

## **CONTENTS**

### **List of Tables**

### **List of Illustrations**

### **Glossary of Archaeological Terms and Abbreviations**

### **Summary**

- 1 Introduction**
- 2 Archaeological and Project Background**
- 3 Methodology**
- 4 Stratigraphic Evidence**
- 5 Discussion**
- 6 Conclusions**
- 7 Nature of the Record**
- 8 Statement of Potential**
- 9 Publication, Presentation and Archiving**
- 10 References**
- 11 Acknowledgements**

### **Appendix 1 The Pottery**

### **Appendix 2 The Struck Flint**

### **Appendix 3 The Animal Bone**

### **Appendix 4 Small Finds**

### **Appendix 5 Miscellaneous Artefacts**

### **Appendix 6 The Soil Samples**

### **Appendix 7 C14 Data**

### **OASIS Data Collection Form**

## LIST OF TABLES

Table 1:	Site phasing
Table 2:	The pottery assemblage from Alpha Park (Appendix 1)
Table 3:	The flint assemblage from Alpha Park (Appendix 2)
Table 4:	Animal bone fragments by context (Appendix 3)
Table 5:	Element counts of identified mammal species (Appendix 3)
Table 6:	Small finds from Alpha Park (Appendix 4)
Table 7:	Miscellaneous artefacts from Alpha Park (Appendix 5)
Table 8:	The soil samples (Appendix 6)

## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

Figure 1:	Site Location
Figure 2:	Study Area
Figure 3:	Pre-excavation Site Plan
Figure 4:	Post-excavation Site Plan (west)
Figure 5:	Post-excavation Site Plan (east)
Figure 6:	Feature [1157], Post-excavation Plan
Figure 7:	Feature [1255], Post-excavation Plan
Figure 8:	Plan of Probable Roman Features
Figure 9:	Plan of Modern Features
Figure 10:	Plan of Undated Features
Figure 11:	Sections 001 to 006
Figure 12:	Sections 007 to 012
Figure 13:	Sections 013 to 018
Figure 14:	Sections 019 to 030
Figure 15:	Sections 031 to 035
Figure 16:	Sections 036 to 040
Figure 17:	Sections 041 to 045
Figure 18:	Sections 046 to 051
Figure 19:	Sections 052a to 054
Figure 20:	Sections 055 to 058
Figure 21:	Sections 059 to 064
Figure 22:	Sections 065 to 071
Figure 23:	Sections 072 to 076
Figure 24:	Sections 077 to 082
Figure 25:	Sections 083 to 088
Figure 26:	Sections 089 to 094
Figure 27:	Sections 095 to 098
Figure 28:	Sections 100 to 105
Figure 29:	Sections 106 to 110
Figure 30:	Sections 111 to 116
Figure 31:	Sections 117 to 121
Figure 32:	Sections 122 to 124

**LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS (cont.)**

- Figure 33: Sections 125 to 129  
Figure 34: Sections 130 to 133  
Figure 35: Sections 134 to 139  
Figure 36: Enclosure [1157] and Structure 3; Comparative Plans and Sections  
Figure 37: Relative Locations of Enclosure [1157] and Structure 3  
Figure 38: Drawing of Small Find 001  
Figure 39: Drawing of Small Find 002

## GLOSSARY OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

### *Archaeology*

For the purposes of this project archaeology is taken to mean the study of past human societies through their material remains from prehistoric times to the modern era. No rigid upper date limit has been set, but AD 1900 is used as a general cut-off point.

### *CBM*

Ceramic Building Material (brick and tile).

### *Medieval*

The period between the Norman Conquest (AD 1066) and *circa* AD 1500.

### *Natural*

In archaeological terms this refers to the undisturbed natural geology of a site, in this case river terrace gravel interbedded with coarse fluvial Quaternary sands overlying a solid geology of Oxford clay.

### *Neolithic*

The period between *circa* 4000 cal BC and *circa* 2000 cal BC.

### *NGR*

National Grid Reference from the Ordnance Survey Grid.

### *OD*

Ordnance Datum; used to express a given height above sea-level.

### *OS*

Ordnance Survey.

### *Post-medieval*

The period after *circa* AD 1500.

### *Roman*

The period between AD 43 and AD 410.

### *Saxon*

The period between AD 410 and AD 1066.

## SUMMARY

In 2006 Foundations Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs Consulting, on behalf of Central and Provincial Properties Ltd. and Miller Developments, to undertake a programme of archaeological strip, map and sample, in advance of development on land at Bell Farm, Great North Road, Eaton Socon, Cambridgeshire (NGR: TL 168 581).

The archaeological investigation revealed moderate preservation of significant archaeological deposits.

The earliest evidence on the site comprised a Neolithic pit with a subsequent re-cut and artefactual evidence for further Neolithic activity in the vicinity.

An extensive, multi-phase Roman field and enclosure system, predominately dating to the mid-late 2<sup>nd</sup> to later 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> centuries, was present. This comprised an extension of a Roman agricultural estate identified in previous excavations immediately to the north. Evidence for Roman gravel and sand extraction was also noted.

Early Saxon settlement, in the form of *Sunken Featured Buildings* with associated evidence for the cultivation of spelt (*Triticum spelta* L.), was identified at the western end of the site.

This assessment document provides an overview of the results of the investigation and sets out a programme to bring the site to publication.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In 2006 Foundations Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs Consulting, on behalf of Central and Provincial Properties Ltd. and Miller Developments, to undertake a programme of archaeological strip, map and sample, in advance of development on land at Bell Farm, Great North Road, Eaton Socon, Cambridgeshire (NGR: TL 168 581), which is known as 'Alpha Park'. The study area is located immediately east of the A1, west of the B1428 and south of a B&Q superstore. The site comprised a total area of *circa* 20,000m<sup>2</sup>. Land use at the time of investigation comprised disused scrubland. The underlying geology consists of river terrace gravel interbedded with coarse fluvial Quaternary sands overlying a solid geology of Oxford clay.
- 1.2 In accordance with the principals of PPG16 (Planning Policy Guidance, note 16), and the archaeological policies of Cambridgeshire County Council a programme of archaeological works was required prior to commencement of development.
- 1.3 The archaeological strip, map and sample was undertaken in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation, prepared by CgMs Consulting (2006), and with IFA *Standards and Guidance on Archaeological Excavation* (1994, revised 2001).
- 1.4 This document provides an assessment of the evidence recovered during the strip, map and sample and a programme to bring the results to publication. This assessment now details the proposed publication format and content of the excavation report. This document conforms to the specification set out in Appendices 4 and 5 of *The Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991).
- 1.5 In the following sections a summary of the results of the investigation is followed by an assessment of its stated aims and an overall assessment of the importance of the site is given. Finally each major category of finds is then similarly assessed in turn.

## 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND PROJECT BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The archaeological background is detailed in the CgMs Written Scheme of Investigation (2006). In summary, a number of cropmark features have been recorded immediately to the north of the site which coincide with a concentration of Roman pottery which, at the time was interpreted as evidence for a high status settlement and/or villa. A subsequent geophysical survey identified a number of linear and pit-type anomalies concentrated to the north of the site which coincide with the previously recorded cropmark features. A number of diffuse linear and pit anomalies were recorded within the site itself. A number of other cropmark features have been recorded to the east, south and west of the site.

- 2.2 Wessex Archaeology undertook an evaluation immediately north of the study area in 1997, which confirmed the concentration of Roman features and the presence of a number of Post-medieval ditches and foundations. Subsequent excavation, in 2000/2001, in the area of Roman features recorded a Roman field system, enclosures, a droveway, quarry pits, two ring gullies of probable shelters or windbreaks (not roundhouses) and watering holes. No evidence of settlement was recorded, which has been postulated as lying somewhere to the south (i.e. possibly within the current study area).
- 2.3 Wessex Archaeology undertook an evaluation of the site and an area to the northwest in November/December 2000/2001. This revealed a number of either modern or undated ditches and pits within the centre of the site and an area of Roman ditches associated with the fields recorded in the excavation to the north. A single pit produced an antler pick which, while being undiagnostic, may be Neolithic in date. A single possible Saxon *Sunken Featured Building* was also recorded.
- 2.4 The study area therefore contained the potential for significant archaeological features and deposits, predominantly associated with the prehistoric, Roman, Saxon and Post-medieval periods. This did not prejudice the investigation against the recovery of evidence relating to other periods.
- 2.5 In the CgMs Written Scheme of Investigation the following aims and objectives were stated:
- i) To establish a relative and absolute chronological framework for the site. Priority is to be given to establishing an overall plan of the site and determining the various phases and sub-phases of activity.
  - ii) To determine the internal morphology of the site and land-use, to identify the nature, date and range of zones of activity: residential, industrial, religious etc. and to determine the dynamics of the spatial distribution of activities and changes over time.
  - iii) To clarify the character, nature, date and the extent of remains associated with the pit that produced evidence of possible Neolithic activity. The possible Saxon *Sunken Featured Building* recorded during the Wessex Archaeology evaluation will be preserved *in-situ*. The spatial organisation of the activity should be addressed through the analysis of the distribution of both artefactual and environmental assemblages.
  - iv) To determine the environmental history of the site and its immediate surrounding area throughout the sequence of human activity on the site.
  - v) To support the detailed assessment of the chronology of the artefactual and environmental material with a programme of radiocarbon samples if possible.
  - vi) To enhance the understanding of the prehistoric, Roman and Saxon occupation/activity of the area through the examination of the date, form and character within its local, regional and national context.

- 2.6 The extent to which the investigation has successfully answered these questions, and identified new avenues of research, will be addressed in this document.

### 3 METHODOLOGY

- 3.1 Topsoil and non-significant overburden was removed to the top of archaeological deposits or natural substrates, whichever was encountered first, under constant archaeological supervision. This was achieved through use of a 360° tracked mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless grading bucket. All cleaning and excavation was thereafter conducted by hand.
- 3.2 Archaeological deposits and features were subjected to appropriate levels of investigation. A selection of discrete features were excavated to a minimum 50% sample level (100% for those features related to structures and/or craft/industrial production). Selected linear features, such as boundary/enclosure ditches, were excavated up to a maximum 20% sample level. All sampling strategies were agreed on-site with appropriate representatives from CgMs Consulting and Cambridgeshire County Council.

### 4 STRATIGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

- 4.1 The natural deposits, which consisted of yellow gravel with occasional sand and clays patches, were encountered at an average depth of 0.63m (18.15m OD) below modern ground surface. The natural was sealed by a compact grey brown silt clay subsoil (1002), up to 0.27m thick. Subsoil (1002) was overlaid by topsoil (1001), up to 0.57m thick, which comprised a dark brown sand silt clay. Context (1001) contained occasional CBM fragments.
- 4.2 Archaeological features were present across the study area, cut into the top of the natural deposits. All features east of line A-B (figure five) were sampled. For the remainder of the site, west of line A-B, a qualitative and representative sample of features were selected for investigation.
- 4.3 **Feature [1003]** was part of a northwest–southeast aligned linear ditch complex, which was formed by features [1003], [1009] and [1259]. The ditch complex was 39m long and extended beyond the limit of excavation at the southeast and dissipated at the northwest. Feature [1003] was 0.60m wide and 0.24m in depth and consisted of a linear ditch with sloping sides and a rounded base. Fill (1004) comprised a mid brown clay-silt-sand which contained frequent gravel and rare charcoal flecks. Ditch [1003] cut features [1009] and [1015] and was cut by feature [1011].
- 4.4 **Feature [1005]** was 0.26m in diameter and 0.05m in depth and consisted of a sub-circular, truncated posthole with a flat base. Fill (1006) comprised a grey brown clay sand.



- 4.5 **Feature [1007]** was 0.25m long, 0.25m wide, 0.03m in depth and comprised a sub-square, truncated posthole with a flat base. Fill (1008) consisted of a mid brown clay sand.
- 4.6 **Feature [1009]** was part of a northwest–southeast aligned linear ditch complex, which was formed by features [1003], [1009] and [1259]. The ditch complex was 39m long and extended beyond the limit of excavation at the southeast and dissipated at the northwest. Feature [1009] was 0.68m wide, 0.18m in depth and consisted of a linear ditch with sloping sides and a flat base. Fill (1010) comprised a light brown clay sand which contained frequent gravel. Ditch [1009] was cut by feature [1003].
- 4.7 **Feature [1011]** was 2.50m long, 1.34m wide, 0.63m in depth and consisted of a sub-oval pit with steep sides and a rounded base. Primary fill (1012), up to 0.26m thick, comprised a dark brown sand silt which contained a single sherd of Post-medieval/modern pottery. Fill (1012) was overlaid by fill (1013), up to 0.18m thick, which consisted of dark orange gravel and sand. Layers (1012) and (1013) were sealed by fill (1014), up to 0.36m thick, which comprised a brown clay sand. Context (1014) contained a sherd of Roman pottery, a single sherd of Medieval pottery (15<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> century), two CBM fragments, a piece of clinker and occasional charcoal flecks. Pit [1011] cut ditch [1003].
- 4.8 **Feature [1015]** was 3.40m long, 1.10m wide, 0.21m in depth and consisted of a curvilinear pit with shallow sloping sides and a rounded base. Pit [1015] was cut by ditch [1003]. Fill (1016) comprised a grey/beige silt sand which contained a single, struck flint flake.
- 4.9 **Feature [1017]** was 1.20m long, 0.67m wide, 0.20m in depth and comprised a sub-oval pit with sloping sides and a rounded base. Fill (1018) consisted of a grey clay sand which contained rare charcoal flecks.
- 4.10 **Feature [1019]** was 0.50m long, 0.32m wide, 0.30m in depth and consisted of a sub-rectangular posthole with vertical sides and a flat base. Fill (1020) comprised a dark brown clay sand which contained two sherds of Roman pottery and occasional charcoal flecks. Posthole [1019] cut ditch [1021].
- 4.11 **Feature [1021]** was 8.0m long, 1.20m wide, 0.40m in depth and consisted of an east-west aligned linear ditch with sloping sides and a rounded base. Fill (1022) comprised a mid brown clay sand which contained four sherds of Post-medieval/modern pottery and two CBM fragments. Ditch [1021] extended beyond the limit of excavation at the east and was cut by ditch terminus [1023] and postholes [1019] and [1039].
- 4.12 **Feature [1023]** was visible for a length of 70m, was 1.60m wide, 0.76m in depth and consisted of a slightly curving northwest-southeast aligned ditch. Ditch [1023] interacted with ditch complex [1159]/[1161]/[1163]/[1179] at its west end and terminated within the investigation area at the east end. The feature cut ditches [1021] and [1128] and was cut by a modern service trench. Primary fill (1024), up to 0.42m thick, comprised a brown clay sand which contained seven sherds of Post-medieval/modern pottery, a blue-green glass

- bottle fragment and numerous Fe object fragments. Fill (1024) was overlaid by fill (1025), up to 0.38m thick, which consisted of a dark brown clay sand. Fill (1025) contained nineteen sherds of Post-medieval/modern pottery, rare CBM fragments, a single Fe object and a clay-pipe stem fragment. A single unidentified animal bone was recovered from fill (1025).
- 4.13 **Feature [1026]** was 0.64m long, 0.53m wide, 0.12m in depth and consisted of a sub-rectangular, truncated posthole with a flat base. Fill (1027) comprised a dark brown clay sand. Postholes [1026], [1028], [1030] formed part of a northwest-southeast post alignment, approximately 69m long, which consisted of at least 20 postholes. The posthole alignment extended beyond the east limit of excavation.
- 4.14 **Feature [1028]** was 0.66m long, 0.44m wide, 0.23m in depth and consisted of a sub-rectangular posthole with vertical sides and a flat base. Fill (1029) comprised a brown clay silt.
- 4.15 **Feature [1030]** was 0.60m long, 0.45m wide, 0.22m in depth and consisted of a sub-rectangular posthole with vertical sides and a flat base. Fill (1031) comprised a brown clay sand which contained two sherds of Post-medieval/modern pottery, a CBM fragment and a clay-pipe stem fragment.
- 4.16 **Feature [1032]** was 1.30m in diameter, 0.50m in depth and comprised a sub-circular pit with sloping sides and a pointed base. Primary fill (1033), up to 0.14m thick, consisted of a blue grey clay silt which contained frequent gravel. This was overlaid by fill (1034), up to 0.27m thick, which comprised a brown silt clay. Context (1034) was overlaid by fill (1035), up to 0.22m thick, which consisted of an orange brown clay-sand-silt.
- 4.17 **Feature [1036]** was 1.70m long, 1.20m wide, 0.24m in depth and consisted of a sub-oval pit with shallow, sloping sides and a rounded base. Primary fill (1037), up to 0.18m thick, comprised a grey brown clay sand. This was overlaid by fill (1038), up to 0.14m thick, which consisted of a brown clay sand.
- 4.18 **Feature [1039]** was 0.27m in diameter, 0.05m in depth and consisted of a sub-circular, truncated posthole with a flat base. Fill (1040) comprised a dark brown clay sand which contained a single sherd of Post-medieval/modern pottery. Feature [1039] cut feature [1021]. Postholes [1005], [1007] and [1039] were probably equivalent.
- 4.19 **Feature [1041]** was 40m long, up to 1.30m wide, up to 0.50m in depth and consisted of a turning linear ditch with a sloping profile and rounded base. Ditch [1041] formed two sides of a sub-square ditched enclosure comprising features [1041], [1070] and [1139]. Ditch [1041] terminated at the northeast, 2.30m south of ditch [1070], to form an apparent enclosure entrance. Feature [1041] cut ditch [1043]. A variable fill sequence occurred across the sections excavated through ditch [1041];

- 4.20 Sections 017 and 019: Fill (1042), up to 0.27m thick, comprised a mid brown clay sand.
- 4.21 Section 030: Primary fill (1066), up to 0.24m thick, consisted of a dark orange brown clay gravel which contained a single sherd of Roman pottery. Context (1066) was overlaid by fill (1067), up to 0.24m thick, which comprised a brown sand silt.
- 4.22 Section 118: Primary fill (1264), up to 0.22m thick, consisted of a grey brown clay silt. Deposit (1264) was overlaid by fill (1265), up to 0.16m thick, which comprised a brown clay sand. Fill (1265) contained a single piece of Roman pottery.
- 4.23 **Feature [1043]** was 9m long, 0.68m wide, 0.23m in depth and consisted of a northwest-southeast aligned ditch with a 'V' shaped profile. Fill (1044) comprised a mid brown silt sand which contained a sherd of Roman pottery and a single tile fragment of probable Roman date. A fragment of cow metacarpal was recovered from context (1044). Ditch [1043] was cut by ditch [1041] at the west and extended beyond the limit of investigation at the east.
- 4.24 **Feature [1045]** was 2.40m long, 1.80m wide, up to 0.44m in depth and consisted of an amorphous feature with an uneven profile which 'undercut' the natural gravels at the northeast. It is probable that feature [1045] represents a natural feature, such as a root-hole or animal burrow. Fill (1046) comprised a mottled/disturbed grey clay silt which contained a single, blade-like flint flake, a sherd of Medieval pottery and a single un-diagnostic pottery sherd.
- 4.25 **Feature [1053]** was 3.40m long, 2.40m wide, 0.34m in depth and consisted of a sub-oval pit with sloping sides and a flat base. Fill (1054) comprised a brown sand silt which contained a single piece of Medieval/Post-medieval CBM.
- 4.26 **Feature [1055]** was 0.60m long, 0.60m wide, 0.32m in depth and consisted of a sub-square posthole with sloping sides and a rounded base. Postholes [1055] and [1057] formed part of a northwest-southeast post alignment, approximately 19m long, which consisted of at least 6 postholes. The posthole alignment extended beyond the eastern limit of excavation. Fill (1056) comprised a brown clay sand which contained fragments of decayed wood.
- 4.27 **Feature [1057]** was 0.80m long, 0.80m wide and consisted of a sub-square posthole with a circular post slot at the east end. The posthole, up to 0.22m in depth, had sloping sides and a flat base. The post slot, up to 0.20m wide and 0.32m in depth, had vertical sides and a flat base. Posthole packing fill (1058) comprised a brown clay sand. Fill (1059) comprised a dark brown clay sand post pipe, which was associated with the post slot. Fragments of decayed wood within context (1059) were likely to represent the remains of the original post. In the absence of waterlogged conditions, it is probable that the wood recovered from postholes [1055] and [1057] indicates a relatively modern date for these features.

- 4.28 **Feature [1068]** was approximately 20m long, 1.30m wide, 0.48m in depth and consisted of a ‘dog-legged’, northwest-southeast aligned linear ditch. The feature terminated at the northwest end and extended beyond the eastern limit of excavation. Primary fill (1098), up to 0.16m thick, comprised a grey clay sand. This was overlaid by fill (1069), up to 0.46m thick, which comprised a grey brown clay sand. Context (1069) contained a lump of coal/coke, three cattle bones and a fragment of pig bone. Feature [1068] cut ditch [1070].
- 4.29 **Feature [1070]** was approximately 140m long, up to 1.34m wide, up to 0.36m deep and consisted of a northwest-southeast aligned linear ditch. The feature terminated at the northwest end and extended beyond the eastern limit of excavation. Ditch [1070] formed one side of a sub-square ditched enclosure comprising features [1041], [1070] and [1139]. Ditch [1070] was equivalent to ditch [1086], with which it possibly formed two sides of an enclosure which extended beyond the east limit of investigation. Feature [1070] was cut by ditches [1068] and [1135] and a modern service trench and interacted with features [1126], [1128] and [1219]. A variable fill sequence occurred across the sections excavated through ditch [1070];
- 4.30 Sections 032 and 041: Fill (1071), up to 0.36m thick, comprised a light brown clay sand which contained two sherds of Roman pottery, a single cattle bone, a sheep/goat bone and a fragment of unidentified animal bone.
- 4.31 Sections 37, 109 and 114: Primary fill (1084), up to 0.27m thick, comprised a grey sand clay. This was overlaid by fill (1071), which was up to 0.20m thick.
- 4.32 Section 65: Primary fill (1169), up to 0.16m thick, comprised a dark brown clay silt which contained rare charcoal flecks. Context (1169) was overlaid by fill (1170), up to 0.12m thick, which consisted of a brown clay silt.
- 4.33 Sections 85 and 138: Fill (1218), up to 0.35m thick, comprised a brown clay sand.
- 4.34 Section 135: Fill (1295), up to 0.10m thick, comprised a grey clay sand which contained a single pig bone.
- 4.35 **Feature [1072]** was 10m long, 0.60m wide, 0.14m in depth and consisted of a north-south aligned linear gully with sloping sides and a rounded base. The feature terminated at the north and dissipated at the south. Fill (1073) comprised a grey clay sand which contained a single sherd of Roman pottery and a cattle bone.
- 4.36 **Feature [1074]** was 1.10m long, 0.80m wide, 0.24m in depth and consisted of a sub-oval pit with a vertical northwest profile, a sloping southeast profile and a flat base. Fill (1075) comprised a grey clay sand which contained a single cattle bone.
- 4.37 **Feature [1076]** was 3.20m in diameter, 0.62m in depth and consisted of a sub-circular pit with steep sides and a rounded base. Primary fill (1077), up to 0.20m thick, comprised a lens of slumped natural gravel. This was overlaid by

- fill (1078), up to 0.32m thick, which consisted of a grey clay silt. Layer (1078) contained one cattle bone, three sheep/goat bones and two unidentified animal bones and frequent charcoal flecks. Context (1078) was overlaid by fill (1079), up to 0.18m thick, which comprised an orange brown silt sand. Fill (1079) contained one cattle bone, one unidentified animal bone and occasional charcoal flecks. Layer (1080), up to 0.24m thick, overlaid fill (1079) and comprised a dark grey sand silt which contained two cattle bones and occasional charcoal flecks.
- 4.38 **Feature [1086]** was approximately 19m long, 1.20m wide, 0.34m in depth and consisted of a northeast-southwest aligned ditch with sloping, uneven sides and a rounded base. Ditch [1086] was equivalent to ditch [1070], with which it possibly formed two sides of an enclosure which extended beyond the east limit of investigation. Ditch [1086] was cut by pit [1093] at the north. Primary fill (1087), up to 0.14m thick, comprised a grey sand clay which contained two sherds of Roman pottery and rare charcoal flecks. Context (1087) was overlaid by fill (1088), up to 0.24m thick, which comprised a light brown clay sand. This context contained three sherds of Roman pottery. Flotation soil sample analysis of fill (1088) yielded several pieces of residual worked flint, these have not been further analysed. Context (1088) was equivalent to fill (1071).
- 4.39 **Feature [1089]** was 1.20m long, 0.90m wide, 0.18m in depth and consisted of a sub-oval pit with sloping sides and a rounded base. Fill (1090) comprised a grey brown clay sand which contained a cattle bone and rare charcoal flecks. Pit [1089] was similar and adjacent to pit [1091].
- 4.40 **Feature [1091]** was 1.24m long, 0.70m wide, 0.26m in depth and consisted of a sub-oval pit with sloping sides and a rounded base. Fill (1092) was equivalent to context (1090) and comprised a grey brown clay sand which contained a single sherd of Roman pottery and rare charcoal flecks.
- 4.41 **Feature [1093]** was 3.50m long, 3m wide, 0.67m in depth and consisted of a large, sub-oval pit with steep sides and a flat base. Pit [1093] cut ditches [1086] and [1099] and extended beyond the east limit of investigation. Primary fill (1094), up to 0.12m thick, comprised an orange brown clay sand which contained a cattle bone. This was overlaid by fill (1095), up to 0.12m thick, which comprised a black, sticky clay silt which contained two sherds of *St. Neots Ware* Medieval pottery. Layer (1095) contained frequent charcoal flecks and occasional organic macro-fossils. Context (1095) was sealed by fill (1096), up to 0.26m thick, which consisted of a dark grey sand-silt-clay with occasional charcoal flecks. Two cattle bones were recovered from this context. Layer (1096) was overlaid by fill (1097), up to 0.34m thick, which comprised a grey brown silt clay with occasional charcoal flecks. Context (1097) contained three sherds of Roman pottery and a single fragment of decayed wood. A relatively large assemblage of animal bone, which consisted of seventeen cattle bones, one sheep/goat bone and one pig bone, was recovered from context (1097).
- 4.42 **Feature [1099]** was 8m long, 0.80m wide, 0.40m in depth and consisted of a northeast-southwest aligned linear ditch, which turned to the southeast at the southwest end. In section, the feature had uneven, sloping edges and a rounded

base. Ditch [1099] was cut by pit [1093] and extended beyond the northeast limit of excavation. Fill (1100) comprised a dark grey sand clay which contained a single fragment of Roman pottery, three cattle bones and two pig bones.

- 4.43 **Feature [1101]** was *circa* 18m long, 0.96m wide, 0.10m in depth and consisted of a northwest-southeast aligned linear ditch with shallow, sloping sides and a flat base. The feature terminated at the southeast and was only partially visible at the northwest. Ditch [1101] was cut by a modern drainage cut. Fill (1102) comprised an orange grey sand clay which contained one sherd of pottery with a possible Iron Age or Medieval date (see Appendix 1, tables 2a and 2b), two cattle bones and rare charcoal flecks.
- 4.44 **Feature [1103]** was 1.20m long, 0.90m wide, 0.32m in depth and consisted of a sub-oval pit with sloping sides and a flat base. Fill (1104) comprised a grey sand clay which contained one unidentified animal bone and rare charcoal flecks. Pit [1103] was adjacent to pit [1105].
- 4.45 **Feature [1105]** was 0.80m in diameter, 0.16m in depth and consisted of a sub-circular pit with sloping sides and a flat, irregular base. Fill (1106) comprised an orange grey sand clay. It was not possible to determine the stratigraphic relationship between features [1103] and [1105].
- 4.46 **Feature [1107]** was 1.20m long, 1m wide, 0.20m in depth and comprised a sub-oval pit with sloping sides and a flat base. Fill (1108) consisted of an orange grey silt-sand-clay which contained occasional charcoal flecks. Pit [1107] was adjacent to pit [1109].
- 4.47 **Feature [1109]** was 1m long, 0.50m wide, 0.24m in depth and consisted of a sub-oval pit with steep sides and a flat base. Fill (1110) comprised a grey silt-sand-clay.
- 4.48 **Feature [1111]** was 0.51m long, 0.45m wide, 0.10m in depth and consisted of a sub-oval posthole with sloping sides and a rounded base. Fill (1112) comprised a grey clay sand. Posthole [1111] was similar to feature [1113].
- 4.49 **Feature [1113]** was 0.46m in diameter, 0.16m in depth and consisted of a sub-circular posthole with sloping sides and a rounded base. Fill (1114) comprised a grey sand clay.
- 4.50 **Feature [1115]** was 1m in diameter, 0.17m in depth and consisted of a sub-circular pit with sloping sides and an irregular, rounded base. Pit [1115] extended beyond the north limit of excavation. Fill (1116) comprised a grey sand clay which contained rare charcoal flecks.
- 4.51 **Feature [1117]** was 34m long, 0.52m wide, 0.24m in depth and consisted of a northwest-southeast aligned linear ditch with sloping sides and a flat base. Ditch [1117] terminated at the southeast and extended beyond the north limit of investigation. The feature was cut by a modern service trench. Fill (1118) comprised a grey clay silt.

