

**BLOCK FEN B**  
**CHATTERIS, CAMBRIDGESHIRE**

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION  
INTERIM SITE NARRATIVE

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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD**

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CHATTERIS, CAMBRIDGESHIRE**

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION  
INTERIM SITE NARRATIVE**

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NGR: TL 4430 8400	Report No: 1456
District: Chatteris	Site Code: AS 852
Approved: Claire Halpin MIFA	Project No: 1853
Signed:	Date: June 2006

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**OASIS SUMMARY SHEET**

<b>Project details</b>			
Project name		<b>Block Fen B (Area 5), Chatteris, Cambridgeshire</b>	
Project Summary			
<p><i>During May and June 2006 Archaeological Solutions (AS) undertook an archaeological excavation in advance of mineral extraction in northern part of Area 5, Block Fen B, Chatteris, Cambridgeshire (NGR TL 4430 8400). The excavations were undertaken as part of phased programme of investigations in advance of mineral extraction. They followed the excavation of Areas 2 &amp; 4 earlier in 2003.</i></p> <p><i>Previous archaeological investigations at Block Fen have revealed the remains of Neolithic/early Bronze Age field systems to the west, and at least eight barrows located close to the former fen edge to the south and north east of the site.</i></p> <p><i>The prior phase of archaeological excavation encompassed the northern and southern sectors of Area 5. At the south end of the area archaeological investigation revealed a large number of small pits, larger shallow silt-filled features of probable natural origin, probable tree hollows, and a system of modern, parallel drainage ditches. Finds from the excavation were sparse, but included small quantities of pottery of early Bronze Age date, struck flints of generally contemporary (Neolithic/Bronze Age) date, and animal bone. The northern end of the site revealed a small number of pits and/or depressions of natural origin.</i></p> <p><i>The current phase of archaeological excavation within Phase 5 focussed on the northern part of the proposed extraction area. Several features were recorded within this phase of investigation, mainly comprising 'naturally' formed features such as tree hollows and animal burrows. The exception to these was a large Bronze Age ring ditch (identified by aerial photography (Coxah &amp; Lisboa, 1994)) and associated pits. The large ring ditch (approx. 16m diameter) surrounded and was covered by the remains of a mound forming a possible barrow. Rather unusually, an entranceway through the ring ditch was formed by two clearly defined termini facing southwest. Within the confines of the ring ditch a large pit was located along the north-western boundary, containing what appeared to be 'feasting' deposits – large amounts of charcoal and burnt animal bone, flint debitage and pottery fragments.</i></p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)		<i>May and June 2006</i>	
Previous work (Y/N/?)		<i>Y</i>	Future work (Y/N/?)
		<i>Y</i>	
P. number		<i>1853</i>	Site code
		<i>AS713, AS854 and AS719</i>	
Type of project		<i>An archaeological excavation</i>	
Site status		<i>None</i>	
Current land use		<i>Agriculture</i>	
Planned development		<i>Aggregates quarry</i>	
Main features (+dates)		<i>Bronze Age; pits and tree hollows, Barrow (Bronze Age)</i>	
Significant finds (+dates)		<i>Pottery (Bronze Age), Animal bone, Struck Flint</i>	
<b>Project location</b>			
County/ District/ Parish		<i>Cambridgeshire</i>	<i>Chatteris</i>
		<i>Mepal</i>	
HER/ SMR for area		<i>Cambridgeshire HER</i>	
Area of site		<i>c.50 hectares<sup>2</sup></i>	
NGR		<i>TL 4430 8400</i>	
Height AOD (max/ min)		<i>2m AOD</i>	
<b>Project creators</b>			
Brief issued by		<i>Cambridgeshire Archaeology Planning &amp; Countryside Advice</i>	
Project supervisor/s (PO)		<i>Dan McConnell</i>	
Funded by		<i>Phoenix Consultancy/ Lafarge Aggregates</i>	
Full title		<i>Block Fen B (Area 5), Chatteris, Cambridgeshire, An Archaeological Excavation. Interim Site Narrative</i>	
Authors		<i>Ben Roberts, Dan McConnell</i>	
Report no.		<i>1456</i>	
Date (of report)		<i>June 2006</i>	

## **BLOCK FEN B (AREA 5), CHATTERIS, CAMBRIDGESHIRE**

### **AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION INTERIM SITE NARRATIVE**

#### **SUMMARY**

*During May and June 2006 Archaeological Solutions (AS) undertook an archaeological excavation in advance of mineral extraction in northern part of Area 5, Block Fen B, Chatteris, Cambridgeshire (NGR TL 4430 8400). The excavations were undertaken as part of phased programme of investigations in advance of mineral extraction. They followed the excavation of Areas 2 & 4 earlier in 2003.*

*Previous archaeological investigations at Block Fen have revealed the remains of Neolithic/early Bronze Age field systems to the west, and at least eight barrows located close to the former fen edge to the south and north east of the site.*

*Area 2 was situated in an area where aerial photography and geophysics had suggested the presence of a barrow (1102). However, no trace of the barrow was found in this excavation. One further cremation burial was recorded (O'Brien et al 2003). Evidence of tree clearance and two early Bronze Age satellite cremations were excavated in Area 4 (O'Brien et al 2003)*

*The prior phase of archaeological excavation encompassed the northern and southern sectors of Area 5. At the southern end of the area archaeological investigation revealed a large number of small pits, larger shallow silt-filled features of probable natural origin, probable tree hollows, and a system of modern, parallel drainage ditches. Finds from the excavation were sparse, but included small quantities of pottery of early Bronze Age date, struck flints of generally contemporary (Neolithic/Bronze Age) date, and animal bone. The northern end of the site revealed a small number of pits and/or depressions of natural origin.*

*The current phase of archaeological excavation within Phase 5 focussed on the northern part of the proposed extraction area. Several features were recorded within this phase of investigation, mainly comprising 'naturally' formed features such as tree hollows and animal burrows. The exception to these was a large Bronze Age ring ditch (identified by aerial photography (Coxah & Lisboa, 1994)) and associated pitting. The large ring ditch (approx. 16m diameter) surrounded and was covered by the remains of a mound forming a possible barrow. Rather unusually, an entranceway through the ring ditch was formed by two clearly defined termini facing southwest. Within the confines of the ring ditch a large pit was located along the north-western boundary, containing what appeared to be 'feasting' deposits – large amounts of charcoal and burnt animal bone, flint debitage and pottery fragments.*

## 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 During May and June 2006 Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out an archaeological excavation of northern part of Area 5, Block Fen B, Chatteris, Cambridgeshire (centred on NGR TL 4340 8338) (Figs. 1 - 2). The excavations were commissioned by Lafarge Aggregates in advance of proposed mineral extraction. It was conducted in response to a planning condition required by the local planning authority (based on advice from Cambridgeshire County Council County Archaeology Office (CCC CAO). It followed the previous archaeological excavation of Areas 2 & 4 and the southern part of Area 5. The remainder of Area 5, and Areas 1 and 3 will be excavated at a later date, as part of a phased programme of archaeological investigation in advance of mineral extraction.

1.2 The excavation was conducted in accordance with a brief issued by CCC CAO (dated 12/7/02) and a specification prepared by AS (dated 10/1/03). It conformed to the Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavations* (revised 2001), and also adhered to the recent document *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003). The general aims of the work were to determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains threatened by the proposed development. More specific objectives were:

- To investigate and record surviving archaeological remains within the assessment areas, in accordance with the requirements of the brief.
- To secure the full analysis and interpretation of the site archive in order to promote local and regional research
- To provide for appropriate dissemination and publication of the project results
- To secure the long-term conservation and storage of the project archive in appropriate conditions.

1.3 As described in the brief and amplified in the research design (below), the archaeological investigations specifically aimed to:

- To examine the evidence for Neolithic land-use in the area, and contribute to an understanding of the pattern of Neolithic land use in the Cambridgeshire Fens.
- To investigate the nature and morphology of any Bronze Age settlement in the area.
- To investigate the barrow group, with specific regard to evidence for primary and secondary burials, surviving mound material, sealed ground surfaces and surviving environmental indicators within any such soil horizons
- To investigate the evidence for the development of land divisions in the Bronze Age.

- To investigate the spatial and stratigraphic relationship of the barrow cemetery to areas of settlement and land divisions, and contribute to an understanding of the pattern of Bronze Age land use in the Cambridgeshire fens.
- To examine the evidence for the influence of the fen edge (and changes in its position) on the nature of activity throughout the prehistoric period.
- To examine the evidence of the palaeoenvironment, through a systematic sampling strategy of the deep peat deposits, any surviving buried soils and suitable basal ditch fills.
- To examine any evidence for tree clearance, and identify how this relates to the prehistoric development (especially agriculture) and occupation activity in the area.

## **2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE**

2.1 The site lies in the southern Fens (in the Middle level of the Fens), between Chatteris in the north-west and Mepal in the south east, to the north west of the Old Bedford River. Present land use is agricultural, with active gravel workings close by.

2.2 The site lies on Ampthill Clay (BGS Sheet 173) covered by deposits of first and second terrace gravels, capped with clay in some parts. The south-eastern part of the site is the former fen edge, with deeper peat deposits within this part of the site, deepening into the former fen. Peat cover in the area is known to have shrunk rapidly following increased drainage in the post-mediaeval and modern periods. The site lies at an average height of some 2m AOD at its western edge, dropping slightly to below 1m AOD to the east.

## **3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

The background is summarised from an earlier desk-based assessment of the area (Murray 1998), together with the results of more recent fieldwork (discussed in O'Brien *et al* 2003).

3.1 This area was almost certainly dry in the Neolithic period, and situated on the fen edge during the early Bronze Age, with flooding and peat deposition leaving Chatteris largely as an island. By the Iron Age/Roman periods, large areas of the fen to the south east of Chatteris were again flooded, and peat accumulation proceeded until the large-scale post mediaeval drainage schemes that characterised the area. Topographically, it is possible to identify the site as dry land during the Bronze Age, with flooding and peat deposition close by to the south east.

3.2 Neolithic exploitation of the dry zone created by a period of water recession probably occurred within the vicinity of the site. Archaeological work in the immediate area has suggested that widespread field systems may date to the late Neolithic period, with boundaries overlain by late Bronze Age barrows. Block Fen A & B have revealed some ten ring ditches in two distinct groups, associated with a complex field system aligned on a broad NW/SE alignment. These field systems were the only known examples comparable to Fengate in the Bronze Age fenland (prior to more recent discoveries during a number of

archaeological investigations during quarrying along the Great Ouse valley), although they were found to be less extensive than at first believed (Hunn 1993). Two barrows were identified in the course of excavations (Barrows 1108 and 1109) in 1994, immediately adjacent to the extreme western corner of the site (Block Fen B) with another group to the east of Common Farm. These features represent both ritual and agricultural exploitation during the early Bronze Age. High densities of flint scatters of Neolithic/Bronze Age date were revealed in an area of Langwood Farm to the north of Block Fen (Evans 1991; 1993), though this density was not mirrored at Block Fen B. This suggests a lack of long-term settlement in the southern part of Block Fen, perhaps with more concentrated occupation to the north of the area, closer to the presumed line of the contemporary fen edge.

3.3 Barrow cemeteries were generally situated on higher points in the landscape, but close to the Bronze Age fen edge. The northern barrows in Block Fen B showed signs of intermittent flooding of their ditches in the form of fine silt/organic horizons with flood deposits), suggesting proximity to and visibility from the principal route of communication, water. The area around Chatteris is known to have yielded metalwork deposits from the middle and later Bronze Age (Coxah & Lisboa 1994). Hall (1992) suggests the possibility of ‘flat’ cemeteries, as opposed to barrow mounds, existing on the higher ground to the far west of the study area. These were generally the successors to round barrows in the middle to late Bronze Age in this area.

3.4 By the late Bronze Age, the fen would have encroached upon the Langwood Terrace to the north and by the Iron Age, would have surrounded Chatteris Island (Evans 1991). It is likely that most of the site was flooded from the late Bronze Age to the post-medieval period.

### **3.5 Site Specific Background**

3.5.1 Known archaeological sites in the vicinity include the barrow cemetery of Bronze Age date (SMR 05997). As noted in the brief, the cemetery includes two known barrows within the northern eastern part of site Block Fen B (Field 3; 1108 & 1109) and a further group to the south (Field 2; ?1103, 1100, 1105 & 1104, also scheduled as SAM42). Another scheduled barrow lies to the south of the site (SMR 24426 / SAM41).

3.5.2 Aerial photographic assessment of Block Fen B, geophysical survey and fieldwalking (Davison 1993) revealed a number of the barrows and ditched features in the formerly higher, western part of the site.

3.5.3 A field evaluation carried out in 1994 targeted the identified features (Coxah & Lisboa 1994) and confirmed the presence of a barrow cemetery and linear features. The linear features in the northwest of Block Fen B were part of a field system identified on aerial photographs (Davison 1993) and dated to the Bronze Age during an evaluation (Coxah & Lisboa 1994, 16).

3.5.4 An archaeological desk-based assessment (Murray 1998), aerial photographic assessment (Palmer 1998) and geophysical survey (Barker & Mercer 1998) were carried out by HAT on the former fen edge to the north of the site, at Block Fen Meadlands. A trial trench evaluation of this area (Murray 1999; Sutherland & Hounsell 2002) revealed sparse



archaeological evidence, although it confirmed the presence of a further round barrow on the site.

3.5.5 The second phase of field evaluation of Block Fen B (Jones 2002) revealed archaeological features in between the known features identified in 1993 and 1994, including enclosures, possible Bronze Age structures and Neolithic activity, in addition to identifying the former fen edge.

3.5.6 Excavation of Areas 2 & 4 was carried out by AS in summer 2003 (O'Brien *et al* 2003). The two excavation sites described in this report, Areas 2 and 4, were located in the central and northern parts of 'Field 1' (Jones 2002, Fig. 2). The south-western parts of Area 4 had been sampled by supplementary Trenches 168 and 169 (Jones 2002) and the northern part by 1994 evaluation Trench 97 (Coxah and Lisboa 1994, 16-17). The northern part of Area 2 had been sampled in 1994 evaluation Trench 105 (Coxah and Lisboa 1994, 15-16).

3.5.7 The excavation of Area 4 revealed two linear ditches, possibly associated with a Neolithic/Bronze Age field system noted to the north west of the site and plotted from aerial photographs. Ten possible tree boles were recorded in Area 4 and may be related to the deforestation of this area in the Neolithic or Bronze Age period. Two Bronze Age cremations (F1030 & F1023) were located in Area 4, and a further cremation (F1038) was situated in Area 2.

3.5.8 All features were discrete and there was no archaeological evidence to suggest the presence of barrows within the prior excavated areas. In particular, no evidence was found to support the presence of possible barrow 1102 identified on aerial photographs and investigated using geophysical survey in the vicinity of Area 2. The barrow was not encountered during the evaluation (Coxah & Lisboa 1994, 17-18; section 3.5.6 above). It is possible that the apparent gravel spread was an outcrop of geological origin. The sands and silts overly undulating Pleistocene sandy gravels, the upper part of which is rich in clay, which is of glacial or periglacial rather than fluvial origin (Rackham in Coxah and Lisboa 1994, appendix 3). However, it is curious that the diameter of the spread observed on aerial photographs was similar to the diameter of neighbouring barrows, and that no other such outcrops have been recorded on the site.

3.5.9 The previous phases of evaluation of Area 5 recorded at least two probable round barrows in the northern part of Phase 5. In addition linear and curvilinear ditches, interpreted as field boundaries of prehistoric date, were recorded and also more regular, drainage features. The current excavation concentrated on the northern part of Area 5.

