

An Archaeological Evaluation at Martell's Quarry, Ardleigh, Essex

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Abstract

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Slough Farm, Ardleigh, Essex. The work was undertaken between 14th August and 14th September 2007 on behalf of Bucbricks Ardleigh Sands. Sixty four trenches between twenty and thirty metres long and totalling 1973m were excavated.

The underlying natural of light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered at a maximum height of 35.632m OD in the northeast of the site (Trench 8) falling away to 35.065m OD to the northwest (Trench 1), 34.955m OD to the southeast (Trench 62) and 34.940m OD to the southwest (Trench 48).

A number of ditches were found that had a broad correlation to some of the crop-marks plotted from the aerial photograph (Ditch [034] Trench 46, Ditch [109] Trench 1, Ditch [117] Trench 2 and Ditch [119] Trench 4). A more accurate investigation of the crop-marks was frustrated by an inaccuracy resulting from a partially rectified aerial photograph. However, activity was observed across the site with concentrations in the northwest (Trenches 1, 2, 4, 5, 9, 10 and 16) and in the southwest (Trench 48).

The earliest securely identifiable activity on the site was of Roman date. It consisted of a number of pits and ditches located to the northwest of the site (Trenches 1, 2, 4, 10 and 16), two isolated finds, one a single sherd of pottery (Trench 48) to the southwest, the other a single fragment of brick (Trench 33) in the centre of the site and a cremation (Trench 25) to the east. The artefact assemblage from the Roman period comprised a wide range of materials including slag, roof tile, human bone, animal bone, imported and locally produced pottery, including two semi-complete vessels, and iron nails. This is interpreted as an assemblage indicative of domestic habitation.

The majority of features encountered during the fieldwork were undatable and were comprised of boundary ditches within an agricultural landscape. However, in Trench 48 to the southwest of the site there was tantalising evidence for the presence of early domestic structures within the site including postholes, pits and possibly an enclosure.

That the fieldwork did not produce any securely dated prehistoric contexts is remarkable in that the site lay within an area of significant Bronze Age activity and dense Iron Age landscape usage. Yet, this paucity of evidence can not be taken to mean that there is no prehistoric activity within the area particularly with the potential of the features in Trench 48

Just as notable but less surprising is the failure to produce any evidence of activity dating to the Saxon, medieval or post-medieval periods but this is considered here to reflect the post-Roman agricultural usage of the landscape.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1** Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of University College London Centre for Applied Archaeology, have been commissioned by Davies Planning Ltd. on behalf of their client Bucbricks Ardleigh Sands, to undertake an Archaeological Evaluation of land at Martells Quarry, Ardleigh, Essex. See Figure 1.
- 1.2** The site is located to the east of Slough Lane (see Fig. 1), measures approximately 8.4 hectares and occupies a broadly rectangular plot of land comprising a single arable field. It is bounded to the north and east by ongoing industrial activity, including silica sand extraction, and landfill. Slough Farm borders the site to the southwest, comprising a number of farm buildings and areas of hard standing including a large steel framed storage unit/work shop which lies on the proposed sterilised margin of the site. To the south and southeast of the site there is open farmland.
- 1.3** An application for planning permission for an extension to the existing quarry was submitted to Essex County Council (Planning ref. ESS/18/07/TEN). A previous Desk Based Assessment of the site, undertaken by Archaeology South-East as part of an Environmental Impact Assessment (Meaton 2005), demonstrated high potential for archaeological deposits to survive within the application area. As a consequence, the Senior Historic Environment Officer at Essex County Council stipulated that prior to the determination of the planning application an Archaeological Evaluation should be undertaken in order to ensure that an appropriate mitigation strategy may be formulated for inclusion into the aforementioned Environmental Impact Assessment.
- 1.4** Archaeology South East produced a Written Scheme of Investigation for this fieldwork (Hart 2007) which was approved by Essex County Council. This document presents the results of the Archaeological Evaluation of Martell's Quarry, Slough Lane.
- 1.5** David Fallon, Gemma Norburn, Leigh James, Robert Davis, Rachael, Billson, Jenny Jackson, Caroline Russell and Michelle Stratton carried out the fieldwork from 14th August to 14th September 2007. Diccon Hart (fieldwork) and Louise Rayner (post-excavation) managed the project.

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1** The full archaeological background to the site was set out in the previous Desk Based Assessment (Meaton 2005). It is summarised below.
- 2.2** The Desk Based Assessment demonstrated that a number of crop-marks and former field boundaries survive within the confines of the site (see Figs. 2 to 7 incl.). It also demonstrated that Prehistoric and Roman finds have been recorded from the study area. There are a

large number of Bronze Age, Iron Age and Roman sites surrounding the site and that there is a Scheduled Monument preserving a particularly dense concentration of such 1km to the northeast. Evidence for post Roman activity is limited and cartographic evidence (see Figs. 2 to 4 incl.) suggests a relatively static landscape over recent centuries.

3.0 Aims

3.1 The aims of the archaeological investigation in summary were to ascertain:

- a) Whether archaeological remains extend across the development site
- b) The character date and quality of ancient remains and deposits
- c) How they might be affected by the development of the site
- d) Whether particularly important remains should be preserved *in situ*
- e) What options should be considered for mitigation

4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

4.1 Sixty four Trial Trenches (Trenches One to Sixty Four) were excavated (see Fig.8). These trenches were located to best assess the crop-marks that had been identified from aerial photographs and to test apparently 'empty' areas (see Figs. 5 to 8 incl.). All the trenches measured 30m in length by 2.00m wide except Trench 59, 22.00m long, Trench 58, 28.00m long and Trench 64 that joined Trenches 24 and 25 and was 23.00m long.

4.2 Trench Sixty Four was an additional trench excavated to comply with the instructions of the Senior Historic Environment Officer, situated to ascertain the presence, or not, of any further cremation burials to the northeast of the site.

4.3 Trench Sixteen was extended at its eastern and western end by a further 5.00m (10.00m in total). In addition to this extension two further extensions were excavated transversely 15.00m to the north and the south from the centre point (30.00m in total). This extra trenching (40.00m in total) was situated to ascertain the presence, or absence, of a ring ditch located in the area of Trench Sixteen from the aerial photograph (see Figs. 7 and 8). It was in compliance with the instructions of the Senior Historic Environment Officer.

4.4 The Trial Trenches were excavated under constant archaeological supervision by an 18 tonne 360⁰ excavator using 2.00m wide grading bucket.

4.5 The Trial Trenches were located accurately using a Digital Global Positioning System (DGPS) and a DGPS Total Station (Leica 1205 R100 Total Station, Leica System 1200 GPS).

- 4.6** The topsoil was reduced to the underlying natural or the archaeological horizon; whichever was the higher. The level revealed thus was spot cleaned to define further any archaeological features or areas of potential archaeological interest. Selected 1.00m wide sections from opposing walls at either end of the trenches were also cleaned manually to define and record the trench's stratigraphy.
- 4.7** Archaeological features and finds were recorded according to accepted professional standards in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation using the standard context sheets of Archaeology South East. Archaeological features were planned at 1:20 and sectioned at 1:10. The trenches were planned at 1:50 or 1:100; whichever was the more appropriate. The colours of the deposits were established by visual inspection rather than by reference to a Munsell Colour Chart.
- 4.8** Bulk soil samples of 40 litres, or 100% of the context, were collected from suitable excavated contexts. Environmental samples were assessed initially by wet-sieving a 25% sub-sample through 0.5mm mesh and preliminary analysis for presence/absence of significant material.
- 4.9** The pottery and the metal recovered were retained and are being treated in accordance with standard Archaeology South East procedures. Finds specialists will identify the retained finds. All pottery and bone recovered from the excavations will be washed and marked with an appropriate code to identify the site and context. Most ceramic and other building material will be identified, counted, weighed and discarded. Samples will be retained as appropriate. Finds will be bagged in polythene bags according to type and context.
- 4.10** Human remains were unearthed during the mechanical excavation of Trench Twenty Five. This cremation burial was excavated in accordance with the provisions set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation.
- 4.11** A photographic record was kept of the archaeological features. This will form a part of the site archive.
- 4.12** The site archive is being held Archaeology South East's head offices, Portslade, as a temporary measure and will, in due course, be submitted to Central Museum, Southend-on-Sea.

5.0 RESULTS

There was scarring of the natural to varying depths by mole drains. This had a minimal impact upon the archaeological features.

5.1 Trench One (see Fig. 9)

5.1.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max.Length	Max.Width	Max.Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.53m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A
105	Cut	Posthole Cut	0.42M	0.42	0.14
106	Fill	Posthole Fill	0.42	0.42	0.14
107	Cut	Posthole Cut	0.22	0.22	0.16
108	Fill	Posthole Fill	0.22	0.22	0.16
109	Cut	Ditch Cut	Tr. Width 2.20m	1.26m	0.81m
110	Fill	Ditch Backfill	Tr. Width 2.20m	1.26m	0.56m
111	Fill	secondary Ditch Fill	Tr. Width 2.20m	0.28m	0.12m
112	Fill	Primary Ditch Fill	Tr. Width 2.20m	0.175m	0.21m

5.1.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.255m OD and 35.065m OD. However, it had been over excavated by 0.10m during the mechanical reduction of Trench 1.

A total of three archaeological features were seen to cut into the surface of the natural. These consisted of two probable postholes, one observed towards the northern end of the trench the other at the southern end, and a ditch observed at the northern end of the trench.

The ditch lay on a northwest – southeast alignment and had a 'V'-shaped profile that comprised a cut with steep, straight sides tapering to a point [109]. The ditch had a Primary fill of dark blue grey clayey silt with frequent coarse gravel inclusions that contained sherds of Roman pottery that dated to between AD70/80 – 250 [112]. Above this was a secondary fill of mid reddish brown sandy silt with occasional medium sub-rounded pebbles and coarse gravel inclusions that contained Roman pottery, including a single sherd of Central Gaulish Samian ware dating to AD 120 - 160, [111]. Finally, the ditch had been

backfilled with mid bluish grey silty clay with moderate fine gravel inclusions [110] (see Fig. 9 Sec.2). It is possible that ditch [109] is the return of ditch [117] observed in Trench 2 and ditch [119] observed in Trench 4 (see Fig.8).

