarry pit (1106). Cut by (1103). Mid grey-brown sandy silt loam. <1% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-2cm. Friable but compact; homogeneous. Overlies (1125).	0.11m deep

<b>TRENCH 12</b>			<b>Type:</b>	Machine Excavated
<b>Dimensions</b> 3.20x1.52m		<b>Max. depth:</b> 0.75m	<b>Ground level:</b> 38.75-38.81m aOD	
<b>Context</b>	<b>Description</b>			<b>Depth</b>
1201	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern topsoil, under turf. Mid grey silt loam. <1% stone, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-2cm. Rare chalk flecks. Loose and friable; bioturbated; homogeneous. Overlies (1202).		0.00-0.27m bgl
1202	<i>Layer</i>	Subsoil/demolition spread. Mid grey silt loam. 8% chalk, sub-angular, 2-6cm. 1% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-3cm. Occasional mortar fragments. Rare CBM fragments. Slightly mixed; friable. Overlies (1203).		0.24-0.39m bgl
1203	<i>Layer</i>	Possible early ploughsoil. Mid grey-brown silt loam. 2% flint/stone, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-3cm. 3% chalk, sub-angular, <1-3cm. Rare charcoal flecks, CBM and animal bone. Fairly compact; very slightly mixed. Base may be cut by (1205), but difficult to determine.		0.36-0.69m bgl
1204	<i>Deposit</i>	Upper secondary fill of ditch (1205). Mid grey silt loam. 2% stone, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-4cm. 2% chalk, sub-rounded, <1-2cm. Occasional animal bone and pottery. Fairly homogeneous; moderately compact. Unexcavated.		0.60m+ bgl
<b>1205</b>	<b><i>Cut</i></b>	<b>Possible enclosure ditch, only partly seen in plan. 1.52m+ wide. Unexcavated. North-east – south-west aligned. Only southern edge seen, northern edge beyond limit of excavation. Filled with (1204). Appears to cut base of (1203) but very diffuse at this level.</b>		<b>0.60m+ bgl</b>
1206	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Dark orange-brown silty sand. Compact; homogeneous.		0.65m + bgl

<b>TESTPIT 13</b>			<b>Type:</b>	Hand excavated
<b>Dimensions</b> 1.00x1.00m		<b>Max. depth:</b> 0.79m	<b>Ground level:</b> 39.37-39.39m aOD	

Context	Description	Depth
1301	<i>Topsoil</i> Modern topsoil, under turf. Mid grey silt loam. <1% stone, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-2cm. Rare chalk flecks. Loose and friable; bioturbated; homogeneous. Overlies (1302).	0.00-0.24m bgl
1302	<i>Subsoil</i> Modern subsoil/demolition debris. Mid grey silt loam. 5% stone/flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-10cm. Occasional chalk and mortar fragments. Moderately compact; slightly mixed; some bioturbation. Overlies (1303).	0.23-0.59m bgl
1303	<i>Layer</i> Demolition debris. Pale grey silt loam. 80% re-deposited chalk. 5% stone/flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-12cm. 10% chalk, sub-angular, 2-8cm. Includes CBM. Compact; mixed; some bioturbation.	0.54m+ bgl

<b>TESTPIT 14</b>		<b>Type:</b>	Hand excavated
<b>Dimensions</b> 1.00x1.00m		<b>Max. depth:</b> 0.66m	<b>Ground level:</b> 38.70m aOD
Context	Description	Depth	
1401	<i>Topsoil</i> Modern topsoil, under turf. Mid grey silt loam. <1% stone, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-2cm. Loose and friable; bioturbated; homogeneous. Overlies (1402).	0.00-0.19m bgl	
1402	<i>Subsoil</i> Modern subsoil. Pale grey silt loam. 2% stone, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-4cm. Frequent chalk flecks. Moderately compact; slightly mixed; some bioturbation. Overlies (1403).	0.19-0.36m bgl	
1403	<i>Layer</i> Made ground. Mid yellow-grey silt loam. 1% stone, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-3cm. Occasional chalk flecks and fragments. Occasional CBM. Fairly compact; slightly mixed; some bioturbation.	0.35m+ bgl	

