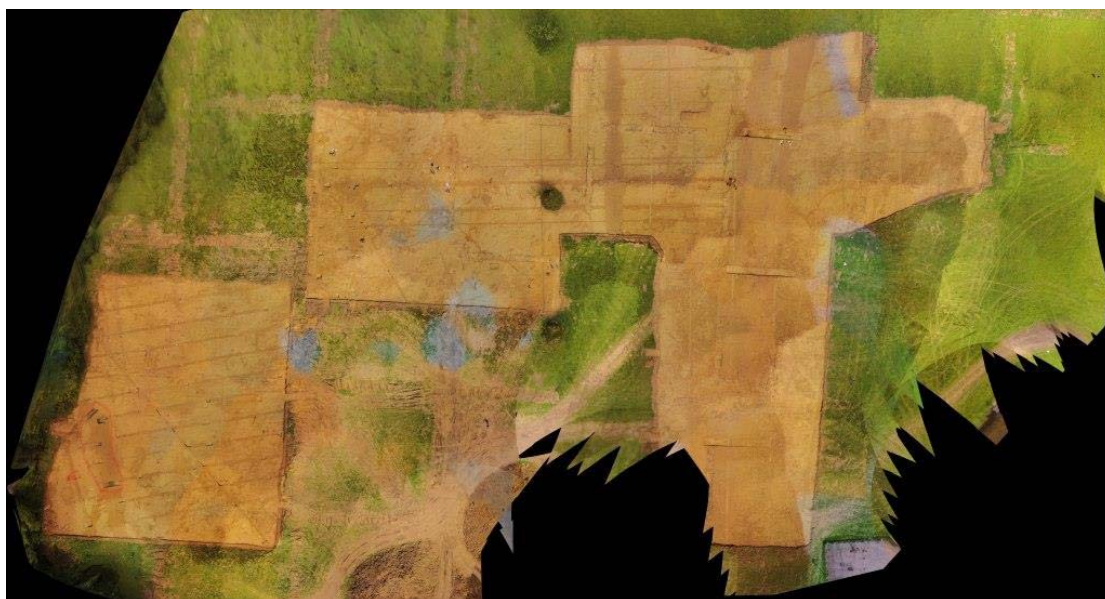


**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS AT
ACCESS ROUTE AND WESTERN PORTION OF THE
LONDON ROAD NORTH ENTERPRISE ZONE,
HARLOW, ESSEX**

**POST-EXCAVATION ASSESSMENT AND
UPDATED PROJECT DESIGN REPORT**

NGR: TL 47120 10580

**ASE Project No: 8153
ASE Report No: 2014247**



Kate Clover

**With contributions by Lucy Allott, Trista Clifford, Anna
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January 2015

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Abstract

This report presents the results of the archaeological excavation carried out by Archaeology South-East (ASE) on land adjacent to London Road, Harlow. The fieldwork was commissioned by Essex Highways in advance of construction of a new access road for a proposed commercial development within the western portion of the London Road North Enterprise Zone and was targeted on an area of archaeological potential identified by the earlier evaluation of the site (ASE 2014).

Interim analysis of the stratigraphic, finds and environmental material generated by this fieldwork has provided a provisional chronology and interpretation of site development, and has enabled assessment of site significance and potential archive to address the original research aims of the project.

Located on the east side of Harlow, significant archaeological remains have previously been found in the surrounding vicinity, most notably a Middle Iron Age enclosure and field boundary in the grounds of Mark Hall School and both Roman and Early Saxon buildings at the ongoing New Hall residential development site.

Excavations of the 1.45ha area exposed and recorded a multi-period sequence of archaeological remains, seemingly spanning the later prehistoric to Post-medieval periods. Although their relative sequencing is understood, their precise chronology is as yet unclear. While provisional dating is offered, this is subject to the results of a programme of targeted scientific dating that is a further stage of analytical work.

A scatter of Bronze Age or Early Iron Age pits and postholes, and possibly early/middle Iron Age field system boundaries indicate a late prehistoric presence at this location in the landscape.

The first tangible phase of land-use is currently dated to the Late Iron Age / Early Roman transition period, when two extensive complexes of very regular parallel ditches/gullies were imposed on the landscape. Similar features have been discovered elsewhere in Essex and the surrounding counties and varying interpretations and dates have been assigned to them. They are tentatively interpreted here as 'bedding trenches' for large-scale horticulture. Four undated cremation burials and a cattle burial may also date to this phase of land-use.

This location continued to be intensively managed for agricultural purposes through the Roman period as demonstrated by the laying out of a rectilinear field system in the area in between, and with reference to, the two horticultural complexes. This field system respected the 'bedding trenches' and perpetuated some of them as boundaries. Within one of the smaller Roman enclosures of this field system were the remains of a building constructed of broken Roman brick and roof tile. This may be of Roman date, or else be a later building making use of available Roman building material.

A north-south aligned trackway was seemingly inserted into this pre-existing horticultural and agricultural landscape, perhaps replacing a former lesser routeway. The gravelled track surface incorporated Roman brick and tile, presumably deriving from a robbed building located in the wider vicinity. The date of this trackway is particularly uncertain.

No positive evidence for Anglo-Saxon or medieval activity was found. However, several excavated pits did not contain any datable finds. Some of these cut into Late Iron Age and Roman ditches, and could therefore be post-Roman.

There appears to have been a hiatus in occupation and use of the area until the later medieval / post-medieval period. Land-use at this time appears to have been agricultural, lying just outside the farmstead of Cold Hall. A small part of the homestead ditch/moat was encountered at the south-west corner of the excavation. This, and a substantial field boundary ditch in the middle of the site, corresponds with early 17th century cartographic evidence.

The recorded remains are judged to be of sufficient local to regional significance to merit further analysis and interpretation, culminating in the production of a publication report. However, as it is understood that an additional phase of site investigation is likely to take place, it is proposed that the majority of this further work is deferred until all fieldwork is completed. Consequently, a small number of dating-related tasks are identified to be carried out subsequent to the issue of this report, with other analytical and publication reporting tasks held over with the intention that these are amalgamated with those for any subsequent site investigation undertaken.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Location

- 1.1.1 The 4.21 hectare development area is situated on the eastern side of Harlow between Mark Hall South and Church Langley, centred on NGR TL47121058 (Figure 1). The western boundary is formed by the A414 and the eastern boundary by London Road. To the north is Mark Hall Academy (formerly Mark Hall School) and to the south are buildings of Arrow Electronics.
- 1.1.2 The development area is within a sports field and areas of rough grass (Figure 1), bounded by mature hedgerows along the roadsides and the northern boundary, and by an access road, tennis courts and other sports infrastructure to the south. There is a gentle slope from the southwest of the site to the northeast with altitudes varying between 78.7m AOD and 72m AOD. This slope is reflected in the heights of the underlying boulder clay which varies between 78.28m AOD to 71.62m.
- 1.1.3 The excavation took place across a 1.45ha area within the development area, centred on the footprint of the proposed new access road (Figure 1).

1.2 Natural Geology and Topography

- 1.2.1 According to the British Geological Survey (BGS Geology of Britain Viewer; Accessed 11/12/2013), the superficial geology of the site is the glacial till (or 'boulder clay') of the Lowestoft Formation – Diamicton. The underlying solid geology comprises London Clay, giving way to the northeast to the Thanet Sand Formation and the clay, silt and sand of the Lambeth Group (undifferentiated).
- 1.2.2 During fieldwork the boulder clay was observed to be a light yellowish brown clay with chalk and flint inclusions. The boulder clay was interspersed by patches of reddish sand. Two types of fossilised sea creatures were commonly found on the surface of the boulder clay during the course of the excavation; a type of bivalve, not dissimilar to an oyster, called *gryphea* (commonly known as 'Devil's toenails'); and numerous belemnites. These Jurassic fossils originally derived from the Oxford Clay of the Midlands and were moved to their present location and brought to the surface by the action of the Anglian ice sheet (Lucy 1999, 69, 78).

1.3 Scope of the Project

- 1.3.1 The Harlow Enterprise Zone is one of 24 Enterprise Zones across the country that have been set up by the Government, in association with public and private sector partners, in areas that have the most potential for business growth and job creation. The Harlow Enterprise Zone is split in to two main sites, London Road (comprising London Road North and London Road South) and Templefields North East. In order to facilitate the advancement of the London Road North element of the scheme, a new access road and other highway improvements are required. In connection with this, Essex Highways intend to create a new access road onto/ across the site.
- 1.3.2 ECC Place Services, in their capacity as advisor to the Local Planning Authority, had advised that the development has the capacity to damage or destroy any

archaeological remains that are present. In accordance with guidance contained in the Nation Planning Policy Framework (DCLG 2012), ECC Place Services requested that in the first instance a programme of archaeological works be undertaken to determine the presence or absence and significance of any surviving archaeological deposits/features within the development area.

- 1.3.3 Accordingly, an initial trench-based evaluation of the site was undertaken in January 2014 (Chew 2014), which demonstrated the survival of archaeological remains in several parts of the site that would be damaged or destroyed by development works. Consequently, ECC Place Services advised that in order to mitigate the impact of the development upon the historic environment, the excavation of these threatened remains would be required to ensure their preservation by record prior to destruction. Two excavation areas were subsequently identified (Areas 1 and 2), totalling 1.44ha in extent (Figure 3).
- 1.3.3 The excavation was undertaken by ASE, the contracting division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology (CAA) which is part of the Institute of Archaeology (IoA), University College London (UCL). It was carried out between 25th March and 20th June 2014. The site was staffed by ASE archaeologists, directed by Kate Clover and project managed by Adrian Scruby. The post-excavation work was managed by Mark Atkinson.

1.4 Archaeological methodology

- 1.4.1 The site-specific fieldwork methodology was originally set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation (ASE 2014) which was approved by ECC Place Services.

Excavation Strategy

- 1.4.2 The excavation was carried out in two blocks. Area 1 was a 0.38ha area on the western side of the site and Area 2 was a 1.07ha to the east, collectively comprising an area of approximately 1.45ha (see Figure 3). Area 1 was stripped first and then Area 2 was stripped while hand excavation commenced on Area 1. Spoil was separated into two separate heaps of topsoil and subsoil and stockpiled between the two areas.
- 1.4.3 All excavation areas were machine stripped using a tracked mechanical 360° excavator. All mechanical excavation was undertaken using toothless ditching bucket under the direct supervision of experienced archaeologists. Grass and topsoil was removed first followed by subsoil, down to the level of the natural boulder clay, at which level archaeological features were exposed. Care was taken not to machine off seemingly homogenous layers that might have been the upper parts of archaeological features. The resultant surfaces were cleaned as necessary and a pre-excavation plan prepared using Global Positioning System (GPS) planning technology in combination with Total Station surveying.
- 1.4.4 This pre-excavation plan was produced in Autocad and PDF format and printed at a suitable scale (1:20 or 1:50) for on-site use. It was made available to the Project Manager, the Supervisor and the ECC Place Services Monitoring Officer immediately, or at the latest the day after the recording had taken place. The plan was updated by regular visits to site by Archaeology South-East Surveyors who plotted excavated features and recorded levels in close consultation with the

Supervisor. Where necessary (for example detailed structural features) features were hand planned at a scale of 1:20 and then digitised to be included on the overall plan.

1.4.5 After the cleaning and planning of the excavation areas, the following sampling strategy was employed:

- All structures and all zones of specialised activity (e.g. cremation burials and possible cremations burials) were fully excavated and all relationships recorded.
- Any articulated animal skeletons were fully excavated
- 'Bedding trenches' had all relationships defined, investigated and recorded (apart from areas where relationships had already been destroyed by post-medieval field drains). All terminals were excavated. Sufficient of each feature length was excavated to determine the character of the feature over its entire course and the possibility of recuts. At least 10% of each of the bedding trenches were excavated unless dating evidence had been retrieved from the feature already in which case the monitoring officer agreed that a lesser amount of the feature length could be excavated.
- Other ditches and gullies had all relationships defined, investigated and recorded (apart from areas where relationships had already been destroyed by post-medieval field drains). All terminals were excavated. At least 10% of the feature lengths were excavated or enough to determine the character of the feature over its entire course, its date and the possibility of recuts.
- Pits and postholes were half sectioned.
- For the gravel trackway three machine slots were initially dug through it in order to record it in section i.e. two re-excavated trial trenches (T23 and T38) and one further machine-dug slot to the south. T23 was also extended to the west by hand in order to gain a full profile of the trackway. When it became clear that the gravel sealed earlier features it was decided to bring a mechanical excavator back on site and strip more of the gravel away down to natural boulder clay. Areas targeted for stripping were those where underlying linear features were anticipated to intersect. In total, approximately 40% of the gravel was stripped off during the evaluation and excavation.
- For layers, a decision on-site was made as to the extent that they were excavated. The factors governing the judgement included the possibility that they masked earlier remains, the need to understand function and depositional processes, and the necessity to recover sufficient artefacts to date the deposit and to meet the project aims.
- All tree holes were recorded on the pre-excavation plan. The majority of small to medium sized tree holes were half-sectioned. For larger tree holes a large enough section was dug through them to determine that they were not archaeological. Apart from one tree hole, no finds were retrieved them, therefore a judgement was made towards the end of the fieldwork that it was not worthwhile half-sectioning all of them.
- Several other types of non-archaeological feature recorded on the pre-excavation plan and excavated, i.e. ice wedges that had the appearance of elongated pits; shallow hollows in the natural, shallow former hedgelines and a series of irregular curving linears in Area 2 that were filled with reddish orange sandy clay and were thought at first to be ditches, but are more likely to be glacial features.

- 1.4.6 All excavated deposits and features were recorded according to current professional standards using the standard context record sheets used by ASE.
- 1.4.7 A full digital photographic record of all features was maintained. This illustrates the principal features and finds both in detail and in a general context. The photographic record also includes working shots to represent more generally the nature of the fieldwork. In addition, high-definition aerial photographic coverage of the excavation area was undertaken using a UAV helicopter in order to produce a rectified and geo-referenced image of the site.
- 1.4.8 All finds recovered from excavated deposits were collected and retained in line with the ASE artefacts collection policy.
- 1.4.9 No finds of gold or silver or anything that qualified as Treasure under the Treasure Act were retrieved.
- 1.4.10 The excavation area and spoilheaps were metal detected for artefact recovery.

Environmental Sampling Strategy

- 1.4.11 The site provided opportunity to examine and process environmental material from a relatively large area within the rural context. On-site sampling methodology, processing and recording was undertaken within the guidelines laid out by English Heritage (2002).
- 1.4.12 Samples were collected from suitable excavated contexts, including cremation burials, well-sealed slowly silted features, and sealed features containing evident carbonised remains, or evidence of water-logging.
- 1.4.13 The sampling aimed to recover spatial and temporal information concerning the occupation of the site. A range of feature types (pits, ditches, post-holes and cremation burials) were sampled from across the site, the fills of which can be compared and contrasted. Where clearly defined fills were evident within features or in large features with superficially homogenous fills, stratified data was obtained by taking multiple samples spread through the deposits.
- 1.4.14 A standard bulk sample size of 40 litres (or 100% of small features) was taken from dated/datable sealed contexts to recover environmental remains such as fish, small mammals, molluscs and botanicals.

1.6 Organisation of the Report

- 1.6.1 This post-excavation assessment (PXA) and updated project design (UPD) has been prepared in accordance with the guidelines laid out in *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)*, *Project Planning Notes 3 (PPN3): Archaeological Excavation* (English Heritage 2008).
- 1.6.2 The report seeks to place the results from the site within its local archaeological and historical setting to: quantify and summarise the results; specify their significance and potential, including any capacity to address the original research aims, listing any new research criteria; and to lay out what further analysis work is required to enable their final dissemination, and what form the latter should take.

- 1.6.3 Following on from previous archaeological evaluation conducted by Archaeology South-East (ASE 2014a; Figure 2) work at the site ran as a single excavation, with the finds and environmental archives all recorded under a single site code: HALRN14
- 1.6.4 Where appropriate the results from the evaluation has been integrated and assessed with the results from the main excavation.

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Overview of the archaeology of Harlow

2.1.1 The following is mainly taken from the Historic town assessment report for Harlow which forms part of the Extensive Urban Survey for Essex (Essex County Council 1999).

Pre-Iron Age

2.1.2 The evidence of the Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic consists largely of scattered flint flakes and tools. The Bronze Age is better represented by a line of burial sites along the southern bank of the River Stort including a group of eight burial urns at the Roman temple site.

Iron Age

2.1.3 In the Iron Age Harlow lay within the border zone between two major tribal groups – the Catavellauni to the west and the Trinovantes to the east, with the River Stort perhaps forming the border (Branigan 1987). The hill south of the River Stort (situated 1.7km north of the site) continued to have ritual significance. Here was excavated a roundhouse of mid to late Iron Age date and ancillary structures as well as numerous Iron Age coins, small finds and animal bones. The quantity and distribution pattern of the Iron Age coins, coupled with what appeared to be deliberate damage to the small finds suggests that the site had ritual significance rather than a domestic function, prompting some to interpret the roundhouse as a cult centre or temple. Coins of Late Iron Age date were also discovered in the Holbrooks area, to the north-east of Temple Hill.

Roman

2.1.4 A small town developed in the Roman period, focussed around a temple (Scheduled monument 62) which was built on the small hill to the south of the River Stort, not far from Harlow Mill Station within what is now an industrial estate. This developed from the existing Iron Age temple. The Roman town appears to have grown up in response to the temple, although it is also thought to have had a function as a market. Like many Trinovantian small towns it reflects a continuation in occupation from the Late Iron Age antecedents rather than a planned determination (Wickenden 1996, 93). There is a Roman villa to the north of Gilden Way (Scheduled Monument 24860).

Anglo-Saxon

2.1.5 Evidence of Anglo-Saxon occupation in Harlow comes from the placename and archaeological evidence. 'Harlow' derives from the Old English for either 'army hill' or 'temple hill' and refers to the hill south of the River Stort where there is a Roman temple and an Anglo-Saxon building, possibly a shrine. Sunken Featured Buildings were recorded at the Gilden Way excavations (Germany 2008) and, most recently, at New Hall (Dyson in prep).

2.1.6 By the end of the Saxon period Harlow was the centre of the Saxon administrative division known as the Harlow Hundred which stretched from Roydon to Halingbury.

Medieval

- 2.1.7 During the medieval period, occupation focussed to the north of the site at Old Harlow. Here, a town grew up on the east-west Hertford to Dunmow road. The settlement grew as a result of being granted the right to hold a fair and a market on the site in 1218. A medieval pottery industry grew up to the south of the town in the Potter Street area in the 13th century and two kilns dating to c. 1500 have been found on Harlow Common.

Post-Medieval

- 2.1.8 There appears to have been a period of depression in the post-medieval period with the market being held only sporadically. However it was during this period that Harlow rose to archaeological prominence due to its pottery industry which supplied the bulk of the slipware pottery found in London.

2.2 Specific Site background

- 2.2.1 A desk-based assessment was prepared for the site in January 2013 (ECC Place Services 2013), and much of the following is drawn from there. EHER numbers refer to The Essex Historic Environment Record and are shown on Figure 1 (unlockingessex.essexcc.gov.uk and <http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk>).
- 2.2.2 The cropmark of a ring-ditch has been plotted from the air, approximately 250m south of the site, in the playing field. This probably represents the site of a Bronze Age burial mound (EHER 19373). To the east of the site aerial photography and evaluation at the New Hall Farm development has identified further ring ditches (EHER 17810; EHER 46442 and 46443; Gibson 2000; Drake et al 2004). The presence of these ploughed out Bronze Age barrows has been confirmed by recent excavation on the site which found a Beaker burial in one such feature (Dyson in prep). New Hall has also produced evidence for a Romano-British occupation and field systems (Drake et al 2004) and the more recent excavations at New Hall have brought to light an Iron Age watering hole, extensive Roman field systems as well as two Sunken Featured Buildings of probable Saxon date (Dyson in prep).
- 2.2.3 Trial trenching and excavation in 2004 (EHER 46337) in connection with the construction of a new sports facility at Mark Hall School to the north of the site uncovered a range of archaeological remains dating from the Middle Iron Age, Roman and post-medieval periods. The Middle Iron Age activity was marked by a sinuous field boundary ditch running north-south, perhaps a cattle pen or corral. Laid in this ditch was a lamb burial. To the north-west of, and possibly adjoining, the field boundary was part of a sub-circular enclosure, measuring c. 50m in diameter. Associated with the enclosure were two small pits containing 'placed deposits' of cattle remains. The enclosure and animal remains did not contain any dating evidence and were dated on typological grounds to the Middle Iron Age. The Roman features did not provide any firm evidence for the nature of the land-use/ occupation during this period beyond confirming that there was activity in the area. A series of eight parallel north-south gullies were exposed on the western side of the excavation area which were initially interpreted as Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age, based on the flint-tempered pottery in their fills (Barker 2004; Robertson 2004a). These were later re-interpreted as being late post-medieval in

date, probably Napoleonic ridge and furrow (Robertson 2004b). Running east-west between these gullies was a gravelled trackway which is shown on a map of Mark Hall estate dated 1819 (ERO D/Dar T33). There is a distance of some 230m between the Mark Hall excavations and the current site.

- 2.2.4 The postulated line of the Roman road (EHER 3631) from London to Bishops Stortford (and ultimately Great Chesterford and Cambridge) ran past the western boundary of the site. The important find of 'Felmongers pit' (EHER 3582) lies immediately adjacent to the suggested line of this Roman road, only 100m west of the western boundary of the site. It is a pit found in a back garden on Felmongers which was filled with hundreds of Roman pottery sherds, glass vessels, cooking vessels, samian pottery building debris and personal items. This rubbish deposit dates to AD 150-170 and derives from a high status house, as yet undiscovered.
- 2.2.5 500-600m to the south and south-east of the site, archaeological fieldwork (field-walking, watching briefs and excavation) on the Church Langley development in the late 1980s and 1990s also recovered sites dating to the Bronze Age, Roman and post-medieval periods (EHER 9141, 47656, 14359). Early Iron Age occupation was identified on the Perry Springs Wood and Tesco sites, a Roman farmstead on the Old House site and evidence for post-medieval pottery industry on the Tesco, Fullers Mead and Laundry Farm sites (Medlycott 1992 and 2000; Atkinson 1992; Ecclestone 1993).
- 2.2.6 Cartographic sources, namely the Parish map of Latton 1616 (ERO D/Dar P1) and the Mark Hall Estate Map of 1819 (ERO D/DAR T33), show that the site lay to the south-east of Mark Hall and east of its deer park. On the map of 1616 a building labelled as 'Cold Hall' is shown, sited just within the western boundary of the site, approximately where the western end of the new access road is to be positioned. This building was located within a curved enclosure which abutted the Mark Hall Park boundary, and was accessed by a track running off London Road. The date of origin of the structure is not known and it may be either medieval or early post-medieval in date. The building is not shown on the 1778 map of Mark Hall and Latton (ERO D/DAR P2), having presumably been demolished by this date, although the curved enclosure is shown, labelled as Little Lodge Croft. By 1819 the enclosure had been removed.
- 2.2.7 The 1616 map shows field boundaries running north to south and east to west. Aerial photographs have mapped north-south and an east to west linear features in the field to the south of the site and their alignment with those showing on the map would suggest a medieval or post-medieval date (EHER 19373). The site was formerly part of Mark Hall estate which was situated to the south-west of Harlow town (now Old Harlow). It straddled two fields (see the Mark Hall estate map 1819). The site seems to have been agricultural land from 1616 to at least 1819.
- 2.2.8 London Road, which forms the eastern boundary of the LDO area, is medieval in date but may follow the line of a Roman road (Medlycott pers comm). London Road is depicted on the 1616 Latton map as a wide straight road. During a site visit undertaken as part of the Desk-based Assessment a surviving boundary bank with large coppiced trees along it was identified running parallel to London Road. Comparison with other sites in Essex would suggest that this had its origins as the boundary to a medieval linear green which ran along London Road.

2.3 Results of the archaeological evaluation

- 2.3.1 Trial trenching of the site in January 2014 identified a range of archaeological features, of varying date, predominantly in its western and central areas (Chew 2014).
- 2.3.2 Prehistoric remains were largely encountered in the western half of the site and comprised a scatter of pits and parts of two small ditched enclosures. Pottery retrieved from these features dates to the late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age periods. A number of other undated features are also likely to be of prehistoric origin.
- 2.3.3 The trial trenches recorded Roman period remains located just east of the middle of the site. These included what was interpreted as a probable structural foundation comprising a trench and integral post-setting with a tile post-pad at its base. Gravel deposits in this area and to the south was interpreted as possible yard surfaces. Boundary ditches of Roman date were also recorded. Pottery evidence suggested that there may have been two periods of occupation; early 2nd and 4th century.
- 2.3.4 Early Saxon activity was thought to have been represented by two areas of gravel encountered in the same vicinity as the Roman period remains, and tentatively interpreted as possible sunken-featured buildings. However, no definitive dating evidence was retrieved from either feature.
- 2.3.5 The site was seen to be bisected by a substantial late medieval or early post-medieval ditch, the position of which broadly correlates to a north-south land boundary depicted on the parish map of 1616. To either side of this boundary ditch, various alignments of parallel groups of apparent drainage gullies extended across all but the north-western corner of the site. Although not dated precisely, these were assigned a probable medieval or post-medieval date as they appeared to be laid out in relation to the mapped boundary (Chew 2014).

3.0 ORIGINAL RESEARCH AIMS

3.1 The original excavation and research aims of the investigation as defined in the WSI (ASE 2014) were to:

- OR 1: Further define the nature and date of the prehistoric activity indicated by the evaluation.
- OR 2: Further define the nature and date of the Roman activity / settlement revealed by the evaluation, the status of the settlement and its inhabitants, and, through the ceramic assemblage, evidence for wider trading contacts and access to markets.
- OR 3: Further define the nature and date of the possible Saxon activity / settlement revealed by the evaluation trenching, the status of the settlement and its inhabitants. With regard to Medlycott 2011 (57), attempt to assess whether there is any evidence for the continued occupation of an earlier, 4th/5th century, Roman settlement or for a shift in settlement focus.
- OR 4: Further investigate and consider the medieval / post-medieval field system, including comparison with pertinent examples in the wider area such as that investigated at Mark Hall School, to the north of the site, and examples uncovered elsewhere in the county including at Priors Green, Takeley, and during the A120 mitigation works. Investigate the kinds of horticulture possible on Till during the medieval period, with a view to determining the function of the field systems and whether they constitute evidence for Stetch cultivation, post-medieval ridge and furrow or some other form of land holding.
- OR 5: By using appropriate palaeoenvironmental techniques, attempt to model the landscape and its transformation over time as brought about by natural events and human action.

4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 The depth of turf and topsoil over the site was between 0.11m and 0.25m. The topsoil was a dark greyish brown loose clayey silt. Subsoil was a light brown silty clay which varied in thickness from 0.17m to 0.33m. The site displayed a relatively dense array of archaeological features consisting mainly of ditches and pits of three main phases – Bronze Age and/or Iron Age, Late Iron Age to Roman and Post-medieval. All these cut features were sealed by topsoil and subsoil and were cut into the underlying natural boulder clay unless otherwise stated. As well as the cut features the excavation revealed a tile foundation to a building and a wide gravel-surfaced trackway. There was a moderate degree of complexity in terms of intercutting features. However, it was essentially a rural site, lacking deep stratigraphic sequences of cuts and deposits.

4.1.2 The overall survival of archaeological features was moderately good. Several of the cut features such as the pits and cremation burials were shallow, suggesting that the site had been subject to some horizontal truncation in the past. The subsoil sealing these features was still in situ therefore it is likely that truncation occurred before this layer formed and may be attributable to post-Roman ploughing rather than to more modern disturbance such as earth-moving for the creation of the sports pitches. More recent disturbance took the form of frequent post-medieval drains which criss-crossed the site. Some of the mole drains were over 1m deep. The drains may have been responsible for the presence of the intrusive post-medieval finds found in some earlier features and they obliterated the relationships between several intercutting features.

4.1.3 Individual contexts (apart from natural features), referred to in square brackets thus [***] have been grouped together during post-excavation analysis and features are generally referred to by their group label (GP**). In this way, linear features, or structures which may have numerous individual slots and context numbers, are discussed as single entities. Environmental samples are listed within triangular brackets <*>, and registered finds thus: RF<*>. References to sections within this report are referred to thus (3.7).

4.1.4 The results are discussed within the following provisional period/phase structure:

Period 1: Later Prehistoric (?800BC to 50BC)

- Phase 1.1: Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age (?800BC-?400BC)
- Phase 1.2: Early/Middle Iron Age (?600-50BC)

Period 2: Late Iron Age and Roman (AD10-410)

- Phase 2.1: Late Iron Age to Early Roman (c. AD10-70)?
- Phase 2.2: Later Roman?
- Phase 2.3: Latest Roman?

Period 3: Post-Medieval (c. 1500-1900)

Undated Features

4.1.5 The date ranges ascribed to these periods take into account the stratigraphic relationships between features and/or spot-dating of all dateable finds classes. The dating evidence for the prehistoric features is quite poor as the pottery is mainly abraded and much of it is fairly undiagnostic with much of it being difficult

to place within the later prehistoric period. Phased plans are presented on Figures 3-8. These are often based on a subjective interpretation of the spatial layout of the features. Many of the individual features could feasibly have belonged to several different periods as indeed, could some whole land-use elements. However, the text attempts to make clear the rationale behind the phasing and to highlight any particular areas of ambiguity.

4.2 Summary

Late Bronze Age to Middle Iron Age

- 4.2.1 The excavations exposed a scatter of Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age pits and postholes across the site which attest to activity in this area, possibly involving some placed deposits. Late Bronze Age to Early Iron pottery also occurred residually in later features. An area of gullies and ditches on various alignments, some sinuous in plan, were recorded, some of which were cut by Late Iron Age and Roman ditches. The small amount of dating evidence from them gives them a probable but by no means definite date of Early to Middle Iron Age date.

Late Iron Age / Early Roman (or later?)

- 4.2.2 Activity on the site seemed to intensify in the early years of the 1st century AD. Two distinct complexes of very regular parallel ditches on the eastern and western sides of the site were exposed. Small quantities of pottery, all of Late Iron Age/ Early Roman or earlier date was found in the fills. While there is still an element of doubt as to the date of these ditches, the stratigraphic relationships with other features on the site may suggest an early date and they are interpreted here as 'bedding trenches' dug and maintained in the Late Iron Age to Early Roman period for the purpose of large-scale horticulture.
- 4.2.3 Three as yet undated cremation burials were exposed as well as a spread of cremated human bone from the top fill of a ditch. A cattle burial found in an area between two of the 'bedding trenches' is likely to date to this period or earlier in the Iron Age, on typological grounds.

Early Roman (or later?)

- 4.2.4 Located in an area in between the two complexes of 'bedding trenches' a rectilinear Roman field system had been laid out which was characterised by ditches of varying widths and depths on broadly north-south and east-west alignments. These Roman field boundary ditches replaced the Early to Middle/Iron Age ditches and gullies but only minimally encroached upon the 'bedding trenches', indicating that they were in use at the same time. However, the presence of Roman brick in the ditch fills suggests that they were filled in at a slightly later date than the 'bedding trenches'. The corners of two large enclosures were exposed and, to the north, the land had been subdivided into smaller enclosures by narrower ditches.

Later Roman (or later?)

- 4.2.5 Within one of the smaller enclosures were the remains of a foundation constructed of broken Roman roof tile and brick (GP68). This may be a Roman building or a

later building making use of Roman material, presumably robbed from a building elsewhere.

- 4.2.6 Towards the east side of the site a broad spread of gravel (GP936) was exposed during machining and was seen to seal some of the 'bedding trenches'. The presence of abundant Roman ceramic building material mixed in with the gravel suggests a Roman or early post-Roman date for its deposition, but this is by no means clear-cut. It is likely to be a road or trackway, although it does not conform to the classic Roman road type. A significantly later date for this feature remains possible.

?Medieval / Post-Medieval

- 4.2.7 There appears to have been a hiatus in occupation and use of the area until the early post-medieval period. Cold Hall – a house featuring on the 1616 map and probably having medieval origins – is visible in the archaeological record for the first time in the form of its enclosure ditch/moat located at the south-western corner of the site. Post-medieval field boundary ditches were recorded cutting earlier features, one of which corresponds to a field boundary depicted on historic mapping from 1616 onwards.

4.3 Natural Deposits (Figure 3)

- 4.3.1 Several tree holes or throws were recorded on the site - remains of tree clearance from perhaps as far back as the Neolithic period. However, no dating evidence was derived from any of these features apart from some later prehistoric sherds from [471] and a flint flake from [491]. Tree hole [629] contained charcoal and bunt animal bone deposit [631]. Some of undated pits may feasibly be tree holes rather than man-made features.
- 4.3.2 Several features of possible geological origin were recorded, the main group being a series of irregular curvilinear ditches in Area 2 that were filled with reddish orange sandy clay (GP15-17). Some were cut by the Late Iron Age-Early Roman 'bedding trenches' on the eastern side of the site (GP34-43). Sections were hand dug through all these features in order to establish if they were man made gullies or, as seems more likely, glacial features, possibly ice wedges. One contained a small quantity of Roman pottery [730] and another contained two later prehistoric sherds [785], presumably intrusive.

4.4 Residual Prehistoric Material

- 4.4.1 A small assemblage of struck flints was collected, most of which cannot be confidently dated to anything other than prehistoric period (see section 5.1). The flints were thinly spread over the site and were mainly retrieved from Late Iron Age/early Roman phase 2.1 deposits and later periods, and are therefore residual. They are composed of unmodified pieces of flint débitage, including 26 flakes, six blades and blade-like flakes (including a blade of probable Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date from a natural feature), 15 chips and a piece of irregular waste. This is consistent with what was found at Mark Hall School to the north where flint from the Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic was found residually in later features (Barker 2004, 1, 8; Roberston 2004b, 216).

- 4.4.2 A small amount of sherds of abraded flint-tempered pottery, which is broadly dated to later than 1150 BC (ie Late Bronze Age to Middle Iron Age), was found residually within the fills of the Late Iron Age/Early Roman 'bedding trenches', in Area 1 and Area 2 (see section?). This includes ten Early Iron Age sherds found in [359].
- 4.4.3 The incidence of prehistoric pottery and struck flint occurring residually in later features attests to a prehistoric presence in the landscape from perhaps as early as the Mesolithic through to the Bronze Age or later. It suggests that there were earlier features present that have been removed or disturbed by later archaeological activity or by ploughing.

