Archaeology South-East

ASE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS AT LAND AT DURRANTS LANE, BERKHAMSTED, HERTFORDSHIRE, HP4 3TR

NGR: 497330 207840
(SP 97330 07840)

A POST-EXCAVATION ASSESSMENT AND UPDATED PROJECT DESIGN

Planning Reference: 4/03241/14/MFA

ASE Project No: 7144
Site Code: DLB14

ASE Report No: 2016050
OASIS ID: archaeol6-242812

By Sarah Ritchie MA ACIfA

With contributions by
Gemma Ayton; Luke Barber; Isa Benedetti-Whitton; Susan Chandler; Trista Clifford; Anna Doherty; Karine Le Hegarat; Mariangela Vitolo; Helen Walker

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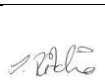
Prepared by:	Sarah Ritchie	Archaeologist	
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Abstract

This report presents the results of archaeological excavations carried out by Archaeology South-East at Durrants Lane, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire between the 14th July and 14th August 2015. An archaeological watching brief was also undertaken between 22nd September and the 26th November 2015.

The fieldwork was commissioned by CgMs Consulting in advance of redevelopment of the site.

The first period of activity consisted of Middle/Late Bronze Age (c. 1500-800 BC) pits, postholes and a possible burnt mound with an associated pond/quarry.

A subsequent period of Early/Middle Iron Age activity (c.800-300 BC) consists of occupation, settlement and low-level iron working evidence. This evidence includes several post-built structures. There is also a possibility that a Saxon Sunken Featured Building (SFB) may be present but dating evidence was poor and at assessment stage this feature has been phased into the later prehistoric period.

The majority of features on the site contained little in the way of datable material or environmental evidence. The pottery recovered consisted predominantly of quite small and undiagnostic groups, making assigning closely dated periods and phases problematic. Broadly, however, the evidence suggests that the main activity spanned the Middle/Late Bronze Age to Middle Iron Age periods.

The final phase of activity consisted of two post-medieval quarry pits, similar to examples found during the A41 by-pass excavations at Pea Lane and Grimes Ditch excavations (HAT, 1994).

The report is written and structured so as to conform to the standards required of post-excavation analysis work as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (HM Gov 2012) and older documents Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE), Project Planning Notes 3 (PPN3): Archaeological Excavation (English Heritage 2008). Interim analysis of the stratigraphic, finds and environmental material has indicated a provisional chronology, and assessed the potential of the site archive to address the original research agenda, as well as assessing the significance of those findings. This has highlighted what further analysis work is required in order to enable suitable dissemination of the findings in a final publication. It is suggested that this should take the form of an article in the county archaeological journal.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Location

1.1.1 The site consists of two rectangular parcels of arable land to the east of Durrants Lane, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire (NGR: SP 97330 07840; Figure 1). It is bounded to the north-east by a school; to the south-east by housing and Coppins Close; to the south-west by Shooters Way and to the north-west by Durrants Lane.

1.1.2 The site covers an area of approximately 10Ha, and is situated at the southern margin of Berkhamsted in the borough of Dacorum. It lies 130m south of the Iron Age linear earthwork Grim's Ditch and 500m north of a Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age settlement at Oakwood.

1.2 Geology and Topography

1.2.1 The site lies at approximately 170m AOD on the southern plateau of the Bulbourne valley, which is *c*. 0.5km to the north. The drift geology is Clay-with-Flints Formation comprising Clay, Silt, Sand and Gravel formed by weathering processes in the Quaternary and Neogene periods (BGS 2016). The solid geology is Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation and Seaford Chalk Formation (BGS 2016).

1.3 Scope of the Project

1.3.1 Planning permission for the construction of residential dwellings with associated access, car-parking and services was granted consent by Dacorum Borough Council (ref: 4/03241/14/MFA). A condition of the planning required that a programme of archaeological work be undertaken prior to the commencement of any construction work.

1.3.2 In accordance with this, Archaeology South-East was commissioned by CgMs Consulting to undertake archaeological excavations.

1.3.3 A Heritage Impact Assessment (ASC 2013) suggested the proposed development would have extensive impact on any potential archaeological resources, and following consultation with Kate Batt, County Archaeologist Hertfordshire County Council, a project design was approved and a methodology and programme of work for an archaeological evaluation was laid out in a Written Scheme of Investigation (ASE 2014a). The evaluation consisted of sixty-seven trenches carried out between the 1st and 13th September 2014, the results of which are fully detailed in a previous report (ASE, 2014b).

1.3.4 The evaluation revealed sufficient archaeological material to lead the Archaeological Advisor to recommend mitigation by archaeological excavation.

1.3.5 The excavation methodology was laid out in a Written Scheme of Investigation (ASE 2015). The excavation was undertaken by ASE between July and August 2015 and a watching brief was carried out between September and November 2015.

1.3.6 During the excavation and watching brief phases of work, the site was staffed by ASE archaeologists, project managed by Andy Leonard and directed by Sarah Ritchie with auxiliary supervision from Susan Chandler. Post-excavation work has been project managed by Jim Stevenson and Dan Swift.

1.4 Circumstances and Dates of Work

1.4.1 As discussed above in Section 1.3, the need for archaeological work arose as a condition of planning permission.

1.4.2 A specific history of all archaeological work relating to the site is as follows:

- A Desk Based Assessment was commissioned by Hertfordshire County Council, Taylor Whimpey Developments Ltd and Egerton-Rothesay School and written by Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd (ASC 2008).
- A Heritage Asset Impact Assessment was commissioned by Taylor Wimpey Developments Ltd and written by Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd (ASC 2013).
- A Geophysical Survey of the land to the west of Durrants lane was carried out by ASC (Hancock, 2013).
- An Archaeological Evaluation was carried out by ASE between the 1st and 13th September 2014 (ASE 2014b)
- An Archaeological Excavation was carried out by ASE between the 14th July and 14th August 2015.
- An Archaeological watching brief was undertaken between 22nd September and the 26th November 2015. Monitoring included stripping for the new access road and an area to the north-west of Excavation Area 2.

1.5 Archaeological methodology

1.5.1 Based on the archaeological evidence from the Evaluation phase and subsequent consultation with Kate Batt, County Archaeologist Hertfordshire County Council, it was decided the excavation would focus on three distinct areas where the archaeological potential was deemed to be greatest. These areas are detailed in Figure 2, and consisted of:

- Area 1: 5,492m^2 within the north-east of the site
- Area 2: 3,033m^2 within the south of the site
- Area 3: 225m^2 within the north of the site

1.5.2 All excavation areas were machine stripped using a tracked mechanical 360° excavator. All mechanical excavation was undertaken using a toothless ditching bucket under the direct supervision of experienced archaeologists. The plough soil was stripped from the three areas revealing the surface of

natural geology whereupon archaeological features were exposed. 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. This was made available to the Project Manager, the Supervisor and the HCC County Archaeologist.

1.5.3 This pre-excavation plan was made available in Autocad and PDF format and printed at a suitable scale (1:20 or 1:50) for on-site use. Where necessary (for example intercutting features) features were hand planned at a scale of 1:20 and then digitised to be included on the overall plan.

1.5.4 All excavation work was carried out in line with the Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England (Gurney 2003) and the relevant Standards and Guidance of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA, 2014).

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

- Ditches and gullies had all relationships defined, investigated and recorded. All terminals were excavated. A minimum of 10% of all linear features lengths were excavated to determine the character of the feature over its entire course; the possibility of recuts of parts, and not the whole, of the feature were considered.
- Discrete features were, as a minimum, 50% excavated and, where rich finds or environmental remains were encountered, 100% excavated.
- For other types of feature such as quarry pits, ponds etc., all relationships at least were ascertained. Further investigation was a matter of on-site judgement, but sought to establish as a minimum their extent, date and function.
- Consideration was given to employing the single context recording system if remains are sufficiently complicated.

1.5.6 All excavated deposits and features were recorded according to current professional standards using the standard context record sheets used by ASE.

1.5.7 A full digital photographic record of all features was maintained.

1.5.8 All finds recovered from excavated deposits were collected and retained in line with the ASE artefacts collection policy.

1.5.9 The excavation area and spoil were metal detected for artefact recovery.

1.5.10 Samples were collected from suitable excavated contexts, including well-sealed slowly silted features, sealed hearths, and sealed features containing evident carbonised remains, peats, water-logged or cess deposits.

1.5.11 A standard bulk sample size of 40litres (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 the 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 This report primarily concerns the results of the archaeological excavation carried out between the 14th July – 14th August 2015. However, significant archaeological remains from the evaluation (ASE 2014b) have also been integrated and assessed. The finds and environmental archives from both phases of work are all recorded under a single site code: DLB14.

2.0 HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The following information is largely drawn from the Desk Based Assessment (ASC 2008); Heritage Asset Impact Assessment (ASC 2013) and Evaluation report (ASE 2014b). The DBA includes a much more detailed historical and archaeological background, including a list of entries on the Historic Environment Record (HER) from a 1km radius of the site. The following section provides a summary of the most significant evidence with an emphasis on information pertinent to the results of the excavation.

2.2 Prehistoric

2.2.1 Prior to the evaluation on the site, the majority of the prehistoric evidence in the Berkhamsted area was limited to a number of isolated worked flints. There are a number of isolated finds further afield, for instance a Neolithic axehead recovered c 1km north of the site (HER 4252) and struck flint flakes at Oakwood c 500m south of the site (HER 11479).

2.2.2 Later prehistoric evidence from Oakwood, c.500m to the south-east, consists of two circular buildings, eight four-post structures and a fence line of the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age. A small quantity of contemporary pottery was found here along with triangular loom weight fragments (HER 11479).

2.2.3 In closer proximity to the site there are the remains of the Iron Age linear earthwork Grim's Ditch (or 'Gryme's Dyke') (HER 2011, 2023), located c 130m north of the site. The monument is scheduled (SM35349) and it forms part of a stretch of bank and ditch stretching 18km across the Chiltern Hills which is thought to have served as a territorial boundary, separating, and perhaps enclosing, organised groups of land and settlement. It may also have been an agricultural boundary, denoting grazing areas and impeding the movement (or theft) of stock. Excavations to date have provided only limited dating evidence. Pottery recovered from the fill of the ditch indicates that it was in existence in the Iron Age. As such the boundary provides important evidence for the management of the landscape in the centuries preceding the Roman Conquest in AD 43, although it may have a considerably earlier origin (http://www.englishheritage.org.uk/professional/protection/process/national-heritage-listfor-england/).

2.2.4 The evaluation on the site consisted of sixty-seven archaeological trenches and revealed evidence of features in the area dating to the middle/late Bronze Age and the Iron Age in the form of ditches, pits, a possible cremation urn and a fire pit (ASE 2014b).

2.3 Romano-British

2.3.1 During the Roman period the Berkhamsted area formed part of the civitas (tribal area) of the Catuvellauni, with its capital at *Verulamium* (St Albans) (Branigan 1987, 135-6). During this period there is evidence for dispersed occupation along the length of the upper Bulbourne valley (Morris &

Wainwright 1995, 68-75), but the principal settlement in the area appears to have been at Cow Roast, c.4km northwest of the site, where excavations have revealed significant evidence of occupation and industry, mainly metalworking (Zeepvat 1997). An important Roman road, now known as *Akeman Street*, passed through the valley and linked *Verulamium* with *Corinium* (Cirencester). The road followed a similar course to the former A41 (now the A4251), c.400m north of the site.

2.3.2 The closest Roman occupation site was situated in Northchurch, about 1.4km north (Thompson & Bryant 2005, fig. 1). Others are recorded to the north and west of the town (HER2716, 6421, 6437). Roman buildings, possibly part of a single villa site, have been identified at Dudswell Rise and Boswick Lane, Northchurch. Another possible Roman site was identified on the High Street (HER7369). There is further evidence for iron working in the form of shaft furnaces at Dellfield, c.1.2 km north of the site (HER4904), and a pottery kiln is recorded in Bridgewater Road (HER6083). A concentration of pottery further along Bridgewater Road (HER6071) may indicate the presence of a second kiln.

2.3.3 The remaining evidence for Roman activity in the area comprises random coin loss. Several Roman coins have been found at the castle (HER1336), and coins have been recovered from Meadway (HER 6070), Dellfield (HER6076), and Swingate Lane (HER6080), whilst a Romano-British brooch has been found at Northchurch, c.60m west of the site (HER4853).

2.4 Saxon

2.4.1 Berkhamsted was in existence in the late Anglo-Saxon period, and is mentioned in the Anglo-Saxon chronicle in 1066 (Garmonsway 1955, 200). Almost a century earlier the name appears in the Will of Aelgifu in his bequest of lands (Sawyer 1968, 415, 1484).

2.4.2 The location of the Anglo-Saxon settlement has never been precisely defined. The earliest physical evidence survives in the form of architectural detail in the church of St Mary c.1km north of the site, '*North Berkhamsted'*, i.e. the 'North church' (HER4447; Smith 1973, 11). In addition, Northchurch was a rectory manor and may have been a minster church (Doggett & Hunn 1985, 22). It is possible that a residence existed close to the church (HER9317), although there is no direct evidence for its position. The closest recorded evidence of the period is a quantity of early/middle Saxon pottery that has been recorded south of the site at Chesham Road, suggesting that a settlement had been established by the 7th or 8th century.

2.5 Medieval

2.5.1 The medieval period was a time of considerable expansion at Berkhamsted and following the Norman Conquest (1066) the castle was constructed *c*.2km northeast of the assessment site (Doggett & Hunn 1985, 18 & 28-30). The castle has been associated with various national figures, including Thomas à Becket and Geoffrey Chaucer. King John of France was held prisoner at the castle during the 14th century and it remained a royal residence until the late 15th century, when the Countess Cecily died there in 1495.

2.5.2 Berkhamsted or *Berchehastede* is mentioned in the Domesday survey of 1086 (Morris 1976, 15.1) as a *burbium* (borough) whose fifty two burgesses paid £4 from tolls and held half a hide of land. The market place was first recorded in the early 13th century (HER9188) and was a prominent feature of the town into the 20th century. The church of St Peter dates from the 13th century but may have earlier origins. It was extensively restored by Wyatville and Butterfield in the 19th century (Pevsner & Cherry 2002, 95-97).

2.5.3 The core of the present town was in existence by the 12th/13th century and appears to have comprised the High Street, a market place (now occupied by development backing onto Back Lane), Castle Street, Water Lane and Mill Street, which linked the market place and St Peter's Church with the castle, Raven's Lane and Chesham Road, formerly Elvenway (Doggett & Hunn 1985, 32). The layout of the town during this period is not known in detail, but the pattern of tenement boundaries has been partially reconstructed in the Extensive Urban Survey (Thompson & Bryant 2005, fig. 4).

2.5.4 In the wider landscape the basic pattern of land use had been created by the mid-13th century (Roden 1965, 217-8). On the upper slopes of the valley in the vicinity of Durrants Lane, Salmons Field had become a single arable unit by the 13th century (Roden 1965, 224). By the end of the 14th century this had been divided into North and South Salmons Field, but thereafter there was a slow but progressive subdivision of these fields.

2.6 Post-medieval and modern

2.6.1 The earliest reference to the name 'Durrants' occurs in a court roll of 1495 (. Durrants was a parcel of the Honour of Berkhamsted (i.e. it formed part of the manorial holding) together with Northcott and Magdalens (Marlins). However, both these places were manors as early as the 13th century. The earliest reference to Durrants as a capital messuage occurs in the early 17th century. According to Roden (1965, 229) it consisted of c.36¾ acres of arable, with 9½ acres of meadow, 4 tenements, 2 cottages, 1 house and 2 orchards. There were 23 individual tenants with holdings ranging from ½ an acre to 7 acres. The principal fields were *Hibberds field* (12.25 acres), *Lagley field* (6 acres), *Twelve Acres* (13.5 acres) and *Home field* (5 acres). One-third of the arable land was held as 'common arable'. At this time Durrants was held by Henry Seare; it subsequently came into possession of John Cock and then his sister Anne Partridge. After that it was left to William Cock of Barley whose son, also William, sold it to Thomas Egerton in 1739.

2.6.2 Various deeds for Durrants in the 18th century (HALS: 29556, 29558, 29643, 29699 and AH/262-73) and a list of rents in 1790 (HALS: 29713) suggest that the formative period of the holding predated the 18th century. By the early 19th century the holding of Durrants Farm (or the Northchurch Estate) amounted to 178 acres and is shown as extending from the Grand Junction Canal in the valley to the north. The earliest detailed map covering the assessment site is the Tithe Apportionment map of 1839, by this time all vestiges of the former open field systems, apart from the survival of field names, had disappeared. The dominant landowners were still the Duchy of Cornwall and the Bridgewater estate, though there were a number of other

substantial land holdings in the area such as Ashlyns, Harefoot and Rossway. This pattern persisted throughout the remainder of the 19th century. There were only occasional references to the ownership of Woodcock Hill and Durrants. Woodcock Hill was purchased in 1840 by John Field, and was completely rebuilt eight years later by Frank Moore (Hosier 1994, 44). In addition to Moore, who was listed simply as 'landed proprietor and land holder', four other households were recorded there (Goose 1996, 203). Moore is again recorded in connection with Woodcock Hill in Kelly's Directory of 1862 and 1869. According to the 1874 edition of Kelly's, Durrants Farm was held by Joseph Mead. The character of area in the second half of the 19th century was broadly similar to that of the first half, with a preference for boundaries aligned at right angles to the Bulbourne.

2.6.3 For much of the 20th century the area in the vicinity of Woodcock Hill remained broadly unchanged. In 1911 Woodcock Hill was owned by Robert McVitie (IR2 57/1 no.170). At that date he held 82.3 acres, but it is clear from sale particulars that the Woodcock Hill estate consisted of 228 acres by c.1919. Durrants Lane was gated up to c.1914 (Hosier 1994, 43). By 1924 Shootersway Lane had been created to provide access for private residential development. This remained very much the same until after 1945 when council housing began to develop on the southern margins of the proposed development area.