Immediately to the north of ditch [109] lay a shallow, sub-rectangular posthole with a 'U'-shaped profile that comprised a cut with steep sides and a flat base [107]. This had a fill of light whitish grey sandy clay with frequent patches of re-deposited natural and occasional small, sub-rounded flint pebbles [108] (see Fig. 9 Sec.3).

Nineteen metres to the south of ditch [109] lay a circular posthole with a 'U'-shaped profile that comprised a cut with steep sides and a flat base [105]. This had a fill of light whitish grey sandy clay with occasional medium, sub-rounded flint pebbles and occasional flecks of charcoal [106] (see Fig. 9 Sec.1).

5.2 Trench Two (see Fig. 9)

5.2.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max.Length	Max.Width	Max.Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.44m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A
117	Cut	Ditch Cut	2.40m	0.80	0.30m
118	Fill	Ditch Fill	2.40m	0.80m	0.30m

5.2.2 Summary

The natural [022], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.615m OD and 35.425m OD.

One archaeological feature was seen to cut into the surface of the natural. This consisted of a section of ditch observed at the south-western end of the trench.

The ditch [117] lay on a northwest – southeast alignment and had an irregular 'U'-shaped profile that comprised a cut with irregular sides (steep in the east and sloping gently in the west) and a tapered, concave base. The ditch had a fill of mid whitish grey clay [118] (see Fig.9 Sec.4). It is possible that this ditch is the same ditch (with a corroded profile) that was observed in Trench 4 (Ditch [119]) and the return of Ditch [109] observed in Trench 1 (see Fig.8)

5.3 Trench Three

5.3.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.38m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A

5.3.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.492m OD and 35.412m OD. No archaeological features were encountered.

5.4 Trench Four (see Fig.9)

5.4.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max.Length	Max.Width	Max.Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.40m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A
018	Layer	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.70m
113	Cut	Ditch Terminus	1.25m	1.45m	0.42m
114	Fill	Fill of Terminus	1.25m	1.45m	0.42m
115	Cut	Ditch Cut	3.10m	0.60m	0.33m
116	Fill	Ditch Fill	3.10m	0.60m	0.33m
119	Cut	Ditch Cut	2.70m	1.00m	0.27m
120	Fill	Ditch Fill	2.70m	1.00m	0.27m
123	Cut	Ditch Cut	2.40m	1.20m	0.12m
124	Fill	Ditch Fill	2.40m	1.20m	0.12m

5.4.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.395m OD and 35.105m OD.

A total of four archaeological features were seen to cut into the surface the natural. These consisted of three ditches and a ditch terminus observed at the eastern end of the trench.

The westernmost ditch was aligned north – south and had a 'V'-shaped profile consisting of steep, straight sides tapering to a point [119]. It was filled by light grey brown sandy silt with occasional medium gravel inclusions [120] (see Fig.9. Sec.5). It is possible that ditch [119] is the

return of ditch [109] observed in Trench 1 and the continuation of ditch [117] observed in Trench 2 (see Fig.8).

Ten metres to the east of ditch [119] was another ditch aligned north – south. It had a regular ‘U’-shaped profile that comprised a cut with concave sides and a concave base [115]. It was filled by mid reddish brown sandy silt with very occasional sub-rounded medium flint pebbles and occasional coarse gravel inclusions [116] (see Fig.9 Sec.7).

Four metres to the west of ditch [119], 4.5 metres to the east of ditch [115] and running parallel to them both was the butt ended terminus of a north – south aligned linear feature. It had an irregular ‘U’-shaped profile that comprised a cut with regular, steep sides and a flat, uneven base that sloped southeast to northwest [113]. It was filled by mid greyish brown clayey silt with occasional small sub-rounded flint pebbles, occasional coarse gravel and moderate flecks of charcoal inclusions [114] (see Fig.9 Sec.6).

The easternmost ditch was aligned approximately north – south but was not parallel to the other features in this trench. It had a ‘U’-shaped profile comprised of a cut with only a small fragment of its sides remaining (the remaining fragments were steep and regular) and a flat, even base [123]. It was filled by light whitish grey sandy silt [121] (see Fig.9).

5.5 Trench Five (see Fig.9)

5.5.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max.Length	Max.Width	Max.Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.26m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A
018	Layer	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.50m
121	Cut	Ditch Cut	3.00m	0.60m	0.14m
122	Fill	Ditch Fill	3.00m	0.60m	0.14m

5.5.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.525m OD and 35.515m OD.

One archaeological feature was seen to cut into the surface of the natural. This consisted of a section of a ditch observed towards the northern end of the trench.

The ditch lay on a northwest – southeast alignment and had an irregular ‘U’-shaped profile that comprised a cut with regular sides (though deeper in the northeast) and a flat uneven base that sloped

southwest - northeast [121]. The ditch had a fill of mid whitish grey clay with very occasional medium gravels [122] (see Fig.9 Sec.8).

5.6 Trench Six

5.6.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.33m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A

5.6.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.422m OD and 35.382m OD. No archaeological features were encountered.

5.7 Trench Seven

5.7.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.41m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A

5.7.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.472m OD and 35.402m OD. No archaeological features were encountered.

5.8 Trench Eight

5.8.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.41m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A

5.8.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.632m OD and 35.002m OD. No archaeological features were encountered.

5.9 Trench Nine (see Fig.9)

5.9.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max.Length	Max.Width	Max.Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.51m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A
127	Cut	Ditch terminus	1.20m	0.86m	0.20m
128	Fill	Fill Terminus	1.20m	0.86m	0.20m
129	Cut	Posthole Cut	0.50m	0.50m	0.10m
130	Fill	Posthole Fill	0.50m	0.50m	0.10m
131	Cut	Posthole Cut	0.30m	0.30m	0.08m
132	Fill	Posthole Fill	0.30m	0.30m	0.08m

5.9.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.275m OD and 35.255m OD.

Three archaeological features were seen to cut the surface of the natural. These consisted of a ditch terminus observed at the south end of the trench and two possible postholes observed at the north.

The terminus lay on an east – west alignment and had a squared 'U'-shaped profile that comprised a cut with regular sides (though deeper in the north), a flat, slightly uneven base that sloped south - north and was rounded in plan at the east [127]. The ditch had a fill of mid reddish brown sandy silt [128] (see Fig.9 Sec.9).

Trench 9 was located to investigate the intersection of two linear features plotted from the 1976 aerial photograph (see Figs. 6 to 8 incl.) that ran east – west and northeast – southwest through the trench. This terminus did not correspond with either of them.

Eighteen metres to the north of Terminus [127] lay two intercutting postholes. Postholes [129] and [131] were both filled with very similar, deposits. The similarity between these two deposits frustrated the definition of their relationship prior to excavation. However, the excavator was of the opinion, after excavation, that [129] was the later of the two.

Posthole [131] had been truncated by a later feature (posthole [129]). However, enough survived for its shape, profile and dimensions to be discerned. It was circular in plan and had a 'U'-shaped profile that comprised a cut with steep, flat sides and a concave base [131]. The

posthole had a fill of light reddish brown clayey silt with very frequent fine and coarse gravel inclusions [132] (see Fig.9 Sec.10).

The posthole [129] was sub-rectangular and had a 'U'-shaped profile that consisted of flat, steep sides and a concave base. The posthole had a fill of light reddish brown clayey silt with frequent fine and coarse gravel inclusions [130] (see Fig.9 Sec.10).

5.10 Trench Ten (see Fig.10)

5.10.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max.Length	Max.Width	Max.Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A
018	Layer	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.10m
014	Cut	Ditch Cut	2.20m	1.40m	0.30m
015	Fill	Ditch Fill	2.20m	1.40m	0.30m

5.10.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.270m OD and 35.230m OD.

One archaeological feature was seen to cut the surface of the natural. This consisted of a segment of a ditch observed at the south-eastern end of the trench.

The ditch lay on a north – south alignment and had a regular 'U'-shaped profile that comprised a cut with regular slightly concave sides and a concave even base [014]. The ditch had a fill of mid greyish brown clayey silt with occasional coarse gravel inclusions [015] (see Fig.10 Sec.11). The pottery assemblage, including a semi complete vessel, from this context was Roman and dated to between c.AD120 - 250.

5.11 Trench Eleven

5.11.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.42m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A

5.11.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.282m OD and 35.252m OD. No archaeological features were encountered.

5.12 Trench Twelve

5.12.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.43m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A

5.12.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.472m OD and 35.382m OD. No archaeological features were encountered.

5.13 Trench Thirteen

5.13.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.35m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A

5.13.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.522m OD and 35.462m OD. No archaeological features were encountered.

5.14 Trench Fourteen

5.14.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.35m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A

5.14.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.462m OD and 35.372m OD. No archaeological features were encountered.

5.15 Trench Fifteen

5.15.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A

5.15.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.320m OD and 35.300m OD. No archaeological features were encountered.

5.16 Trench Sixteen (see Fig.10)

5.16.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max.Length	Max.Width	Max.Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.50m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A
050	Cut	Ditch Cut	2.10m	0.82	0.20m
051	Fill	Ditch Fill	2.10m	0.82	0.20
052	Cut	Pit Cut?	2.20m	0.90m	0.30m
053	Fill	Pit Fill?	2.20m	0.90m	0.30m
057	Cut	Pit Cut?	2.28m	2.28m	0.18m
058	Fill	Pit Fill?	2.28m	2.28m	0.18m
059	Cut	Stakehole Cut	0.70m	0.70m	0.40m
060	Fill	Stakehole Fill	0.70m	0.70m	0.40m
061	Cut	Stakehole Cut	0.15m	0.15m	0.11m
062	Fill	Stakehole Fill	0.15m	0.15m	0.11m
069	Cut	Ditch Cut	2.10m	0.60m	0.10m
070	Fill	Ditch Fill	2.10m	0.60m	0.10m
071	Cut	Posthole Cut	0.50m	0.32m	0.14m
072	Fill	Posthole Fill	0.50m	0.32m	0.14m

087	Cut	Ditch Terminus	1.10m	1.55m	0.20m
088	Fill	Terminus Fill	1.10m	1.55m	0.20m

5.16.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.205m OD and 35.085m OD.