<b>TRENCH 15</b>		<b>Type:</b>	Machine excavated
<b>Dimensions:</b> 6.65x1.86m		<b>Max. depth:</b> 1.34m	<b>Ground level:</b> 36.28-36.30m aOD
Context	Description	Depth	
1501	<i>Topsoil</i> Modern ploughsoil. Mid grey-yellow silty clay. 2% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-4cm. Occasional chalk flecks. Bioturbated; homogeneous. Overlies (1514).	0.00-0.29m bgl	
1502	<b>Cut</b> <b>Rectangular pit, possible modern trench. Filled with (1503). Cuts (1509). 1.58m wide, 0.96m+ long. Removed by machine to reveal archaeology beneath.</b>	<b>0.22m+ deep</b>	
1503	<i>Deposit</i> Possible deliberate backfill of (1502). Mid grey-brown silt loam. 1% flint, sub-rounded, <1-4cm. Occasional chalk flecks and fragments. Overlies (1502).	0.22m+ deep	
1504	<b>Cut</b> <b>Cut of quarry pit. Filled with (1505). Cuts (1511). Irregular in plan but not fully exposed, irregular sides. Not fully excavated. 1.80m+ wide.</b>	<b>0.96m+ deep</b>	
1505	<i>Deposit</i> Deliberate backfill of quarry pit (1504). Pale yellow-white silt loam. 90% chalk, rounded, <1-cm. Alternating layers of finer more compacted chalk with more marly, friable chalky deposits. Not fully excavated. Overlies (1504).	0.96m+ deep	
1506	<b>Cut</b> <b>Cut of grave. North-west – south-east aligned. Vertical, straight sides, flat base. Only partly exposed. 0.70m wide, 0.70m+ long. Contained inhumation (1512) and deposits (1507) and (1513).</b>	<b>0.45m+ deep</b>	
1507	<i>Deposit</i> Upper fill of grave cut (1506), may be indicative of some disturbance. Mid grey-brown sandy silt loam. 5% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-6cm. Fairly friable. Slightly mixed. Overlies (1513).	0.21m deep	
1508	<b>Cut</b> <b>Cut of quarry pit. Filled with (1509). Cuts (1505) and (1507). Irregular in plan but not fully exposed, irregular sides. Unexcavated. 1.80m+ wide.</b>	-	
1509	<i>Deposit</i> Deliberate backfill of quarry pit (1508). Pale yellow-white silt loam. 90% chalk, rounded, <1-cm. Unexcavated. Overlies (1508).	-	
1510	<b>Cut</b> <b>Cut of quarry pit. Filled with (1511). Irregular in plan but not fully exposed, irregular sides. Not fully excavated. 1.80m+ wide.</b>	<b>0.84m+ deep</b>	

1511	<i>Deposit</i>	Deliberate backfill of quarry pit (1510). Pale yellow-white silt loam. 90% chalk, rounded, <1-cm. Alternating layers of finer more compacted chalk with more marly, friable chalky deposits. Not fully excavated. Overlies (1510).	0.84m+ deep
1512	<i>Skeleton</i>	Confined inhumation of adult male. Only upper part of torso and head exposed. Prone, extended. Within grave cut (1506). Not fully excavated, left <i>in situ</i> . Overlies (1506).	0.10m+ deep
1513	<i>Deposit</i>	Lower fill of grave cut (1506), deliberate backfill. Mid yellow-brown sandy silt loam. 10% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-6cm. 5% chalk, sub-rounded, <1-4cm. Fairly compact but friable; fairly homogeneous. Overlies (1512).	0.25m+ deep
1514	<i>Subsoil</i>	Modern subsoil/old topsoil. Mid yellow-brown silt loam. 1% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-2cm. 2% chalk, sub-rounded, <1-2cm. Fairly compact; fairly homogeneous; some bioturbation. Overlies (1515).	0.28-0.36m bgl
1515	<i>Natural</i>	Natural geology. Chalk. Compact.	0.50m+ bgl

TESTPIT 16			Type:	Hand excavated	
Dimensions: 1.00x1.00m		Max. depth: 1.25m	Ground level: 38.69-38.74m aOD		
Context	Description			Depth	
1601	Topsoil	Modern topsoil, under turf. Mid grey silt loam. 1% stone, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-2cm. Occasional chalk flecks. Loose and friable; bioturbated; fairly homogeneous. Overlies (1602).			0.00-0.25m bgl
1602	Subsoil	Modern subsoil. Pale grey silt loam. 1% stone/flint, sub-angular – angular, <1-2cm. Occasional chalk flecks and fragments. Moderately compact; fairly homogeneous; some bioturbation. Overlies (1603).			0.25-0.52m bgl
1603	Layer	Demolition debris. Pale white-grey silt. Very fine and friable includes degraded mortar. Occasional chalk and mortar fragments. Slightly mixed; fairly compact; some bioturbation. Overlies (1604).			0.52-0.64m bgl
1604	Layer	Demolition debris/made up ground. Mid grey silt loam. Frequent chalk flecks, occasional chalk fragments. Moderately compact; fairly homogeneous; some bioturbation. Overlies (1605).			0.64-1.10m bgl
1605	Layer	Demolition debris. Pale white-grey silt. Very fine and loose includes degraded mortar. Occasional chalk and mortar fragments. Slightly mixed; fairly compact; some bioturbation.			1.10m+ bgl

TESTPIT 17			Type:	Hand excavated	
Dimensions: 1.00x1.00m		Max. depth: 0.65m	Ground level: 38.58-38.64m aOD		
Context	Description			Depth	
1701	Topsoil	Modern topsoil, under turf. Mid grey silt loam. 1% stone, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-2cm. Occasional chalk flecks. Loose and friable; bioturbated; fairly homogeneous. Overlies (1702).			0.00-0.28m bgl
1702	Subsoil	Modern subsoil. Pale grey silt loam. 1% stone/flint, sub-angular – angular, <1-2cm. Occasional chalk flecks and fragments. Moderately compact; fairly homogeneous; some bioturbation. Overlies (1703).			0.28-0.40m bgl
1703	Layer	Demolition debris. Pale grey silt. 5% flint, sub-angular, 2-5cm. Friable but compact. Frequent chalk, CBM and mortar fragments. Slightly mixed; some bioturbation. Overlies (1705).			0.40-0.65m bgl
1704	?Wall	Possible wall foundation. Compacted mortar and chalk. Mid yellow-grey.			0.64m+ bgl
1705	Layer	Mid grey-brown silt loam. Frequent chalk flecks. Moderately compact; fairly homogeneous. Appears to be banked against (1704).			0.65m+ bgl