4.5 **Period 1: Later Prehistoric (800 BC–50BC)** (Figure 4)

Period 1 encompasses the earliest tangible land-use, probably beginning in the Late Bronze Age. Two distinct phases are apparent - the earlier seemingly denoting fairly ephemeral and scattered activity in the landscape, the later suggesting development of a more managed enclosed landscape.

Phase 1.1: Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age (?800-400BC)

- 4.5.1 A scatter of eleven shallow pits and postholes with charcoally fills were exposed across the site and have been assigned to this phase largely due to the pottery present within some of the fills. The pottery from most of these features is poorly dated and hard to characterise and it might be that the end date should be put at 600BC rather than 400BC. Some features may be earlier than 800BC as some of the flint tempered wares found have a long currency from the Middle Bronze Age onwards (see section 5.2).
- 4.5.2 Five of these features were recorded during the evaluation phase of the project [small pits/postholes 9, 11, 13, 46 and 89] and were postulated as Bronze Age or Early Iron Age based on the flint tempered pottery in one of the features fills and pieces of fire-cracked flint in another. Flecks of burnt clay were also recorded in the fills. In the excavation phase four further postholes [510, 820, 822 and 912] and two pits [792 and 875] were recorded and all of them except [822] contained later prehistoric flint tempered pottery. The pottery in posthole [820] consisted of 17 sherds from the same vessel and may feasibly have been a placed deposit or may originally have held a cremation burial, all trace of which may have been truncated away. It is located not far from GP936 cremation burials [779], [789] and [727/920] (see section 4.5.15). Pit [875] contained 31 sherds of pottery including sherds from a jar and a bowl which are dated to the Early Iron Age. It also contained degraded animal bone.
- 4.5.3 Postholes [820] and [822] were located close to each other in the northern part of Area 2 and postholes [9], [11] and [13] clustered together at the southern side of Area 1. Apart from this, the pits/postholes did not form groups and most appear to be isolated features apparently unrelated to each other. No structural association has been deduced from the postholes. Several other pits and postholes were recorded which contained no datable artefacts and therefore remain unphased (section 4.7). It is feasible that some of these features may have also been constructed and used in the Bronze Age or Iron Age. Posthole [912] was located next to phase 2.1 posthole [910] and may be contemporary with it.

- 4.5.4 None of the postholes or pits showed evidence of *in-situ* burning. The pits may have been dug for the deposition of domestic rubbish including hearth waste, which would suggest Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age occupation on the site. Apart from the scattered postholes, occupation evidence from this period is, however, somewhat lacking. This may be perhaps be accounted for by truncation of early features through the action of ploughing or by later archaeological activity. A less prosaic interpretation of the function of the pits/postholes from this phase is that some or all of them were isolated pits dug to hold placed deposits and this seems reasonably likely for [820] and [875].

Phase 1.2: Early/Middle Iron Age (?600 BC – 50 BC)

- 4.5.5 Early to Middle Iron Age features comprise fourteen rather anomalous gullies/ditches (GP1-9, 11-13, 65 and 66) and one pit [670]. Like phase 1.1 the small amount of pottery used to date the features is rather undiagnostic and may be earlier or later than the date range stated above. Having said this, the pottery assemblage from these ditches did feature a slightly different range of fabrics (flint-tempered wares in a sandy matrix as well as non-sandy flint-tempered wares) to the pits in phase 1.1 which could hint at a later date of deposition, and for this reason these ditches/gullies have been provisionally assigned a later phase from the pits.
- 4.5.6 All the phase 1.2 features lay within Area 2 and most were located at the western end of this Area (Figure 4). Two of the gullies (GP9 and GP11) had been initially recorded in the evaluation trenches and subsequent excavation provided some clarity on their phasing. Few of the features contained any datable finds, those that did, i.e. ditches (GP2), (GP3), (GP4), (GP8) and (GP64), only produced a few small flint-tempered bodysherds, making close dating of this material impossible. Some of these phase 1.2 ditches/gullies contained bone from large and medium mammals.
- 4.5.7 All the gullies were at different alignments to the later features. Some (GP2, GP4, GP5 and GP64) were clearly cut by the Phase 2.1 and Phase 2.3 ditches.
- 4.5.8 The fills of most of these features are yellowish and leached, and may have derived from natural weathering and silting. Most were shallow (less than 0.25m deep); however GP4 was up to 0.4m deep, GP2 was 0.47m deep and GP3 deep. GP12 was rather patchy and very shallow and may be a hedgeline that continued to the north-west. GP1 and GP3 had the appearance of boundary ditches, being straight and relatively substantial. GP8 and 9 are sinuous in plan and hard to characterise. Curvilinear gully GP64 is an oddity; excavation proved that it did not continue round to form a circular feature; its structural function as the foundation of a roundhouse or wind-break is not discounted.
- 4.5.9 Some of the features were broadly aligned with each other and may be contemporary: i.e. GP12 with GP3, GP7 with GP13 and GP8 with GP9. GP5 may be a continuation of GP4, however it was impossible to make out on the ground (see aerial photo, Figure10) and GP4 was not seen in evaluation trench 35. That the ditches/gullies were not all contemporary with each other can be seen in the fact that GP3 cuts GP6 and GP6 cuts GP5. Additionally, GP1 is clearly cut by GP8 and GP9. Ditch/gully GP11 lies in isolation at the far eastern edge of Area 2. It is

undated but cut by a period 2.1 'bedding trench' and seems to best fit in this Early to Middle Iron Age phase of land-use.

- 4.5.10 Collectively, these ditches appear to constitute the first evidence of evolving land enclosure. Two or three sub-phases can be discerned on the basis of intercut relationships. The earliest seems the most regular, perhaps comprising GP1, 7 and 12 and defining a series of rectilinear enclosures – GP5 perhaps being a minor alteration or addition. These are encroached upon, or replaced by, curvilinear GP8, 9, 65 and perhaps 6, before disruption by GP3. Other than GP64, there are very few discreet features from which to deduce the function of these enclosures.
- 4.5.11 A single pit [670] has been tentatively assigned to this phase. It contained no dating evidence but was cut by a Roman ditch. Its fill was not at all charcoally and therefore different to the pits assigned to phase 1.1. Its function is uncertain.
- 4.5.12 Cattle burial [399] in Area 1 contained no dating evidence but probably dated to the Iron Age, based on typological grounds. It has been grouped under phase 2.1 because it was located in an area between two Late Iron Age/Early Roman 'bedding trenches' (see section 4.6.11). However, it is not inconceivable that it instead belongs to an earlier phase of the Iron Age.

4.6 **Period 2: Late Iron Age and Roman?** (Figures 5 to 7)

Period 2 features mark a very significant change in land-use from that of the later prehistoric, with the imposition of wholly new agricultural systems that clearly signify the adoption of more highly organised and managed large-scale production. Three phases of landscape development are defined. Initially, two extensive horticultural trench complexes are created, which are subsequently supplemented by an infill field system more-or-less inserted between them. Finally, a gravel trackway is seemingly inserted between the pre-existing horticultural and field systems. The assignment of all three phases to the 1st-4th centuries is tentative, and perhaps tenuous, relying on very small quantities of artefactual dating evidence and relatively few stratigraphic relationships.

Phase 2.1 Late Iron Age to Early Roman (AD 10-70)

Western horticultural complex

- 4.6.1 Two distinct complexes of very regular parallel ditches were recorded on the eastern and western sides of the site. The pottery from both complexes, although including residual late Prehistoric flint-tempered pottery, was largely dated to the period AD10-70.
- 4.6.2 The western complex was exposed across an area of 86m x 60m, occupying most of Area 1 and extending into the south-western corner of Area 2. It consisted of twelve parallel ditches (GP21-32). They were aligned ENE–WSW and were spaced between 4.5m and 5.5m apart (average 5.5m from centre to centre). The majority of the ditches were between 0.44m and 0.9m wide and between 0.10m and 0.35m deep. The widest of these western ditches was 1.31m wide. Most had rounded bases although some had a flatter-based profile (Figure 6). All had only one fill which was a uniform medium yellow brown silty clay with vary rare stones. The eastern end of 'bedding trench' (GP29)/[504] contained large mammal bones,

probably in fact deriving from post-medieval drain [506] that cut through it and which also contained large mammal bones.

- 4.6.3 Some of the ditches showed signs of having been recut or otherwise modified. One ditch (GP25) was not originally continuous, i.e. it had two termini [327 and 329], the gap between probably acting as an entranceway. The two termini had subsequently been linked by the digging of a recut [331]. Another ditch (GP21) was originally continuous, however the ditch [263] had been filled in and then recut further to the west [261], thus creating an entranceway. The relatively dark fills and the rarity of stones in the fills suggest that the ditches contained organic soils that had been specially prepared and sifted. The fills certainly did not have the appearance of deliberate backfills of waste material, nor did they look like they had resulted from natural inwash and/or erosion. The occasional recuts suggest these ditches having been maintained over time. The lack of silting, combined with the gaps along the lengths of the ditches, argues against a drainage function. Consequently, a horticultural function is postulated with the term 'bedding trench' adopted for ease of reference and distinction from the more usual field boundary ditches elsewhere on site.
- 4.6.4 Although the north and south extents of the western complex were not established, its ENE-WSW ditches were bounded by a perpendicular ditch at each end; GP20 on the west and GP32 on the east. These differ from the bedding trenches and clearly provide eastern and western limits to the complex. Ditch GP20 was 1.38m wide and 0.65m deep, with two fills. Its upper fill contained a substantial group of pottery dating from AD40-70 including one fragmented, but approximately half-complete, jar with drilled holes in the base (from fill 201 in excavated seg. [200]). The much less fragmented state of the pottery in this feature compared to other the ditches seems to indicate that the pottery had been deliberately discarded rather than having accumulated in fills through incidental re-deposition. Very small amounts of pottery dating from AD10-70 were also found in other segments excavated across this ditch, as well as residual later prehistoric pottery. The date of the pottery in GP20 indicates it was contemporaneous with the twelve perpendicular ditches. None of the twelve intersect with GP20 but instead terminate a short distance from it, demonstrating that all are parts of the same complex.
- 4.6.5 ENE-WSW bedding trench GP32 was recorded (in evaluation trench 35) to turn 90 degrees. It was subsequently exposed during the machine stripping and continued to the SSE, apparently terminating just beyond GP30. If its cornering is correctly identified, it is likely that it functioned as an eastern boundary to at least part of the complex, in a similar manner to GP20 to the west, albeit seemingly discontinuously. It was 1.1-1.3m wide and 0.15m to 0.2m deep. As the east ends of GP30 and GP31 protrude beyond it, the eastern boundary to the complex may have been a later modification. Indeed, further parts of GP21-26 bedding trenches were recorded in evaluation Trenches 46, 52 and 53, clearly demonstrating that at least parts of the complex extended further eastward for a distance in excess of 40m.
- 4.6.6 Short length of ditch [470], at the western edge of Area 2 and north of bedding trench GP32, is on the same alignment as the 'bedding trenches' and looks similar to them. Its fill contained one sherd of pottery dating from AD 10-70 as well as two later prehistoric sherds. While slightly closer-spaced, it is conjectured that it possibly constitutes a further component of the complex. However, it is conceded

that its continuation was not picked up in evaluation trenches 34 or 40. That its presence in them was simply not recognised is a distinct possibility. No further candidates for bedding trenches were identified further north of [470] in either Area A2 or the evaluation trenches north of Area 1.

- 4.6.7 Further extrapolation as to the southern extent of the complex is also possible. Although alignments were misconstrued at the time of their recording, ditches in evaluation Trenches 60-62 could be re-interpreted as having a similar alignment and spacing to the bedding trenches in Area 1. Perhaps constituting two further bedding trenches, they are seemingly divorced from the main complex by c.20m. It seems unlikely that intervening bedding trenches were overlooked in both the evaluation and excavated phases, so the gap is probably real – perhaps an access way between two distinct complexes? If so, the case for another horticultural complex extending off to the south into the un-investigated part of the site currently occupied by car park, sports building and tennis courts is a distinct possibility.

Eastern horticultural complex

- 4.6.8 The complex of 'bedding trenches' on the east side of the site, in Area 2 consisted of nine or ten rows of parallel ditches aligned NNE-SSW (GP34-43). As exposed, the complex covered an area of at least 65m east-west and extended eastwards beyond the limit of the excavation. Judging from what was found in the evaluation trenches, this complex did not extend as far as London Road (Figure 3). The complex was at least 120m long but the northern and southern limits of it were again beyond the extent of the excavated area. The ditches of this eastern complex were broadly similar to those on the western side of the site (GP21-32) and are considered to be of the same date and function. The widths of each ditch ranged from 0.63m to 0.9m wide and the depths were between 0.15m and 0.27m. Most had a single fill and similar rounded bases, again some flattish. There was evidence of recuts and there were clearly defined termini forming gaps / entrance-ways in ditches GP35, GP37 and GP38. Despite general similarities, there are also notable differences to the western complex. They were not perpendicular to the western group and the spacing between ditches was more variable, i.e. GP36 and GP38-43 were 4.5m and 6m apart but there was a wider gap of 8-10m between GP34, GP35, GP37 and GP38. Ditch GP10 may be a reworking of GP35 or vice versa, however the relationship between the two features is uncertain as the segments excavated through them gave contradictory evidence.
- 4.6.9 Infilled 'bedding trench' GP35 was sealed by the upper levels of gravel trackway GP936; Once the gravel was removed, a 5m-long spread of charcoal and human cremated bone was exposed in the top fill of the ditch in excavated segment [870] and bulk sampled as <35>. This is further discussed below, in section 4.6.14-15. The gravel trackway surfaces also partially sealed 'bedding trench' (GP34). This 'bedding trench' formed the western edge of the eastern complex and was later recut/modified by phase 2.3 ditch GP52, thus showing apparent continuity of alignments and critical land divisions in this landscape throughout the Roman period (Figure 7).
- 4.6.10 Other than that from the top of segment [870], no bulk soil samples were taken from any of the fills of the 'bedding trenches' due to the absence of burnt or waterlogged material in them that might have contained preserved environmental remains. The pottery from both complexes of 'bedding trenches', although

including residual Later Prehistoric flint-tempered pottery, was largely dated to AD10-70. There was also a Roman coin from the top of ditch GP31 and a copper alloy bell, possibly Roman, from GP26. None of the 'bedding trenches' contained any Roman brick or tile, apart from a recut of GP25. Some of these features were recorded in the evaluation and provisionally dated as post-medieval. However, in the absence of any diagnostically post-Roman artefacts retrieved from them, they are tentatively interpreted as being of Late Iron Age to Early Roman date. Stratigraphic relationships with other well-dated features are relatively sparse. In Area 1, the western bedding trenches are cut by post-medieval ditches GP 60-62 (GP60 enclosure ditch probably medieval in origin) and, more crucially, cut by the tentative phase 2.3 later Roman ditches (Figures 3 and 5). The eastern 'bedding trench' complex, other than being overlain by trackway GP936, as only one recorded relationship, GP34 being cut by phase 2.3 later Roman ditch GP52 (ditch seg. [64]) in evaluation Trench 43.

- 4.6.11 These 'bedding trenches' are similar in nature to the complex of eight parallel north-south aligned gullies found at nearby Mark Hall School to the north, which had been dated as post-medieval, possibly even Napoleonic (Robertson 2004). A full discussion of the parallels with the Mark Hall School gullies, and others, can be found in the 'potential and significance' section (section 6).

Cattle burial

- 4.6.12 Articulated cattle burial [405] was recorded between two 'bedding trenches' in Area 1. It appears to have been placed whole in a very ephemeral pit [399]. It did not have any dating evidence associated with it but has been provisionally assigned to phase 2.1 due to its proximity to the 'bedding trenches' of this date. The bone was very degraded, but hopefully further analysis of it will give information about its function, e.g. the age of the animal at death and the presence of absence of butchery marks. The incidence of placed deposits of animal bone is well documented on Iron Age sites across southern Britain. As such, this feature could alternatively be placed in preceding phase 1.2. This burial can be compared with the two partially articulated cattle burials found at the Mark Hall School excavation to the north and further consideration of this can be found in Section 6.

Pits and postholes

- 4.6.13 A cluster of four oval/sub-circular postholes and pits with charcoally fills were recorded to the west of the trackway (GP936) and are likely to be contemporary with each other. They consisted of pit [711], and small pits/postholes [763], [765] and [767]. The fill of posthole [765] contained later prehistoric pottery and a Roman brick fragment. Pit [711] was the largest and deepest at 0.29m deep. It had an ashy and charcoally upper fill that included some worked flint, later prehistoric pottery and a small amount of animal bone and is interpreted as a rubbish pit, with the earlier finds probably being residual. Pits/postholes [763] and [767] were very shallow and contained no finds. Apart from posthole [765], these features could of course be earlier than Late Iron Age/early Roman and perhaps were used in period 1. They are located outside both complexes of 'bedding trenches' and may represent contemporary domestic activity in between them.
- 4.6.14 Two further pits have been assigned to this phase which were not part of the cluster above. Circular pit [666] was exposed under the gravel trackway (GP936)

and was cut by phase 2.3 ditch (GP51). Its fill did not contain any datable material or any artefactual material at all and it may of course date to Period 1. Shallow circular pit [910] was recorded to the east of the trackway and its fill contained one later prehistoric sherd and one Roman sherd of pottery. Neither of these pits had charcoally fills and it is unclear what their function was.

Cremation burials

- 4.6.14 Four cremation deposits were exposed, all within Area 2. All were unurned and all lacked any datable artefacts. Three were found in small pits [779], [789] and [727/920] in the area of gravel trackway GP936, but it was unclear during excavation whether the gravel sealed them or they were in fact cut through the gravel (Figure 5). The cremated human bone retrieved from bulk soil samples <22, 24 and 25> has been noted to be unusually well-preserved (section 5.9) which suggests that these graves were sealed and protected by the gravel rather than cut through it. The largest cremated bone assemblage was from pit [727] which contained 905.9g of bone, within the range of the expected weight for an entire individual. The three other burials contain significantly less bone than expected for an adult individual. This is likely due in part to the truncation of the features but may also be attributed to the common practice of collecting a 'token' sample of bone rather than the entire the individual.
- 4.6.15 The spatial distribution of these three cremation burials suggests some form of relationship or grouping. Scientific dating could usefully be employed to determine what period these burials are from and if they are contemporaneous with one another. A probably prehistoric cremation burial was found during the Mark Hall School excavations (Robertson 2004b). Given that these burials fall within the extents of the eastern bedding trench complex, it remains possible that they predate it.
- 4.6.16 The fourth cremation deposit was not conventional but consisted of a 5m-long spread of cremated human bone and charcoal [871] <35> forming the top fill of recut [870] within 'bedding trench' GP35. Three intervention segments were cut through the ditch equating to a 50% sample of the entire charcoal-rich fill. The bedding trench was sealed by the top layer of the gravel forming trackway GP936 (Figure 6). Radiocarbon dating could usefully clarify the date of the cremation deposit and potentially provide both a *terminus anti quem* for the bedding trench and a *terminus post quem* for the track. However, it remains possible that this deposit is a disturbed and redeposited burial, perhaps once part of the group described above. If so, its dating potential would be limited.
- 4.6.17 Pit [324] in Area 1 has also been assigned to this phase as it contained two later prehistoric sherds of pottery but also three sherds of early Roman pottery dated AD50-70. Its function is uncertain.

Phase 2.2 Later Roman

- 4.6.18 Features definitely belonging to this phase were all within Area 2 and consisted of a series of six broadly east-west aligned parallel ditches (GP46-50 and GP59), and five broadly north-south aligned ditches (GP51-52 and GP56-58). Some of the narrower ditches were provisionally dated by the evaluation as post-medieval and a further complex of agricultural trenches, but excavation has clarified their layout though not necessarily their dating. A number of other ditches (GP19, 53, 54 and

55) have been tentatively assigned to phase 2.3, although their dating was less clear and their forms are rather ambiguous as they were not fully exposed, being sealed by gravel trackway GP936. Two pits [83] and [683] and two postholes [855] and [899] have also been assigned to this phase.

Enclosure system

- 4.6.19 The phase 2.3 ditches (with the exception of GP19 and GP53-55) are interpreted to form part of an extensive Roman rectilinear field system laid out in the central area of the site, seemingly in between the two pre-existing complexes of 'bedding trenches'. This field system comprises ditches of varying widths and depths on broadly north-south and east-west alignments. It covers an area in excess of 110m east to west, its eastern limit being demarcated by ditches GP51 and GP52 (Figure 5). The field system continued beyond the western and northern limits of the excavated area; further parts of it were not identified in the evaluation trenches beyond.
- 4.6.20 The field system overlay the remains of the phase 1.2 prehistoric ditches and gullies, which had presumably long ceased to be a feature of the landscape. More importantly, it appears to avoid encroachment upon both complexes of 'bedding trenches', suggesting that the latter continued in use, or at least their remains were still visible and exerted an influence on landscape development. The presence of Roman brick and tile in their fills suggests that they were filled in at a later date than the 'bedding trenches' (which lack any incorporation of such material). All six of the east-west ditches were cut by post-medieval field boundary GP63. Roman pottery was recovered from some of the ditches; for example GP56 contained ten large sherds from a bowl dated AD100-400. Later Prehistoric pottery was also found residually in some.
- 4.6.21 It was originally thought that some or all of the east-west parallel ditches GP46-50 could have formed further 'bedding trenches'. However this seems unlikely as their cuts were generally steep sided and not shallow U-shaped profiled like the 'bedding trenches', and also their fills were very different.
- 4.6.22 The two most substantial east-west components of the field system were adjacent ditches GP47 and GP48, being between up to 1.2m wide and 0.9m deep. Both contained very distinctive reddish fills. Both terminated under the western edge of later gravel trackway GP936 and ran up to north-south ditches GP51 and GP52, thus forming the corners of two large enclosures. Ditches GP51 and GP52 also contained the same distinctive red fills and are judged to be broadly contemporaneous. Ditch GP51 was fairly wide at 1.4m and deep at 1.14m and showed signs of having been recut. It is likely to have formed a substantial boundary and it could be construed that it was constructed to form a barrier to prevent livestock wandering onto the eastern 'bedding trench' complex. North-south enclosure ditch GP52 appears to be a continuation of the same landscape division. It clearly replaces 'bedding trench' GP34, formerly marking the western limit of the complex, demonstrating that this phase 2.3 enclosure system is inserted into and 'grafted on' to the existing landscape. Ditches GP47 and GP48 could therefore mark a c.5m-wide unsurfaced trackway accessing the eastern horticultural complex. At its other end, the relationship between trackway and the western horticultural complex was unfortunately undemonstrated within the excavation area.

- 4.6.23 Where posited track-side ditch GP48 was encountered in evaluation Trench 30, it was found to contain remnants of a Roman brick structure [50]. Laid on crushed tile and gravel, it had been covered with a further deposit of crushed tile – possibly a consequence of having been largely robbed (Figures 5 and 6.6). At this evaluation stage the ditch was interpreted as a foundation cut [51] and the bricks to be two courses of a foundation for a Roman sill beam structure. Later area excavation revealed that this was not a building but a deliberate backfill of Roman bricks and gravel in a field boundary ditch segment [632], near to its terminal, and that the gravel was part of the overlying trackway GP936. It may be that this end of the boundary ditch was deliberately backfilled at the same time as the gravel for the trackway was deposited.
- 4.6.24 Just north of this posited trackway the field system ‘contains’ a pair of narrow parallel east-west ditches GP49 and GP50, which were c.1m apart from one another and may have had a drainage function. To the south, was another narrow east-west aligned ditch (GP46) which may also have been for drainage. Alternatively these less-substantial east-west ditches may have been ‘founding ditches’, i.e. earlier attempts at marking out the two major enclosures formed by GP47/GP52 and GP48/GP51. Elsewhere in Essex such an arrangement of earlier boundary ditches has been recorded at Elms Farm, Heybridge. In this case a closely-spaced pair of 1st century AD boundary ditches had gone out of use but the boundary they marked had been perpetuated by other means perhaps by a hedgeline or bank in between them (Mark Atkinson pers. comm).
- 4.6.25 The upper fill of one of these narrow ditches, GP49, contained a patch of charcoal and burnt bone (in seg. [627]). This was excavated as a cremation burial [631], but was found in post-excitation to comprise animal, not human, bone. The burnt deposit was disturbed by a large tree hole [629]. It may be that the bone and charcoal was originally within the fill of the tree hole and not the ditch and that it constituted accidental burning of some animal bones when the tree root was burnt out. The animal could not be identified but it may have arrived there by burrowing or it may have been deliberately placed.
- 4.6.26 To the north of east-west ditches GP49 and GP50, the interior of this major land unit was subdivided into smaller enclosures demarcated by ditches GP56-59. These enclosures were 17m x 23m and 23m x 25m in size. Within one of the smaller enclosures were the remains of a possible building foundation made of broken Roman roof tile, GP68. This structure is discussed further in section 4.6.44.
- 4.6.27 To the south of trackside ditch GP47, lesser parallel ditch GP46 was reminiscent to the paired GP49 and GP50 ditches on the opposite side. A similar flanking, possible hedgerow-starter function is suggested for it. South of this, as exposed within Area 2, the land appears to have remained open with no evidence for subdivisions like those to the north. However, at least some of it is postulated to have been occupied by the eastward extent of the west horticultural complex (previously described in section 4.6.5).
- 4.6.28 Toward the south end of Area 2, two substantial intercutting east-west ditches GP53 and GP54 were revealed in evaluation Trench 54, underlying gravel deposits. Although lacking any finds they were dated as probably Roman due to their reddish fills. It is possible that they might be geological features similar to

those described in Section 4.3 and shown on Figure 3. Another substantial east-west ditch (GP19) to their north was recorded in evaluation Trench 43. Again it was not revealed during the excavation phase because it was sealed by gravel which was not subsequently removed. It was undated but it seemed unlikely to be prehistoric or post-Roman so was assigned a Roman date. A fourth east-west ditch GP55 was recorded during the excavation phase after the overlying gravel track surface had been partially removed. Its fill contained ceramic building material and it had possibly been recut.

Pits and postholes

- 4.6.29 Three sub-circular/oval pits [83], [683] and [899] and one posthole [855] have also been assigned to this later Roman phase. Pit [83] was found in evaluation Trench 54 and had a charcoally fill containing a single piece of Roman tile. Pit [683] was larger and deeper and was located south of ditch GP46, perhaps deliberately in the north-east corner of the large southern enclosure. It also contained a fragment of Roman tile as well as some animal bone and one piece of later prehistoric pottery. Pit/posthole [855] cut ditch GP48. It had a charcoal-rich fill and contained a piece of undiagnostic tile, probably Roman, as well as one fire-cracked flint and a flint flake. Pit [899] was 0.3m deep and was located south of ditch (GP55), underlying the gravel trackway. It contained some burnt clay but very little charcoal, and was dated by the piece of Roman brick in its fill. It may have been the base of a hearth.

Phase 2.4 Latest Roman

- 4.6.30 This phase includes pits that cut Late Iron Age and Roman features but have no datable artefacts in their fills. It also includes the gravel trackway GP936 and a foundation made of Roman brick and tile (GP68). These features have been somewhat tentatively assigned to this phase and further work may prove that some or all in fact belong to the post-Roman period.

Gravel trackway GP936

- 4.6.31 Towards the east side of the site a broad spread of gravel between 10-15m wide was encountered running the c.130m-length of the site on a roughly north to south alignment (Figure 7). The gravel became narrower and patchy towards the south where it may have been truncated by modern activity. The top of the gravel was mixed with a pinkish brown silt [77, 618, 729, 755, 839, 922, etc], which had spilled over the gravel-proper down to the east and west. Abundant Roman ceramic building material was compacted into the gravel especially at its northern end, a few sherds of Roman pottery were found mixed in with the gravel and a Roman coin was found near its surface. In the evaluation phase the gravel had been recorded in several trenches but was interpreted as the remains of possibly Roman cobbled surfaces or consolidation layers (in Trenches 30, 43, and 54) and elsewhere (in Trench 23) as the base of a possible Saxon sunken-featured building. The excavation phase revealed the wider extents of this feature and confirmed that it was a continuous series of deposits. The slightly cambered surface, its level of compaction and its straight edges suggested a function as a road or trackway (Figure 7).
- 4.6.32 Three intervention slots were machine excavated across the gravel spread to investigate its construction and record cross-sections through it at various points.

Evaluation Trenches 23 and 38 were re-machined and hand-cleaned. Trench 23 was extended by hand to the west. A further slot was taken out by machine to the south of Trench 49. To the north of Trench 23 two smaller sondages were hand excavated to expose the gravel in plan. Later on, more of the gravel was removed by machine in order to reveal features underneath. In the north the gravel was 0.2m-0.3m thick and immediately overlay what appeared to be natural boulder clay, with no discernible intervening buried soils. The top layer of the trackway was formed by the pinkish gravelly silt which had slumped down to the east and west. Below this layer, the gravel was seen to be more compact and formed of medium to large flint cobbles (up to 75mm in size) and large pieces of Roman CBM (Figure 7).

- 4.6.33 In Trench 23 the western side of the gravel trackway partially sealed back-filled Roman enclosure ditch GP51 and it appeared to have used this former boundary as its western limit. To the east the gravel dipped down, giving the appearance of a hollow way and gradually petered out about half way along the trench (Figure 7).
- 4.6.34 In Trench 38 the gravel-proper extended as far as and partially sealed 'bedding trench' GP35, perhaps using this ditch as its eastern boundary. On the western side the gravel petered out at the end of the trench. As mentioned above, a pinkish gravelly silt layer [755] spread both east and west giving the trackway the appearance of being wider than it was originally.
- 4.6.35 Further south the machine-dug trench excavated south of Trench 49 recorded the lowest layer of gravel as terminating when it reached 'bedding trench' GP35 in the east; it probably used this ditch as its eastern boundary. It was sealed by various dumped layers with another layer of gravel on top. The gravel rose up to the west forming a slight camber and petered out where it reached Roman enclosure ditch GP52. Again it appears as if this pre-existing boundary was used as a western edge for the trackway (Figures 6 and 7). In some places the gravel (including the interleaving dumped layers) was up to 0.5m thick. As at the northern end, the gravel was laid on what looked like natural boulder clay with no evidence of a buried relict topsoil. This indicates that topsoil had been stripped off prior to the deposition of the gravel.
- 4.6.36 After a swathe of the upper layer of gravel had been mechanically stripped from the southern part of the site, it was confirmed that the first (lower) layer of gravel had been deposited in the area between 'bedding trench' GP35 in the east and Roman enclosure ditch GP52 in the west. As previously described, there were subsequent layers of dumping and re-surfacing recorded in the southern part of the trackway.
- 4.6.37 The area between the two ditches GP34 and GP35 may have functioned as a routeway prior to phase 2.3, which might explain its greater width than that of the spacing of bedding trenches further east. However, the presence of the cremation burials and ditches GP19 and GP53-55 would seem to suggest otherwise. The gravel is therefore interpreted as representing the insertion of a trackway at a time when the eastern horticultural complex was still evident in the landscape and perhaps following the creation enclosure system to its west. This original trackway was approximately 10m wide. Subsequent maintenance and re-gravelling episodes took place with the result that some of the gravel slumped over the (now silted up) flanking ditches. Weathering caused some of the gravel surface and silty matrix to slump east and west giving the appearance of a slightly wider (up to

15m) feature. The eastern complex of 'bedding trenches' appear to have gone out of use by the time the gravel was deposited.

- 4.6.38 Metal detecting on the trackway surface recovered post-medieval items including two musket balls, an iron vessel fragment, a buckle, rivet, button and various as yet unidentified iron and lead objects. There was also some post-medieval window glass and horseshoe nails found within one of the dumped layers at the southern end of the trackway. The dating for this feature is therefore rather conflicting and by no means clear cut, so its phasing as a later Roman feature is somewhat provisional. This is further discussed further in Section 6.

Tile Foundation GP68

- 4.6.39 To the west of trackway GP936 was the incomplete foundation of a rectangular structure, GP68, formed entirely of unmortared fragments of Roman brick and roof tile. Only two sides of this construction survived, forming an L shape. The longest side was aligned east to west and was 6.8m long, it then turned at right angles to proceed north-south for 2.6m before petering out. It is interpreted as a foundation that probably supported a timber wall. At its widest point the foundation was 0.4m and surviving to a depth of 0.1m, suggesting that the building was not substantial, perhaps only one storey high.
- 4.6.40 Interestingly, the feature was encountered at a level higher than the top of the cut features surrounding it by approximately 0.2m and it was cut into the subsoil rather than the natural boulder clay. The pieces of Roman brick and tile were not lying horizontally but were lying in an irregular fashion as if they had been disturbed and it may be that the action of removing the timber above disturbed the foundation below (Figure 7). There was no clear foundation cut and this is due to the top of the cut having been truncated away leaving only the base of the foundation.
- 4.6.41 The surrounding soil was removed either side of the foundation and no stakeholes or postholes were observed apart from probable prehistoric postholes [820] and [822]. The original size of the structure is therefore not known.
- 4.6.42 It is not confirmed if this building was contemporary with the Roman field enclosure and/or possibly with the trackway (GP936), or if it was a later building simply making use of available Roman building materials. It has provisionally been dated as latest Roman on the basis of the (presumably re-used) Roman ceramic building material. Layer [782] that sealed the foundation contained an, as yet undated, iron object which could possibly be a lock hasp or firesteel fragment.
- 4.6.43 The large quantities of fragmentary Roman brick and tile found within the fills of the phase 2.3 Roman field system ditches, within the northern part of gravel trackway (GP936) and within structure GP68 imply the presence of a substantial Roman building in the vicinity, perhaps to the north of the site. Many fragments of the Roman brick and tile were reduced or vitrified which might imply that they are wasters from a nearby kiln.

Pits and postholes

- 4.6.44 Four shallow oval pits and two postholes were recorded, all of which cut into late Iron Age or Roman ditches but had no datable material in their fills. Because of

this stratigraphic relationship they can be ruled out as being prehistoric, however it is feasible that they could be post-Roman rather than late Roman, especially given the presence of Anglo-Saxon occupation in the wider vicinity of this area of Harlow. Whatever the date, they represent activity on the site after the earlier ditches had gone out of use.