## **4 RESEARCH PRIORITIES**

4.1 The research priorities were as set out in the Cambridgeshire County Council County Archaeology Office brief, with relevant additions taken from regional framework documents (Brown & Glazebrook 2000, Glazebrook 1997). The investigations aimed to examine the evidence for Neolithic and Bronze Age settlement, land-use and burial practices in the area. The presence of a known barrow group with potential primary and secondary burials, surviving mound material, sealed ground surfaces and surviving environmental indicators within any such soil horizons provided the focus for the

investigation, though it was understood that there were a number of large ‘blank’ areas within the proposed quarry area.

4.2 The specific requirements for Area 5 were as follows:

To examine the evidence for late Neolithic and Bronze Age activity, including settlement and enclosure/land division and the northern barrow group. It was also deemed important to record any further activity or palaeoenvironmental evidence associated with the former fen edge close to this part of the site.

## 5 METHOD OF WORK

5.1 The archaeological investigation was conducted in accordance with the brief and specification, and conformed to the relevant IFA guidelines.

5.2 The areas were mechanically excavated using a 360° tracked mechanical excavator fitted with a smooth-bladed ditching bucket. Topsoil and undifferentiated overburden were mechanically excavated under close archaeological supervision. Exposed surfaces were cleaned by hand and examined for archaeological features. Deposits were recorded using *pro forma* recording sheets, were retained to examine for larger charcoal fragments, drawn to scale, and photographed as appropriate. Excavated spoil and the trench bases were scanned by metal detector and searched for finds.

5.3 All potential deposits thought to be associated with cremations were sieved with a <5mm mesh. Visible fragments of bone, pottery and flint were removed. The sieved fills were then processed using flotation techniques with flots collected on nested sieves down to a minimum mesh size of 0.3 to 0.5mm. Non-floating residues including pulses which may not always float, mineralised seeds, small faunal remains and any small artefactual material were hand sorted after flotation. All samples were gently dried and stored without any possibility of crushing fine charred remains such as cereal chaff.

## 6 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS (Figs. 2-5)

6.1 The descriptions of features excavated during the earlier phases of excavation at Block Fen have been included for reference in Appendix 5.

### 6.2 PHASE 5 (Fig. 3-5; Plates 1-6)

#### 6.2.1 *Tree Throws outside Ring Ditch F3065*

Tree throw F3003 (1.04m x 0.86m x 0.28m) was sub-circular in plan, had irregular sides and an irregular concave base. It contained a single fill L3004, a light brown orange grey non-cohesive silty sand with no inclusions or finds.

Tree throw F3005 (2.20m x 1.90m x 0.14m) was sub-circular in plan, had irregular sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill (L3006). L3006 was a light grey non-cohesive sandy silt and contained no finds.

Tree throw F3007 (4.10m x 1.70m x 0.46m) also had irregular sides descending to an irregular concave base, and appeared circular in plan. It was filled by a single fill L3008, a light grey non-cohesive silty sand with occasional charcoal flecks. Again, L3008 contained no finds.

Tree throw F3013 (2.70m x 1.90m x 0.21m) was sub-circular in plan with irregular sides descending to a rounded base. It contained single fill L3014, a mid brown/grey non-cohesive silty sand and contained one single struck flint blade (2g).

Tree throw F3015 (0.95m x 2.34m x 0.30m) again was irregular in plan, with irregular concave sides and an irregular concave base. It contained a single fill, L3016, a light grey (with mid orange/brown patches) non-cohesive silty sand. L3016 contained no finds.

Tree throw F3017 (2.04m x 1.15m x 0.40m) was crescent shaped in plan, with 45° sloping sides descending to a narrow rounded concave base. It contained a single fill, L3018, a mid brown/grey non-cohesive silty sand with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles (< 10-20mm diameter). L3018 contained no finds.

Tree throw F3019 (1.65m x 1.62m x 0.30m) was sub-circular in plan with irregular sides and a flat base. Again, it contained a single fill L3020, a light grey cohesive silty sand with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles (<5-20mm diameter). It contained no finds.

Tree throw F3021 (1.00m x 0.50m x 0.30m) was sub-rectangular in plan with irregular sides descending to an irregular undercutting base. It contained two fills, L3022 and L3023. The primary fill L3022 was a mid grey brown cohesive silty sand with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles (<10-30mm diameter) and contained no finds. Secondary fill L3023 was a dark grey brown cohesive silty sand with frequent sub-angular flint pebbles (<10-30mm diameter) and moderate quantities of charcoal flecks. Again, L3023 contained no finds.

Tree throw F3027 was the final tree throw located outside ring ditch F3065 (1.50m x 0.45m x 0.22m). It was sub-oval in plan with 30° sides running to an uneven concave base. It contained a single fill L3028. L3028 was a light grey cohesive silty sand with occasional clay pockets (<5% of deposit) and occasional sub-angular flint pebbles (<2-10mm diameter). A small amount of animal bone (22g) was recovered from L3028.

### 6.2.2 *Archaeological features outside ring ditch F3065*

Posthole F3009 (0.65m x 0.43m x 0.10m) was sub-circular in plan with 25-30° sloping sides descending to a flat base. It contained a single fill (L3010), a light grey cohesive silty sand with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles (<5-10mm diameter) and occasional charcoal flecking. No finds were made within F3009.

Posthole F3011 (0.70m x 0.62m x 0.08m) was circular in plan with 20° sloping sides descending to a flat base. It contained a single fill L3012, a mid grey cohesive silty sand with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles (<2-5mm). L3012 contained no finds.

### 6.2.3 *Animal Burrows and Tree Throws within the confines of ring ditch F3065*

Animal burrow F3030 (1.01m x 1.00m x 0.50m) was sub-circular in plan with 90° sides undercutting along its northern edge and dropping to an irregular base. It contained a single fill L3031, a mid yellow brown non-cohesive silty sand with no inclusions. Finds from the deposit comprised pottery sherds (4g) and struck flint (2g).

F3032 was a shallow irregular pit or tree throw some 2.4m x 1m x 0.13m deep, filled with similar material to the surrounding tree throws (L3033). Finds from the deposit comprised pottery (2g) and struck flint (8g).

Animal burrow F3058 (1.30m x 0.44m x 0.21m) was again sub-circular in plan with 20-30° sloping sides running down to a flat base. It contained a single fill L3059, a mid grey orange non-cohesive silty sand with no inclusions or finds.

Tree throw F3066 (2.65m x 0.65m x 0.36m) was sub-circular in plan with gently sloping sides (10° to horizontal) along its southern edge and steep 70° sides along its northern edge, descending to a flattish, concave base. It contained a single fill L3067, a mid orange grey non-cohesive silty sand with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles (<2-15mm diameter). No finds were made.

Animal burrow F3068 (2.78m x 1.60m x 0.76m) was irregular in plan (appearing to be two collapsed burrows) with 45° sides along its northern edge and 90° sides along its southern sides dropping to an undercutting undulating base. It contained a single fill, L3069, a mid yellow brown non-cohesive silty sand with no inclusions or finds.

Tree throw F3075 (1.90m x 0.85m x 0.50m) was crescent-shaped in plan with irregular sloping sides descending to bowl-shaped base. It contained a single fill (L3076), a mid brown/orange non-cohesive silty sand with moderate sub-angular flint pebbles (<2-25mm diameter) and no finds.

Animal burrow F3077 (2.01m x 1.02m x 0.74m) was crescent-shaped in plan with 45° sloping sides undercutting along the western edge, descending to an undulating concave base. It contained a single fill L3078, a mid yellow brown non-cohesive silty sand with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles (<10-20mm diameter) with no finds.

### 6.2.4 *The Possible Barrow and Associated Features*

The possible barrow uncovered during the investigations of the northern section of Area 5 was divided into quadrants, with each quadrant assigning separate numbers to the ring ditch under a group number.

The possible barrow itself F3029 comprised a shallow ring ditch F3065 (F3025, F3035, F3040 and F3053) recut along its western and northern bounds by a more substantial ditch F3079. The ditch (47.0m x 1.75m x 0.85m max) was curvilinear in plan and had 45° sloping edges along its external edge, and 60° edges along its internal edge, both descending to a flat base. Twenty eight segments were excavated through this, and it was discovered that the original ditch (formed by F3025, F3035, F3040 and F3053) had been recut into a much more robust profile containing many more fills. At the ring ditch's southwestern side, an entranceway had been created by the formation of two termini within the original cut of the ring ditch.

A full description of the segments excavated across ring ditch F3065 has been summarised in the table presented in Appendix 4.

The barrow also contained a possible ploughed-out mound deposit, L3024. This deposit overlay the interior of the 'barrow' and the ring ditch F3065 itself. L3024 (16.20m x 18.00m x 0.11m) was a mid orange grey/brown cohesive silty sand with occasional sub-angular mixed gravels (<10-30mm diameter) and occasional charcoal flecks. Several finds were unearthed within this deposit; 118g of struck and worked flint, 40g of pottery and 33g of butchered animal bone.

Sealed by mound deposit L3024 and truncated by original ring ditch cut F3040 (at the eastern interior extent of the barrow) was a small, shallow 'pit', F3051. F3051 (1.01m x 0.75m x 0.10m) was sub-circular in plan with vertical edges running into a flat base, the sides of which exhibited signs of scorching typical of firing *in-situ*. It contained a single fill L3052, a mid red brown orange cohesive silty sand with frequent charcoal flecks. No finds were made.

Also sealed by barrow mound deposit L3024 was pit F3061. F3061 (4.25m x 2.0m x 0.22m) was an irregular trapezoidal shape in plan with gently sloping (33° to horizontal) sides descending to an undulating concave base. It contained three fills, L3062, L3063 and L3064. L3063 was the primary fill, L3064 the secondary and L3062 the tertiary fill. These can be summarised in Table 1 below:

Feature	Dimensions	Profile	Fill(s)	Finds
F3061	4.25m length 2.0m width 0.10m depth	Irregular trapezoidal in plan with gently sloping 33° sides running to an undulating concave base.	L3063. Light brown orange grey cohesive silty sand with occasional sub-angular flint gravel (<2-10mm diam.)	Pottery (63g); struck flint (153g); animal bone (79g); burnt bone (3g)
			L3064. Mid brown grey cohesive silty sand with frequent charcoal flecks and occasional sub-angular flint pebbles (<3-20mm diam.)	Pottery (382g); struck flint (307g); animal bone (27g); burnt bone (73g)
			L3062. Light brown grey non-cohesive silty sand with occasional sub-angular flint gravel (<3-25mm)	Pottery (49g); struck flint (26g); burnt bone (2g)

Table1 showing contexts within pit F3061.

## 7 CONFIDENCE RATING

7.1 It is not felt that any factors hindered the identification of archaeological features or finds.

## 8 DEPOSIT MODEL

8.1 The site was covered by a dark grey/brown ploughsoil (L1000/ L1203/ L1260/ L2000/L3000), commonly some 300-500mm deep. Struck flint and prehistoric pottery were retrieved from the topsoil. The topsoil lay above the natural drift geology, a light grey/orange clayey silt (L1001/L1202/L2001/L3002) with occasional patches of mid reddish brown silty sand and sub-angular flint pebbles, bar within the northern extent of Area 5 wherein an agricultural subsoil was present (L3001). L3001 was a light grey brown non-cohesive silty sand with moderate sub-angular/angular flint blocks (<100mm diameter) no finds were retrieved from this deposit.

## 9 DISCUSSION

9.1 Excavations at Block Fen B have revealed a sequence of activity closely related to the changing local topography and environment. The site contains evidence for tree clearance, probably dating to the early Bronze Age, and parts of a field system probably used for livestock. Located on the southern periphery of the 'island' of Chatteris, a series of barrows were constructed on the gravelly clay just beyond the fen edge. Three cremation burials previously recorded in Areas 2 & 4 appear to be satellite burials located between the

barrows and the field system, well away from the edge of the fen. Excavation of the southern part of Area 5 revealed further evidence of small-scale prehistoric activity (including pottery sherds of early Bronze Age date). Little in the way of evidence of the contemporary field systems was identified in this area. Similarly, the northern part of Area 5 revealed little in the way of evidence for field systems once topsoil had been stripped. However, a reasonably substantial Bronze Age round barrow was unearthed, and possible evidence of prehistoric tree clearance within the area surrounding the barrow was also found.

9.2 The southern part of Area 5 revealed a large number of small pits, larger shallow silty features of probable natural origin, probable tree hollows, and parallel drainage ditches of modern origin. The latter respected the existing field boundaries. The features were generally shallow with indications that they had previously been waterlogged (e.g. salt concretion was present on many of the animal bone fragments). Some contained small quantities of prehistoric pottery, animal bone and struck flints, though most were undated. Some of the large, shallow, silty spreads may be hollows or undulations in the natural subsoil (as recorded during excavation of Areas 2 & 4 earlier in 2003).

9.3 One substantial feature was curvilinear ditch F1218 which was notable for its size and depth. Although no pottery was recovered from the fills, the struck flint present would indicate a prehistoric date. It is possible that the ditch marked the outside edge of a barrow which will have lain to the east of the excavation area. It is more likely, however, to be the remnants of the prehistoric field system which was located in the trial trench evaluation (Jones 2002). This does indicate that these field systems would have run virtually to the fen edge during the Bronze Age period.

9.4 The northern extent of Area 5 revealed a series of pits interpreted as tree throws, similar in profile and plan to those found within the southern part of Area 5. These took the form of either sub-circular, crescent or rounded shallow silt-filled pits scattered to the west of the barrow in no seemingly set out pattern. Again, dating evidence from these features was sparse, with struck flint only being recovered from one feature (F3013). In addition to the tree throws, two possible postholes were recorded (F3009 and F3011). These again are undated, and somewhat tenuous in their interpretation – it is far more likely that these were also the result of ‘natural’ activity, be it tree root or animal disturbance.

9.5 The major feature recorded in the northern part of Area 5 was round barrow (F3029). This comprised a shallow, flat-based original interrupted ring ditch F3065 16m across, with a well formed entrance/exit way facing to the southwest. It contained a single fill. The barrow also appeared to contain the remnants of its original mound surface (L3024), a mid orange grey brown silty sand with charcoal flecking and several fragments of struck flint and pottery within it. This rested directly on top of the natural silty sub-soils and sealed all archaeological features within the ring ditch.

9.6 When the mound deposit (L3024) was removed in quadrants several features were revealed below this layer, in addition to the ring ditch surrounding the barrow (the mound material had been dragged by modern ploughing and eroded to cover ditch F3065). Two tree throws were noted within its south-eastern quadrant (F3066 and F3075), all pre-dating the construction of the mound over the barrow, and therefore it can be assumed that they predate the barrow in its entirety. Several animal burrows were also discovered (F3030,

F3058, F3068 and F3077), although the relationship between the mound deposit and these burrows were uncertain due to the nature of burrows. Each of these burrows shared similar profiles; sub-circular to irregular in plan with irregular sides running to generally undercutting, undulating bases.

9.7 The barrow itself (F3029) comprised an original ditch (cuts F3025, F3035, F3040 and F3053), shallow in profile with gently sloping exterior edges and slightly steeper interior edges descending to a rounded flat base. This ditch (at its easternmost interior point) truncated earlier feature F3051, a shallow, vertical-sided, flat-based 'pit' containing burnt silty sands. F3051 may be likely the result of *in-situ* burning, possibly associated with feature F3061. Pit F3061 was crescent shaped in plan with shallow 33° edges running down to an undulating base. This feature may have originally been a tree throw in origin when compared in plan and profile to other tree throws in the vicinity, but was reworked as a container for a possible 'feasting' deposit within the bounds of the western edge of the ring ditch. F3061 contained three distinct fills; L3063, L3064 and L3062 – primary, secondary and tertiary, respectively. L3063 appeared to be more the result of scorched natural, typical of material that has come into contact with still hot embers from a fire or hearth, and therefore it can be assumed that secondary fill L3064 was deposited within the pit as the 'original' context. L3064 was rich in charcoal flecks, and occasional patches of 'ash', again indicative of a fire or hearth deposit. In addition it contained several pieces of burnt and butchered large animal bone, burnt and struck flint and a large amount of un-abraded domestic and Beaker pottery fragments typical of late Neolithic and early Bronze Age burial mounds (Taylor, 2001). Several flint tools showing signs of micro-wear were also recovered from this fill including several scrapers and blades, indicative of animal butchery and processing. The final fill, L3062 was a silty sand, and also contained struck flint and pottery. It is thought (although this is speculation) that this pit and F3051 may be contemporary with *in-situ* fired 'pit' F3051 and the tree throws within the ring ditch. This is typical during the late Neolithic and early Bronze Age, as burial mounds show signs of intensive use beneath them, often from campfires, pits and tree clearance (Taylor, 2001).