3.0 ORIGINAL RESEARCH AIMS

3.1 Research Aims

3.1.1 A Historic Environment Research Framework for the East of England was devised as part of the Extensive Urban Survey (Medleycott, 2011). This consists of a series of research questions for archaeological excavation in the East of England and therefore was an appropriate starting place for developing the research aims and objectives for this project.

3.1.2 Site specific research aims were the developed for the project drawing on additional information gained from previous ASE fieldwork on the site (ASE 2014b):

ORA1: To record, as far as reasonably practicable, the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains.

ORA2: With reference to Research and Archaeology Revisited: a Revised Framework for the East of England (Medleycott 2011, 29) the excavation will seek to enhance the understanding of the Late Bronze Age to Iron Age transition.

4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

4.1 Summary

4.1.1 This section of the report presents an assessment of the stratigraphic findings of the main excavation integrated with the results from the earlier evaluation phase.

4.1.2 In order to aid interpretation of the stratigraphic data, individual contexts, cuts, fills, deposits etc., are referred to thus [***], and have been sub-grouped and, where necessary at this stage, grouped together during post-excavation assessment and features are generally referred to by their sub-group (SG**) or group label (GP **). In this way, linear features, such as ditches which may have numerous individual slots and context numbers, are discussed as single entities, and other cut features such as ring-gullies, pits and postholes are grouped together by structure, common date and/or type. Environmental samples are listed within triangular brackets <**>, and registered finds thus: RF<*>. References to sections within this report are referred to thus (3.7).

4.1.3 The majority of features on the site contained little in the way of datable or environmental material culture or stratigraphic relationships. Dating evidence consisted predominantly of quite small and undiagnostic pottery groups, making assigning closely dated periods and phases problematic. Broadly, the evidence suggests that the majority of the archaeological activity on the site spanned the Middle/Late Bronze Age to Middle Iron Age. This lack of datable finds or stratigraphic sequences is reminiscent of other sites of a similar date excavated within the vicinity, such as The Grove Estate, Watford; Pea Lane, Berkhamsted and Oakwood, Berkhamsted (AOC, 2001; HAT, 1994a).

4.1.4 Given the paucity of datable finds or stratigraphic relationships, it has not, at this stage, been possible to assign refined phases to the activity on this site. Many of the features attributed to the two main periods of activity have been done so based on relative associations with nearby dated features, or due to their likely date based on their interpreted use.

4.1.5 Based on initial interpretations of stratigraphic and spatial relationships and spot-dating of finds assemblages, a provisional structure of dated periods has been devised:

- Residual Mesolithic/Early Neolithic 10,000-3000 BC
- Period 1 Middle – Late Bronze Age 1500-800 BC
- Period 2 Early – Middle Iron Age 800-300 BC
- Period 3 Post-medieval AD1540-1900
- Modern overburden

4.1.6 The archaeological remains are discussed under these provisional date-phased headings.

4.1.7 The earliest evidence consists of:

- residual Mesolithic/Earlier Neolithic struck flint

4.1.8 There is evidence of Middle/Late Bronze Age activity (Period 1) which consists of:

- possible structures
- pits
- postholes
- a waterhole
- a possible burnt mound
- a pond/quarry
- a possible cremation

Note that in this document 'burnt mound' is used in the broadest sense to mean feature(s) that may be associated with this type of general activity – not necessarily forming an upstanding mound; in this case the negative, cut features.

4.1.9 A second period of activity dates to the Early/Middle Iron Age (Period 2), this consists of:

- field boundaries
- pits
- post holes
- possible hearths
- structures

4.1.10 In the post-medieval period (Period 3) the site mainly consisted of agricultural fields, however two quarry pits of this date were excavated.

4.1.11 The site was sealed with a mixed plough soil with a mixed date range of Tudor/post-medieval – modern date.

4.1.12 The finds and environmental samples ultimately deposited as part of the archive are dependent on specialist recommendations and regional archive requirements.

Context sheets	300
Section sheets	12
Plans sheets	2
Colour photographs	0
B&W photos	0
Digital photos	540
Context register	7
Drawing register	8
Watching brief forms	0
Trench Record forms	67

Table 1: Quantification of site paper archive

Bulk finds (quantity e.g. 1 bag, 1 box, 0.5 box 0.5 of a box)	5 boxes
Registered finds (number of)	5
Flots and environmental remains from bulk samples	18
Palaeoenvironmental specialists sample samples (e.g. columns, prepared slides)	0
Waterlogged wood	0

Wet sieved environmental remains from bulk samples	0

Table 2: Quantification of artefact and environmental samples

4.2 Natural Deposits

4.2.1 The natural geology consisted of Clay-with-Flints Formation comprising a mix of Clay, Silt, Sand and Gravel formed by weathering processes in the Quaternary and Neogene periods. These ranged from *c*.168.05m OD within the northern corner of Area 1, sloping up to *c*.169.36m OD within the south of Area 1. Area 2 ranged from *c*.170.11m OD in the north down to *c*.168.95m OD in the south of the area. Area 3 was located at *c*.169.11m OD.

4.2.2 Excavations in all parts of the site revealed a typical stratigraphic sequence of *c*.0.20m - 0.50m of mid-brown sandy silt plough soil with frequent gravel inclusions, weeds, and the remains of the last farm crop overlying the natural deposits. All three areas had been quite deeply ploughed and showed evidence of plough scars within the natural deposits. As a result no subsoil survived within the site, and such features that were identified survived only where they cut into the natural deposits.

4.3 Residual Mesolithic/Early Neolithic Material c.10, 000-3000 BC

4.3.1 A very small assemblage of four pieces of struck flint dating to the Mesolithic/Early Neolithic period was collected, consisting entirely of unmodified waste of which flakes were the dominant types. A blade, a bladelet and a blade-like flake were also recovered. The blade came from the topsoil in evaluation Trench 50 (context [50/001]). The bladelet came from posthole [1212], and the blade-like flake from feature [1171].

4.4 Period 1: Middle/Late Bronze Age 1500-800 BC (Figures 3-6)

Possible Cremation (Figure 6)

4.4.1 The truncated base and lower wall of a thick-walled vessel, possibly from a cremation urn, were located during the evaluation within shallow pit [34/004]. The pit had been truncated by plough damage, and no rim survived. Although no ashes were found in, or associated with, the urn, its function is assumed to have been funerary.

4.4.2 During the excavation a 225m^2 area around the cremation urn was opened (Area 3), however no further cremations or archaeological evidence was observed.

Possible Structure 1 (Figure 4)

4.4.3 Although not clearly defined, it is possible that postholes [1209]; [1211]; [1213] and [1215] within Area 1 form part of a rectangular structure (GP4).

Possible Waterhole (Figure 4)

4.4.4 Located near Structure 1 was a large pit [1119] (SG13), filled with multiple silting deposits with flecks of charcoal and occasional sherds of Middle to Late

Bronze Age pottery. The eastern edge of the pit sloped shallowly towards the base, becoming a sharper, more vertical cut to the north. The function of this feature is unclear, it may be a waterhole or dew pond given the silt content of the fills.

Possible Burnt Mound Trough or Gully (Figure 5)

4.4.5 Irregular shaped feature [1188] (SG84) measured 5.30m wide by at least 5m long and 0.75m deep, and was filled with blackish-grey silty sand [1187] rich in charcoal and densely packed with fragmented fire-cracked flint. The fill was interpreted on site as being one depositional action with several heavily compacted individual tips lines identified sloping from the southern edge down towards the north. The clay and flint base of the cut showed no evidence of burning, which, coupled with the presence of tip lines within the fill suggests the burnt flint and charcoal fill [1187] was not burnt *in situ* within the cut, but was dumped post use once it had cooled.

4.4.6 The charcoal and fire-cracked flint fill [1187] contained no pottery or other datable inclusions; however an environmental sample revealed taxa from this context included possible Maloideae, possible hazel/alder (cf *Corylus avellana/Alnus glutinosa*), oak and two indeterminate fragments. It is possible that C14 could refine the date of these features.

4.4.7 The precise function of this feature is not immediately apparent, however, the quantity of charcoal and fire-cracked flint suggests it may be the trough or gully for a 'burnt mound'; or a refuse dump for the waste from a large fire-pit within the immediate vicinity that was being intensively reused.

4.4.8 No such 'burnt mound' or fire-pit was observed on site, however the fills of many of the other features within Area 2 all contained large quantities of charcoal and fire-cracked flint, suggesting perhaps their disuse and abandonment coincided with the disuse and spreading of the remains of the 'burnt mound'.

4.4.9 If [1188] is part of a burnt mound it would be only the 6th such feature identified within Hertfordshire, and the only one recorded with a trough or gully (ASC 2009; AOC, 2001).

4.4.10 Area 2 could not be extended to chase the extent of [1188] due to the presence of a thick line of coniferous trees which formed the Area's western limit of excavation. During the watching brief phase of the site investigations, the area to the west of the treeline was observed being stripped of topsoil and subsoil (Figure 2, watching brief area), and feature [1188] did not extend into this area.

4.4.11 'Burnt mounds' are believed to represent the accumulation of waste residue from the large scale heating of stones, primarily, it is thought, to heat water (Dunkin, forthcoming; Barfield & Hodder, 1987). Traditionally 'burnt mounds' are represented by ether irregular, thin spreads or small mounds of charcoal and burnt flint. Some have been recorded with associated cut troughs and/or linear gullies, such as those at Selsey, West Sussex, where Burnt Mound 1 included a sub-oval trough with sloping sides and a concave base, and Burnt Mound 4 was associated with both a trough and gully, which measured 5m

long and extended outside the burnt spread (ASE 2014c, p.75-80). An excavation at Towcester, Northamptonshire, revealed a large sub-rectangular pit filled with fire-cracked river pebbles and charcoal, measuring 11m by 4.50m and 0.80m deep with an associated ditch with curving sides and a flat base. These features are dated to the Middle Bronze Age, and have been interpreted as water collection features which have been filled with burnt flint and charcoal dumps after falling out of use (Northamptonshire Archaeology, 2012 p.8-12).

4.4.12 The recorded forms and inferred functions of features interpreted as 'burnt mounds' are considerably diverse, as are their location types, both within varying landscapes and relative association with settlement types. So much so, that it is not possible to claim a convincing single "type" or function for these features. In all likelihood 'burnt mounds' represent the application of a shared technology (in this instance the boiling/heating of water using heated stone) in order to effectively exploit varying local resources and landscapes for a multitude of end goals.

4.4.13 A significant lack of dating evidence from both this feature and neighbouring ones has meant it is, at this stage, not possible to securely date this feature. Thus a likely date range has had to be inferred based on the datable periods identified on site and the features interpreted function. Burnt mounds, where dating evidence exists, are predominantly attributed to the Bronze Age (Dunkin, forthcoming), however large pits filled with charcoal and fire-cracked flint have been recorded into the Saxon period, such as at Snape in Suffolk (AS, 2013). Based on the features interpretation, and the date ranges of sealed contexts on this site, a provisional Middle/Late Bronze Age date has been attributed to [1188].

Pond/Quarry (Figure 5)

4.4.14 Within Area 2, to the north-east of the possible 'burnt mound', was a large irregular ovoid feature (GP3) measuring c.23m by c.15m and 1m deep with gradual sloping sides and an irregular base. This feature has been interpreted as ether a large man-made pond and/or flint quarry associated with possible 'burnt mound' [1188].

4.4.15 Although the sides of pond/quarry (GP3) sloped gradually, the base was irregular, and appeared to have possible pits [1202] and [1191] and possible postholes [59/014]; [59/016]; [1193]; [1195]; [1230]; [1232]; [1234] and stakehole [1236] cut into it. All were all filled with a blueish-grey silty clay with charcoal flecks and occasional fire-cracked flints, suggesting a slow silting process filled them prior to the later silting of the main feature (discussed in Period 3). Around the outside of the feature are believed associated postholes [59/006]; [1169]; [1168]; [1154]; and pits/large postholes [1166] and [1223]. None of these pits and postholes forms a coherent pattern or indicates clear structural use, such as shoring within an open pond. It is possible that they represent individual flint quarrying episodes within a large open quarry.

4.4.16 Burnt mounds are traditionally found near a water source, predominantly natural however there is evidence of man-made ponds (ASE, 2014c, p78; Dunkin, forthcoming; Brown et al 2006). A burnt mound and three pond/quarry like features have recently been excavated at Goose Hill, West Sussex,

located on clay and flint geology, which may represent a new class of monument where a burnt mound sits beside a quarry pit from which flint was extracted (Greg Priestley-Bell, pers. comm. 12/12/2015). The pond/quarry features from Goose Hill are c.18m in diameter, 1-2m deep and located at c.190m OD in an area with no natural water source, and are thus comparable to the (GP3) feature on site.

4.4.17 The silting episodes within pond/quarry (GP3) are considered to all be a later phase of disuse, and are discussed separately in Period 2. The decision to place the construction and use of this feature within Period 1: Mid/Late Bronze Age is a relative one based on its believed association with 'burnt mound' [1188].

Hearth/cooking pit (Figure 5)

4.4.18 Cut [1153] represents a possible hearth/cooking pit within Area 2. The hearth is filled by primary burning [1152], which contained no datable finds or burnt bone; however an environmental sample contained a wide variety of woody taxa, including willow/poplar (*Salix/Populus sp*.), hazel (*Corylus avellana*) and members of the Maloideae subfamily, which includes apple, pear, whitebeam and rowan, among others.

4.4.19 Due to a lack of dating evidence, this feature has been given a preliminary date of Middle/Late Bronze Age, based on the relative dates of features within the immediate vicinity with which the hearth is likely associated.

Pits (Figure 5)

4.4.20 Shallow pits [1128]; [1130]; [1140]; [1141]; [1148], [1159] and [1163] were excavated within Area 2. Aside from two small flints of a broad 'prehistoric' date, these pits did not yield any dating evidence. All of them contained large amounts of fire-cracked flint and charcoal; however the charcoal was all fragmentary and could not be further identified.

4.4.21 Pit [1185] did not contain any fire-cracked flint and was filled with a light brown silty-sand with frequent gravel. This pit cut Structure 2, discussed below.

Postholes (Figure 5)

4.4.22 Post holes from Period 1 not currently associated with a structure are [1126]; [1133]; [1135]; [1137]; [1144] and [1146].

Structure 2 (Figure 5)

4.4.23 Possible Structure 2 (GP5) consisted of a large round cut [1171] c.8m diameter and 0.31m deep with six postholes at the base. The large cut was filled with a mid-greyish-brown clay with frequent fire-cracked flint and charcoal fecks. One small residual Mesolithic/Early Neolithic flint was retrieved from this fill.

4.4.24 It should be noted that Structure 2 looks similar to, and given the lack of associated material culture, could be interpreted as, a possible Saxon Sunken Featured Building (SFB). These types of structures have been associated with

burnt flint pits, such as in Snape, Suffolk (AS, 2013 p.26-35), and Saxon Sunken Buildings have been recorded at similar sites within Hertfordshire, such as The Grove, Watford (AOC, 2001). The lack of material culture dated to the Saxon period both within the vicinity of the site, as well as within the site itself, with the exception of the intrusive brooch within [44/004] (discussed in Section 4.5.16) makes it difficult to justify attributing Structure 2, and possibly other, undated features within Area 2 to the Saxon period at this time. It is possible that radiocarbon dating could refine the date of these features in a future phase of work.

4.5 Period 2: Early/Middle Iron Age 800-300 BC (Figures 7-9)

Field Boundaries (Figure 8)

4.5.1 Two linear ditches were observed on the site. (GP1) consists of a north-east—south-west orientated ditch running through Area 1. The ditch measured c. 60m by 1m wide and c. 0.50m deep with sherds of Early/Middle Iron Age pottery present in most of the slots excavated.

4.5.2 Ditch (GP2) was orientated north-west—south-east and was picked up in Evaluation trenches 26 and 28, outside of the excavation areas. This ditch measured 1.15m wide and c.0.30m deep and included occasional fragments of fire-cracked flint. Not shown on plan.

4.5.3 Linear feature [1075] extended 3.50m into the trench from the north-eastern edge of site. This ditch is probably another field boundary, however very little of it extended into the trench.

Possible Structures

4.5.4 Structure 3 (GP7), consists of four postholes and a stakehole, possibly part of a circular structure within the eastern area of Area 1. Possible Structure 4 (GP8) consists of two postholes that had been burnt *in situ*, and charcoal samples from both revealed them to be oak.

4.5.5 Possible Structure 5 (GP9) consisted of four postholes excavated within evaluation Trench 48, outside of the excavation areas.

4.5.6 To the west of boundary ditch (GP1) were postholes [1048]; [1050]; [1056]; [44/010]; [44/012] and [44/014]. It is possible that they are associated with each other, forming a structure, pen or fence line (Structure 6).

4.5.7 Postholes [1015]; [1022]; [1024]; [1026]; [1036] and [1113] could be associated with the slag and fire-cracked flint filled pits that form (GP6) and hearth [1011], possibly forming a structure over them (Structure 7).

4.5.8 Postholes [1032]; [1034]; [1038]; are possibly associated, and have been tentatively assigned as Structure 8.

Postholes

4.5.9 Post holes from this Period that are not currently associated with a structure include [48/010]; [1066] and [1079].

Pits (Figure 8)

4.5.10 To the east of boundary ditch (GP1) were shallow pits [1046]; [1073]; [1081]; and (GP6). None of these pits produced any datable material culture; however those in (GP6) did produce traces of charcoal, fire-cracked flint and slag, suggesting some limited iron smithing may have occurred in this vicinity even if the *in situ* remains appear to be absent.