- 4.6.45 Pit [274] cut Late Iron Age/Early Roman ditch GP20 and was located near undated pits [394], [353] and [239] in Area 1. Pit [267] cut Late Iron Age/Early Roman 'bedding trench' (GP24) in Area 1. The remainder were all within Area 2. Charcoal-rich pit [746] cut Roman ditch (GP48), charcoal-filled pit [826] cut Roman ditch (GP58) and pit [868], containing burnt clay, cut Roman ditch (GP52). Posthole [448] cut Late Iron Age/Early Roman ditch (GP32) and posthole [732] cut Roman ditch (GP49). Both postholes contained evidence of burning – possibly of a burnt post-pipe - but there were not enough of them to form any definite structure. The pits and postholes do not seem to form any obvious concentrations or alignments.

4.7 Period 3 ?Medieval - Post Medieval (Figure 8)

- 4.7.1 There appears to have been a hiatus in occupation and use of the area until the early post-medieval period, though some medieval activity in the landscape can be inferred. Several ditches were recorded which had been backfilled in the post-medieval period, but could have been originally constructed in the medieval period and backfilled later as they went out of use.

Enclosure Ditch GP60

- 4.7.2 The south-western corner of Area 1 was crossed by 5-6m wide curving ditch GP60, of which only a 35m-length was exposed within the excavation area. Several slots were dug through this 1.5m deep ditch to obtain dating evidence and to check the stratigraphic relationship with the 'bedding trenches'. It was demonstrated to cut through the phase 2.1 and 2.2 ditches and to contain pottery and other finds dating from the 15th/16th century to the mid-18th century. No evidence for an associated earth bank was discerned.
- 4.7.3 The remains of this substantial ditch correspond with the location of an enclosure ditch surrounding a house called 'Cold Hall' as depicted on the 1616 Latton map. Only a c.540sq m area of the enclosure interior was exposed and no occupying features or finds were exposed within this. It is presumed that the house and likely associated outbuildings must lie further west, probably under the A414 and beyond. The date of the finds retrieved from the ditch fills suggest that the ?moated enclosure (and presumably the house) may have been constructed before the map was surveyed, possibly in the late medieval period.
- 4.7.4 The primary fill of ditch GP60 was a use fill of dark blue grey clay 0.6-0.7m deep, with charcoal flecks and lenses of organic material. It contained green glazed pottery, but few other finds other than fragments of CBM and animal bone. The ditch then started to silt up and the fill from this phase was a mid brownish grey silty clay with no finds. The upper layer was a backfill containing CBM, glass, pottery, animal bone and an iron object. Environmental sampling has demonstrated that the ditch was probably seasonally filled with water (section 5.10), in which case this feature probably did serve as a moat. Taking the cartographic and archaeological evidence together, it can be reasoned that Cold

Hall was a medieval moated homestead that went out of use by the mid-18th century.

Field Boundary Ditches

- 4.7.5 Three definite and two further probable post-medieval field boundary ditches were recorded cutting earlier features. The most substantial of these was wide north-south ditch GP63 in Area 2 which corresponds with a field boundary shown bisecting the site into two fields on historic maps dating from 1616 to the 1950s. Its c.5m width is likely the result of its maintenance over a protracted period of time. Its single fill contained a range of finds dating from the 15th-16th century and later. Metal detecting of the top of its uppermost fill retrieved various iron and lead objects.
- 4.7.6 Right-angled ditch GP61 was recorded to cut the phase 2.1 western 'bedding trench' complex in Area 1. Its fill contained a later medieval or post-medieval spur and other metal finds, peg-tile, and pottery ranging from the 15th/16th century to the earlier 18th century. It has a similar orientation to the alignment of ditch GP63 and no doubt represents a fragment of the post-medieval field system surrounding the moated homestead.
- 4.7.7 Two further GP44 and GP45 similarly cut through the western complex of 'bedding trenches' and shared the alignments of ditch GP61. Ditch GP44 was aligned NNW-SSE, 0.8m wide and 0.27-0.34m deep, and contained a single fill of mid yellowish brown silty clay that was noted to be similar to the 'bedding trench' fills. Only two sherds of later prehistoric pottery were retrieved from its excavated segments. It carried on to the north, beyond the limit of excavation. To the south it was removed by post-medieval enclosure ditch GP60.
- 4.7.8 Ditch GP45 was aligned ENE-WSW. It ran perpendicular to GP44 and cut 'bedding trench' GP26. It was 0.7m-0.83m wide and 0.17m-0.26m deep. It did not join with GP44 but was seen to terminate just east of it. The only datable find from it was one piece of probably Roman tile. It had a topsoil-like fill and there was evidence of rooting at the base. Its edges were therefore not clearly discernible in the disturbed natural around it.
- 4.7.9 Both ditches GP44 and GP45 were wider than the 'bedding trenches' that they cut and they appeared to be serving a different purpose from them. They contained very few finds and had completely different fills to the phase 2.3 Roman ditches in Area 2. Together with ditch GP61, they are conjectured to constitute the remains of an enclosure system imposed sometime after the eastern 'bedding trench' complex went out of use and are speculated to be of possible medieval origin, parts perhaps not passing out of use until the post-medieval period.
- 4.7.10 Ditch GP62 was at least 70m in length and crossed the middle of Area 1 on a NW-SE alignment. It was 0.6m wide and 0.4m deep with steep sides and a flat base. Several intersection slots were dug along its length which proved that it cut all the 'bedding trenches' and also cut medieval/post-medieval ditches GP61, GP44 and GP45. Strangely, it contained no post-medieval finds in its fill therefore it is attributed to the post-medieval period purely on stratigraphic grounds. Given its length and lack of association with anything else, it is likely to be a drain; however, it must be relatively early as it was cut by later field drains – perhaps 18th century?

Field Drains

4.7.8 Historic maps from 1616 to the 1950s show that the site straddled two large fields in this period. Its agricultural usage in the post-medieval period is represented by different alignments of field drains which cut through the earlier features. Two types were noticed – ceramic mole drains which were up to 1m deep and are thought to be late 18th or 19th century (Medlycott pers comm). These tended to have been moled through filled-in ditches. The second and most prevalent type consisted of narrow chalk-filled drainage trenches which could be seen cut into the natural boulder clay and were generally only 0.3-0.4m deep. Some of these are marked on Figure 3 and most were aligned north-south.

4.8 Undated features (Figure 9)

4.8.1 Many features did not contain any dating material nor have any stratigraphic relationship to other features. They have not been phased at this stage but may be during further analysis. This category of features is made up of 19 discrete pits and postholes, most of them very shallow and none seeming to form particular concentrations or patterns.

4.8.2 Within Area 1 there were seven pits - [209], [219], [239], [250], [353], [367] and [394] which were all small and shallow. A slightly larger and deeper pit - [320] could possibly have been a tree hole. Pit [365] could have been a pit or posthole and [428] was a definite posthole. None of them had charcoally fills except pit [239].

4.8.3 Within Area 2 there was a scatter of generally circular or sub-oval shallow pits, none of which had charcoally fills and some of which could be tree holes - [519], [521], [551], [583], [595], [720], [812] [854] and [874].

5.0 FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS

5.1 Flintwork by Karine Le Hégarat

5.1.1 The excavation work produced 49 pieces of flint considered to be humanly struck weighing 375g as well as six fragments of unworked burnt flint. The small assemblage of struck flint was hand-collected and subsequently retrieved from environmental samples. No large concentrations were found. The 49 pieces of struck flint came from 30 numbered contexts, and no contexts produced more than three pieces. The bulk of the assemblage originates from Late Iron Age deposits (phase 2.1) and later periods, and it is therefore likely to be residual.

5.1.2 The pieces of struck flint were quantified by piece count and weight and were individually classified using standard set of codes and morphological descriptions (Butler 2005 and Inizan et al. 1999). The flints were directly catalogued into an Excel spreadsheet table. A breakdown of the composition of the assemblage by feature type is provided in Table 1.

Provisional phase	Flake	Blade, Blade-like flake	Chip	Irregular waste	Hammerstone	Total
1.1?	-	1	1	-	-	2
2.1, 2.1 or 2.2, 2.3 and 3	23	2	10	1	1	36
Natural, unspecified & undated	3	3	4	-	-	11
Total	26	6	15	1	1	49

Table 2: summary of the flintwork by provisional phase

5.1.3 The raw material selected for the production of the lithics is characterised by a light to dark reddish brown or grey flint. Where present, the outer surface is mostly abraded to a smooth thin slightly stained surface. It is likely to represent derived flint. The condition of the flints varied. While a few pieces were in a poor condition, the majority displayed fewer evidence of edge modification.

5.1.4 The assemblage of flints is entirely composed of unmodified pieces of flint débitage, including 26 flakes, six blades and blade-like flakes, 15 chips and a piece of irregular waste. The flakes are very small, and where present platforms are often plains and narrow. No evidence of edge preparations was visible. Although six blades and blade-like flakes were recovered, the assemblage contained only a single true blade (context [253]). The proximal end is absent, but the parallel ridges on the dorsal surface are typical of a blade-based industry. The artefact is likely to be Mesolithic or Early Neolithic in date. The rest of the flintwork can't be confidently dated based on technological grounds. Gravel trackway layer [729] produced a small flint hammerstone (233g). It consisted of a re-used core. The hammerstone displayed heavily weathered and abraded ridges. It exhibited only limited signs of heavy battering, but a larger area displayed numerous faint

cones of percussion that suggesting that it may have been used as a hard percussor only briefly. The original core was aimed at the production of blade-like flakes and small flakes. No retouched tools were represented in the assemblage.

5.2 Prehistoric and Roman Pottery by Anna Doherty

5.2.1 A small to moderate assemblage of prehistoric and Roman pottery was recovered during evaluation and excavation phases, totalling 497 sherds, 3.69kg (210 ENV, 1.39 EVE), quantified by stratigraphic period/phase in Table 3. This material is generally quite heavily-fragmented and appears in very small individual stratified groups. The prehistoric material in particular is fairly undiagnostic: although a very small number of feature sherds can probably be broadly dated to the earliest/Early Iron Age (c.800-400BC), the remainder are difficult to place within the later prehistoric period. About half of the assemblage can be confidently assigned to Late Iron Age/early Roman period with a small component of later Roman material. Again, there are few diagnostic feature sherds or large associated groups.

5.2.2 The pottery was examined using a x 20 binocular microscope and quantified by sherd count, weight, Estimated Vessel Number (ENV) and Estimated Vessel Equivalent (EVE) on pro-forma record sheets and in an Excel spreadsheet. Prehistoric fabrics have been recorded according to a site-specific type-series, formulated in accordance with the guidelines of the Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group (PCRG 2010). Late Iron Age/early Roman sherds have been recorded using the standard methodology in use in Essex, following form codes published in Going (1987) and a series of mnemonic fabric codes devised for the Elms Farm, Heybridge assemblage (Biddulph et al in prep).

Site specific prehistoric fabric definitions:

5.2.3 FLIN1 Moderate to common well-sorted flint; most examples are 0.5-1mm with rare examples up to 2mm

FLIN2 Common, moderately-sorted flint; most examples are 0.5-2mm with rare examples up to 3mm

FLIN3 Common ill-sorted flint of 0.5-3mm with rare examples up to 4mm

FLQU1 Common quartz of silt-sized to 0.1mm with sparse larger grains up to 0.5mm; sparse ill-sorted flint 0.5-3mm

FLQU2 Common quartz of silt-sized to 0.1mm with sparse larger grains up to 0.5mm; sparse well-sorted flint, most of 0.5-1mm with rare examples up to 2mm

QUAR1 Dense silty matrix with rare large quartz grains up to 0.5mm, can contain rare/sparse linear voids from burnt out organics

QUAR2 Common quartz of 0.2-0.3mm with rare large quartz grains up to 0.5mm

Period/phase	Sherds	Weight (g)	ENV	EVE
1.1 Bronze Age to Early Iron Age	61	487	9	
1.2 Probable Late Bronze Age to Iron Age	28	131	24	
2.1 Late Iron Age/early Roman	296	2381	117	0.96
2.2 early Roman	2	4	2	
2.3 Later Roman	56	328	32	0.43
2.4 Latest Roman	10	133		
Residual in post-medieval deposits	20	95	12	
Unstrat/uncertainly phased	24	129	14	
Total	497	3688	210	1.39

Table 3: Quantification of the prehistoric and Roman pottery assemblage, by stratigraphic period/phase

- 5.2.4 A small quantity of pottery (61 sherds, weighing 487g), entirely made up by flint-tempered fabrics FLIN1 and FLIN3 was recovered from deposits assigned to the earliest stratigraphic phase, 1.1. The only diagnostic material within this group was from pit [875] and was mostly made up by sherds in a relatively fine flint-tempered fabric FLIN1, including a jar with a short flaring everted rim. A number of conjoining sherds in a much coarser flint-tempered ware FLIN3 were from a bowl with an internally bevelled rim. Overall, this group is likely to date to the latest Bronze Age/earliest Iron Age (c.800-600BC) or Early Iron Age proper (c.600-400BC). It is unclear whether the other contexts assigned to this phase are directly contemporary since non-sandy coarse flint-tempered wares like FLIN3 had a long currency from the Middle Bronze Age onwards.
- 5.2.5 An even smaller component of pottery was assigned to stratigraphic Phase 1.2 (28 sherds, weighing 131g). Most of this material came from ditches, including (GP64)/[527], (GP2)/[559], (GP4)/[587], (GP8)/[609], (GP3)/[620], . Individually each stratified group produced only a few bodysherds, making close dating of this material impossible. Having said this, the assemblage does feature a slightly different range of fabrics. Alongside non-sandy flint-tempered wares including FLIN2 and FLIN3, flint-tempered wares with very sandy matrixes also appear, including FLQU1 and FLQU2. This probably hints at a slightly later date of deposition that most of the material assigned to Phase 1.1
- 5.2.6 Although only a small number of prehistoric sherds were considered well-stratified in Period 1 deposits, quite large proportion of the assemblage recovered from later period is made up by residual flint-tempered or hand-made sandy later prehistoric wares (Table 2). The most diagnostic sherd is a shouldered jar in fabric FLIN3 from ditch [705] (Phase 2.3) which features two rows of finger-tipping, below the rim and on the shoulder. This decorative technique is very typical of the Early Iron Age (c.600-400BC). Another thicker-walled sherd in fabric FLIN3, from ditch [359] (Phase 2.1) is of slightly ambiguous dating. It features an applied finger-impressed cordon: a trait which could appear in the Middle Bronze Age Deverel-Rimbury tradition (c.1500-1150BC) or in the Early Iron Age. In this case, the cordon does seem to appear on the neck area of a shouldered vessel: a trait more typical of the latter period.

Fabric	Sherds	Weight	ENV
FLIN1	42	104	29
FLIN2	77	354	56
FLIN3	53	676	17
QUAR1	8	73	6
QUAR2	5	10	3
FLQU1	40	172	17
FLQU2	7	63	6
Total	232	1452	134

Table 4: Quantification of later prehistoric pottery, by fabric

5.2.7 The majority of the assemblage (296 sherds, weighing 2.38kg), was assigned to stratigraphic Phase 2.1 although as already noted, at least a third of this comprises clearly residual later prehistoric sherds (Table 4). The contemporary material is made up by quite a narrow range of fabrics, dominated by 'Romanising' black-surfaced wares, including sandy (BSW1) and sparsely grog-tempered examples (BSW2). There are quite a small number of sherds where grog is the dominant inclusion type, and this is fairly typical of assemblages dating to the mid rather than the early 1st century AD. A few more certain post-conquest fabric types were recorded, including examples of early Hadham grey (HAR) and oxidised (HAX) wares and a single sherd in an unsourced fine grey ware (GRF). A number of sandy oxidised wares (RED) are also present but these are frequently rather unevenly fired and are probably largely similar fabrics to the 'black surfaced-wares'; one example however, appeared to be quite a high-quality imitation of imported Terra Rubra. The remainder of the assemblage is made up by storage jar fabric (STOR).

Fabric	Sherds	Weight (g)	ENV	EVE
BSW1	79	986	11	0.39
BSW2	79	305	21	0
GRF	1	2	1	
GROG	10	100	5	
HAR	3	4	3	
HAX	1	1	1	
RED	20	73	3	0.57
STOR	5	336	3	
Residual prehistoric fabrics	110	598	69	
Total	308	2405	117	0.96

Table 5: Quantification of pottery fabrics assigned to Phase 2.1

5.2.8 The only substantial stratified group from this phase was from ditch [200] (134 sherds; 1.25kg). This included one fragmented but approximately half-complete vessel: a G16 2.1 jar with drilled holes in the base indicating reuse as a strainer. Also present were large sherds from a well-finished rouletted butt-beaker in an imitation Terra Rubra fabric and the rim of another G20 jar. These represented the only contemporary diagnostic feature sherds in the assemblage from Phase 2.1. The much less fragmented state of the pottery in this feature seems to indicate different processes of deposition. This group is probably the only example where

pottery appears fairly certain to have been deliberately discarded rather than having accumulated in fills through accidental redeposition.

- 5.2.9 Contexts phased to 2.2, which produced 56 sherds, weighing 328g, appeared to contain a large proportion of redeposited prehistoric and Late Iron Age/early Roman material, including flint-tempered wares (FLIN1, FLIN2, FLIN3) and prehistoric quartz-rich wares (QUAR1, QUAR2) as well as similar 1st century AD fabrics to those found in Phase 2.1. This phase also includes some mid/late Roman material of rather mixed character, including a Verulamium region white ware C16 3.1 bowl (probably dating to the 1st half of the 2nd century), directly stratified in ditch [39], with sherds of Portchester D ware and Oxfordshire red-slipped ware of probable 4th century date. The only other distinctive feature sherd, a B4 bowl in Hadham black-burnished ware is of mid Roman date (c.AD160-260) and was found in ditch [745].

5.3 Medieval and Post-Medieval Pottery by Helen Walker

- 5.3.1 A total of twenty-six sherds weighing 572g was excavated from eight contexts and has been catalogued according to Cunningham's typology of post-Roman pottery in Essex (Cunningham 1985, 1-16). Much of the pottery was found in contexts belonging to a large north-south ditch in the south-west corner of the site.
- 5.3.2 The most frequent find is late medieval transitional ware, a type of oxidised earthenware made at production sites in and around Potter Street during the 15th to 16th centuries (Davey and Walker 2009, 27-44). It differs little from the later post-medieval red earthenware ware apart from the fact that the fabric can be slightly sandier and vessels tend to be unglazed or have only a sparse glaze. One or two of the sherds show chalk flecks, a characteristic of this ware. Featured sherds include a small fragment of hollowed everted rim from either a dish or a jar from context [259], the upper fill of pit 258 (cf. Davey and Walker 2009, fig. 18.26-27; fig. 20.42-4). There are also sherds from a probable cistern base in context [474], the fill of trench [473], showing a thin decomposed internal glaze. The decomposition may be due to weathering or, perhaps more likely, a firing fault.
- 5.3.3 Post-medieval red earthenware is much less frequent. Vessel forms include the lower half of a small rounded jar (or possibly a waisted drinking vessel) with a pad base and showing an all over external two-tone greenish glaze (from context 224, the lower fill of ditch [225]). The glaze has flowed onto the underside of the base and a large clay adhesion is present, formed where the overflowing glaze has stuck to the vessel below during firing. This vessel is therefore a kiln waster, but as the vessel may still have been usable it can be classified as a semi-waster or second. The only other vessel form in post-medieval red earthenware is an unglazed jar fragment with an in-turned beaded rim. It is an unusual shape and may actually be from an unused saggur. From the same context as this vessel, [294], the fill of ditch/moat [282/283], is a definite saggur rim showing the characteristic reduced surfaces and thin coating of powdery glaze on the inside. Saggurs are a type of kiln furniture in the form of large cylindrical jars, in which the more delicate vessels were placed to protect them from the direct heat of the kiln or to stop vessels from adhering to one another. Typically at Harlow, these vessels were the black-glazed wares, only one such example was found here, a single body sherd from a drinking vessel showing bands of rilling (from context 474). Black-glazed wares were at their most popular during the 17th century, but production is thought to have started by the late 16th century and they remained in

production well into the 18th century. No examples of Metropolitan slipware, the best known product of the Harlow pottery industry, were recovered during this excavation.

5.3.4 The latest pottery from this excavation is a sherd of Agate Ware from the upper fill of ditch [225] (fill 220). This is a finely potted earthenware made from mixing different coloured clays, dating to around the mid-18th century. Agate Ware is not a Harlow product, but was made at Staffordshire, which during the 18th century became the main centre for pottery production in the country, while the Harlow industry went into decline.

Context	Feature	Sherd No	Wt (g)	Pottery – ware and featured sherds	Date
220	225/ GP60	1	1	Agate ware: everted rim ?from dish	Mid-18 th C
224	225/ GP60	1	163	Post-medieval red earthenware: pad base from small jar or possibly a waisted drinking vessel , all over external two-tone greenish glaze, glaze has flowed on to the underside of the base and there is a clay adhesion sticking to the underside – the vessel is therefore a waster or semi-waster	17 th C
259	258	1	8	Late medieval transitional ware: hollowed everted rim from a dish or jar	15 th /16 th C
294	282/283 GP60	1	48	Saggar: thickened rim and showing coating of decomposed glaze in the interior	Late 16 th /17 th C or later
		2	44	Post-medieval red earthenware: joining sherds from jar form with beaded rim, unglazed – possibly an unused saggar	17 th C?
305	304/GP60	1	4	Late medieval transitional ware: body sherd	15 th /16 th C
307	304/GP60	1	5	Late medieval transitional ware or possibly later, unglazed post-medieval red earthenware	15/16 th C or later
474	473/GP61	1	7	Black-glazed ware: body sherd from drinking vessel showing rilled sides	Late 16 th /17 th C to earlier 18 th C
		15	275	Late medieval transitional ware: includes sherds from the base of a ?cistern showing the remains of a thin decomposed glaze, several sherds are very abraded	15 th /16 th C
716	718/GP63	2	17	Late medieval transitional ware	15 th /16 th C
		26	572		

Table 6: Medieval and post-medieval pottery quantification

5.3.5 Most pottery comprises the 15th to 16th century late medieval transitional wares, although the presence of black-glazed ware indicates a probable 17th century

date, however, the absence of Metropolitan slipware, which probably began production around 1625 and peaked during the middle years of the 17th century, may indicate a date early in the post-medieval period for the site.

- 5.3.6 There is evidence that at least some of this material is production waste, although as yet no kilns this far north of Potter Street have been discovered. In addition, the site is located on boulder clay rather than London Clay, from which the various Harlow wares were manufactured, although it is possible that supplies of suitable clay were carted up to the site. This appears to have been the case at Latton Riddings, located well to the south of Potter Street and not situated on London Clay (Davey and Walker 2009, 21-24). It is possible then, that a pottery production site stood nearby, but kiln waste would have been generated in vast quantities and overtime, could have been moved many metres from its original place of deposition, possibly hundreds of metres if reused as hard-core, etc.

5.4 Ceramic Building Material (CBM) by Trista Clifford

- 5.4.1 A total of 434 fragments of ceramic building materials and mortar weighing 84.48kg was examined from 57 contexts. The assemblage consisted predominantly of Roman brick and tile with a smaller quantity of later medieval or early post-medieval roof tile and some post-medieval brick (Table 7). The Roman assemblage contained some large pieces of brick and tile in good condition, although some was vitrified and/or reduced, as well as a quantity of very abraded tile. The post-Roman assemblage was generally abraded.

CBM type	No. of items	% of total count	Weight g.	% of total weight
Roman brick	100	23%	62592	74%
Roman tile	239	55%	18019	21%
Post-Roman brick	11	3%	2124	3%
Post Roman roof tile	35	8%	1250	2%
Other Roman	12	3%	132	0%
Other undated	37	9%	361	0%
Total	434	100%	84478	100%

Table 7: Overview of ceramic building material assemblage, by date/form

- 5.4.2 All the ceramic building material was quantified by fabric, form, weight and fragment count and recorded on a standard form. Fabric descriptions were compiled with the aid of a microscope (Table 8). The information on the recording sheets was entered onto an Excel database. Fabric samples and items of interest were retained; the remainder was discarded.

Fabric	Description
R1	common medium quartz, incl rose quartz; sparse calcium carbonate
R2	poorly mixed with occasional very coarse rounded quartz and calcium carbonate inclusions
R3	Orange, moderate medium quartz. Some bands of abundant quartz. variant with calcareous speckle, calcareous inclusions within moulding sand
R4	fine fabric, calcareous speckle and quite micaceous
R5	Sandy; background fine quartz & occasional calcium carbonate.
R6	clean matrix; sparse coarse quartz, very sparse coarse calcium carbonate
B1	orange fabric, common fine to medium quartz
B2	sandy fabric with very coarse iron inclusions
T1	fine micaceous fabric, some silty inclusions, sparse fine/medium quartz and red iron rich inclusions, fine white calcium carbonate speckles
T2	fine sandy matrix, with very fine/fine quartz and red iron-rich material
T3	fine fabric with moderate medium quartz

Table 8: Preliminary fabric descriptions of the ceramic building material

5.4.3 The broad date range of the material in each context is summarised in Table 9. Although the condition of the Roman assemblage was good, it consisted almost entirely of the most common and least datable tile types; bricks, tegulae and imbrices. The post-Roman assemblage was generally much abraded and the dates for post-medieval bricks and the medieval or early post-medieval peg tiles are approximate.

Context	Group	Context spot date	Material	Count	Wt. g
246		undated	undiagnostic tile	1	2
294	60	1400-1800	PM brick, M/PM peg tile	16	854
330	25	50-400	undiagnostic tile	3	13
335	45	50-400? poorly dated	undiagnostic tile, probably R	1	10
349	60	1550-1850	PM brick	1	1247
408	61	1200-1800	M/PM roof tile	1	85
420	61	50-400? poorly dated	undiagnostic tile	1	9
474	61	1400-1800	PM brick, M/PM peg tile	3	77
489	48	50-400	R brick	1	680
558	48	undated	undiagnostic tile, vitrified	1	37
578	46	50-400	R brick	1	515
598	49	undated	undiagnostic tile	1	10
601	47	50-400	Imbrix	1	188
608	49	50-400? poorly dated	undiagnostic tile	1	2
612	51	50-400?	R bricks, tegulae. Flake M/PM tile?	39	3416
617	936	50-400	R bricks, tegulae, imbrices	42	8396
618	936	50-400	Tegula and imbrices	6	406
633	48	50-400	R bricks	18	27226
646	48	undated	undiagnostic tile	3	7
647	37	50-400	R bricks	3	3896
658		50-400	R brick, tegula, imbrices	6	6502

675	48	50-400	imbrices	5	218
682		50-400	imbrex or ridge tile	15	545
696	50	undated	undiagnostic tile	3	2
708	59	1400-1800?	PM brick?	2	189
715	63	1200-1800	M/PM roof tile, peg?	24	132
716	63	1400-1800	PM bricks, M/PM peg tile	9	351
721	48	50-400	R brick, imbrex	9	1170
751	52	1200-1800	M/PM roof tile and undiagnostic flake	2	57
754	936	50-400	R brick	3	507
755	936	50-400? poorly dated	undiagnostic tile, R fabric?	1	7
762	936	50-400? poorly dated	undiagnostic tile, R fabric?	1	9
766		50-400	R brick, some vitrified	3	1515
770		50-400? poorly dated	undiagnostic tile, R fabric?, 1 reduced	2	18
775	66	1200-1800	M/PM peg tile	1	7
776		1200-1800	M/PM ?peg tile	1	38
777		1200-1800	M/PM roof tile - peg?	1	22
783	68	50-400	R bricks, tegula, imbrex/ridge tile, ?tessera	21	9029
786	17	M/PM? poorly dated	undiagnostic tile	1	4
797	936	50-400	tegula	1	78
802	936	50-400	R brick	1	130
809	10	100-400	R tile with combed keying, box flue?	1	11
827		50-400? poorly dated	Tile flake, R fabric	1	4
831	58	50-400	R brick, tegula, imbrex	24	928
836		1200-1800	M/PM roof tile	1	8
839	936	50-400	imbrices, R ?brick	9	265
840	936	50-400	R bricks, some vitrified, imbrices, odd tegula	15	7997
856		50-400? Poorly dated	undiagnostic tile, R fabric?	1	7
858		undated	undiagnostic brick, PM?	2	116
863	52	M/PM? poorly dated	undiagnostic tile, M/PM roof tile flake?	1	7
881	35	50-400? poorly dated,	undiagnostic tile, R fabric?	2	21
898		50-400	R brick	1	78
917	52	50-400? poorly dated	undiagnostic; vitrified fabric but possibly tegula	1	25
922	936	1400-1800?	PM brick	1	367
930	51	50-400	R bricks, some vitrified, imbrices, tegula, ?ridge tile	108	6235
931	936	50-400	Imbrex, undiagnostic abraded R tile	9	770
934		1200-1800	M/PM peg tile	1	35

Table 9: Broad context dates, with ceramic building materials present

Roman

- 5.4.4 The Roman assemblage consists predominantly of brick with tegula, imbrex and small amounts of other building materials. The assemblage was generally in good condition but has a fairly high proportion of reduced or vitrified pieces. Six fabrics were identified (Table 8). The largest quantities of Roman ceramic building material came from the probably late Roman gravel trackway (GP936) and the east-west Roman field boundary ditch (GP48), with a lesser amount coming from north-south Roman field boundary ditches (GP51), (GP52) and (GP58) and east-west Roman field boundary ditches (GP46) and (GP47). One feature [783]/ (GP68) was entirely made of re-used Roman bricks and roof tile.
- 5.4.5 Brick fragments were recovered in all identified Roman fabrics, the most numerous of which is R3. Two complete *lydiae* in fabrics R3 and R5 were recovered from ditch (GP48)/ [633] measuring 33-36mm thick; measurements of up to 48mm thick and 298mm in breadth were recorded across the brick assemblage. Many fragments were reduced or vitrified. One fragment from the gravel trackway (GP936)/ [840] exhibits a single linear finger mark and another from [658] has a possible paw print in the surface.
- 5.4.6 Ten contexts contained imbrex, although tegula was recovered from only six. No complete lengths were recorded. Thicknesses ranged between 14mm and 25mm. Several thick imbrices (22-28mm) could be ridge tiles. A complete profile was recovered from gravel trackway (GP936)/ [840] measuring 135mm across.
- 5.4.7 Where apparent, cutways on tegulae are knife cut ([617], [618]) or moulded and knife cut Wharry type 2 ([612]). A top corner fragment from [840] does not have a cutaway. Removed flange fragments were recovered from four contexts, and a single de-flanged tegula came from [617]. This is indicative of reuse of these materials. One piece from [658] exhibits a two arched M sign mark.
- 5.4.8 A very small fragment of combed box flue tile in R1 came from ditch (GP10)/ [809]. This is probably post AD100 in date. Tile foundation context [783] contained a small coarse tessera also in fabric R1. Abraded fragments of opus signinum were recovered from [612].
- 5.4.9 The range of Roman material including *lydiae* bricks indicates the presence nearby of a substantial building from which the building materials were reused. Unfortunately, none of the material present is of closely dateable types and the degree of residuality is impossible to distinguish.

Post Roman

- 5.4.10 A small amount of post Roman material was recovered. Brick fragments in two fabric groups came from six separate contexts. The most notable are probable flooring bricks from post-medieval field boundary ditch (GP63)/[716] and from layer [922]. Roofing tile was recovered from fourteen contexts, including peg tile fragments. Three fabric groups were apparent. The assemblage is small, abraded and very poorly dated beyond a 1400-1800 range.

5.5 Bulk Ironwork by Trista Clifford

- 5.5.1 A total of 44 nails weighing 212g were recovered from 13 separate contexts. An additional five nails were recovered unstratified using a metal detector (RFs <5>-<7>, <9> and <10>). These were deaccessioned and added to the bulk ironwork.
- 5.5.2 The nails are in generally poor condition with a high degree of active corrosion and mineralization, and many are brittle and fragmenting as a consequence. Eight nail types were identified (Table 10). General purpose (GPA-C) nails are all hand forged, pre-1850 types; MOD are post-1850 wire cut nails in standard sizes which were recovered from posthole [246] and pit [858]. Horseshoe nails of late medieval to early post medieval date came from ditch [356]/(GP60) and dumped layer [923]/(GP936). Phase 2 contexts cremation deposit [871] in 'bedding trench' (GP35) and Roman ditch (GP51)/[930] contained square sectioned stem fragments. The majority of the assemblage came from Phase 3 contexts (Table 10).

Nail type	Description	Phase			
		0	2	3	Total
GP	General purpose, undiagnostic		1	9	10
GPA	Handmade, circular/ sub square flat head	1		2	3
GPB	Handmade, circular/ sub square domed head			11	11
GPC	Handmade, headless			2	2
HD	Handmade, square section, various head forms	1	1	1	3
HOSH	Wire cut, circular head/ section	1		1	2
MOD	Horseshoe nail	8		4	12
TACK	Small circular headed nail	1			1
	Total	12	2	30	44

Table 10: Quantification of nail assemblage by Phase

5.6 Registered Finds by Trista Clifford

- 5.6.1 A small assemblage of 42 Registered Finds was recovered during the excavations (Table 11). Eight of these are nails which have been deaccessioned and included in the bulk metalwork section. Finds were recovered in generally poor condition. They have been assessed for conservation requirements and will be x-rayed and/ or conserved as required.

Dress accessories

- 5.6.2 Two post medieval buttons were recovered. Ditch fill (GP61/ [420] contained a small undecorated circular copper alloy button with missing loop (RF<3>). A second copper alloy button, RF<29>, came from layer [755], which is the surface of gravel trackway (GP936). Also undecorated, the flan is larger suggesting a 17-18th century date. The same context also produced a rectangular iron buckle frame with interior lip (RF<28>). The buckle measures 41.6mm x 26.1m and the pin is missing. The condition of the buckle suggests a date later in the range 1600-1850.