9.8 The original ring ditch (F3025, F3035, F3040 and F3053) had an entranceway formed by two termini facing to the southwest (also the alignment of the mid winter sunset marking a time to plant crops for the next season). It may be concluded from this that the barrow is that of a 'hengiform' type (i.e. with an entranceway) and is remarkably similar to those found at Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire, and further afield at Roxton, Bedfordshire (Taylor & Woodward, 1985) and Deeping St Nicholas in Lincolnshire, all of which also had 'naturally' formed features associated with them such as tree throws.

9.9 With the absence of an inhumation of any kind within the confines of the barrow, a likeness to the Buckskin Barrow, Basingstoke (Allen, 1995) must be made. No inhumations were discovered contemporary with the construction of the barrow, but due to soils analysis it was proven that the latter barrow was a site of 'feasting', and it is only in the late Bronze Age that burials within the mound occurred. This pattern fits that of the material and environmental remains discovered within pit F3061 and 'pit' F3051 at Block Fen.

9.10 Of equal interest is the re-cut of the original ring ditch. The re-cut (F3079) started from the very north of the ring ditch, eradicating the original in the process. It was similar in profile to the original, with a steeper edge towards the interior of the barrow, but had been excavated very much deeper (up to nearly a metre) and exhibited very different fills.



This allows the suggestion that the original ditch had silted to almost, but not quite, invisibility above ground and this re-working occurred when the original was still partially visible. The re-cut ended before the western terminus of ditch F3053, and its fills (L3080, L3081, L3082, L3083 and L3084) seemed indicative of silting from the inside of the ring ditch, suggesting there was no exterior bank present. Of particular interest was fill L3082, what appeared to be a silting erosion fill from within the barrow bounds. This fill was similar to the natural gravel sub-soil in the area, and it is possible that the re-cut of the ditch could have acted in two ways; one to redefine the boundary along one side of the barrow, and secondly to quarry a bright red/orange gravel to 're-surface' the mound. This has been noted again at Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire wherein the barrow excavated there had had its ring ditch substantially enlarged at a later period, and its mound covered with the clean yellow gravels of the natural sub-soil in the area. This would be in stark contrast to the darker peaty fen soils surrounding the barrow (Taylor, 2001). Again this fits with regional and national practices of barrow reworking. It should be noted that by lack of later evidence (through material finds and peat deposition) from the ditches, it is clear that the ditches were only open for a relatively 'short' period of time, possibly not past the late Bronze Age.

9.11 The situation of the barrow within the landscape is also atypical of this form of monument. The fen edge is situated some 200 yards east of the barrow, and the propensity for this form of monument to be adjacent to water and situated on light sands (typical of East Anglian barrows) is well documented. Resting on relatively low lying land, it is hard to see the barrow as a 'boundary marker', though when the local topography is taken into consideration the monument would be visible for quite some distance, especially when coated in the bright red/orange gravels of the area.

9.12 The density of features lessens further to the north. There appears to be no immediate topographical explanation for this with the land around the site being completely flat. It could be that a northern perimeter to the site lies within this area, with the concentration of structures and activity to the south.

9.13 The only notable feature in the northwest (Phase 2 (Tr.1) and Phase 4) area was pit/posthole F2002 which contained a small clay ball, c. 0.10m in diameter of uncertain function. A small number of probable natural features were also present in the area.

9.14 Some features likely represent tree hollows, probably related to clearance in the prehistoric period (O'Brien *et al* 2003). Such hollows may reflect a relatively late phase of woodland clearance close to the fen-edge, close to an area of field systems probably used for livestock. Given the sparse evidence for cereal cultivation in the area, this putative 'landnam' tree clearance may not have been carried out with the aim of increasing soil fertility, but to create or extend clearings for pasture or to clear a zone between the barrow cemeteries to the north and south.

9.15 The majority of the early Bronze Age pottery was from Pit F1156, and the feature it cut, F1179. Sparse pottery sherds were found in tree hollows F1053 and F1069 however, this pottery is generally small and abraded. Quantities of fired clay and struck flints attest to occupation in the vicinity, though there was no evidence of funerary activity in the southern part of Area 5. A moderate amount of animal bone was recovered although it was highly

fragmentary. Many of the expected domesticated livestock species were present, along with dog.

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**APPENDIX 1  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS  
DOCUMENTARY ARCHIVE FORM**

Site Details			
<b>County:</b>	Cambridgeshire	<b>Museum:</b>	County Archaeology Store
<b>Site Code:</b>	AS 713 and AS 852	<b>AS Project Number:</b>	1853
<b>Site Name:</b>	Block Fen B (Area 5), Chatteris, Cambridgeshire		
<b>NGR:</b>	TL 4430 8400	<b>Accession Number:</b>	
<b>Site Type:</b>	Excavation	<b>Date of Work:</b>	Sept 03 – June 06
<b>Planning Ref:</b>		<b>SMR No:</b>	
<b>Related Work:</b>	Block Fen B Areas 2 and 4		
<b>Brief Description of Documentary Archive:</b>	Three A4 ringbinders		
<b>Brief Finds Description (Quantity &amp; Date):</b>			
<b>Ownership Form Returned:</b>		<b>Archive Deposited:</b>	

Introduction			
Brief/s		Specification/s	
Date	Present	Date	Present
	Yes		Yes

A: Reports		
Report Type	Report No	Present
Desk-based assessment/evaluation	455	

B: Primary Site Records		
<b>Total No. of Files:</b>	3	
<b>Total No. of Site Drawing Sheets:</b>	9 (Phase 5 North)	
<b>Location of A4 Files (Tick)</b>	<b>Finds Room:</b>	<b>Corridor:</b>
Material	Present	Details
Site Notes	Yes	
Context Register	Yes	
Context Sheets	Yes	
Levels Sheets	Yes	
Site Drawings		
Plan/Section Register	Yes	
Plan Sheets	Yes	
Section Sheets	Yes	
Combined Plan/Section Sheets	Yes	
Other Site Drawings		
Digital Plans		
Plans	Yes	
Data		
C: Finds Data		
Small Finds Register	Yes	

<b>Finds Concordance</b>	Yes		
<b>Finds Box List</b>	None		
<b>X-Rays</b>	None		
<b>Conservation Photo Plates</b>	None		
<b>Conservation Lab Sheets</b>	None		
<b>Other Finds Information (Give Details)</b>	None		
<b>Specialist Finds Reports</b>			
<b>Material</b>	<b>Report Type</b>	<b>Report Present</b>	<b>Specialist Archive Material (Give Details)</b>
<b>Pottery</b>			
<b>Animal Bone</b>			

<b>D: Site Photographs</b>				
<b>Photographic Register Present</b>		Yes	<b>Digital Photo Register Present</b>	
			Yes	
<b>Black &amp; White 35mm</b>				
<b>Film No</b>	<b>Negative Nos</b>	<b>Shot Nos</b>	<b>Contact Sheet Present</b>	<b>Negatives Present</b>
1814	18-35	1-9		
1883	1-36	10-22		
1885	1-36	23-38		
1884	1-35	39-53		
1881	1-3	54		
<b>Colour Slides</b>				
<b>Film No</b>	<b>Negative Nos</b>	<b>Shot Nos</b>	<b>Present</b>	
1904	18-35	1-9		
1927	1-36	10-22		
1930	1-36	23-38		
1931	1-35	39-53		
1929	1-3	54		
<b>Digital Photos</b>				
<b>Shot Nos</b>	<b>Files Present</b>		<b>Hard Copies Present</b>	
1-54	Yes			

<b>E: Environmental Data</b>			
<b>Sample Register Present:</b>		Yes	<b>Sample Sheets Present:</b>
			Yes
<b>Processing Register Present:</b>			<b>Sieving Sheets Present:</b>
<b>Sample Concordance Present:</b>			
<b>Specialist Environmental Reports</b>			
<b>Material</b>	<b>Report Type</b>	<b>Report Present</b>	<b>Specialist Archive Material (Give Details)</b>

<b>F: Documentary Records, Press &amp; Publicity; G: Relevant Correspondence; H: Miscellaneous</b>



						<b>SF27:</b> (1), 3g <b>SF28:</b> (1), <1g <b>SF29:</b> (1), 4g <b>SF31:</b> (1), 5g <b>SF32:</b> (1), 2g <b>SF33:</b> (1), 16g <b>SF38:</b> (1), 1g <b>SF40:</b> (1), 10g <b>SF42:</b> (1), <1g <b>SF43:</b> (1), 2g <b>SF44:</b> (1), 2g <b>SF46:</b> (1), 3g		
3025	3026		Ring Ditch Fill			<b>SF41:</b> (1), 3g	<b>SF7:</b> 4 <b>SF39:</b> 9 <b>SF49:</b> 26	
	3034					<b>SF16:</b> (1), 2g		
3027	3028		Tree Bowl Fill				22	
3030	3031		Pit Fill	Late Neolithic-EBA	(1), 4g	(1), 2g		
3032	3033		Pit Fill	Late Neolithic-EBA	(3), 2g	<b>SF47:</b> (1), 2g <b>SF48:</b> (1), 6g		
3061	3062	B	Pit Fill	Late Neolithic-EBA Late Neolithic-EBA Late Neolithic-EBA Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF52:</b> (1), 1g <b>SF53:</b> (2), 1g <b>SF54:</b> (1), 10g <b>SF98:</b> (5), 37g	<b>SF55:</b> (1), 2g <b>SF56:</b> (1), 1g <b>SF57:</b> (1), 21g <b>SF92:</b> (1), <1g <b>SF93:</b> (1), <1g	<b>SF58:</b> Burnt Bone (3), <1g  <b>SF60:</b> Burnt Bone (1), 1g	
	3063	B		Late Neolithic-EBA Late Neolithic-EBA Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF62:</b> (1), 8g <b>SF63:</b> (2), 17g <b>SF66:</b> (2), 10g	<b>SF68:</b> (1), 72g <b>SF70:</b> (1), 2g <b>SF74:</b> (1), 7g	<b>SF73:</b> 6 <b>SF80:</b> 73	<b>SF61:</b> Burnt Bone (1), 2g <b>SF65:</b> Burnt Bone (3), <1g



			EBA				
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF67:</b> (1), 5g	<b>SF75:</b> (1), <1g		
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF69:</b> (1), 2g	<b>SF76:</b> (1), 4g		
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF71:</b> (3), 4g	<b>SF79:</b> (1), 12g		
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF72:</b> (2), 3g	<b>SF94:</b> (1), 4g		
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF77:</b> (3), 5g	<b>SF104:</b> (1), 25g		
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF78:</b> (1), 2g	<b>SF113:</b> (1), 4g		
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF118:</b> (1), 3g	<b>SF114:</b> (1), 20g		
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF119:</b> (2), 4g	<b>SF115:</b> (1), 4g		
					<b>SF116:</b> (1), <1g		
					<b>SF117:</b> (1), 1g		
	3064	B	Late Neolithic-EBA	(1), 2g	<b>SF81:</b> (1), 2g	<b>SF120:</b> 1	<b>SF100:</b> Burnt Bone (1), <1g
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF82:</b> (1), 2g	<b>SF85:</b> (1), <1g	<b>SF122:</b> 6	<b>SF152:</b> Burnt Stone (2), 72g
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF83:</b> (1), 10g	<b>SF86:</b> (1), 4g	<b>SF127:</b> <1	
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF84:</b> (1), 12g	<b>SF89:</b> (1), 4g	<b>SF130:</b> 8	
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF87:</b> (2), 6g	<b>SF91:</b> (1), <1g	<b>SF133:</b> 1	
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF88:</b> (1), 7g	<b>SF95:</b> (1), <1g	<b>SF153:</b> 4	
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF90:</b> (2), 5g	<b>SF96:</b> (1), 3g	<b>SF167:</b> 1	
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF97:</b> (2), 15g	<b>SF99:</b> (2), <1g	<b>SF168:</b> 1	
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF101:</b> (2), 16g	<b>SF107:</b> (1), 4g	<b>SF169:</b> 1	

			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF102:</b> (1), 5g	<b>SF108:</b> (1), 2g	<b>SF170:</b> 3
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF103:</b> (4), 16g	<b>SF122:</b> (2), 4g	
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF105:</b> (1), 5g	<b>SF123:</b> (1), <1g	
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF106:</b> (5), 29g	<b>SF125:</b> (1), 1g	
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF109:</b> (1), 3g	<b>SF126:</b> (1), 3g	
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF111:</b> (1), 19g	<b>SF135:</b> (1), 7g	
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF121:</b> (1), 5g	<b>SF136:</b> (1), 3g	
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF124:</b> (1), <1g	<b>SF137:</b> (1), 1g	
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF128:</b> (1), 2g	<b>SF138:</b> (1), 24g	
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF129:</b> (1), 18g	<b>SF140:</b> (1), 2g	
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF130:</b> (1), 2g	<b>SF141:</b> (1), 2g	
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF131:</b> (1), 13g	<b>SF142:</b> (1), 1g	
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF132:</b> (1), 4g	<b>SF149:</b> (1), 2g	
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF134:</b> (1), 8g	<b>SF151:</b> (1), 3g	
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF143:</b> (1), 15g	<b>SF155:</b> (1), <1g	
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF144:</b> (1), 10g	<b>SF156:</b> (1), 4g	
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF145:</b> (1), 3g	<b>SF157:</b> (1), 16g	
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF146:</b> (1), 2g	<b>SF158:</b> (1), <1g	
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF147:</b> (1), 2g	<b>SF171:</b> (1), 14g	

			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF148:</b> (1), 2g	<b>SF172:</b> (1), 5g
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF150:</b> (1), 2g	<b>SF177:</b> (1), <1g
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF154:</b> (1), 24g	<b>SF178:</b> (1), 4g
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF159:</b> (2), 9g	<b>SF180:</b> (1), <1g
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF160:</b> (1), 5g	
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF161:</b> (1), 7g	
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF162:</b> (1), 3g	
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF163:</b> (1), 4g	
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF164:</b> (1), 4g	
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF165:</b> (1), 11g	
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF166:</b> (6), 24g	
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF173:</b> (1), 6g	
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF174:</b> (1), 1g	
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF175:</b> (2), 5g	
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF176:</b> (2), <1g	
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF179:</b> (1), 7g	
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF181:</b> (1), 12g	
			Late Neolithic-EBA	<b>SF182:</b> (3), 20g	

## APPENDIX 3 SPECIALIST REPORTS

### The Pottery

*Peter Thompson MA*

The Phase 5 excavation produced 122 sherds weighing 506g. The pottery is in very poor condition comprising almost exclusively small fragments with abraded surfaces, the average weight being just 4.1g per sherd. Fabrics are poorly fired comprising grey cores with brown or orange surfaces with the majority comprising grog temper although sand is sometimes also present, occasionally with very coarse angular mineral. Approximately two thirds of the sherds contain decoration applied in a variety of ways, finger tip, finger nail, twisted cord, comb and impressed circles. Forms are hard to ascertain but the few rims present are generally simple upright and flat topped or pointed. The decoration, temper, general thinness of sherds and limited evidence from forms indicates Beaker pottery of the Early Bronze Age c.2,300 -1,700 BC. The presence of other wares such as Food Vessels and Collared Urns cannot be ruled out but are unlikely and aren't supported by the surviving rims, these are of broadly similar date and function to the Beakers i.e. in funerary and ritual contexts, but can also be for domestic use.