Eight archaeological features were seen to cut the surface of the natural. These consisted of two ditches, a ditch terminus, a posthole, two probable pits, and two stakeholes (see Fig.10). The features were observed in a concentration at the centre of the trench with a ditch and the ditch terminus to the east and a ditch to the south.

The earliest of the pits had a shallow, squared, 'U'-shaped profile that comprised a cut with a steep, flat sides and a flat even base [057]. This was filled by light greyish white clay with occasional medium flint pebble inclusions [058] (see Fig.10 Sec.12). Cutting this was a rectangular pit with a squared 'U'-shaped profile that comprised a cut with flat, vertical sides and a flat even base [052] (Plates 5 & 6). This was filled by dark reddish brown clayey silt with frequent coarse and medium gravel inclusions and patches of re-deposited natural [053]. Four iron nails and one piece of Roman pottery of unspecified date were recovered from [053]. In the base of Pit [052] was observed a stakehole with a shallow 'U'-shaped profile that comprised a cut with flat, vertical sides and a slightly concave base [061] filled by mid greyish brown sandy silt with occasional coarse gravel inclusions [062] (see Fig10 Sec.13). A second stakehole was observed in the base of Pit [052] it had a shallow 'U'-shaped profile that comprised a cut with steep flat sides and a concave, tapering base [059]. This was filled by mid greyish brown sandy silt with occasional coarse gravel inclusions [060] (see Fig.10).

One metre to the southeast of Pit [052] was observed a sub-circular pit (possibly a very corroded posthole) with a 'U'-shaped profile that comprised a cut with steep, flat sides and a flat even base [071]. It was filled by mid reddish brown sandy silt with occasional gravel inclusions [072] (Fig.10 Sec.14).

The easternmost ditch lay on a broadly north – south alignment. It had a regular, 'U'-shaped profile that comprised a cut with regular sides and a slightly concave even base [069]. The ditch had a fill of light reddish brown sandy silt with occasional coarse gravel inclusions [070] (see Fig.10).

Nine metres to the west of Ditch [069] a ditch terminus was observed. The terminus lay on a northeast – southwest alignment and had a 'U'-

shaped profile that comprised a cut with regular sides (though deeper in the northwest), a concave even base that sloped northeast - southwest and was rounded in plan at the northeast [087]. It had a fill of mid reddish brown sandy clay with occasional flecks of charcoal and occasional medium gravel inclusions [088] (see Fig.10, Plate7).

The southern ditch lay on a broadly east –west alignment and had a regular, squared 'U'-shaped profile that comprised a cut with regular sides and a flat even base [050]. The ditch had a fill of light greyish yellow sandy silt with frequent coarse gravel inclusions [051] (see Fig.10 Sec.15). This may be the continuation of Terminus [087] observed in the eastern extension of Trench 16 (see Fig.10).

5.17 Trench Seventeen

5.17.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.37m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A

5.17.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.282m OD and 35.262m OD. No archaeological features were encountered.

5.18 Trench Eighteen

5.18.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.33m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A

5.18.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.392m OD and 35.362m OD. No archaeological features were encountered.

5.19 Trench Nineteen

5.19.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A

5.19.2 Summary

The natural [022], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.462m OD and 35.352m OD. No archaeological features were encountered.

5.20 Trench Twenty (see Fig.11)

5.20.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max.Length	Max.Width	Max.Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.44m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A
125	Cut	Ditch Terminus	1.80m	0.80m	0.40m
126	Fill	Terminus Fill	1.80m	0.80m	0.40m

5.20.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.190m OD and 35.100m OD.

One archaeological feature was seen to cut the surface of the natural. This consisted of a ditch terminus observed to the south of the trench.

The terminus lay on a northwest – southeast alignment and had a squared 'U'-shaped profile that comprised a cut with regular sides (though deeper in the southwest), a flat even base that sloped northeast - southwest and was rounded in plan at the northeast [125]. The ditch had a fill of mid greyish brown sandy silt with very occasional flecks of charcoal and occasional coarse gravel inclusions [126] (see Fig. 11 Sec.16).

5.21 Trench Twenty-One

5.21.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.38m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A

5.21.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.362m OD and 35.352m OD. No archaeological features were encountered.

5.22 Trench Twenty-Two

5.22.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.34m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A

5.22.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.342m OD and 35.322m OD. No archaeological features were encountered.

5.23 Trench Twenty-Three

5.23.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.38m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A
018	Layer	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.11m

5.23.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.362m OD and 35.162m OD. Subsoil [018], mid grey brown sand clay silt, was observed at the interface of topsoil [001] and natural [002]. No archaeological features were encountered.

5.24 Trench Twenty-Four (see Fig. 11)

5.24.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max.Length	Max.Width	Max.Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.50m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A
101	Cut	Ditch Cut	1.60m	0.80m	0.27m
102	Fill	Ditch Fill	1.60m	0.80m	0.27m

5.24.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.100m OD and 34.970m OD.

One archaeological feature was seen to cut the surface of the natural. This consisted of a segment of a curvilinear ditch observed at the junction with Trench 64, a continuation of the segment seen in Trench 64 ([103], Plate 4).

The ditch lay on a broadly northwest – southeast alignment and had an irregular, squared 'U'-shaped profile that comprised a cut with regular sides (though deeper in the southwest) and a flat uneven base that sloped northeast - southwest [101]. The ditch had a fill of light reddish brown sandy silt with occasional coarse gravel inclusions [102] (see Fig.11 Sec.17). A possible pit/posthole 1.15m to the north of [101] remained unexcavated due to time restrictions.

5.25 Trench Twenty-Five (see Fig. 11)

5.25.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max.Length	Max.Width	Max.Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.40m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A
018	Layer	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.10m
019	Cut	Cremation Cut	0.50m	0.34	0.15m
020	Fill	Fill of 019	0.35m	0.34m	0.15m
021	Pot	Cremation Vessel	0.30m	0.30m	0.14m
022	Fill	Fill of 021	0.30m	0.30m	0.14m

5.25.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.210m OD and 35.050m OD.

One archaeological feature was seen to cut the surface of the natural. This consisted of a cremation burial (see Plate 1) observed to the south of the trench.

This burial consisted of a sub-circular cut with a 'U'-shaped profile consisting of regular, steep sides and a slightly concave base [019] with a cremation vessel placed within it. This vessel consisted of a locally made Roman grey ware pot of unspecified date [021]. The vessel had been kept in place with a backfill of re-deposited natural [020]. The contents of the burial vessel, [022], showed that the burial was then covered with natural.

5.26 Trench Twenty-Six

5.26.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.29m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A
018	Layer	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.17m

5.26.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.110m OD and 35.090m OD. Subsoil [018], mid grey brown sand clay silt, was observed at the interface of topsoil [001] and natural [002]. No archaeological features were encountered.

5.27 Trench Twenty-Seven

5.27.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.35m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A

5.27.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.252m OD and 35.162m OD. No archaeological features were encountered.

5.28 Trench Twenty-Eight

5.28.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.35m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A

5.28.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.201m OD and 35.131m OD. No archaeological features were encountered.

5.29 Trench Twenty-Nine

5.29.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.36m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A

5.29.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.410m OD and 35.330m OD. No archaeological features were encountered.

5.30 Trench Thirty

5.30.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.40m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A

5.30.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.312m OD and 35.152m OD. No archaeological features were encountered.

5.31 Trench Thirty-One (see Fig. 11)

5.31.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max.Length	Max.Width	Max.Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.40m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A
026	Cut	Ditch Cut	2.20m	1.40m	0.55m
027	Fill	Ditch Backfill	2.20m	1.40m	0.35m
028	Fill	Ditch Fill	2.20m	0.60m	0.20m

5.31.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.261m OD and 35.181m OD.

One archaeological feature was seen to cut the surface of the natural. This consisted of a segment of a ditch observed in the centre of the trench. This ditch was the continuation of the ditch observed in Trenches 33 ([016]) and 40 ([006]).

The ditch lay on an east - west alignment and had a regular 'U'-shaped profile, stepped to the south, which comprised a cut with regular sides and a flat even base [026]. The ditch had a basal fill of dark greyish brown sandy silt [028] and an upper, backfill of mid brown clayey silt with moderate medium gravel inclusions [027]. In addition to these fills this ditch also contained a modern drainage pipe (see Fig. 10, Sec 19, Plate 2).

Although no dating evidence was recovered from this context it correlates very closely with a field boundary that is known from aerial photographic (see Figs 5 & 7) and cartographic evidence (see Figs 2,3 & 4) to have ran across the site east - west from 1822 (Fig. 2) but that had been abandoned by 1990 (Fig. 4).

5.32 Trench Thirty-Two

5.32.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.33m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A

5.32.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was

encountered between 35.151m OD and 35.131m OD. No archaeological features were encountered.

5.33 Trench Thirty-Three (see Fig.12)

5.33.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max.Length	Max.Width	Max.Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.53m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A
016	Cut	Ditch Cut	2.10m	1.15m	0.50m
017	Fill	Ditch Fill	2.10m	1.15m	0.50m

5.33.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.440m OD and 35.370m OD.

One archaeological feature was seen to cut the surface of the natural. This comprised a segment of a ditch observed at the southern end of the trench. This ditch was the continuation of the ditch observed in Trenches 3 ([026]) and 40 ([006]).

The ditch lay on an east - west alignment and had a regular 'U'-shaped profile, stepped to the south, which comprised a cut with regular sides and a flat even base [016]. It was filled by dark greyish brown sandy silt with moderate coarse gravel inclusions [017] (see Fig.12 Sec.20). In addition the ditch also contained a modern drainage pipe.

Although no dating evidence was recovered from this context it correlates very closely with a field boundary that is known from aerial photographic (see Figs 5 & 6) and cartographic evidence (see Figs 2 to 4 incl.) to have ran across the site east to west from 1822 (Fig. 2) but that had been abandoned by 1990 (Fig. 4).

5.34 Trench Thirty-Four

5.34.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.40m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A
018	Layer	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.10m

5.34.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was

encountered between 35.130m OD and 35.120m OD. Subsoil [018], mid grey brown sand clay silt, was observed at the interface of topsoil [001] and natural [002]. No archaeological features were encountered.