TESTPIT 18			Type:	Hand excavated
Dimensions: 0.64x0.64m		Max. depth: 0.60m	Ground level: 39.10-39.13m aOD	
Context	Description			Depth



1801	Topsoil	Modern topsoil. Mid grey silt loam. 5% stone, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-8cm. Fairly loose and friable; heavily bioturbated; fairly homogeneous. In woodland. Overlies (1802).	0.00-0.35m bgl
1802	Subsoil	Modern subsoil. Pale grey-brown silt loam. 1% stone, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-5cm. Loose and friable; bioturbated; fairly homogeneous. Overlies (1803) and (1805).	0.33-0.60m bgl
1803	Surface	Possible remnant of <i>in situ</i> mortar surfacing. Pale yellow -white lime mortar.	0.60m+ bgl
<b>1804</b>	<b>Cut</b>	<b>Possible north-south aligned cut. Unexcavated.</b>	0.60m+ bgl
1805	Deposit	Mixed material within (1804). Mid grey-brown silt loam. Patchy, possibly bioturbated. Large chalk fragments in pale yellow white mortar may be <i>in situ</i> masonry.	0.60m+ bgl

<b>TRENCH 19</b>			<b>Type:</b>	Machine excavated
<b>Dimensions:</b> 10.00x1.80m		<b>Max. depth:</b> 1.03m	<b>Ground level:</b> 36.18-36.30m aOD	
<b>Context</b>	<b>Description</b>			<b>Depth</b>
1901	Topsoil	Modern ploughsoil. Mid grey-yellow silty clay. 2% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-4cm. Occasional chalk flecks. Bioturbated; homogeneous. Overlies (1910).		0.00-0.40m bgl
1902	Deposit	Deliberate backfill of quarry pit (1907). Mid yellow-brown sandy silt loam. <1% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-3cm. Moderately compact but friable; homogeneous. Occurs in alternating bands with (1909); these bands of deposits were not separately numbered. Not fully excavated.		0.12m+ deep
1903	Deposit	Deliberate backfill of quarry pit (1906). Pale yellow-white silt loam. 90% chalk, sub-rounded, <1-3cm. Fairly loose and friable; fairly homogeneous. Overlies (1904).		0.08m deep
1904	Deposit	Deliberate backfill of quarry pit (1906). Mid grey-brown sandy silt loam. 1% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-5cm. Moderately compact but friable; homogeneous. Largely unexcavated.		0.22m+ deep
1905	Deposit	Deliberate backfill of quarry pit (1906). Mid brown sandy silt loam. <1% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-3cm. Moderately compact but friable; homogeneous. Overlies (1903). Not fully excavated.		0.60m deep
<b>1906</b>	<b>Cut</b>	<b>Cut of quarry pit, full extent not seen in plan. Filled with (1903), (1904) and (1905). Not fully excavated. Cuts (1902).</b>		<b>0.80m+ deep</b>
<b>1907</b>	<b>Cut</b>	<b>Cut of quarry pit, full extent not seen in plan. Filled with (1902), and (1909). Not fully excavated.</b>		<b>0.62m+ deep</b>
<b>1908</b>	<b>Cut</b>	<b>Cut of quarry pit, full extent not seen in plan. Filled with (1910), and (1911). Not fully excavated. Cuts (1903).</b>		<b>0.35m+ deep</b>
1909	Deposit	Deliberate backfill of quarry pit (1907). Pale yellow-white silt loam. 90% chalk, sub-rounded, <1-3cm. Fairly loose and friable; fairly homogeneous. Occurs in alternating bands with (1902); these bands of deposits were not separately numbered. Not fully excavated.		0.55m+ deep
1910	Deposit	Deliberate backfill of quarry pit (1908). Mid yellow-brown sandy silt loam. <1% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-3cm. Moderately compact but friable; homogeneous. Overlies (1911). Not fully excavated.		0.35m deep
1911	Deposit	Deliberate backfill of quarry pit (1908). Pale yellow-white silt loam. 90% chalk, sub-rounded, <1-3cm. Fairly loose and friable; fairly homogeneous. Unexcavated.		-

<b>TESTPIT 20</b>			<b>Type:</b>	Hand excavated
<b>Dimensions:</b> 1.00x1.00m		<b>Max. depth:</b> 0.65m	<b>Ground level:</b> 38.19-38.23m aOD	
<b>Context</b>	<b>Description</b>			<b>Depth</b>
2001	Topsoil	Modern topsoil, under turf. Mid grey silt loam. 1% stone, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-2cm. Occasional chalk flecks and fragments, CBM and animal bone. Moderately compact; bioturbated; fairly		0.00-0.40m bgl



		homogeneous. Overlies (2002).	
2002	<i>Subsoil</i>	Modern subsoil. Pale grey silt loam. 5% stone/flint, sub-angular – angular, <1-2cm. Occasional chalk fragments, CBM and animal bone. Moderately compact but friable; fairly homogeneous; some bioturbation. Overlies (2003).	0.40-0.58m bgl
2003	<i>Layer</i>	Demolition debris. Pale white-grey silt includes degraded chalk and mortar. 10% flint, sub-angular, 2-8cm. Compact. Frequent chalk and mortar fragments. Slightly mixed; some bioturbation.	0.58m+ bgl