4.5.11 Pit [1114] is the base of a ploughed out pit, containing fire-cracked flint and heat-effected clay, presumably waste from a hearth. The pit was fairly isolated with no nearby perceptible features.

4.5.12 The final fill of pit [44/003] revealed a mix of Early Iron Age pot, slag and fire-cracked flint with one piece of Roman pot and a small copper alloy probable penannular brooch dated to the 4th – 7th centuries. Given the lack of Roman or Saxon archaeological evidence from both the site and the wider area, it is believed that both the piece of Roman pot and the brooch are intrusive, presumably dragged in by ploughing.

4.5.13 To the west of boundary ditch (GP1) were two shallow pits [1083] and [1085] of unknown use. Both were c.0.25m deep and filled with brown silty-clay with occasional pottery and frequent gravel inclusions.

Hearths/cooking pits? (Figure 8)

4.5.14 Six possible hearths/cooking pits of Early/Middle Iron Age date were excavated on the site. Feature [1068] was located within the eastern area of Area 1, within the vicinity of possible Structure 2, and so might be associated. Feature [1011] was situated amongst the pits with slag waste within them (GP6) and contained burnt animal bone and teeth, as well as charcoal from both oak and cherry/blackthorn (*Prunus* sp.).

4.5.15 Pits [1005], [1008], [1090] and [43/004] were located to the west of Ditch (GP1). None of these features were located near any of the possible structures discussed above.

4.5.16 Pits [1005], [1008], [1011] and [43/004] all contained conjoining sherds from individual vessels, and in the case of [1011] the sherds were all from the base of vessel found sitting at the base of the feature.

Silting of the pond/quarry (GP3) (Figure 9)

4.5.17 Pond/quarry (GP3) was filled with various layers of natural silting, all sloping from the south-east down to the north-west. The silting consisted of a primary layer of mid orange-brown silty-clay with fire-cracked flint inclusions [1190] overlain by an extremely compact mid-greyish brown silty clay with very frequent charcoal and fire-cracked flint with Early/Middle Iron Age pottery sherds. Samples from this fill revealed a mix of charcoal from oak, hazel/alder (*Corylus/Alnus*), cherry/blackthorn and wood of the Maloideae subfamily which includes hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), rowan and whitebeam (*Sorbus* sp.), apple (*Malus* sp.) and pear (*Pyrus* sp.). It is possible that this fill represents the disuse of the burnt mound [1188], and its subsequent spread

across the site. This was overlain by a thin fill of mid-orange brown clay with occasional fire-cracked flint and charcoal, which was sealed by a friable mid-greyish blue silty-clay with moderate amounts of fire-cracked flint; charcoal and sherds of Early /MiddIe Iron Age pottery, interpreted as the main episode of natural silting. The whole sequence was sealed by a thin layer of light yellow silty-sand with a fragment of post-medieval tile in it, which may possibly represent the only remains of subsoil on the site.

Gully

4.5.18 Gully [1226] ran north-east—south-west, cutting pond/quarry (GP3). The gully was filled with a light-brown silty sand with occasional charcoal flecks, however no dating evidence was found. The gully runs along the boundary between two fields (ASC, 2008, Figs 6-12), and is possibly a field or urban district boundary.

4.6 Period 3: Post-medieval AD1540-1900 (Figure 10)

4.6.1 In the post-medieval period (Period 3) the site consisted of agricultural fields, however two quarry pits of this date were excavated on site.

4.6.2 Quarry pit [1020] measured 17m by 10m and pit [1124] 11m in diameter. Both were c.2m deep and full of dark brown sandy-silt with frequent gravel. Pottery and CBM inclusions date them both to *c*.18th century.

4.6.3 Although none of the historic maps detail quarry pits within the site, there are quarry pits marked on within the vicinity, including one c.300m north-east of the site at Cox Dell. Post-medieval quarry pits of similar size and depth have also been excavated during the A41 by-pass excavations at Pea Lane and Grims Ditch (HAT, 1994).

4.7 Modern overburden

4.7.1 The site was sealed by a mid-brown sandy silt plough soil with frequent gravel inclusions. The date range for the plough soil is understandably wide, and finds from it range from Tudor/post-medieval brick and tile to a 19th-20th century concrete statue.

5.0 FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS

5.1 **Worked Flint** by Karine Le Hegarat

5.1.1 The evaluation and excavation on Land at Durrants Lane produced 18 pieces of struck flint weighing 101g. A large quantity of burnt unworked flint (just under 86kg) was also recovered. The flintwork was hand collected and subsequently retrieved from sample residues. The pieces of struck flint were thinly spread across the site, and they are likely to be residual. The material was quantified by piece count and weight and was catalogued directly into an Excel spreadsheet. Table 3 summarises the assemblage.

Category	Flake	Blade, Bladelet and Blade-like flake	Total
No	15	3	18

Table 3: The flintwork

5.1.2 The assemblage consists entirely of unmodified waste of which flakes are the dominant types. A blade, a bladelet and a blade-like flake were also recovered. The blade came from the topsoil in Trench 50 (context [50/001]). It is entirely re-corticated light bluish white. It displays evidence of heavy edge damage indicating that it had been subject to some movement. The bladelet came from context [1212]. It is broken, but displays blade scar removal on the dorsal face. Both the blade and the bladelet are directly related to blade-based industry, and they are likely to be of Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date. The remaining of the assemblage is principally made of small flakes manufactured from light to dark brown flints. They are probably later in date.

5.1.3 A relatively large assemblage of burnt unworked flint was also recovered. The largest concentration came from contexts [59/008], [59/009], [1158] and [1187]. Although un-datable, burnt unworked flints are frequently associated with prehistoric activities.

5.2 **Prehistoric and Roman Pottery** by Anna Doherty

5.2.1 A small assemblage of prehistoric and Roman pottery was recovered during evaluation and excavation work at the site (393 sherds, weighing 1932g, from 161 estimated vessels). Most individual stratified contexts contained quite small and undiagnostic pottery groups, making close dating of the assemblage problematic; however the range of fabrics and forms suggests that the assemblage spans the Middle/Late Bronze Age to Middle Iron Age with the majority of the assemblage probably belonging to the transitional Early/Middle Iron Age period (c.800-300BC). Only a single sherd of Roman pottery was found.

5.2.2 The assemblage was recorded according to a site-specific fabric type-series in accordance with the guidelines of the Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group (PCRG 2010). It was quantified by sherd count, weight (g) and Estimated Vessel Number (ENV) on pro forma records and in an Excel spreadsheet.

Site specific type-series

5.2.3 FLIN1 Common very ill-sorted flint of 1-5mm set within a dense, slightly silty matrix

5.2.4 FLIN2 Moderate to common flint of 0.5-2.5mm (or occasionally up to 3mm) set within a dense, slightly silty matrix

5.2.5 FLIN3 Rare/sparse flint of 0.5-1mm (or occasionally up to 2mm) set within a very silty micaceous matrix with common quartz just about individually visible at x 20 magnification

5.2.6 FLIN4 Sparse very ill-sorted flint of 1-5mm set within a dense, slightly silty matrix

5.2.7 FLIN5 Common very well-sorted flint of 0.5-1mm set within a dense, slightly silty matrix

5.2.8 FLQU1 Rare/sparse flint of 0.5-1mm (or occasionally up to 2mm) set within a sandy matrix with sparse/moderate large rounded quartz up to 0.6mm

5.2.9 GROG1 Moderate grog of 1-2mm set within a dense, slightly silty matrix

5.2.10 QUAR1 A very micaceous silty matrix with common quartz just about individually visible at x 20 magnification

5.2.11 QUAR2 A background silty micaceous matrix like QUAR1 but with sparse moderate larger quartz grains of up to 0.6mm

Overview of the pottery assemblage

5.2.12 About a third of the assemblage by sherd count is assigned to Period 1 (Middle and Late Bronze Age), and two-thirds to Period 2 (Early and Middle Iron Age). The assemblage is quantified by fabric type in Table 4.

Fabric	Sherds	Weight	ENV
FLIN1	68	353	21
FLIN2	67	324	37
FLIN3	34	92	14
FLIN4	3	250	2
FLIN5	8	47	4
FLQU1	15	25	3
GROG1	4	18	1
QUAR1	164	632	63
QUAR2	29	189	15
Roman grey ware	1	2	1
Total	393	1932	161

Table 4: Quantification of Prehistoric and Roman pottery fabrics

5.2.13 Four small conjoining sherds, in grog-tempered fabric GROG1, may pre-date the Middle/Late Bronze Age. The fragmented thick-walled bodysherds appear more typical of Early Bronze Age urn traditions than of Late Iron Age/early Roman grog-tempered pottery. However, they were stratified with a group of probable Early/Middle Iron Age sherds in ditch [1116], part of the main north-east south-west aligned ditch in Area 1, which was similarly dated in other interventions. The possible Early Bronze Age sherds are therefore almost certainly residual.

5.2.14 Likely the earliest *in situ* pottery is the truncated base and lower wall of a thick-walled vessel in coarse flint-tempered fabric FLIN 1, possibly representing a cremation urn, found in Period 1 evaluation feature [34/004]. No diagnostic elements are present but the coarseness of the fabric together with the thick-walled nature of the vessel suggests that it is likely to be of Middle Bronze Age date (*c*.1500-1150BC), although fairly thick-walled, coarse vessels may have survived in the early part of the Late Bronze Age (*c*.1150-950). This date range (1500-950BC) also broadly corresponds with the period in which the practice of cremation burial was common. Two other features, [1083] and [1119], produced bodysherds in the very coarse fabric FLIN1, although, in the latter, it was associated with a single sherd in a more moderately coarse ware, FLIN2. Neither of these features can be considered conclusively dated but these fabrics would probably also be most in keeping with a date range in the Middle Bronze Age to earlier Late Bronze Age.

5.2.15 A total of 81 sherds from a series of hearths and pits from Period 2 are predominantly non-sandy flint-tempered bodysherds, including medium coarse (FLIN2) and finer variants (FLIN3), with one or two coarser sherds (FLIN1, FLIN4). Only a single tiny partial rim sherd was found; whilst this appears to be of possible neutral plain profile, its overall form is uncertain and it does not provide any clear indication of date. Most of these contexts contained fewer than five sherds and, of the two features, hearth [1011] and pit [44/003], that contained slightly more substantial associated groups (>20 sherds), the latter also produced a single fragment of Roman pottery and a Saxon brooch. Overall, whilst these contexts were tentatively spot-dated to the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age (c.1150-400BC) based on the range of fabrics, none of these features can be considered well-dated so evidence for continuity between the more tangibly dated elements from the Middle/Late Bronze Age and Early/Middle Iron Age is uncertain to say the least.

5.2.16 Thirteen very small bodysherds, in sandy flint-tempered ware FLQU1 (all from the same vessel) were found in hearth [1005], assigned to Period 2. This fabric type is probably broadly typical of the Earliest/Early Iron Age (800-400BC) but the sherds are not in themselves conclusively datable or necessarily diagnostically earlier than material from Period 2, to which the majority of the assemblage was assigned.

5.2.17 Moderately large Early to Middle Iron Age (Period 2) assemblages (70-100 sherds) were recovered from pit [1189]/[59/010] and hearth [1090], and small to medium groups (25-30 sherds) were found in hearth [43/003] and the north-east south west aligned ditch GP1 (cuts [1087], [1107] and [1116]). Again there are relatively few feature sherds and most tend to represent only

partial profiles. Those present include a necked jar and plain profiled form with a very slight neck from [1090], a neutral jar from [1189] and a more substantial upper profile from a plain ovoid jar form in [43/004]. In terms of fabrics, the assemblage is generally characterised a mixture of flint tempered wares (FLIN1, FLIN2, FLIN5) and non-flint-tempered sandy fabrics (QUAR1, QUAR2). However, the proportion of these wares varies slightly between the bigger stratified groups, possibly suggesting that they are of slightly differing date, as we would probably expect flint-tempered wares to be gradually replaced by sandy fabrics over the course of the Early/Middle Iron Age. For example in the large pit [11/89]/59/010], flint-tempered fabrics outnumber sandy wares at a ratio of *c*. 2:1, in the ditch group (GP1) they are present in roughly equal proportions, in hearth [1090] sandy wares make up 85% of ENV and in hearth [43/003] only sandy wares are present. This latter feature may in fact be wholly Middle Iron Age in date although most of the sherds within it come from the plain ovoid jar described above so it is difficult to determine whether proportions of fabrics are representative here.

5.2.18 Two pottery-producing features were assigned to Period 2, hearth [1008] and post-hole [1048]. The former contained conjoining sherds from a plain ovoid jar, similar to that in hearth [43/003] and the latter only a few undiagnostic bodysherds. However all of the pottery fabrics assigned to this phase are non-flint tempered sandy wares, suggesting that the latest prehistoric activity probably dates well into the Middle Iron Age.

5.2.19 As noted above, a single Roman grey ware bodysherd, weighing 2 grams was found in the residue of the sample from pit [44/003], and is considered intrusive in this Period 2 feature.

5.3 Medieval and post-medieval pottery by Helen Walker

5.3.1 A small amount of pottery, twelve sherds weighing 201g was excavated from three contexts. All is post-medieval to modern in date. The flanged rim from a black-glazed ware bowl or jar provides a 17th to earlier 18th century date for context [1020] and glazed sherds of post-medieval red earthenware also from this context could be of this date. Contexts [1007] and [1020] also produced glazed of post-medieval red earthenware and span the 17th to 19th centuries, that from context [1020] comprising the remains of at least one large flared bowl or pancheon, a form often used in dairying. The latest pottery however, came from context 1001, comprising a sherd from a creamware dish or plate, its near white rather than cream-coloured glaze suggesting a date of late 18th to earlier 19th century. While these finds indicate some activity during the post-medieval period, they are not of sufficient interest to merit further work.

Context	Feature	Sherd Nos	Wt (g)	Pottery – ware and featured sherds	Date
1001	Plough soil	2	8	Post-medieval red earthenware; glazed sherds including fragment of pad base	17th to 19th C
		1	10	Creamware: base sherd from a dish or plate, very white glaze, as opposed to a buttery-yellow glaze indicates a late date	Later 18th C to c.1830
1007	Plough soil	1	3	Post-medieval red earthenware: abraded rim fragment showing an internal glaze	Late 16th to 19th C
1021	Quarry Pit [1020]	3	34	Post-medieval red earthenware: thin-walled sherds with internal glaze	17th to 19th C
		1	14	Black-glazed ware: flanged rim from a bowl or jar form, all over black glaze, horizontal grooves below the rim	17th to earlier 18th C
		2	5	Unidentifiable ceramic, probably modern	19th to 20th C
		2	127	Post-medieval red earthenware: abraded, internally glazed sherds comprising a squared beaded rim from a large flared bowl or pancheon and a second rim with a more rounded bead probably also a pancheon	17th to 19th C
		12	**201**		

Table 5: The post-medieval pottery quantification

5.4 Ceramic Building Material (CBM) by Isa Benedetti-Whitton

Introduction

5.4.1 A total of 87 pieces of ceramic building material (CBM) weighing 3924g were recovered from seven contexts at Durrent's Lane. A large portion of the CBM collected was too fragmentary to allow for any analysis, but approximate date per context based on CBM is laid out in Table 6.

Context	CBM found	Date
1001	Brick fragments with remnants of blue-grey glaze.	Post-medieval. Tudor?
1007	Brick and tile fragments. Blue grey glaze on bricks.	Post-medieval. Tudor?
1020	Tile fragments.	Not dateable.
1021	Brick and tile fragments, incl. one peg tile with round hole.	Post-medieval.
1124	Brick and tile fragments.	C.18th century.
1132	Brick and tile fragments.	Not dateable.
1201	Tile.	Post-medieval.

Table 6: Approximate date per context based on CBM found

Methodology

5.4.2 All the material was quantified by form, weight and fabric and recorded on standard recording forms. Fabric descriptions were compiled with the aid of a x20 binocular microscope except in those instances when the material was either too small or fragmentary to assess fabric or form ('spall'), or if it was vitrified; this material was only counted and weighed prior to discard.

5.4.3 Fabric descriptions use the following conventions: frequency of inclusions as sparse, moderate, common or abundant; the size of inclusions as fine (up to 0.25mm), medium (up to 0.25 and 0.5mm), coarse (0.5-1.0mm) and very coarse (larger than 1.0mm). The information on the recording sheets has been entered into a digital Excel database. Samples of the fabrics and items of interest have been retained.

Summary of fabrics and forms

5.4.4 Six different fabrics were identified across the Durrent's Lane CBM and are described in Table 7.

Fabric code	Description
T1	Dense orange matrix with common unsorted quartz, fine - very coarse quartz up to 1mm. Sparse round Fe-rich deposits and speckle. Occasional pale orange marbling and pale silty deposits.
T2	Pale, pinkish fabric with moderate - common cream silty deposits up to 3mm. Fe-rich speckle and sparse inclusions up to 2mm. Sparse fine - medium quartz.
T3	Very sandy 'sugary' fabric with abundant coarse quartz and moderate very quartz up to 3mm.
B1	Dense fabric with moderate medium quartz and moderate Fe-rich inclusions up to 4mm. Sparse - moderate very coarse calcareous inclusions.
B1A	Similar to B1 but not as hard-fired and with less common quartz and cream lenses.
B2	Clean, red fabric with moderate - common cream marbling and cream silty deposits.

Table 7: Fabric descriptions for the CBM from DLB14

5.4.5 Brick and tile were both present, although in a very fragmentary state that suggests these deposits are refuse rather than being directly associated with a standing structure. Of the 37 CBM fragments identified as roofing tile less than ten were intact enough for any dimensions to be recorded, and based their approximate thickness of between 12-14mm these are believed to be post-medieval roofing tile c.17th-19th century. One much thicker tile fragment (18mm) was found alongside the post-medieval tile in [1021] and could be a piece of residual Roman material.