5.35 Trench Thirty-Five (see Fig.12)

5.35.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max.Length	Max.Width	Max.Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.42m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A
018	Layer	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.15m
039	Cut	Ditch Cut	2.10m	0.80m	0.10m
040	Fill	Ditch Fill	2.10m	0.80m	0.10m

5.35.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.322m OD and 35.042m OD.

One archaeological feature was seen to cut the surface of the natural. This consisted of segment of a ditch observed at the north of the trench.

The ditch lay on a northeast – southwest alignment and had a regular 'U'-shaped profile that comprised a cut with regular sides and a concave base [039]. The ditch had a fill of mid brown clayey silt with moderate medium gravel inclusions [040] (see Fig. 12. sec21).

5.36 Trench Thirty-Six (see Fig. 12)

5.36.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max.Length	Max.Width	Max.Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.42m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A
134	Cut	Ditch Terminus	2.80m	1.15m	0.26m
135	Fill	Terminus Fill	2.80m	1.15m	0.26m

5.36.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.130m OD and 35.060m OD.

One archaeological feature was seen to cut the surface of the natural. This consisted of the terminus of a ditch observed in the northeast of the trench.

The terminus lay on an east - west alignment and had an irregular squared 'U'-shaped profile that comprised a cut with asymmetrical sides (shallower in the southeast, steeper in the northwest), a flat even base that sloped northwest - southeast and was rounded in plan at the east [134]. The ditch had a fill of light greyish brown sandy silt with occasional fine gravel inclusions [135] (see Fig.12 Sec.22).

5.37 Trench Thirty-Seven (see Fig.12)

5.37.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max.Length	Max.Width	Max.Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.35m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A
018	Layer	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.13m
047	Cut	Re-cut Ditch 055	2.40m	0.75m	0.30m
048	Fill	Basal fill of 047	0.90	0.16m	0.09m
049	Fill	Tertiary (?) fill of 047	2.40m	0.72m	0.18m
054	Fill	Burnt fill of 047	0.90m	0.32m	0.14m
055	Cut	Ditch Cut	2.40m	0.25m	0.22m
056	Fill	Fill of 055	0.90m	0.25m	0.06m

5.37.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.081m OD and 34.951m OD.

One archaeological feature was seen to cut the surface of the natural. This consisted of a segment of a ditch observed at the east end of the trench (see Fig. 12).

The ditch [055] lay on a northeast - southwest alignment and had been re-cut by [047] to such an extent that its original profile was indiscernible. However, one side (the western) did survive. This was slightly concave and possibly had a fragment of a concave base surviving too. A remnant of the fill of ditch [055] survived as mid reddish brown sandy silt with frequent coarse gravel inclusions beneath the re-cut [056] (see Fig. 12 Sec.23).

The re-cut [047] had a regular 'U'-shaped profile that consisted of a cut with concave sides and a concave base [047]. The ditch had a Primary

fill of mid greyish brown sandy silt [048]. Above this was a charcoal rich dumped deposit of dark greyish brown clayey silt with very occasional medium gravel inclusions [054]. Finally there was a light yellowish brown backfill with very occasional small flint pebbles and very occasional medium gravel inclusions [049] (see Fig. 12 Sec.23).

Although Trench 37 was positioned to test an area 'empty' of crop-mark plots (see Fig.8) there is a possible linear feature following the same alignment as ditch [047] to the east of Trench 37 (see Fig.7)

5.38 Trench Thirty-Eight

5.38.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.38m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A

5.38.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.326m OD and 35.186m OD. No archaeological features were encountered.

5.39 Trench Thirty-Nine

5.39.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.33m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A

5.39.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.366m OD and 35.356m OD. No archaeological features were encountered.

5.40 Trench Forty (see Fig.12)

5.40.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max.Length	Max.Width	Max.Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.34m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A
004	Cut	Re-cut Ditch	2.20m	1.20m	

		010			
005	Fill	Fill of 004	2.20m	1.20m	0.20m
006	Cut	Ditch Cut	2.20m	1.26m	0.53m
007	Fill	Ditch Fill	2.20m	1.26m	0.53m
010	Cut	Ditch Cut	2.20m	0.50m	0.15m
011	Fill	Ditch Fill	2.20m	0.50m	0.15m
012	Cut	Stakehole Cut	0.10m	0.10m	0.18m
013	Fill	Stakehole Fill	0.10m	0.10m	0.18m

5.40.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.446m OD and 35.286m OD.

Three archaeological features were seen to cut the surface of the natural. These consisted of two ditches and one stakehole observed towards the centre of the trench.

The southernmost ditch lay on an east - west alignment and had a regular 'U'-shaped profile, with a step to the south, comprising a cut with regular sides and a flat even base [006]. It was filled by mid greyish brown sandy silt with frequent coarse gravel inclusions [007] (see Fig.12 Sec.24). In addition the ditch also contained a modern drainage pipe.

Although no dating evidence was recovered from this context it correlates very closely with a field boundary that is known from aerial photographic (see Figs 5 & 6) and cartographic evidence (see Figs 2 to 4 incl.) to have ran across the site east - west from 1822 (Fig. 2) but that had been abandoned by 1990 (Fig. 4). This ditch was the continuation of the ditch observed in Trenches 31 ([026]) and 33 ([016]).

The second ditch lay one metre to the north of Ditch [006] and had a flat 'U'-shaped profile comprising a cut with steep, smooth sides and a flat even base [004]. This was filled by mid greyish brown sandy silt with frequent small, sub-rounded flint pebbles [005] (see Fig.12 Sec.25) This ditch was a re-cut of an earlier ditch, Ditch [010].

Although truncated by [004], Ditch [010] was still substantial enough for its profile to be discerned. It had a 'U'-shaped profile that was comprised of a cut with steep, flat sides and an even, slightly concave base [010] and a fill of dark greyish brown clayey silt with moderate coarse and medium gravel inclusions [011] (see Fig.12 Sec.25).

Cut into the base of ditch [004] to the south, on the step, was a stakehole that had a 'U'-shaped profile comprising a cut with very steep sides and a concave base tapering to a rounded point [012]. This was filled by mid reddish brown sandy silt with very occasional small gravel inclusions [013] (see Fig.12 Sec.25).

Trench 40 was positioned (see Fig. 8) across two linear features identified and plotted from the 1976 aerial photograph (see Figs 6 & 7). One, the east – west field boundary has already been identified. However, the curvilinear is less certain. [004] ran on a correlating alignment and may therefore be this feature.

5.41 Trench Forty-One (see Fig.13)

5.41.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max.Length	Max.Width	Max.Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.53m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A
037	Cut	Pit Cut	0.57m	0.53m	0.17m
038	Fill	Pit Fill	0.57m	0.53m	0.17m

5.41.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.135m OD and 34.995m OD.

One archaeological feature was seen to cut the surface of the natural. This consisted of a pit observed at the northwest end of the trench.

The pit was circular and had a regular 'U'-shaped profile that comprised a cut with regular sides and an even, concave base [037]. It had a fill of light greyish brown clay with occasional small sub-rounded flint pebbles and patches of re-deposited natural [038] (see Fig.13 sec26).

5.42 Trench Forty-Two (see Fig.13)

5.42.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max.Length	Max.Width	Max.Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.53m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A
144	Cut	Ditch Cut		1.25m	0.28m
145	Fill	Ditch Fill		1.25m	0.28m
146	Cut	Posthole Cut		0.60m	0.30m
147	Fill	Posthole Fill		0.60m	0.30m
148	Cut	Post-pipe Cut	0.10m	0.10m	0.10m

149	Fill	Post-pipe Fill	0.10m	0.10m	0.10m
150	Fill	Post-pipe Fill		0.11m	0.29m

5.42.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.090m OD and 35.080m OD.

Three archaeological features were seen to cut the surface of the natural. These consisted of one ditch, one posthole and one post-pipe all contained within the same feature observed at the eastern end of the trench.

The ditch lay on a northeast – southwest alignment and had a regular 'U'-shaped profile that comprised a cut with regular sides and a concave base [144]. The ditch had a fill of mid greyish brown sandy silt with occasional small gravel inclusions [145] (see Fig.13 Sec.27).

The posthole cut through the fill of the ditch and had a regular 'U'-shaped profile that comprised a cut with vertical sides and an even, flat base [146]. It had a fill of light grey fine sandy silt with very occasional small gravel inclusions [147] (see Fig13 Sec.27).

Cut through the base of pit [146] was a post-pipe that comprised vertical sides tapering to a rounded point on a west – east orientation [148]. This was filled by mid brown sandy silt [149] (see Fig13 Sec.28).

5.43 Trench Forty-Three

5.43.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.36m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A

5.43.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.156m OD and 35.116m OD. No archaeological features were encountered.

5.44 Trench Forty-Four

5.44.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.45m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A

5.44.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.286m OD and 35.266m OD. No archaeological features were encountered.

5.45 Trench Forty-Five

5.45.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.37m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A

5.45.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.406m OD and 35.356m OD. No archaeological features were encountered.

5.46 Trench Forty-Six (see Fig.13)

5.46.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max.Length	Max.Width	Max.Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.53m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A
029	Fill	Pit Fill	0.31m	0.27m	0.08m
030	Cut	Pit Cut	0.31m	0.27m	0.08m
031	Fill	Ditch Upper Fill	2.10m	1.35m	0.32m
032	Fill	Ditch Fill	1.00m	0.53m	0.09m
033	Fill	Ditch Primary Fill	1.00m	0.31m	0.16m
034	Cut	Ditch Cut	2.10m	1.33m	0.46m

5.46.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.125m OD and 35.075m OD.

Two archaeological features were seen to cut the surface of the natural. These consisted of one ditch and one pit observed at the western end of the trench.

The ditch lay on a northeast – southwest alignment and had a regular 'U'-shaped profile that comprised a cut with regular sides (though shallower in the west) and a concave base [034]. The ditch had a primary fill of mid greyish brown sandy silt with occasional fine gravel inclusions [033]. Above this was a fill of dark brown sandy silt with occasional fine gravels and moderate flecks of charcoal [032]. Finally there was a backfill of mid reddish brown sandy silt with occasional small flecks of charcoal and moderate fine gravel inclusions [031] (see Fig.13 Sec.29).