RF	Context	Group	Object	Material	Period	Wt (g)
1	359/360	26	?BELL	COPP	UNK	3
2	298/299	45	WASTE	LEAD	UNK	<2
3	418/420	61	BUTTON	COPP	PMED	<2
4	314/315	62	UNK	IRON	UNK	<2
8	422/421	32	COIN	COPP	?ROM	8
11	597/598	49	WASTE	LEAD	UNK	14
12	755	936	BULLET	LEAD	PMED	12
13	755	936	RIVET	COPP	PMED	6
14	409/408	61	SPUR	IRON	LMED-PMED	61
15	755	936	BULLET	LEAD	PMED	4
16	755	936	COIN	COPP	ROM	<2
17	755	936	WASTE	LEAD	UNK	5
18	755	936	STAK	IRON	UNK	166
19	718/716	63	?COIN	COPP	UNK	2
21	782	68	UNK	IRON	UNK	21
23	835/836	-	STUD	COPP	?ROM	2
25	755	936	?VESSAL	LEAD	PMED	7
26	755	936	?KNIFE	IRON	UNK	27
27	755	936	COIN	COPP	ROM	6
28	755	936	BUCKLE	IRON	PMED	14
29	755	936	BUTTON	COPP	PMED	10
30	755	936	STUD	IRON?	UNK	<2
31	755	936	UNK	IRON	UNK	67
32	755	936	UNK	IRON	PMED	22
33	755	936	?VESSAL	IRON	UNK	16
34	840	936	UNK	IRON	UNK	27
35	840	936	UNK	IRON	UNK	114
36	718/715	63	UNK	IRON	UNK	49
37	718/715	63	UNK	IRON	UNK	52
38	718/715	63	UNK	LEAD	UNK	43
39	718/715	63	UNK	IRON	MOD	52
40	718/715	63	HINGE	IRON	UNK	20
41	929/930	51	COIN	COPP	ROM	<2
42	304/305	60	UNK	IRON	UNK	15

Table 11: Registered finds assemblage

Household objects

5.6.3 RF<40> is a small iron hinge pintle measuring 30.5mm x 41.8mm recovered from upper fill [715] of ditch (GP63). The object could be of Roman date, but is more likely to be later either medieval or early post medieval.

A small ?lead fragment, RF<25>, from the top layer [755] of trackway (GP936) could be part of the rim or base of a vessel such as a candlestick (Egan 2005, 80). This

context also contained an iron fragment with a concave profile and small lug which could be the foot of a vessel (RF<33>).

Fittings

- 5.6.4 Phase 3 post hole [836] contained a dome headed copper alloy stud of probable Roman date, RF<23>. A later tack came from makeup layer [755], part of (GP936). This layer also produced a circular copper alloy rivet (RF<13>) with leather remaining between the metal layers. The object is of late 18th-19th century date, and probably derives from horse furniture.

Transport

- 5.6.5 Period 3 ditch fill [408] from ditch (GP61) contained an iron rowel spur, RF<14>. The rowel is in situ but corroded with at least six short spikes. One arm is broken, the other complete and bent. The terminal loops are obscured by corrosion. The spur could be as early as 15th century in date although x ray is required to properly assess the form.

Weapons

- 5.6.6 Lead musket balls of late 16th century or later date were recovered from makeup layer [755] which is the surface of gravel trackway (GP936), RF<12> and <15>.

Tools

- 5.6.7 Make-up layer [755] from (GP936) contained RF<26>, a possible knife blade fragment. X ray is required to confirm this identification

Coins

- 5.6.8 Roman coins were recovered from four contexts. Condition of the coins is very poor. None of the coins could be identified to ruler, and only three to denomination. RF<41> from Roman ditch [930]/(GP51) and <19> from post-medieval ditch [716]/(GP63) are probable Roman coin flans which are too degraded to identify. RF<8> from bedding trench [421]/(GP32) and <27> from the surface [755] of trackway (GP936) are duponii or ases of 1st to 3rd century date which could not be further identified due to surface abrasion. Lastly, a 4th century nummus was recovered from [755] the surface of gravel trackway (GP936), RF<16>.

Waste

- 5.6.9 Small fragments of waste lead were recovered from four contexts. These are not inherently dateable.

Unidentified objects

- 5.6.10 A number of objects remain unidentified. RF<1> from Phase 2.1 'bedding trench' [360]/GP26 is a hollow hemispherical copper alloy object pierced for ?attachment through the top. This could be part of a bell similar to those found in Roman grave contexts in Colchester, although at 12mm diameter it is smaller than these examples (Crummy 1983, 1808). RF<21> from the layer [782], sealing tile foundation [783]/

(GP68) could possibly be a lock hasp or firesteel fragment which requires x- ray for further identification. Eight other objects also require x ray in order to identify them.

5.7 Animal Bone by Hayley Forsyth

- 5.7.1 The excavations produced a moderate assemblage of animal bone comprising 5282 fragments. Provisional dating indicates that the majority of the assemblage derives from Late Iron Age to Early Roman deposits (including burial features, ditch and pit fills) and Later Roman contexts (mainly ditch fills). A small quantity of faunal remains were also recovered from the Bronze Age to Early Iron Age, Early Roman, post-medieval deposits and undated contexts.
- 5.7.2 The assemblage has been recorded onto an Excel spreadsheet in accordance with the zoning system outlined by Serjeantson (1996). Wherever possible the fragments have been identified to species and the skeletal element represented. Elements that could not be confidently identified to species, such as long-bone and vertebrae fragments, have been recorded according to their size and identified as large, medium or small mammal.
- 5.7.3 In order to distinguish between the bones and teeth of sheep and goats a number of criteria were used including those outlined by Boessneck (1969), Boessneck et al (1964), Halstead et al (2002), Hillson (1995), Kratochvil (1969), Payne (1969, 1985), Prummel and Frisch (1986) and Schimid (1972). No tooth eruption and wear has been recorded (Grant 1982) and no metrical data has been taken (von den Driesch 1976). The state of fusion has been noted and each fragment has then been studied for signs of butchery, burning, gnawing and pathology.
- 5.7.4 The assemblage contains 5282 fragments weighing 6513g of which 491 fragments have been identified to taxa (Table 12). The assemblage has been hand-collected and retrieved from bulk samples. Bones from bulk sampling make up the majority of the assemblage with 4731 fragments weighing 2801g, 209 of which have been identified to taxa. The majority of the specimens are highly fragmented and in poor condition, severe surface erosion is evident.

Phase/Period	No. Fragments	NISP	Preservation		
			Good	Moderate	Poor
1.1 Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age	18	-	-	-	-
1.2 Early/Middle Iron Age	9	9	-	40%	75%
2.1 Late Iron Age – Early Roman	2526	250	2.4%	38%	59.6%
2.2 Early Roman	9	1	100%	-	-
2.3 Later Roman	2589	159	-	9.4%	90.6%
2.4 Latest Roman	98	48	8.3%	14.6%	77.1%
3 Post-Medieval	29	24	12.5%	37.5%	50%
Undated	4	-	-	-	-
Total	5282	491			

Table 12: The total number of animal bone fragments, NISP (Number of Identifiable Specimens) count and percentage preservation based on the NISP.

5.7.5 A range of mammalian, avian and amphibian taxa have been identified (Table 13) including cattle, pig, horse, sheep/goat, bird and anuran, as well as small mammals. The majority of the bone derives from the large and medium mammal groups due to the high proportion of fragmented bones from this assemblage.

Taxa	Period 1	Phase 2.1	Phase 2.2	Phase 2.3	Phase 2.4	Period 3
Cattle		8	1	21		1
Pig	1				25	
Sheep/Goat		1			2	
Horse		1			3	
Bird						2
Anuran						1
Large Mammal	6	198		100	16	9
Medium Mammal	2	42		37	1	9
Small Mammal				1	1	1
Total	9	250	1	159	48	24

Table 13: NISP (Number of Identified Specimens) of animal bone by Period

Late Bronze Age – Middle Iron Age (Period 1)

5.7.6 The Late Bronze Age – Middle Iron Age assemblage contains two phases; Phase 1.1 (Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age) and Phase 1.2 (Early to Middle Iron Age). Both phases contain small amounts of bone; unidentifiable fragments were present in Phase 1.1 retrieved from pit fill [876]. The taxa present in Phase 1.2 includes large mammal, medium mammal and pig bone fragments from ditch fill contexts [586], [526] and [569] respectively.

5.7.7 Evidence of butchery was present in a single large mammal long bone smashed fragment from context [586]. No ageable mandibles or measureable bones were recorded and bone fusion data was limited. No burning, gnawing or pathology was observed.

Late Iron Age – Roman (Period 2)

5.7.8 The Late Iron Age – Roman assemblage contains four phases; Phase 2.1 (late Iron Age – early Roman), Phase 2.2 (later Roman) and Phase 2.4 (latest Roman).

5.7.9 Phase 2.1 contains the greatest quantity of identifiable fragments recovered from fourteen contexts, the majority of which derive from an articulated animal burial, ditch and pit fills dating to the late Iron Age – early Roman period. A range of taxa have been identified including cattle, horse and sheep/goat. High quantities of large and medium mammal fragments were also present due in part to the high levels of fragmentation.

5.7.10 A poorly preserved articulated cattle burial was recovered from context [405]. Small amounts of burnt bone; charred and calcined unidentifiable fragments were recovered from contexts [203] and [714] as well as from bulk sample <34>. 6.12.11

- 5.7.11 The second largest assemblage of animal bone recovered from eight contexts was retrieved from Phase 2.3 including cattle and small mammal, although dominated by large and medium mammal fragments. The bones were retrieved from ditch [571], [589], [598], [616], [646], [831], pit [682] and structural cut fills [856]. No ageable mandibles or measureable bones were recorded. Fusion data where observable, indicated the bones from Phase 2.1 were adult, while the bones from Phase 2.3 were juvenile. No butchery, gnawing or pathology was recorded.
- 5.7.12 The Phase 2.3 assemblage includes faunal remains from [618], [782] and [923] – a gravel trackway 1 – and is dominated by pig bone fragments as well as horse, sheep/goat, large mammal, medium mammal and small mammal fragments. No ageable mandibles or measureable bones were recorded. Fusion data was limited, no butchery, burning, gnawing or pathology was recorded.

Post-Medieval (Period 3)

- 5.7.13 The post-medieval assemblage contained 24 identifiable fragments recovered from eight contexts, the majority of which derive from large and medium mammal fragments. Cattle, sheep/goat, bird, anuran and small mammal bones were also recovered from ditch fills [213], [220], [224], [297], [305], [351], [474], and structural cut fill [836]. A small amount of burnt bone; charred medium mammal long bone fragments were recovered from bulk sample <30> context [836]. No ageable mandibles or measureable bones were recorded. Fusion data where observable, indicated a mix of juvenile and adult bone fragments. No butchery, gnawing or pathology was recorded.

5.8 Shell by Trista Clifford

- 5.8.1 Land mollusc shells of *Capaea* species was recovered from contexts [598], [651] and [716].

5.9 Cremated Human Bone by Elissa Menzel

- 5.9.1 A total of 1402.7g of burnt human bone was recovered from three pits ([727], [779], [789]) and one ditch ([870]), all located on the eastern side of the site in the gravel trackway. The three pits appear to be associated, orientated lineally north-south across 10.54m. The topmost layers of the pits were truncated during machine stripping, obscuring whether the pits were cut into the gravel track-way or sealed by it. The base of pit [727] was not reached during hand excavation and was thus truncated during further machine stripping and given a second context [920]. Ditch [870] was located approximately 65m south of the pits. Approximately 50% of the ditch was excavated. The sample taken from ditch [870] was part of a deposit of charcoal and bone spread across 5m along the eastern side of the ditch.
- 5.9.2 All bone samples were processed as bulk environmental samples and presented in greater than 8mm, greater than 4mm, and greater than 2mm fractions. The less than 2mm fraction was scanned by eye for identifiable material and discarded. Recording and analysis of the bone followed the procedures outlined by McKinley (2004). The colour of the bone was assessed with reference to Holden *et al* (1995a and b) and Shipman *et al* (1984). Age estimations were based on epiphyseal fusion and dental development (Schuer and Black 2000) and general robustness of the bone fragments. Due to high levels of fragmentation specific age estimates are limited so the use of age categories was employed. The juvenile age category is used for ages

5 to 18 years old while the adult age category is a broad range aged between 18 years and 55 years. Sex was estimated from the sexually dimorphic traits of the skeleton (Buikstra and Ubelaker 1994.)

5.9.3 The results of analysis are tabulated below (Table 14). Further details are housed in the archive. The weight of the cremated bone samples varied from 79.8g ([871]) to 905.9g ([728]) with a depth of the pits ranging between 0.15m ([789]) and 0.21m ([727]) and the depth of ditch [870] between 0.25m and 0.47m deep. The largest cremated bone assemblage, from pit [727], contained 905.9g of bone, just below the expected weight of 1001.5 to 2422.5 grams for an adult cremation (McKinley 1993.) This burial may have originally contained the expected weight for an entire individual as the top layers and base of pit [727] were truncated during stripping. The three other burials contain significantly less bone than expected for an adult individual, this is likely due in part to the truncation of the features but may also be attributed to the common practice of collecting a 'token' sample of bone rather than the entire the individual (Hawkes and Grainger 2003,11). Despite truncation, three of the deposits contained fragments with dimensions greater than 30mm ([728], [781], [791]) with a maximum fragment size of 50.01mm ([791]). The bone is very well preserved with little abrasion, somewhat uncommon for un-urned burial deposits. The size and preservation of the bone indicates very little disturbance after deposition which may suggest that the burials were enclosed and protected under the gravel track-way rather than cut into it. Deposit [791] also contained 9.5g of burnt animal bone, a common occurrence attributed to food offerings added to the pyre.

Context	Fragment size (mm)	Weight per skeletal element (grams)					% of whole ctxt	Total (g)	Age	Sex
		Skull	Axial	Upper Limb	Lower Limb	Unident				
728 (Pit 727)	2-4	0.5				265.0	29.4	905.9	Mid-Adult	?M
	5-8	31.7	17.7	4.3	16.6	275.0	38.1			
	9-20	42.9	5.8	25.0	43.5	35.0	16.8			
	21-30	10.6		34.0	54.5		10.9			
	>30	5.5		38.3			4.8			
% of identifiable material		27.6	7.1	30.7	34.6					
781 (Pit 779)	2-4					46.4	38.1	121.9	Older Juv - Adult	N/A
	5-8	11.1				40.3	42.2			
	9-20	5.9		5.5	1.4		10.5			
	21-30			6.3			5.1			
	>30			5.0			4.1			
% of identifiable material		48.3		47.7	4.0					
791 (Pit 789)	2-4					56.0	19.0	295.1	Adult	N/A
	5-8	2.1	2.4	1.2	2.4	119.1	43.1			
	9-20	6.5		4.1		22.4	11.2			
	21-30	2.2		7.2	21.2	7.8	13.0			
	>30			22.8	17.7		13.7			
% of identifiable material		12.0	2.7	39.3	46.0					

871 (Ditch 870)	2-4					13.4	16.8	79.8	N/A	N/A
	5-8	3.9	1		11.4	39.8	70.3			
	9-20	1.2	0.8	1.2	4.9	1.2	11.7			
	21-30				1.0		1.2			
	>30									
<i>% of identifiable material</i>		20.1	7.1	4.7	68.1					

Table 14: Quantification of cremated bone

Demographic and pathological data

5.9.4 The minimum number of individuals (MNI) was assessed by the observation of repeated skeletal elements and osteological inconsistencies. No repeated elements were observed and the bone recovered is attributed to four individuals. Age estimation was possible for three of the individuals. The individual from pit [789] was estimated at a broad adult age based on general robustness of the bone fragments and the individual from pit [779] was estimated between an older juvenile and adult age based on dental development. The individual from pit [727] was estimated at a middle adult age based on cranial suture closure. This individual also displayed robust facial features typical of male individuals. No pathological changes were observed.

Pyre technology and burial ritual

5.9.5 The bone recovered from pit [727] was primarily white with the exception of the thickest cranial vault fragments which exhibited colours ranging from an orangey-brown to blue and grey. The majority of white fragments indicates that the pyre temperatures reached a minimum of 600° C; however, the variation of other colours suggests that the temperature was not evenly distributed and that temperatures at the individual’s head were variable, only reaching temperatures of 200-300° C in places (Holden et al 1995a). The bone recovered from pits [779] and [789] was primarily grey, with an even mix of black, blue, and white fragments. These colours indicate that although the pyres reached temperatures above 600° C in places the temperature was not consistent. Bone recovered from pit [870] was again spread quite evenly between black, grey, and white, with slightly more white fragments than the other colours. The black fragments were predominantly the most robust long bone shaft fragments, likely from the lower limbs. Although the expected pyre temperatures were reached in each of these burials the high temperatures were not consistently reached throughout the pyre for the duration of the burning.

5.9.6 All four of the deposits contained bone that was identifiable to area, with only pit [779] lacking bone identifiable to the axial region. This burial contained very little spongy, trabecular bone, which is primarily found in the axial skeleton. Small amounts of unspecific trabecular bone was found in the assemblages from both pits [727] and [789]. Although variable rates of preservation may be a factor in its presence the close proximity of these pits to each other would suggest that this difference may be related to the collection process. The lower limbs, followed by the upper limbs, were the most abundantly represented areas forming 36.3% and 32.2% of the overall assemblage. Although fragments of the limbs make up the majority of bone in each assemblage all four burials contained fragments of the skull and teeth. Pits [727], [779] and [789] all contained identifiable fragments of the bones that make up the face, notably the maxilla ([727]), orbital rim ([727]), frontal bone ([779], [789]) and the zygomatic bone ([727], [789]). In addition, fragments of phalanges and metacarpals

or metatarsals were also found in the assemblages from pits [727] and [789]. The presence of these small elements suggests that the burial rite may have preferred en-masse collection (McKinley 2006); however, the fact that these burials did not contain the entire individuals but obvious portions of the crania, torso, and limbs suggests some form of a hand-picked selection process. Perhaps, bulk collection from each area of the individual was taken in order to ensure all parts of the individual were included in the burial.

5.10 Environmental Samples by Lucy Alott and Dawn Elise Mooney

- 5.10.1 During excavation work at the site, 27 bulk soil samples were taken in order to recover environmental material such as charred plant macrofossils, wood charcoal, fauna and mollusca, as well as to assist finds recovery. The samples were taken from a variety of contexts including pits, ditches, postholes and cremation burials, dating from throughout the occupation and land use at the site. Samples measured between 10 litres and 110 litres in volume. All samples were processed with the exception of samples <32> and <33>, which have been retained and may be processed at a later date based on the findings of the present report. This report summarises the contents of the samples processed, focussing on the archaeobotanical material, and compares the results to other contemporary local assemblages in order to discuss their potential to contribute to discussions of environment, diet, economy and funerary activities at the site.
- 5.10.2 Samples taken during a previous evaluation phase of work at the site (Mooney 2014) produced small assemblages of wheat cereal grains in prehistoric features. However no plant macrofossils were evident in samples from Roman features. Although the assemblages were very small they highlighted the potential of the site to preserve charred plant remains and for further sampling if suitable features were encountered during subsequent excavation.
- 5.10.3 The samples were processed by flotation. The flots and residues were retained on 250µm and 500µm meshes respectively, and air dried. The dried residues were passed through graded sieves of 8mm, 4mm and 2mm and each fraction sorted for environmental and artefactual remains (Appendix 3). Artefacts and bone assemblages recovered from the samples were distributed to specialists, and are reported on in the relevant sections of this volume. The dry flots were scanned under a stereozoom microscope at 7-45x magnifications and their contents recorded (Appendix 4). Identifications of macrobotanical remains have been made through comparison with published reference atlases (Cappers *et al.* 2006, Jacomet 2006, NIAB 2004), and nomenclature used follows Stace (1997).
- 5.10.4 Charcoal fragments recovered from the heavy residue of the samples were fractured along three planes (transverse, radial and tangential) according to standardised procedures (Gale & Cutler 2000). Specimens were viewed under a stereozoom microscope for initial grouping, and an incident light microscope at magnifications up to 400x to facilitate identification of the woody taxa present. Taxonomic identifications were assigned by comparing suites of anatomical characteristics visible with those documented in reference atlases (Hather 2000, Schoch *et al.* 2004). Identifications have been given to species where possible, however genera, family or group names have been given where anatomical differences between taxa are not significant enough to permit satisfactory identification. Taxonomic identifications of charcoal are recorded in Table 15 in Appendix 3, and nomenclature used follows Stace (1997).

Results

Period 1: Late Bronze Age to Middle Iron Age

5.10.5 *Postholes <14>, <26>, <27>*

With the exception of indeterminate charred plant remains in sample <27> from posthole [822] no charred macrofossils were present in the samples from LBA-EIA post-holes. Wood charcoal fragments were uncommon and consisted of small flecks (<2mm in size) only. No other environmental remains were evident in these samples.

Period 2: Late Iron Age to Roman

5.10.6 *<19>, cremated animal bone deposit [631] in ditch [627]/ GP49*

A small quantity of wood charcoal, consisting primarily of small flecks (<2mm in size), was present in this sample, however, no charred plant macrofossils were evident. Land snail shells, which may be relatively modern intrusive elements, were present in small quantities together with uncharred seeds and modern rootlets.

5.10.7 *Cremation burials <22>, <24>, <25>*

With the exception of a small amount of wood charcoal, no other charred botanical remains were present in the flots from samples <22>, <24> and <25> from cremation deposits [728], [781] and [791] respectively. A small assemblage of charcoal (from the residue) from sample <22> contained only oak fragments.

5.10.8 *Ditches GP35 and GP51 <15>, <16>, <17>, <18>, <29>, <35>*

Of the six samples taken from LIA-Roman ditch fills, two samples, <18> [616] /GP51 and <35> [871]/GP35, contained small quantities of charred macrofossils including barley (cf. *Hordeum* sp.) and wheat (cf. *Triticum* sp.) caryopses and indeterminate charred plant remains. The flot from sample <35> also contained moderate quantities of wood charcoal including some fragments >4mm in size. A moderate assemblage of wood charcoal from sample <35> was examined, and found to comprise oak (*Quercus* sp.) fragments.

5.10.9 *Pits <13>, <20>, <31>, <34>*

Charred plant macrofossils were absent in the flots from samples <20> and <34> from the fills [714] in pit [711] and [884] in pit [885]. Sample <13>, from [400] in cattle burial [405] contained a large wheat caryopsis, some indeterminate fragments of charred plant remains and hazel (*Corylus avellana*) nut shell fragments. Sample <31> from posthole [855] produced a hazel nut shell fragment.

5.10.10 Small to moderate assemblages of charcoal recovered from samples <20>, <31> and <34> comprised mostly oak fragments, although sample <34> also contained wood of the Maloideae subfamily, which includes hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), rowan, service and whitebeam (*Sorbus* sp.), apple (*Malus* sp.) and pear (*Pyrus* sp.).

5.10.11 *<21> posthole fill [733], <23> refuse pit fill [747], <28> pit fill [827] and <36> dump deposit [923]*

No charred plant macrofossils were present samples <21>, <23> or <28>. The flot from sample <36> contained two possible bread-type wheat caryopses, a hazel nut shell fragment and a small quantity of wood charcoal. Moderate assemblages of charred wood remains from pit samples <23> and <28> were found to contain only oak charcoal.

Period 3: Post-Medieval

5.10.12 Ditch GP60 <10>, <11>, <12>

Samples <10>, <11> and <12> from ditch fills [224], [294] and [351] contained an array of uncharred plant macrofossils and other organic matter such as leaf fragments and wood including some small roundwood/twigs. Taxa noted include elder (*Sambucus nigra*), hazel, bramble (*Rubus* sp.), burnet (*Sanguisorba* sp.), thistles (*Sonchus* sp. and *Cirsium/Carduus* sp.), bittersweet (*Solanum dulcamara*), sedges (*Carex* sp.), hempenettle (*Galeopsis* sp.), goosefoot (*Chenopodium* sp.), water-crowfoots (*Ranunculus* subgenus *Batrachium*), water-plantain (*Alisma* sp.) and pondweed (*Potamogeton* sp.). Water flea (*Daphnia* sp.) resting eggs/ephippia and fragments of beetle carapace were common in samples <11> and <12>. Although not apparent during field work it is likely that these deposits were waterlogged in their recent past and remained sufficiently well sealed and anoxic to preserve uncharred organic remains. As this was not known at the time of processing, the samples were floated and dried as described above. A small proportion of the organic components, such as seeds, leaf fragments, wood and invertebrates, may have been damaged or lost during processing, however, on the whole recovery and preservation of remains was moderate to good. Of the three samples there appears to be a greater degree of fragmentation of seeds in sample <10>.

5.10.13 Posthole [835] <30>

With the exception of occasional small flecks of charcoal (measuring <2mm) no plant macrofossils were present in this sample of the fill of posthole [835].

6.0 POTENTIAL AND SIGNIFICANCE OF RESULTS

6.1 Realisation of the original research aims

6.1.1 *OR1: Further define the nature and date of the prehistoric activity indicated by the evaluation.*

Dated Prehistoric features are restricted to a scatter of small pits and postholes of probable Late Bronze Age and/or Early Iron Age date (Phase 1.1), possibly including placed animal deposits. Late Bronze Age to Early Iron pottery also occurred residually in later features, perhaps attesting to a general, fairly ephemeral, presence in the late prehistoric landscape.

Gullies and ditches on various alignments, within Area 2, define two or possibly three sub-phases of development of the earliest enclosure of the landscape (phase 1.2). While these perhaps indicate that concerted agricultural activity began as late as the earlier Iron Age, the enclosure layout is fragmentary and artefactual evidence is sparse. There is little to suggest function or the presence of associated settlement.

6.1.2 *OR2: Further define the nature and date of the Roman activity/ settlement revealed by the evaluation, the status of the settlement and its inhabitants, and, through the ceramic assemblage, evidence for wider trading contacts and access to markets.*

Little direct indication of Roman period (Period 2) settlement activity was encountered. Indeed, the Roman building foundation remains identified by the evaluation were disproven and instead demonstrated to be a deliberate fill of Roman building debris within a ditch. Similarly, what were thought to be associated yard surfaces were in fact further ditch consolidation deposits and surface layers of the gravel trackway. As such, Late Iron Age and Roman land-use appears to have been predominantly rural and agricultural in nature.

Agricultural activity would appear to have been organised and concerted, with the imposition of blocks of what are provisionally interpreted as horticultural bedding trenches over substantial parts of the immediate landscape and then the insertion of a field system in between. Further development of this landscape is demonstrated by the incorporation of a relatively substantial trackway into the pre-existing layout. However, while the relative sequence of development is evident, its chronology is poorly defined and some or all may not in fact be of Roman date; instead perhaps being significantly later.

Other than morphology, there is little evidence for the function of the various components of this Period 2 landscape. The horticultural features were seemingly deliberately infilled as part of their use and consequently their artefactual and environmental content is low, highly residual and uninformative. Contemporary discrete features within these agricultural systems were very few. An isolated animal burial is only tentatively assigned to this phase and could well be of earlier Iron Age date. Similarly, the three cremation burials could in fact be earlier too. Building foundation GP68 is the only structural feature identified, but as its tile rubble infill is likely to have been reused its chronology is also uncertain. Small numbers of pits contain few artefacts and contribute little to the understanding of the status and

economy of this site. The Period 2 dating/phasing problems are considered further in Section 6.2.

- 6.1.3 *OR3: Further define the nature and date of the possible Saxon activity/settlement revealed by the evaluation trenching, the status of the settlement and its inhabitants. With regard to Medlycott 2011 (57), attempt to assess whether there is any evidence for the continued occupation of an earlier, 4th/5th century Roman settlement or for a shift in settlement focus.*

The Saxon period occupation remains suggested by the evaluation have been disproven by excavation. No other Saxon features or finds were identified as a consequence of excavation and it would appear that there is no continued landscape use on from the Period 2 agricultural use.

- 6.1.4 *OR4: Further investigate and consider the medieval / post-medieval field system including comparison with pertinent examples in the wider area such as that investigated at Mark Hall School, to the north of the site, and examples uncovered elsewhere in the county including at Priors Green, Takeley, and during the A120 mitigation works. Investigate the kinds of horticulture possible on Till during the medieval period, with a view to determining the function of the field systems and whether they constitute evidence for Stetch cultivation, post-medieval ridge and furrow or some other form of land holding.*

The medieval/post-medieval ridge and furrow or drainage features identified by the evaluation have, as a consequence of their further investigation, been provisionally re-interpreted and dated as Late Iron Age/Early Roman horticultural remains, as described above. As such, the apparent complexity of medieval to post-medieval agricultural land-use has been effectively reduced. However, there remains significant uncertainty about the dating of much of what is currently dated/phased as Roman period remains. Comparison with the Mark Hall remains, and with other reported examples of various dates, will be a crucial means of determining their date and function.

Despite this, Late Medieval and Post-medieval land-use is represented – albeit by less complex ditched field boundary systems that are likely associated with the moated homestead of Cold Hall, the edge of which was located and investigated.

- 6.1.5 *OR5: By using appropriate palaeoenvironmental techniques, attempt to model the landscape and its transformation over time as brought about by natural events and human action.*

The processed environmental samples have yielded plant remains that have only limited potential for understanding the local vegetation environment and arable economy. The best preserved are from post-medieval enclosure ditch GP60. Earlier features proved generally unproductive. The charred wood remains from some of the Late Iron Age to early Roman pits and the cremation burials are shown to have been dominated by oak charcoal suggesting that this tree species was widespread in the local landscape at the time.

6.2 Significance and potential of the individual datasets

The Stratigraphic Sequence

6.2.1 Phase 1.1 – Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age

A scatter of pits and postholes were recorded across the site. Although all had varying quantities of charcoal in their fills, none contained evidence of in-situ burning. Some contained no dating evidence and have only been provisionally dated as Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age based on their proximity to other pits of this date. Others contain pottery but most of it is very undiagnostic. However, pit [875] contained well dated Early Iron Age pottery and may have constituted a placed deposit. Posthole [820] may also have contained a placed deposit. When taken in the context of the placed animal burials found at the Mark Hall School excavation to the north and the undated cattle burial [399] from Area 1 this interpretation becomes more tenable.

These prehistoric features lack spatial patterning and most contain insufficient artefact assemblages from which to discern function or infer the nature of occupation activity. Indicating only a low density and seemingly non-sedentary presence in the landscape, possibly over a broad span of time, these later prehistoric remains are of limited potential and significance for further study and interpretation.

6.2.2 Phase 1.2 – Early/Middle Iron Age

The ditches and gullies that comprise the phase 1.2 early enclosure systems in Area 2 are tentatively phased as later than the prehistoric pits scattered beyond (phased as 1.1). Pottery evidence hints at a Middle Iron Age date. None of them appear to be the continuation of the sinuous north-south field boundary ditch found at Mark Hall School site to the north. However, it remains likely that some of the phase 1.2 ditches are contemporary and somehow related to the Middle Iron Age pastoral activity recorded at Mark Hall School.

Middle Iron Age sites are rare in Essex and any evidence of Middle to Late Iron Age transition in Essex is regarded to be of high importance (Medlycott 2011, 32). Therefore these ditches are considered to be of at least local significance. However, as they contained so little in the way of finds, potential for further artefactual study to elucidate function is very limited.

6.2.3 Period 2 – Late Iron Age to Roman

The features assigned to Period 2 and its three component phases are fairly confidently sequenced relative to one another, being based on clear landscape changes to the landscape layout. However, the chronology of this phasing is tentative and uncertain. Clarification of the dating of Period 2 will be a major component of any further analysis undertaken, principally comprising:

- Further scrutiny of key stratigraphic relationships
- Study of residuality, abrasion and reliability of artefact assemblages
- Scientific dating of selected deposits

In essence, it remains possible that some or all of the Period 2 features could be re-interpreted as medieval or Post-medieval (as per other examples across the region). While Period 2 potential and significance is discussed as per current provisional dating/phasing, below, specific chronology problems are identified.

6.2.4 Phase 2.1 - Late Iron Age/ Early Roman

The enigmatic 'bedding trench' features, interpreted on this site to constitute two horticultural complexes have been recorded elsewhere in Essex and surrounding counties, and various dates from Iron Age to post-medieval have been assigned to them, often primarily on morphological grounds due to a lack of definitive artefactual dating evidence.

The dating of the 'bedding trenches' to the Late Iron Age/Early Roman period conflicts with the post-medieval date previously postulated for similar features found at Mark Hall School (Figure 3; Robertson 2004). The Mark Hall School gullies were similar sizes and similar distance apart to those found at London Road North, they contained later prehistoric pottery and a small amount of Roman pottery in the fills and also had gaps along their lengths. They were dated as post-medieval because they seemed to respect a post-medieval east-west trackway showing on the 1819 Mark Hall estate map and also because two pieces of post-medieval pottery were found in one of the gullies and one piece was found in another. No such post-medieval pottery was found in the 'bedding trenches' on the London Road North site although there was one piece of clay tobacco pipe found in GP38/seg. [810]. It is possible that these post-medieval finds could be intrusive, especially given the high incidence of post-medieval land drains cutting through earlier features.

The fill of each of the London Road 'bedding trenches' contained small quantities of 1st century AD pottery along with generally slightly larger amounts of apparently residual prehistoric pottery. Very occasional metalwork objects, including Roman coins, were retrieved too. No post-Roman material was collected. Their paucity of finds may have been due to their function, in that they were immediately in-filled as part of their construction/use and so didn't accumulate rubbish. Roman material in contemporary use could have been incorporated into them, or else if of post-Roman creation all of their finds content could be wholly residual. Study of brokenness and abrasion of finds may help clarify this.

Particularly if indeed of Late Iron Age or early Roman origin, the 'bedding trenches' are of high significance and worthy of further research. Their creation would have required the command of substantial resources and that would imply a level of landscape organisation and control not usually associated with the period before the Roman invasion. It begs the questions of who commissioned the construction of this horticultural system, what crops were they growing and using what labour. Late Iron Age and Roman tribal distinctions are a research topic for the region (Medlycott 2011, 47) and interesting patterns could perhaps emerge according to tribal areas; for example, are these features found only in Catavelluni controlled areas and are there any parallels on the continent? What market were they producing this horticultural surplus for? Harlow had a market function but was only a small town in the Roman period. The closest large centres in the period would

be the oppida and later Roman towns at Colchester, Great Chesterford and Braughing.