5.4.6 The brick was vaguely more diagnostic. Although in a similarly damaged state, the traces of glaze found on fragments from contexts [1001] and [1007] suggest they are pieces of Tudor-period brick, when this type of decoration was in fashion (Smith 2004: 261). The bricks varied in thickness and were all unfrogged, but fairly well made, which – despite the sunken margin on one piece from [1124] – are indicative of a mid-late post medieval date c.18th century. The presence of different lime mortars rather than cement also suggest a date of before the mid-19th century.

5.5 The Fired Clay by Isa Benedetti-Whitton

5.5.1 A small assemblage of only 10 pieces of fired clay weighing 146g was recovered from four excavation contexts - [1038], [1089], [1124] and [1132] – and one unstratified context. Nearly all of the clay was undiagnostic and all was too burnt to distinguish fabric types. Both the fragments from [1038] and the unstratified fired clay were noticeably oxidised on the exterior surface and very reduced inside. It is possible that the non-stratified piece of fired clay is a fragment of triangular loom weight.

5.5.2 All the fired clay has been recorded on standard recording forms and quantified by fabric, form, weight and quantity. Examination of fabrics was primarily conducted macroscopically although a x20 binocular microscope was utilised when necessary. Fabric descriptions were defined using the following conventions: frequency of inclusions (sparse, moderate, common, abundant); the size of inclusions, fine (up to 0.25mm), medium (0.25-

0.5mm), coarse (0.5-1.0mm) and very coarse (larger than 1.0mm). The information on the recording sheets has been entered into an Excel database and all fired clay has been retained as per standard procedure.

5.6 Geological Material by Luke Barber

5.6.1 During the Stage 1 evaluation only contexts in Trenches 24, 34 and 43 produced stone. Context [24/005] contained a water-worn cream/light grey non-calcareous hard cobble of probable quartzite (RF 1: 420g) though the piece shows no obvious sign of human modification. Context [34/005] contained a 104g fragment from a non-calcareous fine-grained bedded sandstone. The stone is hard and evenly split to be 12mm thick, suggesting it may be from a roofing slab though no truly diagnostic features are present. Context [43/002] produced a 370g fragment from a water-worn light grey/purple non-calcareous Sarsen-type siliceous sandstone with notable silver mica flecking (RF 4). The pieces shows no obvious signs of human modification. The two large (conjoining) pieces of stone from [43/003] are in the same stone type as was noted in [43/002]. Once again the stone is notably water-worn, though is of boulder size, and although not worked has clearly been burnt and sooted on one side.

5.6.2 The Stage 2 excavation produced surprisingly few pieces of stone in comparison. Post-medieval pit [1020], fill [1021] contained a 12g fragment of 19th- to early 20th- century Welsh roofing slate. The only other stone was recovered from Early/Mid Iron Age context [1093]: a 256g weathered piece of friable grey/pink iron-flecked siliceous Tertiary sandstone. It is likely that all of the stones, particularly those with water-wear, would have been naturally available to the site.

5.7 The Concrete Statue by Luke Barber

5.7.1 Two fragments from the same statue were recovered during the Stage 2 works. Layer [1007] contained the 215mm diameter pedestal base (5096g) with the remains of a shoed foot and lower dress section, while layer [1132] (the same deposit) contained part of the upper section covering the ankles to the waist (5042g: though it does not actually join the base any more). The figure is that of a woman in flowing long dress, tied at the back of the waist with a bow, and is almost certainly from a mid 19th- to mid 20th- century garden statue. The fabric consists of a light grey cement concrete with 50% sub-rounded flint pebble aggregate to 7mm.

5.8 The Metallurgical Remains by Luke Barber

5.8.1 The two phases of fieldwork at the site produced a small assemblage of slag. Work during the evaluation produced hand-collected slag from just three contexts. Topsoil in Trench 44 (context [44/001]) produced two (conjoining) pieces of quite dense black aerated fuel ash slag, undiagnostic of process. Context [59/008] produced a tiny (1g) piece of black lightweight clinker from post-medieval coal burning (though the size suggests it could easily be intrusive). Context [59/009] produced a single 82g fragment of notably weathered dense rusty aerated iron slag. Although not particularly diagnostic of process, smithing is considered the most likely. In addition slag and magnetic fines were recovered from ten environmental residues following the evaluation work (Table 8).

Context	Sample No.	Fraction	Magnetic Fines	Hammerscale	Other
24/005	2	<2-4mm	2g	-	-
28/005	1	<2-4mm	5g	Flakes x6 <1g	-
42/002	7	<2-4mm	1g	-	-
43/002	4	<2-4mm	4g	-	-
43/003	5	<2-4mm	2g	-	-
44/004	6	<2-4mm	2g	Flakes x5 <1g	-
44/004	6	>8mm	-	-	Fuel Ash 5/14g Smithing 10/2894g
48/002	10	<2-4mm	1g	-	-
59/005	3	<2mm	1g	-	-
59/008	8	<2-4mm	1g	-	-
59/009	9	<2-4mm	2g	Flakes x2 <1g	-

Table 8: Summary of slag etc from evaluation environmental residues

5.8.2 All of the samples contained magnetic fines. On close inspection these proved to be naturally rounded granules of ferruginous siltstone and some clay that had been heated significantly to make them magnetic. Such heating could easily be the result of domestic hearths and need not be of an industrial nature. Only context [44/004] (sample <6>) stood out in containing a significant quantity of slag. This residue was dominated by two large lumps and several smaller pieces of rusty aerated iron smithing slag. The larger of these may be from a hearth bottom of 120mm diameter. This deposit also produced some hammerscale flakes as did two other samples, though quantities are always negligible.

5.8.3 The Stage 2 excavations recovered a further 4638g of slag from the site. Unlike the evaluation, the majority of this was hand-collected – a single residue produced 406g of slag. The assemblage is summarised in Table 9.

Context	Residue	Type	No/weight	Comments
A1 u/s	-	Undiagnostic iron slag	1/18g	Quite dense, grey
1007	-	Iron smithing	2/54g	Some flow structure, some aeration
1042	-	Iron smithing	2/50g	Grey/brown, aerated but dense
1045	-	Iron smithing	6/3694g	Grey/brown, aerated but dense, some with surface flow structure. Remains of a 3570g plano-convex forge bottom measuring 175-185mm diameter by 90mm thick with the imprint of charcoal pieces on its base
1045	<14>	Undiagnostic iron slag	(x100+)406g	Most quite dense but aerated with droplet/flowed surfaces
1109	-	Undiagnostic iron slag	1/8g	Same type as in <14>
1197	-	Undiagnostic iron slag	3/408g	Same type as in <14>

Table 9: Summary of slag etc from Stage 2 excavations

5.8.4 Associated dating is unfortunately meagre, however, the slags from [1109] (ditch [1107], SG7) and [1197] (cut [1189], SG99) are associated with Early/Mid Iron Age pottery. Considering the similarity of this material to the slag from the residue <14> it may well be pit [1044], fill [1045] and cut [1042] (SG33 and 32 respectively) are of the same period. This was the same general area that produced the most iron smithing waste during the evaluation (Trench 44 in Table 1) and it would appear some limited iron smithing may have occurred in this vicinity even if the *in situ* remains appear to be absent. The remaining pieces of slag are from unstratified deposits and, although they could be of the same age, cannot be proven to be so.

5.9 Bulk metalwork by Trista Clifford and Susan Chandler

5.9.1 During the evaluation a single iron fragment measuring 80mm x 35.5mm and weighing 57g was recovered from context [4/001]. The object is pointed at one end with a slightly concave section. It is undiagnostic of date and requires x ray to assist in further identification. Further to this, a single nail was recovered from context [1031] during the excavation. It is mostly complete, missing its tip, measuring 37mm long. It has both a square head and stem and is most likely of a medieval or post medieval date.

5.10 Registered Finds by Luke Barber, Trista Clifford and Susan Chandler

RF number	Context	Item	Material	Period
1	24/005	POLISH	STON	
2	26/005	COIN	COPP	MOD
3	44/004	BROO	COPP	
4	43/002	POLISH	STON	
5	1020	BUCK	IRON	PMED

Table 10: Registered finds

5.10.1 Most of the registered finds from the site were recovered during the evaluation. They are as follows; A small copper alloy probable penannular brooch was recovered from context [44/004] (RF<3>). The object measures 27.7mm in diameter and is 2.98mm thick with a flattened oval section. The circular terminals are flat with a raised edge and central circular impressed annulet at the centre. One of the terminals is broken (c.50% remaining) and the pin is missing.

5.10.2 The brooch is superficially similar to an example from Dumfries and Galloway of Fowlers Type G brooches (Fowler 1964; Dickinson 1982) however the terminals appear more rounded in this example; another similar brooch was recorded on the Portable Antiquities Scheme database from South Gloucestershire (GLO-7D6DF4). Conservation undertaken on the brooch has removed corrosion and soil, exposing hints of ridge decoration. It is likely that the terminals were set with enamel. Dating of such objects is suggested as 4th-7th centuries AD.

5.10.3 A 50 cent Euro coin, RF<2>, was recovered from [26/005].

5.10.4 Only contexts in Trenches 24, 34 and 43 produced stone. Context [24/005] contained a water-worn cream/light grey non-calcareous hard cobble of probable quartzite (RF 1: 420g) though the piece shows no obvious sign of

human modification. Context [34/005] contained a 104g fragment from a non-calcareous fine-grained bedded sandstone. The stone is hard and evenly split to be 12mm thick, suggesting it may be from a roofing slab though no truly diagnostic features are present. Context [43/002] produced a 370g fragment from a water-worn light grey/purple non-calcareous Sarsen-type siliceous sandstone with notable silver mica flecking (RF 4). The pieces shows no obvious signs of human modification. The two large (conjoining) pieces of stone from [43/003] are in the same stone type as was noted in [43/002]. Once again the stone is notably water-worn, though is of boulder size, and although not worked has clearly been burnt and sooted on one side. It is likely that all of the stones, particularly those with water-wear, would have been naturally available to the site

5.10.5 One further registered find was recovered during the excavation; RF <5>, a simple rectangular iron buckle. This object is incomplete, missing its pin and corroded. While it is fairly undiagnostic and rectangular buckles are common from the medieval period onwards, it is most likely that this example is post-medieval.

5.11 Animal Bone by Gemma Ayton

5.11.1 Just two fragments of bone were recovered during the excavation and were recovered from two separate contexts. Context [1021] produced a large-mammal sized rib whilst context [1028] contained a horse molar/pre-molar. Both specimens are in a poor state of preservation displaying signs of surface erosion. No evidence of butchery, burning, gnawing or pathology has been noted.

5.12 Environmental Samples by Mariangela Vitolo

Introduction

5.12.1 During archaeological excavation at the site, 18 bulk soil samples were taken to recover environmental material such as charred plant macrofossils, wood charcoal, fauna and mollusca as well as to assist finds recovery. Sampled features included hearths, pits, ditches, and post-holes. The following report summarises the contents of the samples and assesses the potential of the charred plant remains and charcoal to provide information on diet, agrarian economy, fuel selection and use at the site.

Methodology

5.12.2 All samples were processed in their entirety in a flotation tank and the residues and flots were retained on 500µm and 250µm meshes respectively before being air dried. The residues were passed through graded sieves of 8, 4 and 2mm and each fraction sorted for environmental and artefactual remains (Appendix 2). Artefacts recovered from the samples were distributed to specialists, and are incorporated in the relevant sections of this volume where they add further information to the existing finds assemblage. The flots were scanned under a stereozoom microscope at 7-45x magnifications and their contents recorded (Appendix 3). Preliminary identifications of macrobotanical remains were made with reference to modern comparative material and published reference atlases (Cappers *et*

al. 2006, Jacomet 2006, NIAB 2004). Nomenclature used follows Stace (1997).

5.12.3 Charcoal fragments recovered from the heavy residues 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, Schweingruber 1990). Genera, family or group names have been given where anatomical differences between taxa are not significant enough to permit more detailed identification. Nomenclature used follows Stace (1997), and taxonomic identifications of charcoal are recorded in Appendix 2.

Results

Period 1

<22> [1139], <23> [1149], <24> [1150], <27> [1152] and <28> [1187].

5.12.4 All the flots from this period contained a large amount of uncharred material, such as rootlets, twigs and seeds of goosefoots (*Chenopodium* sp.) and bramble (*Rubus fruticosus*). This material indicates the presence of low level disturbance across the site and is likely to have infiltrated the deposits through root action. No charred plant remains were recovered.

5.12.5 Hearth [1153] contained a significant number of larger fragments of charcoal which warranted identification work, and contained a wide variety of woody taxa, including willow/poplar (*Salix/Populus* sp.), hazel (*Corylus avellana*) and members of the Maloideae subfamily, which includes apple, pear, whitebeam and rowan, among others.

5.12.6 Charcoal fragments were identified from pit [1188], however poor preservation state did not allow for conclusive identifications in most cases. Taxa from this context included possible Maloideae, possible hazel/alder (cf Corylus avellana/Alnus glutinosa), oak and two indeterminate fragments. Finds from the residues included fire cracked flint, slag, pot and magnetic material.

5.12.6 Environmental remains and finds were scarce in the residues, including a few mammal bone fragments, fire cracked flint, some pot and magnetic material.

Period 2

Samples <11> [1014], <12> [1037], <14> [1045], <15> [1063], <16> [1069], <17> [1070], <18> [1077], <19> [1093], <20> [1198], <21> [1102], <25> [1156] and <26> [1158]

5.12.7 All the flots contained a large amount of rootlets or charcoal. One caryopsis of free-threshing wheat (*Triticum aestivum* sl> was present in post-hole [1036]

5.12.8 Samples <11> and <21> produced rather small flots, which contained uncharred contaminants, such as rootlets, although <21> was charcoal dominated. No charred plant macrofossils were recorded.

5.12.9 Charcoal was abundant in hearth [1011] and post-hole [1103]. Most of the fragments were identified as oak although hearth [1014] also contained three fragments of cherry/blackthorn (*Prunus* sp.). Finds from the residues included fire cracked flint, pot and magnetic material

5.12.10 Hearth [1068] and pits [1093] contained a significant number of larger fragments of charcoal to warrant identification work, as well as being features deemed to have the potential to provide information on fuel selection and use. The only identified taxon from pit [1093] was oak (*Quercus* sp.), whilst the fragments from hearth [1068] were all distorted and/or vitrified, not allowing for identification.

5.12.11 Charcoal was present in large amounts in post hole [1036] and pond/quarry fills [1158] and [1198]. Identified taxa included mostly oak, followed by cherry/blackthorn and Maloideae subfamily. Only a few fragments were not identifiable, because either distorted or vitrified.

5.12.12 Environmental remains and finds were scarce in the residues, including a few mammal bone fragments, fire cracked flint, some pot, fired clay and magnetic material.

Unphased
Sample <13> [1041],

5.12.13 The flot from this sample did not yield any charred plant macrofossils. Charcoal was present within the sample, however not identifiable, magnetic material was also present.

6.0 POTENTIAL & SIGNIFICANCE OF RESULTS

6.1 Realisation of the original research aims

OR1: To record, as far as reasonably practicable, the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains.

OR2: With reference to Research and Archaeology Revisited: a Revised Framework for the East of England (Medleycott 2011, 29) the excavation will seek to enhance the understanding of the Late Bronze Age to Iron Age transition.

The excavation revealed archaeological activity on the site dating from the Middle/Late Bonze Age to the Early/Middle Iron Age. Although the site has been phased into two main periods of occupation (1 and 2), it is likely that there was some overlap and continuity of use. Although the data from this site lacks much in the way of sealed, datable, it does have the potential to add to our understanding of the Late Bronze Age-Early Iron Age transition within Hertfordshire when placed within the context of the wider landscape, and compared with other known sites of the same date.

6.2 Significance and potential of the individual datasets

6.2.1 The Stratigraphic Sequence by Sarah Ritchie

The finding of residual Mesolithic and early Neolithic worked flints within the site is of little significance, but does add slightly general understanding of activity within the area at this time.

Overview
The archaeological remains dating from the Middle Bronze Age to the Middle Iron Age consists of evidence of potential settlement activity and boundary ditches located predominantly within Area 1, as well as possible agri-industry in the form of a burnt mound and an associated pond/quarry and postholes within Area 2. The presence of part of a cremation urn suggests the possibility of funerary activity within the vicinity and the series of post holes and pits of Early-Middle Iron Age date are indicative of occupation and some evidence of iron working.

Period 1
Elements of the archaeological evidence are of both local and regional significance, and should be studied and compared with other sites within the wider context of the Middle/Late Bronze Age Hertfordshire. Of particular significance is the potential burnt mound related feature(s) which are relatively rare in Hertfordshire and are therefore of regional importance. Although the minimal amount of vertical stratigraphic evidence to an extent limits the potential for further stratigraphic study, refinement of the dates of construction and use of these features through a programme of scientific dating is desirable at analysis stage.

Period 2
The Early-Middle Iron Age evidence is of local - regional significance. In particular, the several potential structures (Structures 3 to 8) probably indicate the presence of at least one building and/or auxiliary structures, although the patterns are, at present, inconclusive. Structure 7 in particular should be carefully considered at analysis stage.

These have the potential for further analysis to try to more fully interpret their possible functions. Further analysis of the various pits, provisionally called 'hearths/cooking pits' is necessary with particular attention paid to differences in artefact and ecofact assemblages to attempt to tease out different uses, which may include iron working, funerary related activities and domestic use. Radiocarbon dating of a sample of these features has the potential to place this activity more accurately within the wider context of the prehistoric land use.

6.2.2 The Flintwork by Karine Le Hégarat

The assemblage provides evidence for prehistoric presence. Two pieces suggest a Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date, but otherwise the material is poorly dated. Furthermore, its small size suggests only low-key activities during the prehistoric period.