One metre to of Ditch [034] was a shallow, sub-circular posthole. This had a 'U'-shaped profile with only the concave base remaining [030]. This was filled by light mid reddish brown sandy silt with fine gravel and small flecks of charcoal inclusions [029] (see Fig.13 Sec.30).

Trench 46 was positioned across a northwest – southeast linear feature (see Fig. 8) identified and plotted from the 1976 aerial photograph (see Figs 6 & 7). This feature did not occur in Trench 46. However, a northeast – southwest linear feature to the east of Trench 46 follows the same alignment as Ditch [034] (see Fig. 8). It is possible that the feature identified from the aerial photograph is the same as Ditch [034] and that it is a field boundary following the same alignment as a similar feature located on the 1990 Ordnance Survey (Fig. 4).

5.47 Trench Forty-Seven

5.47.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.35m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A
018	Layer	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.15m

5.47.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.125m OD and 34.985m OD. Subsoil [018],

mid grey brown sand clay silt, was observed at the interface of topsoil [001] and natural [002]. No archaeological features were encountered.

5.48 Trench Forty-Eight (see Fig.14)

5.48.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max.Length	Max.Width	Max.Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.50m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A
063	Cut	Posthole Cut	0.74m	0.46m	0.18m
064	Fill	Posthole Fill	0.74m	0.46m	0.18m
065	Fill	Upper Ditch Fill of 068	1.75m	0.68m	0.43mm
066	Fill	Mid Ditch Fill of 068	1.75m	0.23m	0.35m
067	Fill	Basal Ditch Fill of 068	1.75m	0.70m	0.28m
068	Cut	Ditch Terminus	1.75m	1.72m	0.43m
073	Cut	Stakehole Cut	0.07m	0.07m	0.12m
074	Fill	Stakehole Fill of 073	0.07m	0.07m	0.12m
075	Cut	Stakehole Cut	0.06m	0.06m	0.08m
076	Fill	Stakehole Fill of 075	0.06m	0.06m	0.08m
077	Cut	Slot Cut	0.72m	0.46m	0.04m
078	Fill	Slot Fill of 077	0.72m	0.46m	0.04m
079	Cut	Posthole Cut	0.80m	0.25m	0.46m
080	Fill	Posthole Fill of 079	0.80m	0.25m	0.46m
081	Fill	Posthole Fill of 082	0.51m	0.41m	0.27m
082	Cut	Posthole Cut	0.51m	0.41m	0.27m
083	Fill	Posthole Fill of 084	0.49m	0.41m	0.18m
084	Cut	Posthole Cut	0.49m	0.41m	0.18m
085	Fill	Posthole Fill of 086	0.33m	0.28m	0.12m
086	Cut	Posthole Cut	0.33m	0.28m	0.12m
089	Cut	Ditch Cut	2.65m	0.80m	0.20m

		same as 077			
090	Fill	Ditch Fill of 089 same as 078	2.65m	0.80m	Unknown
091	Cut	Ditch Cut	Unknown	2.00m	0.23m
092	Fill	Ditch Fill of 091	Unknown	0.70m	0.19m
093	Fill	Ditch Fill of 091	Unknown	0.33m	0.13m
094	Fill	Ditch Fill of 091	Unknown	1.63m	0.06m
095	Fill	Ditch Fill of 091	Unknown	0.60m	0.16m
096	Fill	Upper Ditch Fill of 098	13.00m	0.84m	0.23m
097	Fill	Basal Ditch Fill of 098	Unknown	0.33m	0.19m
098	Cut	Ditch Cut	13.00m	1.05m	0.27m
099	Fill	Gully Fill of 100	2.20m	0.40m	0.24m
100	Cut	Gully Cut	2.20m	0.40m	0.24m
136	Fill	Posthole Fill of 137	1.00m	0.90m	0.20m
137	Cut	Posthole Cut	1.00m	0.90m	0.20m
138	Fill	Posthole Fill of 139	0.75m	0.64m	0.20m
139	Cut	Posthole Cut	0.75m	0.64	0.20m
140	Fill	Posthole Fill of 141	0.60m	0.50m	0.14m
141	Cut	Posthole Cut	0.60m	0.50m	0.14m
142	Fill	Posthole fill of 143	0.30	0.30	0.07
143	Cut	Posthole Cut	0.30	0.30	0.07

5.48.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.070m OD and 34.940m OD.

There were thirteen archaeological features seen to cut either the natural or earlier deposits ([077]). These consisted of two ditches, one ditch terminus, one gully, one possible slot, six postholes and two

stakeholes. Features were observed throughout the trench, with a concentration at the southern end of the trench.

The northernmost posthole had a squared 'U'-shaped profile that comprised a cut with steep, slightly concave sides and an even slightly concave base [137] filled by dark greyish brown sandy silt with occasional coarse gravel inclusions [138]. This context contained a fragment of Roman pottery of unspecified date.

The northernmost linear feature lay beneath Posthole [137] had a 'U'-shaped profile that comprised a cut with steep, flat sides and an uneven, concave base [100] and has been interpreted as a gully. It was filled by mid reddish brown sandy silt with frequent coarse gravel inclusions [099] (see Fig.14 Sec.38). No dating evidence was recovered from this context. However, because there is Roman pottery in Posthole [137] which overlays this context then it is reasonable to date Gully [100] to the Roman period at the latest.

2.60m to the south of Gully [100] was a posthole with a squared 'U'-shaped profile that comprised a cut with vertical sides and an even, flat base [139]. It was filled by dark greyish brown sandy silt with frequent small, sub-angular and sub-rounded flint pebble inclusions [138]. This posthole cut into Ditch [098].

2.90m to the south of Posthole [139] was another posthole with a squared 'U'-shaped profile that comprised a cut with vertical sides and a flat even base [063]. This was filled by light brown sandy silt with occasional medium gravel inclusions [064] (see Fig.14 Sec.36).

Cutting the base of Posthole [139] there were two stakeholes located centrally and both comprised of a cut with vertical sides tapering to a rounded point [073] and [075]. Both were filled by mid brown sandy silt with occasional coarse gravel inclusions [074] and [076] (see Fig.14 Sec.36).

Immediately to the east of Posthole [063] were the shallow remains of an east – west aligned linear feature. The machine excavation of Trench 48 had truncated this feature to a great extent preventing an unhindered observation of it. Therefore Trench 48 was extended by 4.50m to the east. This extension revealed a narrow linear feature aligned east – west with a return to the south 3.50m along its length. From the section of the eastern wall of trench 48 it was observed that this feature had a squared 'U'-shaped profile with vertical sides and a flat even base [077] (see Fig.14 Sec. 37). This feature overlay Ditch [098].

Two features: Posthole [139] and Slot [077] overlay an earlier ditch. The ditch lay on a broadly northeast – southwest alignment and had a 'U'-shaped profile that comprised a cut with regular sides and a concave base [098]. The ditch had a basal fill of reddish brown sandy

silt with occasional coarse gravel inclusions [097]. Above this was mid brown sandy silt with occasional small, sub-rounded flint pebble inclusions [096] (see Fig.14 Sec.35). A modern field drain aligned east – west cut through this ditch to the south.

3.25m to the south of the modern field drain was a series of six postholes.

The first posthole was circular and had a 'U'-shaped profile that comprised a cut with steep, slightly concave sides and a flat, even base [141]. This was filled by mid brown sandy silt with occasional small angular flint pebble inclusions [140] (see Fig. 14).

The second posthole lay 0.45m to the south of Posthole [141]. It was circular with only the base (concave cut [143]) remaining. It was filled by light reddish brown sandy silt with occasional small, sub-angular flint pebble inclusions [142] (see Fig.14).

The third posthole lay 0.55m to the south of Posthole [143]. It was circular and had a 'U'-shaped profile that comprised a cut with vertical sides and an even, concave base [086]. It was filled by mid brown sandy silt with occasional small, sub-rounded flint pebble inclusions [085] (see Fig.14 Sec.34).

The fourth posthole lay 0.35m to the south of Posthole [086]. It was circular and had an uneven 'U'-shaped profile that comprised a cut with vertical sides and a flat base [084]. It was filled by mid brown sandy silt with occasional small, sub-rounded flint pebbles and occasional flecks of charcoal inclusions [083] (see Fig.14 Sec.33). The cut was significantly deeper in the east which may be evidence for the location of the post. However, there was no difference in the fill to confirm this.

The fifth posthole was circular and had a 'U'-shaped profile that comprised a cut with steep, slightly concave sides and a flat, uneven base [082]. This was filled by mid brown sandy silt with occasional small angular flint pebble and occasional flecks of charcoal inclusions [081] (see Fig.14 Sec.32)

The sixth posthole was sub-circular and had a 'U'-shaped profile that comprised a cut with steep, flat sides and a flat, uneven base [079]. This was filled by mid reddish brown sandy silt with occasional small rounded flint pebble and occasional flecks of charcoal inclusions [080]. Part of this posthole lay outside of the area of excavation (see Fig.29). Therefore, its full dimensions were indiscernible.

The southernmost feature of Trench 48 was the terminus of a ditch that lay on a broadly northeast – southwest alignment and had a regular 'U'-shaped profile that comprised a cut with steep, slightly concave sides and a concave, even base that sloped northeast - southwest [068]. The ditch had an initial fill of light reddish brown sandy silt with occasional

flecks of charcoal and moderate coarse gravel inclusions [067]. Above this was a light greyish brown with occasional flecks of charcoal and occasional coarse gravel inclusions [066]. Finally there was a backfill of mid brown sandy silt with occasional coarse gravel inclusions [065] (see Fig.14 Secs.39 and 40) .

In the west facing section of the eastern wall of Trench 48 there were two possible cuts. One may have been the presence of the Ditch [098] at an oblique angle. The other may be an east – west aligned ditch. However, time restrictions prevented a full investigation of these features ([089] – [095]).

5.49 Trench Forty-Nine (see Fig.14)

5.49.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max.Length	Max.Width	Max.Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.33m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A
008	Cut	Ditch Cut	2.20m	1.18m	0.40m
009	Fill	Ditch Fill	2.20m	1.18m	0.40m

5.49.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.076m OD and 35.036m OD.

One archaeological feature was seen to cut the surface of the natural. This consisted of a segment of a ditch observed at the east end of the trench.