#### Fabrics

F1 – Sparse to moderate grog with a little rounded quartz and rare very coarse mineral, a little calcareous matter can also be present

F2 – Sparse to moderate sand and rare very coarse mineral. A little calcareous can be present

F2a – quartz sand and mineral

F3 – Plant with sparse fine sand

F3a – Voids (from calcareous or plant?), rare to moderate

F4- Very coarse mineral including flint and quartz, sand and rare voids

F4a – Crushed angular flint and sand, rare grog

<i>Feature</i>	<i>Context</i>	<i>Special Find No.</i>	<i>Quantity and fabric</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Comment/decoration</i>
3002	Natural		1x1g F2	All contexts fit a date of very late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age	F2 – pointed rim
3024	Mound	4	8x5g F2		
		18	1x2g F2		
		19	1x3g F1		
		21	1x2g F3a		F3a – nail deco
		23	1x2g F1		F1 – cord deco
		24	1x2g F1		F1 – carination, decorated criss-cross
		25	1x3g F2		F2 - Comb deco
		26	1x2g F2		
		30	2x2g F2		
		34	3x2g F1		

		35	1x3g F1			
		37	1x5g F1			
		45	1x3g F1		F1 – criss-cross comb deco	
3030	3031	pit	1x4g F1		F1 – cord deco?	
3032	3033	pit	3x4g F1			
3061	3062	52	1x2g F2		F2 - criss-cross	
		53	2x1g F2			
		54	1x10g F1		F1 – impressed circles	
		98	5x36g F1		F1 - Criss-cross cord deco	
	3063	66	2x9g F1		F1* – ‘herringbone deco’	
		69	1x3g F2		F2 – Incised deco	
		77	3x7g F1		F1 - Flat thick rim, voids from shell or plant?	
		62	1x9g F4		F4*– upright internally bevelled rim, straight sided vessel, smeared surface (grooved ware??)	
		63	2x17g F1		F1* - upright flattened rim with impressed circles, beaker? 1 undecorated	
		67	1x6g F2		F2* –twisted cord criss-cross	
		71	3x5g F1			
		72	1x1g F4a		F4a – finger nail and incised deco	
		78	1x23g F3			
		118	1x3g F1?		F1 – finger nail deco, calcareous material	
		119	2x4g F3			
		3064	82	1x3g F1		F1 – circular impressions
			83	1x10g F4a		
			84	1x12 F1		F1* - impressed circles
87	2x6g F1			F1 – impressed circles		
88	1x7g F1			F1 – roulette deco		
90	1x3g F2 1x2g F1			F2 – criss-cross deco F1 – impressed circles		
97	2x15g F1			F1% – comb/roulette deco including criss-cross		
101	2x15g F1			F1 – impressed circles		
102	1x6g F1			F1* – upright pointed rim, cord deco		
103	4x16g F1			F1 – base, 2 cord deco sherds		
105	1x5g F2			F2* - twisted cord		
106	5x29g F1			F1* - 1 thick simple rim, 2 cord deco and a flat base		

		109	1x3g F2		F2 – criss-cross
		111	1x19g F1		F1* -Upright flattened rim, finger nail decorated, calcareous material
		121	1x5g F1		F1 – cord decorated, carination
		124			Bone 1x2g
		128	1x2g F2		
		129	1x18g F1		F1* - Rim c.14cm diam finger nail deco.
		130	1x3g F4		
		131	1x13g F1		F1 – thick base sherd
		134	1x8g F1		F1 –thin simple upright Beaker rim decorated with cord or nail deco.
		143	1x15g F1		F1* –criss-cross deco
		144	1x10g F1		F1* – ‘maggot’ decorated?
		145	1x3g F1		F1 – impressed circles
		146	1x3g F2		F2 – Circles
		147	1x3g F1		F1 – impressed circles
		148	1x2g F1		F1-circle impressions
		150	1x2g F1		F1 – also voids
		152	1x4g F2		F2 – Incised decoration, sooting inside
		154	1x23g F4		F4* - twisted cord deco as 173. Thick sherd
		159	2x8g F1		F1 – lines of ?cord deco
		160	1x5g F1?		F1- finger nail deco and chevron
		161	1x7g F1		F1 – fingernail and incised or cord impressed line similar 111
		162	1x3g F1		
3061	3064	163	1x4g F1?		F1-line of cord ‘whipped cord maggot impressions’
		164	1x4g F1		F1 – flat top simple rim fingernail deco
		165	1x10g F1		F1 –sand and v.coarse flint fingernail deco on curving body sherd
		166	6x25g F1		F1* upright rim 14-16 cm. diam, 3 x herring bone decorated
		173	1x7g F2	Early Bronze Age*	F2 – Cord deco lines bordering intricate criss-cross cord deco
		174	1x1g F2		F2 – oxidised, impressed circle deco.

	175	1x5g F1 1x1g F2		F1*-cord deco
	176	2x1g F3		F3 – criss-cross cordon
	179	1x7g F2		F2*- incised deco
	181	1x11g F1		F1* – dispersed lines off fingernail deco on curving profile, ?shoulder
	182	1x12g F1 3x9g F2	Early Bronze Age	F1* - 1x dispersed lines of finger tip or twisted cord near base F2 - 1x dispersed lines of finger nail deco around carination F2 - 1xline of finger nail deco below simple upright rim
		1x1g F2a		F2a – comb or roulette deco (impressed lines of dimples)

## **The Animal Bone** *Carina Phillips MA*

### *Introduction*

The following report presents results and discussions for Phases 5 of excavations of Block Fen. Twenty five fragments were recovered in total.

### *Methods*

When possible the bones were identified and recorded to species and element. Due to the difficulty in separating goat from sheep bones the category sheep/goat was used. Tooth wear was recorded using the method of Grant (1982) and where possible ages were assigned using the method of (Hambleton 1999). Measurements were taken where possible following the method of von den Driesch (1976), due to the paucity of these data they have been excluded from the report, but are available in the site archive. The fusion of identifiable bones was also recorded when possible and ages were assigned following Silver (1969). Fragments, unidentifiable to a particular species or element, were recorded under the categories of 'large sized', consisting of cattle, deer and horse sized fragments and 'small sized' consisting of sheep, pig and dog sized bone fragments. The unidentifiable bone fragments were recorded as so. Evidence of burning, chopping, knife-cutting and gnawing was also recorded, as was smashed bone. The minimum number of individuals (MNI) of a species was calculated from the most frequent element of a left or right bone.

### *Phase 5*

Animal bone was recovered from four features in this phase of excavation. Only 25 fragments of animal bone were recovered in total. Pit F3061 contained most of these (19 fragments). F3025 was the fill of a ring ditch. Only three fragments of animal bone came from this context. The bone was of varied condition. Concretion was exhibited on seven fragments (28%), caused by a wet anaerobic environment. Six fragments were burnt to a calcinated condition. The remaining fragments were of moderate- poor condition. A majority of the assemblage consisted of small fragments; the small size of these has resulted in 20 of the 25 fragments being unidentifiable to species.

Of the five identifiable bones, two were identified as sheep/goat, two as dog and one as cattle. Seven of the unidentifiable bones could be classified as large sized. One of these, a rib fragment, exhibited a cut mark probably caused by meat filleting. Two fragments of cattle sized long bone shafts were smashed. This is likely to be related to bone marrow extraction. The small amount of butchery evidence, likewise to small number of identifiable bones is due to the poor preservation and fragmentation of the assemblage.

Species	NISP	Cut	Smashed	Burnt
Cattle	1	0	0	0
Dog	2	0	0	0
Sheep/goat	2	0	0	0
Large sized	7	1	2	3
Unidentifiable	13	0	0	4
Total	25	1	2	7

Table 1: Number of Identified Bones/Specimens and evidence of butchered and burnt bone in Phase 5 excavations



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## STRUCK FLINT

*Phil Weston MA*

### Introduction

The assemblage is composed of 82 pieces of struck flint weighing 423g. With the exception of a single flake originating from a tree throw, the whole assemblage was recovered from contexts constituting the ploughed out remains of a probable round barrow encircled by a hengiform ditch.

### Raw Materials

Of the flint with surviving dorsal cortex, the majority appears to derive from secondary deposits. A few pieces display signs of water rolling suggesting they originated from river gravels. Workable flint nodules do not occur naturally in the local site geology, and so the assemblage must have been brought to the site from source.

### Composition and Technology

<b>Find</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Weight (g)</b>	<b>Mean weight (g)</b>
Primary Flake	5	14	2.8
Secondary Flake	15	44	2.9
Tertiary Flake	12	23	1.9
Blade	3	4	1.3
Core	3	113	37.6
Core Fragment	2	12	6
Retouched Flake	5	39	7.8
Arrowhead	1	2	2
Scraper	13	67	5.6
Piercer	1	3	3
Shattered Piece	11	81	7.4
Chip	3	2	0.6
Burnt Flint	8	19	2.4

*Table 1 The composition of the assemblage*

The assemblage is in fresh condition and appears to be predominantly concerned with the production of flakes for reworking into tools. Retouched and flaked tools formed a relatively high 24.39% of the assemblage suggesting such items were selected for deposition. Similarly, secondary and tertiary flakes were favoured over primary flakes.

The large butts and bulbs on many pieces, the predominance of short flakes and the occurrence of hinge terminations all suggest a hard hammer was used in the reduction process.

## Distribution

Feature	Context	Flakes	Blades	Cores/frags	Scrapers	Arrowhead	Piercer	Shatter	Chip	Burnt
L3013	L3014	1								
-	L3024	13	1	1	3			4	2	2
F2025	L2026	1								
	L3034	1								
F3030	L3031		1							
F3032	L3033				1	1				
F3061	L3062	2		1	1				1	
	L3063	4		3	2			3		1
	L3064	15	1		6		1	4		5

Table 2: The assemblage by context

The worked flint derived from 9 contexts but all but 6 of the 82 pieces were recovered from a buried soil (L3024) within the hengiform monument and the three fills of a large pit (F3061) dug within the ditch.

*Industry*

The earliest component of the assemblage is a bi-polar Mesolithic blade core, however, the piece was reused as a flake core at a later date. Two thinning flakes suggest the production of core tools such as early Neolithic axes and adzes or later Neolithic to early Bronze Age discoidal and plano-convex knives. The remaining datable pieces are indicative of late Neolithic to early Bronze Age industries. Typical of the era are Small Finds 44 and 47. Small Find 44 is an invasively flaked thumbnail scraper and Small Find 47 is an invasively flaked triangular arrowhead. The ratio of flakes to blades (26.3 : 3) supports a late Neolithic – early Bronze Age date for the assemblage, as blade production had diminished by this time. Likewise, the use of a hard hammer in the production of the flakes is indicative of the date.

*Contextual*

The location of the assemblage within a hengiform monument and the fact that Beaker Ware pottery was recovered from the same deposits supports the proposed late Neolithic to early Bronze Age date. The appearance of Beaker Ware on archaeological sites dates approximately from 2300BC to 1700BC, effectively straddling the Neolithic to Bronze Age transition.

*Discussion*

When barrows are excavated, it is quite common to find flint, pottery and animal bone within the mound and spread over the ground surface on which the monument is built. This has often been taken as evidence of occupation of the site prior to the imposition of a mortuary monument, however, associated features such as postholes and pits are very rare. Recent archaeological theory has suggested that these finds assemblages derive from specially selected midden material carried from the settlement and deposited at the funerary site as part of the connected ritual. As stated above, almost 25% of the flint assemblage is made up of retouched tools, a much higher proportion than would be expected on a settlement site. This strongly suggests that these items were specifically selected for deposition and that the finds assemblage represents a ritual deposit associated with the inception of the funerary monument.

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**Terminology** (after Andrefsky 1998, xxi-xxvii and Butler 2005, 202-209)

**Core:** Flint nodule from which blades or flakes are struck.

**Flake:** General term for fragments struck from cores. Flakes may be simply debitage (waste) or may be modified into cutting or scraping tools.

**Blade:** A flake with a length more than twice its width. A blade will also have parallel sides and have ridge(s) down the dorsal face.

**Biface thinning flake:** A distinctive type of flake produced during the manufacture of a bifaced tool such as an axe, a adze, a sickle or some types of arrowhead. Such flakes will exhibit a curved profile which follow the shape of the tool throughout. Negative flake scars on the dorsal face will be present, indicating the removal of flakes from around the edge of the throughout.

**Bulb of percussion:** The bulbar shape that forms on the ventral face of a flake or blade generally radiating out from the butt of the piece where percussion or pressure was exerted.

**Butt:** Term for the proximal end of the flake or blade. The butt may exhibit evidence of platform preparation on its dorsal face in the form of trimming.

**Negative flake scars:** The scar left on a core or the dorsal face of a flake, or from retouching, following the removal of a flake.

**Arris (Ridge):** Intersection of two negative scars on the dorsal face of a blade, flake or core.

**Hinge termination:** Distinctive rounded or hinged termination of flake or blade indicating not enough force was used when piece was struck causing the force to exit out through the face of the core.

**Overshoot termination:** Distinctive termination of flake or blade indicating too much force was used when piece was struck

**Platform:** The flat, natural or prepared surface on a core, which is struck in order to remove flakes or blades.

**Cortex:** The outer chalky skin on a flint nodule.

**Primary:** Initial flakes removed from a core (i.e. core preparation flake), primarily to remove the cortex and will therefore be fully or partially cortical on dorsal face.

**Secondary:** A flake or tool exhibiting less than 50% cortex on its dorsal face.

**Tertiary:** A flake or tool exhibiting no cortex.

**Left and right lateral sides:** Are defined by the butt of the piece pointing towards the viewer with the dorsal face uppermost.

## Catalogue

### Context: L3014

Core preparation flake. Unprepared butt. Light grey with mid brown mottling, translucent. Secondary. Fairly sharp. Not retouched. 2g

### Context: L3024

**(SF. 1)** Core preparation flake. Unprepared butt. Light grey with mid brown mottling, translucent. Secondary. Fairly sharp. Exhibits a small area of semi-abrupt retouch at distal end of right lateral edge to form a scraper. 3g

**(SF. 2)** Biface thinning pressure flake. Trimmed butt. Light grey with mid brown mottling, translucent. Tertiary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Not retouched. <1g

**(SF. 3)** Biface thinning flake. Prepared butt. Mid grey with dark brown mottling, semi-translucent. Tertiary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Not retouched. 3g.

**(SF. 5)** Flake. Unprepared butt. Mid grey with dark brown mottling, semi-translucent. Tertiary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Not retouched. 4g

**(SF. 6)** Broken flake. Unprepared butt. Honey brown, translucent. Primary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Retouched. Piece exhibits invasive retouch down both lateral edges on the dorsal face and on the right edge on the ventral face. Distal end is missing making interpretation difficult but could have been used as a spear point of knife. 6g.

**(SF. 9)** Flake. Unprepared butt. Honey brown, translucent. Tertiary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Not retouched. 1g.

**(SF. 10)** Core preparation flake. Trimmed butt. Mid slate-grey, opaque. Secondary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Not retouched. 3g.

**(SF. 11)** Shattered piece. No butt. Dark grey-black, opaque. Secondary. Not patinated. Not retouched. 6g.

**(SF. 12)** Broken bladelet. Butt missing. Honey brown, translucent. Tertiary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Not retouched. <1g.

**(SF. 13)** Shattered piece. No butt. Dark grey-black, opaque. Secondary. Not patinated. Not retouched. 4g.

**(SF. 14)** Chip. Unprepared butt. Honey brown, translucent. Tertiary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Not retouched. <1g.

**(SF. 15)** Shattered piece. No butt. Mid to dark grey, opaque. Primary. Not patinated. Not sharp. Not retouched. 20g.

**(SF. 17)** Flake. Unprepared butt. Dark grey, opaque. Primary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Delicate abrupt retouch at distal end to form scraping edge. 3g.