The assemblage is too small to have any potential for further analysis.

6.2.3 The Prehistoric and Roman Pottery by Anna Doherty

The assemblage is relatively small with few feature sherds or large diagnostic groups and, as a result the dating evidence is quite broad. The assemblage is therefore of limited significance although, given that few prehistoric assemblages are published from the immediate vicinity it has some local importance in that it provides comparative data on fabric composition.

There is little potential for further analysis though it would be worth obtaining a copy of reports on Late Bronze Age to Middle Iron Age sites on the A41 Kings Langley-Berkhampsted bypass for comparative purposes

6.2.4 Medieval and post-medieval pottery by Helen Walker

The small assemblage has a broad date range, making it of little-to-no value on a local level. It has no national or international significance.

This assemblage has no potential for future research.

6.2.5 The Ceramic Building Material by Isa Benedetti-Whitton

The generally poor state of the CBM makes it of little-to-no value on a local level. It has no national or international significance.

This assemblage has no potential for future research.

6.2.6 The Fired Clay by Isa Benedetti-Whitton

The fired clay from Durrent's Lane is of no local, national or international significance.

This assemblage has no potential for future research.

6.2.7 The Geological Material by Luke Barber

The stone assemblage has no potential for further analysis and has been discarded.

6.2.8 The Metallurgical Remains by Luke Barber

The slag assemblage from the site is small, related to low-level iron smithing and not apparently in situ. As such the assemblage does not warrant further detailed analysis but its presence should be noted in the site narrative of the final report. The slag from pit [1044] is recommended for long-term curation in a museum as its apparent early date may make it of interest to future researchers undertaking regional/national metallurgical research, but the remaining pieces have been discarded.

6.2.9 Bulk Metal by Trista Clifford, Susan Chandler and Luke Barber

In general the significance of the bulk metal assemblage is low. There is minimal potential for further work beyond radiography and identification of the iron fragment from context [4/001].

6.2.10 Registered Finds by Trista Clifford and Susan Chandler

Overall the significance of the registered finds is low, though they may be of note in a localised context.

6.2.11 Environmental Samples by Mariangela Vitolo

The bulk soil samples from Durrant's Lane have yielded nearly no charred plant macrofossils and poorly preserved charcoal and as such they are of low significance both on a local and a wider level.

Post excavation assessment of charred plant macrofossils and charcoal from these environmental samples has revealed the near absence of charred plant remains, except a single caryopsis of free-threshing wheat. Further work would therefore have no potential to provide more information on diet and agrarian economy at the site.

Work on the charcoal has shown that a variety of vegetation environments, such as deciduous woodland, hedgerows and possibly scrub and wet environments were present and exploited both for fuel and timber. The samples suggest that especially oak was widely available in the nearby vegetation given its dominance in all the samples. This tree is known to make an excellent fuel wood but it can also be used for timber and joinery (Taylor 1981) and it is possible that its wood was preferred over that of other taxa because of these characteristics. .The preservation state of the charcoal was generally poor. Many fragments were brittle and displayed evidence for

sediment encrustations, which are common when fluctuations in ground water level cause repeated cycles of wetting and drying. Further, some fragments were vitrified. Vitrification happens when the wood anatomy fuses and becomes glassy. Although the exact cause for vitrification is not clear yet, experimental evidence has shown that high temperatures alone are not a sufficient condition (McParland et al. 2010). It is possible that other factors, such as prolonged burning, presence of oxygen, or other material, such as resin in the wood, might contribute to it. This poor preservation state, due to both pre and post-depositional conditions, hinders the potential for any further work to make conclusive identifications of the woody taxa present.

7.0 PUBLICATION PROJECT

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 (OR's) are referred to where there is any synthesis of subject matter to form a new set of revised research aims (RRA's) posed as questions below.

RRA1: To further integrate and interrogate the site data set in relation to the sites excavated within the immediate vicinity. Can a fuller picture of prehistoric activity within the wider area be understood?

RRA 2: Can anything further be realised about specific areas of activity on the site?

RRA 3: Can anything further be understood about the changes and/or continuity of land-uses throughout the later prehistoric periods on the site?

RRA4: How does the Bronze Age/Iron Age occupation at the site compare with other examples excavated within the vicinity of the site in terms of function, location and the range of artefacts recovered?

RRA5: Implement a programme of scientific dating aid to refine of the archaeological sequence on site, in particular the burnt mound, hearths/cooking pits and, if possible the potential SFB

RRA6: Can comparisons between the pond/quarry (GP3) with other similar features, at sites such as Goose Hill aid interpretation?

RRA7: Can further research into sites with burnt mounds aid the identification of feature [1188]?

RRA8: Can research into comparable sites with charcoal and FCF within most pits and post holes within the vicinity of a burnt mound provide evidence for contemporary activity and the filling of the associated features with remains of the burnt mound post disuse?

RRA9: What is the nature of the Early to Middle Iron Age activity? Can close analysis of the artefacts and ecofact assemblages recovered from individual features of this date elucidate function. Can further research into possible parallels solidify interpretation of the, at present, enigmatic, patterns of postholes forming Structures 3-7.

7.2 Preliminary Publication Synopsis

7.2.1 It is suggested that the results of the excavation should be published in a synthetic article of c 5,000-7,000 words in the county archaeological journal, Hertfordshire Archaeology and History. This article would combine the results of all areas of fieldwork as appropriate and place it into a meaningful wider context.

7.2.2 It is envisaged that the article will take the form of a period-driven, landuse based narrative of the site which will focus on the Middle Bronze Age to Middle Iron Age evidence. The article will seek to address the individual site-specific research questions in the revised research agenda and will integrate specialist reports and data into this narrative as appropriate:

7.2.1 The following structure is suggested for the article

Working Title: *Berkhampsted, prehistoric and later activity*

- Introduction
  Geology, topography and environment

- Site narrative
  Middle Bronze Age evidence (burnt mound, waterhole/dew pond) (Period 1)
  Early to Middle Iron Age (settlement evidence, industry, funerary activity)
  Saxon/early medieval –SFB if appropriate (Period 3)

- Specialist Reports
  Integrated into the text above to form a seamless site narrative

- Discussion
  Suggested themes
  The nature of the Bronze-Iron Age activity – agri-industry, settlement and the functions of burnt mounds
  Occupation, settlement, industry and death – what is the evidence for dwellings, auxiliary structures and funerary activity in the Early-Middle Iron Age?
  Is there a meaningful Saxon presence – SFB or not?

- Acknowledgments
- Bibliography

7.3 Publication project

Stratigraphic Method Statement

7.3.1 The major tasks to be completed by the principal stratigraphic author at the next stage of analysis and to complete the publication are shown in Table 11.

7.3.2 Once subgrouping is finalised, the subgroups will be grouped and a basic 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.

7.3.3 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 and finds illustrations.

Worked Flint

7.3.4 No further work is recommended

Prehistoric and Roman Pottery

7.3.5 Given the fairly low significance of the assemblage it is recommended that a brief summary report should be prepared possibly for integration into the main stratigraphic text rather than as a standalone specialist section. Integrating stratigraphic information on wider feature groups or landuse elements together with some brief further research on assemblage local assemblages from the A41 Kings Langley-Berkhamsted bypass may help to refine dating information further. Around three vessels are suitable for illustration

Further research on local assemblages	0.25 days
Integrate group/land use data	0.25 days
Prepare summary report (c. 300 words)	0.5 days
Total	**1 day**

Medieval and Post-Medieval Pottery

7.3.6 No further work is recommended

Ceramic Building Material (CBM)

7.3.7 There are no recommendations for future work involving the CBM from Durrent's Lane.

The Fired Clay by Isa Benedetti-Whitton

7.3.8 There are no recommendations for future work involving the fired clay from Durrent's Lane.

Geological Material

7.3.9 There are no recommendations for future work involving the geological material from Durrent's Lane.

The Concrete Statue

7.3.10 There are no recommendations for future work involving the concrete statue from Durrent's Lane.

Metallurgical Remains

7.3.11 The slag from pit [1044] is recommended for long-term curation in a museum as its apparent early date may make it of interest to future researchers undertaking regional/national metallurgical research, but the remaining pieces have been discarded.

Bulk Metalwork

7.3.12 The main further work required on the bulk metal finds would be undertaking radiography analysis of the iron fragment from context [4/001] to assist further identification. **1 day**

Registered Finds

7.3.13 The further work on the registered finds should mainly include more research into parallels for the brooch (RF<3>) as it has not yet been possible to fit it within established typologies. **1 day**

7.3.14 Otherwise, very little further work is needed.

Animal Bone

7.3.15 No further work is required

Environmental Samples

7.3.16 No further work is recommended either on the flots or the charcoal.

Scientific Dating

7.3.17 A programme of scientific dating will be initiated at the start of the analysis process with the aims of finding out if possible:

- The construction and use date of the Period 1 burnt mound related feature The fragments of hazel or Maloidae that were able to be identified would be suitable for C14 (2-4 samples to submit)
- The use date of the Period 2 'hearth/ cooking' pits (2-4 samples to submit)
- The construction / use date of the potential SFB (2 samples to submit)

Illustration

7.3.18 There will be c. 5-8 stratigraphic figures and c. 5-10 site photographs **2 days**

7.3.19 Around 3 prehistoric rim sherds are of inherent value for illustration **0.5 day**

7.3.20 Illustration of The 4th-7th century brooch **1 day**

Stratigraphic Tasks	
Finalise subgrouping, draw as many as yet unphased or undated features as possible into the phases	0.5 days
Define groups. The 161 subgroups created at assessment level are likely to form some 30 groups (dated feature types etc). The groups will be defined using stratigraphic, spatial and chronological analysis, using the subgroup matrix and dating evidence.	1 day
Draw date phased group matrices	0.5 days
Define landuse. The c. 30 groups are likely to form some 5 - 10 landuses (buildings, open areas, boundaries etc.). They will be defined using stratigraphic, spatial and chronological analysis, using the group matrix and dating evidence.	1.5 days
Describe landuse. Interpretative text will be written about each landuse element including a definition of the buildings, open areas and boundaries etc., their form and function on a site-wide basis.	2.5 days
Define periods. The general chronological phases of activity across the site will be identified from the group matrix and defined landuses. These phases will form a chronological framework of the site.	1 day
Describe periods. A textual summary, built from the landuse and group texts where appropriate, will be formed for each period. Plots of each period will be produced using Auto-Cad, GIS and/or hand-annotated plans, these will include feature conjecture.	1.5 days
Documentary research will be conducted prior to commencement of the authorship of the period-driven narrative by the principal author. This should include relevant study of archaeological features, sites and published themes of the surrounding area, region, and the southeast.	4 days
Digestion and association of finds and environmental publication reports	1 day
Prepare period-driven narrative of the site sequence. This task comprises the combination of the stratigraphic period descriptions and the relevant portions of completed finds, environmental, documentary and integrated analytical reports. Suitable photographic and drawn images such as sections and plans will also be selected from the archive at this point. Completion of this task will result in the first (unedited) draft of the site sequence period-driven narrative	8 days
Total	21.5 days
Specialist Analysis	
Prehistoric and Roman pottery	1 day
Bulk metalwork	1day
Registered finds	1 day
C14 dating and admin (4-10 radiocarbon dates)	External lab (fee)
Illustration	
Pottery and finds illustration	2 days
There will be c.5 stratigraphic figures, and 5-10 site photographs	2 days
Production	
Editing of the period-driven narrative	1
Project Management	1
Journal page charge	fee

Table 11: Resource for completion of the period-driven narrative of the site sequence

7.4 Artefacts and Archive Deposition

7.4.1 The site archive is currently held at the offices of ASE. Following completion of all post-excavation work, including any publication work, the site archive will be deposited with the appropriate local museum.

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Appendix 1: Context Register

Context	Type	Interpretation	Parent	Area	Subgroup	Group	Group Description	Period
1001	Layer	Ploughsoil	1001	3	1			4 Modern
1002	Layer	Natural	1002	3	160			
1003	Cut	Ditch	1003	1	5	1	Ditch	2 EIA/MIA
1004	Fill	Fill	1003	1	5	1	Ditch	2 EIA/MIA
1005	Cut	Hearth	1005	1	18			2 EIA/MIA
1006	Fill	Fill, single	1005	1	18			2 EIA/MIA
1007	Layer	Ploughsoil	1007	1	1			4 Modern
1008	Cut	Hearth	1008	1	19			2 EIA/MIA
1009	Fill	Fill, secondary	1008	1	19			2 EIA/MIA
1010	Fill	Fill, primary	1008	1	19			2 EIA/MIA
1011	Cut	Hearth	1011	1	20			2 EIA/MIA
1012	Fill	Fill, primary	1011	1	20			2 EIA/MIA
1013	Fill	Fill, secondary	1011	1	20			2 EIA/MIA
1014	Fill	Fill, tertiary	1011	1	20			2 EIA/MIA
1015	Cut	Posthole	1015	1	21			2 EIA/MIA
1016	Fill	Post-pipe	1015	1	21			2 EIA/MIA
1017	Fill	Post packing	1015	1	21			2 EIA/MIA
1018	Cut	Ditch	1018	1	4	1	Ditch	2 EIA/MIA
1019	Fill	Fill, single	1018	1	4	1	Ditch	2 EIA/MIA
1020	Cut	Pit, quarry	1020	1	2			3 Post-Med
1021	Fill	Fill, single	1020	1	2			3 Post-Med
1022	Cut	Posthole	1022	1	22			2 EIA/MIA
1023	Fill	Fill, single	1022	1	22			2 EIA/MIA
1024	Cut	Posthole	1024	1	23			2 EIA/MIA
1025	Fill	Post-pipe	1024	1	23			2 EIA/MIA
1026	Cut	Posthole	1026	1	24			2 EIA/MIA
1027	Fill	Fill, single	1026	1	24			2 EIA/MIA
1028	Cut	Pit	1028	1	25	6	Pits	2 EIA/MIA
1029	Fill	Fill, single	1028	1	25	6	Pits	2 EIA/MIA
1030	Cut	Pit	1030	1	26	6	Pits	2 EIA/MIA
1031	Fill	Fill, single	1030	1	26	6	Pits	2 EIA/MIA
1032	Cut	Posthole	1032	1	27			2 EIA/MIA
1033	Fill	Fill, single	1032	1	27			2 EIA/MIA
1034	Cut	Posthole	1034	1	28			2 EIA/MIA
1035	Fill	Fill, single	1034	1	28			2 EIA/MIA
1036	Cut	Posthole	1036	1	29			2 EIA/MIA
1037	Fill	Fill, single	1036	1	29			2 EIA/MIA
1038	Cut	Posthole	1038	1	30			2 EIA/MIA
1039	Fill	Fill, single	1038	1	30			2 EIA/MIA

1040	Cut	Root disturbance	1040	1	31			
1041	Fill	Root disturbance	1040	1	31			
1042	Cut	Pit	1042	1	32	6	Pits	2 EIA/MIA
1043	Fill	Fill, single	1042	1	32	6	Pits	2 EIA/MIA
1044	Cut	Pit	1044	1	33	6	Pits	2 EIA/MIA
1045	Fill	Fill	1044	1	33	6	Pits	2 EIA/MIA
1046	Cut	Pit	1046	1	34			2 EIA/MIA
1047	Fill	Fill, single	1046	1	34			2 EIA/MIA
1048	Cut	Posthole	1048	1	35			2 EIA/MIA
1049	Fill	Fill, single	1048	1	35			2 EIA/MIA
1050	Cut	Posthole	1050	1	36			2 EIA/MIA
1051	Fill	Fill, single	1050	1	36			2 EIA/MIA
1052	Void	Pit	1052	1				
1053	Void	Fill, primary	1052	1				
1054	Void	Fill	1052	1	0			
1055	Void	Fill, secondary	1052	1				
1056	Cut	Root disturbance	1056	1	37			
1057	Fill	Root disturbance	1056	1	37			
1058	Cut	Pit	1058	1	38			2 EIA/MIA
1059	Fill	Fill	1058	1	38			2 EIA/MIA
1060	Cut	Plough scar	1060	1	39			4 Modern
1061	Fill	Plough scar	1060	1	39			4 Modern
1062	Cut	Stakehole	1062	1	40	8	Structure	2 EIA/MIA
1063	Fill	Stakehole	1062	1	40	8	Structure	2 EIA/MIA
1064	Cut	Root disturbance	1064	1	41			
1065	Fill	Root disturbance	1064	1	41			
1066	Cut	Posthole	1066	1	42			2 EIA/MIA
1067	Fill	Fill, single	1066	1	42			2 EIA/MIA
1068	Cut	Hearth	1068	1	43			2 EIA/MIA
1069	Fill	Fill, basal	1068	1	43			2 EIA/MIA
1070	Fill	Fill, primary	1068	1	43			2 EIA/MIA
1071	Fill	Fill, secondary	1068	1	44			2 EIA/MIA
1072	Fill	Fill, secondary	1068	1	44			2 EIA/MIA
1073	Cut	Pit	1073	1	45			2 EIA/MIA
1074	Fill	Fill, single	1073	1	45			2 EIA/MIA
1075	Cut	Ditch	1075	1	46			2 EIA/MIA
1076	Layer	Natural	1076	1	160			
1077	Fill	Fill	1075	1	46			2 EIA/MIA
1078	Void	Natural	1078	1	160			
1079	Cut	Posthole	1079	1	47			2 EIA/MIA