- 4.52 **Feature [1119]** was 2.20m in diameter, 0.39m in depth and consisted of a sub-circular pit with sloping sides and an uneven, rounded base. Primary fill (1120), up to 0.20m thick, comprised a grey sand silt which contained rare charcoal flecks. This was overlaid by fill (1121), up to 0.21m thick, which consisted of a grey brown silt sand with rare charcoal flecks.
- 4.53 **Feature [1122]** was 13.50m long, 1.40m wide, 0.42m in depth and consisted of a northwest-southeast aligned linear ditch with uneven, sloping sides and a rounded base. Ditch [1122] formed one side of a sub-square ditched enclosure comprising features [1122], [1126], [1147] and [1137]. Ditch [1122] terminated at the southeast, 1.70m west of ditch [1137], to form an apparent enclosure entrance. Feature [1122] was cut by a modern service trench. A variable fill sequence occurred across the sections excavated through ditch [1122];
- 4.54 Section 115: Primary fill (1262), up to 0.20m thick, comprised a grey clay silt which contained one horse bone and occasional charcoal flecks. This was overlaid by fill (1263), up to 0.22m thick, which consisted of a light brown clay sand with frequent stone. Fill (1263) contained a single flint flake, two horse bones and occasional charcoal flecks.
- 4.55 Section 52(a and c): Primary fill (1123), up to 0.12m thick, comprised a light brown clay sand. Fill (1123) was overlaid by layer (1124), up to 0.16m thick, which consisted of a grey clay. Context (1124) was overlaid by fill (1125), up to 0.22m thick, which comprised a brown clay sand.
- 4.56 **Feature [1126]** was *circa* 18m long, 0.88m wide, 0.24m in depth and consisted of a northeast-southwest aligned linear ditch with sloping sides and a flat base. Ditch [1126] formed one side of a sub-square ditched enclosure comprising features [1122], [1126], [1147] and [1137]. Ditch [1126] terminated at the southwest. Feature [1126] was cut by a modern service trench. A variable fill sequence occurred across the sections excavated through ditch [1126];
- 4.57 Section 52(b and c): Primary fill (1127), up to 0.10m thick, comprised a grey brown clay. Layer (1127) was overlaid by (1125), up to 0.20m thick.
- 4.58 Section 120: Fill (1127) was up to 0.24m thick.
- 4.59 **Feature [1128]** was *circa* 98m long, up to 1m wide, 0.28m in depth and consisted of a northeast-southwest aligned linear ditch with sloping sides and a rounded base. The feature dissipated at the northeast and extended beyond the south limit of excavation. Ditch [1128] interacted with features [1070], [1122] and [1147] and was cut by ditch [1023] and a modern service trench. Primary fill (1129), up to 0.28m thick, comprised a grey sand clay. This was overlaid (in section 053 only) by (1130), up to 0.10m thick, which comprised a yellow brown silt-sand-clay.
- 4.60 **Feature [1131]** was 3.30m long, 2.60m wide, 0.88m in depth and consisted of a large, sub-oval pit with steep sloping sides and a flat base. Primary fill (1132), up to 0.20m thick, comprised a sticky, black clay silt which contained

- frequent organic macro-fossils. Context (1132) was sealed by fill (1133), up to 0.46m thick, which consisted of a mottled orange grey clay sand. Layer (1133) was overlaid by fill (1134), up to 0.32m thick, which comprised a brown clay sand. Context (1134) contained a single sherd of 14<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> century *Bedfordshire Sandy Ware* pottery, two Post-medieval/modern CBM fragments and a single cattle bone.
- 4.61 **Feature [1135]** was 25.5m long, 0.70m wide, 0.30m in depth and consisted of a northeast-southwest aligned linear ditch with sloping sides and a pointed base. Feature [1135] cut ditches [1070], [1137] and [1147] and was cut by a modern drainage ditch at the north. Ditch [1135] terminated at the south. Fill (1136) comprised a brown silt sand which contained frequent CBM, including modern brick fragments and a single iron object.
- 4.62 **Feature [1137]** was 20m long, 1.20m wide, 0.38m in depth and consisted of a northeast-southwest aligned linear ditch with sloping sides and a flat base. Ditch [1137] formed one side of a sub-square ditched enclosure comprising features [1122], [1126], [1147] and [1137]. Ditch [1137] terminated at the southwest, 1.70m east of ditch [1122], to form an apparent enclosure entrance. Feature [1137] was cut by ditch [1135]. Fill (1138) comprised a light brown sand silt which contained one sheep/goat bone and an unidentified animal bone.
- 4.63 **Feature [1139]** was 51m long, up to 1.10m wide, 0.28m in depth and consisted of a northeast-southwest aligned linear ditch with sloping sides and a flat base. Ditch [1139] formed one side of a sub-square ditched enclosure comprising features [1041], [1070] and [1139]. Ditch [1139] dissipated at the northeast and southwest. Feature [1139] was cut by pit [1276]. Primary fill (1140), up to 0.26m thick, comprised a grey sand clay. This was overlaid (in section 056 only) by fill (1141), up to 0.13m thick, which consisted of a brown clay sand.
- 4.64 **Feature [1145]** was 1.70m in diameter, 0.57m in depth and consisted of a sub-circular pit with steep sloping sides and a flat base. Fill (1146) comprised a dark brown clay sand which contained rare charcoal flecks and a single lens of re-deposited gravel natural. Context (1146) contained a single piece of coal and six fragments of highly degraded iron objects.
- 4.65 **Feature [1147]** was 13.5m long, 1.70m wide, 0.28m in depth and consisted of a northwest-southeast aligned linear ditch with irregular sloping sides and a rounded base. Ditch [1147] formed one side of a sub-square ditched enclosure comprising features [1122], [1126], [1147] and [1137]. Ditch [1147] was cut by ditch [1135] at the east, a modern service trench at the west. The feature interacted with ditch [1128]. Primary fill (1148), up to 0.16m thick, comprised a grey clay sand. This was overlaid by fill (1150), up to 0.14m thick, which consisted of a brown clay sand.
- 4.66 **Feature [1151]** was 0.65m long, 0.65m wide, 0.36m in depth and consisted of a sub-square posthole with sloping sides which descended to a post slot. The post slot, up to 0.18m in diameter, was sub-circular with vertical sides and a flat base. Fill (1152) comprised a brown clay sand which contained a single Post-medieval/modern CBM fragment.



- 4.67 **Feature [1153]** was 1.10m in diameter, 0.25m in depth and consisted of a sub-circular pit with steep sloping sides and a rounded base. Fill (1154) comprised a grey silt-clay-sand which contained occasional charcoal flecks and a single large stone.
- 4.68 **Feature [1155]** was *circa* 150m long, up to 1.45m wide, up to 0.60m in depth and consisted of a northwest-southeast aligned linear ditch. Feature [1155] cut pit/posthole [1268] and interacted with ditches [1023], [1191], [1215], [1228] and [1230]. Ditch [1155] extended beyond the west limit of investigation. A variable profile and fill sequence occurred across the sections excavated through ditch [1155];
- 4.69 Sections 62, 123 and 132: Sloping sides and a rounded base. Fill (1156), up to 0.40m thick, comprised a grey sand clay which contained a single unidentified animal bone and occasional charcoal flecks.
- 4.70 Section 104: Sloping sides which descended to a linear gully. The gully, up to 0.30m wide and 0.23m in depth, had vertical sides and a flat base. Fill (1254) comprised a brown sand silt.
- 4.71 **Feature [1157]** was a total of 15m long, 0.85m wide, up to 0.30m in depth and consisted of a ditch with sloping sides and a rounded base. Ditch [1157] formed three sides of a small, sub-square ditched enclosure comprising features [1157], [1189], [1190] and [1194]. Ditch [1157] was cut by a machine-cut modern test pit. Fill (1158) comprised an orange brown clay silt which contained occasional charcoal flecks and two Medieval or Post-medieval CBM fragments. Context (1158) occurred as a uniform fill across all of the ditches associated with enclosure ditch [1157].
- 4.72 **Feature [1159]** was at least 28m long, at least 0.80m wide, 0.39m in depth and was part of a northwest-southeast aligned linear ditch complex which comprised features [1159], [1161], [1163] and [1179]. Feature [1159] was cut by ditch [1161] and as such was stratigraphically the earliest element in the ditch complex. Ditch [1159] had sloping sides and a rounded base. Fill (1160) comprised a brown grey sand clay.
- 4.73 **Feature [1161]** was at least 28m long, at least 1m wide, 0.40m in depth and was part of a northwest-southeast aligned linear ditch complex which comprised features [1159], [1161], [1163] and [1179]. Feature [1161] cut ditch [1159] and was cut by ditch [1179]. Ditch [1161] had irregular sloping sides and a rounded base. Primary fill (1177), up to 0.08m thick, comprised a yellow brown clay sand which contained a single un-diagnostic pottery sherd. This was overlaid by fill (1162), up to 0.32m thick, which consisted of a grey brown clay sand.
- 4.74 **Feature [1163]** was at least 28m long, 1.45m wide, 0.60m in depth and was part of a northwest-southeast aligned linear ditch complex which comprised features [1159], [1161], [1163] and [1179]. Feature [1163] cut ditch [1179] and was cut by a land drain. Ditch [1163] had sloping sides and a rounded base.

Primary fill (1178), up to 0.11m thick, comprised a yellow grey sticky clay silt. This was overlaid by fill (1164), up to 0.46m thick, which consisted of a yellow brown sand-clay-silt.

- 4.75 **Feature [1171]** was 38m long, 0.70m wide, 0.25m in depth and consisted of a northeast-southwest aligned linear ditch with sloping sides and a flat base. The feature dissipated at the south and extended beyond the north limit of excavation. Primary fill (1172), up to 0.18m thick, comprised a dark brown clay silt which contained two horse bones. Context (1172) was overlaid by fill (1173), up to 0.08m thick, which consisted of an orange brown sand silt.
- 4.76 **Feature [1174]** was 40m long, 1m wide, 0.38m in depth and consisted of a northeast-southwest aligned linear ditch with sloping sides and a rounded base. Feature [1174] was cut by enclosure ditch [1194] at the south and a modern, brick-filled feature at the north. It was not possible to establish the stratigraphic relationship between ditch [1174] and feature [1189]. Ditch [1174] was not visible to the south of a machine-cut modern test pit. Primary fill (1175), up to 0.22m thick, comprised a brown sand silt which contained rare charcoal flecks. Fill (1175) was overlaid by layer (1176), up to 0.18m thick, which consisted of a light brown sand silt which contained a single sherd of pottery of probable Roman date.
- 4.77 **Feature [1179]** was at least 28m long, at least 1.5m wide, 0.45m in depth and was part of a northwest-southeast aligned linear ditch complex which comprised features [1159], [1161], [1163] and [1179]. Feature [1179] cut ditch [1161] and was cut by ditch [1163]. Ditch [1179] had sloping sides and a flat base. Fill (1180) comprised a grey brown sand clay.
- 4.78 **Feature [1181]** was 0.50m in diameter, 0.10m in depth and consisted of a sub-circular, truncated posthole with a flat base. Fill (1182) comprised a grey clay silt which contained rare charcoal flecks.
- 4.79 **Feature [1183]** was *circa* 45m long, 0.95m wide, 0.30m in depth and consisted of a linear ditch with sloping sides and a rounded base. The feature was north-south aligned. However, at the south it turned to the west, where after 5m it terminated. Ditch [1183] was cut by a modern, brick-filled feature at the north. Fill (1184) comprised an orange brown clay sand which contained a single sherd of 13th century *Harrold/Olney Hyde* pottery and two sheep/goat bones.
- 4.80 **Feature [1185]** was 1.70m in diameter, 0.38m in depth and consisted of a sub-circular pit with sloping sides and a rounded base. Fill (1186) comprised a dark brown clay silt which contained three cattle bones, four horse bones, part of a red-deer antler and rare charcoal flecks. Pit [1185] was excavated to a 100% sample level after recording was complete. Radiocarbon analysis of a piece of cattle bone from context (1186) yielded a Roman date (Appendix 7).
- 4.81 **Feature [1187]** was 0.70m in diameter, 0.28m in depth and consisted of a sub-circular pit with sloping sides and a rounded base. Fill (1188) comprised a grey clay sand which contained rare charcoal flecks.

- 4.82 **Feature [1189]** was at least 3.30m long, 0.38m wide, 0.12m in depth and consisted of a north-south aligned linear gully which formed the eastern (outer) ditch of enclosure [1157]. Gully [1189] had sloping sides and a rounded base. Context (1158) formed the fill of gully [1189].
- 4.83 **Feature [1190]** was at least 3.40m long, 0.70m wide, 0.16m in depth and consisted of a north-south aligned linear gully which formed the eastern (inner) ditch of enclosure [1157]. Gully [1190] had irregular, sloping sides and a rounded base. Context (1158) formed the fill of gully [1190].
- 4.84 **Feature [1191]** was *circa* 63m long, up to 1.95m wide, 0.45m in depth and was part of a northeast-southwest aligned linear ditch complex which comprised features [1191], [1273] and [1298]. Feature [1191] cut ditches [1273] and [1298] and interacted with ditch [1155]. Ditch [1191] had steep sloping sides and a flat base. Primary fill (1192), up to 0.20m thick, comprised a grey clay silt which contained a fragment of decayed wood, a piece of blue-green bottle glass and a single, struck flint flake. Context (1192) was overlaid by fill (1193), up to 0.33m thick, which consisted of a brown clay sand. Context (1193) contained a CBM fragment of probable Roman date and a single clay-pipe stem fragment.
- 4.85 **Feature [1194]** was *circa* 1.5m long, 0.74m wide, 0.22m in depth and consisted of a north-south aligned linear gully which formed part of the eastern ditch of enclosure [1157]. Gully [1194] had sloping sides and a rounded base. Feature [1194] cut ditch [1174] and was a continuation of either gully [1189] or [1190]. Context (1158) formed the fill of gully [1194].
- 4.86 **Feature [1195]** was 1.10m in diameter, 0.20m in depth and consisted of a sub-circular pit with sloping sides and a rounded base. Fill (1196) comprised a dark brown clay-sand-silt which contained occasional charcoal flecks.
- 4.87 **Feature [1197]** was 0.40m in diameter, 0.12m in depth and consisted of a sub-circular, truncated posthole with a rounded base. Fill (1198) comprised a dark brown clay-sand-silt. Contexts (1196) and (1198) were similar and possibly contemporary.
- 4.88 **Feature [1199]** was *circa* 40m long, 0.60m wide, 0.15m in depth and consisted of a northeast-southwest aligned linear ditch with sloping sides and a rounded base. Feature [1199] interacted with ditch [1201] and was cut by a modern, brick-filled feature at the north. Ditch [1199] was not visible to the south of a previous evaluation trench. Fill (1200) comprised a light brown sand silt.
- 4.89 **Feature [1201]** was 65m long, up to 1m wide, 0.30m in depth and consisted of a northwest-southeast aligned linear ditch with sloping sides and a rounded base. Ditch [1201] interacted with ditch [1199], extended beyond the west limit of excavation and dissipated at the east. Fill (1202) comprised a light brown sand silt.

- 4.90 **Feature [1203]** was 0.40m in diameter, 0.24m in depth and consisted of a sub-circular posthole with sloping sides and a rounded base. Fill (1204) comprised a dark brown sand silt.
- 4.91 **Feature [1205]** was 1.96m in diameter, 0.55m in depth and comprised a sub-circular pit with steep sloping sides and a flat base. Primary fill (1206), up to 0.40m thick, comprised a black clay silt which contained one cattle bone, one sheep/goat bone, a fragment of red-deer metatarsal, two unidentified animal bones and occasional charcoal flecks. Radiocarbon analysis of a piece of cattle bone from fill (1206) yielded a Roman date (Appendix 7). Context (1206) was overlaid by fill (1207), up to 0.22m thick, which consisted of a light brown sand silt.
- 4.92 **Feature [1208]** was 1.4m in diameter, 0.54m in depth and consisted of a sub-circular pit with near vertical sides and a flat base. Primary fill (1209), up to 0.38m thick, comprised a grey black clay silt. Context (1209) was overlaid by fill (1210), up to 0.18m thick, which consisted of a brown clay sand.
- 4.93 **Feature [1211]** was 1m long, 0.50m wide, 0.30m in depth and consisted of a linear cut with steep sides and a flat base. The feature occurred against a section baulk and it was therefore not possible to discern if feature [1211] represented a ditch terminus or a pit. Feature [1211] cut subsoil (1002) and the natural gravels and was sealed by topsoil (1001). Fill (1212) comprised a brown clay sand.
- 4.94 **Feature [1213]** was 2.30m long, 0.75m wide, 0.26m in depth and consisted of a linear cut with steep sides and a rounded base. The feature occurred against a section baulk and it was therefore not possible to discern if feature [1213] represented a ditch terminus or a pit. Fill (1214) comprised a grey sand silt.
- 4.95 **Feature [1215]** was *circa* 60m long, 0.90m wide, 0.28m in depth and consisted of a northeast-southwest aligned linear ditch with sloping sides and a rounded base. The feature dissipated at the north and south and interacted with ditch [1155]. Fill (1216) comprised a grey clay sand.
- 4.96 **Feature [1219]** was *circa* 15m long, up to 0.70m wide, up to 0.24m in depth and consisted of a northwest-southeast aligned linear gully/ditch with sloping sides and a flat base. The feature dissipated at the west and interacted with ditch [1070] at the east. Fill (1220) comprised a brown sand clay. Due to the similarity between fills (1218) and (1220), it was not possible to discern the stratigraphic relationship between ditches [1219] and [1070].
- 4.97 **Feature [1221]** was 3m long, 1.40m wide, 0.48m in depth and consisted of a sub-oval pit with sloping sides and a flat base. Fill (1222) comprised a mottled black grey clay sand.
- 4.98 **Feature [1223]** was 64m long, up to 2.4m wide, 0.15m in depth and consisted of a northwest-southeast aligned linear ditch with shallow, sloping sides and a flat base. Ditch [1223] was cut by a land drain and was associated with stake

- hole [1224]. The ditch dissipated at the east and extended beyond the west limit of excavation. Fill (1225) comprised a grey brown clay sand.
- 4.99 **Feature [1224]** was 0.14m in diameter, 0.12m in depth and consisted of a sub-circular stake-hole with steep sides and a flat base. Feature [1224] contained fill (1225). Stake hole [1224] occurred at the base of ditch [1223], shared an equivalent fill and possibly represents a fence line associated with the ditch.
- 4.100 **Feature [1226]** was 2.08m in diameter, 0.70m in depth and comprised a sub-circular *re-cut* of pit [1286]. The feature had sloping sides and a rounded base. Primary fill (1284), up to 0.20m thick, comprised a bright brown clay/silt-clay which contained a gnawed and eroded cattle bone and rare charcoal flecks. This was sealed by layer (1285), up to 0.14m thick, which comprised a dark grey silt clay with frequent charcoal flecks. Fill (1285) contained two struck flint flakes and a single flint end-scraper. Layer (1285) was overlaid by fill (1227), up to 0.40m thick, which consisted of a grey silt clay with rare charcoal flecks. An eroded aurochs (*Bos primigenius*) horn core was recovered from context (1227). Due to sample failure, it was not possible to obtain a radiocarbon determination for the aurochs horn core (Appendix 7). Flotation soil sample analysis of fill (1227) yielded several pieces of worked flint, these have not been further analysed.
- 4.101 **Feature [1228]** was *circa* 60m long, 0.60m wide, 0.12m in depth and consisted of a northeast-southwest aligned linear ditch with shallow sloping sides and a rounded base. The feature dissipated at the north and south and interacted with ditches [1155], [1230] and possibly [1215]. Fill (1229) comprised a brown clay sand.
- 4.102 **Feature [1230]** was *circa* 74m long, 1.35m wide, 0.40m in depth and consisted of a northeast-southwest aligned linear ditch with sloping sides and a rounded base. Ditch [1230] dissipated at the north and extended beyond the south limit of investigation. The feature interacted with ditches [1155] and [1228]. Fill (1231) comprised a brown clay sand which contained a single cattle bone.
- 4.103 **Feature [1232]** was 4.70m long, 0.50m wide, 0.10m in depth and consisted of a slightly curved, northeast-southwest aligned linear cut with shallow sloping sides and a rounded base. Fill (1233) comprised a brown clay sand.
- 4.104 **Feature [1234]** was 30m long, 1.70m wide and 0.14m in depth and consisted of a northwest-southeast aligned ditch with shallow sloping sides and a flat base. The feature dissipated at the west and east. Fill (1235) comprised a brown clay silt.
- 4.105 **Feature [1236]** was 60m long, 1m wide, between 0.03m and 0.38m in depth and consisted of a northeast-southwest aligned linear ditch with sloping sides and a rounded base. The feature was, in places, very ephemeral (section 095) and as such it was not possible to establish a stratigraphic relationship between ditch [1236] and features [1245] and [1248]. Ditch [1236] extended beyond the south limit of excavation. Fill (1237) comprised an orange brown clay sand which contained a single serrated flint flake and a sherd of Roman pottery.

- 4.106 **Feature [1238]** was *circa* 18m long, 0.80m wide, 0.11m in depth and consisted of a northwest-southeast aligned linear ditch with shallow sloping sides and a flat base. The feature dissipated at the west and east. Ditch [1238] was cut by a land drain. Fill (1239) comprised a khaki brown clay sand.
- 4.107 **Feature [1245]** was 2m in diameter, 0.54m in depth and consisted of a sub-circular pit with sloping sides and a flat base. Primary fill (1246), up to 0.16m thick, comprised a grey silt clay which contained three burnt fragments of unidentified mammal bone and occasional charcoal flecks. Context (1246) was overlaid by fill (1247), up to 0.40m thick, which consisted of a brown sand clay with occasional charcoal flecks.
- 4.108 **Feature [1248]** was 16m long, 0.30m wide, 0.10m in depth and consisted of an east-west aligned linear gully with a rounded base. The feature extended beyond the west limit of excavation and dissipated at the east. Fill (1249) comprised an orange brown sand silt.
- 4.109 **Feature [1250]** was 35m long, 1.20m wide, up to 0.01m in depth and consisted of a northeast-southwest aligned linear ditch base. The feature was very ephemeral and as such it was not possible to record a section profile. Feature [1250] dissipated at the north and the south. Fill (1251) comprised an orange brown sand gravel mix.
- 4.110 **Feature [1255]** was 3.10m long, 2.24m wide, 0.22m in depth and consisted of a sub-rectangular, shallow pit with a flat base. Pit [1255] was associated with posthole [1257] at the east and posthole [1296] at the west. Fill (1256) comprised a grey brown clay sand which contained two pieces of Roman pottery, twenty sherds of early Saxon (5<sup>th</sup> century) pottery, three cattle bones, one horse bone, one unidentified animal bone and occasional charcoal flecks. Context (1256) also contained a copper ring/ear ring (Small Find 001, see Figure 38). Feature [1255] and the associated postholes were excavated to a 100% sample level after recording was complete.
- 4.111 **Feature [1257]** was 0.23m in diameter, 0.18m in depth and consisted of a sub-circular posthole with a flat base. The posthole was cut into the sloping, eastern edge of feature [1255]. Fill (1258) comprised a brown grey clay-sand-silt which contained frequent gravel.
- 4.112 **Feature [1259]** was part of a northwest–southeast aligned linear ditch complex, which was formed by features [1003], [1009] and [1259]. The ditch complex was 39m long and extended beyond the limit of excavation at the southeast and dissipated at the northwest. Feature [1259] was 1.10m wide, 0.42m in depth and consisted of linear ditch with uneven, sloping sides and a flat base. Primary fill (1260), up to 0.18m thick comprised a grey sand clay which contained occasional charcoal flecks. This was overlaid by fill (1261), up to 0.26m thick, which consisted of a brown sand clay.
- 4.113 **Feature [1266]** was 1m long, 0.70m wide, up to 0.28m in depth and consisted of a sub-oval pit with a sloping, uneven profile. Fill (1267) comprised a grey

- clay sand which contained a single piece of Roman pottery and occasional charcoal flecks.
- 4.114 **Feature [1268]** was 0.48m long, 0.48m wide, 0.44m in depth and consisted of a sub-square pit/posthole with a vertical north edge and a sloping south edge. Feature [1268] was cut by ditch [1155]. Fill (1269) comprised a brown grey sand clay which contained a CBM fragment of probable Post-medieval date.
- 4.115 **Feature [1270]** was 1.45m in diameter, 0.40m in depth and consisted of a sub-circular pit with sloping sides and a rounded base. Feature [1270] cut ditch [1273]. Primary fill (1271), up to 0.30m thick, comprised a grey sand clay. This was sealed by fill (1272), up to 0.10m thick, which consisted of a brown clay silt.
- 4.116 **Feature [1273]** was at least 35m long, 6.90m wide, 0.34m in depth and was stratigraphically the earliest part of a northeast-southwest aligned linear ditch complex which comprised features [1191], [1273] and [1298]. Feature [1273] was cut by ditches [1298] and [1191] and pit [1270]. Ditch [1273] had shallow sloping sides and a flat base. Fill (1274) comprised a dark grey sand clay which contained two post-Roman CBM fragments and an iron object.
- 4.117 **Feature [1276]** was 2.20m in diameter, at least 0.56m in depth and consisted of a sub-circular pit with sloping sides. The feature was only partially excavated due to flooding. Pit [1276] cut ditch [1139]. Primary fill (1277), up to 0.24m thick, comprised a water-logged grey black clay which contained two sherds of Post-medieval/modern pottery. Context (1277) was overlaid by fill (1278), up to 0.35m thick, which consisted of a brown clay sand with rare charcoal flecks.
- 4.118 **Feature [1279]** was *circa* 5m long, 1.30m wide, 0.24m in depth and consisted of a northeast-southwest aligned, amorphous linear feature. The feature dissipated at the north and interacted with ditch [1070] at the south. Feature [1279] had a sloping, irregular profile and was associated with an area of disturbed natural. Fill (1280) comprised a grey clay sand which contained two fragments of unidentified animal bones. It is possible that feature [1279] represents the remains of a 'grubbed out' hedge or bush.
- 4.119 **Feature [1286]** was 2.50m wide, 0.77m in depth and consisted of a sub-circular pit with sloping sides and a rounded base. Primary fill (1281), up to 0.04m thick, comprised a clean orange sand with frequent gravel which contained a single, blade-like flint flake. Layer (1281) was sealed by fill (1282), up to 0.36m thick, which formed the main basal fill of feature [1286] and consisted of a light grey sand/clay-sand. Fill (1282) contained a blade-like flint flake and a worn, broken red-deer antler pick (Small Find 002, see figure 39). Radiocarbon analysis of the antler pick yielded a mid-Neolithic date (Appendix 7). Context (1282) was overlaid by fill (1287), up to 0.10m thick, which comprised a mid grey silt clay with rare charcoal flecks. Layer (1287) was overlaid by fill (1283), up to 0.30m thick, which comprised a bright orange silt clay with rare charcoal flecks. Fill (1283) contained a flint core. Contexts (1282), (1287) and (1283) were cut by feature [1226].

- 4.120 **Feature [1288]** was 1.50m long, 1.30m wide, 0.60m in depth and consisted of a sub-oval pit with steep sides and a rounded base. Primary fill (1289), up to 0.50m thick, comprised a dark grey clay silt. This was overlaid by fill (1290), up to 0.16m thick, which consisted of a brown clay sand.
- 4.121 **Feature [1291]** was 1.40m long, 1m wide, 0.32m in depth and consisted of a sub-oval pit with near vertical sides and a flat base. Primary fill (1292), up to 0.22m thick comprised a dark grey clay silt which contained occasional charcoal flecks. This was sealed by layer (1293), up to 0.11m thick, which comprised a yellow grey clay silt with rare charcoal flecks. Context (1293) contained a fragment of red-deer antler.
- 4.122 **Feature [1296]** was 0.26m in diameter, 0.22m in depth and consisted of a sub-circular posthole with a flat base. The posthole was equivalent to feature [1257] and was cut into the sloping, western edge of feature [1255]. Fill (1297) comprised a brown clay sand which contained frequent gravel.
- 4.123 **Feature [1298]** was only visible in section and was 4.80m wide, 0.20m in depth and was part of a northeast-southwest aligned linear ditch complex which comprised features [1191], [1273] and [1298]. Feature [1298] cut ditch [1273] and was cut by ditch [1191]. Ditch [1298] had shallow sloping sides and a flat base. Fill (1275) comprised a dark grey brown silt-sand-clay which contained two CBM fragments of probable Medieval or Post-medieval date and a single horse bone.



## 4.124 PHASING

4.125 Archaeological investigation of the site has revealed a dispersed set of features with limited stratigraphic sequencing. ‘Pockets’ of stratigraphy were, however, occasionally evident, i.e. pit [1015] was cut by ditch complex [1003]/[1009] which in turn was cut by pit [1011]. Low sampling levels along with rare intersection investigations allows only a relatively ‘broad-brush’ stratigraphic phasing. A large number of features yielded a very limited number of artefacts and can therefore only be assigned *terminus post quem*. A significant number of features remain undated.

4.126 All phasing has been based on stratigraphic data, artefacts recovered from primary contexts and feature type/spatial equivalence. Phase plans for the prehistoric, Saxon, Medieval and Post-medieval period have not been produced due to the limited number of datable features. A complete list of phased features is shown in Table 1. Where necessary, the phasing of complex or poorly dated features is discussed below.

Table 1: Site phasing

Phase	feature	Type	artefact	Cuts	cut by	equiv. to
Undat	1003	Ditch		1009, 1015	1011	1009, 1259
Mod	1005	p/h				1007, 1019, 1039
Mod	1007	p/h				1005, 1019, 1039
Undat	1009	Ditch			1003	1003, 1259
Mod	1011	Pit	mod	1003		
Undat	1015	Pit	pre		1003	
Undat	1017	Pit				
Mod	1019	p/h	rom	1021		1005, 1007, 1039
Mod	1021	Ditch	mod		1019, 1023, 1039	
Mod	1023	Ditch	mod	1021, 1128	modern service	
Mod	1026	p/h				1028, 1030
Mod	1028	p/h				1026, 1030
Mod	1030	p/h	mod			1026, 1028
Undat	1032	Pit				
Undat	1036	Pit				
Mod	1039	p/h	mod	1021		1005, 1007, 1019
Rom	1041	Ditch	rom	1043		1139, 1070
Rom	1043	Ditch	rom		1041	
Nat	1045	root/animal	med			
Undat	1053	Pit	med/p/med?			
Mod	1055	p/h	mod			1057
Mod	1057	p/h	mod			1055
Undat	1068	Ditch		1070		
Rom	1070	Ditch	rom		1068, 1135, mod. serv.	1041, 1139, 1086
Undat	1072	Gully	rom			
Undat	1074	Pit				
Undat	1076	Pit				
Rom	1086	Ditch	rom		1093	1070
Rom	1089	pit				1091, 1103, 1105,

Alpha Park, Great North Road, Eaton Socon, Cambridgeshire: Post Excavation Assessment

						1107,
						1109, 1115, 1119, 1266
Rom	1091	Pit	rom			1089, 1103, 1105, 1107,
						1109, 1115, 1119, 1266
Undat	1093	Pit	med wood	1086, 1099		
Undat	1099	Ditch	rom		1093	
Undat	1101	Ditch	IA/med		modern drainage	
Rom	1103	Pit				1089, 1091, 1105, 1107
						1109, 1115, 1119, 1266
Rom	1105	Pit				1089, 1091, 1103, 1107,
						1109, 1115, 1119, 1266
Rom	1107	Pit				1089, 1091, 1103, 1105,
						1109, 1115, 1119, 1266
Rom	1109	Pit				1089, 1091, 1103, 1105,
						1107, 1115, 1119, 1266
Undat	1111	p/h				1113
Undat	1113	p/h				1111
Rom	1115	Pit				1089, 1091, 1103, 1105,
						1107, 1109, 1119, 1266
Undat	1117	Ditch			modern service	
Rom	1119	Pit				1089, 1091, 1103, 1105,
						1107, 1109, 1115, 1266
Rom	1122	Ditch	pre		modern service	1126, 1137, 1147
Rom	1126	Ditch			modern service	1122, 1137, 1147
Undat	1128	Ditch			1023, modern service	
Undat	1131	Pit	med p/med			
Mod	1135	Ditch	mod	1070, 1137, 1147	modern drainage	
Rom	1137	Ditch			1135	1122, 1126, 1147
Rom	1139	Ditch			1276	1041, 1070
Undat	1145	Pit				
Rom	1147	Ditch			1135, modern service	1122, 1126, 1137
Mod	1151	p/h	mod			
Undat	1153	Pit				
p/med?	1155	Ditch		1268		
Undat	1157	Ditch	med or p/med		modern test pit	1189, 1190, 1194
Undat	1159	Ditch			1161	1161, 1163, 1179
Undat	1161	Ditch		1159	1179	1159, 1163, 1179
Undat	1163	Ditch		1179	land drain	1159, 1161, 1179
Undat	1171	Ditch				
Undat	1174	Ditch	rom		1194	
Undat	1179	Ditch		1161	1163	1159, 1161, 1163
Undat	1181	p/h				
Undat	1183	Ditch	med			
Rom?	1185	Pit				
Undat	1187	Pit				

Alpha Park, Great North Road, Eaton Socon, Cambridgeshire: Post Excavation Assessment

Undat	1189	Ditch				1157, 1190, 1194
Undat	1190	Ditch				1157, 1189, 1194
Mod	1191	Ditch	mod	1273, 1298		1273, 1298
Undat	1194	Ditch		1174	modern test pit	1157, 1189, 1190
Undat	1195	Pit				1197
Undat	1197	p/h				1195
Undat	1199	Ditch				
Undat	1201	Ditch				
Undat	1203	p/h				
Rom?	1205	Pit				
Undat	1208	Pit				
Undat	1211	ditch/pit?				
Undat	1213	ditch/pit?				
Undat	1215	Ditch				
Undat	1219	ditch/gully				
Undat	1221	Pit				
Undat	1223	Ditch				1224
Undat	1224	p/h				1223
Neo	1226	Pit	pre	1286		1286
Undat	1228	Ditch				
Undat	1230	Ditch				
Undat	1232	ditch/gully				
Undat	1234	Ditch				
Undat	1236	Ditch	rom			
Undat	1238	Ditch				
Undat	1245	Pit				
Undat	1248	Gully				
Undat	1250	Ditch				
Sax	1255	Pit	rom sax			
Sax	1257	p/h				1296
Undat	1259	Ditch				1003, 1009
Rom	1266	Pit	rom			1089, 1091, 1103, 1105, 1107, 1109, 1115, 1119
p/med?	1268	p/h	p/med		1155	
Undat	1270	Pit		1273		
Undat	1273	Ditch			1191, 1270, 1298	1191, 1298
Mod	1276	Pit	mod	1139		
Undat	1279	Hedge/bush				
Neo	1286	Pit	neo		1226	1226
Undat	1288	Pit				
Undat	1291	Pit				
Sax	1296	p/h				1257
Undat	1298	Ditch	med/p/med	1273	1191	1191, 1273

KEY – Neo = Neolithic, IA = Iron Age, Pre = prehistoric, Rom = roman, Sax = saxon, Med = medieval, Pmed = post-medieval, Mod = modern, Undat = undated

#### 4.127 **Prehistoric features:**

4.128 Pit [1286] contained a broken red-deer antler pick, which yielded a mid-Neolithic C14 date, and struck flints of Palaeolithic and Neolithic type. The Palaeolithic flint was heavily abraded and clearly residual. Re-cut [1226] also yielded Neolithic flint artefacts and an aurochs horn core. The Neolithic flints were fresh in appearance and were probably contemporary with the in-fills of both pits. Feature [1286] and subsequent re-cut [1226] can therefore be confidently assigned a Neolithic date.