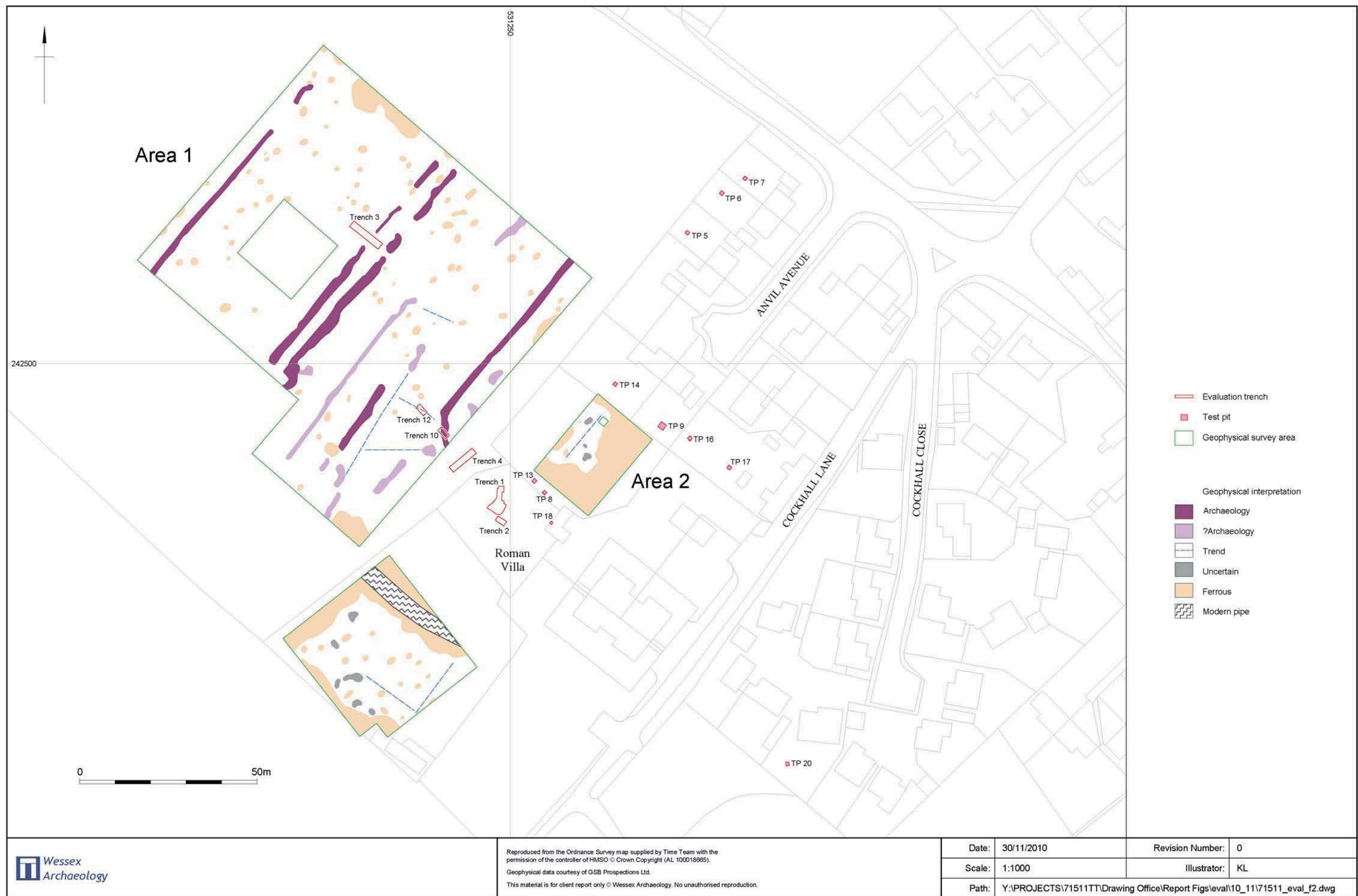
<b>TRENCH 21</b>		<b>Type:</b>	Machine excavated
<b>Dimensions:</b> 5.00x1.80m		<b>Max. depth:</b> 0.42m	<b>Ground level:</b> 36.23m aOD
<b>Context</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Depth</b>	
2101	<i>Topsoil</i>	Modern ploughsoil. Mid brown-grey sandy silt. 2% flint, sub-angular – sub-rounded, <1-4cm. Bioturbated; homogeneous. Overlies (2102) and (2103).	
2102	<i>Deposit</i>	Deliberate backfill of quarry pit. Pale grey-yellow sandy silt loam. 90% chalk, sub-rounded, <1cm. Fairly loose and friable. Contains bands/lenses of mid brown silt. Largely unexcavated.	
2103	<i>Deposit</i>	Deliberate backfill of quarry pit. Number assigned to potentially different deposits that share similar characteristics. Mid brown sandy silt loam. <1% chalk, sub-rounded – rounded, <1-2cm. Moderately compact but friable; fairly homogeneous. Largely unexcavated.	