(SF. 22) Large thumb nail scraper. Unprepared butt. Honey brown, translucent. Primary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Semi-abrupt retouch to form scraping edge around 70% of its circumference. 12g.

(SF. 27) Core rejuvenation flake. Unprepared butt. Honey brown, translucent. Tertiary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Not retouched. 3g.

(SF. 28) Broken, heavily burnt flake. Butt missing. Light grey-white, opaque. Tertiary. Not patinated. Not sharp. Not retouched. <1g

(SF. 29) Burnt shattered piece. No butt. Mid to light grey, opaque. Secondary. Not patinated. Not sharp. Not retouched. 4g

(SF. 31) Core fragment. No identifiable platform. Honey brown, translucent. Secondary. Not patinated. Not sharp. Some crude retouch down lateral sides and distal end. 5g

(SF. 32) Core rejuvenation flake. Unprepared butt. Honey brown, translucent. Tertiary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Not retouched. 2g.

(SF. 33) Core rejuvenation flake. Unprepared butt. Dark grey, opaque. Secondary. Not patinated. Not sharp. Not retouched. Struck to remove inappropriate striking platform. 16g.

(SF. 38) Broken flake. Shattered butt. Honey brown, translucent. Tertiary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Not retouched. 1g.

(SF. 40) Double sided scraper. Unprepared butt. Honey brown, translucent. Secondary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Retouched down both lateral sides to form double sided scraper. 10g.

(SF. 42) Chip. No butt. Honey brown, translucent. Tertiary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Not retouched. <1g.

(SF. 43) Core preparation flake. Trimmed butt. Honey brown, translucent. Primary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Not retouched. 2g

(SF. 44) Thumbnail scraper. Trimmed butt. Honey brown, translucent. Tertiary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Invasive retouch. 2g.

(SF. 46) Shattered piece. No butt. Honey brown, translucent. Tertiary. Not patinated. Not sharp. Not retouched. 3g.

**Context: L3026**

(SF. 41) Core preparation flake. Trimmed butt. Honey brown, translucent. Secondary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Not retouched. 3g.

**Context: L3031**

Broken blade. Unprepared butt. Honey brown, translucent. Primary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Not retouched. Distal end missing. 2g.

**Context: L3033**

(SF. 47) Broken arrowhead. Butt missing. Honey brown, translucent. Primary. Not patinated. Sharp. Invasive retouch over entire dorsal face, some invasive retouch on the ventral face. Proximal end

is missing so impossible to identify arrowhead type, but most likely to be of either triangular or barbed and tanged type. 2g.

**(SF. 48)** Thumbnail scraper. Unprepared butt. Honey brown, translucent. Primary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Semi-abrupt retouch round 80% of its circumference. 6g.

**Context: L3034**

**(SF. 16)** Flake. Unprepared butt. Caramel brown. Opaque. Tertiary. Not patinated. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Not retouched. Hinge termination at distal end. 2g.

**Context: L3062**

**(SF. 55)** Flake. Unprepared butt. Light grey-brown, translucent. Secondary. Not patinated. Not sharp. Not retouched. 2g.

**(SF. 56)** Flake. Unprepared butt. Light grey-brown, translucent. Secondary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Not retouched. 1g.

**(SF. 57)** Exhausted bi-polar core. Negative flake scars visible. Mid to dark grey, opaque. 15-20% of cortex remains. 21g.

**(SF. 92)** Chip. Unprepared butt. Mid to light grey, slightly translucent. Tertiary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Not retouched. <1g.

**(SF. 93)** Broken scraper. Butt missing. Light grey, opaque. Secondary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Piece exhibits semi-abrupt retouch down intact ventral side. <1g.

**Context: L3063**

**(SF. 68)** Multi-platform flake core. Negative flake scars visible. Mid to dark grey, opaque. 5 – 10% of cortex remains. 72g.

**(SF. 70)** Broken flake. Unprepared butt. Mid to dark grey, opaque. Primary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Not retouched. 2g.

**(SF. 74)** 2 pieces of multi-platform flake core. Negative flake scars visible. Light grey, opaque. Slightly patinated. No cortex remains. Will not refit but fresh fractures suggest it was damaged during excavation which may account for missing part(s). 7g.

**(SF. 75)** Shattered piece. No butt. Light grey-brown, translucent. Secondary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Not retouched. <1g.

**(SF. 76)** Flake. Unprepared butt. Honey brown, translucent. Secondary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Not retouched. 4g.

**(SF. 79)** Sides and end scraper. Trimmed butt. Dark grey, slightly translucent. Tertiary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Invasively retouch over entire dorsal face. 12g.

**(SF. 94)** Heavily burnt broken flake. No butt. Light grey-white, opaque. Tertiary. Not patinated. Not sharp. Not retouched. 4g.

**(SF. 104)** Core preparation flake. Unprepared butt. Light grey-brown, slightly translucent. Primary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Small area of semi-abrupt retouch on left lateral edge. 25g.

**(SF. 113)** Shattered piece. No butt. Honey brown, translucent. Secondary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Not retouched. 4g.

**(SF. 114)** Reused bi-polar Mesolithic bladelet core. One flaking platform visible. Mid to light grey, opaque. The Mesolithic surfaces are patinated white but the later flaking has exposed unpatinated flint. 20g.

**(SF. 115)** Shattered piece. No platform. Mid grey, opaque. Not patinated. Secondary. Fairly sharp. Not retouched. 4g.

**(SF. 116)** Flake. Unprepared butt. Light honey brown, translucent. Tertiary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Not retouched. Piece exhibits a hinge termination at distal end. <1g.

**(SF. 117)** Side and end scraper. Unprepared butt. Light honey brown, translucent. Primary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Semi-abrupt retouch at end and right lateral side. 2g.

**Context: L3064**

**(SF. 81)** Broken flake. Butt missing. Honey brown, translucent. Primary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Invasive retouch down left lateral edge, semi-abrupt down right lateral edge. Piece may have been employed as a knife. 2g.

**(SF. 85)** Heavily burnt, shattered piece. Butt missing. Light grey-white, opaque. Tertiary. Not patinated. Not sharp. Not retouched. <1g.

**(SF. 86)** Broken scraper. Butt missing. Mid grey, opaque. Secondary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. All the surviving circumference is semi-abruptly retouched. 4g.

**(SF. 89)** Flake. Unprepared butt. Light grey-white, opaque. Primary. Heavily patinated. Not sharp. Not retouched. 4g.

**(SF. 91)** Flake. Unprepared butt. Light honey brown, translucent. Secondary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Not retouched. <1g.

**(SF. 95)** Flake. Unprepared butt. Mid grey, translucent. Tertiary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Not retouched. <1g.

**(SF. 96)** Piercer. Unprepared butt. Dark grey, slightly translucent. Tertiary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Retouched to form piercer point. 3g.

**(SF. 99)** Flake. Unprepared butt. Light honey brown, translucent. Secondary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Not retouched. <1g.

**(SF. 107)** Flake. Trimmed butt. Light honey brown, translucent. Secondary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Not retouched. 4g.

**(SF. 108)** Broken scraper. Butt missing. Mid grey, opaque. Secondary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Semi-abruptly retouched around 90% of the surviving circumference. 2g.

**(SF. 122)** Heavily burnt, shattered piece. No butt. Grey-white, opaque. Secondary. Not patinated. Not sharp. Not retouched. 4g.



**(SF. 123)** Flake. Unprepared butt. Light honey brown, translucent. Tertiary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Not retouched. <1g.

**(SF. 125)** Flake. Unprepared butt. Light honey brown, translucent. Secondary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Not retouched. 1g.

**(SF. 126)** Heavily burnt, shattered piece. No butt. Grey-white, opaque. Primary. Not patinated. Not sharp. Not retouched. 3g.

**(SF. 135)** Thumbnail scraper. Unprepared butt. Light honey brown, translucent. Tertiary. Not patinated. Semi-abruptly retouched around 85% of the circumference. 7g.

**(SF. 136)** End scraper. Unprepared butt. Light honey brown, translucent. Secondary. Not patinated. Semi-abruptly retouched around 65% of the circumference. 3g.

**(SF. 137)** Broken thumbnail scraper. Butt missing. Light honey brown, translucent. Tertiary. Not patinated. Invasively retouched around 100% of the surviving circumference. 1g.

**(SF. 138)** Shattered piece. No butt. Honey brown, translucent. Primary. Original outer surface patinated. Fairly sharp. Possible crude retouch down one edge. 24g.

**(SF. 140)** Heavily burnt, shattered piece. No butt. Grey-white, opaque. Primary. Not patinated. Not sharp. Not retouched. 2g.

**(SF. 141)** Flake. Unprepared butt. Light honey brown, opaque. Primary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Not retouched. 2g.

**(SF. 142)** Broken blade. Trimmed butt. Light honey brown, translucent. Tertiary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Not retouched. 1g.

**(SF. 149)** Broken flake. Butt missing. Mid to dark grey, translucent. Secondary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Not retouched. 2g.

**(SF. 151)** Flake. Unprepared butt. Mid to light grey, opaque. Tertiary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Not retouched. 3g.

**(SF. 155)** Flake. Unprepared butt. Mid to dark grey, translucent. Secondary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Not retouched. <1g.

**(SF. 156)** Broken flake. Butt missing. Mid to dark grey, translucent. Secondary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Not retouched. 4g.

**(SF. 157)** Flake. Unprepared butt. Honey brown, slightly translucent. Secondary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Not retouched. 16g.

**(SF. 158)** Broken burnt flake. Butt missing. Light grey, translucent. Secondary. Not patinated. Not sharp. Not retouched. <1g.

**(SF. 171)** Shattered piece. No butt. Mid grey, opaque. Secondary. Not patinated. Fairly sharp. Not retouched. 14g.

**(SF. 172)** End scraper. Unprepared butt. Light honey brown, mostly opaque. Tertiary. Not patinated. Semi-abruptly retouched around 65% of the circumference. 5g.

**(SF. 177)** Shattered piece. No butt. Light grey, opaque. Tertiary. Patinated. Fairly sharp. Not retouched. <1g.

**(SF. 178)** Core preparation flake. Trimmed butt. Honey brown, opaque. Primary. Patinated. Fairly sharp. Not retouched. Piece exhibits hinge termination at distal end. 4g.

**(SF. 180)** Shattered piece. No butt. Light grey, opaque. Tertiary. Patinated. Fairly sharp. Not retouched. <1g.

## SOIL EVALUATION

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*July 5<sup>th</sup> 2006*

### Introduction

An Early Bronze Age barrow site at Block Fen, Mepal, Cambridgeshire was visited on the 5<sup>th</sup> of July 2006, and discussed with Phil Weston (Archaeological Solutions Ltd). The site is composed of an Early Bronze Age round barrow, its circular ditch, and ‘later’ pits and intrusions; Beaker ware, flints and charcoal were found in these fills and in soil overlying the natural that was believed to be the remains of the base of the barrow mound (Phil Weston, pers. comm.). The barrow site is slightly elevated compared to the immediate area. One question concerns this rise in ground – is it due to barrow construction or a natural feature? A field investigation and sampling exercise was carried out to evaluate the nature of the soils present and their archaeological interpretation, and their relationship to the EBA barrow and landscape including the elevated character of the barrow site.

### Methods

Fieldwork, sampling and reporting were carried according to the guidelines of Goldberg and Macphail (2003, 2006), employing the descriptive system of Hodgson (1997) and soil classification of the Soil Survey of England and Wales (Avery, 1990; Hodge *et al.*, 1983). Three locations were selected for study and sampling (Table 1, locations A-C).

### Results and discussion

The local soils are Typical humic gley soils/Argillic humic gley soils (Ireton soil association) formed on glaciofluvial drift and affected by groundwater that is managed by pumps and dykes (Hodge *et al.*, 1983); the site is only 0.5 m ASL and near the prehistoric fen edge (Phil Weston, pers. comm.). Very little is left of the barrow apart from negative features – ditch, scrapes, and pits (Fig 1). Iron depleted ‘topsoils’ and upper subsoils, and ochreous mottled subsoil of Typical humic gley soils/Argillic humic gley soils seem to be present. The soil profile appears to represent soil formation in a typical upward fining ‘Pleistocene’ fluvioglacial sediment; numerous examples occur on the brickearth of southern England and on river terrace deposits of the Midlands and East Anglia (French, 2003; Macphail, Forthcoming; Macphail and Linderholm, 2004).

At location A (Figs 1-2), a thin (0-6[10] cm) ‘dark’ context 3024 occurs at the machined surface, and was tentatively identified by the excavators as the base of the barrow mound. Although generally uniform in thickness, this soil is wavy in places reaching 10 cm in thickness (Fig 2); such irregularities do not appear to be either a modern burrow or plough mark (Weston, pers. comm.). This context 3024 contains charcoal fragments and reportedly also Beaker ware and flints. This soil layer 3024, because of its wavy lower boundary, and because it is immediately

underlain by the sterile natural Ebg horizon (without any obvious buried topsoil in between), is therefore unlikely to be the base of the barrow mound, and more probably is the remains of the EBA 'topsoil'. The barrow mound has thus been lost. On the other hand, the presence of charcoal throughout 3024 suggests that EBA occupation material was worked into the soil through natural biological agencies and/or occupation activities. Context 3024, and Ebg and subsoil B(t)g horizons were sampled by monolith M1 (see Figs 4-5) in order to have the opportunity to study the EBA occupation soil in the context of local pedogenic processes and any possible human impacts such as clearance, agriculture etc (see below).

At location B it is interesting to note that stony soil and very stony subsoil occur close to the machined surface (Table 1, Fig. 3). No stone-free topsoil and little upper subsoil Ebg horizon soil is present. The presence of subsoil at a higher elevation than at location A could imply that a greater thickness of soil has been lost here – i.e., the pre-mound ground surface was higher towards the centre of the barrow. The site also includes tree boll/treethrow features (Goldberg and Macphail, 2006, Fig 9.8; Macphail and Goldberg, 1990), which could also have helped bring up subsoil sands and gravels towards the surface. There is no evidence, however, of *in situ* tree burning (Weston, pers. comm.), as found at Drayton Cursus (Oxfordshire) and Raunds (Northamptonshire), for example, that implied human activity associated with treethrow (Barclay *et al.*, 2003; Healy and Harding, Forthcoming).

The ditchfill at location C (Fig 6) shows ochreous sands and gravels infilling the barrow side of the ditch (recut ditch/barrow subsoil make-up slump?). General silting of fine sandy loam and small stones characterizes the main fill. The outer side of the ditch fill is however generally fine and stone-free, implying that it has originated from infilling by stone-free EBA soil. The presence of charcoal supports this view. This fine fill was sampled (M2)(Table 1, Fig 6).

## **Conclusions**

The chief soil findings are that the relatively high elevation of the barrow site, is unrelated to barrow mound construction (as all traces of the mound itself appear to have been lost), but relates to a natural elevation in the landscape – presumably resulting from Pleistocene/early Holocene glaciofluvial sand and gravel deposition. In addition, there is no field evidence of any of the barrow mound being preserved; instead the base of the EBA 'topsoil' soil provides a potential record of occupation.