#### 4.129 **Roman features:**

4.130 Ditch [1070] clearly represented a significant boundary, as a number of ditches (features [1139], [1041] and [1086]) were set perpendicular to it and are likely to have been at least partly contemporary with it. Eight sections excavated across ditch [1070] yielded Roman pottery and no later material. Ditch [1070] is therefore well dated to the Roman period.

4.131 Roman pottery was recovered from ditch [1041], which clearly formed a sub-square enclosure with [1070] and [1139]. This enclosure is datable to the Roman period and will be referred to hereafter as enclosure [1041].

4.132 Ditch complex [1122], [1126], [1147] and [1137] (hereafter known as enclosure [1122]) yielded a single struck flint, from context (1263). However, the enclosure's similarity to enclosure [1041] suggests a Roman date.

4.133 Ditch [1086] was set at an almost perfect right-angle to ditch [1070]. On this basis it is probably contemporary with [1070] and may form another sub-square enclosure which extends beyond the east limit of excavation.

4.134 The dating of the Roman activity is generally hampered by the lack of artefactual evidence. It is, however, possible to detect at least two phases of activity. Ditch [1041] cut ditch [1043], which contained Roman pottery and Roman animal bone in fill (1044) – see Appendix 3. Enclosure [1122] was clearly not contemporary with ditch [1070]. However, due to the occurrence of modern features it was not possible to establish their stratigraphic relationship.

4.135 The form and alignment of enclosures [1041], [1122] and possibly [1086] was similar to that of the Phase 1 (1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> century) and Phase 2 (2<sup>nd</sup> century) enclosures identified in the Priors Gate excavations, immediately to the north of the current investigation area (Gibson, 2005 and Wessex Archaeology, 2001).

4.136 A cluster of nine pits at the east end of the site, features [1089], [1091], [1103], [1105], [1107], [1109], [1115], [1119] and [1266], yielded pottery datable to the Roman period. No later material was recovered from any of the sections excavated across these features. Many of the pits were morphologically similar and shared equivalent fills. It is likely that this cluster of pits dates to the Roman period.

- 4.137 A group of ditches comprising features [1117], [1171], [1174], [1199], [1228], [1230], [1236] and [1250] are poorly dated (a total of two sherds of Roman pottery from contexts (1176) and (1237)). However, the alignment of these features matches or runs perpendicular to that of Roman ditches on the Alpha Park site, especially [1070], and also Roman ditch features on the Priors Gate site. The group of ditches comprising [1117] etc. are therefore provisionally assigned a Roman date.
- 4.138 Two parallel ditches, [1171] and [1174], form a narrow, northeast-southwest aligned corridor, *circa* 3.5m wide, which extends beyond the north limit of excavation. Corridor [1171]/[1174] is similar in form and orientation, and probably a continuation of, the Phase 3 (2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> century) driveway identified in the Priors Gate excavation (ditches 4 and 8). It is therefore possible to link features [1171] and [1174] to Phase 3 of the Priors Gate site. It is probable that features [1070] and [1117] form part of another driveway which lies on a similar alignment to ditches 9 and 25 in the Priors Gate investigation.
- 4.139 Pits [1185], [1205] and [1291] contained red deer bone fragments, some of which may have Neolithic associations. However radiocarbon determinations from cattle bones in fills (1186) and (1206) date features [1185] and [1205] to the Roman period or later.
- 4.140 **Saxon features:**
- 4.141 The morphology of features [1255]/[1257]/[1296], a sub rectangular pit with a posthole at either end, fits well with that of a Saxon *Sunken Featured Building* (Adkins and Adkins, 1998). This interpretation is strengthened by the recovery of twenty sherds of early (5<sup>th</sup> century) Saxon pottery from in-fill (1256).
- 4.142 **Modern features:**
- 4.143 Feature [1030] forms part of a northwest-southeast aligned post-built fence. Modern pottery recovered from fill (1031) dates the fence to the modern period. A perpendicular fence line at the west forms a near perfect right angle and is clearly contemporary.
- 4.144 Features [1055] and [1057] form part of a northwest-southeast aligned linear post setting. The occurrence of wood fragments in the fill of [1055] and a partially decayed wooden post within feature [1057] suggests a relatively recent date for these features. It is probable that the post setting associated with features [1055] and [1057] is a sub-division of the land enclosed by the fence line associated with feature [1030].
- 4.145 **Undated/poorly dated features:**
- 4.146 No artefacts were recovered from ditch complex [1003], [1009], [1259]. It was not possible to discern if this ditch complex was spatially related to ditch [1155] or ditch [1139]. Ditch complex [1003], [1009] and [1259] therefore remains undated.

- 4.147 Pit [1093] cut two earlier ditches, [1086] and [1099], and contained two sherds of Medieval pottery in a lower fill (1095). The presence of Medieval pottery at such a depth clearly precludes a Roman or Saxon date for this feature. The presence of a fragment of decayed wood in upper fill (1097) may indicate that the Medieval pottery is residual and that feature [1093] is of relatively recent date. At this stage pit [1093] remains undated.
- 4.148 Ditch complex [1157], [1189], [1190] and [1194], (hereafter known as enclosure [1157]), cut Roman ditch [1174]. Two fragments of Medieval or Post-medieval CBM were recovered from the associated fill (1158). Although there is a potential for these artefacts to be invasive, and therefore later than the fill, on balance it seems reasonable to suggest a post-Saxon date for enclosure [1157].
- 4.149 Ditch complex [1191], [1273] and [1298] interacts with ditch complex [1159], [1161], [1163] and [1179]. In plan, the two sets of ditches form a convincing field boundary corner and will hereafter be known as ditch complex [1273]/[1159]. Excavations across the ditch sequences yielded a relative paucity of artefacts. No dating evidence was recovered from ditch complex [1159] or ditch [1273]. Medieval/Post-medieval CBM was, however, recovered from the fill (1275) of re-cut [1298]. Post-medieval material and decayed wood were present in the primary fill (1192) of secondary re-cut [1191]. A single piece of Roman CBM recovered from context (1193), the secondary fill of ditch [1191], was residual. Ditch complex [1273]/[1159] is clearly associated with Post-medieval and relatively recent activity. However, the occurrence of an undated ditch [1273] below the earliest dated feature, ditch [1298], may indicate an earlier origin. Ditch complex [1273]/[1159] is at present relatively poorly dated, however, in the absence of further dating evidence it is included in the modern phase plan.

## 5 DISCUSSION

- 5.1 Archaeological excavation of the site revealed preservation of the overall archaeologically significant resource to be moderate. The frequent occurrence of incomplete and fragmented ditches, for example features [1101], [1238] and [1250] indicates a high level of truncation across the site. Evidence for ploughed-out ridge and furrow at the Priors Gate excavation, immediately north of Alpha Park, was taken to represent intensive Post-medieval and modern agricultural ploughing in this area (Gibson, 2005 and Wessex Archaeology, 2001). A significant area of modern disturbance, in the form of wheel ruts, was present at the south central part of the site. It is probable that this is related to the construction of the A1/A428 road junction. Occasional *tree throws* were noted across the site.
- 5.2 Pit feature [1286] and subsequent re-cut [1226] are almost certainly dated to the Neolithic period. This feature would appear to confirm that deer antler contained in a pit in the Wessex Archaeology evaluation does relate to the Neolithic period (Wessex Archaeology, 2001). River valley gravel terrace deposits are now widely recognised as having potential for significant, if

- dispersed, Neolithic occupation evidence (Allen *et al*, 2004). Soil analysis of the fills associated with pit [1286]/[1226] has indicated that the majority of contexts are devoid of ecofacts (Appendix 6). However, one sample, from fill (1285), did yield a charcoal fragment of hawthorn type.
- 5.3 The function of feature [1286]/[1226] is unclear. If the apparent dispersed distribution and low intensity of Neolithic activity in this area is real, as opposed to taphonomic, it does raise the question as to why a previously excavated pit, which had silted up, presumably over a considerable period of time, was intentionally selected to be re-cut. It has been noted that the inclusion of a possible Palaeolithic flint into pit [1286] may not be coincidental (Appendix 2). In this context, the occurrence of an aurochs horn core in the upper fill of re-cut [1226] may be interpreted as further evidence for structured deposition. Aurochs skulls and red-deer antlers were present at the excavations of the Neolithic causewayed enclosure at Etton, Cambridgeshire (Pryor 1998). On balance, it is possible that pit [1286]/[1226] could have symbolic associations.
- 5.4 Pits [1015], [1185], [1205] and [1291] yielded possible prehistoric or Neolithic material, namely worked flint and red-deer bone/antler. Due to the partial and abraded nature of some of this material and the Roman radiocarbon dates from pits [1185] and [1205], it is probably safer to interpret the artefacts associated with these features as residual evidence for prehistoric, possibly Neolithic activity in the general area.
- 5.5 The Alpha Park Roman pottery assemblage appears to suggest a date range from the mid-late 2<sup>nd</sup> to later 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> centuries (Appendix 1). This generally agrees with the ceramic phasing from the Priors Gate excavations, which ranged from early/mid to late 2<sup>nd</sup> century through to later 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> centuries (Gibson, 2005). As with the Priors Gate investigation, there was no evidence for high status, although one sherd of imported Central Gaulish samian was present.
- 5.6 The Roman activity present on the Alpha Park site is clearly rural/agricultural in nature, comprising mainly ditched field systems and enclosures. This is entirely consistent with the evidence from the Priors Gate excavation. Although problems with dating have already been noted (see 4.125), it has been possible to demonstrate at least two phases of ditch cutting, for example square enclosure [1122] clearly disrespects ditch [1070]. Largely on the basis of morphology and alignment, it has also been possible to tentatively link the activity at Alpha Park to Phases 1, 2 and 3 from the Priors Gate site (see 4.135 and 4.138).
- 5.7 Although the evidence from Alpha Park is strongly indicative of agricultural activity, two sherds of Roman tile, recovered from contexts (1044) and (1193), provide slight evidence for possible associated structures nearby.
- 5.8 The large ditched driveway identified on the Priors Gate site, ditches 60 and 76, was not present within the Alpha Park investigation area. Presumably this feature turns to the east just north of the site.

- 5.9 The lack of Roman ditches at the south of the investigation area probably represents the southern limit of intensive enclosure in this area. The group of four, possibly five, parallel ditches (features [1228], [1230], [1236] and [1250]) at the west of the site are only provisionally dated to the Roman period. Their function and interpretation, at this stage, remains unclear.
- 5.10 A cluster of nine pits at the east of the site are datable to the Roman period (see 4.136). These features appear similar to a group of gravel/sand extraction pits identified at the east of the Priors Gate site. It is likely that the Alpha Park pit cluster is a continuation of this activity.
- 5.11 The Roman phase animal bone assemblage is poorly preserved and very small, ten Roman contexts yielded a total of eleven identifiable bones. This has severely limited the potential for interpretation (Appendix 3). Cattle, sheep/goat, pig and horse are all represented.
- 5.12 A stratigraphically early Roman ditch [1043], yielded a significant number of snail shells from fill (1044). The assemblage was of low diversity, dominated by open country species and was consistent with a dry, open environment, probably grazed grassland (Appendix 6). The environmental data from the earlier Roman phases of the Priors Gate excavation also indicated 'predominantly open grassland, ideal for grazing animals' (Gibson, 2005).
- 5.13 Feature [1255] and associated postholes convincingly represent a Saxon *Sunken Featured Building* (SFB). The occurrence of this and another possible SFB in the Wessex Archaeology evaluation (Wessex Archaeology, 2001) at the west of the site suggests that significant early Saxon settlement activity is likely to exist to the north and/or west of Alpha Park. Analysis of Charred Plant Remains (CPR) from the in-fill (1256) of the SFB has identified limited evidence for the cultivation of spelt (*Triticum spelta* L.) (Appendix 6). Early to middle Saxon (5<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> century AD) artefactual material, much of it in secondary contexts, has been recovered from previous nearby investigations (Wessex Archaeology, 2003, Mephram, 2004 and Gibson, 2005).
- 5.14 Enclosure [1157] cut a Roman ditch and was associated with Medieval or Post-medieval CBM. Although the potential for this material to be invasive is recognised, at this stage there is no reason to date feature [1157] earlier than the Medieval period. Excavation of enclosure [1157] demonstrated that the enclosing ditch was continuous with no causewayed entrance. Beyond this no further evidence relating to its function was recovered. Enclosure [1157] was located approximately 90m south-south-west of 'Structure 3', from the Priors Gate investigation, and was morphologically similar in terms of shape, overall size and orientation (see Figs. 36 and 37). It is therefore probable that Structure 3 post-dates Priors Gate Roman Phases 4 and 5. At this stage it is unclear if enclosure [1157] and Structure 3 form part a larger network of similar features.
- 5.15 The Medieval pottery assemblage is extremely small, only seven sherds. The lack of Medieval ditches and features within the investigation area may be related to two causes; Alpha Park lies beyond the area of Medieval intensive



land-use, or may be located in an area of open-field, thus accounting for the lack of ditched boundaries.

- 5.16 A number of modern ditched boundaries, post-built fence lines and a brick-built well were present within the excavation area. These features are likely to relate to the development of Bell Farm, immediately to the east of the site.

## 6 CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1 The Alpha Park project has identified *in-situ* Neolithic activity, in the form of a pit and subsequent re-cut. This feature is potentially linked to activity of a symbolic or ritual nature. Neolithic type artefacts recovered from nearby features hint at further activity in this area. Due to the relative lack of ecofacts associated with pit [1286]/[1226], no further analysis of the fills from this feature is recommended (Appendix 6). The potential *in-situ* Neolithic activity is considered to be of regional significance.
- 6.2 Roman rural/agricultural features, mainly in the form of ditched fields and enclosures, were present within the site. This is clearly an extension of the activity encountered in excavations immediately to the north of the site. It is difficult to see how any further post excavation analysis of the data from Alpha Park could significantly add to the interpretation of Roman activity in this area. The Priors Gate excavation and the Alpha Park project both agree with an agrarian land use model for the valley of the River Great Ouse in the Roman period (Gibson, 2005).
- 6.3 The presence of two Saxon *Sunken Featured Buildings* (SFB) at the west of Alpha Park (one within the current investigation area) suggests that there is a high potential for significant early Saxon settlement to the north and/or west of Alpha Park. Only one of the SFBs has been investigated, therefore indications as to the nature of this settlement are limited. However, analysis of CPR recovered from the investigated SFB has yielded limited evidence for the cultivation of spelt (*Triticum spelta* L.). At this stage, no further work is recommended.
- 6.4 The occurrence of Saxon settlement in an area with known Roman and Medieval activity/settlement is potentially of regional importance.
- 6.5 A number of research questions arise from the Alpha Park data and should be considered for further archaeological investigations in the vicinity;
- i/ what is the nature of Neolithic activity in this area?
  - ii/ does Neolithic activity extend along the entire course of the River Great Ouse?
  - iii/ how far into the contemporary hinterland does Neolithic activity extend?
  - iv/ is there evidence for seasonality?

v/ how does the Neolithic activity relate to earlier and later land-use?

vi/ what is the extent, date and nature of Saxon settlement to the north and/or west of Alpha Park?

vii/ how does the Saxon settlement relate to Roman and Medieval settlement and land-use?

## **7 NATURE OF THE RECORD**

7.1 The stratigraphic archive for the site consists of the following elements:

- Context Sheets
- Record Sheets
- Plans
- Sections
- Black & White photos
- Colour slides

7.2 The following contexts types were represented:

- Postholes
- Stakeholes
- Pits
- Ditches
- Gullies
- SFB
- Well
- Fills

7.3 The on-site methodologies used to recover this evidence were set out in the CgMs Written Scheme of Investigation (2006). In summary the following excavation methods were utilised. A mechanical excavator was used to remove overburden onto the surface of archaeological deposits, thereafter the appropriate sample of all deposits was removed by hand. All contexts were recorded on a pro-forma context sheet and principal deposits were drawn in plan and section. These are available in the archive. Photographs were taken of all features and sections.

7.4 Following the completion of the excavation an ordered, indexed, and internally consistent site archive was compiled in accordance with Appendix 3 of The Management of Archaeological Projects (English Heritage 1991).

## **8 STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL**

8.1 Of the six Specific Aims set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation compiled by CgMs (2006, see Section 4.2) the following have been achieved:

- 8.2 Specific Aim 1: this has been satisfactorily achieved. A chronological framework has been established with an overall plan of the site. Phases and sub-phases of site activity have been determined.
- 8.3 Specific Aim 2: this has been satisfactorily achieved. Zones of activity have been identified, characterised and related to changes over time.
- 8.4 Specific Aim 3: this has been partially achieved. Activity comparable and possibly relating to the Neolithic and Saxon activity identified in the Wessex evaluation has been identified and characterised. The Saxon *Sunken Featured Building* identified in the Wessex evaluation has been preserved *in-situ*. Meaningful distribution analysis of artefactual remains relating to these two periods has not been possible due to the low numbers of features and artefacts present.
- 8.5 Specific Aim 4: this has been partially achieved. Soil sample analysis has been completed. Environmental evidence associated with an earlier Roman feature (ditch [1043]) has indicated open grassland, which is entirely consistent with the data from the Priors Gate investigation. Limited evidence for the cultivation of spelt (*Triticum spelta* L.) in the Saxon period was recovered. It is noted that there was a relatively limited occurrence of charred plant remains (CPR) in samples from the Alpha Park project and as such it is recommended that much larger sample volumes should be collected in any future excavations in the area (Appendix 6).
- 8.6 Specific Aim 5: this has partially achieved. A probable Neolithic pit [1286]/[1226] has yielded a mid-Neolithic C14 date from a basal context.
- 8.7 Specific Aim 6: this has been satisfactorily achieved. The Alpha Park project has enhanced the understanding of the prehistoric, Roman and Saxon activity in the area.
- 8.8 The results of the fieldwork justified the implementation of the excavation programme and the site is clearly of sufficient quality to warrant publication in a local Journal. The following section presents a considered policy for dissemination of the results, achieving:
- a) the presentation of the results in a coherently synthesised, and detailed format.
  - b) the deposition of an ordered and internally consistent archive with the appropriate museum.

## 9 PUBLICATION, PRESENTATION AND ARCHIVING

- 9.1 The following synopsis presents the proposed format for the final report:

## **Table of Contents**

### **Abstract**

### **Introduction**

*Report structure*

*Background*

*Location and topography*

*Methodology*

### **Excavated evidence**

*Site chronology and summary of stratigraphic evidence*

### **Synthesis**

*Conclusion*

### **Illustrations**

*Acknowledgements*

*Bibliography*

*Appendices*

- 9.2 As the results of the excavation are of regional importance it is proposed that a synthesised report be published in an academic journal. The report should comprise approximately 5 – 6 pages and employ a ‘narrative’ overview with appropriate plans and drawings. In light of the extensive modern quarrying on the Ouse terrace, between the current study area and the river, the importance of the Neolithic evidence should be stressed. In relation to the Neolithic and Saxon activity, it is recommended that a HER based site distribution map for each period, centred on the current study area, be included in the final publication report.
- 9.3 A full OASIS record, with attached report, will be created.
- 9.4 Additionally a full report of the excavations will be posted on the Internet at the Foundations Archaeology website (<http://www-foundations.co.uk>).
- 9.5 The site archive for the project will be submitted to the National Monuments Record of English Heritage for security copying upon completion of the report.
- 9.6 The site archive and artefactual collection will be deposited with the County Store.

## 10 REFERENCES

Adkins and Adkins. 1998. *The Handbook of British Archaeology*. Constable. London.

Allen, T. Barclay, A. Lamdin-Whymark, H. 2004. 'Opening the Wood, Making the Land: The Study of a Neolithic landscape in the Dorney Area of the Middle Thames Valley'. In Cotton, J. and Field, D. (eds.) *Towards a New Stone Age: Aspects of the Neolithic in South East England*.

CgMs Consulting Ltd. 2006. *Alpha Park, Great North Road, Eaton Socon, Cambridgeshire: Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation*. Unpublished.

English Heritage. 1991. *The Management of Archaeological Projects*. English Heritage. London.

Gibson, C. 2005. *A Romano-British Rural Site at Eaton Socon, Cambridgeshire*. Proceedings of the Cambridgeshire Antiquarian Society. XCIV, p.21-38.

IFA. 1994 (revised 2001). *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavations*. Institute of Field Archaeologists.

Mepham, L. 2004. 'The Pottery'. In Ellis, C. 2004. *A prehistoric ritual complex at Eynesbury, Cambridgeshire: excavation of a multi period site in the Great Ouse Valley 2000 – 2001*. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 17.

Pryor, F. 1998. *Etton: Neolithic Causewayed Enclosure, Near Maxey, Cambs. – Excavations 1982-7*. English Heritage Archaeology Report 18. London.

Wessex Archaeology. 1997. *Bell Farm. Eaton Socon, Cambridgeshire: Archaeological Assessment Report*. Report Ref:43655. Unpublished.

Wessex Archaeology. 2001. *Priors Gate, Bell Lane, Eaton Socon, St. Neots, Cambridgeshire: Archaeological Evaluation Report*. Report Ref:50424.01. Unpublished.

Wessex Archaeology. 2001. *Priors Gate, Eaton Socon, Cambridgeshire: Assessment Report on the excavation*. Report Ref:49013. Unpublished.

Wessex Archaeology. 2003. *Cambourne New Settlement, Cambridgeshire: interim statement of results*. Unpublished.

## 11 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Rob Bourn of CgMs Consulting.

Andy Thomas and Kasia Gdaniec of Cambridgeshire Archaeology Planning and Countryside Advice.

Hugo Lamdin-Whymark; lithic analysis, Jane Timby and Paul Spoerry; pottery analysis, Mark Maltby; animal bone analysis, Dawn Irving, Rebecca Nicholson, Elizabeth Stafford and Wendy Smith; soil analysis, SUERC; C14 analysis.

## **APPENDIX 1 – THE POTTERY**

Initial Assessment; Jane Timby

### **Introduction**

The archaeological work resulted in the recovery of a modest assemblage of 89 sherds of pottery weighing 1.8 kg dating to the Roman, Saxon, Medieval and Post-medieval periods. In addition 53 pieces of ceramic building material (CBM) were retained.

Pottery was recovered from 38 archaeological contexts. Only three contexts yielded more than four sherds.

The sherds were of varied preservation with the later Post-medieval material skewing the overall average sherd weight to 20.2 g. The earlier sherds were of variable size and in some cases in worn condition.

For the purposes of this assessment the sherds were sorted into broad fabric groups based on the principal inclusions present in the pastes. The assemblage was quantified by sherd count and weight by context. Freshly broken pieces were counted as one. The resulting data can be found summarised in Table 2a.

### **Roman**

In total some 25 sherds of Roman date are present from 16 contexts of which 15 appear to be Roman in date in that no later material is present.

On balance the assemblage appears to suggest a date range from the mid-late 2<sup>nd</sup> to later 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> centuries. Most of the local wares are from quite long-lived industries so with such a small group further chronological precision is not possible.

Fabrics include various grey sandy wares amongst which are some Lower Nene Valley grey wares; two sherds of Lower Nene Valley colour-coated ware (cxts 1097, 1256), the latter as a residual find; one sherd of Central Gaulish samian (cxt 1237), one sherd of ?Colchester colour-coated ware (cxt 1256) and a sherd of Oxfordshire colour-coated ware (Young 1977, form C51) (cxt 1073).

A single piece of shelly ceramic building material; (tile) from cxt (1044) is also probably Roman along with a piece of red tile from cxt (1193).

### **Saxon**

Twenty sherds of Saxon pottery were recovered all from a single context (1256). Two Roman sherds came from the same context, both colour-coated wares suggesting possible deliberate selection and retention.

The Saxon group comprised 18 handmade bodysherds, one base and one rim. One bodysherd had the edge of a decorative swag or similar. The external surfaces were burnished. The sherds are mainly of two fabrics: a sandy ware with faceted shiny

grains of quartz and a sandy ware with sparse organic matter. The sherds are all from closed jar forms.

### **Medieval**

Seven sherds of probable Medieval date were recorded. None of the pieces were featured and most of them are in wheelmade or handmade shelly fabrics. In addition an oxidised ware from (1134) and a partly glazed sherd from (1014) are also probably Medieval. Some of the CBM could possibly be Medieval in date but is more likely later.

### **Post-medieval**

Post-medieval sherds dominated the group accounting for 40.5% by count. Wares include glazed and unglazed red earthenware, 'china' with transfer decoration, and yellow kitchenwares suggest a date after the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Much of the CBM including both brick and flat roof tile probably dates to the post-medieval period. At least two roof tiles had nail holes.

### **Potential and further work**

The potential of the group needs to be seen alongside the archaeology and other work undertaken in the locality. As it stands the assemblage is too small to provide information about the social and economic dynamics of the site.



Table 2a: The pottery assemblage from Alpha Park

Context	Roman	Saxon	Med	Pmed	undated	Tot No	Tot Wt	CBM	Date
1012	0	0	0	1	0	1	9	0	Pmed/mod
1014	1	0	1	0	0	2	20	1	?Med/Pmed
1014	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	Med/Pmed?
1020	2	0	0	0	0	2	8	0	?Roman
1022	0	0	0	4	0	4	210	0	Pmed/mod
1022	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	Pmed/mod
1024	0	0	0	7	0	7	134	0	Pmed/mod
1025	0	0	0	19	0	19	398	1	Pmed/mod
1031	0	0	0	2	0	2	70	0	Pmed/mod
1040	0	0	0	1	0	1	7	1	Pmed/mod
1044	1	0	0	0	0	1	7	0	Roman
1044	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	?Roman
1046	0	0	1	0	1	2	12	0	?Med
1054	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	Med/Pmed?
1066	1	0	0	0	0	1	5	0	Roman
1071	2	0	0	0	0	2	10	0	Roman
1073	1	0	0	0	0	1	42	0	late C3-C4
1087	2	0	0	0	0	2	74	0	Roman
1088	3	0	0	0	0	3	40	0	Roman
1092	1	0	0	0	0	1	7	0	Roman
1095	0	0	2	0	0	2	37	0	?Med
1097	3	0	0	0	0	3	25	0	Roman
1100	1	0	0	0	0	1	40	0	Roman
1102	0	0	1	0	0	1	26	0	?IA/Med
1134	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	28	Med
1134	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	Pmed/mod
1136	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	Pmed/mod
1146	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Coal
1152	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	Pmed/mod
1158	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	Med/Pmed?
1176	1	0	0	0	0	1	28	0	?Roman
1177	0	0	0	0	1	1	27	0	?Ro or later
1184	0	0	1	0	0	1	14	0	?Med
1193	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	?Roman
1237	1	0	0	0	0	1	10	0	C2
1256	2	20	0	0	0	22	475	0	Saxon
1265	1	0	0	0	0	1	13	0	Roman
1267	1	0	0	0	0	1	10	0	Roman
1269	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	?Pmed
1274	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	?post-Roman
1275	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	Med/Pmed?
1277	0	0	0	2	0	2	20	0	Pmed/mod
Us	1	0	0	0	0	1	16	0	Roman
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>1795</b>	<b>53</b>	

## Further Analysis of Selected Pottery Sherds; Paul Spoerry

### Pottery From the SFB

Curation and re-use of Romano-British pottery especially finewares, is a common trait in the early Saxon period especially as evidenced by assemblages from SFB fills. The two sherds here, including a complete, perhaps shaped, base are typical of this.

The Saxon pottery from the SFB is all hand-made and can be grouped into two general wares.

- 1) Crushed quartzite and quartz-sand temper of which there are 19 sherds (13 from one vessel)
- 2) Quartz sand and calcareous temper: one sherd

Within the first fabric grouping there is some considerable variation in the amount and size of both crushed quartzite and quartz sand. Thus different vessels appear more or less coarse or fine, an attribute that is enhanced through some vessels being burnished.

### Forms:

Base: of hand-made vessel; externally sooted globular or biconical in general.

Rim: probably globular vessel with marked shoulder, wide mouth and upright rim (eg No 4023, Fig 48, Myres 1977): a vessel type generally attributed by him to the early 5th century (*op cit*, 6).

One other sherd is decorated with impressed lines, perhaps a complex linear pattern, but cannot be dated beyond the Early Saxon period generally.

Overall this group is perhaps most likely to date to the 5th century rather than later in the period

### Fabrics: Context

Early Saxon pottery in Cambridgeshire is found with a variety of fabrics and tempering agents, including quartz sand and/or quartzite tempered vessels, which have been found in all excavated assemblages of significance from the County. In assemblages from Godmanchester (Spoerry unpublished and Anderson unpublished) quartz-tempered fabrics dominate whereas they are not necessarily the dominant grouping further to the South or East. This group from Eaton Socon therefore perhaps matches those from Godmanchester and suggests a dominance of quartzite and/or quartz sand tempered ware in this period in the middle Ouse Valley.

### Other Pottery

The remainder of the pottery supplied from this assemblage is a mix of sherds of differing dates and little new information of value can be extracted.

The hand-made and wheel-finished shelly sherd from 1102 is a technological and fabric combination not seen in Saxon pottery in this region and I would suggest that this sherd may in fact be Iron Age in date, despite a superficial similarity to St Neots type ware (as in context 1095)

Table 2b: Pottery Quantification and Spotdating table

Context	Number of Sherds	Weight in kg	Fabric and Date
1014	1	0.011	Transitional Redware bowl rim 15th-16th possibly from Lyveden (McCarthy and Brooks 1988)
1014	1	0.003	Small abraded body sherd possibly prehistoric
1095	2	0.034	Base sherd St Neots Ware
1102	1	0.022	Hand-made wheel finished shelly fabric, not a combination found in Post-Roman pottery except for possibly early Saxon funerary wares. So this sherd is likely to be prehistoric.
1134	1	0.025	Base sherd 14th-15th century Bedfordshire Sandy Ware
1184	2	0.01	Jar Rim sherd Harrold/Olney Hyde (McCarthy and Brooks 1988) 13th Century
1256	1	0.196	Roman Greyware
1256	1	0.002	Colour Coat
1256	1	0.009	Saxon Body sherd (Fabric: quartzite and fine quartz sand) Saxon 5th century
1256	13	0.173	Single vessel, base and body sherds from a jar (Fabric: quartzite primarily all sizes, some have medium/fine quartz sand) Saxon 5th century
1256	1	0.006	Body sherd (Fabric: quartzite primarily all sizes medium/fine quartz sand) Saxon 5th century
1256	1	0.024	Body sherd (Fabric: common coarse/very coarse quartzite, common medium quartz grains and occasional medium grog) Saxon 5th century
1256	1	0.017	Saxon Rim of Globular Vessel burnished (Fabric: common fine-medium quartz occasional medium leached calcareous material) Saxon 5th century
1256	1	0.007	Body sherd burnished decorated with impressed lines (Fabric: common fine-medium quartz occasional medium leached calcareous material) Saxon 5th century
1256	1	0.009	Body sherd burnished (Fabric: common fine-medium quartz occasional medium leached calcareous material) Saxon 5th century
1256	1	0.011	Body sherd (Fabric: moderate quartz sand (few medium) Occasional coarse quartzite) Saxon 5th century

## References:

Anderson, S. Unpublished 'Post Roman Pottery in C Gibson 'An Anglo-Saxon Settlement at Godmanchester Cambridgeshire' Unpublished Manuscript held in Cambs. HER, Archaeological Solutions , pages 23-33.