1080	Fill	Fill	1079	1	47			2 EIA/MIA
1081	Cut	Pit	1081	1	48			2 EIA/MIA
1082	Fill	Fill	1081	1	48			2 EIA/MIA
1083	Cut	Pit	1083	1	49			2 EIA/MIA
1084	Fill	Fill	1083	1	49			2 EIA/MIA
1085	Cut	Pit	1085	1	50			2 EIA/MIA
1086	Fill	Fill	1085	1	50			2 EIA/MIA
1087	Cut	Ditch	1087	1	8	1	Ditch	2 EIA/MIA
1088	Fill	Fill, primary	1087	1	8	1	Ditch	2 EIA/MIA
1089	Fill	Fill, secondary	1087	1	8	1	Ditch	2 EIA/MIA
1090	Cut	Hearth	1090	1	51			2 EIA/MIA
1091	Fill	Fill, basal	1090	1	51			2 EIA/MIA
1092	Fill	Lining	1090	1	51			2 EIA/MIA
1093	Fill	Fill, tertiary	1090	1	51			2 EIA/MIA
1094	Fill	Fill	1095	1	52	7	Structure	2 EIA/MIA
1095	Cut	Posthole	1095	1	52	7	Structure	2 EIA/MIA
1096	Fill	Fill, single	1097	1	53	7	Structure	2 EIA/MIA
1097	Cut	Posthole	1097	1	53	7	Structure	2 EIA/MIA
1098	Fill	Fill	1099	1	54	7	Structure	2 EIA/MIA
1099	Cut	Stakehole	1099	1	54	7	Structure	2 EIA/MIA
1100	Fill	Fill	1101	1	55	7	Structure	2 EIA/MIA
1101	Cut	Stakehole	1101	1	55	7	Structure	2 EIA/MIA
1102	Fill	Fill	1103	1	56	7	Structure	2 EIA/MIA
1103	Cut	Posthole	1103	1	56	7	Structure	2 EIA/MIA
1104	Cut	Ditch	1104	1	9	1	Ditch	2 EIA/MIA
1105	Fill	Fill, primary	1104	1	9	1	Ditch	2 EIA/MIA
1106	Fill	Fill, secondary	1104	1	9	1	Ditch	2 EIA/MIA
1107	Cut	Ditch	1107	1	7	1	Ditch	2 EIA/MIA
1108	Fill	Fill, basal	1107	1	7	1	Ditch	2 EIA/MIA
1109	Fill	Fill, secondary	1107	1	7	1	Ditch	2 EIA/MIA
1110	Fill	Fill	1111	1	57	6	Pits	2 EIA/MIA
1111	Cut	Pit	1111	1	57	6	Pits	2 EIA/MIA
1112	Fill	Fill	1113	1	58			2 EIA/MIA
1113	Cut	Posthole	1113	1	58			2 EIA/MIA
1114	Cut	Pit	1114	1	59			2 EIA/MIA
1115	Fill	Fill	1114	1	59			2 EIA/MIA
1116	Cut	Ditch	1116	1	6	1	Ditch	2 EIA/MIA
1117	Fill	Fill, basal	1116	1	6	1	Ditch	2 EIA/MIA
1118	Fill	Fill, secondary	1116	1	6	1	Ditch	2 EIA/MIA
1119	Cut	Pit	1119	1	13			1 MBA/LBA
1120	Fill	Fill, primary	1119	1	12			1 MBA/LBA

1121	Fill	Fill, secondary	1119	1	12			1 MBA/LBA
1122	Fill	Fill, tertiary	1119	1	12			1 MBA/LBA
1123	Fill	Fill, upper	1119	1	12			1 MBA/LBA
1124	Fill	Fill	1125	1	3			3 Post-Med
1125	Cut	Pit, quarry	1125	1	3			3 Post-Med
1126	Cut	Posthole	1126	2	64			1 MBA/LBA
1127	Fill	Fill	1126	2	64			1 MBA/LBA
1128	Cut	Pit	1128	2	65			1 MBA/LBA
1129	Fill	Fill	1128	2	65			1 MBA/LBA
1130	Cut	Pit	1130	2	66			1 MBA/LBA
1131	Fill	Fill	1130	2	66			1 MBA/LBA
1132	Layer	Ploughsoil	1132	2	1			4 Modern
1133	Cut	Posthole	1133	2	67			1 MBA/LBA
1134	Fill	Fill	1133	2	67			1 MBA/LBA
1135	Cut	Posthole	1135	2	68			1 MBA/LBA
1136	Fill	Fill	1135	2	68			1 MBA/LBA
1137	Cut	Posthole	1137	2	69			1 MBA/LBA
1138	Fill	Fill	1137	2	69			1 MBA/LBA
1139	Fill	Fill	1140	2	70			1 MBA/LBA
1140	Cut	Pit	1140	2	70			1 MBA/LBA
1141	Cut	Pit	1141	2	71			1 MBA/LBA
1142	Fill	Fill, primary	1141	2	71			1 MBA/LBA
1143	Fill	Fill, secondary	1141	2	71			1 MBA/LBA
1144	Cut	Posthole	1144	2	72			1 MBA/LBA
1145	Fill	Fill	1144	2	72			1 MBA/LBA
1146	Cut	Posthole	1146	2	73			1 MBA/LBA
1147	Fill	Fill	1146	2	73			1 MBA/LBA
1148	Cut	Pit	1148	2	74			1 MBA/LBA
1149	Fill	Fill, primary	1148	2	74			1 MBA/LBA

1150	Fill	Fill, secondary	1148	2	74			1 MBA/LBA
1151	Fill	Fill, secondary	1153	2	75			1 MBA/LBA
1152	Fill	Fill, primary	1153	2	75			1 MBA/LBA
1153	Cut	Hearth	1153	2	75			1 MBA/LBA
1154	Cut	Posthole	1154	2	76			1 MBA/LBA
1155	Fill	Fill	1154	2	76			1 MBA/LBA
1156	Fill	Fill, tertiary	1164	2	102			4 Modern
1157	Fill	Fill, secondary	1164	2	103			2 EIA/MIA
1158	Fill	Fill, primary	1164	2	104			2 EIA/MIA
1159	Cut	Pit	1159	2	78			1 MBA/LBA
1160	Fill	Fill, primary	1159	2	78			1 MBA/LBA
1161	Fill	Fill, secondary	1159	2	77			1 MBA/LBA
1162	Fill	Fill	1163	2	79			1 MBA/LBA
1163	Cut	Pit	1163	2	79			1 MBA/LBA
1164	Cut	Pond/quarry	1164	2	105	3	Quarry/Pond	1 MBA/LBA
1165	Fill	Fill	1166	2	126			1 MBA/LBA
1166	Cut	Pit	1166	2	127			1 MBA/LBA
1167	Fill	Fill	1168	2	80			1 MBA/LBA
1168	Cut	Posthole	1168	2	81			1 MBA/LBA
1169	Cut	Stakehole	1169	2	82			1 MBA/LBA
1170	Void			2				
1171	Cut	Pit	1171	2	93	5	Structure	1 MBA/LBA
1172	Fill	Fill	1171	2	86	5	Structure	1 MBA/LBA
1173	Cut	Posthole	1173	2	87	5	Structure	1 MBA/LBA
1174	Fill	Fill	1173	2	87	5	Structure	1 MBA/LBA
1175	Cut	Posthole	1175	2	88	5	Structure	1 MBA/LBA
1176	Fill	Fill	1175	2	88	5	Structure	1 MBA/LBA
1177	Cut	Posthole	1177	2	89	5	Structure	1 MBA/LBA
1178	Fill	Fill	1177	2	89	5	Structure	1 MBA/LBA
1179	Cut	Posthole	1179	2	90	5	Structure	1 MBA/LBA

1180	Fill	Fill	1179	2	90	5	Structure	1 MBA/LBA
1181	Cut	Posthole	1181	2	91	5	Structure	1 MBA/LBA
1182	Fill	Fill	1181	2	91	5	Structure	1 MBA/LBA
1183	Cut	Posthole	1183	2	92	5	Structure	1 MBA/LBA
1184	Fill	Fill	1183	2	92	5	Structure	1 MBA/LBA
1185	Cut	Pit	1185	2	85			1 MBA/LBA
1186	Fill	Fill	1185	2	85			1 MBA/LBA
1187	Fill	Fill	1188	2	83			1 MBA/LBA
1188	Cut	Pit	1188	2	84			1 MBA/LBA
1189	Cut	Pit	1189	2	101	3	Quarry/Pond	1 MBA/LBA
1190	Fill	Fill, primary	1189	2	100			2 EIA/MIA
1191	Cut	Pit	1191	2	121			1 MBA/LBA
1192	Fill	Fill	1191	2	120			1 MBA/LBA
1193	Cut	Posthole	1193	2	117			1 MBA/LBA
1194	Fill	Fill	1193	2	116			1 MBA/LBA
1195	Cut	Posthole	1195	2	119			1 MBA/LBA
1196	Fill	Fill	1195	2	118			1 MBA/LBA
1197	Fill	Fill, secondary	1189	2	99			2 EIA/MIA
1198	Void		1189	2	100			2 EIA/MIA
1199	Fill	Fill, tertiary	1189	2	98			2 EIA/MIA
1200	Fill	Fill	1189	2	96			2 EIA/MIA
1201	Fill	Fill, upper	1189	2	95			2 EIA/MIA
1202	Cut	Pit	1202	2	123			1 MBA/LBA
1203	Fill	Fill	1202	2	122			1 MBA/LBA
1204	Fill	Fill	1205	2	110			2 EIA/MIA
1205	Cut	Pit	1205	2	111	3	Quarry/Pond	1 MBA/LBA
1206	Void			2				
1207	Void			2				
1208	Fill	Fill	1209	1	62	4	Structure	1 MBA/LBA
1209	Cut	Posthole	1209	1	62	4	Structure	1 MBA/LBA
1210	Fill	Fill	1211	1	63	4	Structure	1 MBA/LBA

1211	Cut	Posthole	1211	1	63	4	Structure	1 MBA/LBA
1212	Fill	Fill	1213	1	61	4	Structure	1 MBA/LBA
1213	Cut	Posthole	1213	1	61	4	Structure	1 MBA/LBA
1214	Fill	Fill	1215	1	60	4	Structure	1 MBA/LBA
1215	Cut	Posthole	1215	1	60	4	Structure	1 MBA/LBA
1216	Void	Natural	1216	1				
1217	Fill	Fill, tertiary	1220	2	106			2 EIA/MIA
1218	Fill	Fill, secondary	1220	2	107			2 EIA/MIA
1219	Fill	Fill, primary	1220	2	108			2 EIA/MIA
1220	Cut	Pit, quarry	1220	2	109	3	Quarry/Pond	1 MBA/LBA
1221	Fill	Fill, tertiary	1223	2	128			1 MBA/LBA
1222	Fill	Fill, secondary	1223	21	129			1 MBA/LBA
1223	Cut	Pit	1223	2	131			1 MBA/LBA
1224	Fill	Fill, primary	1223	2	130			1 MBA/LBA
1225	Fill	Fill	1226	2	94			2 EIA/MIA
1226	Cut	Gully	1226	2	94			2 EIA/MIA
1227	Cut	Pit	1227	2	125			1 MBA/LBA
1228	Fill	Fill	1227	2	124			1 MBA/LBA
1229	Fill	Fill	1230	2	134			1 MBA/LBA
1230	Cut	Posthole	1230	2	135			1 MBA/LBA
1231	Fill	Fill	1232	2	132			1 MBA/LBA
1232	Cut	Posthole	1232	2	133			1 MBA/LBA
1233	Fill	Fill	1234	2	136			1 MBA/LBA
1234	Cut	Posthole	1234	2	137			1 MBA/LBA
1235	Fill	Fill	1236	2	97			1 MBA/LBA
1236	Cut	Stakehole	1236	2	97			1 MBA/LBA
1/001	Layer	Topsoil	1/001	T1	1			4 Modern
1/002	Layer	Natural	1/002	T1	160			
2/001	Layer	Topsoil	2/001	T2	1			4 Modern
2/002	Layer	Natural	2/002	T2	160			
3/001	Layer	Topsoil	3/001	T3	1			4 Modern
3/002	Layer	Natural	3/0002	T3	160			

4/001	Layer	Topsoil	4/001	T4	1			4 Modern
4/002	Layer	Natural	4/002	T4	160			
5/001	Layer	Topsoil	5/001	T5	1			4 Modern
5/002	Layer	Natural	5/0002	T5	160			
6/001	Layer	Topsoil	6/001	T6	1			4 Modern
6/002	Layer	Natural	6/002	T6	160			
7/001	Layer	Topsoil	7/001	T71	1			4 Modern
7/002	Layer	Natural	7/002	T7	160			
8/001	Layer	Topsoil	8/001	T8	1			4 Modern
8/002	Layer	Natural	8/002	T8	160			
9/001	Layer	Topsoil	9/001	T9	1			4 Modern
9/002	Layer	Natural	9/002	T9	160			
10/001	Layer	Topsoil	10/001	T10	1			4 Modern
10/002	Layer	Natural	10/002	T10	160			
11/001	Layer	Topsoil	11/001	T11	1			4 Modern
11/002	Layer	Natural	11/002	T11	160			
12/001	Layer	Topsoil	12/001	T12	1			4 Modern
12/002	Layer	Natural	12/002	T12	160			
13/001	Layer	Topsoil	13/001	T13	1			4 Modern
13/002	Layer	Natural	13/002	T13	160			
14/001	Layer	Topsoil	14/001	T14	1			4 Modern
14/002	Layer	Natural	14/002	T14	160			
15/001	Layer	Topsoil	15/001	T15	1			4 Modern
15/002	Layer	Natural	15/002	T15	160			
16/001	Layer	Topsoil	16/001	T16	1			4 Modern
16/002	Layer	Natural	16/002	T16	160			
17/001	Layer	Topsoil	17/001	T17	1			4 Modern
17/002	Layer	Natural	17/002	T17	160			
18/001	Layer	Topsoil	18/001	T18	1			4 Modern
18/002	Layer	Natural	18/002	T18	160			
19/001	Layer	Topsoil	10/001	T19	1			4 Modern
19/002	Layer	Natural	19/002	T19	160			
20/001	Layer	Topsoil	20/001	T20	1			4 Modern
20/002	Layer	Natural	20/002	T20	160			
21/001	Layer	Topsoil	21/001	T21	1			4 Modern
21/002	Layer	Natural	21/002	T21	160			
22/001	Layer	Topsoil	22/001	T22	1			4 Modern
22/002	Layer	Natural	22/002	T22	160			
23/001	Layer	Topsoil	23/001	T23	1			4 Modern
23/002	Layer	Natural	23/002	T23	160			
24/001	Layer	Topsoil	24/001	T24	1			4 Modern
24/002	Void			T24				
24/003	Layer	Natural	24/003	T24	160			

24/004	Cut	Posthole	24/004	T24	146			2 EIA/MIA
24/005	Fill	Fill	24/004	T24	146			2 EIA/MIA
24/006	Cut	Stakehole	24/006	T24	147			2 EIA/MIA
24/007	Fill	Fill	24/006	T24	147			2 EIA/MIA
25/001	Layer	Topsoil	25/001	T25	1			4 Modern
25/002	Layer	Natural	25/002	T25				
26/001	Layer	Topsoil	26/001	T26	1			4 Modern
26/002	Void			T26				
26/003	Layer	Natural	26/003	T26	160			
26/004	Cut	Pit	26/004	T26	148			4 Modern
26/005	Fill	Fill	26/004	T26	148			4 Modern
26/006	Cut	Stakehole	26/006	T26	149			2 EIA/MIA
26/007	Fill	Fill	26/006	T26	149			2 EIA/MIA
26/008	Cut	Ditch	26/008	T26	150	2	Ditch	2 EIA/MIA
26/009	Fill	Fill	26/008	T26	150	2	Ditch	2 EIA/MIA
27/001	Layer	Topsoil	27/001	T27	1			4 Modern
27/002	Void		27/002	T27				
27/003	Layer	Natural	27/003	T27	160			
28/001	Layer	Topsoil	28/001	T28	1			4 Modern
28/002	Void			T28				
28/003	Layer	Natural	28/003	T28	160			
28/004	Cut	Ditch	28/004	T28	151	2	Ditch	2 EIA/MIA
28/005	Fill	Fill	28/004	T28	151	2	Ditch	2 EIA/MIA
29/001	Layer	Topsoil	29/001	T29	1			4 Modern
29/002	Layer	Natural	29/002	T29	160			
30/001	Layer	Topsoil	30/001	T30	1			4 Modern
30/002	Layer	Natural	30/002	T30	160			
30/003	Void		30/003	T30				
30/004	Void			T30				
31/001	Layer	Topsoil	31/001	T31	1			4 Modern
31/002	Layer	Natural	31/002	T31	160			
32/001	Layer	Topsoil	32/001	T32	1			4 Modern
32/002	Layer	Natural	32/002	T32	160			
33/001	Layer	Topsoil	33/001	T33	1			4 Modern
33/002	Layer	Natural	33/002	T33	160			
34/001	Layer	Topsoil	34/001	T34	1			4 Modern
34/002	Void			T34				
34/003	Layer	Natural	34/003	T34	160			
34/004	Cut	Pit	34/004	T34	152			1 MBA/LBA
34/005	Fill	Fill	34/004	T34	152			1 MBA/LBA
35/001	Layer	Topsoil	35/001	T35	1			4 Modern
35/002	Layer	Natural	35/002	T35	160			