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**Table 1: Barrow at Block Fen, Mepal, Cambridgeshire; brief soil description and samples**

Location	Samples	Context, soil horizon and brief description
A: Sampling baulk	Bulk x1a M1 (0- 20 cm)	0-6(10) cm 3024: brown to dark brown (7.5YR4/4 – moist; mottled light brown and reddish yellow [7.5YR6/4 and 6/6] – dry) very firm fine sandy loam; massive; few pores; frequent charcoal flecks; few small stones; sharp generally smooth (at 6 cm depth; one area at 10 cm depth).
A: Sampling baulk	Bulk x1b M1 (0- 20 cm)	6(10)-15(24 cm) Upper subsoil Ebg horizon: faintly mottled strong brown (7.5YR5/6 – moist; pink [7.5YR7/4] – dry) very firm fine sandy loam; massive; few pores; few small stones; abrupt, irregular boundary.
A: Sampling baulk	Bulk x1c M1 (0- 20 cm)	15(24)- 30+ cm Subsoil B(t)g horizon: strong brown (7.5YR4/6-5/6 – moist), ochreous to red mottled massive moderately firm medium loamy sand/sand, with abundant small and medium rounded stones (flint).
B: 1 metre distant from sampling baulk		0-4 cm 3024/B(t)g horizon: brown to dark brown (7.5YR4/2 – moist) firm massive sandy loam, with abundant small stones; abrupt wavy boundary. 4-25 cm B(t)g horizon: yellowish brown (10YR5/6) ochreous and red (2.5R4/6) mottled, massive medium sand; abundant fine and medium round stones.
C: Ditch	Bulk 2a M2 (21- 29 cm)	Barrow side ditch fill (0-25 cm): yellowish brown (10YR5/6 – moist) medium sand with ochreous mottles; abundant small stones (recut ditch/barrow subsoil make-up slump?). Barrow ditch centre (0-37 cm): brown (7.5YR5/2 – moist) firm, massive, faintly mottled fine sandy loam; frequent small stones. Barrow ditch outer – fine silting – 3054; brown (7.5YR5/2 – moist) firm, massive; few stones.

**APPENDIX 4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION OF RING DITCH F3065**

The table below displays the results of each segment excavated across ring ditch F3035.

<b>Segment</b>	<b>Feature</b>	<b>Dimensions</b>	<b>Profile</b>	<b>Fill(s)</b>	<b>Find(s)</b>
A	F3035	0.60m wide 0.29m deep.	Moderately sloping convex sides and a rounded base	L3073. Mid grey brown non-cohesive silty sand with occ. mineralisation deposits (<2-10mm diam.)	-
B	F3035	0.75m wide 0.24m deep.	Shallow sloping sides, slightly rounded flat base	L3072. Mid grey brown non-cohesive silty sand with occ. mineralisation deposits (<3-7mm diam.)	-
C	F3035	0.81mm wide 0.30m deep.	Shallow sloping sides, slightly rounded flat base	L3071. Mid grey brown non-cohesive silty sand with occ. mineralisation deposits (<3-7mm diam.)	-
D	F3035	0.76m wide 0.26m deep.	Shallow sloping sides, slightly rounded flat base	L3070. Mid grey brown non-cohesive silty sand with occ. mineralisation deposits (<2-10mm diam.)	-
E	F3035	0.83m wide 0.25m deep.	Shallow sloping sides, slightly rounded flat base	L3036. Mid grey brown non-cohesive silty sand with occ. mineralisation deposits (<2-10mm diam.)	-
F	F3025	0.84m wide 0.26m deep.	Shallow sloping sides, slightly rounded flat base	L3026. Mid grey brown non-cohesive silty sand with occ. Sub-angular flint gravel (<2-15mm diam.)	Flint (3g); animal bone (39g)
G	F3025	0.74m wide 0.30m deep.	Shallow sloping sides, slightly rounded flat base	L3050. Mid grey brown non-cohesive silty sand with occ. Sub-angular flint	-

				gravel (<3-30mm diam.)	
H	F3025	0.84m wide 0.34m deep.	Shallow sloping sides, slightly rounded flat base	L3074. Mid grey brown non-cohesive silty sand with occ. Sub-angular flint gravel (<2-15mm diam.)	-
I	F3025	0.97m wide 0.37m deep.	Shallow sloping sides, slightly rounded flat base	L3039. Mid grey brown non-cohesive silty sand with occ. Sub-angular flint gravel (<2-25mm diam.)	-
J	F3025	1.04m wide 0.36m deep.	Shallow sloping sides, slightly rounded flat base	L3038. Mid grey orange brown non-cohesive silty sand with occ. Sub-angular flint gravel (<2-25mm diam.)	-
K	F3025	0.89m wide 0.34m deep.	Shallow sloping sides, slightly rounded flat base	L3037. Mid grey brown non-cohesive silty sand with occ. Sub-angular flint gravel (<2-15mm diam.)	-
L	F3025	0.89m wide 0.34m deep.	Shallow sloping sides, slightly rounded flat base	L3034. Mid grey brown non-cohesive silty sand with occ. Sub-angular flint gravel (<2-15mm diam.)	Flint (2g)
M	F3040	0.73m wide 0.27m deep.	Shallow sloping sides, slightly rounded flat base	L3049. Mid grey brown non-cohesive silty sand with occ. Sub-angular flint gravel (<2-30mm diam.)	-
N	F3040	0.96m wide 0.33m deep.	Shallow sloping sides, slightly rounded flat base	L3048. Mid grey brown non-cohesive silty sand with occ. Sub-angular flint gravel (<2-40mm diam.)	-
O	F3040	0.94m wide	Shallow sloping	L3047. Mid grey	-



		0.32m deep.	sides, slightly rounded flat base	brown non-cohesive silty sand with occ. Sub-angular flint gravel (<2-70mm diam.)	
P	F3040	0.92m wide 0.34m deep.	Shallow sloping sides, slightly rounded flat base	L3046. Mid grey brown non-cohesive silty sand with occ. Sub-angular flint gravel (<2-50mm diam.)	-
Q	F3040	0.94m wide 0.26m deep.	Shallow sloping sides, slightly rounded flat base	L3045. Mid grey brown non-cohesive silty sand with occ. Sub-angular flint gravel (<2-50mm diam.)	-
R	F3040	0.90m wide 0.31m deep.	Shallow sloping sides, slightly rounded flat base	L3041. Mid grey brown non-cohesive silty sand with no inclusions. L3042. Light orange brown non-cohesive silty sand with occ. Sub-angular flint gravel (<4-50mm diam.). L3043. Mid grey brown non-cohesive silty sand with occ. Sub-angular flint gravel (<2-50mm diam.). L3044. Mid orange brown grey non-cohesive silty sand with occ. Sub-angular flint gravel (<2-70mm diam.)	-
S	F3079	1.23m wide 0.52m deep.	Steep sloping sides (45° sloping edges along its external edge, and 60° edges along its	L3080. Mid orange brown non-cohesive silty sand with frequent sub-angular flint pebbles (<2-40mm diam.)	-

			internal edge), slightly rounded flat base	L3081. Mid orange brown non-cohesive silty sand with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles (<5-15mm diam.) L3082. Mid orange brown grey non-cohesive silty sand with frequent sub-angular flint pebbles (<5-20mm diam.) L3083. Mid grey brown non-cohesive silty sand with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles (<5-30mm diam.)	
T	F3079	1.19m wide 0.68m deep.	Steep sloping sides (45° sloping edges along its external edge, and 60° edges along its internal edge), slightly rounded flat base	L3080. Mid orange brown non-cohesive silty sand with frequent sub-angular flint pebbles (<2-40mm diam.) L3081. Mid orange brown non-cohesive silty sand with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles (<5-15mm diam.) L3082. Mid orange brown grey non-cohesive silty sand with frequent sub-angular flint pebbles (<5-20mm diam.) L3083. Mid grey brown non-cohesive silty sand with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles (<5-30mm diam.)	-
U	F3079	1.32m wide 0.73m deep.	Steep sloping sides (45° sloping edges	L3080. Mid orange brown non-cohesive silty sand	-

			<p>along its external edge, and 60° edges along its internal edge), slightly rounded flat base</p>	<p>with frequent sub-angular flint pebbles (&lt;2-40mm diam.)                      L3081. Mid orange brown non-cohesive silty sand with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles (&lt;5-15mm diam.)                      L3082. Mid orange brown grey non-cohesive silty sand with frequent sub-angular flint pebbles (&lt;5-20mm diam.)                      L3083. Mid grey brown non-cohesive silty sand with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles (&lt;5-30mm diam.)                      L3084. Mid grey yellow brown non-cohesive silty sand with moderate sub-angular flint pebbles (&lt;3-50mm diam.)</p>	
V	F3079	1.16m wide 0.52m deep.	<p>Steep sloping sides (45° sloping edges 3079 along its external edge, and 60° edges along its internal edge), slightly rounded flat base</p>	<p>L3080. Mid orange brown non-cohesive silty sand with frequent sub-angular flint pebbles (&lt;2-40mm diam.)                      L3081. Mid orange brown non-cohesive silty sand with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles (&lt;5-15mm diam.)                      L3082. Mid orange brown grey non-cohesive silty sand with frequent sub-angular flint pebbles (&lt;5-20mm</p>	-

				diam.) L3083. Mid grey brown non-cohesive silty sand with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles (<5-30mm diam.)	
W	F3079	1.14m wide 0.61m deep.	Steep sloping sides (45° sloping edges along its external edge, and 60° edges along its internal edge), slightly rounded flat base	L3080. Mid orange brown non-cohesive silty sand with frequent sub-angular flint pebbles (<2-40mm diam.) L3081. Mid orange brown non-cohesive silty sand with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles (<5-15mm diam.) L3082. Mid orange brown grey non-cohesive silty sand with frequent sub-angular flint pebbles (<5-20mm diam.) L3083. Mid grey brown non-cohesive silty sand with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles (<5-30mm diam.)	-
X	F3079	1.48m wide 0.82m deep.	Steep sloping sides (45° sloping edges along its external edge, and 60° edges along its internal edge), slightly rounded flat base	L3080. Mid orange brown non-cohesive silty sand with frequent sub-angular flint pebbles (<2-40mm diam.) L3081. Mid orange brown non-cohesive silty sand with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles (<5-15mm diam.) L3082. Mid orange brown grey	-

				<p>non-cohesive silty sand with frequent sub-angular flint pebbles (&lt;5-20mm diam.)</p> <p>L3083. Mid grey brown non-cohesive silty sand with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles (&lt;5-30mm diam.)</p> <p>L3084. Mid grey yellow brown non-cohesive silty sand with moderate sub-angular flint pebbles (&lt;3-50mm diam.)</p>	
Y	F3079	1.49m wide 0.79m deep.	Steep sloping sides (45° sloping edges along its external edge, and 60° edges along its internal edge), slightly rounded flat base	<p>L3080. Mid orange brown non-cohesive silty sand with frequent sub-angular flint pebbles (&lt;2-40mm diam.)</p> <p>L3081. Mid orange brown non-cohesive silty sand with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles (&lt;5-15mm diam.)</p> <p>L3082. Mid orange brown grey non-cohesive silty sand with frequent sub-angular flint pebbles (&lt;5-20mm diam.)</p> <p>L3083. Mid grey brown non-cohesive silty sand with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles (&lt;5-30mm diam.)</p> <p>L3084. Mid grey yellow brown non-cohesive silty sand with moderate sub-angular flint</p>	-

				pebbles (<3-50mm diam.)	
	F3040	0.23m wide 0.47m deep	Gently sloping sides (45° to horiz.) running to a slightly rounded flat base.	L3041. Mid grey brown non-cohesive silty sand with no inclusions.	-
Z	F3079	0.04m wide 0.12m deep	Steep sloping sides (45° sloping edges along its external edge, and 60° edges along its internal edge), slightly rounded flat base	L3084. Mid grey yellow brown non-cohesive silty sand with moderate sub-angular flint pebbles (<3-50mm diam.)	-
	F3085	1.45m wide 0.85m deep	Vertical sides running into a flat base	L3086. Dark grey brown non-cohesive silty sand with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles (<5-20mm)	-
AA	F3053	m wide m deep.	Shallow sloping sides, slightly rounded flat base	L3056. Mid grey brown non-cohesive silty sand with occ. Sub-angular flint gravel (<2-40mm diam.) L3057. Mid orange brown non-cohesive silty sand with frequent sub-angular flint pebbles (<2-40mm diam.)	-
BB	F3053	m wide m deep.	Shallow sloping sides, slightly rounded flat base	L3054. Mid grey brown non-cohesive silty sand with occ. Sub-angular flint gravel (<2-40mm	-

				diam.) L3055. Mid orange brown non- cohesive silty sand with frequent sub- angular flint pebbles (<2-40mm diam.)	
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*Table showing ring ditch F3065 incl. recut.*

## **APPENDIX 5            DESCRIPTION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES PHASES 1 - 4**

### **PHASE 1**

#### **Ditches**

A single ditch (F1077) was present in Phase 1

Ditch F1077 (3.40m x 3.30m x 0.11m) was a shallow horse-shoe shaped curvilinear ditch, recorded in the eastern part of the site. It had slightly irregular, gently sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a mid grey/orange silty sand (L1078) with occasional charcoal flecks and occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were recovered from the deposit. No internal features were enclosed by the ditch.

#### **Pits and Possible Tree Hollows**

Phase 1 contained a total of 71 pits and possible tree hollows.

Pit F1041 (7.80m x 6.45m x 0.30m) was the largest pit on site. It was a relatively shallow, oval feature with gently sloping sides and a slightly concave base. It contained a light grey/brown sandy silt (L1042) with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. Animal bone (1763g) and struck flint (4g) were recovered from the deposit. The pit may represent a possible dew pond given its size and profile.

Pit F1043 (2.57m long x 1.24m x 0.28m) was a relatively large, shallow, oval feature with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a light grey/brown sandy silt (L1044) with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were recovered from the fill.

Pit F1045 (2.50m x 1.59m x 0.17m) was a relatively large, shallow, oval feature with gently sloping sides and a concave base. This pit had two fills. The primary fill was a mid brown/grey silty sand (L1046) with occasional charcoal flecks and occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were made from the deposit. The secondary fill was a dark brown/grey silty sand (L1047) with frequent charcoal flecks and occasional sub-angular flint pebble inclusions. No finds were recovered from this feature. This pit was cut by pit F1048.

Pit F1048 (2.77m x 1.18m x 0.14m) was a relatively large, shallow, oval feature with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It contained two fills. The primary fill was a mid brown/grey silty sand (L1049) with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. Finds comprise animal bone (122g) only. The secondary fill was a dark brown/grey silty sand (L1050) with occasional charcoal flecks and occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were recovered from this layer. This pit cut pit F1045.

Pit F1051 (1.22m x 1.04m x 0.06m) was a relatively large, shallow, oval feature with gently sloping sides and an irregular, uneven, root-disturbed base. It contained a single fill of mid brown/grey silty sand (L1052) with occasional charcoal flecks and occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were present.

Pit F1053 (1.30m x 0.49m x 0.16m) was a relatively small, shallow irregular feature with sharply sloping sides and an irregular, uneven root-disturbed base.. The pit contained a dark grey/black silty sand (L1054) with frequent charcoal flecks and occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. Finds



from the deposit comprise pottery sherds (9g; early Bronze Age date), animal bone (1g) and struck flint (5g).

Pit F1055 (7.00m+ x 3.00m x 0.30m) was a large, shallow, irregular feature with gently sloping, slightly concave sides and a flat base. It contained a mid grey/brown silty sand (L1056) with occasional charcoal flecks and moderate sub-angular flint pebbles. Finds from the deposit comprise animal bone (87g) and struck flint (10g). This pit cut pit F1057.

Pit F1057 (0.50m+ x 0.35m x 0.20m) was a relatively small oval feature with sides sloping at 30° breaking gently to a concave base. The pit contained a single deposit of light grey/brown silty sand (L1058) with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were present. This pit was cut by pit F1055.

Pit F1059 (4.68m x 1.22m x 0.30m) was a relatively large curvilinear feature with sharply sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a mid grey/brown silty sand (L1060) with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. Finds from the deposit comprise animal bone (37g).

Pit F1061 (0.80m x 0.80m x 0.10m) was a shallow circular feature with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a dark grey/yellow with orange mottling, silty sand (L1062) with frequent charcoal flecks and occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were present.