That the 'bedding trenches' appear to have carried on in use through the Roman period is significant. The transition from the Late Iron Age landscape to the Roman is flagged up a regional research aim, and continuity and change in field systems are of particular interest (Medlycott 2011, 26 and 28, 29 and 31).

More research needs to be done comparing these features with others excavated in surrounding areas of Essex and other counties to see if this large scale horticultural activity originated in the Late Iron Age. For example, parallels could be drawn with similar features being excavated in Bishops Stortford in Hertfordshire. An initial list of sites where comparable systems of ditches have been found is given in Appendix 5. These include sites from sites in Essex, Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire. The preliminary research that has been carried out on the sites in Essex as part of this assessment has shown that various conflicting interpretations are given for these features including 'bedding trenches', drainage features, ditches defining raised beds and ridge and furrow.

The labour involved in creating and maintaining these ditches, together with the tending of the crop, implies there had to be a settlement nearby. Comparisons with other sites may shed more light on where these ditch systems were normally sited, e.g. near settlement or away from it and also if there were any topographical features or geology that are common to all. Another avenue of research would be to study if they are all sited near Roman roads. The ditches found at Takeley are all near Roman Stane Street (Germany et al forthcoming; Germany in prep), as are those at the south of the A120 (Timby et al 2007).

A Roman road (EHER 3631) is projected to pass near to the western boundary of Area 1. If it is real then the bedding trenches in Area 1 seem to be aligned at right angles to it. Search of the HER search the literature on the topic may yield more information on what the evidence is for this Roman road, for example is it projected to follow the parish boundary or does it show on aerial photographs? Wickenden (1996, 78) includes a figure of Harlow in the Roman period showing the projected courses of three Roman roads running roughly north-south towards the River Stort as does the *Harlow Historic Town Assessment* (Medlycott 1999,35). Wickenden also shows an east-west road which appears to run close to the site.

London Road is postulated to follow the line of a Roman road (Medlycott pers comm). Again a search of HER, books and aerial photographs should clarify this and will help to give context to the 'bedding trenches' as well as to the gravel trackway (GP936).

Given the instance of a prehistoric cremation burial found during the Mark Hall School excavations (Robertson 2004b), the very tentatively dated Phase 2.1 burials would benefit from carbon dating, to provide an absolute date. Along with scientific dating of the deposit of cremated bone in the upper fill of ditch [870], this might also provide some firmer dating for the imposition of gravel trackway GP936 over them.

6.2.5 Phase 2.2 Later Roman

The inserted rectilinear field system is apparently Roman and, combined with the 'bedding trenches' provides a good study for landscape development in the region. More precise dating of its boundary ditches has not been possible on the basis of the small amount of pottery present in their fills. Romanisation of the people and the landscape is a regional research aim and more research could be done into what the agricultural regime was and how it developed from the earlier horticultural regime (Medlycott 2011, 47). Unfortunately, however, the environmental evidence from the site does not shed much light on the agrarian economy.

The site presumably lies within the hinterland of Roman Harlow and could be considered in relation to this urban area (Medlycott 1999, 21; Perring and Pitts 2013). This site presents a good opportunity to study the economic basis of the Roman town and the relationship with its hinterland, particularly when considered with other large-scale fieldwork at Gilden Way and Church Langley (Medlycott 2011, 22). Overall, the phase 2.2 ditches are of at least local significance and they have the potential to answer several of the research questions posed in the regional research frameworks as well as in the Harlow Historic Town Assessment.

6.2.6 Phase 2.4 – Latest Roman

The gravel trackway GP936 remains a somewhat ambiguous feature, seemingly inserted into the extant ?Roman agricultural landscape and constituting a further development of it. The generally poor construction of the trackway means that it does not conform to the classic Roman road type, but is what might be expected for what amounts to a minor routeway. The removal of the topsoil in preparation for its construction and the importing of the gravel alone would have been a major undertaking. The gravel may have been sourced from gravel quarries on the other side of London Road at New Hall.

It could be that it formed the line of the original London Road. Research into other Roman roads/trackways in Harlow to see if this one joined up with an existing road would be a productive line of research. This would involve looking at the HER, aerial photographs and excavation reports e.g. Harlow Temple and Church Langley.

The presence of post-medieval objects found on the gravel's surface and in a dumped intervening layer does confuse the dating. This late material may have found its way there as a result of later disturbance and therefore could be intrusive. However, a post-medieval construction date cannot be ruled-out as yet. This said, the routeway is not shown on the relatively detailed map of the area from 1616, so reducing the likelihood of it being late medieval or early post-medieval date. Neither is the routeway shown on the 1819 map of Mark Hall or later maps or aerial photographs which makes a 19th or 20th century date unlikely. Additionally the gravel is cut by post-medieval field drains and sealed by subsoil so is unlikely to be very recent. A late Roman date seems likely, but where was it heading and why was it not picked up in

the Mark Hall evaluation trenches further north? Comparison with the Mark Hall east-west trackway is required.

Further consideration of where Roman building material in the trackway derived from and whether it was quarried from a demolished Roman building or came straight from a kiln would be useful. The closest evidence for a Roman building is from the pit excavated on Felmongers to the west of the site, which contained high status pottery and building material from a high status residence. Other contenders are the Gilden Way villa, The Roman temple or the Holbrooks masonry structure (see section?) or the remains of a Roman building found 0.8m to the east of the site, during evaluation at New Hall, east of Newpond Springs (Drake et al 2004,3).

Dating the building foundation made of Roman brick and tile (GP68) is a priority and, although provisionally phased as Latest Roman, it may prove to be a medieval or later building which made use of Roman building material. This in itself would be interesting as it indirectly indicates the former presence of Roman building with a tiled roof nearby. The iron object found in the sealing layer [782] could be X-rayed as this should make it possible to date.

An occupation function for this building cannot be ruled out, however, in the absence of any associated structures or rubbish pits, and given that this seems to be an agricultural area rather than one of settlement, it may be that this is the remains of a shed or animal bower or some building erected for agricultural use. Other parallels should be researched in the literature, for example in *Agricultural buildings in Roman Britain* (Morris 1979), and in reports of other excavations such as at Church Langley and New Hall.

Roman rural landscapes and settlement and the form and function of buildings are one of the regional research aims (Medlycott 2011, 47). If it can be dated, further thought should be given to how the structure relates to the Roman enclosures and the trackway. Future fieldwork in the immediate vicinity may expose further structures or spreads of Roman building material which should be looked at carefully in comparison with what was found at the London Road North Access Road site.

6.2.7 Phase 3 - Post medieval

The Phase 3 evidence comprises five ditches. The ditch/moat surrounding Cold Hall was found although the hall itself remains elusive and probably lies to the west of the development area and therefore beyond its scope. The other ditches are considered to be of low importance as they pertain to agricultural boundaries and drainage, though it is perhaps possible to suggest a medieval origin for at least some.

6.2.8 *Worked Flint*

The flint assemblage provides evidence for later prehistoric presence in the landscape. The assemblage is however very small and it is thinly spread over the site. It comprises no pieces that are closely datable on technological grounds. As such the assemblage has no potential for further work.

6.2.9 *Prehistoric and Roman Pottery*

In general, both the prehistoric and Late Iron Age/early Roman assemblages are of fairly small overall size with a lack of diagnostic feature sherds or large stratified groups, meaning that this material has fairly limited significance and potential. It is unfortunately difficult to compare the current Late Iron Age/Roman assemblage with that from the Harlow Temple site, which has a completely unquantified pottery assemblage with very little description of fabric (Wilkinson and Clark 1985).

6.2.10 *Medieval and Post-Medieval Pottery*

The pottery is of some significance as it could indicate that there was a production site in the vicinity, however this is far from certain and further excavation would be needed to produce definite evidence of this. The assemblage itself is of little intrinsic interest as only a small amount of pottery is present and the material is fragmented. None of the pottery requires illustration and no further work is required.

6.2.11 *Ceramic Building Material*

Much of the assemblage is re-deposited in ditch features or reused in wall footings. The range of Roman material including lydian bricks indicates the presence nearby of a substantial building from which the building materials were reused. Unfortunately, none of the material present is of closely dateable types and the degree of residuality is impossible to distinguish therefore potential for further analysis is limited. Comparison with the nearby Harlow Temple assemblage, although desirable, is not possible due to a lack of published data. The post-Roman assemblage is small, abraded and very poorly dated beyond a 1400-1800 range.

6.2.12 *Bulk Ironwork*

The nail assemblage is small and fairly uniform in character, consisting largely of isolated finds from poorly dated features. It is therefore of limited significance to the site narrative and has no potential for further work.

6.2.13 *Registered Finds*

A small number of Roman objects attest to activity in this period although very few are securely dated to this phase. The post Roman objects are chronologically disparate and probably derive from casual loss. Although the assemblage is generally of low significance, x-ray and further comparative analysis of certain objects could potentially contribute to the interpretation of the features.

6.2.14 *Animal Bone*

The assemblage is of local significance. The amount of identifiable remains is relatively small with the majority identified as large and medium mammal fragments, the remains are highly fragmented and in poor condition. Due to the size and condition of the assemblage it holds no potential for further

analysis. Further consideration of apparent placed animal deposits [405] and [504] could be done to inform site interpretation at publication stage.

6.2.15 *Shell*

The shell assemblage is not of any significance and has no potential to inform site interpretation. No further work is required. Disposal of the assemblage is recommended.

6.2.16 *Cremated Human Bone*

Despite the small number of burials and truncation of the features, the four cremation burials give insight into the use of the cremation burial rite in this area. The variation in colour represented in the bone suggests an uneven burning pattern and a less than ideal cremation environment, likely due to an inconsistency of fuel, oxygen, or heat during burning. Any changes in the pyre environment, such as a draft, dampness, or a lack of fuel can prevent consistently higher temperatures being reached.

The spatial distribution of the burials suggests some form of relationship. However, due to a lack of datable material it is difficult to determine what period these burials are from and if they are contemporaneous. The burials were likely sealed by the gravel track-way which only provides a broad relative date. In order to better understand the site and to gain context for the burials it is suggested that the bone from one or more burials undergo carbon dating. By identifying what period these burials are dated from would enable a comparison with other cremation burials of the same period across the region.

6.2.17 *Environmental Samples*

Macrobotanical remains:

Samples taken during excavation at the site contain very few charred plant macrofossils with only occasional charred cereal grains recorded. The small assemblages of charred remains present very little potential to provide further information regarding the arable economy, food procurement or the local vegetation environment. The majority of flots from these samples also contained large quantities (frequently >90%) of intrusive modern plant material including roots, rootlets and seeds. The inclusion of modern plant material indicates that these deposits have undergone some degree of disturbance. Uncharred archaeobotanical remains were present in three of the ditch fills of post-Medieval ditch (GP60) and their significance is considered further in the following paragraphs.

Post-Medieval ditch samples <10>, <11> and <12> from ditch (GP60) were rich in uncharred plant remains displaying moderate to good preservation that may be contemporary with the infilling of the ditch features. Based on the composition of these assemblages it is likely that these deposits were waterlogged in the recent past and remained sufficiently well sealed to allow for preservation of organics. A range of taxa deriving from different vegetation environments, which could have been exploited for plant resources, are represented. Elder and hazel provide evidence for woodland margin vegetation from which edible fruits may have been collected. Brambles (which

could also have been collected for the berries) suggest the presence of scrub or disturbed land in the vicinity. Much of the remaining assemblages are composed of generalist taxa that grow on grassland, waste or disturbed ground, along waysides or as arable weeds. There are also seeds from several plants such as the water crowfoot, water plantain and pondweed that are restricted to growing on damp ground or in still or slow-flowing water in ditches, ponds, shallow rivers or streams. The presence of water flea resting eggs lends further support to this and together the remains suggest that the ditches were, at least seasonally, filled with water.

The assemblages of uncharred plant macrofossils from samples <11> and <12> are sufficiently well preserved for some of the identifications to be further refined. This may help characterise the local vegetation and in particular that associated with the water-filled ditches during the Post-Medieval period. The assemblages are, however, of low significance and provide only limited potential to further characterise the local vegetation and range of natural resources available. They present no potential to examine the arable economy of the site.

Charcoal:

The preservation of charcoal from the site was generally fair, with most fragments displaying moderate levels of abrasion and low to moderate levels of sediment infiltration and concretion linked to fluctuations in the groundwater level. Most of the charcoal assemblages recovered from the samples were small, however a few samples produced slightly larger quantities of charred wood remains. These assemblages were unambiguously dominated by oak charcoal, with the only other taxa noted being a small number of Maloideae fragments in Late Iron Age or Roman pit [843]. Oak is known to make both good firewood and good charcoal, and as such has been commonly exploited for use as fuel throughout history (Taylor 1981). However, this taxon is also valued for use as timber due to its strength and durability, and the fact that oak was being burnt as fuel suggests that it was widespread in the local landscape. Firewood is likely to have been procured from local oak-dominated deciduous woodland, although the presence of Maloideae charcoal may indicate the exploitation of woodland margin or hedgerow environments for fuel wood acquisition. The woodlands in question may have been managed – most woods in Britain were under the management of local manorial or religious estates by the mid-13th century (Rackham 1990), and evidence of coppicing and pollarding of trees is known from the Neolithic onwards (Hooke 2010). However, the charcoal assemblage from the site provides no clear evidence for these practices.

The dominance of oak charcoal in the samples from Late Iron Age to Roman cremation deposit [871] and undated but likely Late Iron Age to early Roman cremation burial [727] reflects the common preference of oak for the construction of cremation pyres, due to the fact that oak wood can burn at high temperatures over a long period of time. Other Romano-British sites in the region at Cobb's Farm, Goldhanger (Allott & Mooney 2014), Wickham Market (Mooney & Allott 2014), and Haslers Lane, Great Dunmow (Allott 2014) also produced assemblages dominated by oak charcoal. This trend is also visible in Romano-British cremation burials at Stansted airport (Challinor

2007, Gale 2008), and further afield in Kent (Challinor 2006; Alldritt 2006a; 2006b).

The charcoal assemblage is generally small and of low significance. However a limited number of samples may merit further examination. Further analytical work on the taxonomic composition of samples <22> from cremation burial [727] and <35> from cremation deposit [871] would further contribute to the growing body of work on trends in wood selection for use in cremations both in East Anglia and in the south east of England as a whole. If latest Roman (or possibly post-Roman) pits [746] and [826] can be securely dated, analysis of charcoal from these samples <23> and <28> could further elucidate fuel wood procurement strategies at the site, however neither sample contains material suitable for scientific dating.

7.0 PUBLICATION PROJECT

It is judged that the results of this fieldwork investigation warrant academic dissemination. Revised project aims and objectives are identified that will drive the further analysis and reporting required to achieve this. Tasks are also identified and quantified. However, as it is anticipated that there will be an additional stage of fieldwork required in the near future, it is proposed that the majority of this analysis and publication production work is held over until such a time as it can be amalgamated with any such work required for the further additional fieldwork. In the meantime, it is intended that the basic, but fundamental, tasks of reviewing and revising site chronology are undertaken.

Should the additional fieldwork requirement not be undertaken, the publication tasks as specified below will be carried out in isolation.

7.1 Revised research agenda: Aims and Objectives

7.1.1 This section combines those original research aims that the site archive has the potential to address with any new research aims identified in the assessment process by stratigraphic, finds and environmental specialists to produce a set of revised research aims that will form the basis of any future research agenda. Original research aims (ORs) are referred to where there is any synthesis of subject matter to form a new set of revised research aims (RRAs) posed as questions below.

7.1.2 The revised research aims for further analysis and publication are:

- RRA1: To refine understanding of chronology of landscape development through further study of stratigraphic, artefact and targeted scientific dating of key features and deposits in the site sequence.
- RRA2 (OR1): To undertake the further analysis and dating of the cattle burial, cremation burials, and possibly the phase 1.1 pits, to further define the nature and date of the prehistoric activity.
- RRA3: To determine whether any of the prehistoric features on the site can be associated with those found at Mark Hall School and to consider what this contributes to understanding of the late Prehistoric land-use.
- RRA4: To consider what the site data contributes to understanding of the nature of the Late Iron Age/Early Roman transition period in Essex and the processes by which land-use and burial practice developed?
- RRA5: To compare the Period 2 horticultural complexes and field system with examples from other sites in the region to help establish their date, function and extent.
- RRA6 (OR2): To consider the source of the Roman building materials present on this site – primarily incorporated into the trackway and the building foundation GP68 alongside. Are they wasters from a kiln or do they derive from a robbed building located elsewhere? Consider the implications of potential re-use of these materials for the dating and interpretation of these site features.

- RRA7: To undertake research into the Roman roads in Harlow to elucidate the date and course of the gravel trackway.
- RRA8: To consider the possible date of origin of the Period 3 enclosure and ?associated field systems and their significance to both Cold Hall and wider medieval / post-medieval land-use.

7.2 Dating

7.2.1 Radiocarbon dating

A targeted programme of radiocarbon dating will provide precise dating for selected features, but also will potentially contribute to the wider chronology problems highlighted.

- Selection/dispatch/liaison of C14 samples (0.5 day)
- C14 date bone from one of cremation burials [779, 789 or 727/920]
- C14 date bone from cremation spread [871]
- C14 date charcoal from phase 2.2 pit [746] or [826]
- C14 date bone from cattle burial pit [405]

7.2.2 Stratigraphic review of dating

Review of the stratigraphic sequence and available artefact dating will be carried out following receipt of the radiocarbon dating results. Changes will be implemented to site grouping/phasing where improved dating allows.

- Incorporate C14 dating and review stratigraphic and artefact dating (1 day)
- Produce interim statement on revised site date/phase/period dating for archive and distribution to ECC Place Services monitoring officer (1 day)

7.3 Preliminary Publication Synopsis

7.3.1 It is suggested that the results of the investigation undertaken to date should be published in an article of c.15,000 words in the journal *Transactions of the Essex Society for Archaeology and History*. This would combine the results of all areas of fieldwork (including the evaluation stage) and put into context with the neighbouring Mark Hall School Site to the north (Robertson 2004 a and b).

7.3.2 It is envisaged that a period-driven land-use narrative is required to enable publication. The article should seek to address the individual site-specific research questions identified in the post-excavation assessment and updated project design, mainly focussing on the Late Iron Age and Roman periods but outlining the Bronze Age to Middle Iron Age finds and features. Brief consideration of the post-medieval enclosure ditch surrounding Cold Hall will be included. It will go on to discuss the material from both a site-specific angle and within a broader regional framework.

7.3.3 The following structure is suggested for the article:
Working Title: *Late Iron Age and Roman horticulture and agriculture at London Road (North), Harlow, Essex*

- Introduction
- Location
- Circumstances of the fieldwork
- Archaeological and historical background
- Natural geology and topography
- Excavation Results
- Specialist Reports
- Discussion
- Acknowledgements
- Bibliography

7.4 Publication tasks (table 14)

7.4.1 Stratigraphic Method Statement

As the current group structure for the post-excavation stage is provisional, the groups will be checked and a land-use model will be established for the site. This will provide a land-use led chronological framework for the full analysis and reporting of the site. After completion of the specialist analysis, reporting and documentary research, an integrated period-driven narrative of the site sequence will be prepared. This will draw on specialist information in order to fully address the revised research aims. The narrative will include relevant selection of period/phase plans, sections, photographs, historic maps and finds illustrations.

- Define land uses and complete the land use register (1 day)
- Research sites of a similar type and date in Essex and region (1 day)
- Undertake HER search and literature review to establish course of Roman roads/trackways in Harlow, including visit to Harlow Museum? (1 day)
- Liaise with specialists and integrate the specialist reports (1 day)
- Write intro, method and background text (1 day)
- Produce land-use and period driven site narrative (4 days)
- Prepare and collate illustrations, and brief illustrators (0.5 days)
- Write discussion and collate draft report (2 days)
- Post-edit amendments (1.5 days)

7.4.2 Prehistoric and Roman Pottery

It would be useful to produce short segments of text summarising the dating evidence provided by the pottery with illustrations of diagnostic later prehistoric feature sherds from [705] and [875] and Late Iron Age/Early Roman ones from [200]. It is envisaged that both the summary text and the pottery illustrations could be integrated into the main stratigraphic narrative with no requirement for a standalone specialist report. A total of five prehistoric and Late Iron Age/early Roman are recommended for illustration.

- Check residuality/breakage/abrasion of pottery from Period 2 features (0.5 days)
- Prepare summary text on pottery dating evidence (0.25 days)
- Extract/reintegrate sherds for illustration, check illustrations (0.25 day)

7.4.3 *Ceramic Building material*

The assemblage has been recorded in full for the site archive. No further analysis is proposed. Text for the site narrative can be taken from this report.

7.4.4 *Registered Finds*

X-ray up to 15 objects to aid identifications, and record these for the site archive. A short summary report should be produced from which text for the publication could be drawn.

- X-ray (cost)
- Summary reporting and updating of the archive (1 day)

7.4.5 *Bulk Ironwork*

The assemblage has been recorded in full on pro forma sheets for archive and data has been entered onto Excel spreadsheet. Dating evidence, should it be required for the site narrative, can be extracted from the above statement. No standalone report is warranted. No further work is required. It is recommended that, due to the condition of the nails, only a small number of type samples are retained.

7.4.6 *Animal Bone*

- Further consideration of placed animal deposits (0.5 days)
- Preparation of a short summary report for incorporation into the stratigraphic narrative and updating of the archive (0.5 days)

7.4.7 *Cremated Human Bone*

- Publication text and regional comparisons with other cremations (2 days)

7.3.8 *Environmental Samples*

Macrobotanical remains:

- Analysis of material from two samples <11> and <12> of post-medieval ditch (GP60). Identification and quantification. (0.75 day)
- Literature consultation and report production (0.75 day)

Charcoal:

Analysis of material from two samples <22> and <35>, from cremation deposits [727] and [871] and also on samples <23> and <28> from charcoal-rich pits [746] and [826].

- Identifications (1 day)
- Literature consultation and report production (1 day)

7.3.9 *Illustration*

Approximately 8 stratigraphic figures will be required of selected plans and sections, plus photographs to accompany the stratigraphic narrative (3 days)

The following finds illustration requirements are identified:

- Approx. 5 sherds of prehistoric and Roman pottery (1 day)

Site chronology Review	
Selection/dispatch/liaison of C14 samples for dating	0.5 days
Specialist radiocarbon dating of 4 samples	fee
Incorporate C14 dating and review stratigraphic and artefact dating	1 day
Produce interim statement on revised site date/phase/period dating for archive	1 day
Total	2.5 days
Stratigraphic Analysis	
Define land uses and complete the land use register	1 day
Examine the site in the regional context and research sites of a similar type and date in Essex and surrounding counties	1 day
Undertake HER search for Harlow and literature review to establish course of Roman roads/trackways. Include visit to Harlow Museum	1 day
Liaise with specialists & integrate the specialist reports	1 day
Write introduction/background/method texts	1 day
Produce land-use and period driven site narrative	4 days
Prepare and collate illustrations, and brief illustrators	0.5 days
Write discussion text, collate report and submit for review and editing.	2 days
Post-edit amendments	1 day
Total	13.5 days
Specialist Analysis	
Prehistoric and Roman pottery	1 day
Registered finds	1 day
X-ray of up to 15 objects	Fee
Animal bone	1 day
Cremated Human bone	2 days
Misc. finds reporting (worked flint, bulk ironwork, CBM, etc)	1 day
Radiocarbon dating - up to 4 samples/ dates	Fee
Environmental Material	3.5 days
Total	9.5 days
Illustration	
Approx. 8 stratigraphic figures, plus photographs	3 days
Pottery and other finds illustration	1 day
Total	4 days
Production	
Internal editing of collated draft publication article	1.5 days
Amendment of edited draft article and submission to EAH editor	1.5 days
Amendment of draft article on receipt of reader's/editor's comments	1 day
Project Management	2 days
Total	6 days

Table 14: Resource for completion of further analysis and publication

7.4 Artefacts and Archive Deposition

7.4.1 The site archive is currently held at the Sussex offices of ASE. Following completion of all post-excavation work, including any publication work, the site archive will be deposited with Harlow Museum. Harlow Museum does not assign archive accession numbers in advance of deposition

Type	Description	Quantity
Context sheets	Individual context sheets	Exc- 936 Eval- 155, plus 67 trench sheets
Section sheets	A1 Multi-context permatrace sheets 1:10	Exc - 29 Eval - 6
Plans	Multi-context drawing plans A1 permatrace sheets 1:20 or 1: 50	1
Photos	Black and white transparency films Colour slide films Digital images	none none Exc -373
Environmental sample sheets	Individual sample sheets	Exc - 26 Eval - 8
Context register	Context register sheets	Exc - 22 Eval - 5
Environmental sample register	Environmental sample register sheets	Exc - 2 Eval -1
Photographic register	Photograph register sheets	Exc - 9 Eval - 5
Drawing register	Section register sheets	Exc - 29 Eval - 2
Small finds register	Small finds register sheets	Exc - 2 Eval- 0
Bulk Finds	CBM, pottery, nails, glass, shell, animal bone	Exc - 9 boxes Eval ?
Registered Finds	Metallic objects	Exc - 34 objects
Environmental material	Flot residues from soil samples including cremated human bone	Exc - 25 flot residues Eval- 8 flot residues

Table 15: Site archive quantification table including the evaluation

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Appendix 1: Context Register

Key to Periods and Phases

Period 1: Late Bronze Age to Middle Iron Age (?800BC to 50BC)

- Phase 1.1: ?latest Bronze Age/Early Iron Age (?800-?400BC)
- Phase 1.2: Early/Middle Iron Age (?600-50BC)

Period 2: Late Iron Age and Roman (AD10-410)

- Phase 2.1: Late Iron Age to Early Roman (c. AD10-70)
- Phase 2.2: Later Roman
- Phase 2.3: Latest Roman

Period 3: ?Medieval-Post-Medieval (c. 1500-1900)

Undated Features

Abbreviations

LBA – Late Bronze Age

PM – Post-medieval

PH – Prehistoric

EIA – Early Iron Age

MIA – Middle Iron Age

LIA – Late Iron Age

ER – Early Roman

UD - Undated

Nat – Natural

Geo – Geological

F – Fill

C - Cut

L - Layer

Context	Area	Context type	Comments	Parent Context	Finds	Group	Period	Phase
200	1	C	Ditch	200		20	LIA/ER	2.1
201	1	F	Upper fill of 200	200	134 x pot sherds AD 40-70, mostly from 3 vessels	20		2.1
202	1	C	Bedding trench	202		21	LIA/ER	2.1
203	1	F	Only Fill of 202	202	2 x pottery AD10-70; with 1x ?residual later prehistoric	21		2.1
204	1	C	Bedding trench	204		22	LIA/ER	2.1
205	1	F	Only fill of 204	204	1 x pot sherd AD10-70	22		2.1
206	1	F	Only fill of 207	207	1 x pot sherd AD 10-70	62		3
207	1	C	diagonal ditch cutting	207		62	Post med	3
208	1	F	only fill of pit 209	209			UD	UD
209	1	C	UD pit	209			UD	UD
210	1	C	Bedding trench	210		23	LIA/ER	2.1
211	1	F	only fill of 210, rooting	210	1 x LIA/Roman sherd; 2 x later prehistoric sherds; 3 x small flint flakes	23		2.1
212	1	C	diagonal ditch cutting bedding trenches	212		62	Post Med	3
213	1	F	only fill of 212	212	1 x flint flake	62		3
214	1	C	terminus of bedding trench. Recut of 216?	214		21	LIA/ER	2.1
215	1	F	only fill of 214	214		21		2.1
216	1	C	Bedding trench recut by 214?	216		21	LIA/ER	2.1
217	1	F	only fill of 216	216		21		2.1

218	1	F	only fill of 219	219				UD
219	1	C	UD pit	219			UD	UD
220	1	F	upper fill of ditch 225	225	1 x mid 18th C sherd; 1 x Roman sherd	60		3
221	1	F	middle fill of ditch 225	225		60		3
222	1	F	side fill of ditch 225	225		60		3
223	1	F	lower fill of ditch 225	225		60		3
224	1	F	lowest fill of ditch 225	225	1 x 17th C green glazed sherd	60		3
225	1	C	post-med ditch/moat. Showing on 1616 map	225		60	1616 or earlier	3
226	1	C	Ditch/bedding trench	226		22	LIA/ER	2.1
227	1	F	only fill of 226	226		22		2.1
228	1	C	diagonal ditch cutting bedding trenches	228		62	Post med	3
229	1	F	only fill of 228	228		62		3
230	1	C	Bedding trench	230		24	LIA/ER	2.1
231	1	F	only fill of 232	232		23		2.1
232	1	C	Bedding trench	232		23	LIA/ER	2.1
233	1	F	upper fill of 234	234		23		2.1
234	1	C	Bedding trench	234		23	LIA/ER	2.1
235	1	C	Bedding trench	235		23	LIA/ER	2.1
236	1	F	only fill of 235	235	1 sherd later prehistoric (1150BC+)	23		2.1
237	1	C	diagonal ditch cutting bedding trenches	237		62	Post Med	3
238	1	F	only fill of 237	237		62		3
239	1	C	shallow pit with charcoally fill	239			UD	UD
240	1	F	charcoally fill of 239	239				UD

241	1	F	lower fill of 234	234	1 x later PH sherd (1150+)	23		2.1
242	1	F	primary fill of 200	200		20		2.1
243	1	F	charcoally fill of 234	234		23		2.1
244	1	C	terminus of bedding trench	244		21	LIA/ER	2.1
245	1	F	only fill of 244	244		21		2.1
246	1	F	only fill of 247	247	1 x undiagnostic tile; 1 x FCF, modern nails			modern
247	1	C	posthole	247	modern nails			modern
248	1	C	Bedding trench	248		22	LIA/ER	2.1
249	1	F	only fill of 248	248		22		2.1
250	1	C	UD shallow pit	250			UD	UD
251	1	F	only fill of 250	250				UD
252	1	C	linear shallow feature	252	1x meso or early neo flint blade		Geo/ topo	geo
253	1	F	only fill of 252	252	1 x meso or early neo flint blade			geo
254	1	C	Bedding trench	254		23	LIA/ER	2.1
255	1	F	only fill of 254	254		23		2.1
256	1	C	re-cut of bedding trench 254	256		23	LIA/ER	2.1
257	1	F	only fill of 256	256	1 x flint flake	23		2.1
258	1	C	pit	258			Post med?	3
259	1	F	upper fill of 258	258	1 x 15th-16th C sherd			3
260	1	F	lower fill of 258	258				3
261	1	C	bedding trench terminus. Recut of 263	261		21	LIA/ER	2.1
262	1	F	only fill of 261	261	1 x sherd AD 50-70	21		2.1
263	1	C	bedding trench.	263		21	LIA/ER	2.1
264	1	F	only fill of 263.	263		21		2.1

265	1	C	bedding trench. C	265		24	LIA/ER	2.1
266	1	F	Only fill of 265	265	4 x Sherds AD 10-70; 1 x later PH sherd; 1 x prehistoric flint	24		2.1
267	1	C	possible posthole or small pit	267			Latest roman?	2.3
268	1	F	only fill of 267	267			Latest roman?	2.3
269	1	C	bedding trench	269		22	LIA/ER	2.1
270	1	F	only fill of 269	269	1 x later PH sherd	22		2.1
271	1	C	Ditch	271		20	LIA/ER	2.1
272	1	F	lower fill of 271	271	1 xAD10-70; 1 x residual later prehistoric	20		2.1
273	1	F	upper fill of 271	271	4 x AD 10-70; 4 x later PH sherds;animal bone	20		2.1
274	1	C	shallow pit	274			Latest roman?	2.3
275	1	F	only fill of 274	274			Latest roman?	2.3
276	1	C	Large post-med ditch/moat	276		60	1616 or earlier	3
277	1	F	upper fill of 276	276		60		3
278	1	C	N-S ditch cutting bedding trenches	278		44	Med/P.Med?	3
279	1	F	only fill of 278	278	1 x later PH sherd	44	Med/P.Med?	3
280	1	C	Bedding trench	280		22	LIA/ER	2.1
281	1	F	only fill of 280	280		22		2.1
282	1	C	post-med ditch/moat	282		60	1616 or before	3
283	1	C	continuation of ditch 282 where turns a corner	283		60	1616 or before	3
284	1	C	Bedding trench	284		24	LIA/ER	2.1
285	1	F	only fill of 284	284	12 x later PH sherds; 2 x AD40-70 sherds; 2 x flint flakes	24		2.1

286	1	C	bedding trench	286		26	LIA/ER	2.1
287	1	F	only fill of 288.	288	1 x later PH sherd	25		2.1
288	1	C	bedding trench	288		25	LIA/ER	2.1
289	1	F	only fill of 290	290				geo?
290	1	C	Elongated pit	290			natural geologyrooting?	geo?
291	1	F	only fill of 292	292		44	Med/P.Med?	3
292	1	C	N-S ditch cutting bedding trenches	292		44	Med/P.Med?	3
293	1	F	only fill of 286	286		26		2.1
294	1	F	upper fill of 282 and 283	282 283	1 x Late 16th/17th C or later sherd and 2 x ?17th sherds; residual LIA/ER and later PH sherds; PM brick; med or PM tile	60		3
295	1	F	fill of 282 and 283	282 283		60		3
296	1	F	fill of 282 and 283	282 283		60		3
297	1	F	primary fill of 282 and 283	282 283	2 x flint chips	60		3
298	1	C	Field boundary ditch. Heavily vegetated	298		45	Med/P.Med?	3
299	1	F	Topsoilly fill of 298, bleeds out into natural.	298	animal bone and snail shells	45	Med/P.Med?	3
300	1	C	curvilinear feature, possibly a tree hole	300			natural	nat
301	1	F	fill of 300. mixed natural, unclear edges	300				nat
302	1	C	bedding trench	302		25	LIA/ER	2.1
303	1	F	only fill of 302	302		25		2.1
304	1	C	Large ditch/moat	304		60	1616 or before	3