Spoerry, P. Unpublished 'Hand-Made Pottery from HJM Green's excavations at Godmanchester' CAM ARC unpublished manuscript

McCarthy, MR. And Brooks, CM. 1988 Medieval Pottery in Britain AD 900-1600. Leicester University Press

Myres, JNL. 1977 A Corpus of Anglo-Saxon pottery of the Pagan Period Cambridge University Press

## APPENDIX 2 – THE STRUCK FLINT

Hugo Lamdin-Whymark

### Introduction

A total of 16 flints were recovered from excavations at Alpha Park; two further unworked flints were also retained (contexts (1210) and (1024)). The small assemblage includes material dating from the Neolithic or early Bronze Age, possibly within a contemporary feature, and a low density background scatter broadly dated on technological attributes to the Neolithic or Bronze Age; a possible Palaeolithic flake was also noted. The flint assemblage from the site is shown in Table 3.

### Methodology

The artefacts were catalogued according to broad artefact/debitage type, general condition was noted and dating attempted where possible.

Table 3: The flint assemblage from Alpha Park

CONTEXT No.	U/S	1016	1046	1192	1237	1263	1281	1282	1283	1285	TOTAL
<b>CATEGORY TYPE</b>											
Flake	1	1		1		1				2	6
Blade-like			1				1	1			3
Core single platform blade core									1		1
Multi-platform blade core	1										1
Keeled non-discoidal flake core	1										1
End-scraper										1	1
Awl	1										1
Serrated flake	1				1						2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>16</b>

### Provenance

Flintwork was recovered from nine contexts within seven features. Five features produced a single flint ([1015], [1045], [1191], [1236], [1122]), whilst pit [1286] and subsequent re-cut [1226] produced a total of six flints. An additional five flints were recovered as unstratified finds.

### Raw material and condition

The raw material was beige to dark brown/black flint. The cortex, where present, varied from a 4mm thick white crust to a thin, abraded and pitted surface. Thermal fractures, typical of frost damage, were noted in the raw material used for two of the cores. This flint is typical of material derived from glacial gravel deposits or river gravels, both of which are locally available.

The condition of the flint assemblage was variable. The flint from contexts (1263), (1282) and (1285) was particularly fresh in appearance, whilst the flints from contexts (1016) and (1192) exhibited post-depositional edge damage typical of residual

artefacts. A possible Palaeolithic flake from context (1281) was exceptionally heavily rolled and exhibited considerable edge damage. The majority of the flint exhibited no surface cortication, but a single flint from context (1046) was corticated white and the possible Palaeolithic flake from context (1281) exhibited a variable bluish to white surface cortication with a slight orange iron-staining. The flake was also broken in antiquity and the fresh break exhibited a light bluish cortication.

### **Storage and curation**

The majority of the struck flints are bagged individually and are adequately boxed and bagged for long-term storage and curation.

### **The assemblage**

The flint assemblage recovered from excavations at Alpha Park will be considered as a whole, below, but one flint requires consideration separately. The heavily rolled blade from context (1281) differs in both condition and technology from the rest of the assemblage. The blade measures 80mm in length, although broken, and represents a side and end trimming flake struck from a cortical platform. The size and condition of the flake are suggestive of a Palaeolithic date, but the technological attributes do not allow this date to be further refined.

The remaining assemblage includes flakes and blades manufactured by direct percussion using both hard and soft hammers, such as pebbles and antler. The majority of the blades exhibit platform-edge abrasion and blade scars on the dorsal surface indicating a careful and ordered reduction strategy. The single platform blade core and multi-platformed flake core have both been methodically worked until exhausted, with platform edge abrasion present on the latter, whilst the keeled core has been expediently worked with little preparation until it was abandoned due to a thermal fracture. The retouched component of the assemblage comprises two serrated blades, a broken awl and an end-scraper on a blade. One of the serrated flakes exhibits a small area of silica gloss resulting from the working of silica rich plants. The technology employed is typical of the Neolithic to early Bronze Age, but some of the hard hammer flakes may equally date from the middle or later Bronze Age. The small assemblage from pit [1286] and re-cut [1226], except the possibly Palaeolithic blade, are most consistent with a Neolithic date, but it is not possible to be more precise with the limited number of flints present. The fresh condition of these flints may also indicate they are contemporary with the feature in which they are contained.

### **Potential**

The flint assemblage recovered from Alpha Park may assist in dating pit [1286] to the Neolithic, but corroborative dating from the ceramic assemblage or radiocarbon dating would be required to confirm and perhaps refine this date. The probable Palaeolithic flint is of intrinsic interest, but as it was recovered from an archaeological context its true provenance is unknown. The incorporation of the flint into a possible Neolithic pit may, however, represent more than coincidence and it is possible the flint was intentionally selected for deposition.

### **Recommendations**

No further analysis is recommended on this assemblage as further technological or metrical analysis will not refine the assemblage's dating. It is recommended that a brief note on the flint assemblage is included in the final publication. This assessment report may be edited to form the basis of the publication text. None of the flints require illustration.

## APPENDIX 3 – THE ANIMAL BONE

### Assessment of Animal Bones from Alpha Park, Eaton Socon, Cambridgeshire

Mark Maltby  
School of Conservation Sciences  
Bournemouth University

#### Methods

All animal bones were recorded individually onto a relational database, which forms part of the site archive. In the main table, when appropriate, the following information was recorded on each fragment: species; anatomy (element); part of bone present; percentage of bone present; gnawing damage; erosion; weathering; charring; fusion data; other comments. A summary form was also created for each context that included generic comments about the size and preservation of the assemblage and which species were present. Separate tables were created for metrical, butchery and tooth ageing data. Tooth eruption and wear descriptions for cattle, sheep/goat and pig followed the method of Grant (1982). Measurements of domestic mammals are those recommended by von den Driesch (1976).

#### Assemblage Size and Preservation

A small assemblage of animal bones was retrieved from the excavations. A total of 37 contexts produced a total of 93 elements. Fragments from the same bone were counted as one specimen. The largest assemblage of 19 elements was recovered from context (1097). None of the remaining contexts produced more than eight fragments (Table 4).

The general preservation of the assemblages from each context was assigned to one of five categories ranging from good to poor. Only one assemblage from context (1275) consisting of a single complete, uneroded, horse bone has good preservation. The assemblage from context (1102), containing two cattle bones, was assigned to the quite good preservation category. The bones have good surface preservation but are fragmentary. Ten assemblages containing a total of 38 fragments have moderate preservation. They have relatively few eroded fragments but much of the material is fragmentary and there is some gnawing damage. Most assemblages are quite poorly preserved and include a significant number of eroded fragments. These came from 22 contexts, which produced a total of 46 fragments. Three assemblages were poorly preserved and the six elements within them are heavily eroded. The numbers of fragments displaying erosion and gnawing damage are listed by context in Table 1. Three burnt fragments of unidentified mammal were found in context (1246). No other context produced charred or calcined bones. Thirty-six of the identified elements display evidence of modern breaks and a number survive in several pieces. Given the relatively poor standard of preservation, the number of unidentified fragments (16) is surprisingly small. This may imply that small fragments were less likely to be retrieved during the excavations. The small size



of the assemblage and the moderate to quite poor preservation of the bones and their fragmentation has severely restricted its potential for any detailed analysis.

## **Cattle**

Domestic cattle bones were found in 21 contexts and provide a total of 47 elements. Bones of large mammals such as cattle and horse are more likely to survive than those of smaller animals in samples of moderate preservation. Seventeen cattle elements were found in context (1097). There is a possibility that several bones in this assemblage may have belonged to the same animal. However, apart from a radius and ulna, no definite associations can be demonstrated. In contrast, a humerus belongs to a larger animal than the radius and ulna. Similarly, the three cervical vertebrae found in this deposit must have belonged to at least two animals based on the fusion evidence. Elements represented in all contexts are biased towards the larger upper limb bones and cranial elements (Table 5). Ageing evidence is limited to 25 records of epiphysial fusion and two mandibles with tooth wear evidence. A mandible from context (1078) belonged to a mature adult; the specimen from context (1097) was from a sub-adult animal. Butchery marks were observed on two bones; a pelvis from context (1069) has been chopped through the ilium during segmentation; a femur from context (1090) has been chopped through the distal part of the shaft. Measurements have been taken on ten of the cattle limb bones. Withers height estimates can be made on two metapodials. A metacarpal from context (1044) has a greatest length of 178mm, providing a withers height estimate of about 109cm. A metatarsal from context (1256) has a greatest length of 211mm and belonged to a slightly taller animal with a withers height of around 115cm. Both are from cattle of fairly small stature. It would not be surprising to discover that they derive from the Roman period. The metacarpal is quite stocky with a maximum distal breadth of 60.6mm. It is likely to have been from a male.

## **Sheep/Goat**

Nine elements were recovered from six contexts (Table 4). Four of these are from the tibia, which is one of the denser elements of the skeleton and one that is more likely to survive than many others in moderate preservation conditions. Two of the bones are definitely of sheep. None of the bones can be identified specifically as goat. Only four limb bones have fusion data and only one mandible from context (1078) has tooth ageing data. It belonged to an adult. No butchery marks were noted and only two sheep bones were measurable. A radius from context (1097) is from quite a large animal, with a maximum proximal breadth of 31.5mm and a proximal articular breadth of 29.8mm. Although these measurements lie within the top part of the range of recorded Roman specimens, the stockiness of the bone suggests that it is more likely to be from a more recent period.

## **Pig**

Only five bones from four different contexts were identified (Table 4). All are from the limbs, four of which provide fusion data (Table 5). None are measurable and no evidence for butchery was noted on any of them.

## **Horse**

Horse (possibly but not definitely including mule) is the second most common species identified with 11 fragments from six contexts (Table 4). Preservation conditions will have favoured their survival compared with smaller species. Horse bones also tend to be found relatively frequently on Roman rural sites (Maltby 1994). Four of these were found in context (1186). Two of these articulate (a first and second phalanx). These foot bones probably belonged to the same horse as a metacarpal found in the same context. Most of the horse elements recovered from the excavations are from the lower limbs (Table 5). Five of the limb bones have fusion evidence and include an unfused proximal tibia from context (1262), showing the presence of a horse that died under four years of age. A complete third metacarpal from context (1275) has an estimated withers height of 132.7cm, indicating it was the size of a large pony. A chop mark was noted on the lateral aspect of the shaft near the proximal end. This may have been made in preparation for the removal of the fourth metacarpal. This peripheral bone was sometimes utilised as raw material in the production of bone points or awls. Two other horse bones were measured.

## **Red Deer**

Portions of red antler were found in three contexts (1186), (1282) and (1293). The last consists of a small portion of the beam but the other two finds are more substantial. The specimen from context (1186) consists of a cast coronet. The specimen from context (1282) consists of another cast coronet, lower part of the beam and bez tine. There appears to be slight wear on the tine. Its general appearance suggests that it may be a broken antler pick. This possibility is supported given the discovery of an aurochs horncore in the same pit (see below). A small portion of metatarsal was found in context (1206).

## **Aurochs**

A very large bovid horn core was discovered in context (1227), the upper fill of pit [1286/1226]. Intact when first discovered, it unfortunately became heavily fragmented during removal. Although it was not possible to measure the horn core, its appearance was such that it most probably belonged to a male aurochs (*Bos primigenius*). Small fragments of the adjacent areas of the skull were attached to the core. The aurochs became extinct in Britain during the Bronze Age (Yalden 1999). Its association with the possible red deer antler pick along with the deposition of struck flints would suggest a Neolithic date for this feature. There are parallels for such depositions on Neolithic sites. For example, several aurochs skulls and substantial numbers of red deer antlers were found during the excavations of the causewayed enclosure at Etton (Pryor 1998).

## Summary

The assemblage is very small and fairly poorly preserved. Apart from the aurochs horncore and the red deer antler in pit [1286/1226], there is little that is unusual within the assemblage. There is very little ageing and metrical data to provide bases for analyses of exploitation patterns and stature. There is also very little butchery and bone-working data. It is unlikely that detailed chronological comparisons of species and element representation will be viable given the limited phasing evidence that is likely to become available.

## Bibliography

- Grant, A.** (1982) The use of toothwear as a guide to the age of domestic ungulates. In B. Wilson, C. Grigson and S. Payne (eds.), *Ageing and Sexing Animal Bones from Archaeological Sites*. Oxford:BAR British Series 109: 91-108.
- Maltby, M.** (1994) The meat supply in Roman Dorchester and Winchester. In A.R. Hall and H. K. Kenward (eds.) *Urban-Rural Connexions: Perspectives from Environmental Archaeology*. Oxford:Oxbow Monograph 47/Symposia of the Association of Environmental Archaeologists 12: 85–102.
- Pryor, F.** (1998) *Etton: Neolithic Causewayed Enclosure, Near Maxey, Cambs. – Excavations 1982-7*. London: English Heritage Archaeology Report 18.
- von den Driesch, A.** (1976) *A Guide to the Measurement of Animal Bones from Archaeological Sites*. Harvard: Peabody Museum Monograph 1.
- Yalden, D.** (1999) *The History of British Mammals*. London: Poyser.

Table 4: Animal bone fragments by context

Context	Feat	Cow	S/G	Pig	Hor	Red	Aur	Unid	Total	Gnw	Erod	But
1025								1	1			
1044		1							1			
1069		3		1					4	2	2	1
1071		1	1					1	3		1	
1073		1							1			
1075		1							1		1	
1078		1	3					2	6			
1079		1						1	2		2	
1080		2							2		1	
1090		1							1			1
1094		1							1	1		
1096		2							2	1	1	
1097		17	1	1					19	6	3	
1100		3		2					5		5	
1102		2							2			
1104								1	1		1	
1134		1							1			
1138			1					1	2		2	
1156	1155							1	1		1	
1172					2				2		2	
1184			2						2		2	
1186		3			4	1			8		8	
1206		1	1			1		2	5		4	
1227	1226						1		1		1	
1231		1							1			
1246								3	3		3	
1256		3			1			1	5			
1262					1				1		1	
1263					2				2		2	
1275					1				1			1
1280								2	2			
1282	1286					1			1		1	
1284	1226	1							1	1	1	
1293						1			1		1	
1295				1					1		1	
<b>Total</b>		<b>47</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>3</b>

Cow = cattle; S/G = sheep/goat; Hor = horse; Red = red deer; Aur = aurochs;  
Unid = unidentified; Gnw = gnawed; Erod = eroded; But = butchered

Table 5: Element counts of identified mammal species

Element	Cow	S/G	Pig	Hor	Red	Aur	Total
Antler					3		3
Horn Core	1					1	2
Maxilla							0
Skull frag	5						5
Mandible	3	1					4
Hyoid							0
Loose Teeth	3			2			5
Scapula	3	1					4
Humerus	2						2
Radius	4	1		1			6
Ulna	3						3
Pelvis	5		1	1			7
Femur	3						3
Tibia	7	4	2	1			14
Astragalus				1			1
Metacarpal	1	2		2			5
Metatarsal	2		1		1		4
Lateral Metapodial			1	1			2
Phalanx 1				1			1
Phalanx 2				1			1
Cervical V	3						3
Thoracic V	1						1
Lumbar V	1						1
<b>Total</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>77</b>

Counts are of number of individual specimens (NISP)

## APPENDIX 4 – SMALL FINDS

Table 6: Small finds from Alpha Park

<b>CONTEXT No.</b>	<b>FINDS No.</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>DATE</b>
(1256)	<001>	Small copper (Cu) ring/ear ring	?Saxon
(1282)	<002>	Red-deer antler pick	Neolithic

## APPENDIX 5 – MISCELLANEOUS ARTEFACTS

Table 7: Miscellaneous artefacts from Alpha Park

<b>CONTEXT No.</b>	<b>SECTION No.</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>DATE</b>
(1024)	010	Neck of blue-green glass bottle	P-med
(1024)	010	Fe objects	P-med
(1025)	010	Fe object	P-med
(1025)	010	Clay-pipe stem fragment	P-med
(1031)	013	Clay-pipe stem fragment	P-med
(1056)	025	Wood fragments	Mod
(1059)	026	Wood fragments	Mod
(1097)	040	Wood fragment	Mod
(1136)	055	Fe object	P-med
(1146)	057	Six Fe fragments	?
(1192)	073	Wood fragment	Mod
(1192)	073	Blue-green bottle glass	P-med
(1193)	073	Clay-pipe stem fragment	P-med
(1274)	124	Fe object	?

## **APPENDIX 6 – THE SOIL SAMPLES**

### **POST EXCAVATION ASSESSMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECONOMIC EVIDENCE FROM ONE SOIL SAMPLE**

**By Dawn Irving, Rebecca Nicholson and Elizabeth Stafford**

**Oxford Archaeological Unit**

**Date 20/12/06**



Environmental and Economic Assessment Data

*Dawn Irving and Rebecca Nicholson*

*20th December 2006*

## **Methodology**

A total of 20 soil samples, ranging from 0.5 - 20 litres, were submitted for processing and assessment of charred plant material and other ecofacts. For this assessment, in the first instance 10 litres of soil was processed, or 100% if less in volume. Since in many cases no identifiable ecofacts were recovered (see below) all the remaining soil was processed from several apparently sterile Neolithic samples in order to maximize their potential. All apart from three samples were processed by mechanical flotation in a modified Siraf machine; the three small samples were processed by hand flotation owing to their small volume (between 0.5-3 litres). The flots were collected on a 0.25 mm mesh and after air-drying were scanned for material under a binocular microscope at x10 and x20 magnification.

## **Results**

The flots were very small, ranging from about 2ml to 15 ml, and consequently very little plant material was recorded. Ten samples produced no carbonised material at all (samples/contexts: 11/1088, 12/1088, 16/1100, 17/1281, 18,1282, 19/1287, 20/1283, 21/1284, 26/1227 and 30/1176), while four samples contained only small amounts of charcoal. However, since most of the fragments were smaller than 2mm the charcoal is considered non-identifiable (samples/contexts 3/1186, 8/1044, 9/1044 and 31/1175).

Three samples contained identifiable charcoal, provisionally identified as from a range of taxa including *Quercus* sp (oak) (10/1073) from gully fill [1072], Maloideae (hawthorn type) from (22/1285), the Neolithic fill of re-cut [1226], and *Alnus/Corylus* (alder/hazel) from (15/1297), the Saxon fill of post hole [1296]. One sample (13/1256), a Saxon fill associated with sunken feature building [1255], contained charcoal from a diffuse porous species and also contained the only charred grain identified as *Avena sativa* sp

In addition, snail shells were abundant, but very fragmented, in Roman ditch fill sample 9 (context 1044). The assemblage is of low diversity, dominated by open country species particularly the *Vallonia*. Both *Vallonia costata* and *Vallonia excentrica* were noted, along with occasional Helicidae and catholic species *Trichia hispida*, *Cepaea* sp. and *Cochlicopa* sp. This is consistent with a dry, open environment, probably grazed grassland. There is no real indication of more enclosed conditions in the vicinity such as woodland/scrub or the presence of a hedgeline, and there is no indication that the feature held water.

Residue finds were very limited. Burnt and unburnt flint was recorded in the larger sample residues; several pieces of worked flint were noted in sample 12 (context 1088), a possibly Roman fill of ditch [1086] and also in sample 26 (context 1227), a Neolithic fill of re-cut [1226].

## **Discussion and Recommendations.**

Unfortunately the samples produced very little identifiable material, and consequently the potential for further work on these assemblages is very limited. The preservation of the wood charcoal suggests that there is some potential for interesting charcoal/charred plant assemblages at the site, but the scarcity of material in these samples indicates that much larger samples would be needed in order to provide useful charred assemblages. The excellent preservation of snails in sample 9 demonstrates the possibility of palaeoenvironmental reconstruction through molluscan analysis, though it is unclear why the other ditch samples failed to produce molluscs. If available, 2L incremental samples should be processed from this fill sequence and the molluscs fully identified. If further work is undertaken at the site it is recommended that the remaining soil from Saxon sample 13 (1256) is processed to augment the charred assemblage recovered from the processed 10L, and that any remaining samples associated with the SFB are processed at the same time.

Sample No.	Context No.	Sample size (g. or L.) and Flot Vol. (ml)	Charcoal	Grain	Chaff	Weeds	Other chard	Mollusc	Notes
3	1186	10L/2ml	>2m m +						<i>Fill of pit [1185] 20 litres of unprocessed sediment remaining</i>
7	1066	10L/No Flot							<i>Roman primary fill of ditch [1041] 20 litres of unprocessed sediment remaining</i>
8	1044	10L/15ml	>2m m +					+	<i>Roman secondary fill of ditch [1041] Unprocessed sediment remaining</i>
9	1044	10L/2ml	>2m m +					++++	<i>Roman fill of ditch [1043] Mollusc Rich Unprocessed sediment remaining</i>
10	1073	10L/2ml	>2m m +	<i>Quercus sp provisionally identified</i>					<i>Fill of gully [1072] Unprocessed sediment remaining</i>
11	1088	10L/2ml							<i>Roman primary fill of ditch [1086] Approx. 99% Sterile (odd flecks of charcoal) No sediment remaining</i>

Table 8a: The soil samples

(Key to Table: + = 1-5 items; ++ = 6-25 items; +++ = 26-100 items)

Sample No.	Context No.	Sample size (g. or L.) and Flot Vol. (ml)	Charcoal	Grain	Chaff	Weeds	Other chard	Mollusc	Notes
12	1088	10L/3ml							<i>Roman? secondary fill of ditch [1086] Sterile Unprocessed sediment remaining</i>
13	1256	10L/10ml	>2m m +++ <i>Diffuse Porous sp.</i>	+ <i>Avena sativa sp.</i>					<i>Saxon fill associated with SFB [1255] Unprocessed sediment remaining</i>
14	1258	3L/2ml	>2m m +						<i>Saxon fill of p/hole [1257] No sediment remaining</i>
15	1297	10L/10ml	>2m m ++ <i>Alnus/Corylus provisionally identified</i>						<i>Saxon fill of p/hole [1296] No sediment remaining</i>
16	1100	10L/15ml							<i>Fill of gully [1099] Approx. 99% Sterile (odd flecks of charcoal) Unprocessed sediment remaining</i>
17	1281	2L/10ml							<i>Neolithic primary fill of pit [1286] Sterile No sediment remaining</i>

Key to Table: + = 1-5 items; ++ = 6-25 items; +++ = 26-100 items

Sample No.	Context No.	Sample size (g. or L.) and Flot Vol. (ml)	Charcoal	Grain	Chaff	Weeds	Other chard	Mollusc	Notes
18	1282	11L/5ml							<i>Neolithic fill of pit [1286] Sterile No sediment remaining</i>
19	1287	0.5L/5ml							<i>Neolithic fill of pit [1286] Sterile No sediment remaining</i>
20	1283	12L/10ml							<i>Neolithic fill of pit [1286] Sterile No sediment remaining</i>
21	1284	10L/5ml							<i>Neolithic primary fill of re-cut [1226] Sterile No sediment remaining</i>
22	1285	20L/10ml	>2m m ++	Diffuse porous sp. Maloideae provisionally identified					<i>Neolithic fill of re-cut [1226] No sediment remaining</i>
26	1227	10L/10ml							<i>Neolithic fill of re-cut [1226] Approx. 99% Sterile (odd flecks of charcoal) Unprocessed sediment remaining</i>

Key to Table: + = 1-5 items; ++ = 6-25 items; +++ = 26-100 items

Sample No.	Context No.	Sample size (g. or L.) and Flot Vol. (ml)	Charcoal	Grain	Chaff	Weeds	Other chard	Mollusc	Notes
30	1176	10L/5ml							<i>Roman fill of ditch [1174] Sterile 20 litres of unprocessed sediment remaining</i>
31	1175	20L/5ml	>2m m ++						<i>Roman primary fill of ditch [1174] Unprocessed sediment remaining</i>

Key to Table: + = 1-5 items; ++ = 6-25 items; +++ = 26-100 items

**Charred plant remains from a Saxon sunken feature building: the  
analysis of flots from two soil samples.**

**Dr Wendy Smith**

**Oxford Archaeology**

**Date 30/03/07**

## CHARRED PLANT REMAINS FROM A SAXON SUNKEN FEATURE BUILDING AT ALPHA PARK, EATON SOCON, CAMBRIDGESHIRE

Wendy Smith

### Introduction

Twenty samples were collected by Foundations Archaeology during the course of their excavations of Neolithic through Saxon period features at Alpha Park, Eaton Socon, Cambridgeshire (TL 165 581). The sample volumes collected range from 0.5 to 30 L, which is somewhat less than the 40-60 litres recommended by English Heritage (English Heritage 2002). For initial assessment, Oxford Archaeology processed a 10 litre sub-sample (or 100% where 10L or less was available) from each of these samples and assessed them for charred plant macrofossils and other ecofacts on behalf of Foundations Archaeology (Irving *et al.* 2006). Possibly as a result of small sample volumes, many of the samples contained no charred remains, or only contained very small quantities of charcoal; none of the samples assessed generated enough charred plant remains to be of interpretable value (*ibid.*).

Following instruction, the remaining 10L of soil has been processed from sample 13 context (1256), and this sample together with sample 15 (context 1297) also from Saxon sunken feature building [1255] (hereafter SFB 1255) have been fully analysed. Details regarding the two samples are presented below:

Sample Number	Context Number	Sample Volume	Context Description
13	1256	20 litres	Floor of SFB1255 - context 1256 was a spit across the middle of the SFB, running roughly N-S.
15	1297	10 litres	Fill of western posthole within SFB 1255

### Method

Samples were collected from sealed deposits at the discretion of Foundations Archaeology and were processed by Oxford Archaeology environmental officers, using water flotation. The flots (the material which floats on the water's surface) were sieved to 0.25mm and the heavy residues (the material which does not float) were wet sieved to 0.5mm. Both the flots and heavy residues were air dried and the heavy residues sorted for charred plant remains, but only charcoal was observed.

Flots were sorted for charred plant remains using a low-power binocular microscope at x15 magnification. In all cases, 100% of the flot was sorted for charred plant remains. Identifications were made at magnifications between x15 and x40 and in comparison with Oxford Archaeology's reference collection and illustrations or photographs in floras or standard keys (e.g. Anderberg. 1994; Beijerinck 1976; Berggren 1969, 1981; Cappers *et al.* 2006; Jacomet 2006; Stace 1997).

Nomenclature for the plant remains follows Stace (1997) for indigenous species and Zohary and Hopf (2000) for cultivated species. The traditional binomial system for



the cereals has been used here, following Zohary and Hopf (2000: p. 28, Table 3 and p. 65, Table 5).

## Results

Table 8b presents the results from the two samples within SFB 1255. Both samples were fairly poor, with a total 32 identifications from sample 13 and 5 identifications from sample 15. The limited quantity of charred plant remains recovered from these samples is not sufficient to support interpretation (eg van der Veen and Fieller 1982).

## Discussion

The charred plant remains recovered from both samples are primarily dominated by weed/ wild taxa, with only a few definite cereal grains recovered from sample 13 (from the floor of SFB 1255). The taxa recovered could have occurred in a range of habitats and entered these deposits in several possible ways. The recovery of spelt (*Triticum spelta* L.) glume bases suggests that spelt was still one of the cereals cultivated in this period, although in general during the Anglo-Saxon period bread wheat was more commonly grown (Jones 1981, 107).

### *Weed/ wild taxa - habitat and taphonomy*

Goosefoot/ orache (*Chenopodium* spp./ *Atriplex* spp.), knotgrass (*Polygonum* sp.), melilot/ medick/ clover (*Melilotus* spp./ *Medicago* spp./ *Trifolium* spp.), oat/ brome grass (*Avena* spp./ *Bromus* spp.), sedge (*Carex* spp.) and vetch/ vetchling (*Vicia* spp./ *Lathyrus* spp.) can all occur as weeds of cereal crops; although they can occur in a range of other habitats including grassland/ hay meadows. The range of taxa is limited. In particular, the small quantity of cultivated plants means that it is not possible to ascertain how these deposits were formed. Several routes of entry for these charred remains into these deposits are possible:

- crop processing waste separated from cereal grain, possibly when hand milling, and discarded into domestic fires
- accidentally burned bedding, flooring and/or thatching material
- intentionally burned turf material, possibly as kindling

### *Limited evidence for the cultivation of spelt at Saxon Alpha Park.*

The recovery of four spelt glume bases provides limited evidence for the cultivation of spelt in the Saxon period in this area of Cambridgeshire. However, only a few cereal grains were recovered in these two samples and, therefore, it is not possible to gauge whether spelt was a major or minor crop in the period.

### *Recommendation to increase sample volumes in future work in the area*

The sampling programme undertaken by Foundation Archaeology recovered a very small assemblage of charred plant remains. If the deposits sampled are representative of the density of charred plant macrofossils at Eaton Socon in general, it is recommended that the volume of sediment sampled should be doubled, if not trebled, to between 40 to 60 L (the recommended sample volume of English Heritage - English Heritage 2002: 20) at any future excavation in the area. The limited charred

plant macrofossil data from prehistoric sites in Cambridgeshire (eg English Heritage Environmental Archaeology Bibliography

([http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/specColl/eab\\_ah\\_2004](http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/specColl/eab_ah_2004)) would suggest that volumes of at least 60 litres of sediment should be sampled for deposits of early date.

### Conclusions

The range of taxa recovered from the sunken feature building was limited and not sufficiently rich to be of interpretable value. A few cereal grains were recovered. The weed/ wild taxa present frequently occur as weeds of crop. However, other interpretations than intentional burning of crop processing waste, perhaps in relation to hand milling, are possible. The assemblage could result from intentionally burned turf, possibly as kindling, or accidentally burned bedding, flooring and/or thatching material. The recovery of a few spelt (*Triticum spelta* L.) glume bases does provide limited evidence for the continued use of spelt into the Saxon period at this site. Finally, the limited recovery of charred plant remains at Eaton Socon does suggest that much larger sample volumes should be collected in any future excavations in the area.

### References

- Anderberg, A. 1994. *Atlas of Seeds and Small Fruits of Northwest-European Plant Species with Morphological Descriptions. Part 4: Resedaceae - Umbelliferae*. Stockholm: Swedish Museum of Natural History.
- Beijerinck, W. 1976. *Zadenatlas der Nederlandsche Flora: Ten Behoeve van de Botanie, Palaeoentologie, Bodemculture en Warenkennis*. Amsterdam: Backhuys and Meesters.
- Berggren, G. 1969. *Atlas of Seeds and Small Fruits of Northwest-European Plant Species with Morphological Descriptions. Part 2: Cyperaceae*. Stockholm: Swedish Museum of Natural History.
- Berggren, G. 1981. *Atlas of Seeds and Small Fruits of Northwest-European Plant Species with Morphological Descriptions. Part 3: Salicaceae - Cruciferae*. Stockholm: Swedish Museum of Natural History.
- English Heritage. 2002. *Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-Excavation*. (English Heritage, Centre for Archaeology Guidelines 2002/01). London: English Heritage.
- Irving, D.; Nicholson, R. and Stafford, E. 2006. *Alpha Park, Eaton Socon, Cambridgeshire: Strip, Map and Sample (APC06). Post Excavation Assessment of the Environmental and Economic Evidence from Soil Samples*. Oxford: Oxford Archaeology Unit.
- Jacomet, S. 2006. *Identification of Cereal Remains from Archaeological Sites*. Basel: Archaeobotany Lab IPAS, Basel University.

Jones, M. 1981. The development of crop husbandry, In Jones, M. and Dimbleby, G. *The Environment of Man: the Iron Age to the Anglo-Saxon Period*. British Archaeological Reports 87, pp. 95-127.

Stace, C. 1997. (second edition) *New Flora of the British Isles*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

van der Veen, M. and Fieller, N. 1982. Sampling Seeds. *Journal of Archaeological Science* 9: 287–98.

Zohary, D. and Hopf, M. 2000. (third edition) *Domestication of Plants in the Old World: The Origin and Spread of Cultivated Plants in West Asia, Europe, and the Nile Valley*. Oxford: Clarendon Press.