Site location

Figure 1



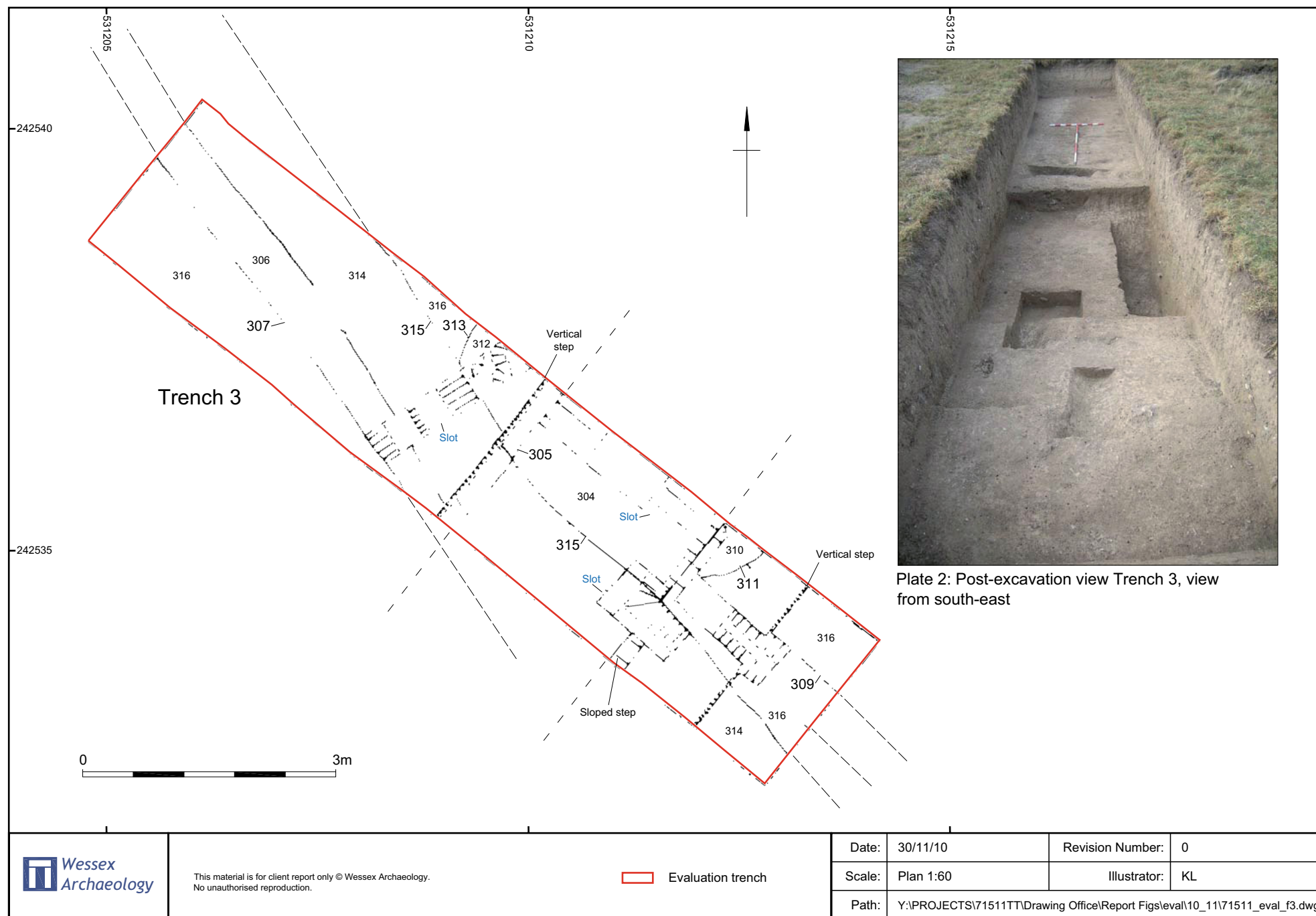


Areas 1 and 2 location of trenches and test pits, and geophysical results

Figure 2

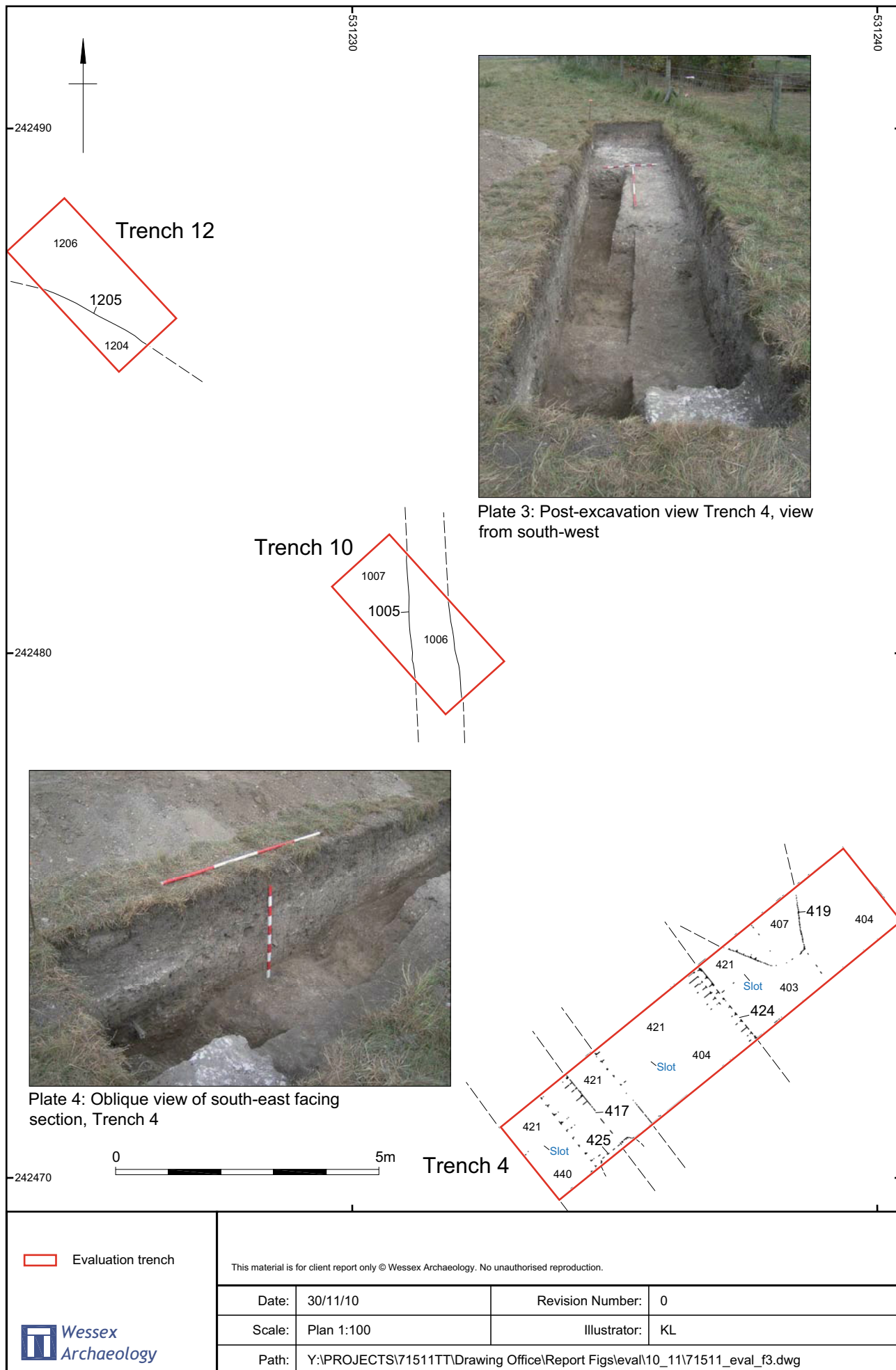






Trench 3: plan and photograph