The ditch lay on a northeast – southwest alignment and had a regular 'U'-shaped profile that comprised a cut with regular sides and an even, slightly concave base that sloped [008]. The ditch had a fill of light whitish grey clay with occasional flecks of charcoal inclusions [009] (see Fig.14. Sec.41). No dating evidence was recovered from this context. This ditch correlates with a similarly aligned crop-mark observable on the 1976 aerial photograph (see Fig.6).

5.50 Trench Fifty

5.50.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.31m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A

5.50.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.266m OD and 35.236m OD. No archaeological features were encountered.

5.51 Trench Fifty-One

5.51.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.42m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A

5.51.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.416m OD and 35.296m OD. No archaeological features were encountered.

5.52 Trench Fifty-Two

5.52.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.40m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A

5.52.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.260m OD and 35.240m OD. No archaeological features were encountered.

5.53 Trench Fifty-Three

5.53.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.58m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A

5.53.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.215m OD and 35.055m OD. No archaeological features were encountered.

5.54 Trench Fifty-Four

5.54.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.40m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A

5.54.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.316m OD and 35.186m OD. No archaeological features were encountered.

5.55 Trench Fifty-Five

5.55.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.39m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A

5.55.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.366m OD and 35.276m OD. No archaeological features were encountered.

5.56 Trench Fifty-Six (Plate 3)

5.56.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max.Length	Max.Width	Max.Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A
018	Layer	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.17m
035	Cut	Ditch Cut	1.45m	0.82m	0.17m
036	Fill	Fill of 0335	1.45m	0.82m	0.17m

043	Cut	Ditch Cut	1.70m	0.62m	0.36m
044	Fill	Fill of 043	1.70m	0.62m	0.36m

5.56.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.245m OD and 34.985m OD. During the machine excavation of the trench 0.10m of the natural sub-soil was removed to ensure that the correct depth had been reached.

Two uncertain archaeological features were seen to cut the surface of the natural. These consisted of irregular fragments of two possible ditches observed at the east end of the trench.

The westernmost of these 'ditches' had a 'U'-shaped profile that comprised a cut with a concave base and steep, flat sides [035]. Due to the aforementioned truncation its profile was incomplete. This was filled by mid yellow brown clayey silt with patches of re-deposited natural and occasional coarse gravel inclusions [036].

The second of these 'ditches' had a 'U'-shaped profile that comprised a cut with a concave base that sloped southwest to northeast and a steep, slightly concave sides [043] (see Plate 3). This was filled by mid yellowish brown clayey silt with very occasional small sub-angular flint pebbles and very occasional coarse gravel inclusions [044].

5.57 Trench Fifty-Seven

5.57.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.43m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A
018	Layer	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.20m

5.57.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.025m OD and 34.955m OD. Subsoil [018], mid grey brown sand clay silt, was observed at the interface of topsoil [001] and natural [002]. No archaeological features were encountered.

5.58 Trench Fifty-Eight

5.58.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.30m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A

5.58.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.166m OD and 35.156m OD. No archaeological features were encountered.

5.59 Trench Fifty-Nine (see Fig.14)

5.59.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.38m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A

5.59.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.376m OD and 35.196m OD. No archaeological features were encountered.

Two sondages were excavated across the gravel banding in this trench [152], [159] to determine the archaeological potential of such deposits and to discount them as the remains of a possible trackway identified from aerial photography (see Figs 6 and 7).

5.60 Trench Sixty

5.60.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.37m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A

5.60.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was

encountered between 35.155m OD and 35.075m OD. No archaeological features were encountered.

5.61 Trench Sixty-One

5.61.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.33m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A
018	Layer	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.14m

5.61.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.295m OD and 35.135m OD. Subsoil [018], mid grey brown sand clay silt, was observed at the interface of topsoil [001] and natural [002]. No archaeological features were encountered.

5.62 Trench Sixty-Two

5.62.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.24m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A
018	Layer	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.22m

5.62.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.065m OD and 34.955m OD. Subsoil [018], mid grey brown sand clay silt, was observed at the interface of topsoil [001] and natural [002]. No archaeological features were encountered.

5.63 Trench Sixty-Three

5.63.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Max. Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.39m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A
018	Layer	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.14m

5.63.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.115m OD and 35.025m OD. Subsoil [018], mid grey brown sand clay silt, was observed at the interface of topsoil [001] and natural [002]. No archaeological features were encountered.

5.64 Trench Sixty-Four (see Fig. 11)

5.64.1 List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max.Length	Max.Width	Max.Depth
001	Layer	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.41m
002	Layer	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A
103	Cut	Ditch Cut same as 101	5.00m	1.30m	0.27m
104	Fill	Ditch Fill same as 102	5.00m	1.30m	0.27m

5.64.2 Summary

The natural [002], light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered between 35.170m OD and 35.100m OD.

One archaeological feature was seen to cut the surface of the natural. This consisted of a segment of a curvilinear ditch observed at the junction with Trench 24, a continuation of the segment seen in Trench 24 ([101], Plate 4).

The ditch lay on a broadly northeast – southwest alignment and had an irregular, 'U'-shaped profile that comprised a cut with regular sides (though deeper in the southeast) and an uneven base that sloped northwest - southeast [103]. The ditch had a fill of light reddish brown sandy silt with occasional coarse gravel inclusions [102] (see Fig. 11 Sec.18).

6.0 THE FINDS

A small assemblage of finds was recovered from the evaluation at Martell's Quarry, Ardleigh, Essex. The assemblage is characterised in Table 1, below.

MQA07
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Context	Trench	Pot	Weight (g)	CBM	Weight (g)	Bone	Weight (g)	Flint	Weight (g)	Fe	Weight (g)	Fired Clay	weight (g)	Slag	weight (g)	Charcoal	weight (g)
1	49	1	8														
1	5	2	12														
1	14	6	90	17	780												
15	10	155	1030	1	16												
17	33	1	4	2	156												
18	10	28	158	3	60			1	6								
21	25	116	744	1	4												
50	16	1	30														
53	16	1	6							6	104						
64	48	9	26														
111	3	53	576	1	458	1	4					17	172	4	60	3	<2
112	1	4	54									1	14				
116	4	1	98														
120	4	1	152														
138	42	1	2														
113 or 112	1	12	80														
	Total	433	3070	25	1474	1	4	1	6	6	104	18	186	4	60	3	0

Table 1: Quantification of finds

6.1 The Roman pottery by Anna Doherty

6.1.1 A small assemblage of 420 sherds weighing 2.94 kg was recovered from evaluation trenches at Martell's quarry. The vast majority of the assemblage consists of fairly undiagnostic material with few rim sherds, meaning that most contexts cannot be dated with any precision. However taken as a whole, the assemblage seems to be broadly consistent with a 2nd to mid 3rd century date. Two semi-complete vessels, one containing a cremation, make up over half of the assemblage both by sherd count and weight. The pottery was examined using a x20 binocular microscope and quantified by sherd count, weight and EVEs. The assemblage was described using fabric, form and decoration codes defined for Roman pottery from excavations at Colchester. Refer to Symonds and Wade (1999) for details of these codes.

Fabric	Sh	%Sh	Wt (g)	%Wt
AA	1	0.2	0.2	1.0
AAN	1	0.2	146	5.0
CG	1	0.2	14	0.5
DJ	1	0.2	2	0.1
DJB	3	0.7	24	0.8
DJG	15	3.6	84	2.9
GX	1	0.2	4	0.1
GXA	277	66.0	1800	61.2
GXB	4	1.0	34	1.2
GXF	45	10.7	202	6.9
GXH	66	15.7	520	17.7
GHJ	3	0.7	70	2.4
HDF	1	0.2	2	0.1
WA	3	0.7	70	2.4

Table 2: Quantification of fabrics

6.1.2 Around 90% of the assemblage is made up by locally produced greywares. Nearly 70% of these are the medium fine variant with burnished surfaces (GXA). However this figure is distorted by the two semi-complete vessels in this fabric. Both examples consist of bodysherds mainly from the lower wall area which may suggest that they were truncated after being deposited whole. However, one of the vessels has incised lattices on the shoulder region and one sherd from the neck is present. The only other forms recorded in this fabric are two nearly identical narrow-neck jars similar to an example at Colchester (Symonds & Wade 1999, 673, fig 6.77, 412).

6.1.3 The second most common fabric is the very coarse (GXH) variant and several examples of large necked jars were recorded, all of which can be paralleled at Colchester. (e.g. Symonds & Wade 1999, 530-531, fig 6.71, 401). Sherds from a lid-seated jar, found in contexts (111) and (112), are also very similar to a Colchester vessel (Symonds & Wade

1999, 720, fig 6.80, 415). Most of the parallels mentioned above come from Colchester groups not post-dating the mid 3rd century but they may be quite long-lived so it is difficult to assign specific dates to them.

- 6.1.4** There are a small number of sherds in a fabric variant similar to GXA but with an oxidised core (GXB) including a black-burnished style everted rim jar. Another BB type rounded rim bowl was recorded in a fairly coarse fabric with dark semi-lustrous surfaces (GXJ); both of these forms can be dated to between AD120-250. One small rim sherd in a fine micaceous ware (WA), probably from a necked bowl is also present. The remainder of the sherds are nearly all coarse orange oxidised fabrics (DJ, DJB, DJG), mostly with grey cores. No rims are present in this fabric although a stubby beaker base was recorded. There is also one very abraded sherd which is sparsely shell tempered (HDF).
- 6.1.5** There are three imported sherds in the assemblage; one is from a central Gaulish samian (CG) Dragendorff 18/31 bowl dated to AD120-160; one a handle of a Gauloise type amphora (fabric AAN) dated to AD50-250 and the other is an unsourced amphora (AA) sherd possibly of Baetican origin.
- 6.1.6** As the pottery consists largely of undiagnostic locally produced material, the assemblage is probably only of limited local significance, especially as there is a good record of publication from other sites in the area. There seems to be very little potential for further work at the evaluation stage.

6.2 The post- Roman pottery by Trista Clifford

- 6.2.1** A total of eleven post- Roman pot sherds were recovered. Eight abraded sherds from late post-medieval brown glazed earthenware vessels, including a base and rim fragment were recovered from the topsoil in T14. A single sherd of fine sand-tempered glazed redware was collected from the topsoil of T49. [018] T10 contained a small sherd of brown glazed earthenware and an unglazed redware fragment. The pottery probably dates to the 17-18th century.