Table 8b: Charred plant remains from sunken feature building [1255]

Sample Number	13	15	
Context Number	1256	1297	
Description	floor layer within SFB [1255]	fill of posthole [1296] within SFB [1255]	
Sample Volume (L.)	20	10	
Flot Volume (ml)	35	10	
Latin Binomial			English Common Name
<b>Cereal Grain</b>			
cf. <i>Hordeum</i> sp.	1	-	Possible Barley
<i>Triticum</i> sp. - indeterminate	1	-	Wheat
Indeterminate Cereal/ POACEAE	6	-	Cereal/ Large grass
<b>Cereal chaff</b>			
<i>Triticum durum</i> Desf./ <i>aestivum</i> L. - glume base	4	-	Macaroni/ bread wheat
<b>Shrub/ Tree</b>			
<i>Corylus avellana</i> L. – nutshell fragment	1	-	hazel
<b>Weed/ Wild Plants</b>			
<i>Chenopodium</i> spp./ <i>Atriplex</i> spp.	1	-	Goosefoot/ Orache
<i>Polygonum</i> sp.	1	-	Knotgrass
<i>Vicia</i> spp./ <i>Lathyrus</i> spp. – small-seeded	1	-	Vetch/ Vetchling
cf. <i>Vicia</i> spp./ <i>Lathyrus</i> spp. – small-seeded	1	-	Possible vetch/ vetchling
<i>Melilotus</i> spp./ <i>Medicago</i> spp./ <i>Trifolium</i> spp.	-	1	Melilot/ Medick/ Clover
ASTERACEAE – unidentified, small-sized	1	-	Daisy Family
<i>Carex</i> spp. – 3-sided	1	-	Sedge
<i>Avena</i> spp./ <i>Bromus</i> spp.	4	-	Oat/ Brome grass
POACEAE – Small-sized caryopsis	3	-	Small-seeded grass
POACEAE – Large-sized caryopsis	3	3	Large-seeded grass
Unidentified	2	-	Unidentified
Indeterminate	1	1	Indeterminate
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>5</b>	

## APPENDIX 7 – C14 DATA



Director: *Professor A E Fallick*

Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre

Rankine Avenue  
Scottish Enterprise Technology Park  
East Kilbride Scotland UK G75 0QF

**Email:** [g.cook@suerc.gla.ac.uk](mailto:g.cook@suerc.gla.ac.uk)  
**Telephone:** 01355 223332  
**Direct Dial:** 01355 270136  
**Fax:** 01355 229898

## RADIOCARBON DATING CERTIFICATE

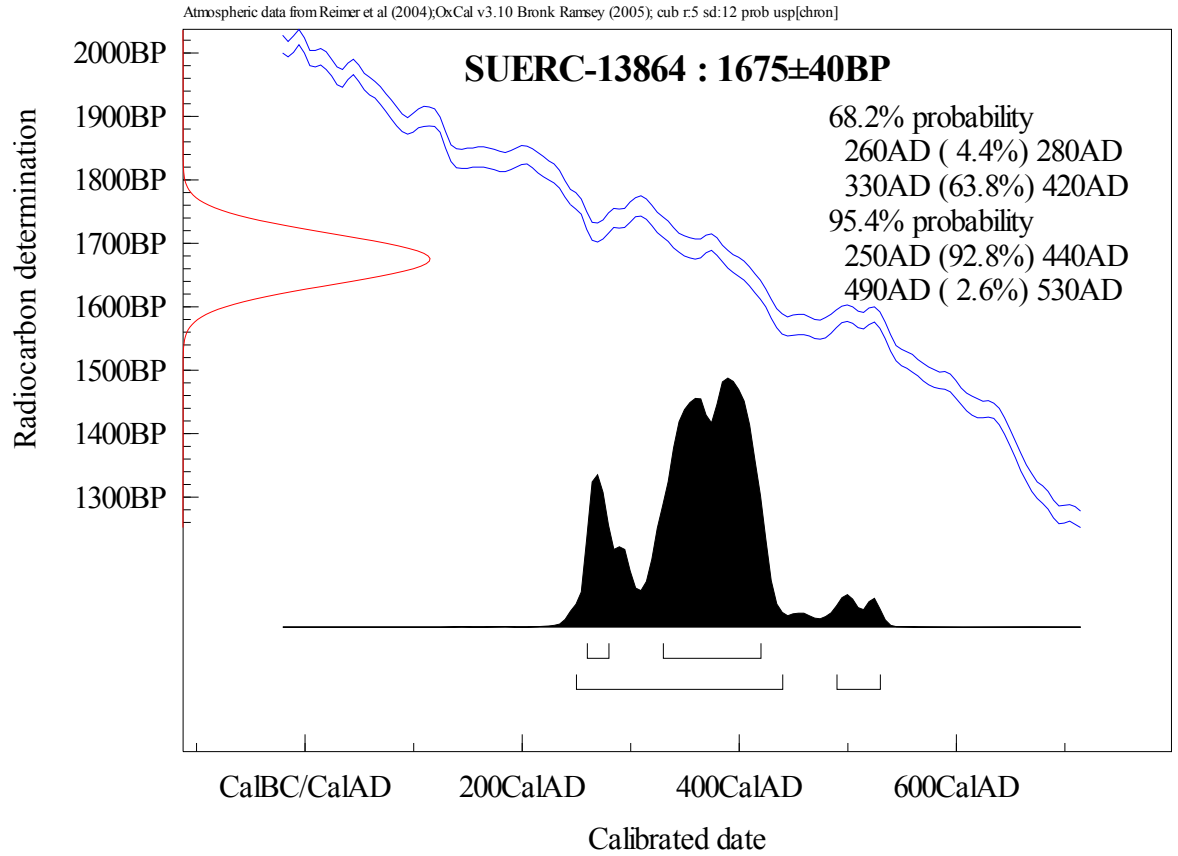
25 March 2007

<b>Laboratory Code</b>	SUERC-13864 (GU-15215)
<b>Submitter</b>	Andrew Hood Foundations Archaeology 109 Albion Street Swindon SN1 5LP
<b>Site Reference</b>	Alpha Park Archaeological Strip
<b>Context Reference</b>	1186
<b>Sample Reference</b>	APC 06
<b>Material</b>	Animal bone (cattle)
<b><math>\delta^{13}\text{C}</math> relative to VPDB</b>	-20.8 ‰
<b>Radiocarbon Age BP</b>	1675 $\pm$ 40

- N.B.**
1. The above  $^{14}\text{C}$  age is quoted in conventional years BP (before 1950 AD). The error, which is expressed at the one sigma level of confidence, includes components from the counting statistics on the sample, modern reference standard and blank and the random machine error.
  2. The calibrated age ranges are determined from the University of Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit calibration program (OxCal3).
  3. Samples with a SUERC coding are measured at the Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre AMS Facility and should be quoted as such in any reports within the scientific literature. Any questions directed to the Radiocarbon Laboratory should also quote the GU coding given in

parentheses after the SUERC code.

### Calibration Plot





Director: *Professor A E Fallick*

Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre

Rankine Avenue  
Scottish Enterprise Technology Park  
East Kilbride Scotland UK G75 0QF

**Email:** [g.cook@suerc.gla.ac.uk](mailto:g.cook@suerc.gla.ac.uk)  
**Telephone:** 01355 223332  
**Direct Dial:** 01355 270136  
**Fax:** 01355 229898

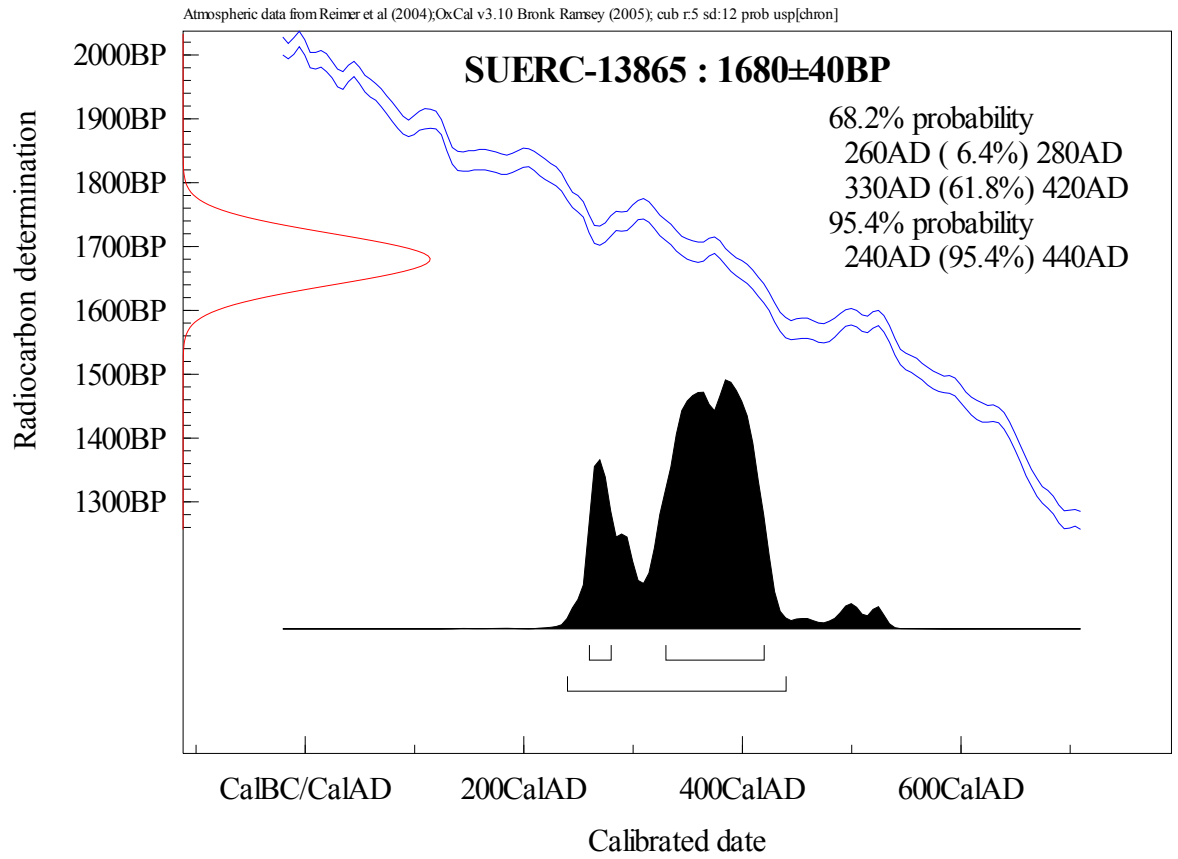
## RADIOCARBON DATING CERTIFICATE

25 March 2007

<b>Laboratory Code</b>	SUERC-13865 (GU-15216)
<b>Submitter</b>	Andrew Hood Foundations Archaeology 109 Albion Street Swindon SN1 5LP
<b>Site Reference</b>	Alpha Park Archaeological Strip
<b>Context Reference</b>	1206
<b>Sample Reference</b>	APC 06
<b>Material</b>	Animal bone (cattle)
<b><math>\delta^{13}\text{C}</math> relative to VPDB</b>	-22.5 ‰
<b>Radiocarbon Age BP</b>	1680 $\pm$ 40

- N.B.**
1. The above  $^{14}\text{C}$  age is quoted in conventional years BP (before 1950 AD). The error, which is expressed at the one sigma level of confidence, includes components from the counting statistics on the sample, modern reference standard and blank and the random machine error.
  2. The calibrated age ranges are determined from the University of Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit calibration program (OxCal3).
  3. Samples with a SUERC coding are measured at the Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre AMS Facility and should be quoted as such in any reports within the scientific literature. Any questions directed to the Radiocarbon Laboratory should also quote the GU coding given in parentheses after the SUERC code.

### Calibration Plot







Director: *Professor A E Fallick*

Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre

Rankine Avenue  
Scottish Enterprise Technology Park  
East Kilbride Scotland UK G75 0QF

**Email:** [g.cook@suerc.gla.ac.uk](mailto:g.cook@suerc.gla.ac.uk)  
**Telephone:** 01355 223332  
**Direct Dial:** 01355 270136  
**Fax:** 01355 229898

## RADIOCARBON DATING CERTIFICATE

25 March 2007

<b>Laboratory Code</b>	SUERC-0 (GU-15217)
<b>Submitter</b>	Andrew Hood Foundations Archaeology 109 Albion Street Swindon SN1 5LP
<b>Site Reference</b>	Alpha Park Archaeological Strip
<b>Context Reference</b>	1227
<b>Sample Reference</b>	APC 06
<b>Material</b>	Horn : Aurochs horn core (fragmented)

$\delta^{13}\text{C}$  relative to VPDB

**Radiocarbon Age BP** Sample Failed

- N.B.**
1. The above  $^{14}\text{C}$  age is quoted in conventional years BP (before 1950 AD). The error, which is expressed at the one sigma level of confidence, includes components from the counting statistics on the sample, modern reference standard and blank and the random machine error.
  2. The calibrated age ranges are determined from the University of Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit calibration program (OxCal3).
  3. Samples with a SUERC coding are measured at the Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre AMS Facility and should be quoted as such in any reports within the scientific literature. Any questions directed to the Radiocarbon Laboratory should also quote the GU coding given in parentheses after the SUERC code.



Director: *Professor A E Fallick*

Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre

Rankine Avenue  
Scottish Enterprise Technology Park  
East Kilbride Scotland UK G75 0QF

**Email:** [g.cook@suerc.gla.ac.uk](mailto:g.cook@suerc.gla.ac.uk)  
**Telephone:** 01355 223332  
**Direct Dial:** 01355 270136  
**Fax:** 01355 229898

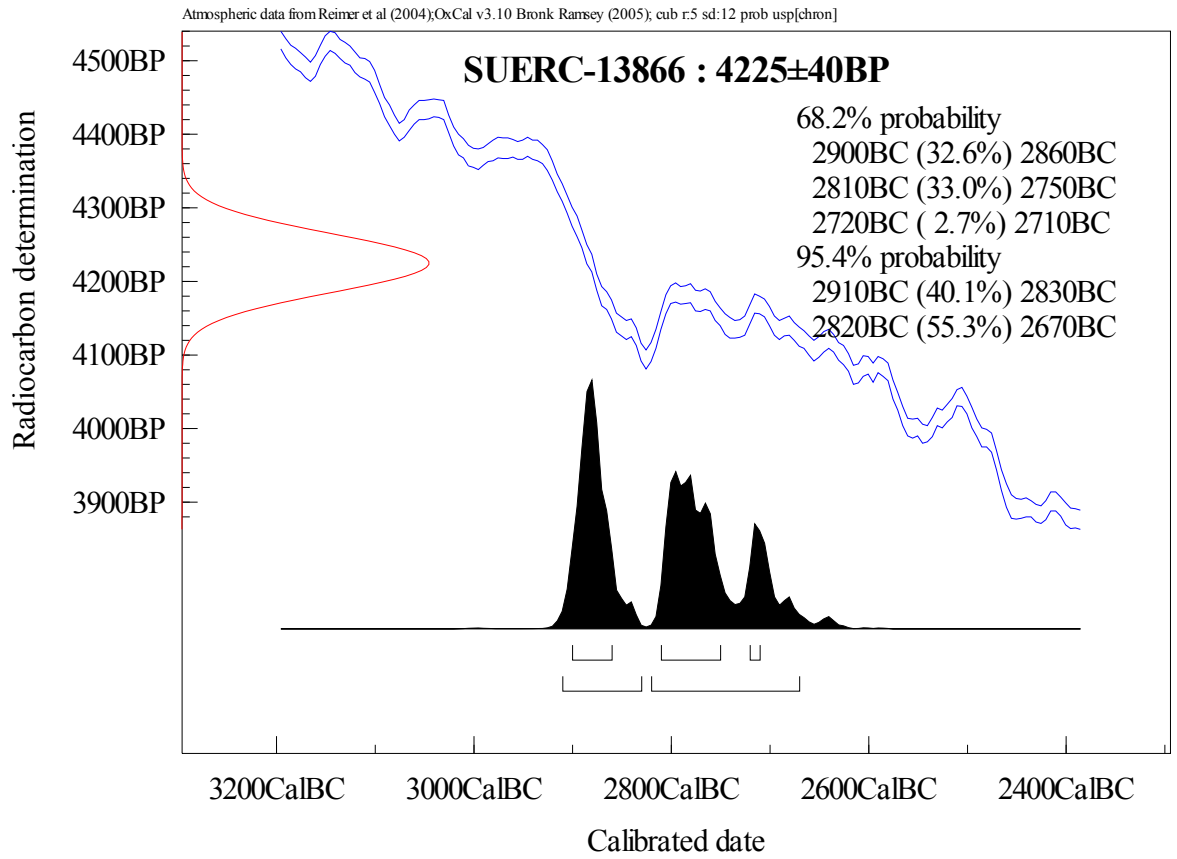
## RADIOCARBON DATING CERTIFICATE

25 March 2007

<b>Laboratory Code</b>	SUERC-13866 (GU-15218)
<b>Submitter</b>	Andrew Hood Foundations Archaeology 109 Albion Street Swindon SN1 5LP
<b>Site Reference</b>	Alpha Park Archaeological Strip
<b>Context Reference</b>	1282
<b>Sample Reference</b>	APC 06
<b>Material</b>	Antler : Red Deer
<b><math>\delta^{13}\text{C}</math> relative to VPDB</b>	-23.1 ‰
<b>Radiocarbon Age BP</b>	4225 $\pm$ 40

- N.B.**
1. The above  $^{14}\text{C}$  age is quoted in conventional years BP (before 1950 AD). The error, which is expressed at the one sigma level of confidence, includes components from the counting statistics on the sample, modern reference standard and blank and the random machine error.
  2. The calibrated age ranges are determined from the University of Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit calibration program (OxCal3).
  3. Samples with a SUERC coding are measured at the Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre AMS Facility and should be quoted as such in any reports within the scientific literature. Any questions directed to the Radiocarbon Laboratory should also quote the GU coding given in parentheses after the SUERC code.

### Calibration Plot



## OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

[List of Projects](#) | [Search Projects](#) | [New project](#) | [Change your details](#) | [HER coverage](#) | [Change country](#) | [Log out](#)

### Printable version

**OASIS ID: foundati1-22860**

#### Project details

Project name Alpha Park, Great North Road, Eaton Socon, Cambridgeshire: Archaeological Strip, Map and Sample

Short description of the project Archaeological investigation revealed moderate preservation of archaeological deposits. The earliest evidence on site comprised a Neolithic pit and artefactual evidence for further Neolithic activity in the vicinity. A multi-phase Roman field system, predominately dating to the mid-late 2nd to later 3rd/4th centuries was present. It was clear that this activity represented a continuation of a previously identified Roman farmstead immediately to the north at Priors Gate. Saxon settlement, in the form of Sunken Featured Buildings was also identified.

Project dates Start: 27-03-2006 End: 23-05-2006

Previous/future work Yes / No

Any associated project reference codes APC06 - Sitecode

Type of project Recording project

Site status None

Current Land use Other 13 - Waste ground

Investigation type 'Open-area excavation','Part Excavation'

Prompt Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16

#### Project location

Country England

Site location CAMBRIDGESHIRE HUNTINGDONSHIRE ST NEOTS

	Alpha Park, Eaton Socon
Study area	20000.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TL 168 581 52.2083164923 -0.290455953013 52 12 29 N 000 17 25 W Point
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Foundations Archaeology
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	CgMs Consulting
Project director/manager	Andrew Hood
Project supervisor	Tracy Michaels
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Project archives	
Physical Archive recipient	To Be Advised
Physical Contents	'Animal Bones','Ceramics','Environmental','Glass','Metal','Worked stone/lithics'
Digital Archive Exists?	No
Paper Archive recipient	To Be Advised
Paper Contents	'Animal Bones','Ceramics','Environmental','Stratigraphic','Worked stone/lithics'

Paper Media available 'Context sheet','Drawing','Map','Photograph','Plan','Report','Section'

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Alpha Park, Great North Road, Eaton Socon, Cambridgeshire: Archaeological Strip, Map and Sample: Post Excavation Assessment

Author(s)/Editor(s) Hood, A.

Other bibliographic details Report No. 523

Date 2007

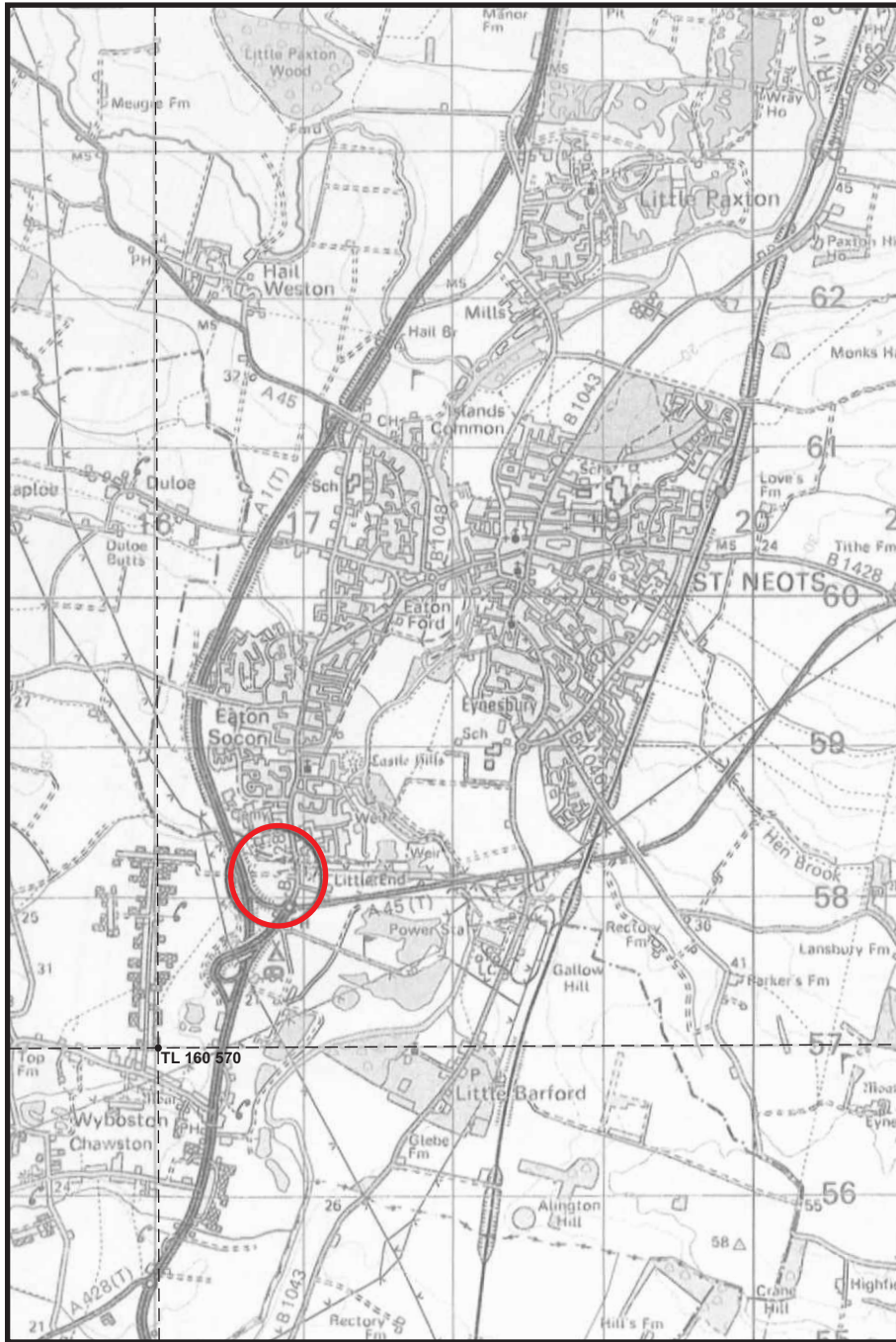
Issuer or publisher Foundations Archaeology

Place of issue or publication Swindon

Description Unpublished technical report.

Entered by Andrew Hood (admin@foundations.co.uk)

Entered on 19 January 2007



© Crown Copyright  
Reproduced under licence AL523064A

**FIGURE 1: Site Location**



© Crown Copyright  
 Reproduced under licence AL523064A

1:2500

**FIGURE 2: Study Area**



AREA 1 PLAN - PRE-EXCAVATION

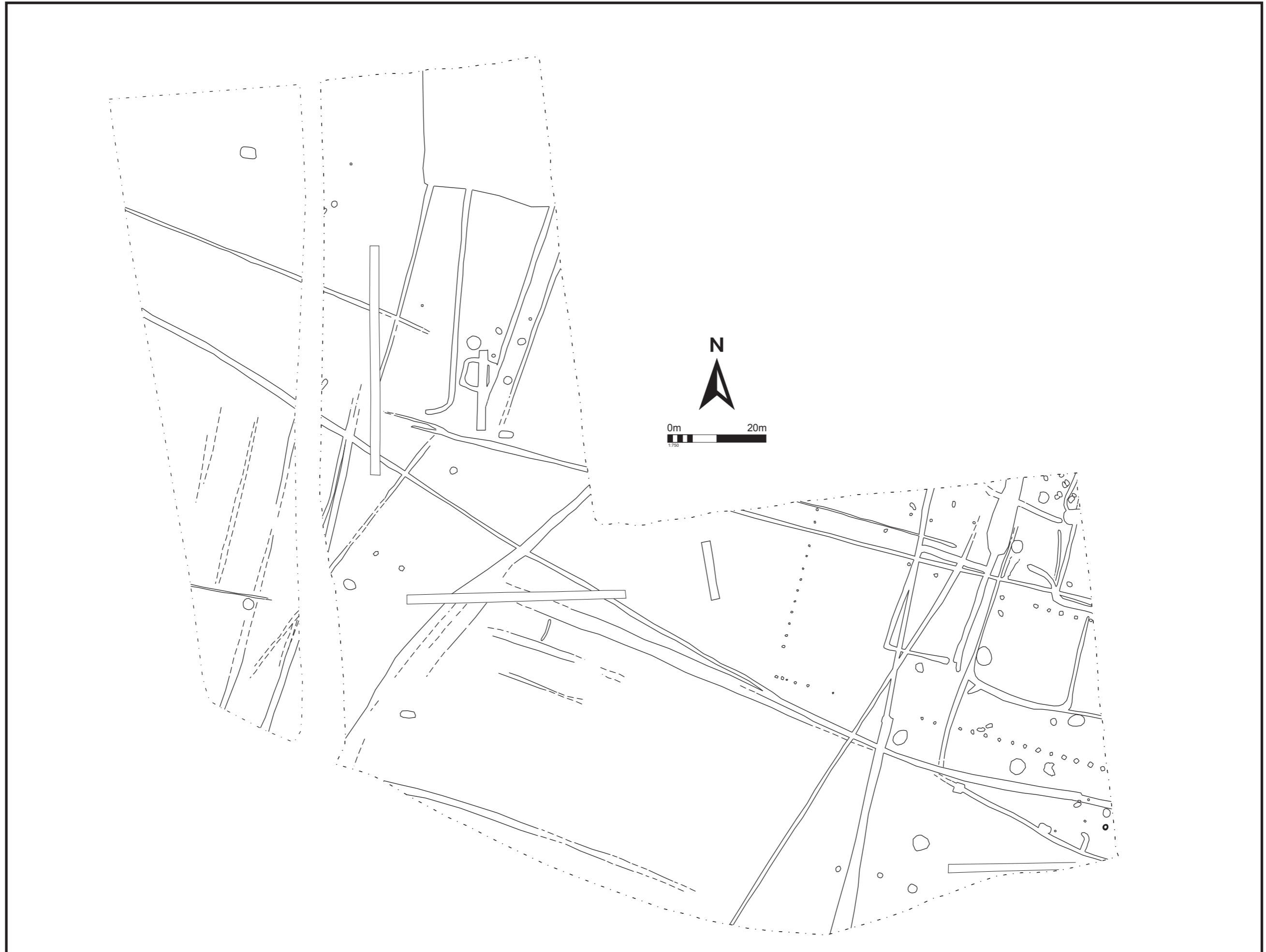
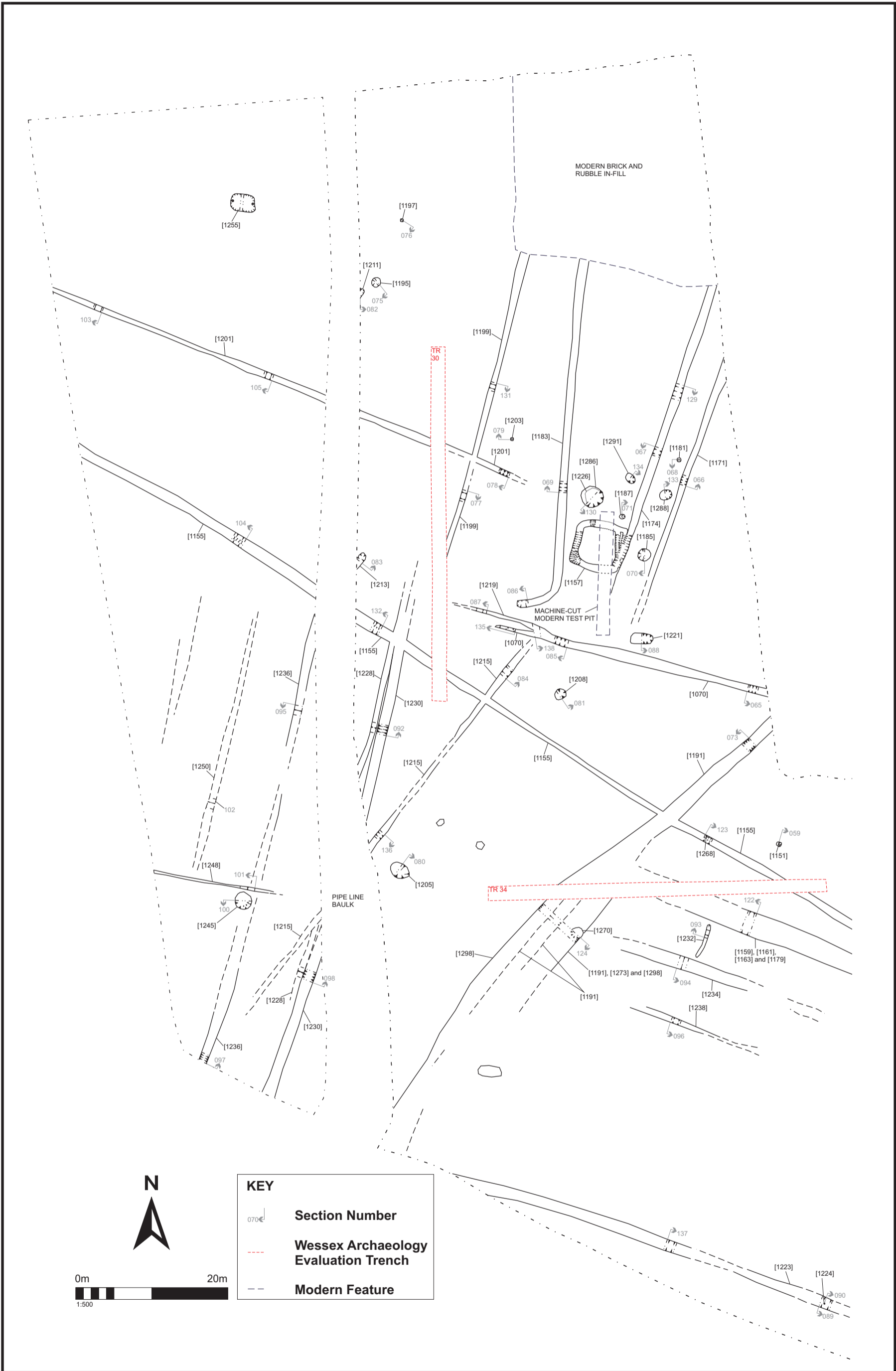