Trenches 4, 10 and 12: plan and photographs

Figure 5



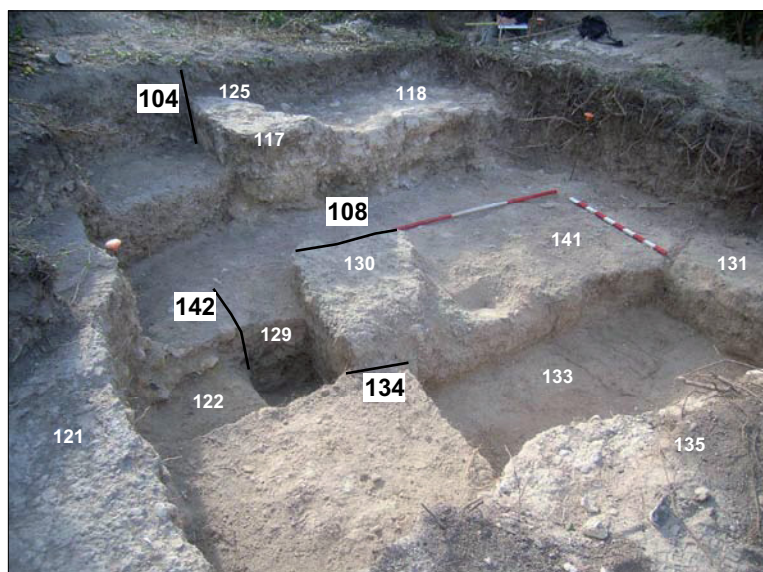


Plate 5: Trench 1, view from north-west

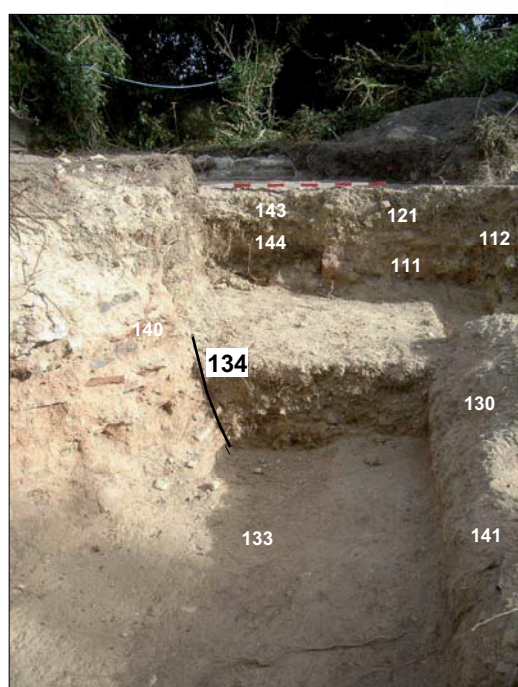
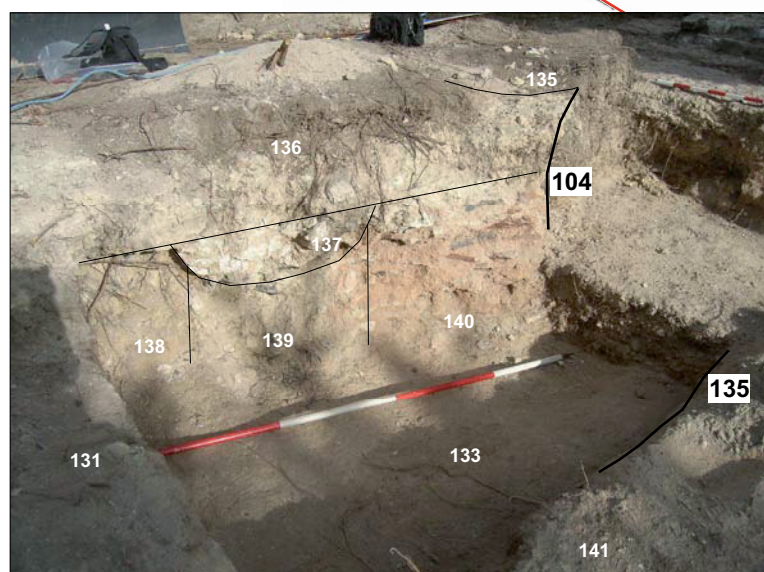