6.3 The CBM by Trista Clifford

- 6.3.1** A total of 25 CBM fragments weighing 1474g were collected. Context [111] contained a large Roman tegula fragment, dimensions 125mm x 104 x 21mm. The fabric is not particularly high fired, fine sand-tempered, with sparse clay pellet inclusions <0.5mm. Additionally, a possible Roman brick fragment, 33mm thick, was recovered from [017] T33. The fabric is well fired medium coarse sand with occasional iron oxide up to 1mm. The dating is somewhat conjectural due to the highly abraded nature of

the fragment. The context also contained a piece of late post-medieval peg tile.

6.3.2 The topsoil [001] T14 contained mainly abraded peg tile fragments in a high fired, fine sand- tempered fabric with abundant white, possibly quartz, and iron oxide inclusions up to 0.5mm. This context also contained a single possible pantile fragment in a fine sandy fabric with few visible inclusions. The majority of the remaining CBM recovered is 17th-18th century peg tile of a similar fabric to that described above.

6.4 The nails by Trista Clifford

6.4.1 Four highly corroded heavy-duty iron nails were recovered from context [053]. All are square in section with tapered shanks and flattened, oval heads.

6.5 The fired clay by Trista Clifford

6.5.1 A total of 18 fired clay fragments weighing 186g were recovered from two contexts. The fragments have been subject to a high degree of heating. The majority have a flattened inner, vitrified surface. The form is otherwise undiagnostic. The fabric is fine sand tempered with occasional angular flint inclusions <0.5mm and sparse rounded pebbles up to c. 4mm. The fired clay possibly relates to metalworking activity.

6.6 The slag by Trista Clifford

6.6.1 Three fragments of fuel ash slag and one undiagnostic iron slag fragment were recovered from context [111], total weight 60g.

6.7 The Flint by Lucy Allott

6.7.1 Three flint flakes were recovered during archaeological works. One of these, from context [018] in Trench 10, can be described as an end scraper. It has abrupt to semi abrupt retouch around the distal end and along the edges in the distal third of the piece. Two unstratified flakes with no secondary working were also collected. One of these has fresh surfaces and is made on dark grey/black relatively homogenous flint (similar to the end scraper mentioned above). The other piece is heavily patinated, with chipped and subsequently rounded edges. This piece is most likely reworked from older deposits.

6.8 Animal Bone by Lucy Sibun

6.8.1 Context (111) produced a single fragment of undiagnostic cattle-sized bone.

6.9 Cremated Bone by Lucy Sibun

6.9.1 The evaluation recovered the remains of a single urned cremation burial (22).

The contents of the vessel had been recovered and treated as an environmental sample. The majority of the bone recovered was bagged together, with bone 1-4mm bagged separately.

6.9.2 The bone was examined in accordance with standard procedures (McKinley 2004). However, as a result of the probable truncation of the vessel and the recovery of the contents as a whole, no information was available with regards to bone distribution within the vessel. The assemblage >5mm was sieved and separated into 5-10mm, 10-20mm and >20mm. The total weight for each size group was established. Each assemblage was then subdivided where possible into skull (Sk), axial skeleton (Ax), lower limb (LL) and upper limb (UL) and the total weight of each group calculated. The percentage of identifiable fragments was estimated and any fragments identifiable to element were noted.

6.9.3 The colour of the bone was assessed as was the potential of each size group to provide demographic and osteological data. The presence of animal bone or other material was noted.

6.9.4 Preservation of the bone was generally good although the assemblage was highly fragmentary. The largest proportion of the assemblage was 5-10mm and the largest fragment recovered measured 60mm.

The results have been summarised in Table 3 below.

Frag. Size (mm)	Total Weight (g)	Sk.	Ax.	UL	LL	Approx % identifiable fragments	Age	Sex	Other	Animal Bone
1-5	18					0	?	?		
5-10	176	Y	Y	Y	Y	20	A	?	Includes lower incisor root	Y
10-20	168	Y	Y	Y	Y	50	?	?		
<20	58	Y		Y	Y	100	A	?		
Total	420									

Table 3: Summary of results from analysis of cremated bone

6.9.5 No repeated elements were noted suggesting that the remains represent a single individual. The remains appear to represent an adult but no sexually dimorphic features were noted, preventing an estimate of sex. Two small fragments of un-burnt animal bone, possibly small mammal, were noted amongst the material. Fragments (<2mm) of ceramic building material, and charcoal (<4mm) were also present in small quantities and this may suggest that some pyre debris was present. An efficient cremation process is suggested by the highly calcined nature of the assemblage.

7.0 Environmental Samples by Lucy Allott

- 7.1 Fifteen samples were taken during archaeological works at Martell's Quarry to establish evidence for environmental remains, to maximise the recovery of cremated bone and to obtain datable finds for two otherwise undated contexts.
- 7.2 Samples <006> and <007> which were taken to recover dating evidence, were dry sieved and sorted. The remaining samples were processed using tank flotation to ensure recovery of small remains such as cremated bone and charred macro-botanicals. The flots and residues were captured on 250µm and 500µm meshes respectively and air dried prior to sorting. Flots were scanned under a stereozoom microscope at magnifications of x7-45. Where possible, archaeobotanical remains have been identified through comparison with modern and archaeological reference material and with reference texts (Cappers et al. 2006; Jacomet 2006; Martin & Barkley 2000) (Table 4). The residues were passed through a series of stacked sieves to aid sorting and any archaeological and environmental remains were recorded and quantified (Table 5)
- 7.3 On the whole the samples produced small flots containing very few environmental remains. Several samples contained uncharred botanicals including small roots, grasses and seeds (predominantly *Chenopodium* sp. - goosefoot, *Veronica hederifolia* – ivy-leaved speedwell and *Carex* sp. - sedge). These indicate a small degree of modern disturbance and potential contamination.
- 7.4 Samples <001> and <002> from the cremation context had been disrupted by root action however some pottery, bone and charcoal flecks were present in the remaining deposit. Sample <002> also produced several charred weed seeds however no other charred plant remains such as grains, were present. Samples <006> and <007> contained no archaeological or environmental remains and therefore provide no further dating evidence for contexts [060] and [062].
- 7.5 Several samples contained charred cereal grains and weed seeds in very small quantities. *Triticum* sp. (wheat) were noted in samples <003> and <013> however the remaining cereal grains were considered indeterminate because they were poorly preserved and highly fragmented. Weed seed taxa noted include (*Brassica* spp. (Cabbages), *Polygonum/Rumex* sp. (knotweeds/docks), an Asteraceae type (Daisy family) and one *Linum* sp. (flax).
- 7.6 Charcoal fragments in the flots and residues were predominantly small (<4mm) and only occasional fragments >4mm were noted. The residue from sample <014> contained relatively larger quantities of charcoal >4mm. Many of the charcoal fragments, especially in the residues are silty. This is often caused by fluctuations in ground water level and can

result in poorly preserved wood anatomical structures within the charcoal. Three further charcoal pieces were hand collected from context [111]. The charcoal from the residues may be considered for further analysis and incorporated into any further work undertaken at the site however on their own there is insufficient to merit analysis at this stage.

- 7.7** The charred botanical remains and bone from these samples do not require any further analysis due to the small quantities present.

Sample No.	001	002	003	004	005	008	009	010	011	012	013	014	015
Context No.	022	020	32	38	46	64	65	80	81	83	78	112	114
Volume ml	50	60	5	5	10	25	10	<5	10	10	5	<5	10
Total Weight g	8	8	2	2	4	16	2	<2	4	2	2	2	4
Uncharred %	65	80	10	<5	20	<5	10	10	10	<5	<5	<5	20
Sediment %	25	10	20	95	40	<5	<5	<5	60	40	10	20	10
Uncharred Weed Seeds	-	** <i>Polygonum/Rumex</i> or <i>Carex</i> sp.?, <i>Chenopodium</i> sp.	* <i>Chenopodium</i> sp.	-	** <i>Veronica hederifolia</i> , <i>Chenopodium</i> sp.	* <i>Chenopodium</i> sp.	* <i>Chenopodium</i> sp., <i>Carex</i> sp.	* 1 <i>Chenopodium</i> sp., 1 <i>Veronica hederifolia</i> , 1 <i>Polygonum/Rumex</i> sp.	* <i>Chenopodium</i> sp., 1 grass	* <i>Chenopodium</i> sp.	* 1 <i>Veronica hederifolia</i> , <i>Chenopodium</i> sp.	* 1 grass	** <i>Chenopodium</i> sp.
Charcoal >4mm frags	*	*	-	*		**					*		*
Charcoal <4mm	***	**	***	*	*	***	**	*	**	**	**	*	***
Crop seeds charred	-	-	* 2 frags <i>Triticum</i> sp.	-	* indet	* indet		-	-	-	* 1 <i>Triticum</i> sp., several indet frags	-	* indet
weed seeds charred	-	* <i>Brassica</i> sp., <i>Polygonum/Rumex</i> sp.	* some to Id?	-	-	* indet?	* cf. <i>Brassica</i> sp.	-	* indet frags	cf. <i>Linum</i> (flax), cf. ASTERACEAE type	* <i>Brassica</i> sp. & indet frags	* cf. <i>Brassica</i> sp.	* some to id?
Molluscs												* frags only	
Land Snail Shells				*									
Burnt Bone	Indet frags only												
lithics													
Ind debris													1 hammer scale spheroid

Table 4: Flot quantification (* = 0-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250)

Sample No.	001	002	003	004	005	006	007	008	009	010	011	012	013	014
Context No.	022	020	32	38	46	60	62	64	65	80	81	83	78	112
Processing Method	flotation	flotation	flotation	flotation	flotation	dry sieved	dry sieved	flotation	flotation	flotation	flotation	flotation	flotation	flotation
Charcoal >4mm			**/6	**/11g		-	-	**/5		*/1	**/2	*/4	*/1	***/41
Charcoal <4mm	*/1g	*/<1g	***/2	**/2g	***/14	-	-	***/4	**/<1	*/1	**/2	**/4	*/1	***/18
CPR						-	-					1 grain		
Bone		*/1g				-	-							
Burnt Bone	**/57g					-	-							
Lithics				*/1		-	-		*/2			*/<1		*/2
Slag						-	-							**/53
Pottery	**/73g	**/28g				-	-							**/114
CBM	*/<1g					-	-							
Uncharred botanical	*/<1g					-	-							