FIGURE 3: Pre-excavation Site Plan

**AREA 1 PLAN, WEST - POST-EXCAVATION**



**FIGURE 4: Post-excavation Site Plan (west)**

AREA 1 PLAN, EAST - POST-EXCAVATION

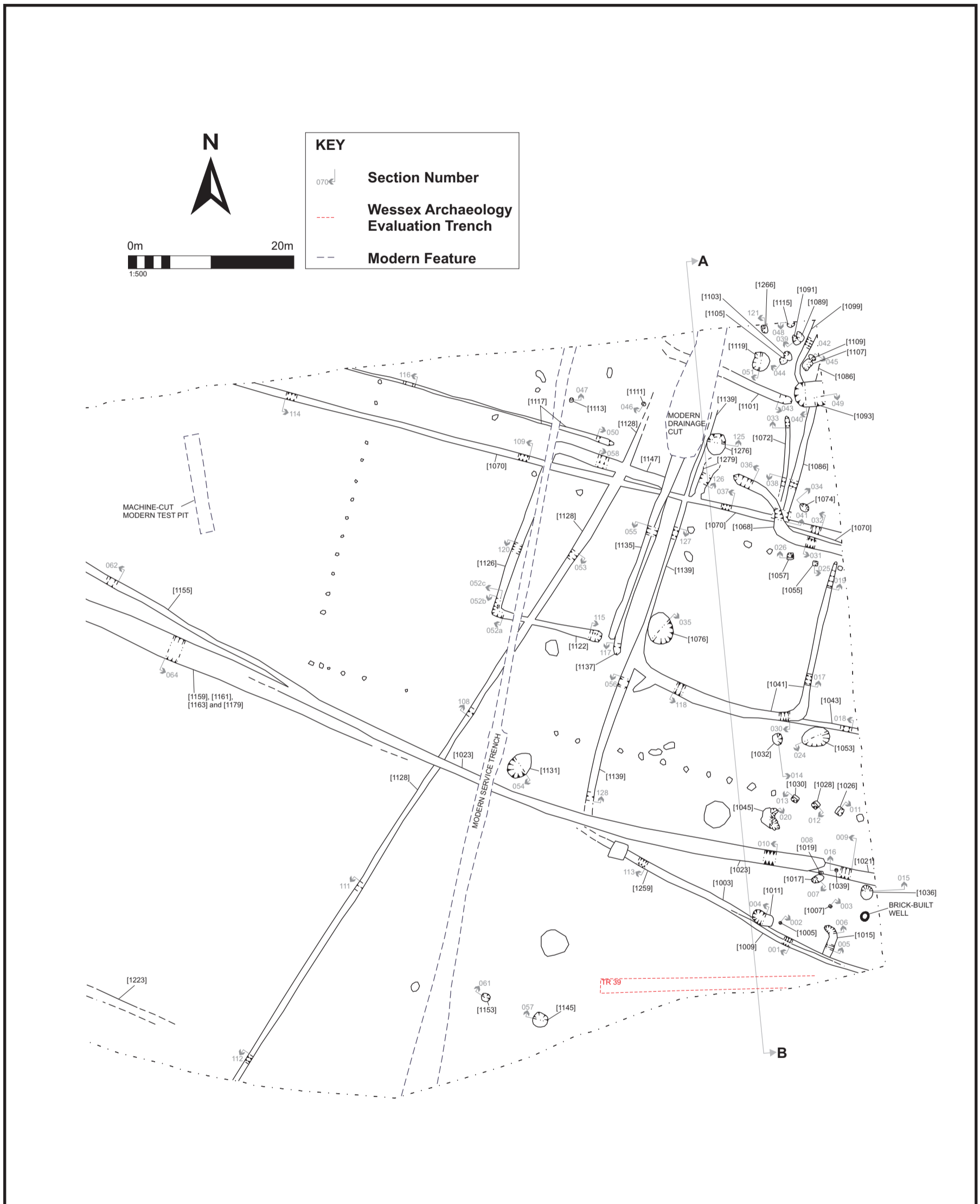
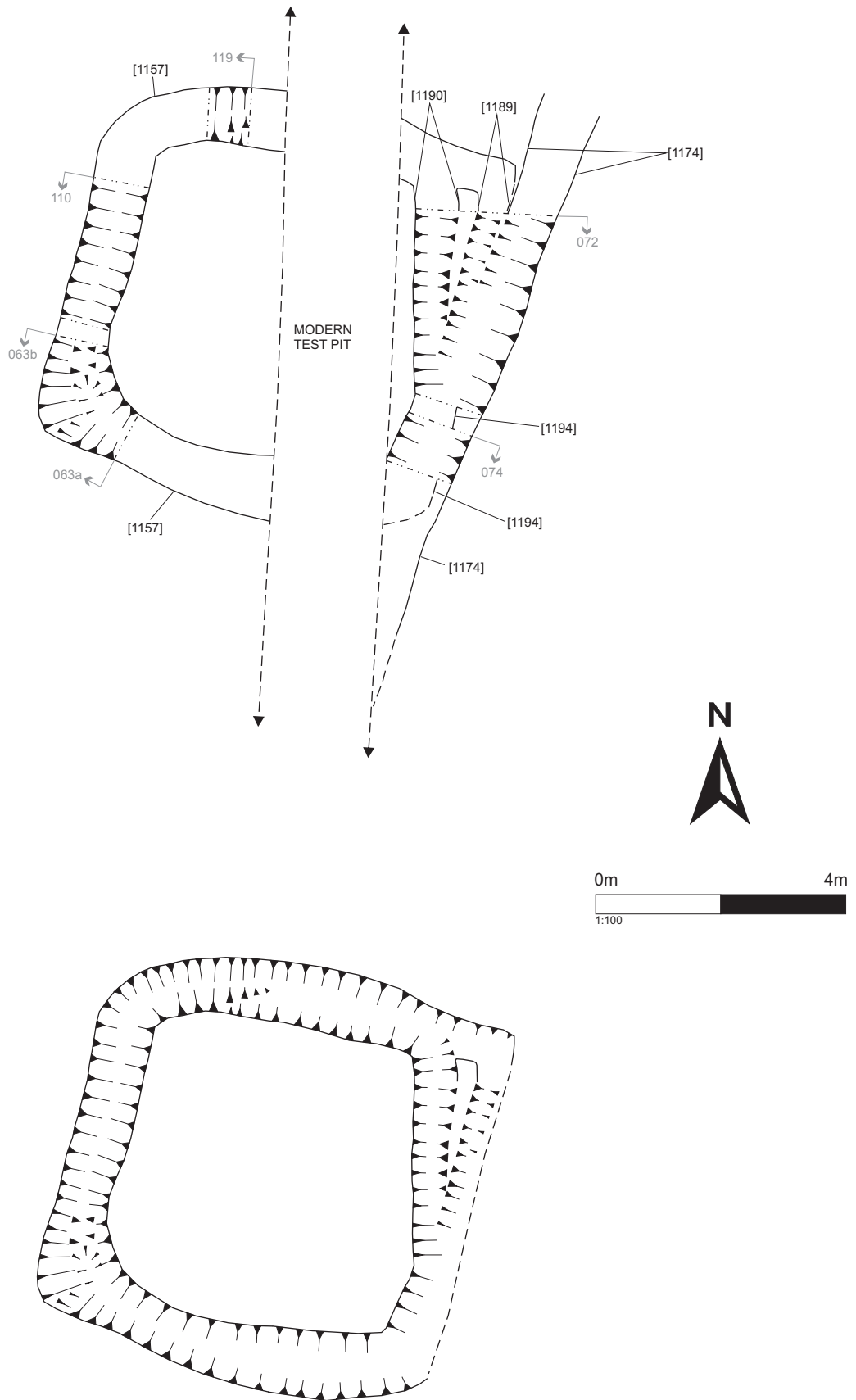
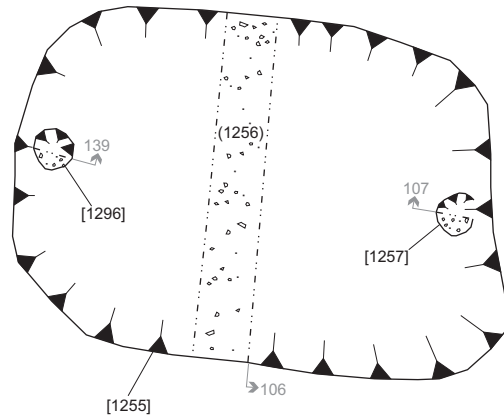


FIGURE 5: Post-excavation Site Plan (east)



**FIGURE 6: Feature [1157], Post-excitation Plan**



**FIGURE 7: Feature [1255], Post-excavation Plan**

PLAN OF PROBABLE ROMAN FEATURES

Priors Gate (after Gibson, forthcoming)

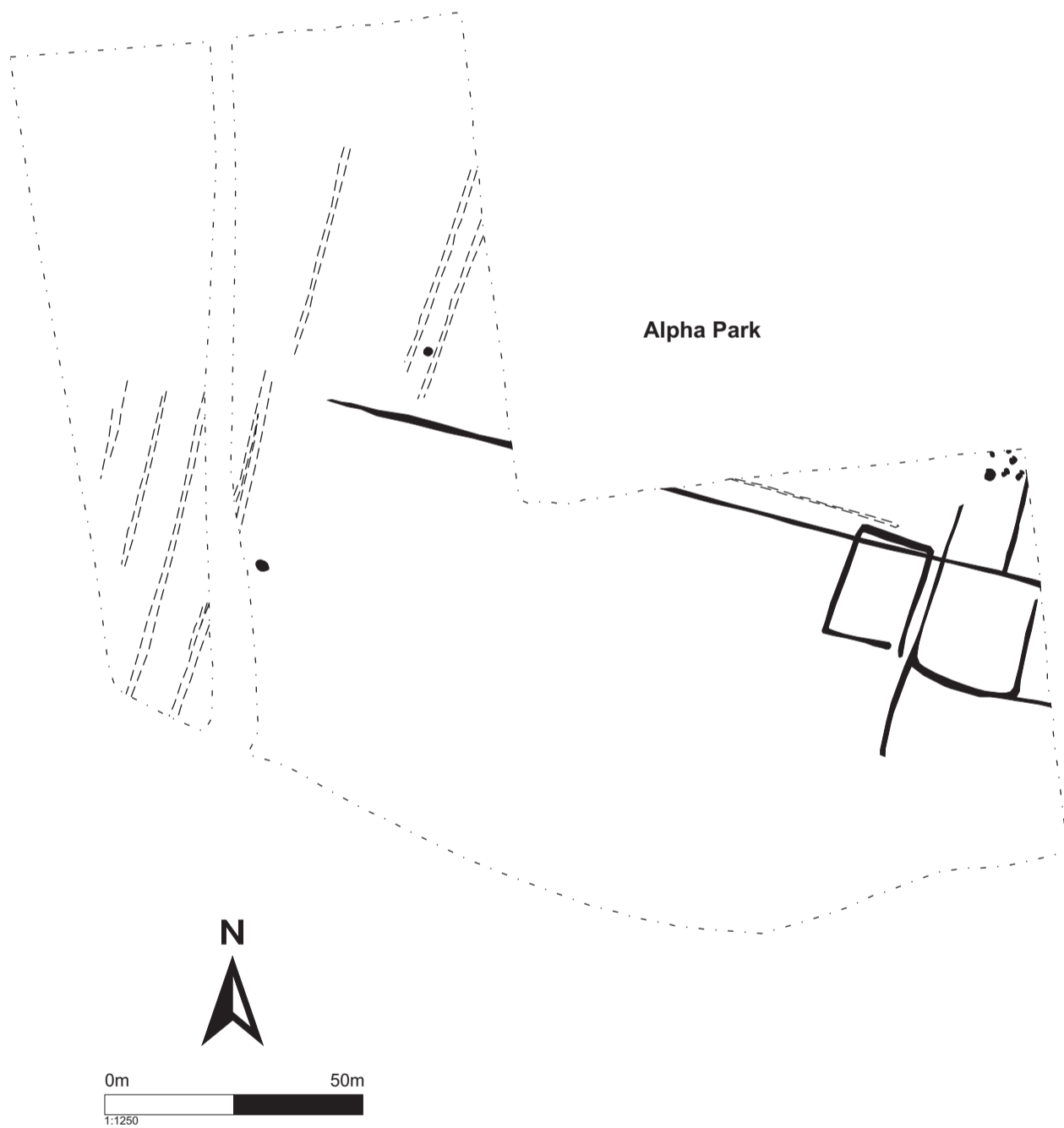
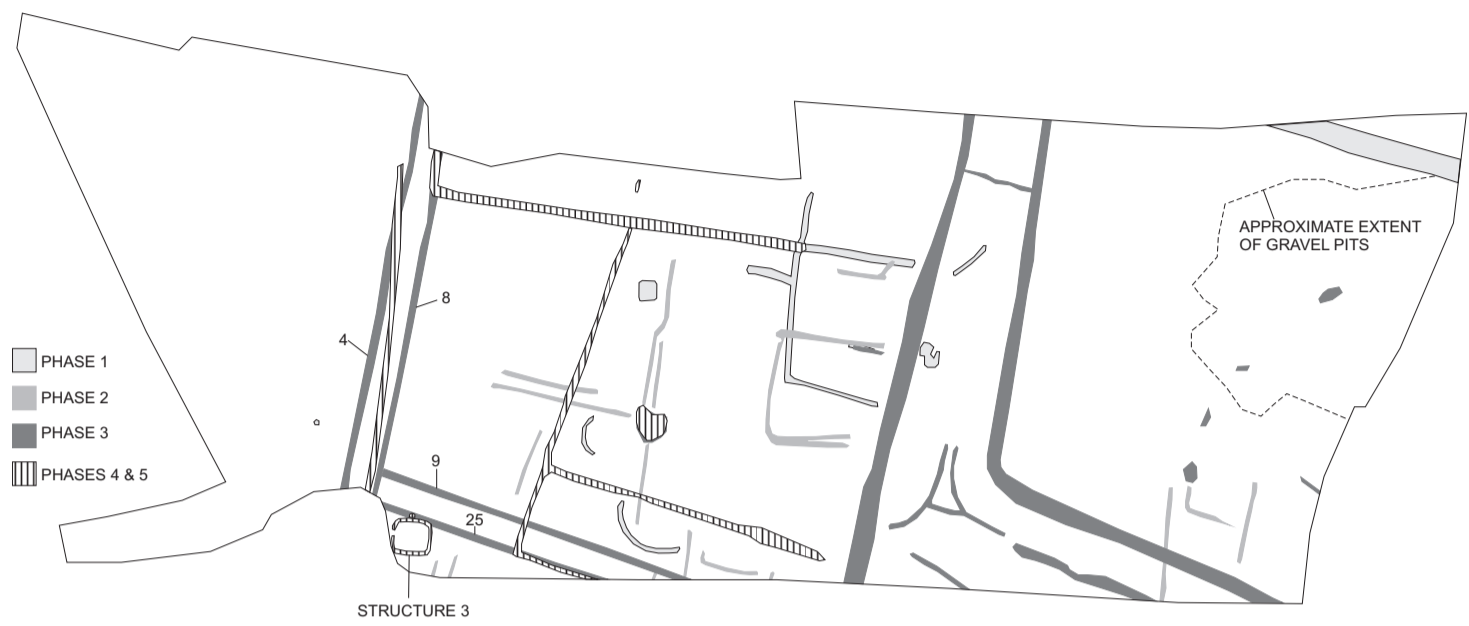
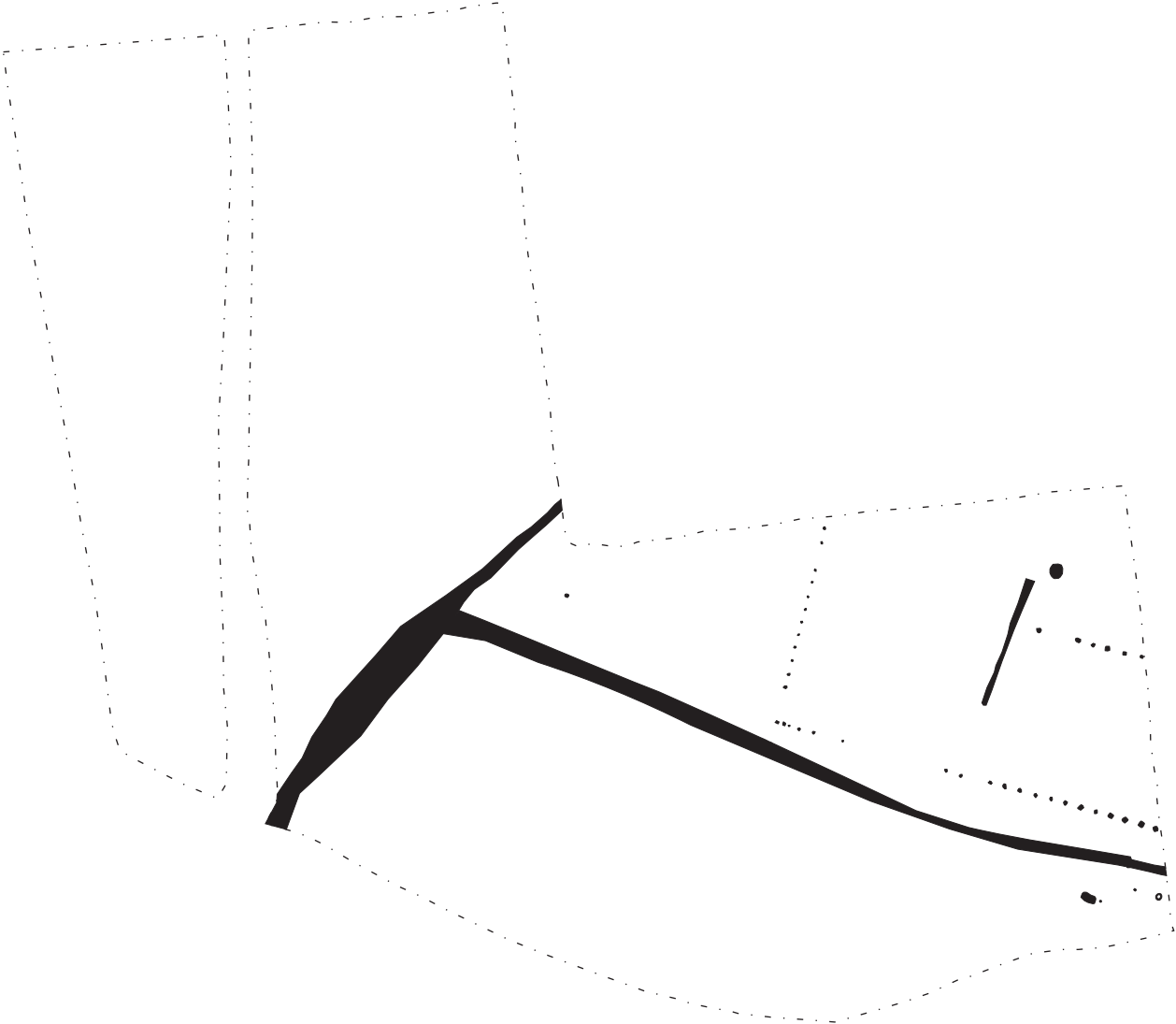


FIGURE 8: Plan of Probable Roman Features

**PLAN OF MODERN FEATURES**



**FIGURE 9: Plan of Modern Features**

PLAN OF UNDATED FEATURES

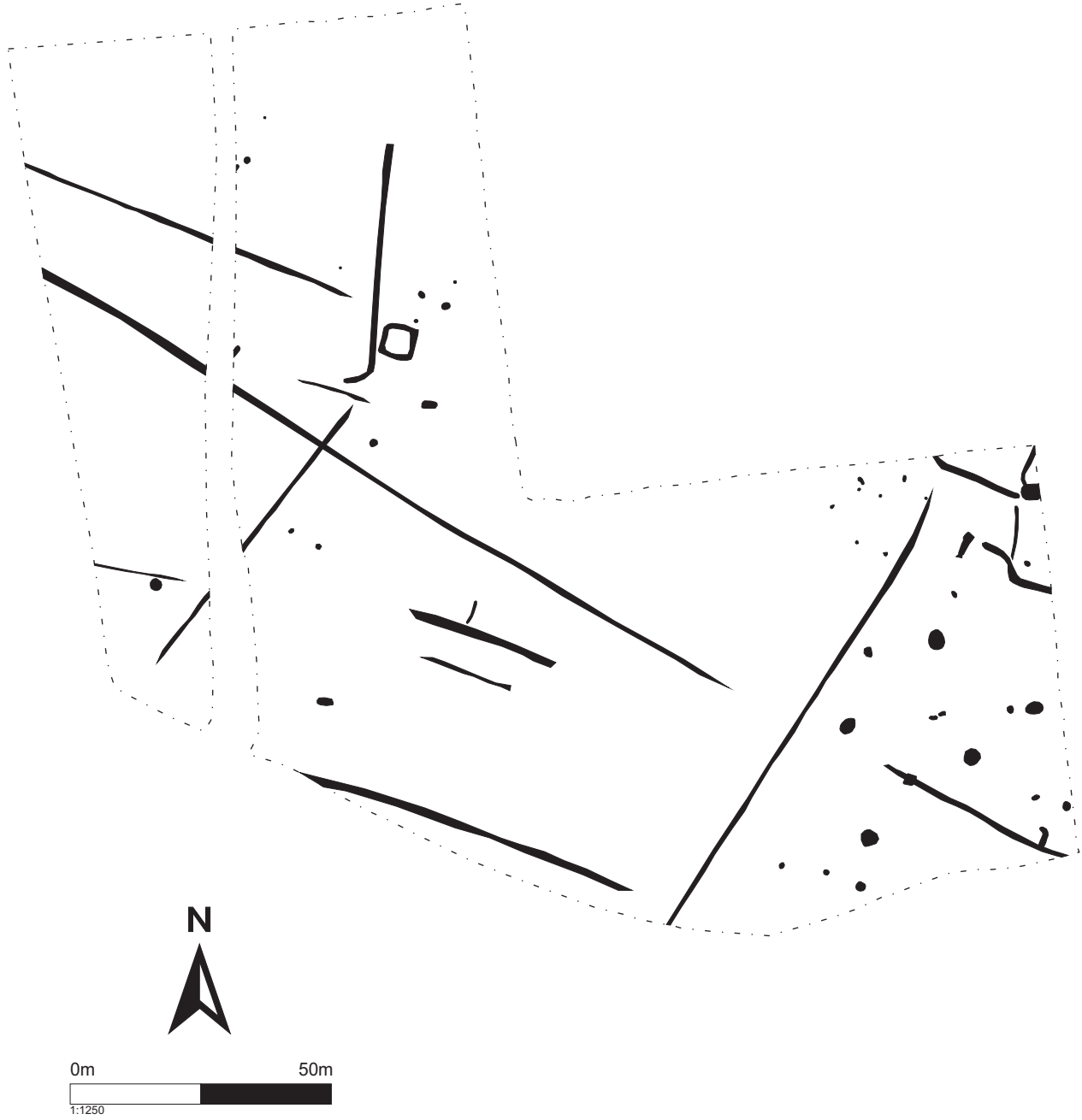
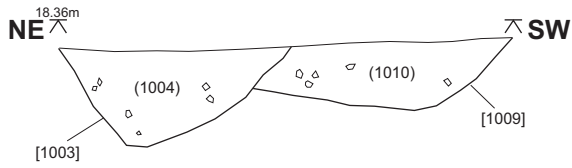


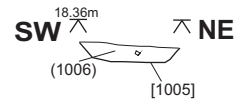
FIGURE 10: Plan of Undated Features



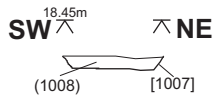
**SEC 001 NORTHWEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1003] and [1009]**



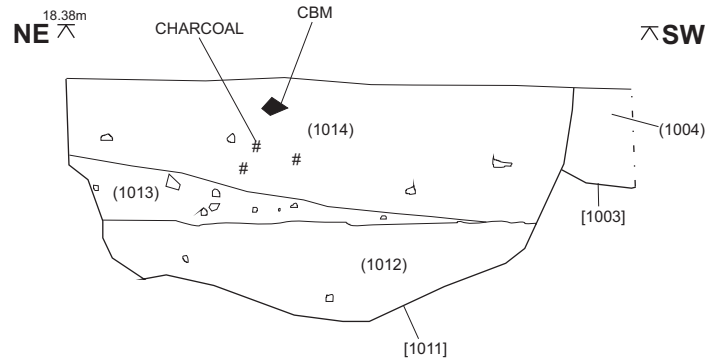
**SEC 002 SOUTHEAST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1005]**



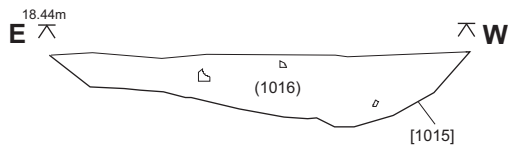
**SEC 003 SOUTHEAST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1007]**



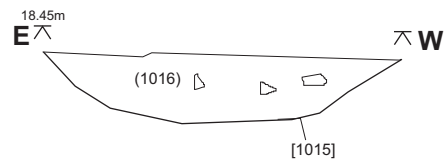
**SEC 004 NORTHWEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1011] and [1003]**



**SEC 005 NORTH FACING SECTION THROUGH [1015]**

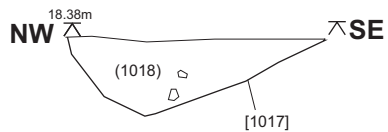


**SEC 006 NORTH FACING SECTION THROUGH [1015]**

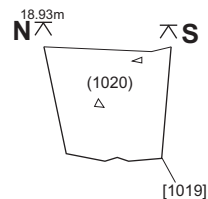


**FIGURE 11: Sections 001 to 006**

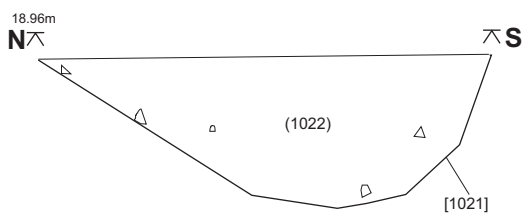
**SEC 007** SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1017]



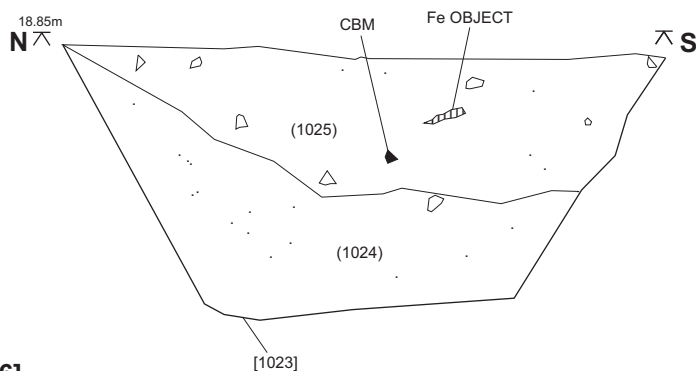
**SEC 008** WEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1019]



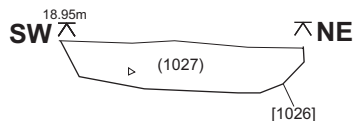
**SEC 009** WEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1021]



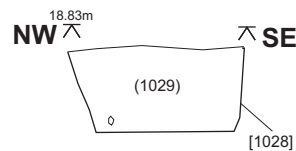
**SEC 010** WEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1023]



**SEC 011** SOUTHEAST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1026]

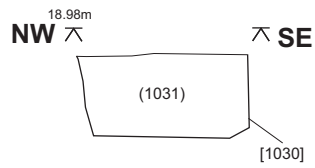


**SEC 012** SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1028]

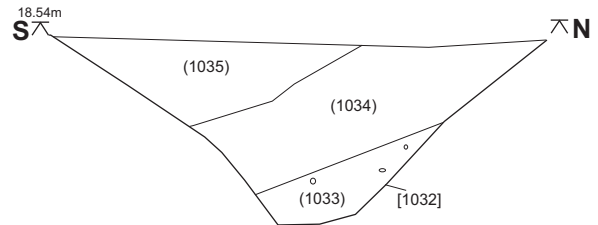


**FIGURE 12: Sections 007 to 012**

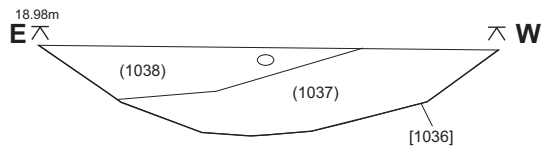
**SEC 013 SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1030]**



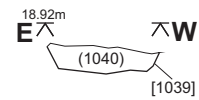
**SEC 014 EAST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1032]**



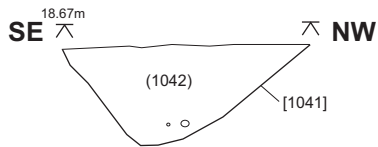
**SEC 015 NORTH FACING SECTION THROUGH [1036]**



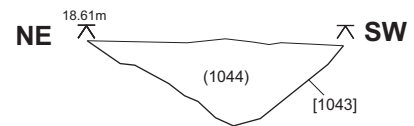
**SEC 016 NORTH FACING SECTION THROUGH [1039]**



**SEC 017 NORTHEAST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1041]**

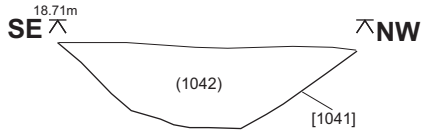


**SEC 018 NORTHWEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1043]**

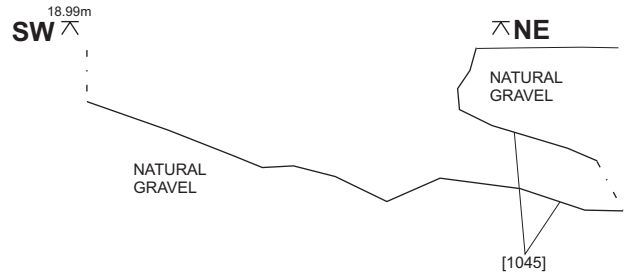


**FIGURE 13: Sections 013 to 018**

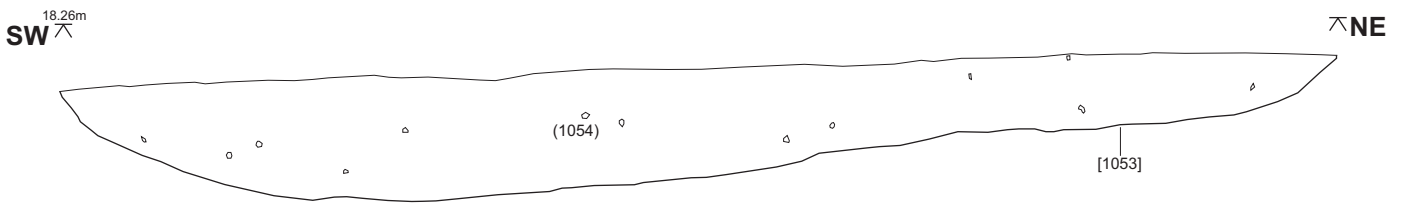
**SEC 019 NORTHEAST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1041]**



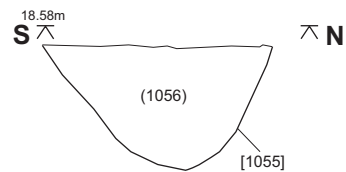
**SEC 020 [1045] PROFILE SHOWING 'UNDERCUT'**



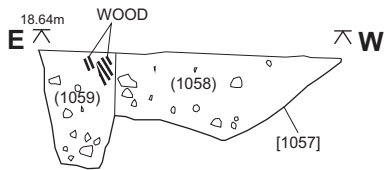
**SEC 024 SOUTHEAST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1053]**



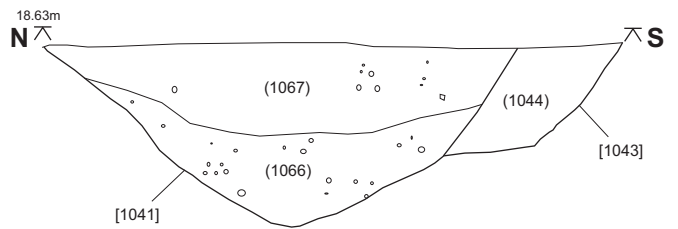
**SEC 025 EAST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1055]**