Pit F1063 (0.60m x 0.60m x 0.10m) was a shallow circular feature with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a light grey/yellow silty sand with orange mottling (L1064) with frequent charcoal flecks. No finds were present.

Pit F1065 (3.60m x 3.10m x 0.15m) was a large, shallow, oval feature with gently sloping sides and a flat base. It contained a mid grey/brown silty sand with orange mottling (L1066) with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. Finds from the deposit comprise animal bone (22g).

Pit F1067 (4.70m x 1.60m x 0.37m) was a large curvilinear feature with irregular sides sloping from 30° to 40°, breaking gently to a concave base. It contained a mid brown/grey silty sand (L1068) with occasional charcoal and occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. Finds from the deposit comprise animal bone (14g) only.

Pit F1069 (2.29m x 1.50m x 0.54m) was a relatively large, irregular feature with irregular sides sloping from 10° to 60°, breaking to an irregular, very uneven base. It contained a single deposit of dark grey/brown silty sand (L1070) with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. This pit may represent a tree hollow. Pottery sherds (13g; early Bronze Age date) were recovered from the fill.

Pit F1071 (1.20m long x 1.08m x 0.09m) was a relatively large, shallow, oval feature with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a mid grey/brown silty sand (L1072) with occasional clay lenses and occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. Finds from the deposit comprise animal bone (33g) only.

Pit F1073 (0.63m x 0.58m x 0.08m) was a circular feature with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single deposit of mid grey/brown, silty sand (L1074) with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were recovered from the pit.

Pit F1075 (1.00m x 1.00m x 0.17m) was a relatively large circular shallow feature with sides sloping initially at 20° and then at 80°, breaking sharply to a flat sloping base. It contained a dark grey/brown, peaty silt (L1076) with moderate charcoal inclusions in the form of a lens at the base of the feature. No finds were recovered from the fill.

Pit F1079 (0.80m x 0.80m x 0.19m) was a circular feature with gently sloping concave sides and a concave base. It contained a mid brown/grey, silty sand (L1080) with occasional charcoal flecks. No finds were present.

Pit F1081 (2.00m x 1.45m x 0.18m) was a relatively large oval feature with irregular sides sloping at 40° to 60°, breaking to an irregular, uneven base. It contained a mid brown/grey, sandy silt (L1082) with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were made from the deposit.

Pit F1083 (0.43m x 0.33m x 0.09m) was a small, irregular feature with sharply sloping sides and a flat sloping base. The pit contained a mid brown/grey sandy silt (L1084) with occasional charcoal flecks. No finds were recovered from the fill.

Pit F1085 (0.42m x 0.28m x 0.06m) was a small oval feature with a gently sloping sides and base. It contained a mid greyish brown sandy silt (L1086) with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were recovered from the fill.

Pit F1087 (2.40m x 1.90m x 0.17m) was a large oval feature with a gently sloping sides and base. It contained a mid brown/grey, sandy silt (L1088) with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were recovered from the feature.

Pit F1089 (1.40m x 0.80m x 0.29m) was a relatively large irregular feature with sharply sloping sides and an irregular base. It contained a mid greyish brown sandy silt (L1090) with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were recovered from the fill.

Pit F1091 (3.60m x 3.10m x 0.10m) was a large, shallow, irregular oval feature with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a dark grey/brown, silty sand (L1092) with occasional charcoal and occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. Animal bone (112g) was recovered from the fill.

Pit F1093 (0.60m x 0.60m x 0.08m) was a relatively small, circular feature with gently sloping irregular sides and a concave base. It contained a light brown/grey, silty sand (L1094) with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were recovered from the deposit.

Pit F1095 was a relatively large, oval feature with gently concave sloping sides and a slightly concave base. The pit was 1.40m long, 0.80m wide and 0.12m deep. It contained a mid orange/grey, silty sand (L1094). The deposit contained no finds.

Pit F1097 (1.40m x 0.80m x 0.20m) was a relatively large irregular oval feature with slightly concave sides sloping at 40° from horizontal, and a concave base. It contained a mid brown/grey peaty silt (L1098) with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. L1098 contained animal bone (94g) only.

Pit F1099 (3.70m x 0.50m x 0.13m) was a relatively large, shallow, linear feature with sides sloping at 35° from horizontal, descending to a concave base. It contained a mid grey clayey silt (L1100) with frequent lenses of decayed plant material and moderate sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were present.

Pit F1101 (1.20m x 0.75m x 0.15m) was a relatively large oval feature with slightly irregular sides sloping at 35° and a concave base. It contained a single deposit of mid brown/grey silty sand with orange mottling (L1102), with occasional sub-angular flint pebble inclusions. No finds were present.

Pit F1103 (1.45m x 0.95m x 0.20m) was a relatively large oval feature with slightly concave sides sloping at 40° from horizontal, down to an irregular base. It contained a mid brown/grey, mottled orange, silty sand (L1104) with occasional charcoal and occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were present

Pit F1105 (2.00m x 0.95m x 0.18m) was a large oval feature with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a mid brown/grey silty sand with orange mottling (L1106) with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were present.

Pit F1107 (0.46m x 0.36m x 0.14m) was a relatively small oval feature with steep sides sloping at 80° to a flat base. It contained a very dark grey silty sand (L1108) with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. Burnt bone (<1g) was found in the fill.

Pit F1109 (1.80m x 1.35m x 0.15m) was a large oval feature with slightly concave sides sloping at 25° and a concave base. It contained a light brown/grey sandy silt with orange mottling (L1110), with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were present.

Pit F1111 (1.90m x 1.60m x 0.17m) was a large oval feature with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a light brown/grey sandy silt with orange mottling (L1112) with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were present.

Pit F1113 (1.24m x 0.84m x 0.29m) was a large oval feature with steep (80°) sides and a slightly concave base. It contained a light brown/grey sandy silt with some orange mottling (L1114), with moderate charcoal flecks and occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were present.

Pit F1115 (2.00m x 1.80m x 0.12m) was a large, shallow irregular feature with gently sloping irregular sides and an irregular, uneven base. The pit contained a single deposit of dark grey slightly clayey silt (L1116) with frequent patches of brown peaty silt and occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were present. The feature may represent a tree hollow given its irregular form and fill.

Pit F1117 (2.60m x 0.75m x 0.19m) was a relatively large curvilinear feature with sides sloping at 40° from horizontal, down to a narrow concave base. It contained a mid orange/grey silty sand (L1118) with occasional charcoal flecks and moderate sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were present.

Pit F1119 (1.50m x 1.20m x 0.19m) was a relatively large oval feature with gently sloping irregular sides and a flat base. It contained a single deposit of mid orange/grey silty sand with orange mottling (L1120) with occasional charcoal flecks and occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were present.

Pit F1121 (1.50m x 1.10m x 0.24m) was a large irregular oval feature with irregular sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill comprising a mid grey/dark grey slightly clayey silt (L1122) with lenses of brown peaty silt and occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were present.

Pit F1123 (0.30m x 0.22m x 0.10m) was a small oval feature with sides sloping at 35° and a concave base. It contained a light brown/grey sandy silt with orange mottling (L1124), with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. A single retouched flint blade was recovered from the fill.

Pit F1125 (0.70m x 0.50m x 0.13m) was a circular feature with sides sloping at 40° to a slightly concave base. It contained a light brown/grey sandy silt (L1126) with orange mottling and occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were present.

Pit F1127 (1.00m x 0.80m x 0.15m) was a relatively large oval feature with gently sloping irregular sides and a concave base. It contained two distinct fills. The primary fill was a mid orange/grey sandy silt with orange mottling (L1128), with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. The secondary fill was a mid brown/grey sandy silt (L1129) with frequent charcoal flecks and occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were recovered from either deposit.

Pit F1130 (0.50m x 0.48m x 0.15m) was a circular feature with sides sloping at 50° down to a concave base. It contained a mid grey slightly clayey silt (L1131) with frequent lenses of brown peat derived silt and moderate sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were recovered from the fill.

Pit F1132 (1.40m x 0.83m x 0.14m) was a relatively large oval feature with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a mid grey/brown silty sand (L1133) with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were recovered from the fill.

Pit F1134 (1.39m+ x 1.16m x 0.12m) was a relatively large irregular oval feature (the feature was truncated by a modern drainage ditch), with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a mid grey/brown silty sand (L1135) with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were present.

Pit F1136 (3.05m x 2.59m x 0.20m) was a large oval feature with gently sloping irregular sides and a concave base. It contained a mid grey/brown silty sand (L1137) with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were present.

Pit F1138 (3.00m x 0.60m x 0.16m) was a relatively large curvilinear feature with irregular sides sloping at 40° and a narrow pointed base. It contained mid orange/grey silty sand with orange mottling (L1139), with occasional charcoal flecks and moderate sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were present.

Pit F1140 (1.45m x 0.95m x 0.25m) was a relatively large oval feature with sharply sloping sides and an irregular uneven base. It contained a light brown/grey silty sand with orange mottling (L1141) with occasional charcoal flecks and moderate sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were present.

Pit F1142 (1.50m x 0.75m x 0.11m) was an irregular sub-rectangular feature with concave sides and a concave base. It contained a light yellow/grey silty sand (L1143) with occasional charcoal flecks and occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. Finds from the deposit comprise animal bone (207g) only.

Pit F1144 (0.70m x 0.50m x 0.23m) was an oval feature with sharply sloping sides and a concave base. It was contained a mid brown/grey silty sand (L1145) with moderate charcoal flecks and occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were present.

Pit F1146 (1.60m x 1.60m x 0.18m) was a circular feature with gently sloping concave sides and a concave base. It contained a light yellow/grey silty sand (L1147) with occasional charcoal flecks and occasional sub-angular flint pebble inclusions. No finds were present.

Pit F1148 (0.55m x 0.50m x 0.09m) was an irregular circular feature with slightly concave sides sloping at 35° from horizontal and a concave base. It contained a single deposit of light grey slightly clayey silt (L1149) with frequent lenses of brown peaty silt and occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were present.

Pit F1150 (0.55m+ x 0.95m x 0.32m) was an irregular circular feature with sharply sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a dark grey slightly clayey silt (L1151) with frequent lenses of brown peaty silt and moderate sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were present.

Pit F1152 (3.40m x 0.95m x 0.20m) was a relatively large curvilinear feature with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single deposit of mid grey, slightly clayey silt (L1153), with frequent lenses of brown peaty silt, occasional charcoal flecks and moderate sub-angular flint pebbles. Finds from the deposit comprise fired clay (103g) only.

Pit F1154 (3.38m x 3.01m x 0.11m) was a large shallow circular feature with gently sloping sides and an irregular concave base. It contained a mid grey/brown silty sand (L1155) with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were present.

Pit F1156 (2.50m+ x 1.45m x 0.50m) was a relatively large irregular oval pit with sharply sloping sides and a narrow concave base. The pit contained two fills. The primary fill was a mid brown/grey, sandy silt (L1162) with occasional charcoal flecks and occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were present. The secondary fill was a mid black/grey sandy silt (L1157) with frequent charcoal flecks and occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. Finds from the latter comprise pottery sherds (305g; early Bronze Age date), fired clay (326g), animal bone (157g) and struck flint (49g). This pit cut pit F1179.

Pit F1158 (0.55m x 0.48m x 0.15m) was a relatively small irregular feature with irregular sharply sloping sides and a narrow concave base. It contained a light brown/grey sandy silt (L1159) with occasional charcoal flecks and occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were present.

Pit F1160 (0.37m x 0.26m x 0.07m) was an oval feature with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It contained light brown/grey sandy silt (L1161) with frequent charcoal flecks and occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were present.

Pit F1163 (1.40m x 0.70m x 0.23m) was a relatively large irregular rectangular feature with sharply sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a mid brown/grey, silty sand (L1164) with moderate charcoal flecks and occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were present.

Pit F1165 (2.40m x 2.15m x 0.28m) was a large shallow irregular feature with gently sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a dark brown silty sand (L1166) with occasional charcoal and occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were present.

Pit F1167 (0.76m x 0.70m x 0.18m) was a relatively large circular feature with sides sloping at 30°, steepening to 60° with an irregular concave base. It contained a mid grey/brown silty sand (L1168) with occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were present.

Pit F1169 (3.50m x 0.60m x 0.25m) was a relatively large linear feature with sharply sloping sides and a narrow concave base. It contained dark grey slightly clayey silt (L1170) with moderate lenses of brown peaty silt and occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were present.

Pit F1171 (0.90m x 0.70m x 0.14m) was a relatively large oval feature with irregular sloping sides and a flat sloping base. It contained a mid orange/grey silty sand (L1172) with occasional charcoal flecks and moderate sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were present.

Pit F1173 (2.20m x 0.70m x 0.28m) was an irregular oval feature with sharply sloping sides and an irregular concave base. It contained mid grey slightly clayey silt (L1174) with frequent lenses of brown peat derived silt and moderate sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were present.

Pit F1175 (1.20m x 1.00m x 0.24m) was an irregular circular feature with concave sides and a concave base. It contained a mid grey/brown slightly clayey silt (L1176) with frequent lenses of brown peat derived silt and moderate sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were present.

Pit F1177 (0.90m x 0.50m x 0.10m) was an irregular circular feature with sharply sloping very irregular sides and an uneven root-disturbed base. It contained a dark brown/grey peaty silt (L1178) with sparse sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were present.

Pit F1179 (0.50m+ x 0.45m x 0.17m) was an oval feature with irregular slightly convex sides and a concave base. The pit was truncated by pit F1156. It contained a dark brown/grey silty sand (L1180) with frequent charcoal flecks and occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. Finds from the deposit comprise pottery sherds (97g; early Bronze Age date), red clay (117g), animal bone (109g) and struck flint (114g).

Pit F1181 (0.65m x 0.25m x 0.08m) was an irregular circular feature with sharply sloping, irregular sides and an irregular base with evidence of root disturbance. It contained a dark grey/brown peaty silt (L1182) with sparse sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were present.

Pit F1183 (1.05m x 0.35m x 0.10m) was a circular feature with sharply sloping, irregular sides and an uneven concave base. It contained a dark grey/brown peaty silt (L1184) with very occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were present.

Pit F1185 (0.85m x 0.60m x 0.10m) was an oval feature with concave sides and a concave base. It contained a dark greyish brown peaty silt (L1186) with very occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were present.

Pit F1187 (1.00m x 0.45m x 0.10m) was an oval feature with concave sides and a concave base. It contained a dark grey/brown peaty silt (L1188) with very occasional sub-angular flint pebbles. No finds were present.

## **PHASE 2**

### **TRENCH 1**

A pit (F2002) and a rectangular feature (F2004) were present within this trench. Pit F2002 contained an unfired, baked clay ball about the size of a snooker ball (SF1).

Rectangular feature F2004 (3.30m x 0.90m x 0.25m) had moderate sides and an uneven flattish base. It contained a single fill (L2005) of slightly yellowish brownish mid grey firm sandy gravel. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Pit F2002 (0.15m x 0.13m x 0.15m) had vertical sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill (L2003) of mid greyish brown compact sandy silt from which a clay ball (SF1) was recovered.

### **TRENCH 2**

An amorphous, roughly circular feature (F2006) was present within trench 2. Feature F2006 had gentle, irregular sides and an uneven, slightly rounded base. It contained a single fill (L2007) which was mid greyish brown friable silty sandy soil. Animal bone (106g) was recovered from this feature. F2006 may have been a natural depression e.g. a puddle which silted up.

### PHASE 3

Pit F1200 (1.22m x 0.29m x 0.13m) was irregular in plan and had gentle sides and an undulating base. This feature had been heavily truncated by the process of ploughing and plough scars were evident cutting the surface of the feature. It contained a single fill (L1201) which was dark grey loose sandy silt with frequent inclusions of charcoal which contained no finds.