305	1	F	upper fill of 304	304	1 x 15th-16th C sherd ; 3 x LIA/ER sherd; 1 x FE object; 1 x piece of mid 17th to 18th century wine bottle glass	60		3
306	1	F	middle fill of 304	304		60		3
307	1	F	lower fill of 304	304	1 x 15th-16th C or later sherd	60		3
308	1	C	N-S ditch cutting bedding trenches	308		44	Med/P.Med?	3
309	1	F	only fill of 308	308		44	Med/P.Med?	3
310	1	C	bedding trench	310		27	LIA/ER	2.1
311	1	F	only fill of 310	310		27		2.1
312	1	C	E-W field boundary ditch	312		45	Med/P.Med?	3
313	1	F	only fill of 312.	312		45	Med/P.Med?	3
314	1	C	NW- SE ditch cutting bedding trenches	314		62	Post-med	3
315	1	F	only fill of 314	314	1 x Fe brooch pin	62		3
316	1	C	Bedding trench terminus. Recut of 318	316		26	LIA/ER	2.1
317	1	F	only fill of 316	316		26		2.1
318	1	C	bedding trench terminus. Recut by 316.	318		26	LIA/ER	2.1
319	1	F	only fill of 318	318		26		2.1
320	1	C	pit	320				UD
321	1	F	only fill of 320	320				UD
322	1	F	side fill of 304	304		60		3
323	1	F	side fill of 304	304		60		3
324	1	C	pit	324			Early Roman?	2.1
325	1	F	only fill of 324	324	3 x AD50-70 sherds; 2 x later PH sherds			2.1
326	1	F	only fill of 327	327	1 x later PH sherd	25		2.1
327	1	C	bedding trench terminus. recut by 331	327		25	LIA/ER	2.1
328	1	F	only fill of 329	329		25		2.1

329	1	C	bedding trench terminus. Recut by 331	329		25	LIA/ER	2.1
330	1	F	only fill of 331	331	Roman tile	25		2.1
331	1	C	bedding trench recut. Joins 327 and 329	331		25	LIA/ER	2.1
332	1	C	field boundary ditch	332		45	Med/P.Med?	3
333	1	F	only fill of 332	332		45	Med/P.Med?	3
334	1	C	terminus of ditch 312 . Cuts bedding trench 336 etc	334		45	Med/P.Med?	3
335	1	F	only fill of 334	334	probable Roman tile	45	Med/P.Med?	3
336	1	C	ditch/bedding trench	336		26	LIA/ER	2.1
337	1	F	only fill of 336	336		26		2.1
338	1	C	bedding trench	338		24	LIA/ER	2.1
339	1	F	only fill of 338	338	1 x AD10-70 sherd; 1 x flint flake	24		2.1
340	1	C	diagonal ditch cutting bedding trenches	340		62	Post Med	3
341	1	F	only fill of 340	340	1 x AD 10-70 sherd; 1 x FCF	62		3
342	1	C	Large ditch/moat	342		60	Before 1616	3
343	1	C	bedding trench	343		23	LIA/ER	2.1
344	1	F	only fill of 343	343	5 x AD 10-70; 3 x later PH sherds; 3 x flint flakes	23		2.1
345	1	C	terminus of bedding trench? Recut of 343?	345		23	LIA/ER	2.1
346	1	F	only fill of 345	345		23		2.1
347	1	C	terminus of bedding trench	347		25	LIA/ER	2.1
348	1	F	only fill of 347	347	1 x AD 10-70 sherd; 2 x later PH sherd	25		2.1

349	1	F	fill of 342	342	PM brick; 1 x glass wine bottle fragment 19th C	60		3
350	1	F	fill of 342	342		60		3
351	1	F	lowest fill of 342, contains organic material	342		60		3
352	1	F	only fill of 230	230	1 x later PH sherd	24		2.1
353	1	C	pit	353			UD	UD
354	1	F	only fill of 353	353				UD
355	1	C	ditch/moat	355		60	By 1616	3
356	1	F	uppermost fill of 355	355	slag	60		3
357	1	F	only fill of 358	358		26		2.1
358	1	C	bedding trench	358		26	LIA/ER	2.1
359	1	C	recut of ditch/bedding trench 363	359		26	LIA/ER	2.1
360	1	F	only fill of 359	359	10 x EIA sherds; 1 x Cu alloy obj - bell?, possibly Roman	26		2.1
361	1	F	only fill of 362	362	1 x later PH sherd	28		2.1
362	1	C	bedding trench	362		28	LIA/ER	2.1
363	1	C	bedding trench. Recut by 359	363		26	LIA/ER	2.1
364	1	F	only fill of 363. looked similar to natural	363		26		2.1
365	1	C	small UD pit or post-hole	365			UD	UD
366	1	F	only fill of 365	365				UD
367	1	C	pit	367			UD	UD
368	1	F	only fill of 367	367				UD
369	1	F	only fill of 370	370		29		2.1
370	1	C	bedding trench	370		29	LIA/ER	2.1
371	1	F	only fill of 372	372		62		3

372	1	C	diagonal ditch cutting bedding trenches & 374	372		62	Post med	3
373	1	F	only fill of 374	374		44		3
374	1	C	N-S ditch cutting bedding trenches. Cut by 372. relationship to bedding trench 370 truncated away	374		44	Med/P.Med?	3
375	1	C	bedding trench	375		29	LIA/ER	2.1
376	1	F	only fill of 375, very organic	375	1 x later PH sherd	29		2.1
377	1	F	fill of 355	355		60		3
378	1	F	only fill of 379	379		61		3
379	1	C	N-S trench. Cuts bedding trenches	379		61	Post Med	3
380	1	F	only fill of 381	381		29		2.1
381	1	C	bedding trench	381		29	LIA/ER	2.1
382	1	F	only fill of 383	383		61		3
383	1	C	N-S ditch, cutting bedding trenches	383		61	Post Med	3
384	1	F	only fill of 385	385		30		2.1
385	1	C	bedding trench	385		30	LIA/ER	2.1
386	1	C	bedding trench	386		29	LIA/ER	2.1
387	1	F	only fill of 386	386		29		2.1
388	1	F	only fill of 389	389		25		2.1
389	1	C	bedding trench	389		25	LIA/ER	2.1
390	1	F	only fill of 391	391		62		3
391	1	C	diagonal ditch cutting bedding trenches	391		62	Post Med	3
392	1	C	terminus of bedding trench	392		24	LIA/ER	2.1
393	1	F	only fill of 392. contains charcoal	392		24		2.1
394	1	C	shallow pit	394			UD	UD
395	1	F	only fill of 394	394				UD

396	1	C	bedding trench	396		30	LIA/ER	2.1
397	1	F	slumped deposit in S side of 396	396		30		2.1
398	1	F	main fill of 396	396	6 x later PH sherds	30		2.1
399	1	C	ephemeral pit dug for cattle burial 405	399			LIA/ER?	2.1
400	1	F	fill of pit for cattle burial 405	399			LIA/ER?	2.1
401	1	F	only fill of 402	402		30		2.1
402	1	C	bedding trench	402		30	LIA/ER	2.1
403	1	F	only fill of 404	404		44	Med/P.Med?	3
404	1	C	N-S ditch cutting bedding trenches	404		44	Med/P.Med?	3
405	1	F	articulated cattle burial	399			LIA/ER?	2.1
406	1	F	only fill of 407	407	4 x later PH sherds	31		2.1
407	1	C	bedding trench	407		31	LIA/ER	2.1
408	1	F	only fill of 409.	409	Fe spur (late med or PM); med /PM roof tile	61		3
409	1	C	N-S ditch cutting bedding trenches	409		61	Post Med	3
410	1	C	N-S ditch where it turns a corner E-W. Cuts bedding trenches	410		61	Post Med	3
411	1	F	only fill of 410. looks water derived, slow build up	410		61		3
412	1	C	bedding trench recut of 414, with terminus	412		27	LIA/ER	2.1
413	1	F	only fill of 412	412		27		2.1
414	1	C	terminus of bedding trench. Recut by 412	414		27	LIA/ER	2.1
415	1	F	only fill of 414	414	2 x AD10-70 sherds: 1 x later PH sherd	27		2.1
416	1	C	bedding trench	416		27	LIA/ER	2.1

417	1	F	only fill of 416	416		27		2.1
418	1	C	E-W ditch, enclosure ditch, cutting bedding trench 416	418		61	post med	3
419	1	F	primary fill of 418	418		61		3
420	1	F	backfill of 418	418	tile, maybe Roman; Cu PM button	61		3
421	1	F	only fill of 422	422	Roman coin	32		2.1
422	1	C	bedding trench	422		32	LIA/ER	2.1
423	1	F	only fill of 424	424		61		3
424	1	C	N-S ditch cutting bedding trenches	424		61	Post Med	3
425	1	F	only fill of 426	426	1 x later PH sherd	44		3
426	1	C	terminus of N-S ditch. Cuts bedding trenches	426		44	Med/P.Med?	3
427	1	F	only fill of 428	428				UD
428	1	C	post-hole with vague edges and sides	428			UD	UD
429	1	F	fill of 430	430	6 x later PH sherds			2.1
430	1	C	originally thought to be a posthole. Probably a fill within ditch 385.	430			LIA/ER	2.1
431	1	F	only fill of 432	432		31		2.1
432	1	C	bedding trench	432		31	LIA/ER	2.1
433	1	C	E-W ditch, enclosure ditch	433		61	Post Med	3
434	1	F	only fill of 433. waterlain.	433		61		3
435	1	F	only fill of 436	436		25		2.1
436	1	C	bedding trench	436		25	LIA/ER	2.1
437	1	F	only fill of 438	438		44		3
438	1	C	N-S ditch, cuts bedding trench 436	438		44	Med/P.Med?	3
439	1	F	only fill of 440	440		62		3
440	1	C	diagonal ditch cutting bedding trenches and N-S ditches	440		62	Post Med	3
441	1	F	only fill of 442	442	1 x flint flake	61		3
442	1	C	Enclosure ditch where it curves to run	442		61	Post Med	3

			E-W					
443	1	F	only fill of 444	444		27		2.1
444	1	C	bedding trench	444		27	LIA/ER	2.1
445	2	F	only fill of 446	446				UD
446	2	C	posthole with evidence of possible burning.	446			UD	UD
447	2	F	fill of 448, possible ev of burning	448	CBM		Latest roman?	2.3
448	2	C	post-hole, appears to cut ditch 464	448			Latest roman?	2.3
449	2	F	only fill of 450	450		30		2.1
450	2	C	bedding trench	450		30	LIA/ER	2.1
451	2	F	fill of 452	452		7		1.2
452	2	C	gully, cut by ditch 464	452		7	EIA-MIA?	1.2
453	1	C	bedding trench	453		30	LIA/ER	2.1
454	1	F	only fill of 453	453		30		2.1
455	1	C	recut of E-W bedding trench 453	455		30	LIA/ER	2.1
456	1	F	only fill of 455	455	1 x sherd, AD 10-400	30		2.1
457	2	F	only fill of 458	458		31		2.1
458	2	C	bedding trench. Cut by 460	458		31	LIA/ER	2.1
459	2	F	fill of 460	460		32		2.1
460	2	C	N-S ditch, continuation of 127 where it turns to W	460		32	LIA/ER	2.1
461	2	F	only fill of 462	462		30		2.1
462	2	C	bedding trench. Possibly cut by 464 but obscured by modern field drain	462		30	LIA/ER	2.1
463	2	F	only fill of 464	464	3 x later PH sherds	32		2.1
464	2	C	shallow N-S ditch, enclosure? Unclear relationship with 462	464		32	LIA/ER	2.1
465	1	F	fill of 466	466		32		2.1

466	1	C	bedding trench recut	466		32	LIA/ER	2.1
467	1	L	topsoil, same as 001	1				mod
468	1	L	subsoil, same as 002	2			?	?
469	2	F	only fill of 470	470	1 x AD 10-70 sherd; 2 x later PH sherds	33		2.1
470	2	C	ditch/possible bedding trench	470		33	LIA/ER	2.1
471	1	C	tree hole	471			natural	nat
472	1	F	fill of 471	471	2 x later PH sherds			nat
473	1	C	N-S cutting bedding trenches	473		61	PM	3
474	1	F	only fill of 473	473	1 x Late 16th/17th C to earlier 18th C sherd and 15 x 15th-16th C sherds; PM brick: med or PM peg tile	61		3
475	1	F	fill of 476	476		32		2.1
476	1	C	bedding trench. Recut by 466	476		32	LIA/ER	2.1
477	2	F	only fill of 478	478		31		2.1
478	2	C	Terminus of bedding trench, cuts 480	478		31	LIA/ER	2.1
479	2	F	fill of 480	480		5		1.2
480	2	C	N-S ditch, cut by 478	480		5	EIA-MIA?	1.2
481	2	F	only fill of 482	482		32		2.1
482	2	C	N-S ditch,	482		32	LIA/ER	2.1
483	2	F	Only fill of 484	484		5		1.2
484	2	C	N-S ditch, cut by 486	484		5	EIA-MIA?	1.2
485	2	F	only fill of 486	486		6		1.2
486	2	C	terminus of stretch of curvilinear ditch. Cuts 484	486		6	EIA-MIA?	1.2
487	2	F	fill of 488	488		5		1.2
488	2	C	N-S ditch	488		5	EIA-MIA?	1.2

489	2	F	only fill of 490, reddish	490	1 x later PH pottery; Roman brick	48	later roman	2.2
490	2	C	E-W ditch	490		48	later roman	2.2
491	1	C	pit, possible tree hole	491			?Natural	nat
492	1	F	lower fill of 491	491	1 x flint flake			nat
493	1	F	upper fill of 491	491				nat
494	1	C	bedding trench	494		29	LIA/ER	2.1
495	1	F	only fill of 494	494		29		2.1
496	2	F	only fill of 497	497		46		2.2
497	2	C	E-W ditch - Probably cuts 499	497		46	later Roman	2.2
498	2	F	only fill of 499	499		3		1.2
499	2	C	diagonal ditch, probably cut by 497 but fills are similar so not that clear	499		3	EIA-MIA?	1.2
500	2	F	only fill of 501	501		6		1.2
501	2	C	stretch of curvilinear ditch	501		6	EIA-MIA?	1.2
502	1	C	bedding trench, recut by 504	502		29	LIA/ER	2.1
503	1	F	only fill of 502	502		29		2.1
504	1	C	recut of bedding trench 502	504		29	LIA/ER	2.1
505	1	F	only fill of 504	504	1 x sherd AD 10-400	29		2.1
506	1	C	Gully, modern land drain? Cuts 504	506			modern	mod
507	1	F	Fill of 506	506	large mammal bones, probably disturbed from [504]			mod
508	2	C	sinuous gully, cuts 640	508		9	EIA-MIA?	1.2
509	2	F	only fill of 508	508		9		1.2
510	2	C	posthole with burnt fill	510				1.1
511	2	F	burnt fill of 510	510	1 x later PH sherd		?LBA – EIA	1.1
512	2	C	E-W ditch	512		48	later roman	2.2
513	2	F	only fill of 512, reddish	512		48		2.2
514	2	F	only fill of 515	515		46		2.2
515	2	C	E-W ditch, Relationship with 517 unclear.	515		46	later roman	2.2

516	2	F	only fill of 517	517		4		1.2
517	2	C	N-S ditch, relation with 515 unclear	517		4	EIA-MIA?	1.2
518	2	F	only fill of 519	519				UD
519	2	C	shallow pit	519			UD	UD
520	2	F	only fill of 521	521				UD
521	2	C	shallow pit	521			UD	UD
522	2	F	only fill of 523	523				nat
523	2	C	tree hole. Cut by 473	523			Natural	nat
524	2	F	only fill of 525	525		46		2.2
525	2	C	E-W ditch/gully. Cuts 527. recut by 533	525		46	later roman	2.2
526	2	F	only fill of 527	527	2 x later PH sherds; 1 x ?intrusive 1640-1710 clay pipe frag; animal bone	64		1.2
527	2	C	curving linear feature. Cut by 525	527		64	EIA-MIA?	1.2
528	2	F	only fill of 529	529		46		2.2
529	2	C	E-W ditch, recut of 531	529		46	later roman	2.2
530	2	F	only fill of 531	531		46		2.2
531	2	C	E-W ditch. Cut by 529	531		46	later roman	2.2
532	2	F	only fill of 533	533		46		2.2
533	2	C	E-W ditch. Cuts 525	533		46	later roman	2.2
534	2	F	only fill of 535	534				nat
535	2	C	treehole?	524			Natural	nat
536	2	F	only fill of 537	537		1		1.2
537	2	C	terminus of WNW to ESE ditch	537		1	EIA-MIA?	1.2
538	2	F	only fill of 539, reddish	539		48		2.2
539	2	C	E-W ditch	539		48	later roman	2.2
540	2	F	only fill of 541	541		6		1.2
541	2	C	stretch of curvilinear ditch, cut by 543	541		6	EIA-MIA?	1.2
542	2	F	only fill of 543	543		3		1.2
543	2	C	diagonal ditch. Cuts 541	543		3	EIA-MIA?	1.2
544	2	F	only fill of 545	545				nat
545	2	C	tree hole	545			Natural	nat

546	2	F	only fill of 547	547	1 x sherd AD10-70	32		2.1
547	2	C	recut of bedding trench 549	547		32	LIA/ER	2.1
548	2	F	only fill of 549	549	1 x sherd AD 10-70	32		2.1
549	2	C	bedding trench. Recut by 547	549		32	LIA/ER	2.1
550	2	F	later fill of 551	551				UD
551	2	C	small shallow pit	551			UD	UD
552	2	F	earlier fill of 551	551				UD
553	2	C	gully, obscured by field drain	553		9	EIA-MIA?	1.2
554	2	F	only fill of 553	553		9		1.2
555	2	C	bedding trench	555		31	LIA/ER	2.1
556	2	F	only fill of 555	555	6 x later PH sherds; 2 x AD 40-70 sherds; 2 x flint flakes	31		2.1
557	2	C	E-W ditch, cuts 559	557		48	later roman	2.2
558	2	F	only fill of 557 reddish	557	UD vitrified tile	48		2.2
559	2	C	stretch of curvilinear ditch. Cut by 557. no evidence of a terminus.	559		2	EIA-MIA?	1.2
560	2	F	Only fill of 559. Standing water in base of ditch?	559	2 x later PH sherds	2		1.2
561	2	C	ditch	561		47	later roman	2.2
562	2	F	lower fill of 561	561	early pottery in lower fill (disintegrated)	47		2.2
563	2	F	upper fill of 561	561		47		2.2
564	2	F	only fill of 565	565		3	EIA-MIA?	1.2
565	2	C	NE-SW gully. Rel with 567 not ascertained.	565		3	EIA-MIA?	1.2
566	2	F	only fill of 567	567		7		1.2
567	2	C	gully or plough scar	567		7	EIA-MIA?	1.2
568	2	C	sinuous gully, irregular in plan and section	568		8	EIA-MIA?	1.2
569	2	F	only fill of 568	568	animal bone	8		1.2
570	2	C	E-W ditch	570		47	later roman	2.2

571	2	F	only fill of 570	570	large animal bones	47		2.2
572	2	C	terminus of curvilinear ditch	572		64	EIA-MIA?	1.2
573	2	F	only fill of 572	572		64		1.2
574	2	F	only fill of 575	575		30		2.1
575	2	C	Terminus of bedding trench	575		30	LIA/ER	2.1
576	2	F	only fill of 577	577	1 x slag fragment	46		2.2
577	2	C	E-W ditch	577		46	later roman	2.2
578	2	F	only fill of 579	579	Roman brick	46		2.2
579	2	C	ditch	579		46	later roman	2.2
580	2	F	only fill of 581	581		12		1.2
581	2	C	shallow feature, uneven base. Very patchy in plan. Probably hedge line continuing to the NW	581		12	EIA-MIA?	1.2
582	2	F	only fill 583.	583			UD	UD
583	2	C	tree hole or pit	583			UD	UD
584	2	F	only fill of 585	585		47		2.2
585	2	C	E-W ditch, Cuts 587	585		47	later roman	2.2
586	2	F	only fill of 587	587	3 x later PH sherds; animal bone	4		1.2
587	2	C	N-S ditch cut by 585.	587		4	EIA-MIA?	1.2
588	2	C	E-W ditch	588		47	later roman	2.2
589	2	F	only fill of 588	588	1 x flint flake; animal bone	47		2.2
590	2	C	possible elongated pit or glacial feature	590			geology	geo
591	2	F	only fill of 590	590				geo
592	2	F	fill of 935	935			natural	nat
593	2	C	E-W gully	593		50	later roman	2.2
594	2	F	only fill of 593	593		50		2.2
595	2	C	UD pit	595			UD	UD
596	2	F	only fill of 595	595				UD
597	2	C	E-W ditch/gully	597		49	later roman	2.2

598	2	F	only fill of 597	597	6 x Roman and EIA (600-400 BC) sherds; undiagnostic tile; Fe object; shells of land molluscs	49		2.2
599	2	F	only fill of 600	600		14		geo?
600	2	C	narrow gully, NW-SE	600		14	natural	geo?
601	2	F	upper fill of 603	603	roman imbrex	47		2.2
602	2	F	lower fill of 603	603		47		2.2
603	2	C	E-W gully	603		47	later roman	2.2
604	2	C	wide deep N-S ditch with reddish fill Sealed by gravel trackway 617	604		51	later roman	2.2
605	2	C	elongated pit or stretch of ditch.	605				
606	2	F	fill of 605	605				
607	2	C	E-W gully	607		49	later roman	2.2
608	2	F	only fill of 607	607	1 x small Roman sherd; 1 x later PH sherd; undiagnostic tile, possibly Roman	49		2.2
609	2	C	sinuous ditch, irregular in plan and base	609		8	EIA-MIA?	1.2
610	2	F	fill of 609	609	2 x later PH sherds	8		1.2
611	2	F	primary fill of 604	604		51		2.2
612	2	F	fill of 604	604	1 x Roman sherd AD10-70; Roman bricks, tegulae. Flake of med or PM tile?	51		2.2
613	2	C	step on E side of deep ditch 604, cut by original diggers for access/egress?	613		51	later roman	2.2
614	2	F	only fill of 613	613		51		2.2
615	2	C	recut of ditch 604	615		51	later roman	2.2
616	2	F	only fill of 615. Reddish. Sealed by gravel layer 617	615		51		2.2
617	2	L	gravel layer extending N and S.	617	Roman bricks and roof	936	Latest roman?	2.3

618	2	L	Trackway. Seals 604 build up or levelling layer filling depression in gravel 617. contains some gravel	618	tile Roman roof tile	936	Latest roman?	2.3
619	2	F	only fill of 620	620	5 x sherds AD10-70; 5 x later PH sherds	3	EIA-MIA?	1.2
620	2	C	terminus of NW-SE ditch, Cut by 497	620		3	EIA-MIA?	1.2
621	2	C	E-W gully.	621		50	later roman	2.2
622	2	F	only fill of 621	621		50		2.2
623	2	C	sinuous ditch, irregular in plan and base, seems to cut 621	623		8	EIA-MIA?	1.2
624	2	F	only fill of 623	623		8		1.2
625	2	F	only fill of 626	626		13		1.2
626	2	C	shallow NE-SW gully, possibly continues to SW	626		13	EIA-MIA?	1.2
627	2	C	E-W ditch, possibly containing cremated animal bone 631.	627		49	later roman	2.2
628	2	F	only fill of 627	627		49		2.2
629	2	C	expansive tree hole disturbing a patch of cremated animal bone and charcoal (631) in fill	629			Natural	nat
630	2	F	fill of 629	629	2 x later PH sherds found near 629 u/s		nat	nat
631	2	F	cremated animal bone and charcoal ?within ditch 627, disturbed by tree 629 or burnt by tree removal?	631	1 x flint flake and 1 x flint chip		LIA/ER?	2.1
632	2	C	E-W linear with terminus.	632		48	later roman	2.2
633	2	F	Reddish fill of 632. crushed tile and deliberately deposited large Roman bricks and broken brick/tile, near where the ditch meets 665	632	Roman bricks inc 2 complete Roman lydiae	48	later roman	2.2
634	2	C	tree hole, same as 629. disturbs ditch 627	634			Natural	nat
635	2	F	only fill of 634	634				nat
636	2	F	primary fill of 637	637		47		2.2

637	2	C	E-W ditch	637	47	later roman	2.2
638	2	F	only fill of 639	639	46		2.2
639	2	C	E-W ditch	639	46	later roman	2.2
640	2	C	shallow NW-SE ditch, cut by 642	640	1	EIA-MIA?	1.2
641	2	F	only fill of 640	640	1		1.2
642	2	C	Sinuuous ditch, unclear relationship with 640	642	9	EIA-MIA?	1.2
643	2	F	only fill of 642	642	9		1.2
644	2	F	upper fill of 637	637	47		2.2
645	2	C	E-W ditch	645	48	later roman	2.2
646	2	F	lower fill of 645	645	48	1 x later PH sherd; undiagnostic tile	2.2
647	2	F	upper fill (backfill) of 645, reddish	645	48	Roman bricks	2.2
648	2	F	uppermost fill of 650	650	37		2.1
649	2	F	primary fill of 650	650	37		2.1
650	2	C	N-S bedding trench	650	37	LIA/ER	2.1
651	2	F	only fill of 652	652	49	3 x Roman sherds AD 40-400; 1 x later PH sherd; land mollusc shells	2.2
652	2	C	E-W ditch	652	49	later roman	2.2
653	2	C	NW-SE ditch	653	1	EIA-MIA?	1.2
654	2	F	only fill of 653	653	1		1.2
655	2	F	uppermost fill of 657	657	37		2.1
656	2	F	primary fill of 657	657	37		2.1
657	2	C	N-S bedding trench	657	37	LIA/ER	2.1
658	2	L	deposit containing surface finds	658		Roman brick and roof tile	2.1
659	2	C	E-W gully	659	49	later roman	2.2
660	2	F	primary fill of 659	659	49	2 x later PH sherds; 1 x large sherd later PH pottery on surface	2.2
661	2	F	latest fill of 659	659	49		2.2

662	2	C	E-W ditch	662		50	later roman	2.2
663	2	F	only fill of 662	662		50		2.2
664	2	L	large sherd of shell tempered pottery found on surface of gully segment 659	659	1 x large sherd of later PH pottery on surface	49		
665	2	C	possible terminus of N-S ditch 604. sealed by gravel trackway. Cuts 666.	665		51	later roman	2.2
666	2	C	possible small pit cut by 665, sealed by gravel trackway	666			LIA/ early roman ?	2.1
667	2	F	only fill of 668	668	1 x later PH sherd	48		2.2
668	2	C	E-W ditch	668		48	later roman	2.2
669	2	F	upper fill of 670	670				2.1
670	2	C	pit cut by Roman ditch 668	670			LIA/ER?	2.1
671	2	C	pit. Unknown rel with adjacent pit 674	671			LIA/ER	2.1
672	2	F	lower fill of pit 671	671	5 x AD10-70 sherds; 1 x later PH sherd			2.1
673	2	F	upper fill of 671	671	animal bone			2.1
674	2	C	E-W ditch	674		48	later roman	2.2
675	2	F	top fill of 674, reddish	674	Roman roof tile	48		2.2
676	2	F	lower fill of 674	674	snail shells	48		2.2
677	2	F	lower fill of 670	670				2.1
678	2	C	shallow ditch, NW-SE. Cut by 680?	678		1	EIA-MIA?	1.2
679	2	F	only fill of 678	678		1		1.2
680	2	C	NE-SW sinuous ditch, diffuse boundaries due to rooting	680		8	EIA-MIA?	1.2
681	2	F	only fill of 680	680		8		1.2
682	2	F	only fill of 683	682	1 x later PH sherd; Roman roof tile			2.2
683	2	C	pit	682			later roman	2.2
684	2	F	gravelly fill of 632. gravel from trackway?	632		936	Latest roman?	2.3
685	2	F	primary fill of 632	632		48		2.2
686	2	F	upper fill of 632. similar to 690	632		48	later roman	2.2

687	2	F	gravelly fill of 632. gravel from trackway?	632		936	Latest roman?	2.3
688	2	L	layer sitting above very gravelly layer 689. probably surface of trackway	688		936	Latest roman?	2.3
689	2	L	Gravelly layer sealing 665, part of trackway?	689		936	Latest roman?	2.3
690	2	F	main fill of 665.	665		51		2.2
691	2	F	basal fill of 665	665		51		2.2
692	2	F	only fill of 666	666				2.1
693	2	F	upper fill of 695	695		37		2.1
694	2	F	lower fill of 695	695		37		2.1
695	2	C	terminus of N-S bedding trench	695		37	LIA/ER	2.1
696	2	F	only fill of 697	697	UD tile	50		2.2
697	2	C	E-W ditch	697		50	later roman	2.2
698	2	F	uppermost fill of 700	700		37		2.1
699	2	F	lower fill of 700	700		37		2.1
700	2	C	terminus of N-S bedding trench	700		37	LIA/ER	2.1
701	2	C	N-S shallow ditch. Rel to 703 not established.	701		57	later roman	2.2
702	2	F	only fill of 701	701		57		2.2
703	2	C	E-W shallow ditch. Rel to 701 not established	703		59	later roman	2.2
704	2	F	only fill of 703	703		59		2.2
705	2	C	N-S gully	705		57	later roman	2.2
706	2	F	only fill of 705	705	5 x AD 10-70; 1 x EIA sherd - (600-400BC)	57		2.2
707	2	C	E-W shallow ditch	707		59	later roman	2.2
708	2	F	only fill of 707	707	6 x later PH sherds; brick 1400-1800? (may have come from on top); snail shells	59		2.2
709	2	C	NE-SW ditch, cut by 711	709		15	Natural	nat

710	2	F	only fill of 709. ?Reddish sandy fill, may be inwash from surface of gravel trackway	709		15		nat
711	2	C	charcoally pit cutting 709	711			?LIA/ER	2.1
712	2	F	fill of 711. natural slumping of sides	711				2.1
713	2	F	fill of 711. natural slumping of sides	711				2.1
714	2	F	main fill of 711. very charcoally and ashy. Dumping	711	2x later PH sherds; 2 x flint flakes and 3 x flint chips; small quant animal bone			2.1
715	2	F	uppermost fill of 718	718	med or PM roof tile	63		3
716	2	F	middle fill of 718	718	2 x 15th-16th C sherds; 1 x late Roman sherd; PM bricks, med/PM peg tile, 1400-1800; various Fe and Pb objects; coin UD; land mollusc shells	63		3
717	2	F	lowest fill of 718. fill surrounds a post-med field drain which was placed in bottom of ditch before being backfilled	718		63		3
718	2	C	N-S field boundary showing on 1616 map	718		63	Med or PM	3
719	2	F	only fill of 720	720				UD
720	2	C	pit or posthole to E of trackway	720			UD	UD
721	2	F	only fill of 722	722	Roman brick and roof tile on surface	48		2.2
722	2	C	E-W ditch/bedding trench	722		48	later roman	2.2
723	2	C	E-W gully, recut by 725	723		46	later roman	2.2
724	2	F	only fill of 723	723	1 x flint blade - meso to EBA	46		2.2
725	2	C	E-W recut of 723	725		46	later roman	2.2
726	2	F	only fill of 725	725		46		2.2

727	2	C	cremation burial. Appears to be cut into surface of gravel trackway 729 but not clear. Not bottomed. The base was seen when gravel and layer 729 was stripped off (recorded as 920)	727			LIA/ER ?	2.1
728	2	F	main fill of 727. cremated bone and charcoal	727				2.1
729	2	L	top layer of gravel trackway. Seems to merge with gravel 617 on west . But seals the gravel to the E where it dips down. Loose reddish brown sandy silty clay with moderate gravel	729	1 x flint hammerstone	936	Latest roman?	2.3
730	2	C	NE-SW irregular linear	730		15	Geology	geo
731	2	F	only fill of 730, reddish	730	conjoining sherds of one pot vessel AD 40-100; 1 x FCF	15		geo
732	2	C	posthole cutting 627	732			Latest roman?	2.3
733	2	F	only fill of 732. charcoally.	732	1 x flint flake and 1 x flint chip		Latest roman?	2.3
734	2	F	upper fill of cremation burial 727, deliberate backfill/sealing layer?	727				2.1
735	2	F	only fill of 736	736		16		nat?
736	2	C	NE-SW ditch /gully, cut by pit 139/772	736		16	Natural?	nat?
737	2	C	E-W ditch	737		50	later roman	2.2
738	2	C	gully or ditch with similar fill as 737.	738	peg tile 1200-1800	66	med to post-med	3
739	2	F	fill of 737	737	6 x AD 40-100 sherds	50		2.2
740	2	C	bedding trench, recut by 743	740		37	LIA/ER	2.1
741	2	F	only fill of 740	740		37		2.1
742	2	F	only fill of 743	743	2 x later PH sherds	37	LIA/ER	2.1

743	2	C	recut of 740	743		37	LIA/ER	2.1
744	2	F	only fill of 745	745	10 x conjoining sherds of one pot vessel AD 120-200	35		2.1
745	2	C	Terminus of N/S bedding trench	745		35	LIA/ER	2.1
746	2	C	pit	746			Latest roman?	2.3
747	2	F	only fill of 746, charcoally	746	1 x flint chip		Latest roman?	2.3
748	2	C	shallow NE-SW gully/ditch. Cut by 737	748		65	EIA-MIA?	1.2
749	2	F	only fill of 748	748		65		1.2
750	2	C	N-S ditch, recut by 752	750		52	later roman	2.2
751	2	F	only fill of 750, reddish	750	3 x small sherds AD 40-400; Med/PM roof tile and undiagnostic flake, 1200-1800 (no finds recorded on context sheet, this may be wrongly bagged)	52		2.2
752	2	C	recut of 750	752		52	later roman	2.2
753	2	F	only fill of 752, reddish	752		52		2.2
754	2	L	gravel trackway, partially sealing 750	754	1 x sherd 50BC-AD70; Roman brick	936	Latest roman?	2.3
755	2	L	top surface of trackway.	755	Numerous metal detected finds of Roman and post-med date inc 2 x musket balls and 2 x Roman? coins ; undiagnostic tile - possibly Roman	936	Latest roman?	2.3
756	2	C	NW-SE ditch	756		15	Geological?	geo?
757	2	F	only fill of 756	756		15		geo?
758	2	C	N-S bedding trench, seems to be truncated by 760 but not clear.	758		35	LIA/ER	2.1