**SEC 026 NORTH FACING SECTION THROUGH [1057]**



**SEC 030 WEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1041] and [1043]**

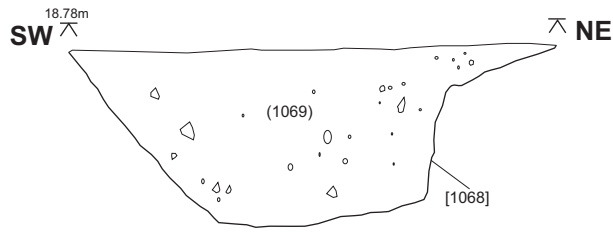


NOTE: SECTIONS 021 - 023 and 027 - 029 ARE VOID

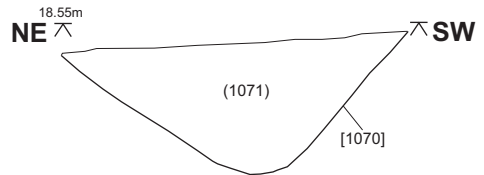


**FIGURE 14: Sections 019 to 030**

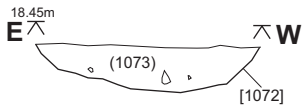
**SEC 031 SOUTHEAST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1068]**



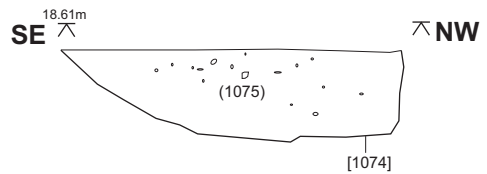
**SEC 032 NORTHWEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1070]**



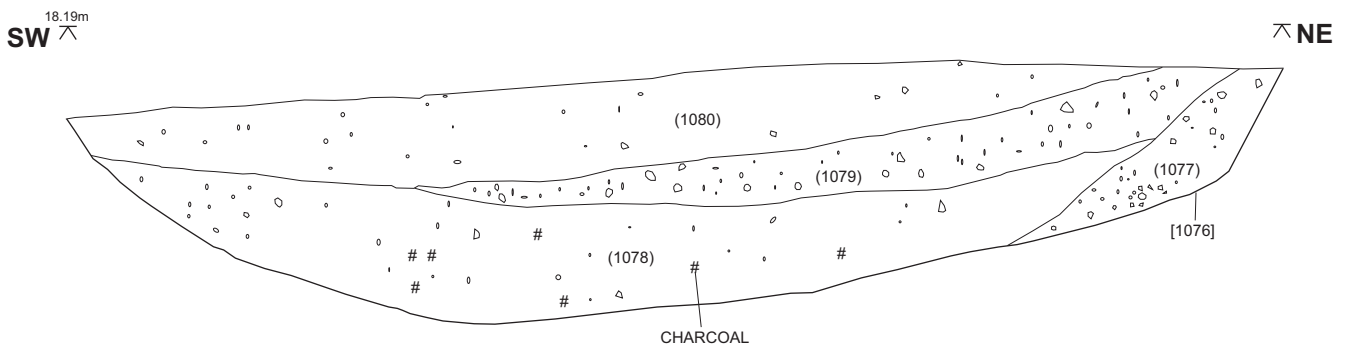
**SEC 033 NORTH FACING SECTION THROUGH [1072]**



**SEC 034 NORTHEAST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1074]**

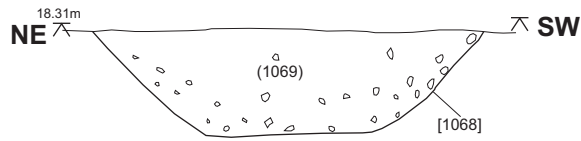


**SEC 035 SOUTHEAST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1076]**

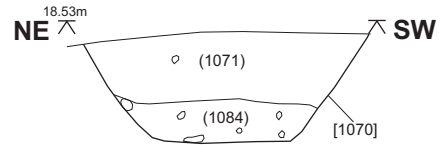


**FIGURE 15: Sections 031 to 035**

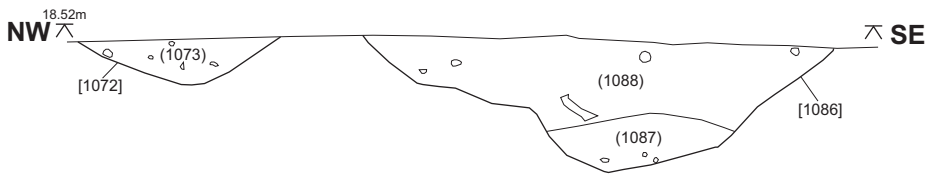
**SEC 036 NORTHWEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1068]**



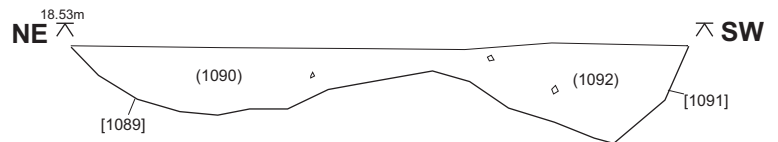
**SEC 037 NORTHWEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1070]**



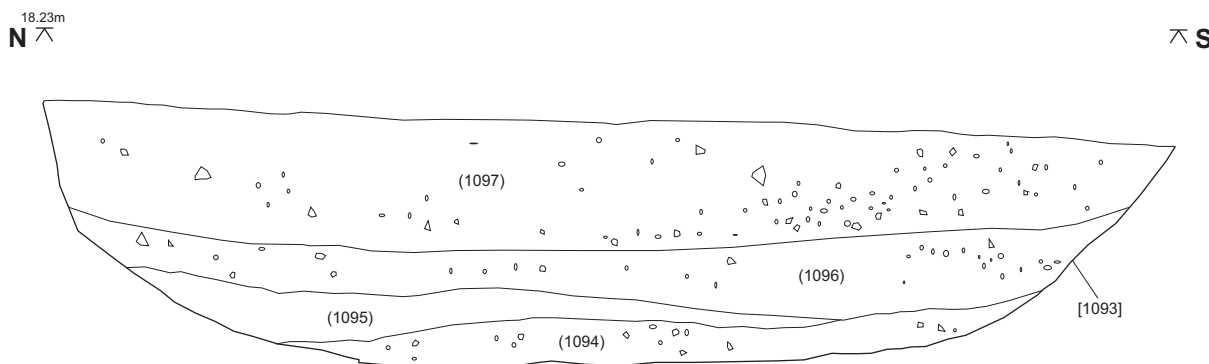
**SEC 038 SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1072] and [1086]**



**SEC 039 NORTHWEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1089] and [1091]**

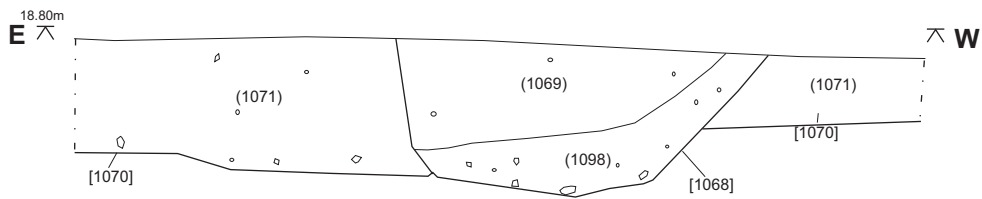


**SEC 040 WEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1093]**

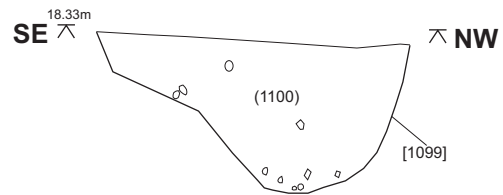


**FIGURE 16: Sections 036 to 040**

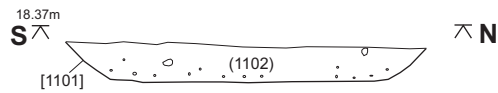
**SEC 041 NORTH FACING SECTION THROUGH [1068] and [1070]**



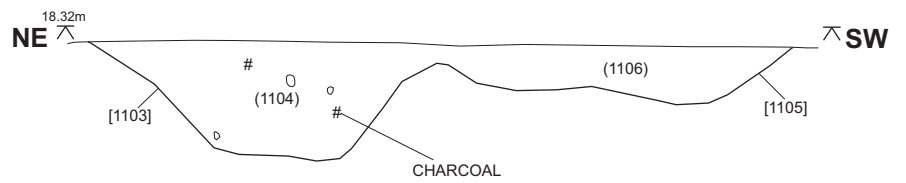
**SEC 042 NORTHEAST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1099]**



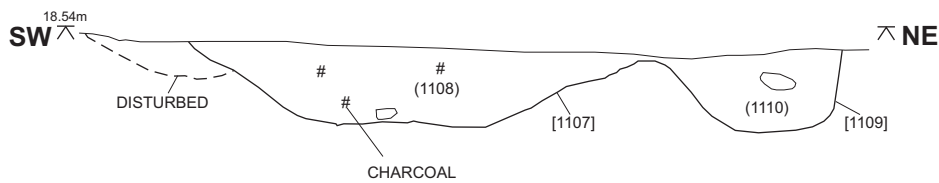
**SEC 043 EAST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1101]**



**SEC 044 NORTHWEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1103] and [1105]**

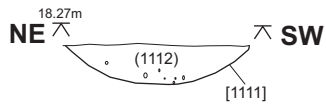


**SEC 045 SOUTHEAST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1107] and [1109]**

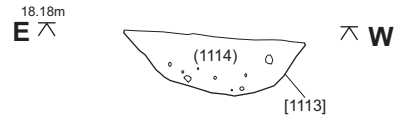


**FIGURE 17: Sections 041 to 045**

**SEC 046 NORTHWEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1111]**



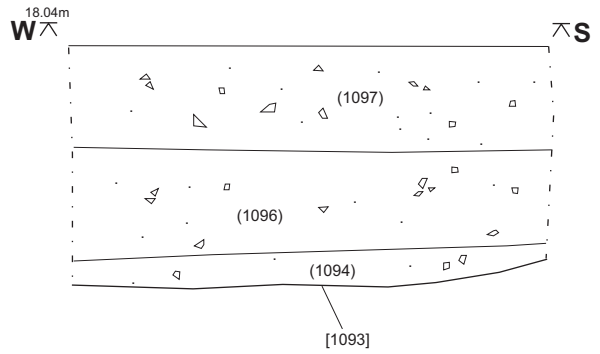
**SEC 047 NORTH FACING SECTION THROUGH [1113]**



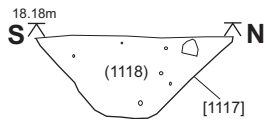
**SEC 048 SOUTH FACING SECTION THROUGH [1115]**



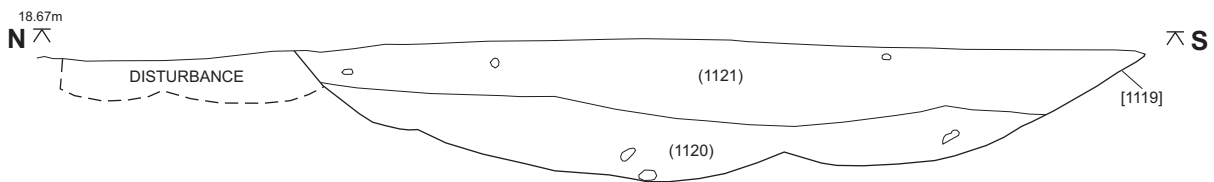
**SEC 049 SOUTH FACING SECTION THROUGH [1093]**



**SEC 050 EAST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1117]**



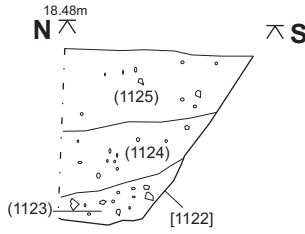
**SEC 051 WEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1119]**



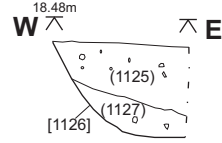
**FIGURE 18: Sections 046 to 051**



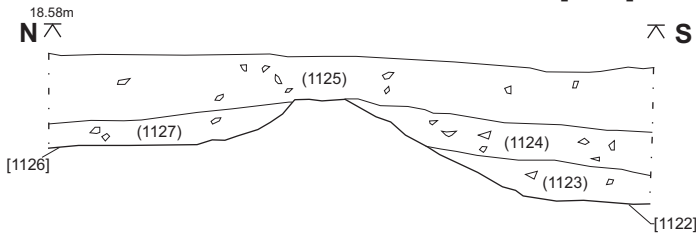
**SEC 052a WEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1122]**



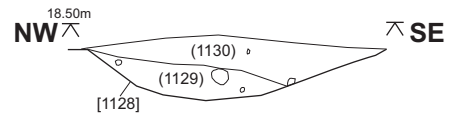
**SEC 052b SOUTH FACING SECTION THROUGH [1126]**



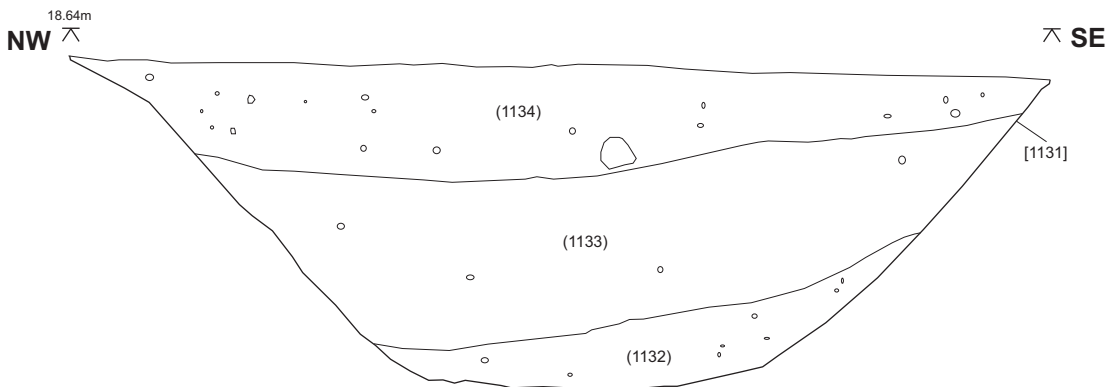
**SEC 052c WEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1122] and [1126]**



**SEC 053 SOUTH WEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1128]**

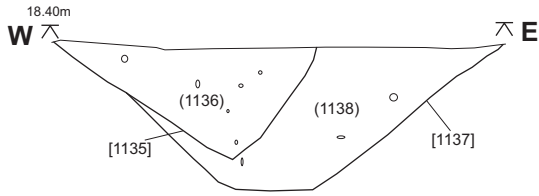


**SEC 054 SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1131]**

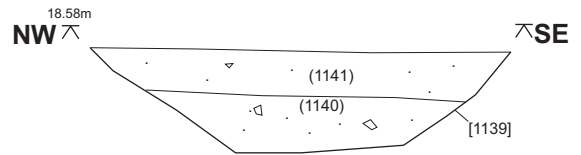


**FIGURE 19: Sections 052a to 054**

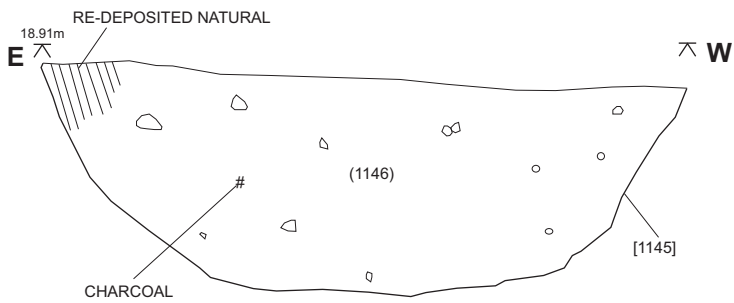
**SEC 055 SOUTH FACING SECTION THROUGH [1135] and [1137]**



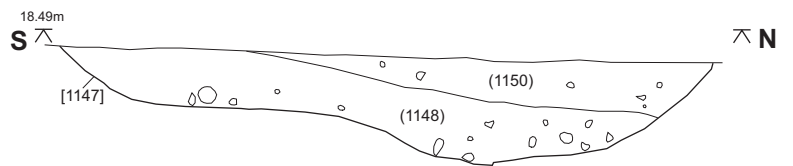
**SEC 056 SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1139]**



**SEC 057 NORTH FACING SECTION THROUGH [1145]**

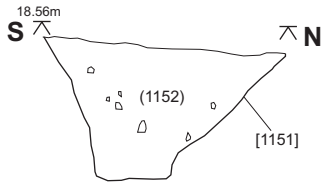


**SEC 058 EAST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1147]**

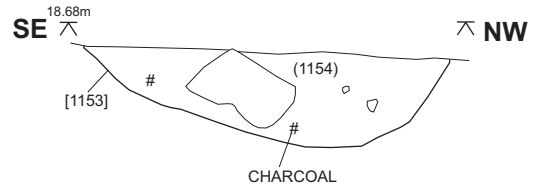


**FIGURE 20: Sections 055 to 058**

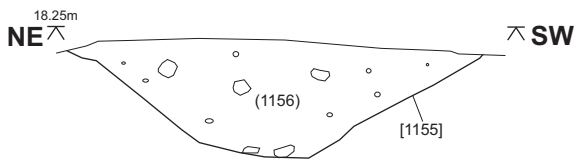
**SEC 059 EAST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1151]**



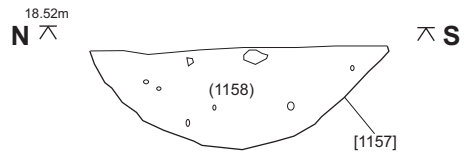
**SEC 061 NORTHEAST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1153]**



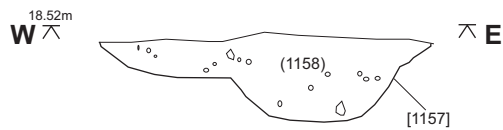
**SEC 062 NORTHWEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1155]**



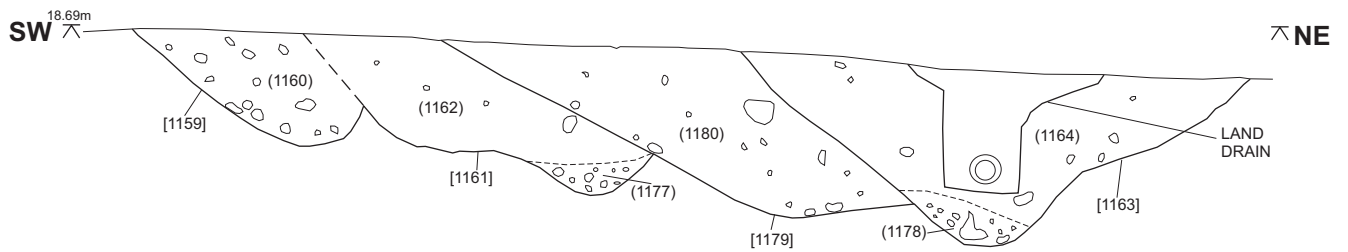
**SEC 063a WEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1157]**



**SEC 063b SOUTH FACING SECTION THROUGH [1157]**



**SEC 064 SOUTHEAST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1159], [1161], [1163] and [1179]**

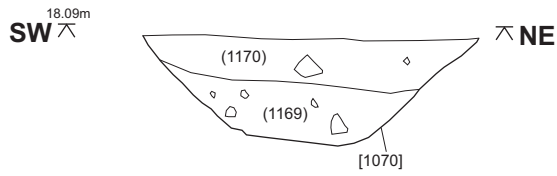


NOTE: SECTION 060 IS VOID

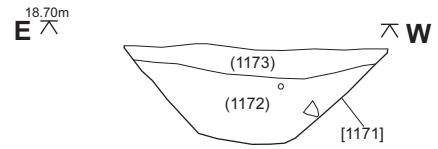


**FIGURE 21: Sections 059 to 064**

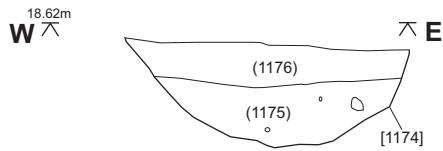
**SEC 065 SOUTHEAST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1070]**



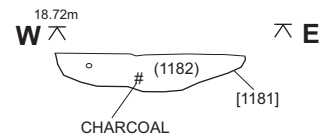
**SEC 066 NORTH FACING SECTION THROUGH [1171]**



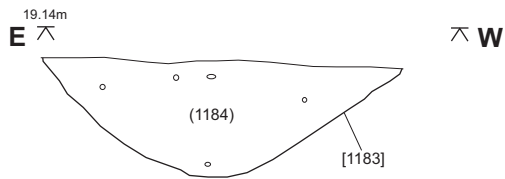
**SEC 067 SOUTH FACING SECTION THROUGH [1174]**



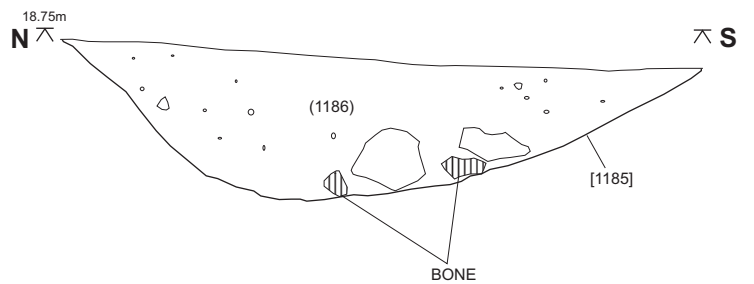
**SEC 068 SOUTH FACING SECTION THROUGH [1181]**



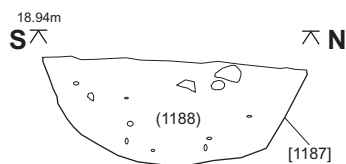
**SEC 069 NORTH FACING SECTION THROUGH [1183]**



**SEC 070 WEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1185]**

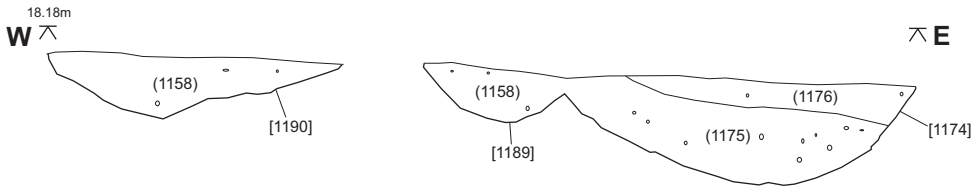


**SEC 071 EAST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1187]**

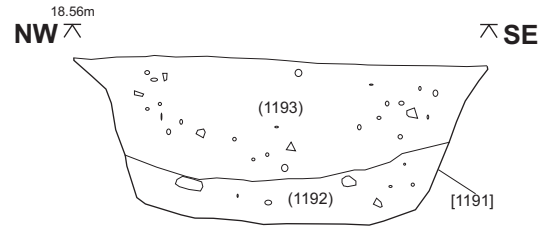


**FIGURE 22: Sections 065 to 071**

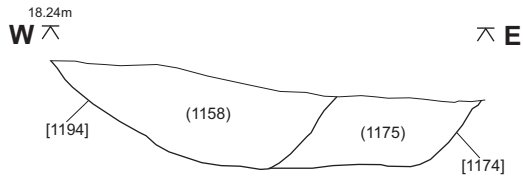
**SEC 072 SOUTH FACING SECTION THROUGH [1174], [1189] and [1190]**



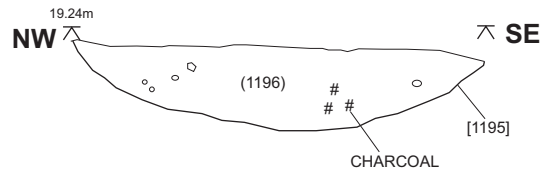
**SEC 073 SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1191]**



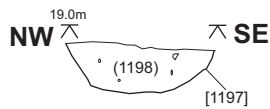
**SEC 074 SOUTH FACING SECTION THROUGH [1174] and [1194]**



**SEC 075 SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1195]**

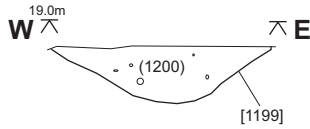


**SEC 076 SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1197]**

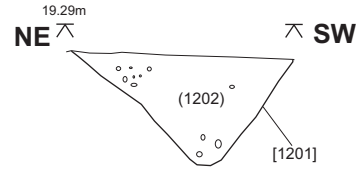


**FIGURE 23: Sections 072 to 076**

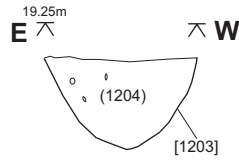
**SEC 077 SOUTH FACING SECTION THROUGH [1199]**



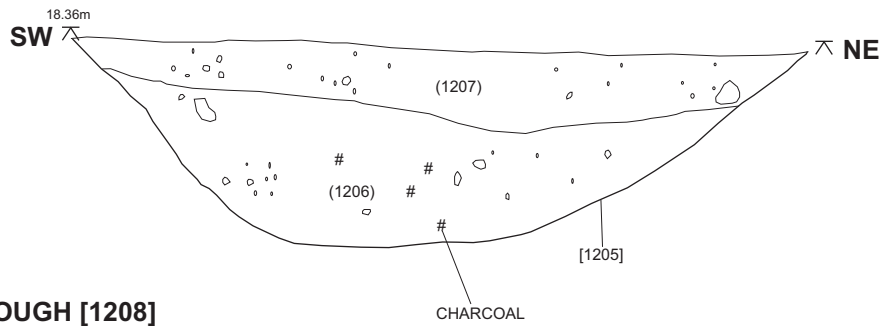
**SEC 078 NORTHWEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1201]**



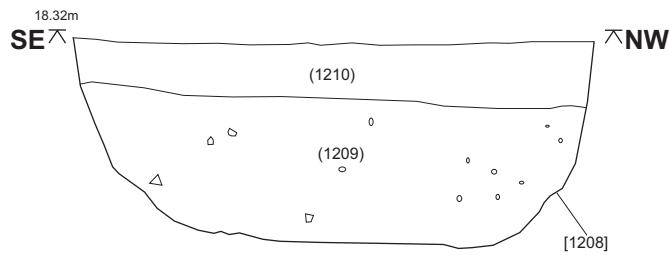
**SEC 079 NORTH FACING SECTION THROUGH [1203]**



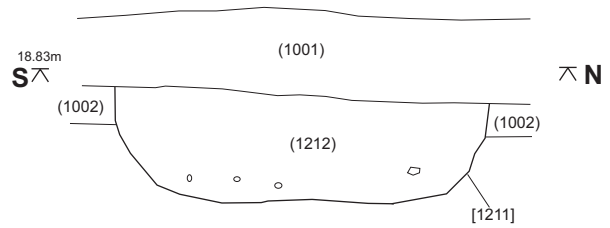
**SEC 080 SOUTHEAST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1205]**



**SEC 081 NORTHEAST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1208]**

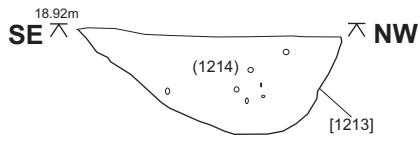


**SEC 082 EAST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1211]**

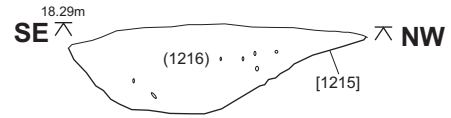


**FIGURE 24: Sections 077 to 082**

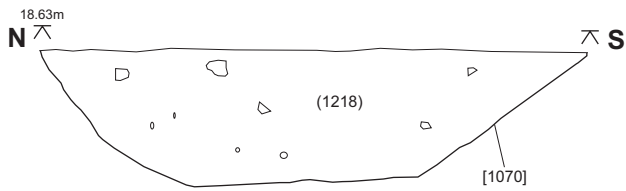
**SEC 083 NORTHEAST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1213]**



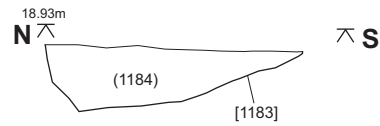
**SEC 084 NORTHEAST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1215]**



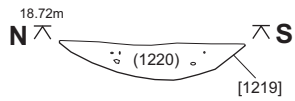
**SEC 085 WEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1070]**



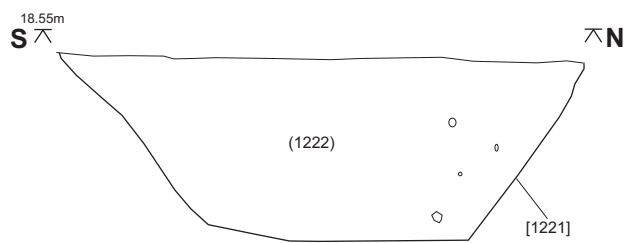
**SEC 086 WEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1183]**



**SEC 087 WEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1219]**

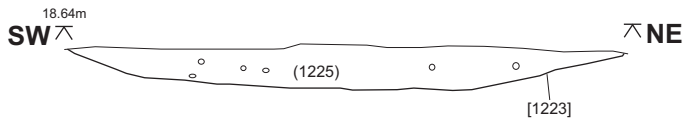


**SEC 088 EAST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1221]**

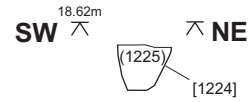


**FIGURE 25: Sections 083 to 088**

**SEC 089 SOUTHEAST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1223]**



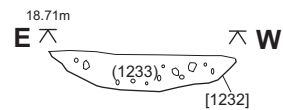
**SEC 090 SOUTHEAST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1224]**



**SEC 092 NORTH FACING SECTION THROUGH [1228] and [1230]**



**SEC 093 NORTH FACING SECTION THROUGH [1232]**



**SEC 094 EAST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1234]**



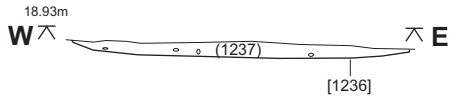
NOTE: SECTION 091 IS VOID



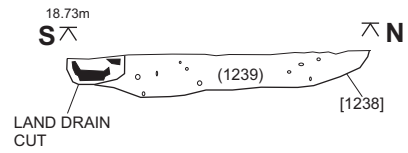
**FIGURE 26: Sections 089 to 094**



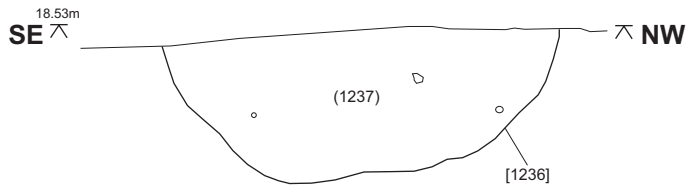
**SEC 095 SOUTH FACING SECTION THROUGH [1236]**



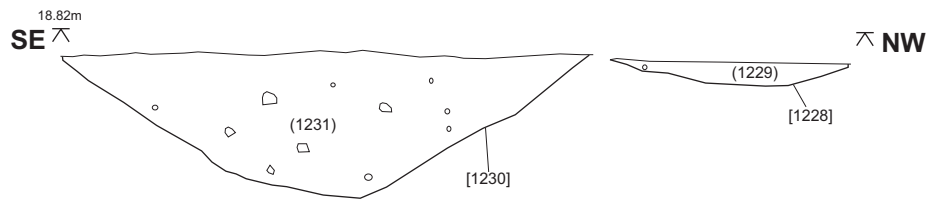
**SEC 096 EAST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1238]**



**SEC 097 NORTHEAST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1236]**



**SEC 098 NORTHEAST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1228] and [1230]**

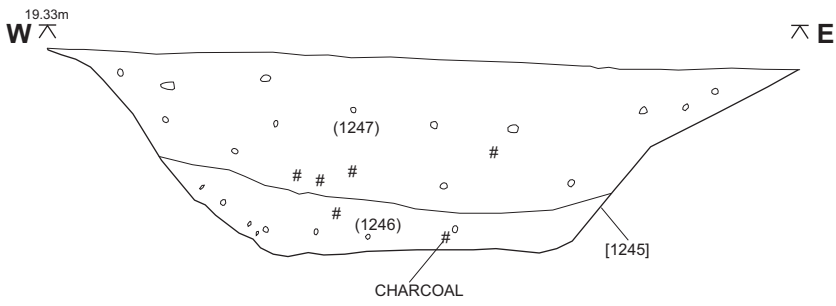


NOTE: SECTION 099 IS VOID

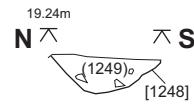


**FIGURE 27: Sections 095 to 098**

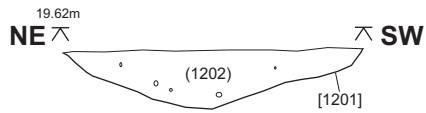
**SEC 100 SOUTH FACING SECTION THROUGH [1245]**