Table 5: Residue quantification (* = 0-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250) and weight in grams (g)

8.0 DISCUSSION

- 8.1** This programme of trenching has clearly demonstrated the presence of archaeological remains across the study area. In particular there are concentrations at the northwest, southwest, east and southeast. Establishing the character, extent and exact date of these remains is frustrated both by the limited nature of the fieldwork and a general paucity of available dating evidence. However, the results of this investigation do permit some useful, if general observations to be made regarding the nature and date of past activity on the site and the extent to which the fieldwork can be seen to have fulfilled the original aims of investigation as set out in the *Written Scheme of Investigation*.
- 8.2** Principally, it may be noted that there is very little definite evidence for activity before the Roman period. This apparent paucity of prehistoric activity within the study area is surprising given the important and substantial Bronze Age activity in the Ardleigh area and the intense Iron Age farming of the surrounding landscape (Meaton, 2005).
- 8.3** Although recent work by Archaeology South East in the field immediately to the east of the site found limited evidence of Bronze Age activity and no evidence for Iron Age activity, and any features of definite prehistoric date were absent from this phase of fieldwork, it would be imprudent to infer from this that there is an absolute absence of such activity. The absence of dating evidence for the prehistoric period from this phase of fieldwork may reflect the apparently agrarian character, field boundaries and isolated pits and postholes, of the features encountered and it may be that secure dating of the prehistoric landscape remains to be discovered by any future fieldwork.
- 8.4** If the prehistoric activity on the site is uncertain and defined poorly the prevalence of Roman material within the excavated contexts illustrates the exploitation of the site during the subsequent Romano-British period. Given the site's location midway between Colchester (Roman Camulodunum) to the southwest and Manningtree to the northeast this is, perhaps, not unusual.
- 8.5** A single sherd of Roman pottery was recovered from a posthole in Trench 48 in the southwest and a single fragment of possible brick was recovered from Trench 33 in the centre of the site. However, the majority of the assemblage including nails, fuel ash and iron slag, tegula (roof tile), bone and pottery came from boundary ditches in Trenches 1, 4, 10 and a rectangular pit in Trench 16 in the northwest of the site. A single vessel of locally made grey ware containing the cremated remains of a single adult individual was recovered from Trench 25 in the east of the site. No other cremations were recovered from the area which is unusual as they tend to occur in clusters (Havis, R. pers comm.).

- 8.6** Although the pottery assemblage is of an unspecified date it has a constant range from AD70 -250. The majority of the fabric is locally made grey ware, including the cremation urn, and given the proximity of a Roman pottery kiln 1km to the northeast it is reasonable to assume that any settlement on the site was being supplied by it.
- 8.7** There was also some alignment of ditches from Trenches 1 (Ditch [109]), 2 (Ditch [117]) and 4 (Ditch [119]) which would correlate with a series of linear features plotted from the aerial photography forming rectilinear enclosures in the northwest corner of the site (see Figs 6 & 7). A possible hypothesis can be generated from the artefact assemblage and the excavated contexts: that there was an enclosed structure undertaking an industrial process in the north western corner of the site and that the inhabitants of this building were burying their dead two hundred metres to the east. Further fieldwork would be required to ascertain the accuracy of any such premise.
- 8.8** That nothing from the subsequent Saxon, medieval and post-medieval periods was recovered is notable. However, it was not unexpected in that it had been deemed previously that the potential for unrecorded archaeological features from these periods within the site was low (Meaton, 2005). Very little is known of Saxon Ardleigh and cartographic evidence reveals a static agricultural landscape in recent centuries. The absence of any securely dated features from these periods within the site is consistent with this persistent agrarian use of the landscape.
- 8.9** That there are archaeological remains existing across the site has been demonstrated. These remains will be destroyed as a result of future quarrying activity. Whereas the final decision regarding the mitigation strategy for the site lies with the Senior Historic Environment Officer at Essex County Council it is the opinion of Archaeology South East that preservation by record would be an appropriate solution.

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APPENDIX 1: ESSEX HERITAGE CONSERVATION RECORD/ESSEX ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY SUMMARY SHEET

Site name/Address: Martell's Quarry, Slough Lane, Ardleigh, Essex.	
Parish: Ardleigh	District: Tendring
NGR: NGR TM 061 276	Site Code: MQA 07
Type of Work: Field Evaluation	Site Director/Group: Dave Fallon/Archaeology South-East
Date of Work: 14.08.07 – 14.09.07	Size of Area Investigated: 8.4 hectares
Location of Finds/Curating Museum: Archaeology South-East offices/ Central Museum, Southend-on-Sea	Funding source: Developer
Further Seasons Anticipated?: Yes	Related EHCR No.s: ,
Final Report: no	
Periods Represented: Roman	
SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS:	
<p>An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Slough Farm, Ardleigh, Essex. The work was undertaken between 14th August and 14th September 2007 on behalf of Bucbricks Ardleigh Sands. Sixty four trenches between twenty and thirty metres long and totalling 1973m were excavated.</p> <p>The underlying natural of light whitish grey clay with banding of mid red brown clay and pockets of dark red brown coarse and medium gravels, was encountered at a maximum height of 35.632m OD in the northeast of the site (Trench 8) falling away to 35.065m OD to the northwest (Trench 1), 34.955m OD to the southeast (Trench 62) and 34.940m OD to the southwest (Trench 48).</p> <p>A number of ditches were found that had a broad correlation to some of the crop-marks plotted from the aerial photograph (Ditch [034] Trench 46, Ditch [109] Trench 1, Ditch [117] Trench 2 and Ditch [119] Trench 4). A more accurate investigation of the crop-marks was frustrated by an inaccuracy resulting from a partially rectified aerial photograph. However, activity was observed across the site with concentrations in the northwest (Trenches 1, 2, 4, 5, 9, 10 and 16) and in the southwest (Trench 48).</p> <p>The earliest securely identifiable activity on the site was of Roman date. It consisted of a number of pits and ditches located to the northwest of the site (Trenches 1, 2, 4, 10 and 16), two isolated finds, one a single sherd of pottery (Trench 48) to the southwest, the other a single fragment of brick (Trench 33) in the centre of the site and a cremation (Trench 25) to the east. The artefact assemblage from the Roman period comprised a wide range of materials including slag, roof tile, human bone, animal bone, imported and locally produced pottery, including two semi-complete vessels, and iron nails. This is interpreted as an assemblage indicative of domestic habitation.</p> <p>The majority of features encountered during the fieldwork were undatable and were comprised of boundary ditches within an agricultural landscape. However, in Trench 48 to the southwest of the site there was tantalising evidence for the presence of early domestic structures within the site including postholes, pits and possibly an enclosure.</p>	
Previous Summaries/Reports:	
<p>Martell's Quarry, Ardleigh, Essex: Areas A – G: Initial Results and Post-Excavation Assessment</p> <p>An Archaeological Evaluation at Martell's Quarry, Ardleigh, Essex.</p>	
Author of Summary: D Hart	Date of Summary: 22.10.07

APPENDIX 2: OASIS Summary form

OASIS ID: [archaeol6-32324](#)

Project details

Project name Martell's Quarry, Ardleigh, Essex

Short description of the project 64 trenches totalling 1973m were located to test cropmarks identified from aerial photography (1976) there were no exact alignments but multiple linears were observed as well as isolated pits and postholes indicative of property and field boundaries. concentrations were to the northwest and southwest. The only datable features were ditches containing Roman pot AD70 - 250. A cremation was discovered to the east interred in an urn of locally made Roman grey ware. Agrarian post Roman activity reflected in cartographic evidence.

Project dates Start: 14-08-2007 End: 14-09-2007

Previous/future work Yes / Not known

Any associated project reference codes MQA 07 - Sitecode

Any associated project reference codes ESS/18/07/TEN - UKHO Reference Number

Type of project Field evaluation

Current Land use Grassland Heathland 5 - Character undetermined

Significant Finds POTTERY Roman

Significant Finds FE NAILS Roman

Significant Finds CBM Roman

Significant Finds CREMATION Roman

Methods & techniques 'Aerial Photography - interpretation', 'Targeted Trenches'

Development type Not recorded

Prompt Planning condition

Position in the planning process Pre-application

Project location

Country England

Site location ESSEX COLCHESTER COLCHESTER Martell's Quarry

Postcode C07 7

Study area 8.40 Ha

Site coordinates TM 051 276 51.9085821117 0.982140856547 51 54 30 N 000 58
55 E Point

Height OD Min: 34.94m Max: 35.63m

Project creators

Name of Organisation Archaeology South East

Project brief originator Senior Historic Environment Officer Essex County Council

Project design originator Archaeology South-East

Project director/manager Diccon Hart

Project supervisor David Fallon

Type of sponsor/funding body Client

Name of sponsor/funding body Bucbricks Ardleigh Sands

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Central Museum, Southend-on-Sea
Physical Contents	'Animal Bones','Ceramics','Environmental','Human Bones','Metal','Worked stone/lithics'
Physical Archive notes	Currently held at Archaeology Soputh East Head office Chapel Place Portdsldade Before submissio to Central Museum
Digital Archive recipient	Central Museum, Southend-on-Sea
Digital Contents	'Stratigraphic'
Digital Media available	'Spreadsheets','Text'
Digital Archive notes	Currently held at Archaeology Soputh East Head office Chapel Place Portdsldade Before submissio to Central Museum
Paper Archive recipient	Central Museum, Southend-on-Sea
Paper Contents	'Stratigraphic'
Paper Media available	'Aerial Photograph','Context sheet','Drawing','Notebook - Excavation',' Research',' General Notes','Plan','Report','Section','Unpublished Text'
Paper Archive notes	Currently held at Archaeology Soputh East Head office Chapel Place Portdsldade Before submissio to Central Museum

Project bibliography

1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	An Archaeological Evaluation at Martell's Quarry, Ardleigh, Essex
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Fallon, D

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