36/001	Layer	Topsoil	36/001	T36	1			4 Modern
36/002	Layer	Natural	36/002	T36	160			
37/001	Layer	Topsoil	37/001	T37	1			4 Modern
37/002	Layer	Natural	37/002	T37	160			
38/001	Layer	Topsoil	38/001	T38	1			4 Modern
38/002	Layer	Natural	38/002	T38	160			
39/001	Layer	Topsoil	39/001	T39	1			4 Modern
39/002	Layer	Natural	39/002	T39	160			
40/001	Layer	Topsoil	40/001	T40	1			4 Modern
40/002	Fill	Fill, secondary	40/003	T40	10	1	Ditch	2 EIA/MIA
40/003	Cut	Ditch	40/003	T40	10	1	Ditch	2 EIA/MIA
40/004	Fill	Fill, primary	40/003	T40	10	1	Ditch	2 EIA/MIA
40/005	Layer	Natural	40/005	T40	160			
41/001	Layer	Topsoil	41/001	T41	1			4 Modern
41/002	Layer	Natural	41/001	T41	160			
42/001	Layer	Topsoil	42/001	T42	1			4 Modern
42/002	Fill	Fill	42/003	T42	153	8	Structure	2 EIA/MIA
42/003	Cut	Posthole	42/003	T42	153	8	Structure	2 EIA/MIA
42/004	Layer	Natural	42/004	T42	160			
43/001	Layer	Topsoil	43/001	T43	1			4 Modern
43/002	Fill	Fill, secondary	43/0004	T43	154			2 EIA/MIA
43/003	Fill	Fill, primary	43/004	T43	154			2 EIA/MIA
43/004	Cut	Hearth	43/004	T43	154			2 EIA/MIA
43/005	Layer	Natural	43/005	T43	160			
44/001	Layer	Topsoil	44/001	T44	1			4 Modern
44/002	Layer	Natural	44/002	T44	160			
44/003	Cut	Pit	44/003	T44	14			2 EIA/MIA
44/004	Fill	Fill, tertiary	44/0003	T44	14			2 EIA/MIA
44/005	Fill	Fill, secondary	44/003	T44	14			2 EIA/MIA
44/006	Fill	Fill, primary	44/003	T44	14			2 EIA/MIA
44/007	Fill	Fill	44/008	T44	11	1	Ditch	2 EIA/MIA
44/008	Cut	Ditch	44/008	T44	11	1	Ditch	2 EIA/MIA
44/009	Fill	Fill	44/010	T44	15			2 EIA/MIA
44/010	Cut	Posthole	44/010	T44	15			2 EIA/MIA
44/011	Fill	Fill	44/012	T44	16			2 EIA/MIA
44/012	Cut	Posthole	44/012	T44	16			2 EIA/MIA
44/013	Fill	Fill	44/014	T44	17			2 EIA/MIA
44/014	Cut	Posthole	44/014	T44	17			2 EIA/MIA
45/001	Layer	Topsoil	45/001	T45	1			4 Modern
45/002	Layer	Natural	45/002	T45	160			
46/001	Layer	Topsoil	46/001	T46	1			4 Modern
46/002	Layer	Natural	46/002	T46	160			
47/001	Layer	Topsoil	47/001	T47	1			4 Modern

47/002	Layer	Natural	47/002	T47	160			
48/001	Layer	Topsoil	48/001	T48	1			4 Modern
48/002	Fill	Fill	48/003	T48	155	9	Structure	2 EIA/MIA
48/003	Cut	Posthole	48/003	T48	155	9	Structure	2 EIA/MIA
48/004	Fill	Fill	48/005	T48	156	9	Structure	2 EIA/MIA
48/005	Cut	Posthole	48/005	T48	156	9	Structure	2 EIA/MIA
48/006	Fill	Fill	48/007	T48	157	9	Structure	2 EIA/MIA
48/007	Cut	Posthole	48/007	T48	157	9	Structure	2 EIA/MIA
48/008	Fill	Fill	48/009	T48	158	9	Structure	2 EIA/MIA
48/009	Cut	Stakehole	48/009	T48	158	9	Structure	2 EIA/MIA
48/010	Cut	Posthole	48/010	T48	159			2 EIA/MIA
48/011	Fill	Fill	48/010	T48	159			2 EIA/MIA
48/012	Layer	Natural	48/012	T48	160			
49/001	Layer	Topsoil	49/001	T49	1			4 Modern
49/002	Layer	Natural	49/002	T49	160			
50/001	Layer	Topsoil	50/0001	T50	1			4 Modern
50/002	Layer	Natural	50/002	T50	160			
51/001	Layer	Topsoil	51/001	T51	1			4 Modern
51/002	Layer	Natural	51/002	T51	160			
52/001	Layer	Topsoil	52/001	T52	1			4 Modern
52/002	Layer	Natural	52/002	T52	160			
53/001	Layer	Topsoil	53/001	T53	1			4 Modern
53/002	Layer	Natural	53/002	T53	160			
54/001	Layer	Topsoil	54/001	T54	1			4 Modern
54/002	Layer	Natural	54/002	T54	160			
55/001	Layer	Topsoil	55/001	T55	1			4 Modern
55/002	Layer	Natural	55/002	T55	160			
56/001	Layer	Topsoil	56/001	T56	1			4 Modern
56/002	Layer	Natural	56/002	T56	160			
57/001	Layer	Topsoil	57/001	T57	1			4 Modern
57/002	Layer	Natural	57/002	T57	160			
58/001	Layer	Topsoil	58/001	T58	1			4 Modern
58/002	Layer	Natural	58/002	T58	160			
59/001	Layer	Topsoil	59/001	T59	1			4 Modern
59/002	Layer	Natural	59/002	T59	160			
59/003	Void	Pit	59/003	T59				
59/004	Cut	Ditch	59/004	T59	144			
59/005	Fill	Fill	59/004	T59	144			
59/006	Cut	Posthole	59/006	T59	145			1 MBA/LBA
59/007	Fill	Fill	59/006	T59	145			1 MBA/LBA
59/008	Fill	Fill	59/0010	T59	114			2 EIA/MIA
59/009	Fill	Fill	59/0010	T59	113			2 EIA/MIA

59/010	Cut	Pit	59/010	T59	115	3	Quarry/Pond	1 MBA/LBA
59/011	Fill	Fill	59/012	T59	138			2 EIA/MIA
59/012	Cut	Pit	59/012	T59	139			2 EIA/MIA
59/013	Fill	Fill	59/014	T59	140			1 MBA/LBA
59/014	Cut	Posthole	59/014	T59	141			1 MBA/LBA
59/015	Fill	Fill	59/016	T59	142			1 MBA/LBA
59/016	Cut	Posthole	59/016	T59	143			1 MBA/LBA
59/017	Layer	Silting layer	59/017	T59	112			2 EIA/MIA
59/018	Fill	Fill, secondary	59/010	T59	113			2 EIA/MIA
60/001	Layer	Topsoil	60/001	T60	1			4 Modern
60/002	Layer	Natural	60/002	T60	160			
61/001	Layer	Topsoil	61/001	T61	1			4 Modern
61/002	Layer	Natural	61/002	T61	160			
62/001	Layer	Topsoil	62/001	T62	1			4 Modern
62/002	Layer	Natural	62/002	T62	160			
63/001	Layer	Topsoil	63/001	T63	1			4 Modern
63/002	Layer	Natural	63/002	T63	160			
64/001	Layer	Topsoil	64/001	T64	1			4 Modern
64/002	Void			T64				
64/003	Layer	Natural	64/003	T64	160			
64/004	Cut	Ditch	64/004	T64	161			
64/005	Fill	Fill	64/004	T64	161			
65/001	Layer	Topsoil	65/001	T65	1			4 Modern
65/002	Layer	Natural	65/002	T65	160			
66/001	Layer	Topsoil	66/001	T66	1			4 Modern
66/002	Layer	Natural	66/002	T66	160			
67/001	Layer	Topsoil	67/001	T67	1			4 Modern
67/002	Layer	Natural	67/002	T67	160			

Appendix 2

Residue quantification (* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250) and weights in grams.

Sample Number	Context	Period	Parent deposit	Context / deposit type	Sample Volume litres	Charcoal >4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal <4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal Idenitifications	Bone and Teeth	Weight (g)	Burnt bone 4-8mm	Weight (g)	Burnt Bone 2-4mm	Weight (g)	Other (eg ind, pot, cbm)
11	1014	4.3	1011	Hearth	10	**	4	***	2	*Quercus* sp. 6, cf *Quercus* sp. 1, *Prunus* sp.3	*	<2	*	2	*	<2	Pot **/56 - FCF */254 - Magnetised Material ***/4
12	1037	5.3	1036	Posthole	10	*	<2	**	<2								Coal */<2 - F.Clay */4 - FCF */4 - Magnetised Material ***/2
13	1041		1040	Rooting	10	*	<2	**	<2								Magnetised Material **/2
14	1045		1044	Pit	10	*	<2	*	<2		*	<2					Pot */4 - FCF **/576 - Slag ***/480 - Magnetised Material ***/8
15	1063	5.3	1062	Stake hole	10	**	2	***	2	*Quercus* sp. 9(slow grown), Indet/distorted 1							Flint */2 - Magnetised Material **/2
16	1069	1	1069	Hearth (base)	10	**	<2	***	4								Magnetised Material **/2
17	1070	1	1068	Hearth (top)	20	*	<2	***	6	Indet 7(4distorted and vitrified, 2 distorted, 1vitrified)	)						Magnetised Material **/2
18	1077	1	1075	Ditch	10	*	<2	**	<2								FCF */10 - Magnetised Material **/2
19	1193	1	1193	Pit?	40	**	4	**	2	Quercus sp. 9, Indet distorted 1							FCF **/294 - Pot **/12 - Magnetised Material **/4

Sample Number	Context	Period	Parent deposit	Context / deposit type	Sample Volume litres	Charcoal >4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal <4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal Identifications	Bone and Teeth	Weight (g)	Burnt bone 4-8mm	Weight (g)	Burnt Bone 2-4mm	Weight (g)	Other (eg ind, pot, cbm)
20	1198		1189	Pit?	10	***	4	***	4	*Quercus* sp. 9 cf *Quercus* sp 1							FCF */22 - Magnetised Material **/4
21	1102	4.3	1103	Posthole	10	***	6	***	6	*Quercus* sp. 8, cf *Quercus* sp vitrified 2, Indet. distorted 1							FCF */10 - Magnetised Material **/6
22	1139	1	1140	Pit	40	**	2	**	2		*	<2					FCF ****/5138 - Magnetised Material **/4
23	1149	1	1148	Pit	20	**	<2	**	<2								FCF ****/ 3554 - Flint */2 - Magnetised Material ***/4
24	1150	1	1148	Pit	10	**	<2	*	<2								FCF ****/ 2610 - Magnetised Material **/2
25	1156	5.3	1164	Pit	20	**	<2	*	<2								FCF ****/2610 - Flint */4 - Magnetised Material ***/4
26	1158	5.3	1164	Pit	40	***	30	**	4	Quercus sp 3, Prunus sp 2, cf Prunus sp 1, Maloideae 2, Indet/dist 2							FCF ****/13900 - Magnetised Material **/4
27	1152	1	1153	Pit	40	***	4	**	2	Maloideae 7, *Salix/Populus* 1, *Corylus avellana* 2							FCF ****/4718 - Magnetised Material **/4
28	1187		1188	Pit	40	***	62	***	16	cf Maloideae 1, cf *Corylus avellana/Alnus glutinosa* 2, *Quercus* sp.1, Indet.2							FCF ****/12800 - Magnetised Material **/2

Appendix 3

Flot quantification (* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250) and preservation (+ = poor, ++ = moderate, +++ = good)

Sample Number	Context	Weight g	Flot volume ml	Uncharred %	Sediment %	Seeds uncharred	Charcoal >4mm	Charcoal <4mm	Charcoal <2mm	Crop seeds charred	Identifications	Preservation
11	1014	<0.5	<5	70	10				**			
12	1037	1.5	20	70	10		*	**	***	*	*Triticum aestivum* sl (1)	++
13	1041	17	100	20	10		**	***	****			
14	1045	1.4	40	50	10		*	**	***			
15	1063	20	100	20	10		***	***	****			
16	1069	0.5	10	80	10				*			
17	1070	3	30	40	10	*	*	**	***			
18	1077	2	20	30	10		**	**	***			
19	1193	2	50	70	10	*	*	*	**			
20	1198	<0.5	<10	40	10		*	*	**			
21	1102	1.2	20	30	10		*	**	***			
22	1139	8.5	100	40	10		**	***	****			
23	1149	4.3	30	30	10	*	**	***	****			
24	1150	4	50	40	10	*	**	***	****			
25	1156	6	75	40	10		**	***	****			

26	1158	10.5	100	30	10	*	**	***	****			
27	1152	11	75	30	10		**	***	****			
28	1187	2	35	80	10				**			

HER Summary

Site code	DLB14					
Project code	7144					
Planning reference	4/03241/14/MFA					
Site address	Land at Durrants Lane, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire					
District/Borough	Dacoram County Council					
NGR (12 figures)	SP 97330 07840					
Geology	Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation and Seaford Chalk Formation overlain by Clay-with-flints Formation					
Fieldwork type	Eval	**Excav**	WB	HBR	Survey	Other
Date of fieldwork	14th July-14th August 2015					
Sponsor/client	CgMs					
Project manager	Andy Leonard					
Project supervisor	Sarah Ritchie					
Period summary	Palaeolithic	Mesolithic	Neolithic	**Bronze Age**	**Iron Age**	
	Roman	Anglo-Saxon	Medieval	**Post-Medieval**	Other	
Project summary **(100 word max)**	*The first period of activity consisted of Middle/Late Bronze Age (c. 1500-800 BC) pits, postholes and a possible burnt mound with an associated pond/quarry.* *A subsequent period of Early/Middle Iron Age activity (c.800-300 BC) consists of occupation, settlement and low-level iron working evidence. This evidence includes several post-built structures. There is also a possibility that a Saxon Sunken Featured Building (SFB) may be present but dating evidence was poor and at assessment stage this feature has been phased into the later prehistoric period.* *The majority of features on the site contained little in the way of datable material or environmental evidence. The pottery recovered consisted predominantly of quite small and undiagnostic groups, making assigning closely dated periods and phases problematic. Broadly, however, the evidence suggests that the main activity spanned the Middle/Late Bronze Age to Middle Iron Age periods.* *The final phase of activity consisted of two post-medieval quarry pits, similar to examples found during the A41 by-pass excavations at Pea Lane and Grimes Ditch excavations (HAT, 1994).*					
Museum/Accession No.						

OASIS Form

OASIS ID: archaeol6-242812

Project details

Project name	ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS AT LAND AT DURRANTS LANE, BERKHAMSTED, HERTFORDSHIRE,
Short description of the project	Archaeology South-East carried out an archaeological excavation at Durrants Lane, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire between the 14th July and 14th August 2015. An archaeological watching brief was also undertaken between 22nd September and the 26th November 2015.The fieldwork was commissioned by CgMs Consulting in advance of redevelopment of the site. The first main period of activity was Middle/Late Bronze Age (c. 1500-800 BC) pitting possible structures and a possible burnt mound and associated man-made pond/quarry located within the southern area of the site. A subsequent period of Early/Middle Iron Age activity (c.800-300 BC) is also present on site. This period appears to consist less of industrial activities and more of occupation and settlement. The majority of features on the site contained little in the way of datable or environmental material culture or stratigraphic relationships. Dating evidence consisted predominantly of quite small and undiagnostic pottery groups, making assigning closely dated periods and phases problematic. Broadly, the dating evidence suggests that the majority of the archaeological activity on the site spanned the Middle/Late Bronze Age to Middle Iron Age. The final phase of activity on the site consisted of two post-medieval quarry pits. Natural clay and flint was observed at c.170m OD
Project dates	Start: 14-07-2015 End: 14-08-2015
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	DLB14 - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 3 - Operations to a depth more than 0.25m
Monument type	PIT Iron Age
Monument type	POST HOLE Bronze Age
Monument type	POST HOLE Iron Age

Monument type	HEARTH Bronze Age
Monument type	HEARTH Iron Age
Monument type	DITCH Iron Age
Monument type	WATERING HOLE Bronze Age
Monument type	PIT Bronze Age
Monument type	BURNT MOUND Bronze Age
Monument type	POND/QUARRY Bronze Age
Significant Finds	POT Bronze Age
Significant Finds	POT Iron Age
Significant Finds	POT Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CBM Post Medieval
Significant Finds	FLINT Early Neolithic
Significant Finds	SLAG Iron Age
Significant Finds	BROOCH Early Medieval
Investigation type	"Open-area excavation"
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - Direction 4

Project location

Country	England
Site location	HERTFORDSHIRE DACORUM BERKHAMSTED Land at Durrants Lane
Postcode	HP4 3TR
Study area	8750 Square metres

Site coordinates	SP 97330 07840 51.760318036021 -0.589590075245 51 45 37 N 000 35 22 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 168.95m Max: 170.11m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	CgMs Consulting
Project design originator	ASE/CgMs
Project director/manager	Andrew Leonard
Project supervisor	Sarah Ritchie
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive ID	DLB14
Digital Archive ID	DLB14
Paper Archive ID	DLB14

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS AT LAND AT DURRANTS LANE, BERKHAMSTED, HERTFORDSHIRE, HP4 3TR: A POST-EXCAVATION ASSESSMENT AND UPDATED PROJECT DESIGN REPORT
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Ritchie, S.