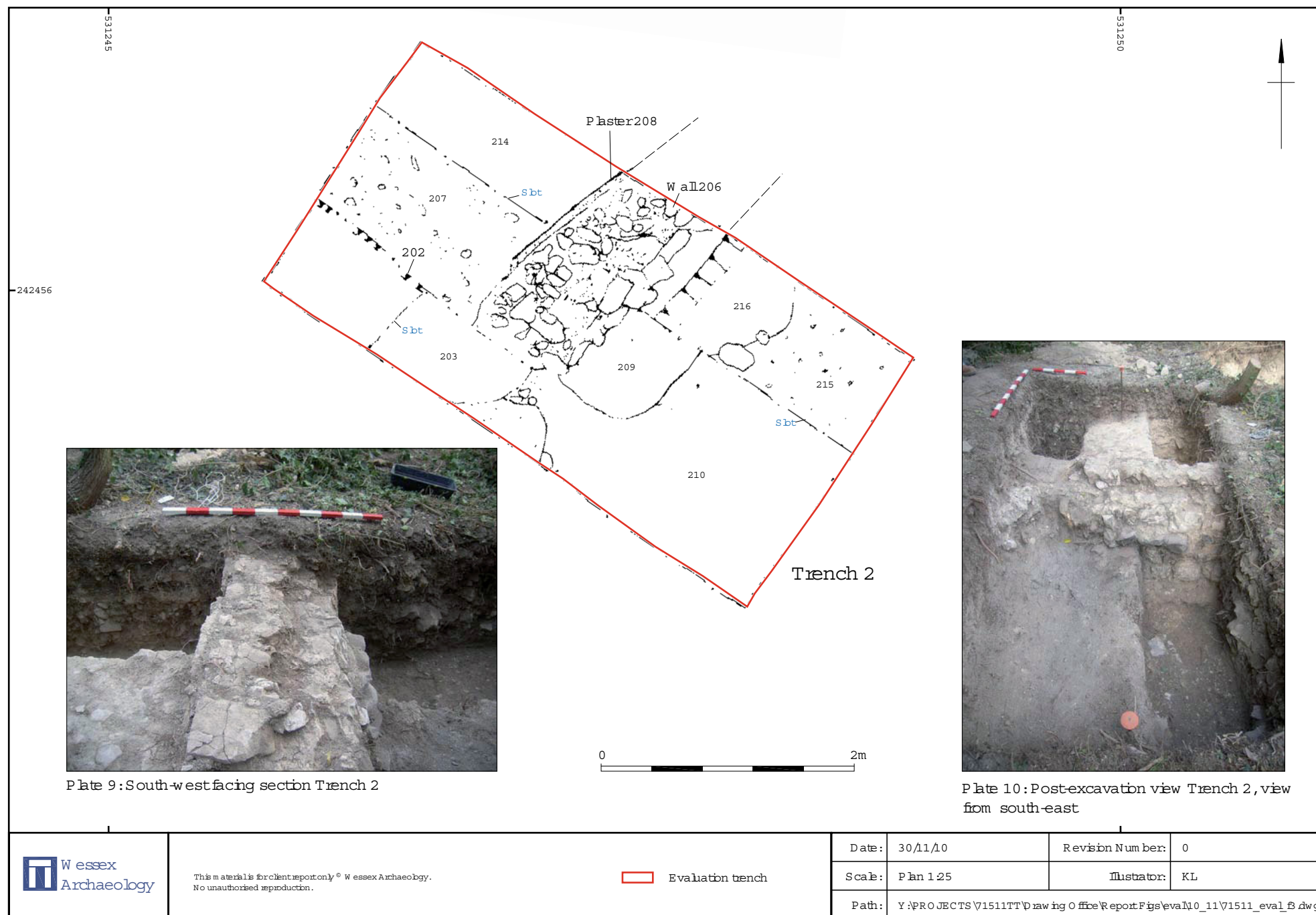


Plate 7: Trench 1, view from south-west

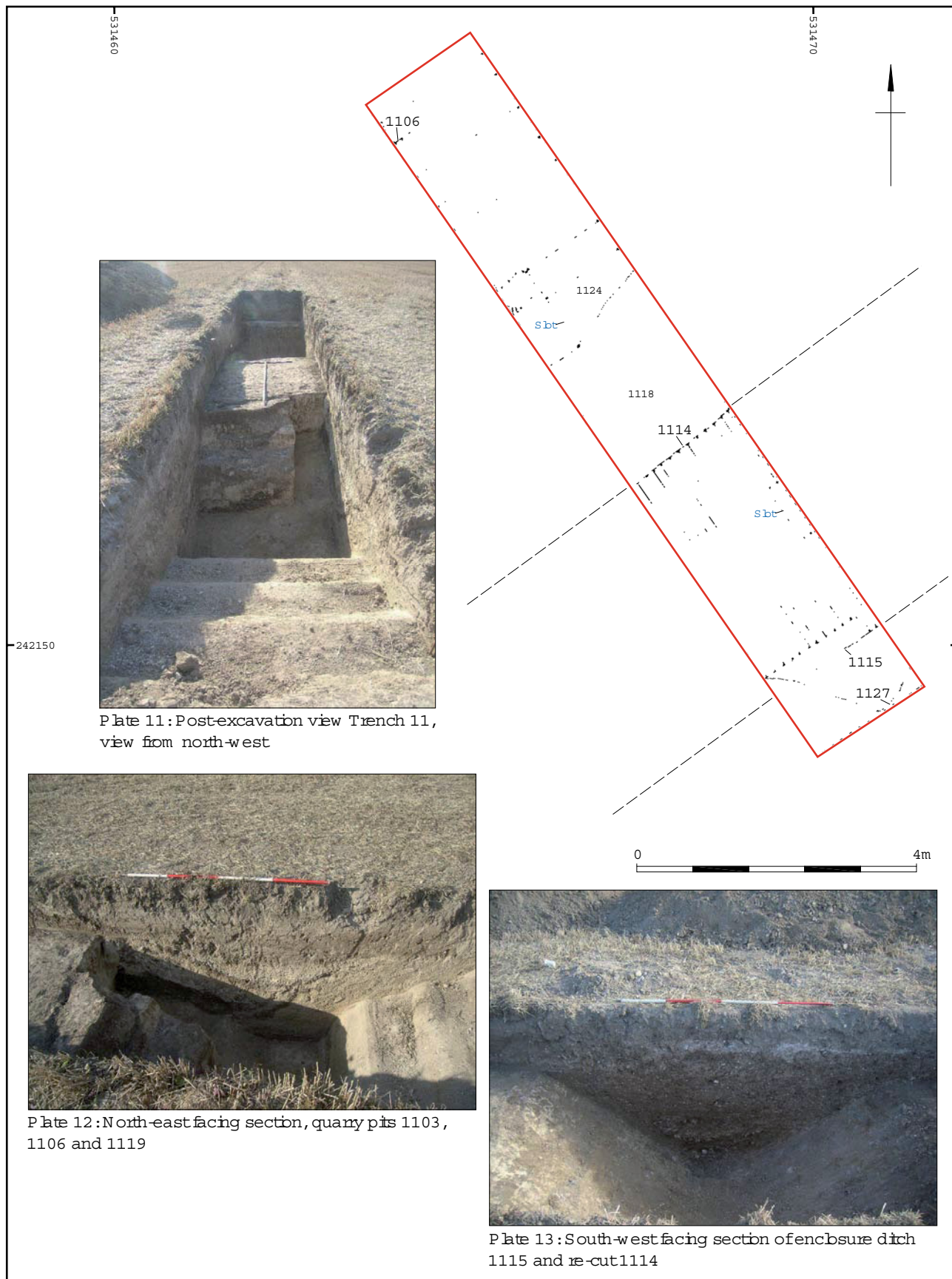




 <b>Wessex</b> Archaeology		This material is for client use only. © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction.	 Evaluation trench
Date:	30/11/10	Revision Number:	0
Scale:	Plan 1:30	Illustrator:	KL
Path:	Y:\PROJECTS\1511\TTD\Drawing Office\Report Figs\eval\10_11\1511_eval_B.dwg		





Trench 2: plan and photographs



<div>  Evaluation trench </div> <div>  </div>	This material is for client report only. © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction.		
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Trench 11: plan and photographs



Trench 15: plan and photographs





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