Sealed by gravel 762								
759	2	F	only fill of 758	758	1 x meso or early neo blade-like flint	35		2.1
760	2	C	recut of 758	760		35	LIA/ER	2.1
761	2	F	primary fill of 760	760		35		2.1
762	2	L	gravelly make up layer merging with 755. partially truncated surface of trackway?	762	undiagnostic tile - possibly Roman	936	Latest roman?	2.3
763	2	C	pit/posthole	763			LIA/ER?	2.1
764	2	F	only fill of 763, charcoally	763			LIA/ER?	2.1
765	2	C	posthole.	765			LIA/ER?	2.1
766	2	F	charcoally fill of 765	765	1 x later PH sherd; Roman brick, some vitrified		LIA/ER?	2.1
767	2	C	pit/posthole	767			LIA/ER?	2.1
768	2	F	charcoally fill of 767	767				2.1
769	2	F	only fill of 776.	772				3
770	2	F	main fill of 772. Organic	772	undiagnostic tile, possibly Roman			3
771	2	F	slumped fill on E side of 772. divided by a patch of natural which may indicate a bank on E side?	772				3
772	2	C	large pit cut through gravel layers of trackway 729 and 617. Also cuts ditch 736	772			Post Med	3
773	2	C	N-S bedding trench	773		40	LIA/ER	2.1
774	2	F	fill of 773	773		40		2.1
775	2	F	fill of 738	738	med /PM peg tile, 1200-1800	66	med to post-med	3

776	2	C	small pit. Recut of 772	776	med /PM peg tile, 1200-1800		PM	3
777	2	F	only fill of 778	778	6 x later PH sherds; med /PM peg tile, 1200-1800 (no CBM recorded on context sheet)		PM	3
778	2	C	posthole	778			PM	3
779	2	C	cremation burial or pyre debris deposit. appear to be cut through gravelly surface 729 but might be sealed by it	779			LIA/ER ?	2.1
780	2	F	lower fill of 779, contains some charcoal	779				2.1
781	2	F	main (upper) fill of 779. mainly charcoal plus cremated bone	779	1 x blade-like flint			2.1
782	2	L	deposit over foundation 783. May be deliberate dump or may be result of weathering of surrounding deposits after abandonment of structure	782	2 x PH sherds. 1 Fe obj	68	Latest roman?	2.3
783	2	M	remains of two sides of a foundation made entirely from re-used Roman bricks and roof tile	783	Roman bricks, roof tile and possible tessera	68	Latest roman?	2.3
784	2	C	cut for foundation 783	783		68	Latest roman?	2.3
785	2	C	NE-SW linear. Looks real here but looks geological to the SW	785		17	geo?	geo?
786	2	F	only fill of 785, reddish	785	2 x later PH sherds; undiagnostic tile, med or PM?; 1 x blade-like flint	17	geo?	geo?
787	2	C	irregular NW- SE ditch	787		18	Geological?	geo?
788	2	F	only fill of 787, reddish	787		18	geo?	geo?
789	2	C	cremation burial or pyre debris deposit in/under gravel trackway	789			LIA/ER?	2.1
790	2	F	lower fill of cremation burial 789. contains charcoal and cremated bone	789				2.1
791	2	F	main (upper) fill of 789. 90%	789	2 x flint chips			2.1

			charcoal. Also contains cremated bone					
792	2	C	shallow pit	792			?LBA – EIA	1.1
793	2	F	only fill of 792, charcoally	792	8 x conjoining pot sherds later PH			1.1
794	2	L	possible levelling layer, redeposited natural at base of trackway? or natural? Same as 924?	794		936	Latest roman?	2.3
795	2	L	slightly gravelly layer. Surface of trackway? Same as 799 and 801? Seals gravel 800/802. stripped off towards end of excavation	795		936	Latest roman?	2.3
796	2	L	charcoally layer dumped on top of dip in the gravel. Same as 923?	796		936	Latest roman?	2.3
797	2	L	layer to infill ground on top of gravel trackway where it dips to the east	797	Roman tegula	936	Latest roman?	2.3
798	2	L	Continuation of trackway same as 800 and 928	798		936	Latest roman?	2.3
799	2	L	Levelling layer. Continuation of layers 795 and 801? But obscured by field drains.	799		936	Latest roman?	2.3
800	2	L	remains of gravel trackway. Probably same as 798 but divided by field drain.	800		936	Latest roman?	2.3
801	2	L	Levelling layer sealing gravel trackway. Same as 799 and 795	801		936	Latest roman?	2.3
802	2	L	Gravel layer. Possible later episode of trackway surface 798/800	802	Roman brick	936	Latest roman?	2.3
803	2	L	sterile clay layer sealed by gravel 802 and sealing natural. This may be natural, maybe redeposited natural used for levelling	803		936?	natural?	nat?
804	2	F	only fill of 805, reddish	805		52		2.3
805	2	C	recut of 834. same as 752	805		52	later roman	2.3

806	2	L	levelling layer. May be redeposited natural. Probably the same as 794 and 803 but not sealed by gravel	806		936	Latest roman?	2.3
807	2	F	main (upper) fill of 760	760	4 x later PH sherds; 1 x flint flake	35		2.1
808	2	C	N-S ditch, might be a reworking of 760	808		10		2.1
809	2	F	only fill of 808	808	Roman tile, possibly box flue. AD 100-400	10		2.1
810	2	C	N-S bedding trench	810		38	LIA/ER	2.1
811	2	F	only fill of 810	810	1x later PH sherd; 1 x intrusive late 18th-19th C clay pipe frag	38		2.1
812	2	C	Pit or tree hole	812			UD	UD
813	2	F	only fill of 812	812				UD
814	2	C	Curvilinear ditch/gully. May join up with 35 and 600. The butt end is not a real butt end but more a splodge of natural sand	814		14	geo?	geo?
815	2	F	only fill of 814, orangey brown	814		14		geo?
816	2	VOID						
817	2	VOID						
818	2	C	Curvilinear ditch/gully cut by 908	818		17	geo?	geo?
819	2	F	only fill of 818, reddish	818		17		geo?
820	2	C	posthole or possibly a placed deposit	820			?LBA – EIA	1.1
821	2	F	only fill of 820, charcoally	820	17 x sherds from a single vessel later PH (1150BC onwards)			1.1
822	2	C	posthole or possibly a placed deposit	822	1 x meso-EBA blade-like flint; 1 x flint chip		?LBA – EIA	1.1
823	2	F	only fill of 822, charcoally	822				1.1
824	2	C	N-S bedding trench	824		39	LIA-Early Roman	2.1
825	2	F	only fill of 824	824	5 x conjoining pot sherds 50BC - AD70	39		2.1

826	2	C	pit cutting into ditch 828	826			Latest roman?	2.3
827	2	F	only fill of 826. charcoal-rich	826	tile flake, possibly Roman		Latest roman?	2.3
828	2	C	N-S ditch. Cut by 826	828		58	later roman	2.2
829	2	F	W side fill of ditch 828 - collapsed side	828	Roman CBM	58	later roman	2.2
830	2	F	E side of ditch 828. collapsed side	828	Roman CBM	58		2.2
831	2	F	main fill (latest) of 828	828	Roman brick and roof tile; 1 x flint chip; snail shells at base and fossilised belemnite and 'devil's toenails'	58		2.2
832	2	VOID						
833	2	F	only fill of 834	834		52		2.2
834	2	C	N-S ditch. Recut by 805	834		52	later roman	2.2
835	2	C	sub oval pit / posthole	835			PM?	3
836	2	F	only fill of 835. backfill. Charcoally	835	4 x small later PH sherds; Roman? cu alloy stud; med or PM roof tile, 1200-1800			3
837	2	C	Shallow E-W ditch	837		15	geological	geo?
838	2	F	reddish fill of 837	837		15		geo?
839	2	L	extensive deposit, quite gravelly, sealing gravel trackway 839/859. Probably the same as 77 and 729 and maybe 755 and 922.	839	Roman roof tile and possible brick	936	Latest roman?	2.3
840	2	L	Gravel layer - trackway. Sealed by 839	840	4 x Roman pottery (late?); 2 x Fe objects; Roman bricks, some vitrified; Roman roof tile; 1 x FCF	936	Latest roman?	2.3
841	2	F	only fill of 842	842		59		2.2
842	2	C	E-W shallow ditch	842		59	later roman	2.2
843	2	C	N-S bedding trench terminus	843		38	LIA/ER	2.1
844	2	F	only fill of 843	843	1 x AD10-70 sherd; 1 x waste flake	38		2.1

845	2	C	N-S bedding trench terminus	845		38	LIA/ER	2.1
846	2	F	only fill of 845	845	Fire cracked flint	38		2.1
847	2	C	N-S bedding trench. Stops after 3m, previously stripped away?	847		36	LIA/ER	2.1
848	2	F	only fill of 847	847		36		2.1
849	2	C	N-S bedding trench	849		41	LIA/ER	2.1
850	2	F	only fill of 849	849	11 x AD10-70 sherds	41		2.1
851	2	C	N-S bedding trench	851		42	LIA/ER	2.1
852	2	F	only fill of 851	851	1 x flint flake	42		2.1
853	2	F	only fill of 854	854				UD
854	2	C	pit of unknown purpose	854			UD	UD
855	2	C	irregular posthole cutting ditch 674	855			later roman	2.2
856	2	F	charcoal-rich fill of 855	855	undiagnostic tile, Roman?; 1 x FCF and 1 x flint flake			2.2
857	2	C	probable modern pit, cut through gravel trackway	857			PM or modern	3
858	2	F	only fill of 857	857	undiagnostic brick, PM?;nails			3
859	2	L	Western edge of gravel trackway 840 formed of large flint cobbles and Roman CBM. Seals underlying N-S ditch	840		936	Latest roman?	2.3
860	2	F	only fill of 861	861	1 x Roman sherd AD 40-400	35		2.1
861	2	C	N-S bedding trench terminus	861		35	LIA/ER	2.1
862	2	C	N-S ditch cutting ditch 864	862		52	later roman	2.2
863	2	F	only fill of 862, reddish orangy fill	862	undead tile, possibly med/PM roof tile (or might be Roman?)	52		2.2
864	2	C	irregular ditch gully , cut by 862	864		18	Geological	geo?
865	2	F	only fill of 864, reddish	864		18		geo?

866	2	C	N-S linear cut by 868	866		52	later roman	2.2
867	2	F	only fill of 866	866		52		2.2
868	2	C	Pit, cuts 866. sealed by gravel trackway.	868			Latest roman?	2.3
869	2	F	only fill of 868, burnt clay and charcoal	868			Latest roman?	2.3
870	2	C	N-S bedding trench. Recut of 926. cremation or pyre debris (870) then deposited in the top of this recut from the E side.	870		35	LIA/ER	2.1
871	2	F	cremation/pyre deposit of charcoal and cremated bone deposited into top of ditch 870 from the east side. Seen for a length of 5m along the E side of ditch 870. sealed by gravel trackway	870	3 x flint chips; iron nails	35	LIA/ER	2.1
872	2	F	lower fill of recut 870. occasional charcoal	870		35	LIA/ER	2.1
873	2	F	only fill of pit 874	874				UD
874	2	C	pit of unknown purpose	874			UD	UD
875	2	C	pit	875			EIA	1.1
876	2	F	upper (main) fill of 875	875	31 x EIA sherds (inc 2 rims); degraded animal bone			1.1
877	2	F	lower fill of 875	875				1.1
878	2	C	N-S bedding trench. sealed by gravel trackway	878		35	LIA/ER	2.1
879	2	F	only fill of 878	878		35		2.1
880	2	C	N-S bedding trench	880		35	LIA/ER	2.1
881	2	F	only fill of 880.	880	undiagnostic tile, possibly Roman	35		2.1
882	2	C	E-W gully	882		67	EIA-MIA?	1.2
883	2	F	only fill of 882	882		67		1.2
884	2	F	only fill of 885. burnt clay, charcoal	885	34 x later PH sherds inc some crumbs of ?LIA?Early Roman;		LIA/ER?	2.1

				animal bone			
885	2	C	pit	885			2.1
886	2	C	N-S ditch/bedding trench. Cuts 888. same as 700 and 650 etc	886	37	LIA/ER	2.1
887	2	F	only fill of 886	886	37		2.1
888	2	C	Irregular E-W ditch, then veering NW. Cut by 886. Possibly a continuation of 890 and 756	888	15	geological?	geo?
889	2	F	only fill of 888, reddish	888	15		geo?
890	2	C	NW-SE ditch, sealed by gravel layers 762 and 755. cut by 896 and probably 892	890	15	Geological?	geo?
891	2	F	only fill of 890, reddish	890	15		geo?
892	2	C	N-S ditch. Seems to be cut by 894 but unclear. Sealed by gravel trackway	892	10	LIA/ER	2.1
893	2	F	only fill of 892	892	10		2.1
894	2	C	N-S bedding trench. Cuts 892 and 890. Sealed by gravel	894	35	LIA/ER	2.1
895	2	F	only fill of 894	894	35	6 x later PH sherds; 1 x small Roman sherd; Roman CBM	2.1
896	2	F	only fill of 897	897			nat
897	2	C	probable tree hole, sealed by gravel	897		natural	nat
898	2	F	only fill of 899. contains burnt clay but very little charcoal. Base of a hearth?	899		Roman brick	2.2
899	2	C	pit Sealed by gravel	899			later roman
900	2	F	only fill of 901	901	55	context sheet says it contained CBM	2.2
901	2	C	E-W ditch. Sealed by gravel. Appears to cut 897 and 903. possible recut of 903	901	55		later roman
902	2	F	only fill of 903	903	55		2.2

903	2	C	E-W ditch sealed by gravel. N edge not found (goes underneath gravel). Rel to 901 unclear but it may be cut by it	903		55	later roman	2.2
904	2	C	N-S bedding trench. May cut 906 but not clear	904		43	LIA/ER	2.1
905	2	F	only fill of 904	904		43		2.1
906	2	C	NNW-SSE ditch	906		11	EIA-MIA?	1.2
907	2	F	only fill of 906	906		11		1.2
908	2	C	N-S bedding trench. Cuts 818	908		43	LIA/ER	2.1
909	2	F	only fill of 908	908		43		2.1
910	2	C	base of probable posthole or small pit	910			LIA/ER	2.1
911	2	F	only fill of 910	910	1 x later PH sherd; 1 x Roman sherd			2.1
912	2	C	small pit or posthole	912			?LBA – EIA	1.1
913	2	F	only fill of 912	912	4 x small conjoining sherds of later PH vessel			1.1
914	2	C	N-S bedding trench. Rel with 916 not clear . Possible recut of 916	914		34	LIA/ER	2.1
915	2	F	only fill of 914. sealed by gravel trackway	914	1 x Roman sherd; 1 x later PH sherd; Fe obj	34		2.1
916	2	C	N-S ditch sealed by gravel trackway. Rel with 614 not determined in this slot	916		52	later roman	2.2
917	2	F	only fill of 916, reddish	916	undiagnostic tile, possibly Roman roof tile	52		2.2
918	2	C	E-W reddish ditch terminus	918		47	later roman	2.2
919	2	F	only fill of 918	918		47		2.2
920	2	C	Base of cremation burial 727, see after gravel trackway stripped off	920			LIA/ER?	2.1
921	2	F	lower fill of 920/727. occasional charcoal	920	occasional fired clay			2.1

922	2	L	Top layer of trackway that has washed down to the E side. Extensive layer of pinkish brown slightly gravelly silty clay to the east of the main concentrations of gravel (762, 729 etc). Seems to merge with the gravel and be contemporary with it. May be equivalent to layers 755, 77, 729, 801/795 and 801/799 elsewhere.	922	PM brick, 1400-1800; 1 x blade-like flint - Meso to EBA	936	Later roman?	2.3
923	2	L	extensive dump layer seen when top layer of gravel stripped off. Seals gravel (928). Charcoally in patches. PM finds may be intrusive	923	4 x 17th -18th and 19th C window glass; late med or PM horseshoe nails (intrusive?); 3 x later PH sherds; 1 x flint flake;	936	Latest roman?	2.3
924	2	L	layer sealing natural on eastern side of ditch 926. Cut by 870	924			natural?	nat?
925	2	VOID						
926	2	C	N-S bedding trench. Recut by 870. Partially sealed by layer 923 and fully sealed by gravelly layer 795	926		35	LIA/ER	2.1
927	2	F	only fill of 926	926		35		2.1
928	2	L	Gravel layer that dips down to the E. Trackway. Seems to have been lain up to ditch 745.	928		936	Latest roman?	2.3
929	2	C	N-S ditch. Sealed by gravel 931	929		51	later roman	2.2
930	2	F	disuse fill of 929. main fill, reddish in hue. Possibly the fill of a recut	929	Roman coin; 1 x small Roman pot sherd; Roman bricks, some vitrified, Roman roof tile; nails	51	later roman	2.2
931	2	F	Lower part of gravel trackway pressed into top of ditch 929. Same as 617 and 840	931	Roman tile	936	Latest roman?	2.3

932	2	F	side fills of 929. result of sides falling in	929	CBM	51		2.2
933	2	C	posthole	933			AD 1200-1800	3
934	2	F	backfill to a posthole	933	med/PM peg tile, 1200-1800			3
935	2	C	tree hole cutting 585 and 587. filled by 592	935			natural	nat
936	2	Group	Group no for the gravel trackway inc the gravelly silty spread on top of and E and W of the main gravel. Includes 617, 632, 640, 689, 684, 687, 754, 762, 798, 800, 802, 928, 840, 859, 931 (gravel) and 839, 688, 729, 755, 795, 799, 801, 922 (pinkish gravelly silty layer)	936		936	Latest roman?	2.3
937	2	F	Fill of 738.	738		66	med or p.med	3

Appendix 2: Quantification of Bulk Finds

Context	Pottery	Wt (g)	CBM	Wt (g)	Bone	Wt (g)	Shell	Wt (g)	Flint	Wt (g)	FCF	Wt (g)	Stone	Wt (g)	Fe	Wt (g)	F Clay	Wt (g)	Slag	Wt (g)	Glass	Wt (g)	CTP	Wt (g)
201	23	444	112	813	3	22																		
203	3	12																						
205	1	7																						
206	1	2																						
211	3	17							5	6														
213					4	17			1	5														
220	2	5	3	21	2	3									5	34			1	25				
224	1	163																						
236	2	<2																						
241	1	6																						
242					42	182																		
246			1	<2							1	6			8	19								
253									1	11														
257									1	2														
259	1	9																						
262	1	15																						
266	5	20							1	2														
270	1	3																						
272	2	17			12	27	1	4																
273	8	114			8	75																		

913	4	5																						
915	3	3																						
917			1	24																				
921																3	4							
922			1	368					1	3														
923	3	7			74	232								2	6					4	3			
930	1	2	114	6316										1	8									
931	9	769																						
934			1	35																				
u/s	1	35	4	302	2	<2			1	<2			1	431										
u/s near 629	2	16																						
u/s near 722												1	34											
Total	434	6775	543	83075	567	3625	8	208	51	716	6	215	7	6940	54	336	17	67	7	637	6	516	2	2

Appendix 3 Residue quantification (* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250) and weights in grams (listed by period)

Sample Number	Context	Context / deposit type	Parent Context	Period	Sample Volume litres	Sub-Sample Volume litres	Charcoal >4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal <4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal Identifications	Botanicals (charred unless stated)	Weight (g)	Bone and Teeth	Weight (g)	Burnt bone >8mm	Weight (g)	Burnt bone 4-8mm	Weight (g)	Burnt Bone 2-4mm	Weight (g)	Land Snail shells	Weight (g)	Other (eg ind, pot, cbm)
14	511	SP	510	1	10	10	**	<2	**	<2														
26	821	SP	820	1	10	10																		Pot */10g - Magnetised Material */2g
27	823	SP	822	1	10	10						* (indet.)	<2											Flint */<1g - Pot */<2g - Magnetised Material */2g
19	631	CR	627	2	20	20	**	<2	**	<2				*	<2	*	<2	**	10	**	2	*	<2	FCF */100g - Flint */<1g - Pot */4g - Magnetised Material **/2g
15	571	D	570	2	50	40								***	808							*	2	Pot */6g - Magnetised Material **/2g
16	602	D	603	2	10	10	*	2	*	<2												**	12	Magnetised Material */<2g

Sample Number	Context	Context / deposit type	Parent Context	Period	Sample Volume litres	Sub-Sample Volume litres	Charcoal >4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal <4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal Identifications	Botanicals (charred unless stated)	Weight (g)	Bone and Teeth	Weight (g)	Burnt bone >8mm	Weight (g)	Burnt bone 4-8mm	Weight (g)	Burnt Bone 2-4mm	Weight (g)	Land Snail shells	Weight (g)	Other (eg ind, pot, cbm)
17	589	D	588	2	5	5			*	<2				**	58									Flint */3g - Pot */2g - Magnetised Material */2g
18	616	D	615	2	20	20								*** *	1266			*	<2					Metal */<2g
29	829	D	828	2	10	10								*	<2							**	6	Flint */<1g - Pot */2g - Magnetised Material */<2g
35	871	D	870	2	11 0	11 0	**	16	**	4	<i>Quercus</i> sp. (10)					**	10	**	58	**	14			Flint */3g - CBM */2g - FCF */32g - Metal */4g - Magnetised Material ***/2g
31	856	P	855	2	30	30	***	6	**	<2	<i>Quercus</i> sp. (10)	* (<i>Corylus avellana</i> nut shell frag)	<2	*	<2							*	<2	Flint */3g - FCF */36g - Nail */<2g - Magnetised Material ***/2g
34	844	P	843	2	10	10	**	4	**	2	<i>Quercus</i> sp. (8), Maloideae (2)			**	10	*	<2	*	<2					Flint */3g - Pot **/46g - Magnetised Material **/2g

Sample Number	Context	Context / deposit type	Parent Context	Period	Sample Volume litres	Sub-Sample Volume litres	Charcoal >4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal <4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal Identifications	Botanicals (charred unless stated)	Weight (g)	Bone and Teeth	Weight (g)	Burnt bone >8mm	Weight (g)	Burnt bone 4-8mm	Weight (g)	Burnt Bone 2-4mm	Weight (g)	Land Snail shells	Weight (g)	Other (eg ind, pot, cbm)
20	714	PR	711	2	40	40	**	8	**	2	<i>Quercus</i> sp. (10)			**	70			*	2	*	<2			Pot */4g - Flint */90g - FCF */10g - Magnetised Material **/4g
13	400	SK	399	2	80	40			*	<2		* (<i>Corylus avellana</i> nut shell frag)	<2					*	<2			*	<2	Glass */<2g - Magnetised Material **/2g - Wood ***/462g
10	224	D	225	3	40	40	*	<2	*	<2				*	<2					*	<2	*	<2	Magnetised Material */<2g - Wood **/<2g
11	294	D	282/ 283	3	40	40								*	2							*	<2	Flint */<1g - Pot */12g - Magnetised Material */<2g - Wood **/90g
12	351	D	342	3	40	40						* (Uncharred buds, wood & <i>Corylus avellana</i> nut shell frags)	<2	*	66							*	<2	FCF */6g - CBM */518g - Wood ***/582g

Sample Number	Context	Context / deposit type	Parent Context	Period	Sample Volume litres	Sub-Sample Volume litres	Charcoal >4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal <4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal Identifications	Botanicals (charred unless stated)	Weight (g)	Bone and Teeth	Weight (g)	Burnt bone >8mm	Weight (g)	Burnt bone 4-8mm	Weight (g)	Burnt Bone 2-4mm	Weight (g)	Land Snail shells	Weight (g)	Other (eg ind, pot, cbm)	
30	836	SP	835	3	10	10	*	<2	*	<2				*	2							*	<2	Pot */4g - Fcf */20g - Magnetised Material **/2g	
22	728	CR	727	UD	30	30	**	2	**	<2	<i>Quercus</i> sp. (10)			*	<2	**	302	****	358	****	538			Magnetised Material **/<2g	
24	781	CR	779	UD	20	20	*	<2	**	<2						*	24	**	54	**	46			Stone */224g - Flint */<1g - CBM */10g - Magnetised Material */<2g	
25	791	CR	789	UD	20	20	**	<2	**	2						**	126	***	136	***	58			Flint */<1g - Pot */6g - Magnetised Material **/<2g	
36	923	ED	923	UD	40	40	**	4	**	2		* (<i>Corylus avellana</i> nut shell frag)	<2	**	16										Flint */7g - CBM */8g - Magnetised Material **/2g
28	827	P	826	UD	60	40	**	18	**	38	<i>Quercus</i> sp. (10)											*	<2	Pot */<2g - Magnetised Material **/2g	

Sample Number	Context	Context / deposit type	Parent Context	Period	Sample Volume litres	Sub-Sample Volume litres	Charcoal >4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal <4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal Identifications	Botanicals (charred unless stated)	Weight (g)	Bone and Teeth	Weight (g)	Burnt bone >8mm	Weight (g)	Burnt bone 4-8mm	Weight (g)	Burnt Bone 2-4mm	Weight (g)	Land Snail shells	Weight (g)	Other (eg ind, pot, cbm)
23	747	PR	746	UD	20	20	**	16	***	14	<i>Quercus</i> sp. (10)													Flint */<1g - Magnetised Material **/2g
21	733	SP	732	UD	20	20	*	<2	*	<2														FCF */34g - Flint */<1g - Pot - */2g - Magnetised Material **/2g

Appendix 4: Flot quantification (* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250) and preservation (+ = poor, ++ = moderate, +++ = good) (Listed by sample number)

Sample Number	Context	Weight g	Flot volume ml	Volume scanned	Uncharred %	Sediment %	Seeds uncharred Modern?	Charcoal >4mm	Charcoal <4mm	Charcoal <2mm	Charred Plant Macrofossils	Identifications	Preservation	Uncharred plant macrofossils waterlogged?	Identifications	Preservation	Insects, Fly Pupae etc min	Large mammal bone	Land Snail Shells
10	224	36	245	100	98	1								**	<i>Rubus</i> sp., <i>Ranunculus aquatilis/fluitans</i> type, <i>Solanum dulcamara</i> , cf. <i>Sanguisorbia</i> sp., <i>Sonchus</i> cf. <i>asper</i> , buds	+/ +			*
11	294	31	180	100	98	1								***	<i>Rubus</i> sp., <i>Ranunculus aquatilis/fluitans</i> type, <i>Solanum dulcamara</i> , <i>Carex</i> sp., <i>Alisma</i> sp., <i>Sambucus nigra</i> , <i>Potamogeton</i> sp., cf. <i>Sanguisorbia</i> cf. <i>minor</i> , buds	+/ +++	** <i>Daphnia</i> sp. resting eggs & beetle carapace frags		** & some bivalves

Sample Number	Context	Weight g	Flot volume ml	Volume scanned	Uncharred %	Sediment %	Seeds uncharred Modern?	Charcoal >4mm	Charcoal <4mm	Charcoal <2mm	Charred Plant Macrofossils	Identifications	Preservation	Uncharred plant macrofossils waterlogged?	Identifications	Preservation	Insects, Fly Pupae etc min	Large mammal bone	Land Snail Shells
12	351	76	340	100	98	1								***	<i>Corylus avellana</i> , <i>Chenopodium</i> sp., <i>Cirsium/Carduus</i> sp., Lamiaceae cf. <i>Galeopsis</i> sp., Asteraceae, <i>Rubus</i> sp., <i>Ranunculus aquatilis/fluitans</i> type, <i>Solanum dulcamara</i> , <i>Carex</i> sp., <i>Potamogeton</i> sp., buds	++/ +++	** <i>Daphnia</i> sp. resting eggs & beetle carapace frags		**
13	400	5	50	50	98	1					*	<i>Triticum</i> sp. (1 Lg, plump grain), Indet cpr (2)	++ /+						
14	511	5	<5	<5	98	1	* <i>Chenopodium</i> sp.		*(1)										
15	571	8	35	35	95	1	* <i>Chenopodium</i> sp.												
16	602	8	60	60	50	1				*									** ca 50% of flot both large and small snails
17	589	<1	<5	<5	98	1													

Sample Number	Context	Weight g	Flot volume ml	Volume scanned	Uncharred %	Sediment %	Seeds uncharred Modern?	Charcoal >4mm	Charcoal <4mm	Charcoal <2mm	Charred Plant Macrofossils	Identifications	Preservation	Uncharred plant macrofossils waterlogged?	Identifications	Preservation	Insects, Fly Pupae etc min	Large mammal bone	Land Snail Shells
18	616	<1	<5	<5	65	34					*	Indet cpr (1)	+					? Poss 1 bone frag	
19	631	3	45	45	75	1	* <i>Sambucus nigra</i> , <i>Chenopodium</i> sp.	*	*	***									**
20	714	9	130	100	95	1	* <i>Ranunculus aquatilis/fluitans</i> type, <i>Chenopodium</i> sp., <i>Rubus</i> sp.			***									
21	733	<1	10	10	60	1	* <i>Chenopodium</i> sp., <i>Taraxacum officinale</i>	*	*	**									*
22	728	32	425	100	55	1	* <i>Chenopodium</i> sp.	*	**	****								* occ. Fragments of burnt bone	
23	747	1	10	10	98	1	* <i>Rubus</i> sp., <i>Taraxacum officinale</i>												
24	781	12	155	100	95	1				***									
25	791	13	145	100	90	1	<i>Chenopodium</i> sp.			****									
26	821	1	40	40	99	0				*									

Sample Number	Context	Weight g	Flot volume ml	Volume scanned	Uncharred %	Sediment %	Seeds uncharred Modern?	Charcoal >4mm	Charcoal <4mm	Charcoal <2mm	Charred Plant Macrofossils	Identifications	Preservation	Uncharred plant macrofossils waterlogged?	Identifications	Preservation	Insects, Fly Pupae etc min	Large mammal bone	Land Snail Shells	
27	823	5	65	65	97	1				**										
28	827	195	550	100	30	1		**	***	****										
29	829	13	65	65	95	4				*										
30	836	2	75	75	98	1				**										
31	856	20	265	100	95	1	<i>Chenopodium</i> sp.	*	*	**										
34	844	10	60	60	85	1			*	**										
35	871	56	410	100	90	2	<i>Chenopodium</i> sp., <i>Galium/Asperula</i> sp.	**	**	****	*	1 cf. <i>Hordeum</i> sp., 1 <i>Triticum</i> sp.	+							
36	923	41	230	100	60	1	<i>Chenopodium</i> sp.	**	**	****	*	2 <i>Triticum</i> cf. <i>aestivum</i> sl.	++							

Appendix 5: List of Sites where comparable ditches to the 'bedding trenches' have been recordedEssex

- Priors Green Takeley- ditches are aligned with the Roman road – Stane Street. Ditches interpreted as probable ridge and furrow (Germany et al forthcoming, ASE project no 1965).
- Dunmow Road, Takeley – the ditches are parallel with the Roman road Stane Street (Germany in prep, ASE project no 8197).
- Land south of the A120 (Roman Stane Street). Here they were dated to the Middle Iron Age to Early Roman interpreted as being for draining the land for basic arable agriculture (not horticulture). They were associated with pits, cooking pits and hearths of a similar date. They were 6m apart and aligned with the Roman road (Ben Roberts, EAH 2007, vol 38, 53-65, Archaeological Solutions).
- A120 road scheme - Stansted Airport to Braintree (Timby et al 2007). At Blatches (pages 160-1) five parallel ditches and a perpendicular headland were recorded and interpreted as early 13th century drainage trenches based on three sherds of pottery. They were possibly along raised cultivation beds. Two similar sets of parallel ditches were also recorded at Frogs Hall East (Site 5)(ibid pages 174-175). A single sherd of Roman greyware came from one of ditch fills and they do not appear to cut anything early but they were interpreted as being reminiscent of medieval ridge and furrow, possibly early 13th century (Oxford Archaeology and Wessex Archaeology).
- Stansted Airport Excavations 1999-2004 – (Cooke et al 2008) – Two sets of Late Saxon strip fields on the MTCP site (pages 184-186). Very little to date them. They are 5-6m apart and run down the prevailing slope. Strip Field 1 gullies respected a late Romano-British boundary ditch. They were interpreted as being bedding trenches or drainage gullies. Elsewhere on the site (pages 201-2) are two sets of parallel gullies (Strips Fields 3 and 4) but with gullies in Field 3 perpendicular to those in Field 4. These were 10-12m apart. They cut late Romano-British features and also cut Saxon strip field ditches (Strip Field 2). However they do respect the plateau with the LIA and RB settlement on it. Thought to be 11th-14th C drainage features and they all run down slope. The pottery from them was predominantly residual BA, IA and Roman. Field 3 ditches were later cut by a perpendicular ditch reaffirming the western edge of the strip fields.

- Marks Hall School, Harlow 2003 – as already described above the gullies were postulated as being Napoleonic ridge and furrow. The author says the gullies respect and stop short of the east-west post-medieval gravel trackway but perhaps another interpretation might be they are actually cut/overlain by the trackway.
- Sampford Road, Thaxted 2014 – The gullies contained AD10-80 pottery (Wroe-Brown in prep, ASE project 8005).
- Chignall Roman villa excavations. Parallel gullies were found on two sites – on one site they were phased as medieval and said to be a medieval narrow rig cultivation system. However no medieval finds came from them, only Middle Iron Age to late Roman. On the other site they on a slightly different alignment and dated early Roman. They were cut by late Roman ditches (Clarke 1998, 25-6).

Hertfordshire

- ? Hiwdell School, Hatfield – gullies interpreted as Iron Age (dug by Wiebke Starke of Albion Archaeology)
- Buntingford – similar features are being exposed to the north and east of the town. The reports are in the Herts HER
- Barkway (near Cokenach)
- Excavations on 'Land north of Harlow' in Hertfordshire will start in due course which may expose similar types of features
- Bishops Stortford North Evaluations – similar features appear to be early Roman (Wessex Arch : Jackson, D, 2012, Bishop's Stortford north, Hertfordshire: archaeological evaluation report; Oxford Archaeology East : Bush, L, 2013, Bishop's Stortford North, Hertfordshire: Phase II archaeological evaluation)
- Bishops Stortford North - Albion Archaeology have just finished further trenching and several areas of open area excavation there and found more of the same.
- Whittington Way, Bishop's Stortford (John Moore Heritage Services : Williams, G, & Heale, D, 2008, Archaeological evaluation report, Whittington Way, Bishop's Stortford, Herts)

Suffolk

- Cedars Park Stowmarket – various sites excavated by Archaeological Solutions, ECCFAU (now ASE) and Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service
- Stowmarket - other sites excavated by Northamptonshire Archaeology

Cambridgeshire

- North-west of Cambridge -Roman bedding trenches dug by Cambridge Archaeological Unit recently uncovered a Roman irrigation system involving plant beds lined by ditches leading to a series of pit-wells. The beds, thought to be for vines or asparagus, run parallel to each other about 2m apart, appearing in the excavation as “zebra like stripes”. The beds were made around AD70-120. They were found ahead of the university’s north-west Cambridge development on a gravel ridge, in an area of dense prehistoric and Roman settlement (see *British Archaeology* article May/June 2014, 10).