Date	2016
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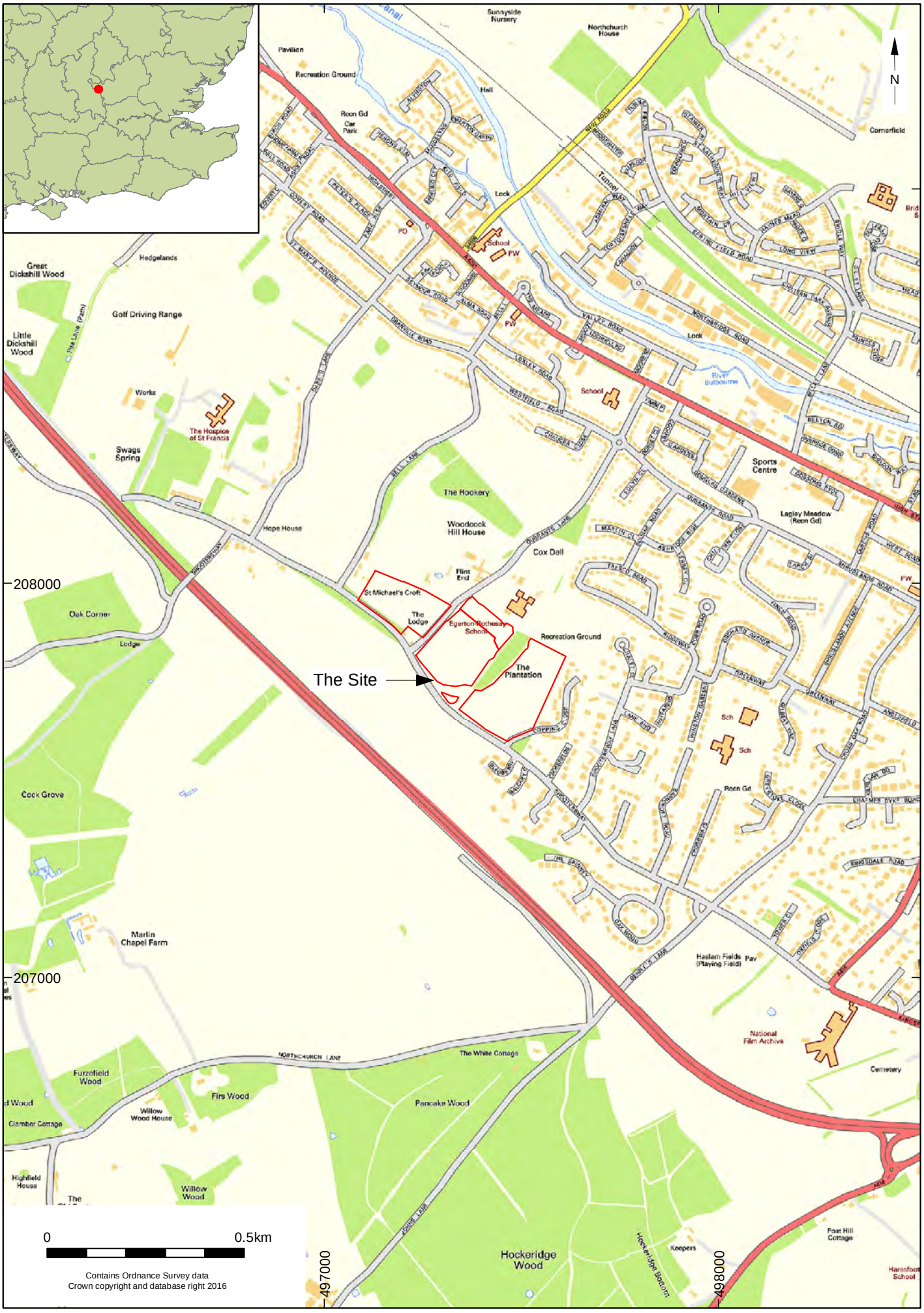


© Archaeology South-East		Durrants Lane, Berkhamsted	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 7144	February 2016	Site location	
Report Ref: 2016050	Drawn by: LG		

DURRANTS LANE

SHOOTERSWAY

497574, 207949

497125, 207762

Area 1

Area 2

Area 3

26/11/2015

22/09/2015

The Lodge

The Plantation

Tennis Court

N

0 50m

Watching brief areas

Evaluation trenches

Areas of excavation

© Archaeology South-East		Durrant's Lane, Berkhamsted	Fig.2
Project Ref: 7144	February 2016	Areas of evaluation, excavation and watching brief	
Report Ref: 2016050	Drawn by: LG		

497280, 207936

Area 3

497604, 207897

N

Tennis Court

Ditch

The Plantation

Area 1

0.91m RH

The Plantation

170.1m

HOOTERSWAY

Ditch

Area 2

168.9m

ED and Ward Bay

0.91m RH

0.91m RH

12

0 20m

© **Archaeology South-East**		Durrant's Lane, Berkhamsted	Fig.3
Project Ref: 7144	February 2016	Period 1: Middle/Late Bronze Age 1500-800BC	
Report Ref: 2016050	Drawn by: LG		

497495, 207842

497605, 207823

N

1213

GP 4
Structure 1

1209

1215

1211

1119

Section 1

0 10m

1119 looking north-west

Section 1

SE NW SW NE

168.64mOD

1123

1121

1122

1120

1119

0 0.5m

© Archaeology South-East		Durrant's Lane, Berkhamsted	Fig.4
Project Ref: 7144	February 2016	Period 1: Area 1 plan, section and photograph	
Report Ref: 2016050	Drawn by: LG		

N

497369, 207710

497418, 207728

1220

1126

1133

Cut of pond/quarry dates to phase 1 of site

1236

1234

1232

1230

59/003

59/014

59/016

1223

1191

1193

1195

1202

59/006

1154

1166

1168

1169

1220
GP3

1159

1144

1140

Section 2

1153
Hearth/cooking pit

1148

1188

Section 3

Burnt mound

1146

1130

1141

1137

1135

1163

1171

GP5
Structure 2

1173

1175

1177

1181

1185

1183

1179

1128

0 5m

1140 looking north-east

1153 looking east

1166 looking south

1171 looking south-east

1188 looking north-west

Section 2

S N

1132

169.57mOD

1187

Tip line

1188

Section 3

NW SE

169.56mOD

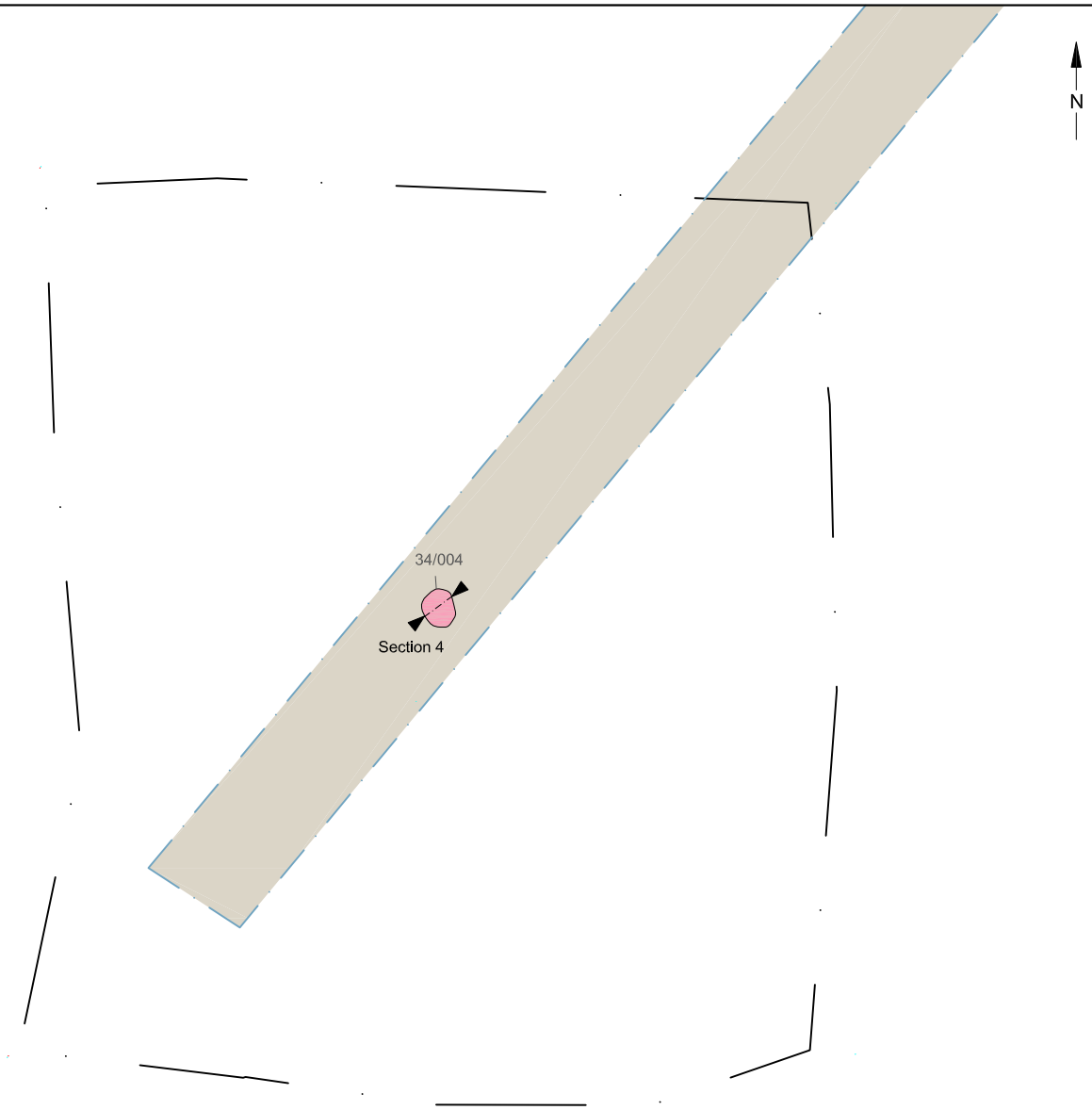
Tip line

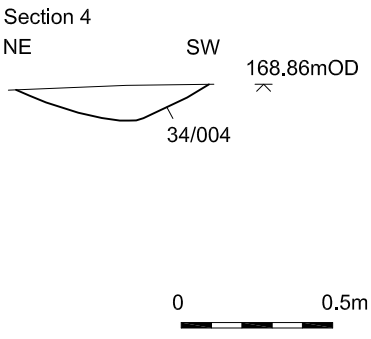
1187

1188

0 0.5m

© **Archaeology South-East**		Durrant's Lane, Berkhamsted	Fig.5
Project Ref: 7144	February 2016	Period 1: Area 2 plan, sections and photographs	
Report Ref: 2016050	Drawn by: LG		





34/004 looking south-east

0 2m

© Archaeology South-East		Durrant's Lane, Berkhamsted	Fig.6
Project Ref: 7144	February 2016	Period 1: Area 3 plan, section and photograph	
Report Ref: 2016050	Drawn by: LG		

N

Tennis Court

Ditf

497553,207865

The Plantatlon

Area 1

0.91m RH

The Plantation

170.1m

OOTERSWAY

Ditf

0.91m RH

Area 2

168.9m

ED and Ward Bdy

0.91m RH

497270,207678

0 20m

© **Archaeology South-East**		Durrant's Lane, Berkhamsted	Fig.7
Project Ref: 7144	February 2016	Period 2: Early Middle Iron Age 800-300BC	
Report Ref: 2016050	Drawn by: LG		

N

497586, 207844

40/003
1003
1005
1090
1018
1083
1085
1008
GP1
1116
1048
1050
GP1
Structure 6
1011
1030
1024
1028
1022
1036
1044
GP6
Structure 7
1015
1042
1026
1113
1111
43/004
1056
1107
Section 5
44/012
44/014
44/010
44/008
1032
1087
44/003
1038
1034
Structure 8
1104
1046
1075
1114
1068
42/003
GP8
Structure 4
1062
1103
1099
1101
GP7
Structure 3
1097
1095
1081
1079
1066
1073
1058
48/007
48/009
48/003
48/005
GP9
Structure 5
497550, 207772
0 5m

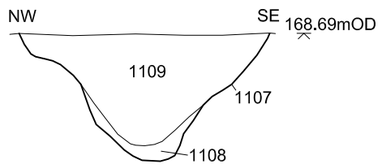
Ditch GP1 looking north-east

1101 with in situ pot looking east

1099, 1101 and 1103 looking south

43/004 looking north-east

Section 5



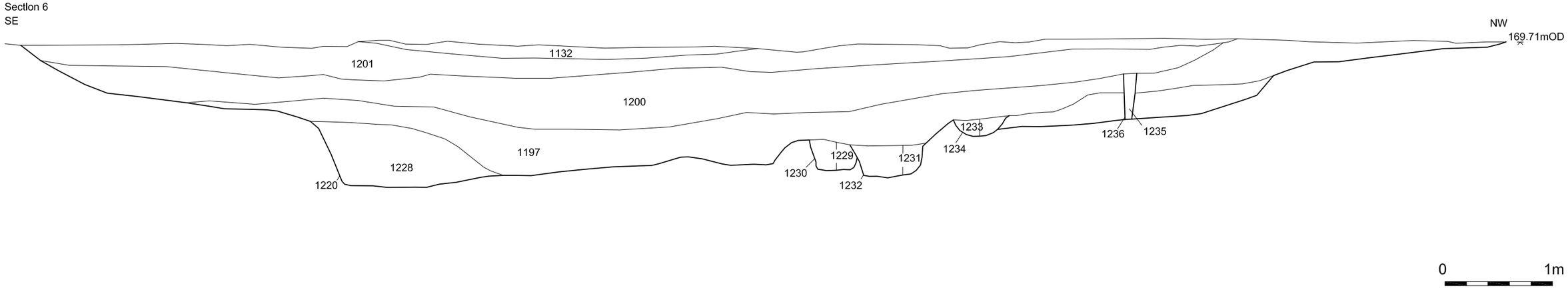
0 0.5m

© Archaeology South-East		Durrant's Lane, Berkhamsted	Fig.8
Project Ref: 7144	February 2016	Period 2: Area 1 plan, section and photographs	
Report Ref: 2016050	Drawn by: LG		

1226 looking south-west

Section through 1220 looking north-west

Section through 1220 looking south-west



© Archaeology South-East		Durrant's Lane, Berkhamsted	Fig.9
Project Ref: 7144	February 2016	Period 2: Area 2 plan, section and photographs	
Report Ref: 2016050	Drawn by: LG		

497495, 207842

497605, 207823

N

Section 7

1020

1124

0 10m

1018 and 1020 looking south-east

Section 7

SW NE 168.05mOD

1021 1019 1018 1020

0 0.5m

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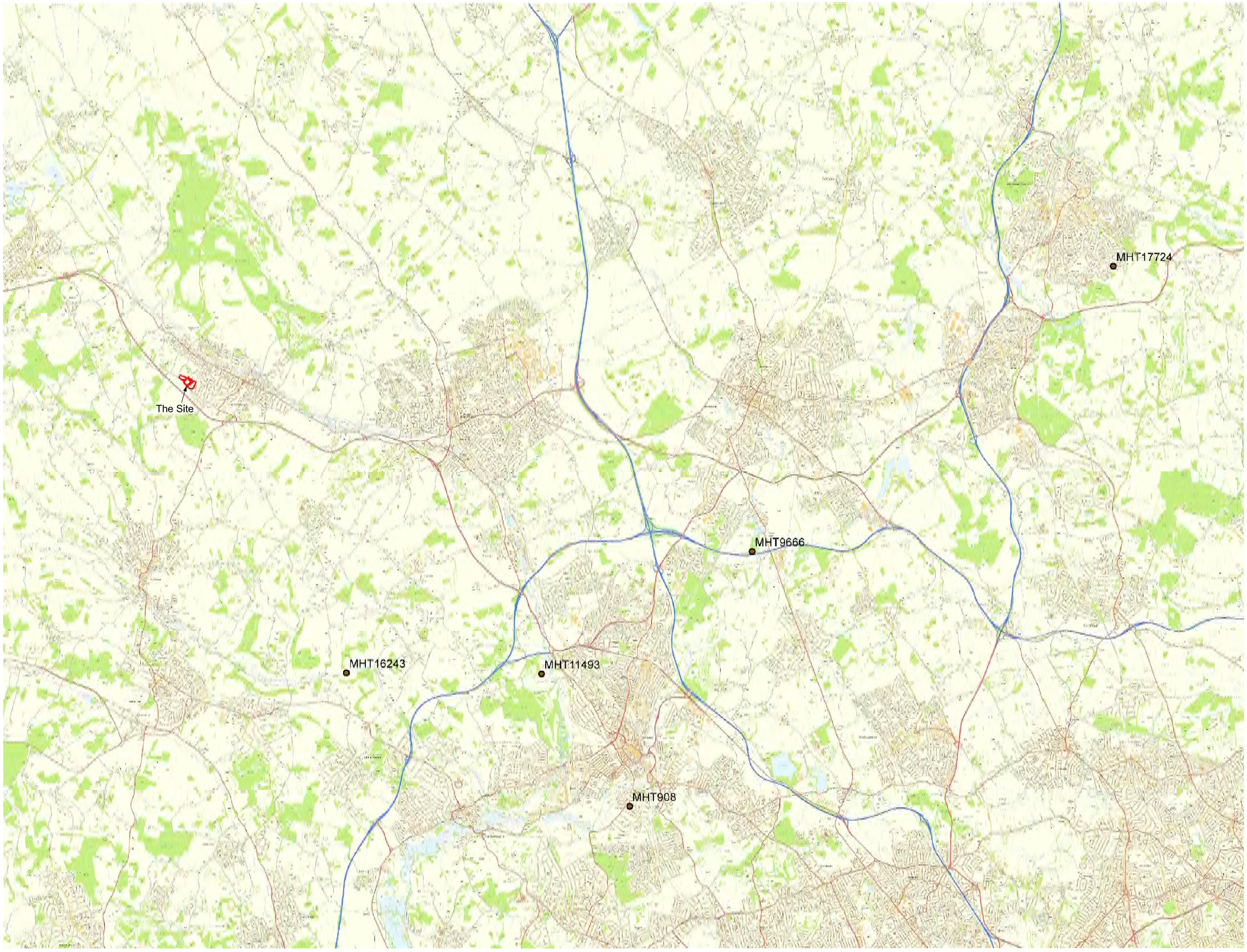
Project Ref: 7144	February 2016	Period 3: Post-medieval AD1540-1900, Area 1 plan section and photograph	
Report Ref: 2016050	Drawn by: LG		



© Archaeology South-East		Durrant's Lane, Berkhamsted	Fig.11
Project Ref: 7144	February 2016	Burnt mound locations	
Report Ref: 2016050	Drawn by: LG		

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