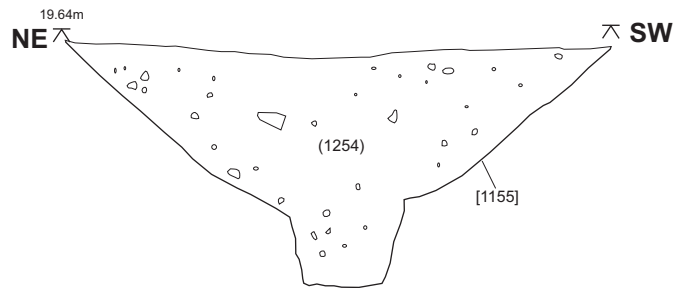
**SEC 101 WEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1248]**



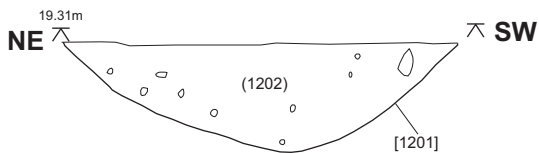
**SEC 103 NORTHWEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1201]**



**SEC 104 NORTHWEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1155]**



**SEC 105 NORTHWEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1201]**

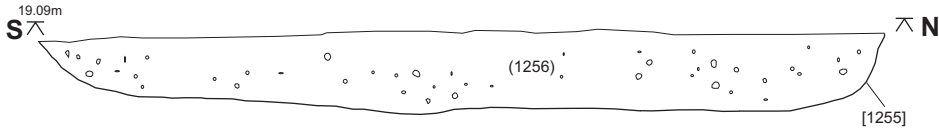


NOTE: SECTION 102 IS VOID

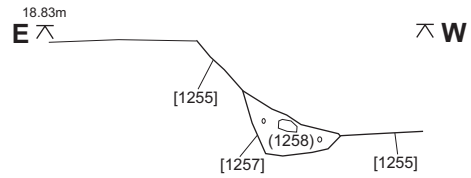


**FIGURE 28: Sections 100 to 105**

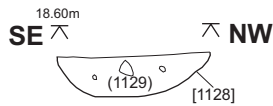
**SEC 106 EAST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1255]**



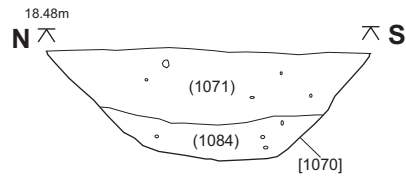
**SEC 107 NORTH FACING SECTION THROUGH [1255] and [1257]**



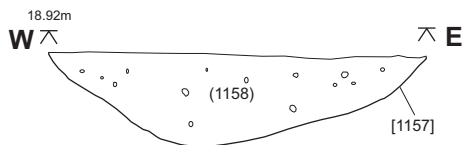
**SEC 108 NORTHEAST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1128]**



**SEC 109 WEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1070]**

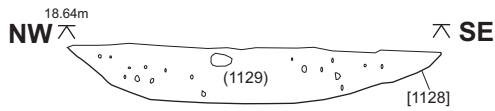


**SEC 110 SOUTH FACING SECTION THROUGH [1157]**

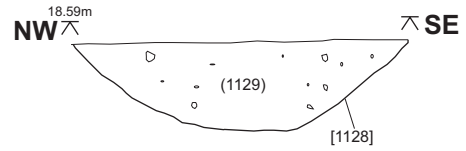


**FIGURE 29: Sections 106 to 110**

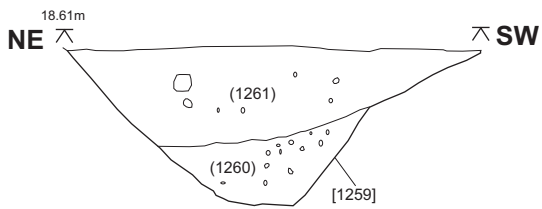
**SEC 111** SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1128]



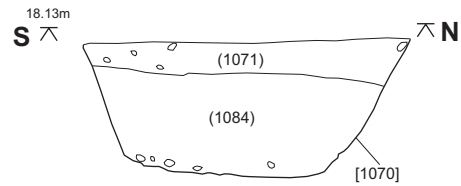
**SEC 112** SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1128]



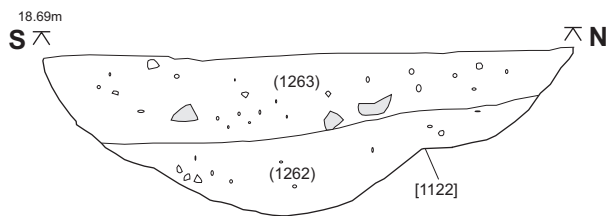
**SEC 113** NORTHWEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1259]



**SEC 114** EAST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1070]



**SEC 115** EAST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1122]

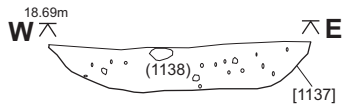


**SEC 116** WEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1117]

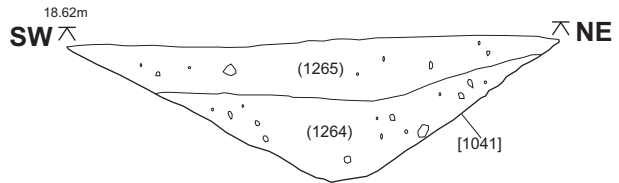


**FIGURE 30: Sections 111 to 116**

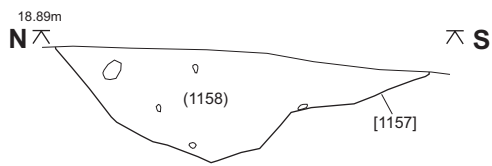
**SEC 117 SOUTH FACING SECTION THROUGH [1137]**



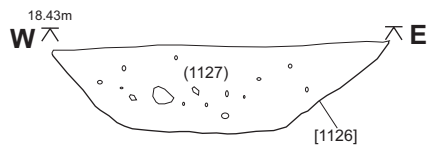
**SEC 118 SOUTHEAST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1041]**



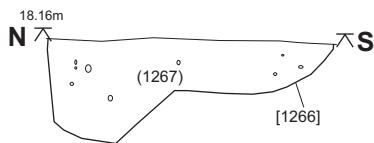
**SEC 119 WEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1157]**



**SEC 120 SOUTH FACING SECTION THROUGH [1126]**

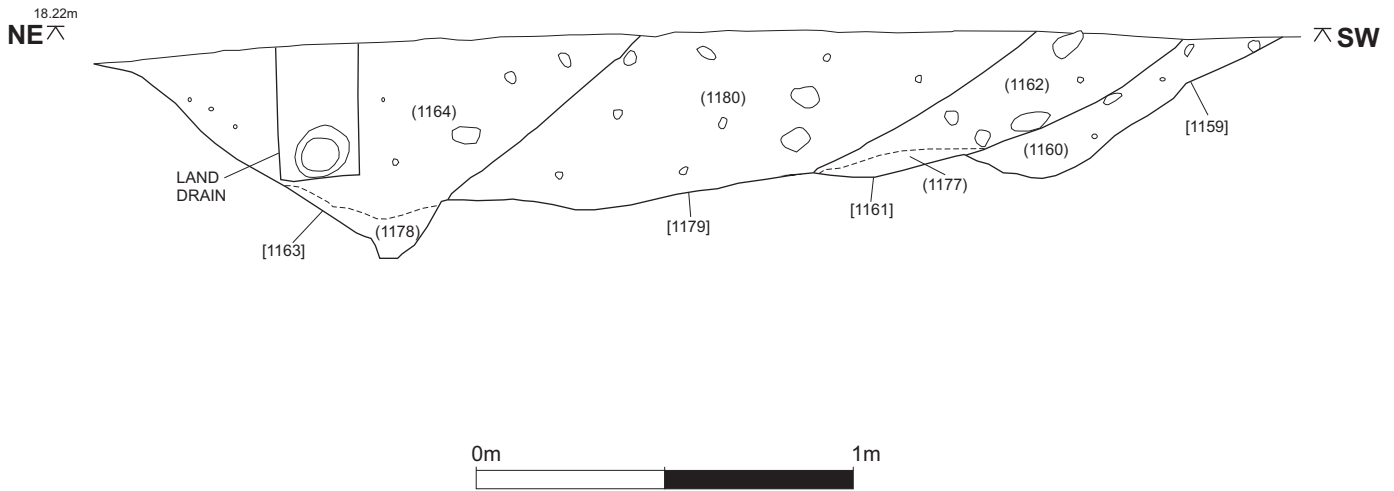


**SEC 121 WEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1266]**

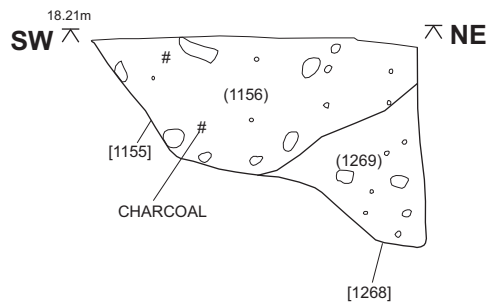


**FIGURE 31: Sections 117 to 121**

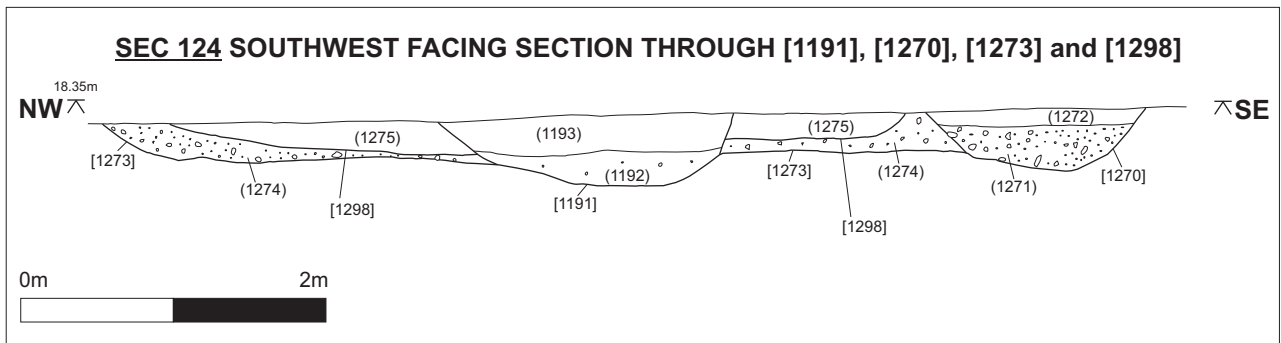
**SEC 122 NORTHWEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1159], [1161], [1163] and [1179]**



**SEC 123 SOUTHEAST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1155] and [1268]**

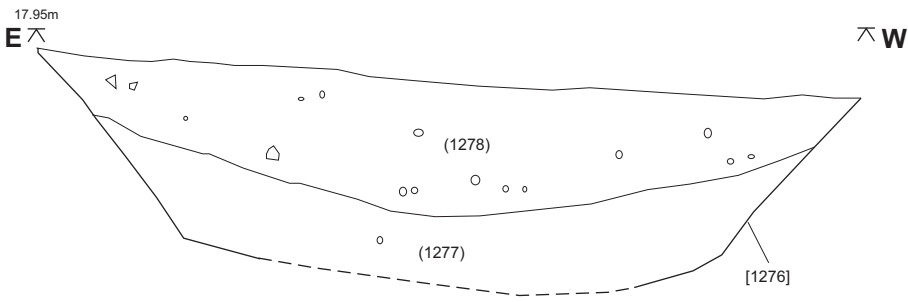


**SEC 124 SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1191], [1270], [1273] and [1298]**



**FIGURE 32: Sections 122 to 124**

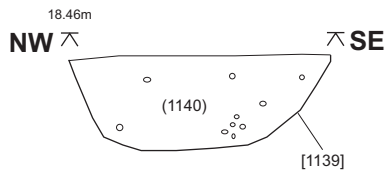
**SEC 125 NORTH FACING SECTION THROUGH [1276]**



**SEC 126 NORTH FACING SECTION THROUGH [1279]**



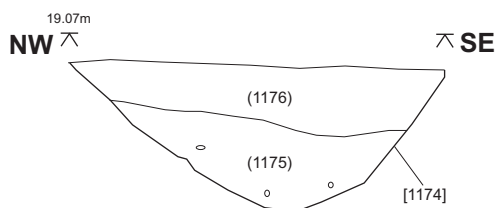
**SEC 127 SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1139]**



**SEC 128 NORTHEAST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1139]**

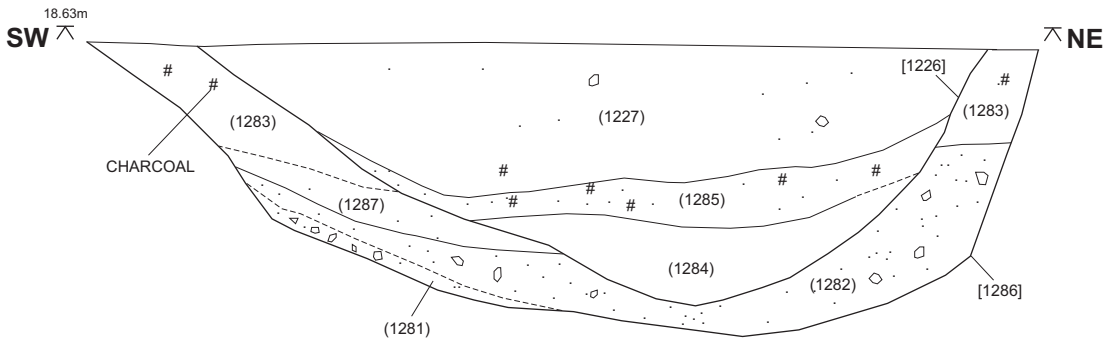


**SEC 129 SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1174]**

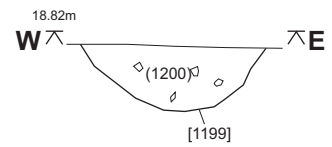


**FIGURE 33: Sections 125 to 129**

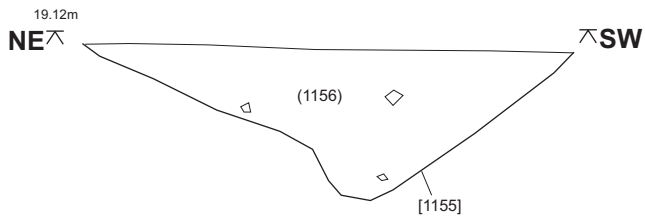
**SEC 130 SOUTHEAST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1226] and [1286]**



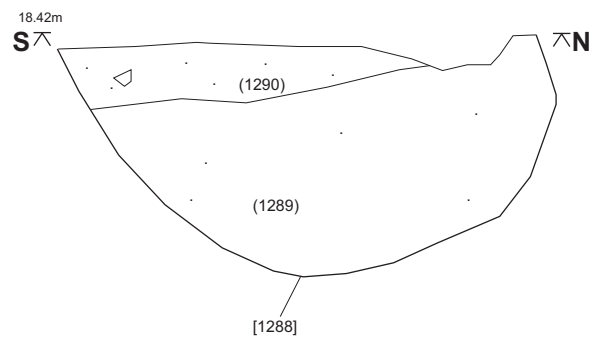
**SEC 131 SOUTH FACING SECTION THROUGH [1199]**



**SEC 132 NORTHWEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1155]**



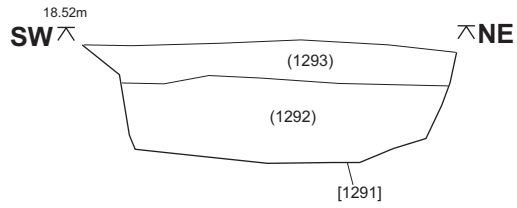
**SEC 133 EAST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1288]**



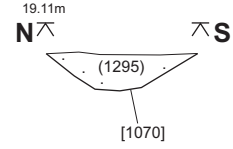
**FIGURE 34: Sections 130 to 133**



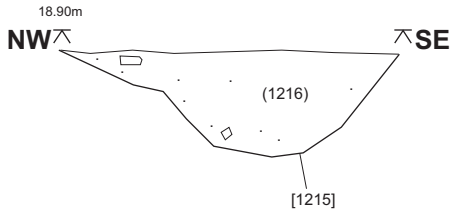
**SEC 134 SOUTHEAST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1291]**



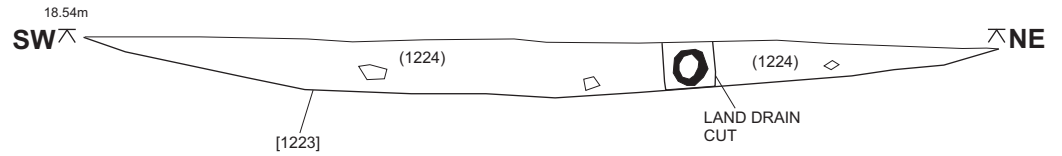
**SEC 135 WEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1070]**



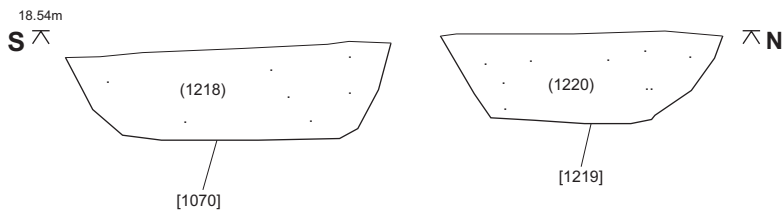
**SEC 136 SOUTHWEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1215]**



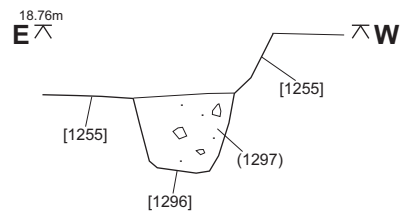
**SEC 137 SOUTHEAST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1223]**



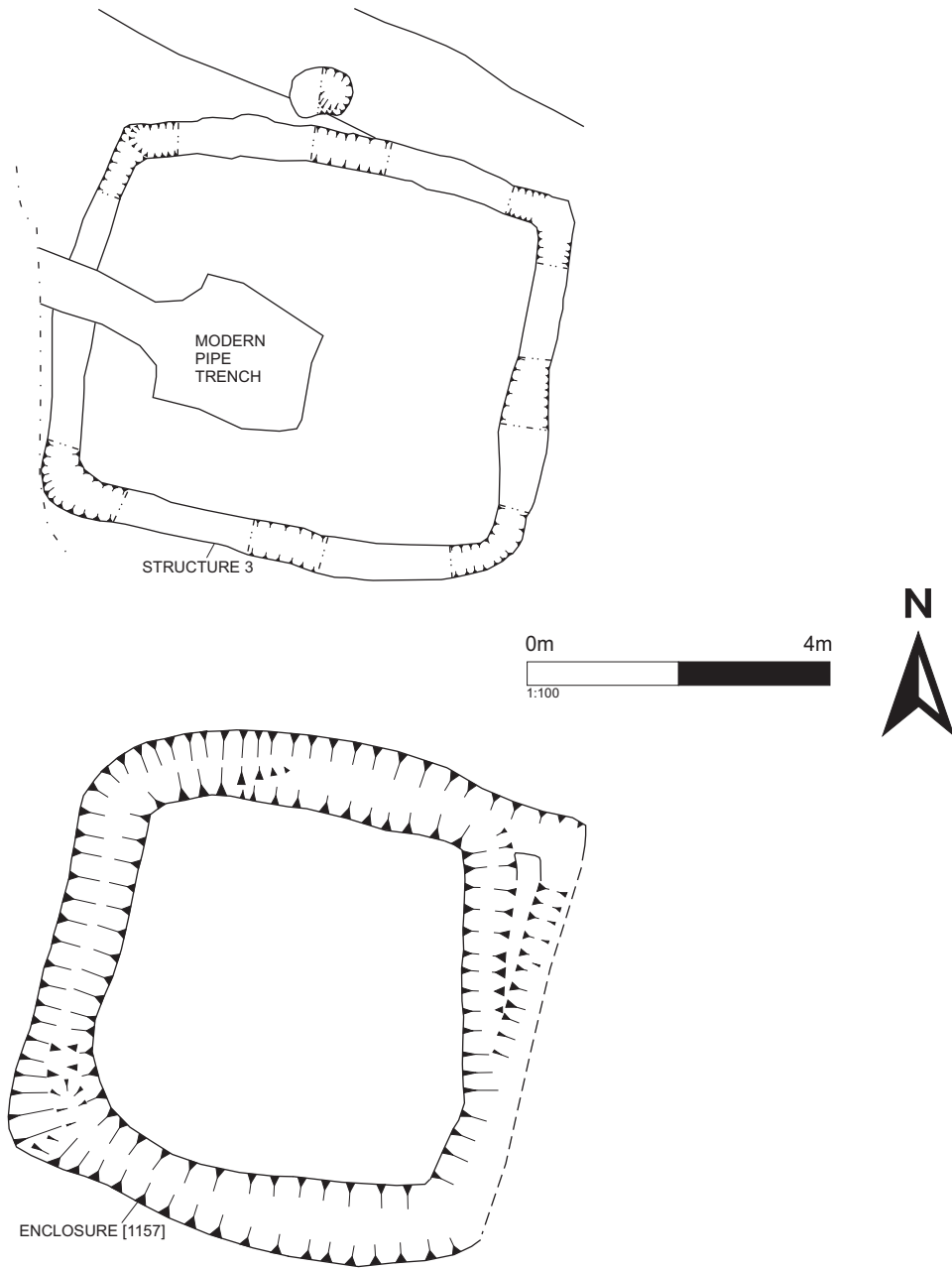
**SEC 138 EAST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1070] and [1219]**



**SEC 139 NORTH FACING SECTION THROUGH [1255] and [1296]**



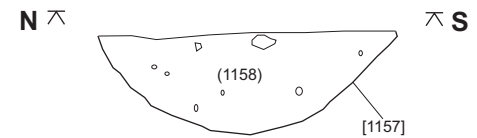
**FIGURE 35: Sections 134 to 139**



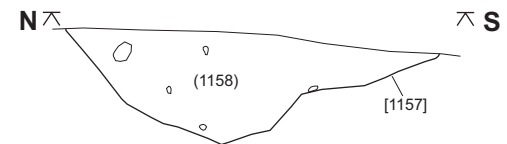
**EAST FACING SECTION THROUGH STRUCTURE 3**



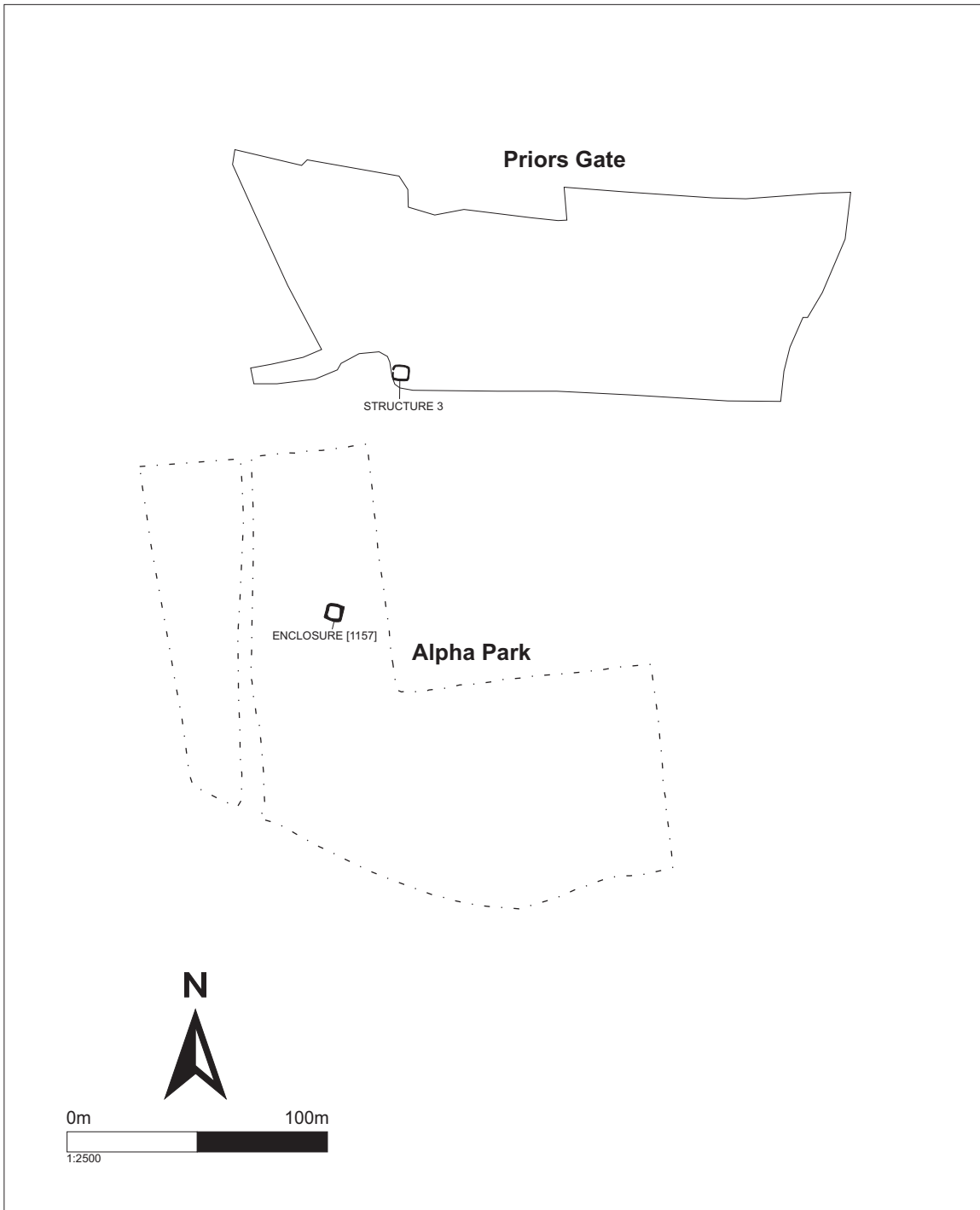
**SEC 063a WEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1157]**



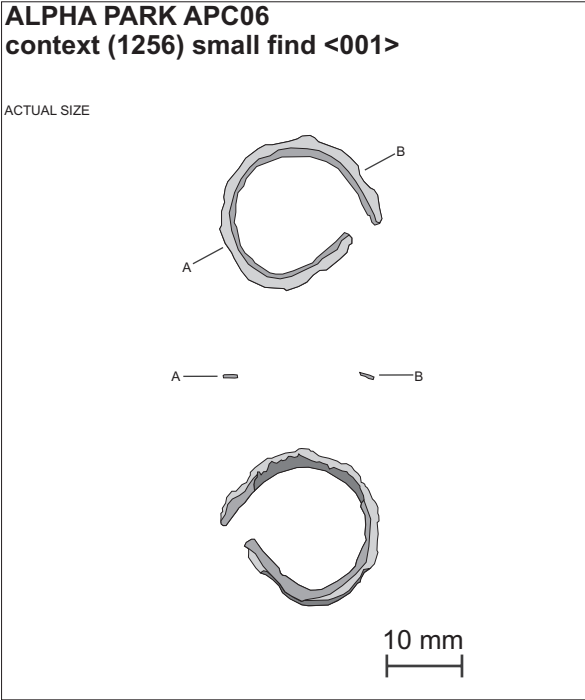
**SEC 119 WEST FACING SECTION THROUGH [1157]**



**FIGURE 36: Enclosure [1157] and Structure 3; Comparative Plans and Sections**



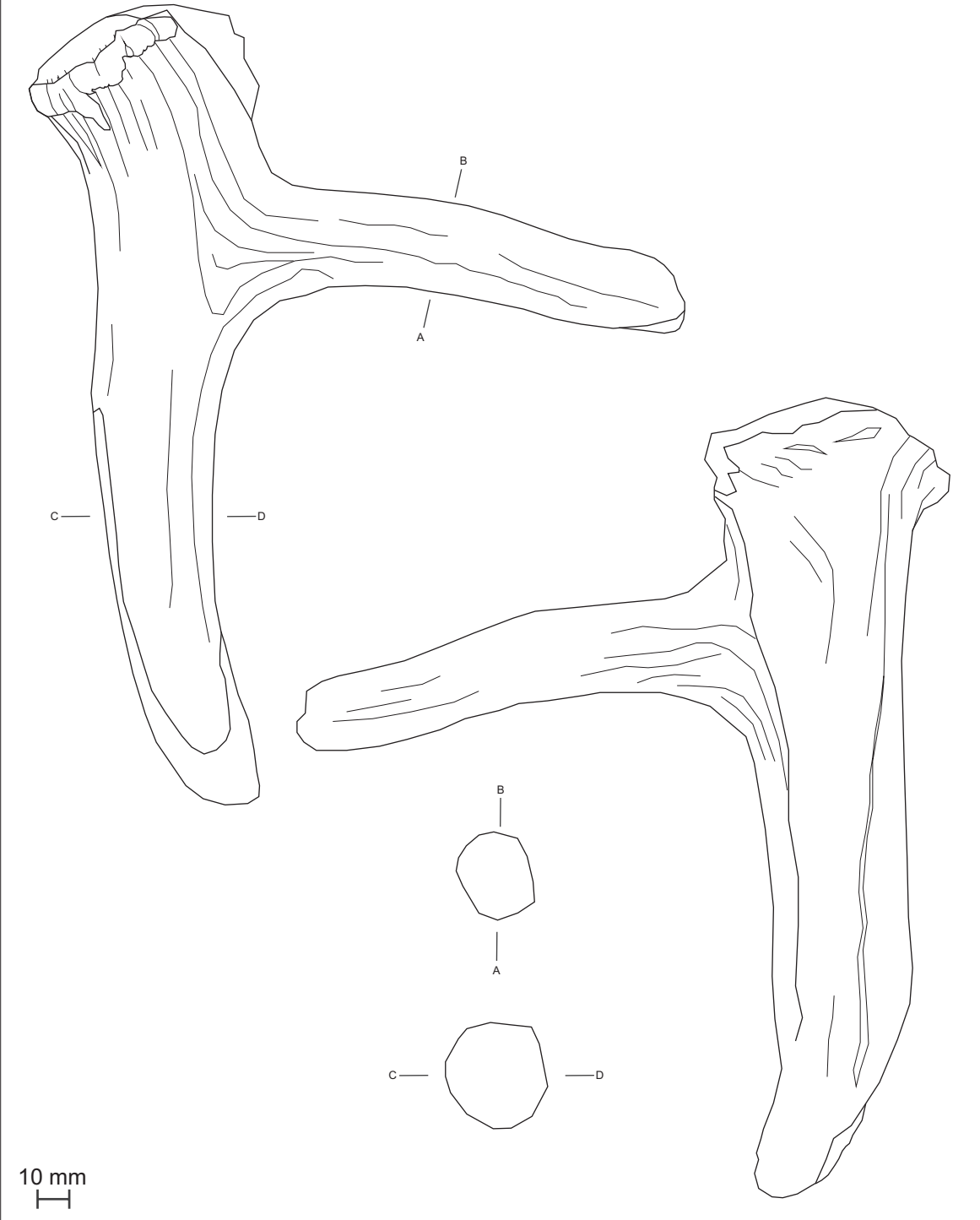
**FIGURE 37: Relative Locations of Enclosure [1157] and Structure 3**



**FIGURE 38: Drawing of Small Find 001**

**ALPHA PARK APC06**  
**context (1282) small find <002>**

HALF ACTUAL SIZE



**FIGURE 39: Drawing of Small Find 002**