Bedfordshire

- Leighton Buzzard – Iron Age/Early Roman (Excavated by K. Kosminski of Albion Archaeology – not published)

Appendix 6: EHER Summary Form

Site name/Address: Access Route and Western Portion of the London Road North Enterprise Zone, Harlow, Essex	
Parish: Harlow	District: Harlow
NGR: TL 47120 10580	Site Code: HALRN 14
Type of Work: Archaeological Excavation	Site Director/Group: K. Clover, Archaeology South-East
Date of Work: 25 th March to 20 th June 2014	Size of Area Investigated: c.1.45 ha
Location of Finds/Curating Museum: Harlow Museum	Funding source: Client – Essex Highways
Further Seasons Anticipated?: Yes	Related HER Nos: 19373, 46337, 3631, 3582, 9141, 47656, 19373
Final Report: 2014247	OASIS No: archaeol6-199599
Periods Represented: Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age, Middle Iron Age, Late Iron Age-Early Roman?, later Roman?, ?Medieval-Post-medieval	
SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS:	
<p>A 1.45ha area of former sports field was investigated prior to construction of an access road to serve the proposed industrial estate development of London Road North Enterprise Zone, Harlow.</p> <p><u>Later prehistoric</u> Excavation exposed a scatter of Bronze Age or Early Iron Age pits and postholes with charcoally fills as well as some irregular, likely prehistoric ditches and curving gullies. These features, and the presence of flint-tempered pottery and occasional struck flint occurring residually in later features on the site, indicate a Bronze Age or Early to Middle Iron Age presence in the landscape.</p> <p><u>LIA & Roman</u> The first tangible phase of land-use is in the LIA/Early Roman transition period when extensive complexes of very regular parallel ditches/gullies were imposed on the landscape. Similar features have been discovered in Essex and the surrounding counties and varying interpretations and date have been assigned to them. At London Road North the pottery in their fills and their stratigraphic relationship to other features indicates that the ditches were in use in the Late Iron Age to Early Roman period and may have carried on in use into well into the Roman period. They are interpreted here as 'bedding trenches' for large-scale horticulture. Research into these features and their parallels elsewhere will further elucidate their function. Four undated cremation burials and a cattle burial may also date to this phase of use of the site.</p> <p>The site continued to be intensively managed for agricultural purposes through the Roman period as demonstrated by the laying out of a rectilinear field system in the area in between the two complexes of 'bedding trenches'. This field system respected the 'bedding trenches' and perpetuated some of them as boundaries. The exposed field system included part of two large enclosures and smaller subdivisions.</p> <p>Within one of the smaller Roman enclosures was the remains of a foundation made of</p>	

broken Roman brick and roof tile. This may be a Roman building or a later building making use of Roman building material.

A routeway was inserted along one side of the Roman field boundary ditches which was later consolidated by a layer of gravel with Roman brick and tile incorporated into it. This trackway was recorded running the length of the site on a roughly north to south alignment. Subsequent re-surfacing caused the gravel to gradually spread over the, by now defunct, Late Iron Age/Early Roman 'bedding trenches'.

No evidence for Anglo-Saxon activity was found, however several pits were revealed which did not contain any datable finds, some which cut into Late Iron Age and Roman ditches, and these may prove to date from this period.

?Medieval & Post-medieval

There appears to have been a hiatus in occupation and use of the area until the early post-medieval period. Features were found from this period that correspond with cartographic evidence from the early 17th century, i.e. a substantial field boundary ditch and the enclosure ditch/moat to 'Cold Hall'.

Previous Summaries/Reports: ASE evaluation report 2014086

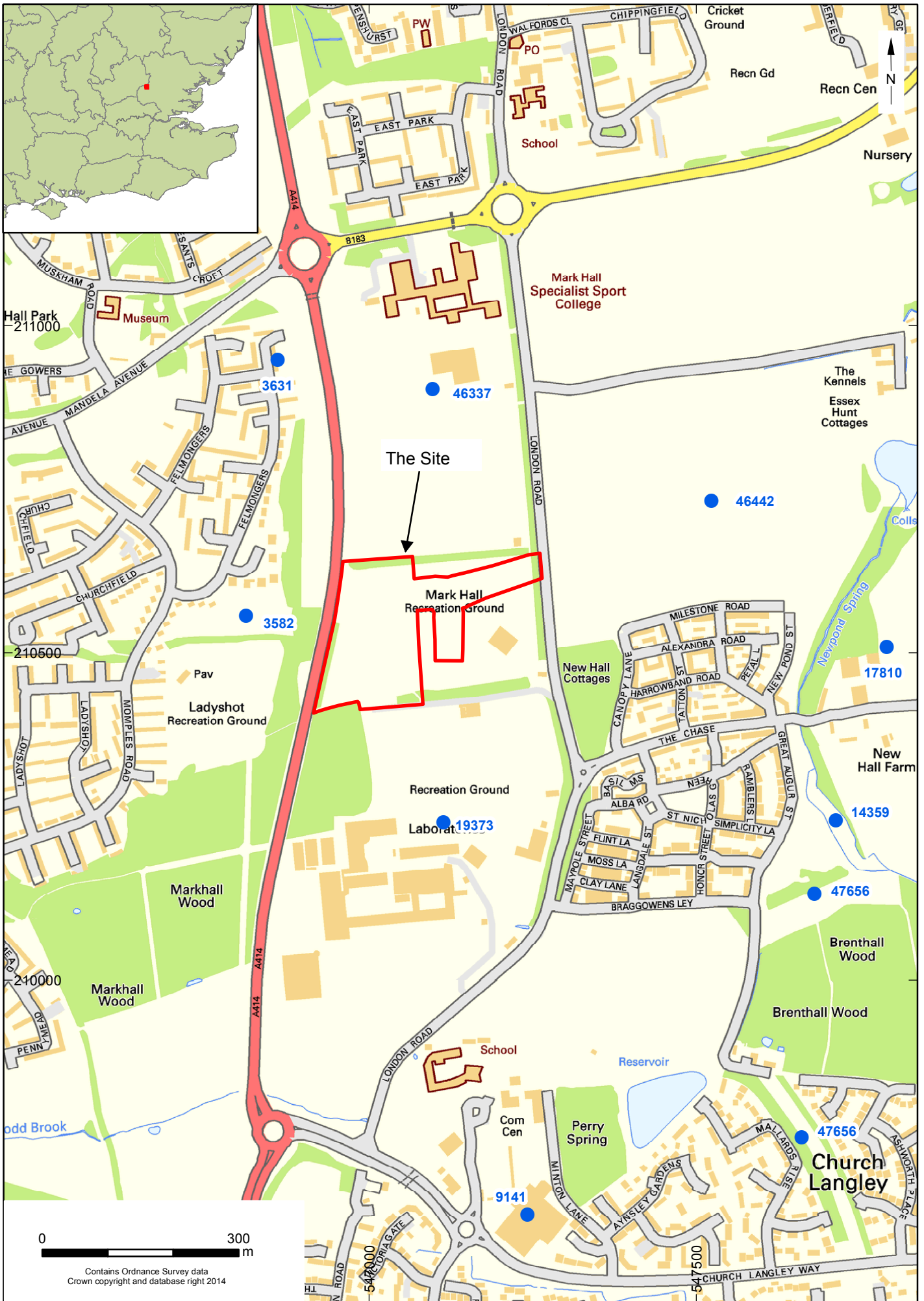
Author of Summary: K. Clover

Date of Summary: January 2015

Appendix 7: OASIS Form

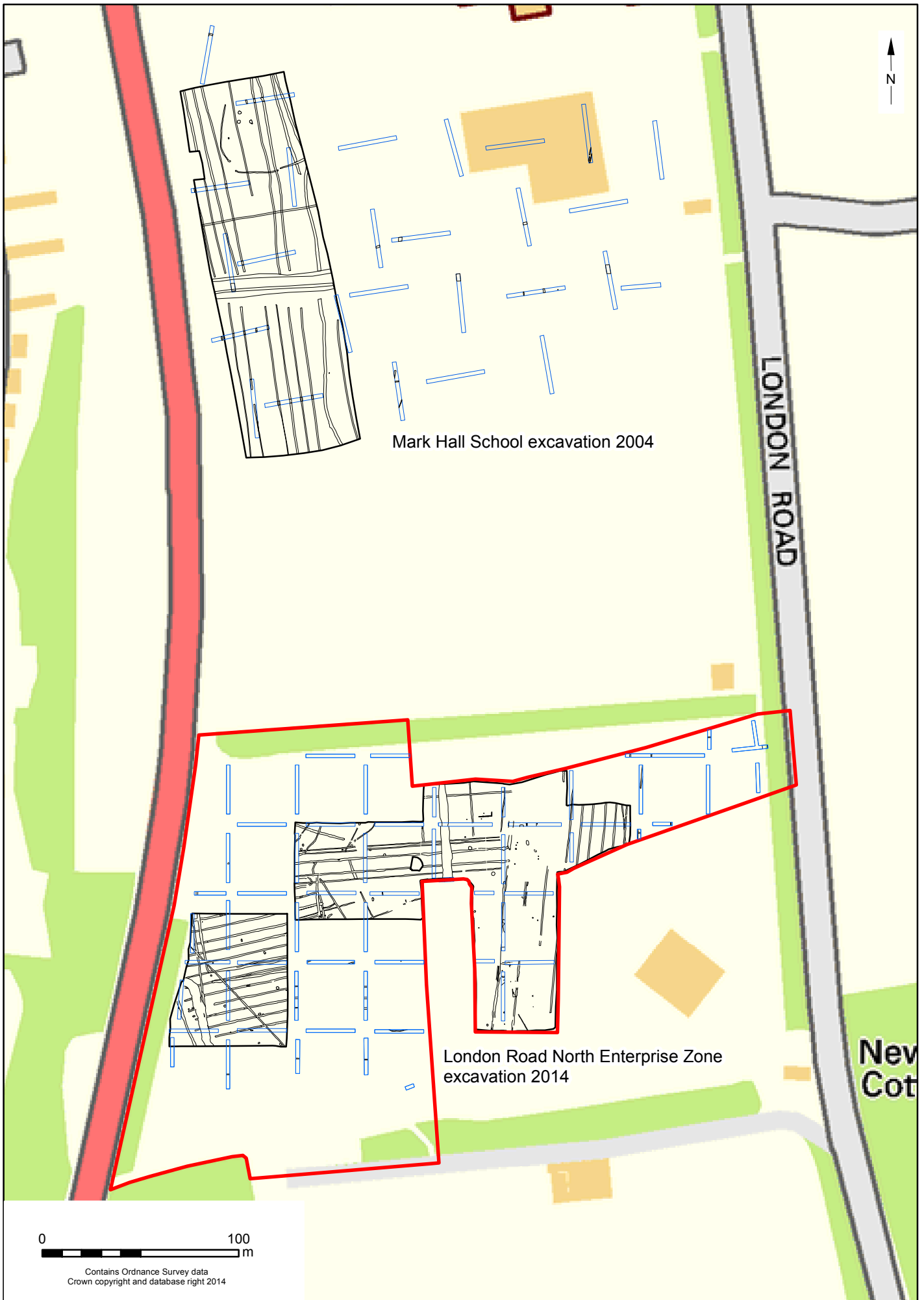
OASIS ID: archaeol6-199599	
Project details	
Project name	Excavation at London Road North, Harlow, Essex
Short description of the project	ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS AT ACCESS ROUTE AND WESTERN PORTION OF THE LONDON ROAD NORTH ENTERPRISE ZONE, HARLOW, ESSEX: POST-EXCAVATION ASSESSMENT AND UPDATED PROJECT DESIGN REPORT
Project dates	Start: 25-03-2014 End: 20-06-2014
Previous/future work	Yes / Yes
Assoc project reference codes	HALRN14 - Sitecode 8153 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 14 - Recreational usage
Monument type	TRACKWAY Roman DITCHES Middle Iron Age LIA-EARLY ROMAN BEDDING TRENCHES Late Iron Age LBA-EIA PITS Early Iron Age FIELD BOUNDARIES Post Medieval ENCLOSURE DITCH/MOAT Post Medieval DRAINS Post Medieval FOUNDATION Roman PITS Roman
Significant Finds	POTTERY Iron Age POTTERY Late Iron Age COINS Roman BRICKS Roman
Investigation type	"Open-area excavation"
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - Direction 4
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	ESSEX HARLOW HARLOW London Road North, Harlow
Postcode	CM17 9LX
Study area	1.45 Hectares
Site coordinates	TL 4712 1058 51.7740525882 0.132630573151 51 46 26 N 000 07 57 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 0.20m Max: 0.50m
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	Essex County Council Place Services
Project design originator	ASE
Project director/manager	Adrian Scruby
Project supervisor	Kate Clover
Type of sponsor/funding	Essex Highways

body	
Name of sponsor/funding body	Essex Highways
Project archives	
Physical Archive recipient	Harlow Museum
Physical Archive ID	HALRN14
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Environmental", "Glass", "Human Bones", "Industrial", "Metal", "Worked stone/lithics", "other"
Digital Archive recipient	Harlow Museum
Digital Archive ID	HALRN14
Digital Contents	"Survey", "other"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography", "Images vector", "Spreadsheets", "Survey", "Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Harlow Museum
Paper Archive ID	HALRN
Paper Contents	"other"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Correspondence", "Drawing", "Map", "Matrices", "Notebook - Excavation", "Research", "General Notes", "Plan", "Report", "Section"
Project bibliog	
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© Archaeology South-East		Access Route and Western Portion of the London Road North Enterprise Zone, Harlow	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 8153	Dec 2014	Site location with EHER sites mentioned in the text	
Report No: 2014247	Drawn by: APL		

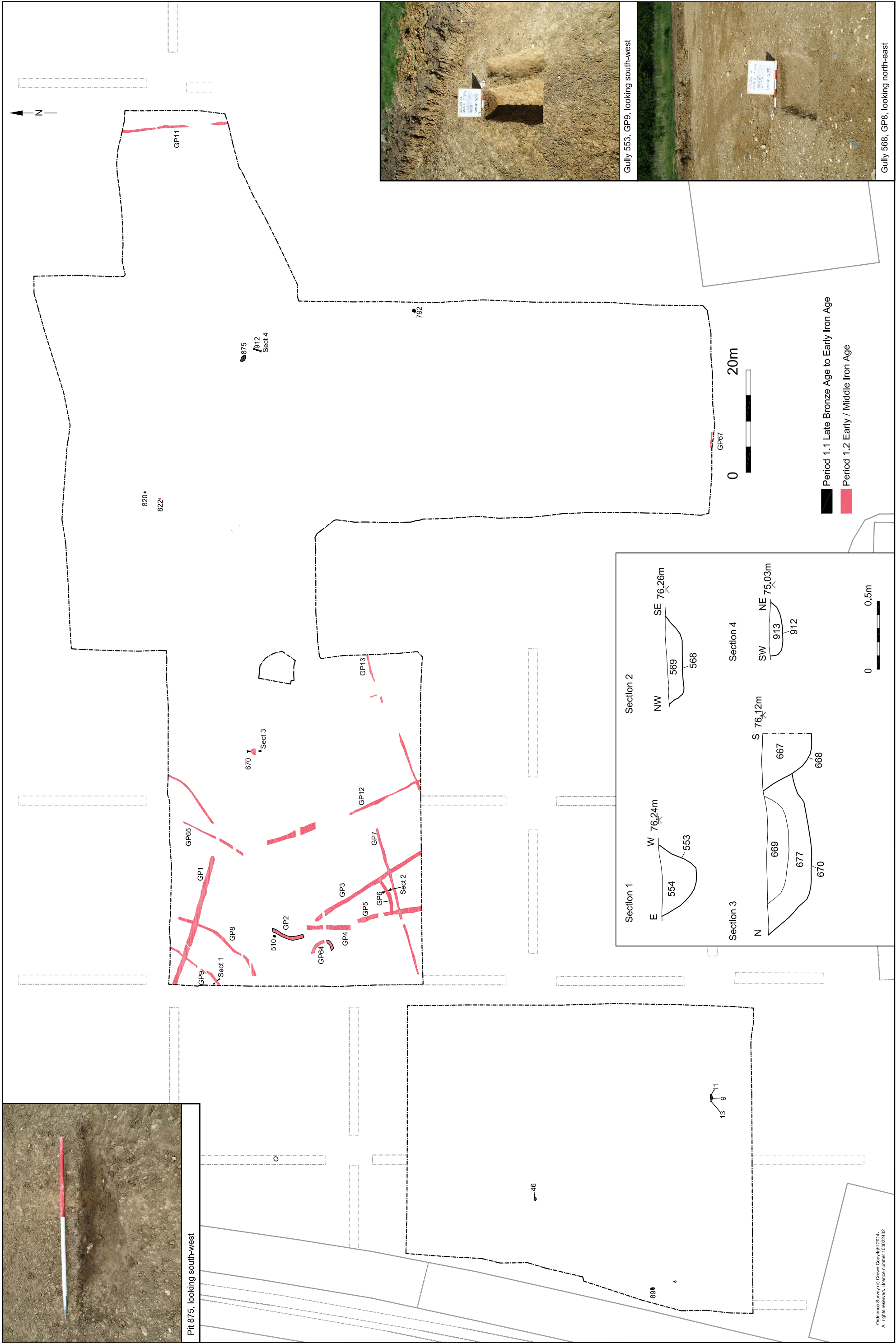


© Archaeology South-East		Access Route and Western Portion of the London Road North Enterprise Zone, Harlow	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 8153	Dec 2014	Site location in relation to the Mark Hall School excavation	
Report No: 2014247	Drawn by: APL		



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© Archaeology South-East		Access route and western portion of the London Road	
Project Ref: 8153		North Enterprise Zone, Harlow	
Report No: 2014247	Dec 2014	All recorded features of all phases and natural features	
Drawn by: APL		Fig. 3	

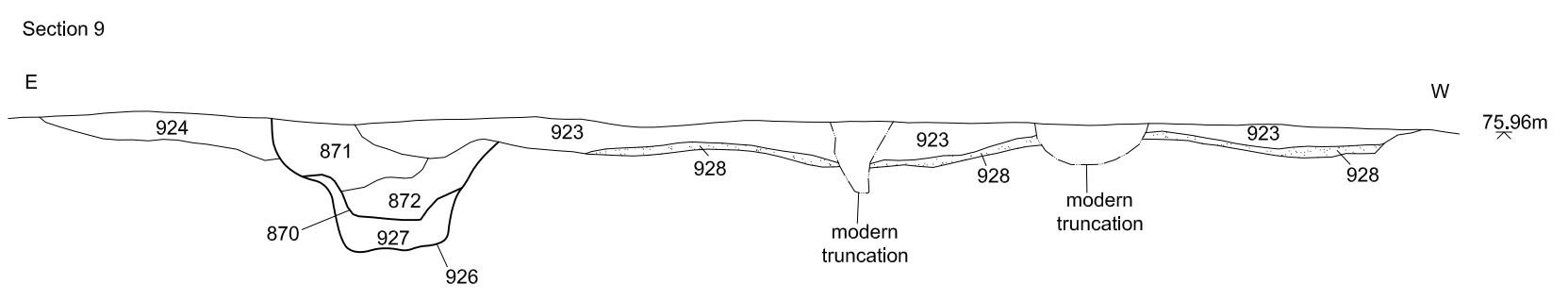
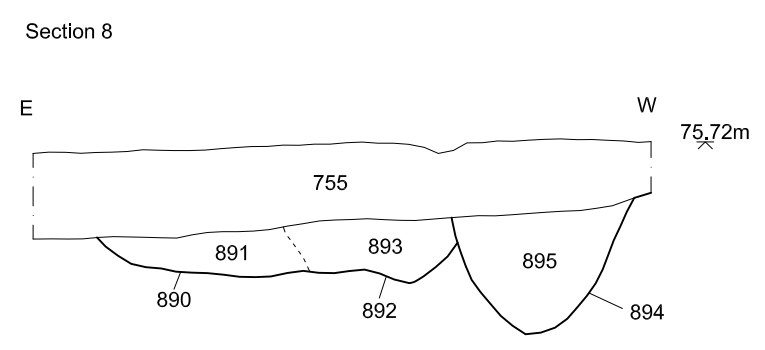
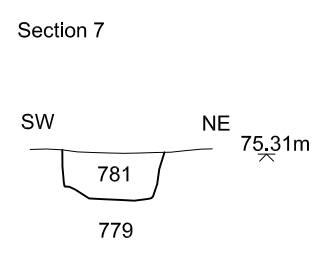
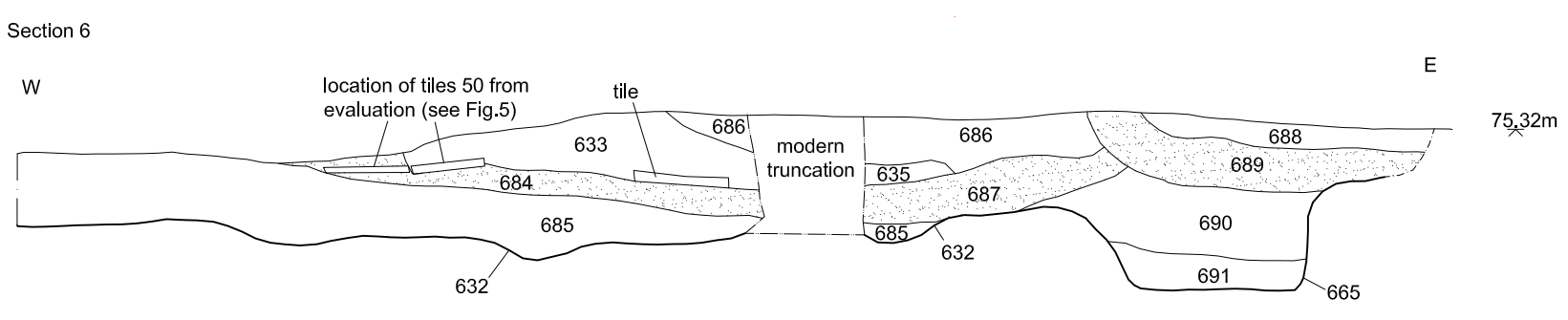
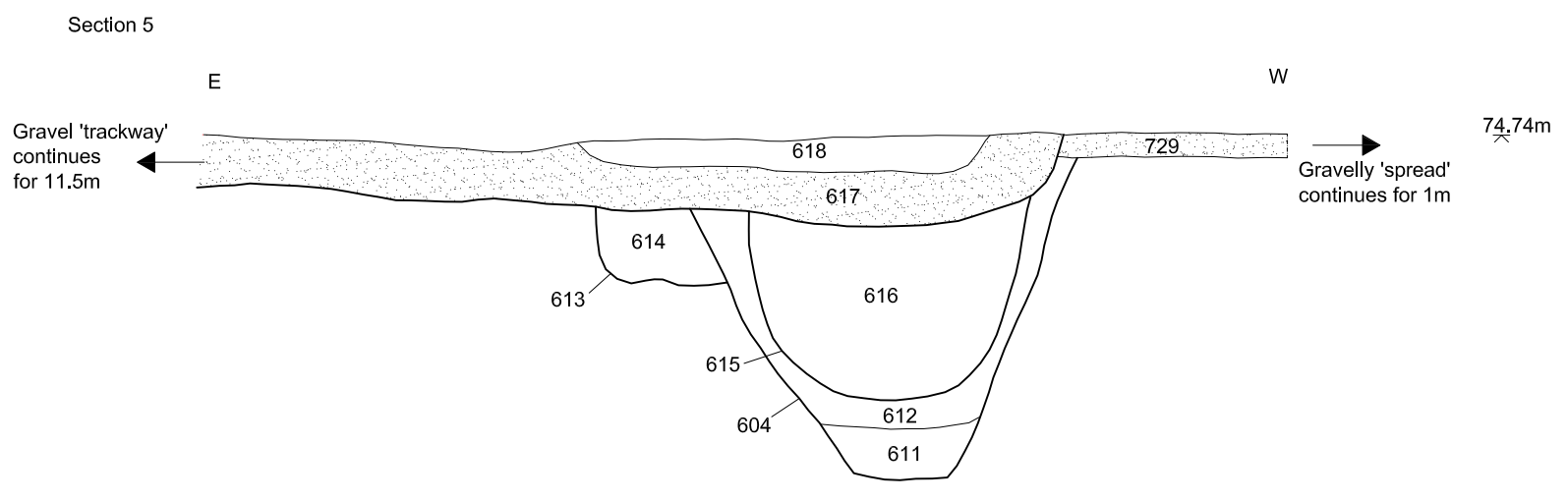




Roman tiles forming possible foundation 50, originally identified in evaluation trench 30.

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Ditch 604, GP51, sealed by gravel 'trackway' GP936, looking south-east

'Bedding trench' 244, GP21, looking east

'Bedding trench' 926/870, GP35 with gravel trackway 928, GP936, looking south

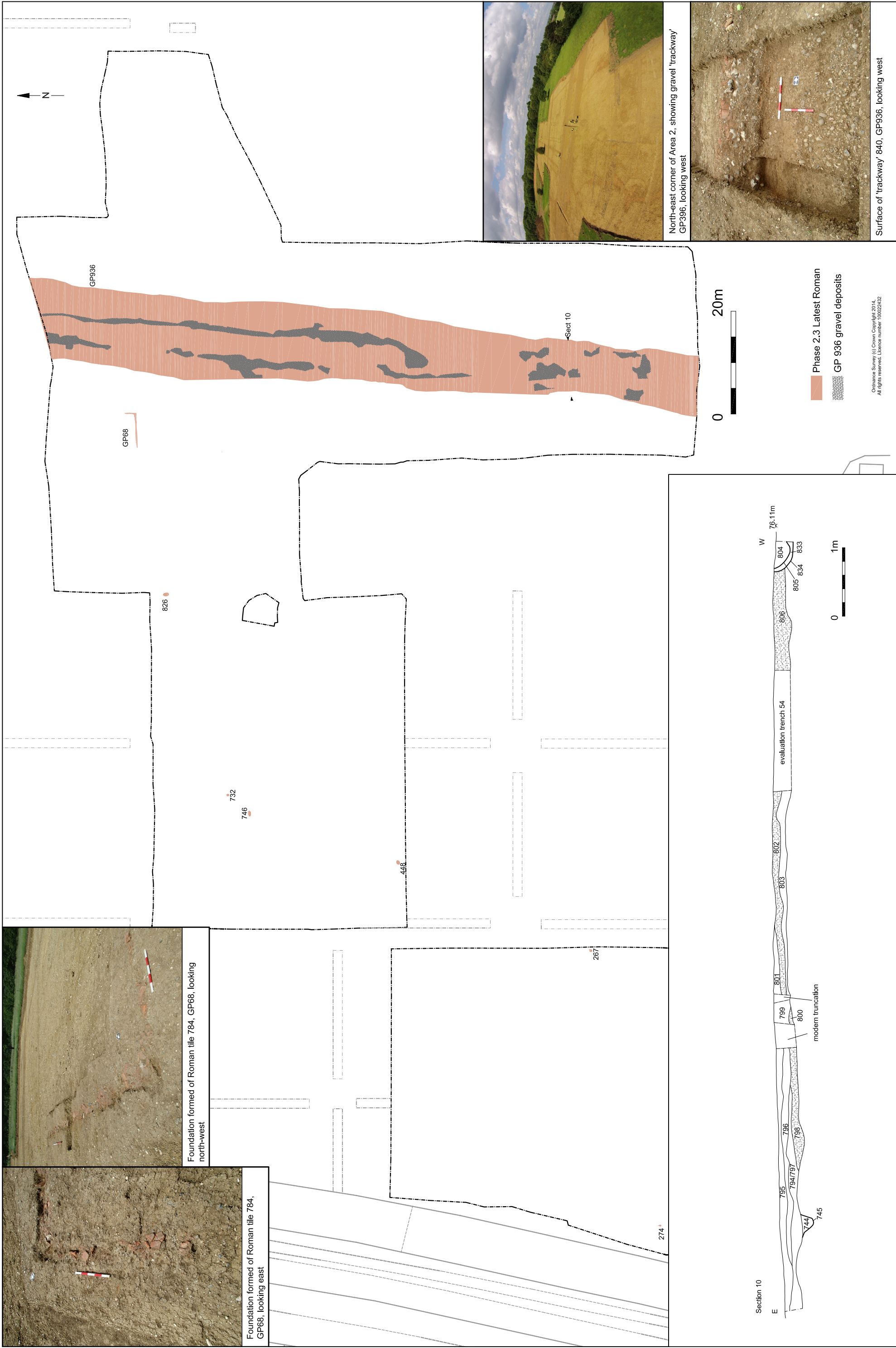


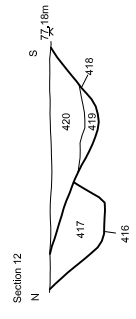
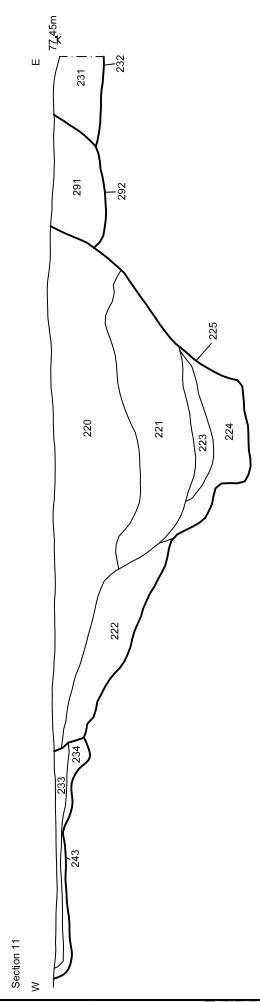
Fig. 7



Area 1 under excavation, showing ditch (GP62) cutting across 'bedding trenches', looking west



Ditch 225, GP60, looking north



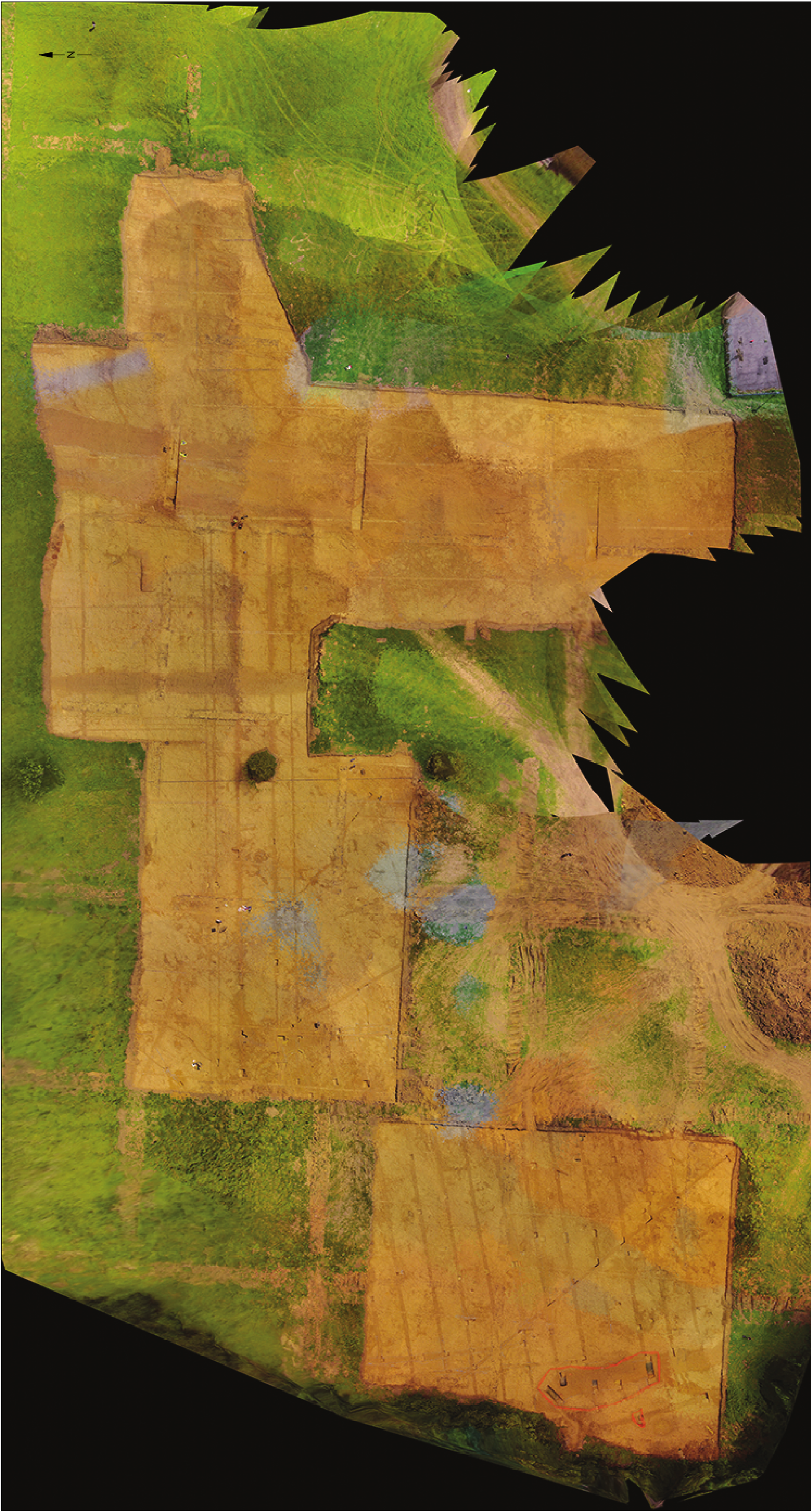
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Fig.9



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Project Ref: 8153	Dec 2014	Aerial photograph of the excavation areas	
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