Pit F1204 (1.46m x 0.41m x 0.10m) was sub ovoid in plan and had gentle stepping sides and a rounded base. It contained a single fill (L1205) which was dark greyish white loose sandy silt with moderate charcoal inclusion. No finds were recovered.

Pit F1206 (2.45m x 0.60m x 0.24m) was sub ovoid in plan and its northern side was very gentle but its southern side moderate. Its base sloped southwards. It contained a single fill (L1207) which was mid to dark grey loose silty sand. No finds were recovered from this fill.

Pit or posthole F1208 (0.75m x 0.38m x 0.22m) was sub circular in plan and had moderate sides and a rounded base. It contained two fills, the main fill L1209 was mid to dark greyish brown firm sandy silt with a concentration of charcoal at the top and at the base. No finds were recovered from this fill. The feature had been truncated by ploughing and as a result, the second fill L1210 was probably caused by ploughing. L1210 was light greyish white friable silty chalk which contained no finds.

Shallow posthole or small pit F1211 (0.27 x 0.27 x 0.06) was circular in plan and had gentle sides and a slightly concave base. It contained a single fill (L1212) which was mid grey firm sandy silt with frequent inclusions of charcoal. No finds were recovered from this feature.

Pit F1215 (1.97 x 1.35 x 0.29m) was ovoid in plan and had moderate sides and a concave base. It contained two fills. The basal fill L1214 was mid to dark greyish brown sandy silt with a high humic content. Animal bone (215g) was recovered and environmental sample 13 was also taken of this fill. Uppermost fill L1213 was mid reddish brown cohesive sandy silt with occasional inclusions of charcoal and flint. No finds were recovered from this fill.

Pit F1217 (1.75m x 0.42m x 0.12m) was sub oval in plan and had gentle sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill L1216 which was mid reddish grey cohesive silty sand with animal bone (1g) and two struck flints (14g) being recovered. This feature was cut by a modern ditch.

Boundary ditch F1218 (22m x 4.4 x 0.36m max) was curvilinear in plan and had gentle to moderate sides and a concave base with the exception of the terminus, which had a different profile. This section had gentle sides which were convex at the top on the southern edge, becoming concave towards the base and breaking into a rounded base. Five segments were excavated through the ditch, the results of which are tabulated below:

Segment	Dimensions	Profile	Fill(s)	Finds
A	4.40m wide 0.32m deep	Shallow sloping sides, slightly rounded base	L1219 Dark greyish brown humic sandy silt. L1020 Mid reddish brown sandy silt.	None None
B	2.71m wide 0.32m deep.	Shallow sloping sides, slightly rounded base	L1221 Dark greyish brown humic sandy silt. L1222 Mid reddish brown sandy silt.	None Animal Bone (188g),

				Struck flint (8g)
C	2.88m wide 0.36m deep.	Moderately sloping convex sides and a rounded base.	L1223 Dark greyish brown humic sandy silt. L1224 Dark greyish brown sandy silt. L1225 Orange brownish grey sand. L1227 Light-mid brownish grey-orange clayey sandy silt	None None Struck Flint (9g) None
D	2.78m wide 0.34m deep.	Shallow sloping sides, slightly rounded base	L1242 Dark greyish brown humic sandy silt. L1243 Mid reddish brown sandy silt.	None Animal Bone (89g)
E	3.97m wide 0.32m deep.	Shallow sloping sides, slightly rounded base	L1249 Dark greyish brown humic sandy silt. L1250 Mid reddish brown sandy silt.	None Animal Bone (187g), Struck Flint (7g)

Pit F1226 (0.96m x 0.88m) was only partially visible in an excavated section. It appeared half oval and had steep sides and a slightly rounded base. It contained four fills L1229, L1231, L1230 and L1228. The primary fill L1229 was light to mid brown loose sandy silt with frequent inclusions of gravel. Secondary slump L1231 was orangey brown firm sand with moderate gravel inclusions. Main and tertiary fill L1230 was mid greyish, orangey brown loose silty sand. Fill L1228 was light yellowish chalky silt with orangey gravel. No finds were recovered from this fill and it could have been a slump of natural into the pit or a fill of redeposited natural which laid above L1230. Pit F1226 and fills L1228 and L1230 are cut by ditch F1218 segment C.

Linear F1232 (5.00m x 0.85m x 0.09m) was roughly linear in plan and had gentle sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill L1233/L1234 which was light to mid grey friable silty sand with occasional charcoal and burnt flint inclusions. One struck flint (3g) and animal bone (22g) was recovered from this fill.

Pit F1235 (3.75m x 2.75m x 0.81m) was sub oval in plan and had gentle sides and a rounded base. It contained three fills L1238, L1237 and L1236. Primary fill L1238 was yellowish greyish brown firm sandy silt with frequent inclusions of gravel. Secondary fill L1237 was brownish grey firm sandy silt with infrequent gravel inclusions. No finds were recovered from this fill. Uppermost and tertiary fill L1236 was dark brown friable peaty silt which contained no finds. Pit F1235 and all fills (L1238, L1237 and L1236) were cut by a modern field ditch.

Spread or layer L1239 was located to the south of curvilinear ditch F1218 and it was 0.12m deep and consisted of light orangey brown friable clayey silt. No finds were recovered from this deposit.

Pit F1240 (3.70m x 1.55m x 0.15m) was shaped like an elongated sausage and had gentle sides and a flat to slightly rounded base. It contained a single fill (L1241) which was Light to mid grey friable sandy silt with moderate charcoal inclusions.

Posthole F1244 (0.30m x 0.26m x 0.10m) was sub circular in plan and had moderate sides and a rounded base. It contained a single fill L1245 which was dark blackish grey loose silty clay with



humic material. No finds were recovered from this context. This posthole was located at the base of pit F1226, which had been cut by the terminal of ditch F1218.

Pit F1246 (3.24m x 2.50m x 0.24m) was oval in plan and had gentle convex sides and a flattish base. It contained two fills (L1247 and L1248). Primary fill L1247 was orangey brown friable sandy silt with moderate gravel inclusions. One struck flint (7g) was recovered from this context. Uppermost fill L1248 was brownish grey friable slightly peaty sandy silt. One struck flint (6g) (SF5) was recovered from this context.

#### **PHASE 4**

Pit F1261 (4.00m x 1.09m x 0.10m) had irregular sides and an irregular base. It contained two fills (L1262 and L1267). L1262 was a dark grey silt with gravel and L1267 was a light grey silt with gravel. Neither fill contained any finds.

Pit F1264 (2.12m x 0.89m x 0.07m) was also irregular in plan and profile. It was filled (L1266) with a light brown-grey silt which contained a fragment of animal bone (9g).

'Pit' F1263 (1.57m x 0.95m x 0.05m) was irregularly shaped with shallow sides and a flat base. It was filled (L1265) with a light brown-grey silt from which no finds were retrieved.

## PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX



DP 1

*Working shot of site.*



DP 2

*3035 Seg B, view west.*



DP 3

*3040 Seg D, view west.*



DP 4

*3068 tree bole Quad B.*



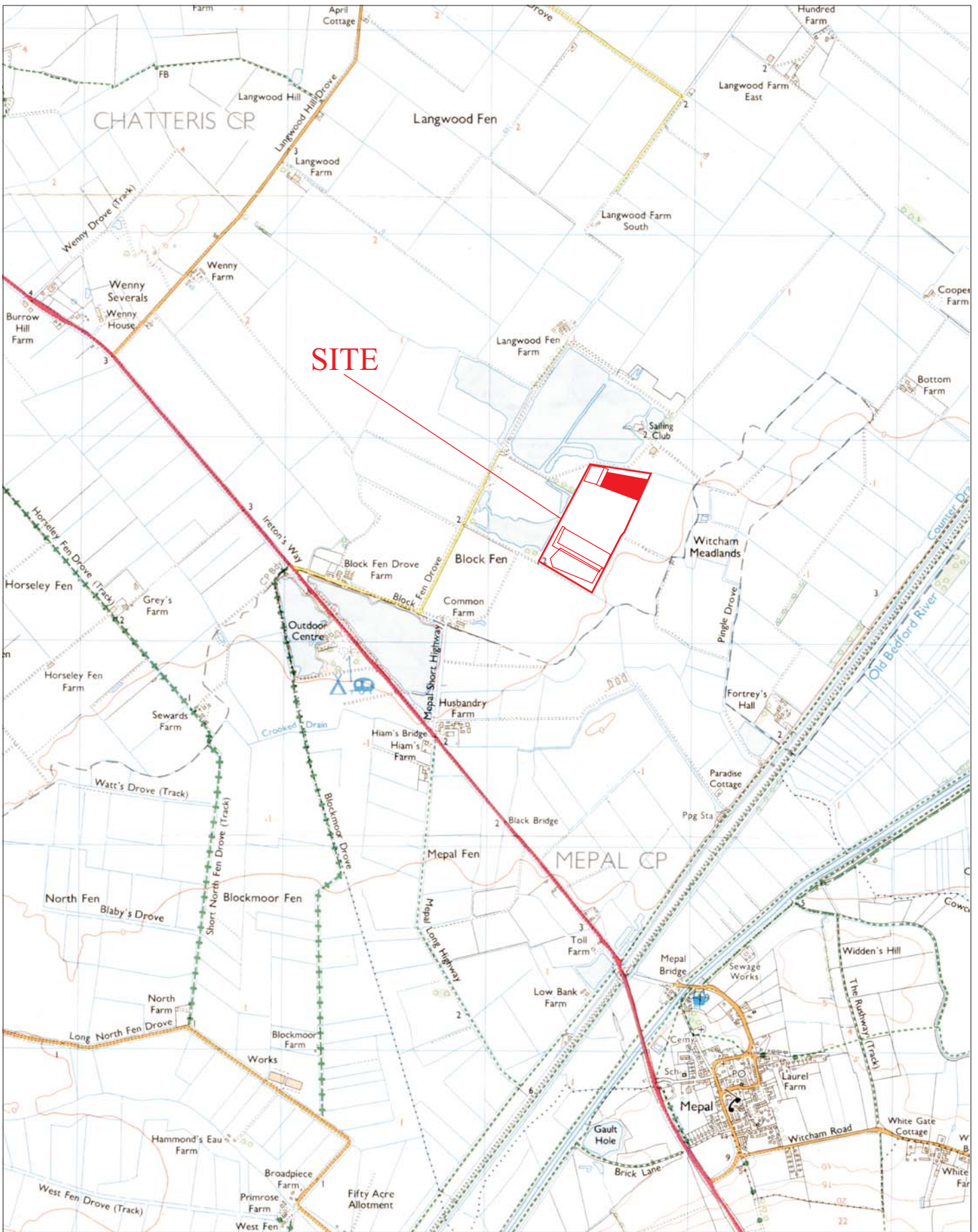
DP 5

*3079 and 3085, view west.*



DP 6

*Post-excavation shot of site.*

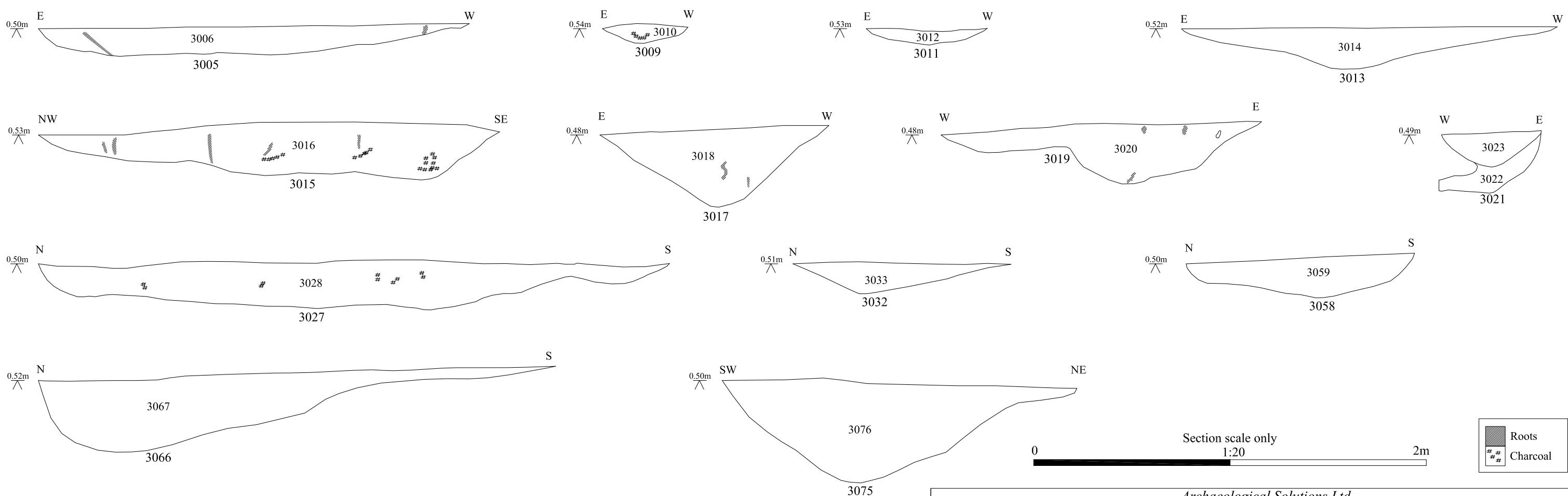
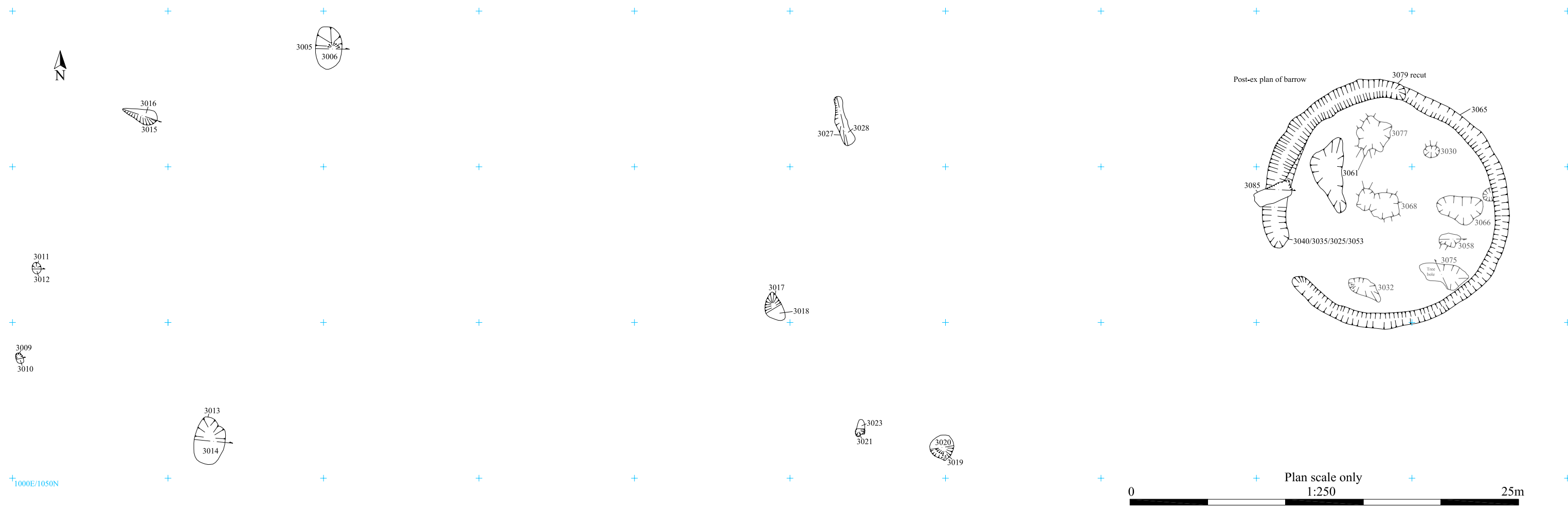


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**Fig. 1 Site Location Plan**  
 Scale 1:25000



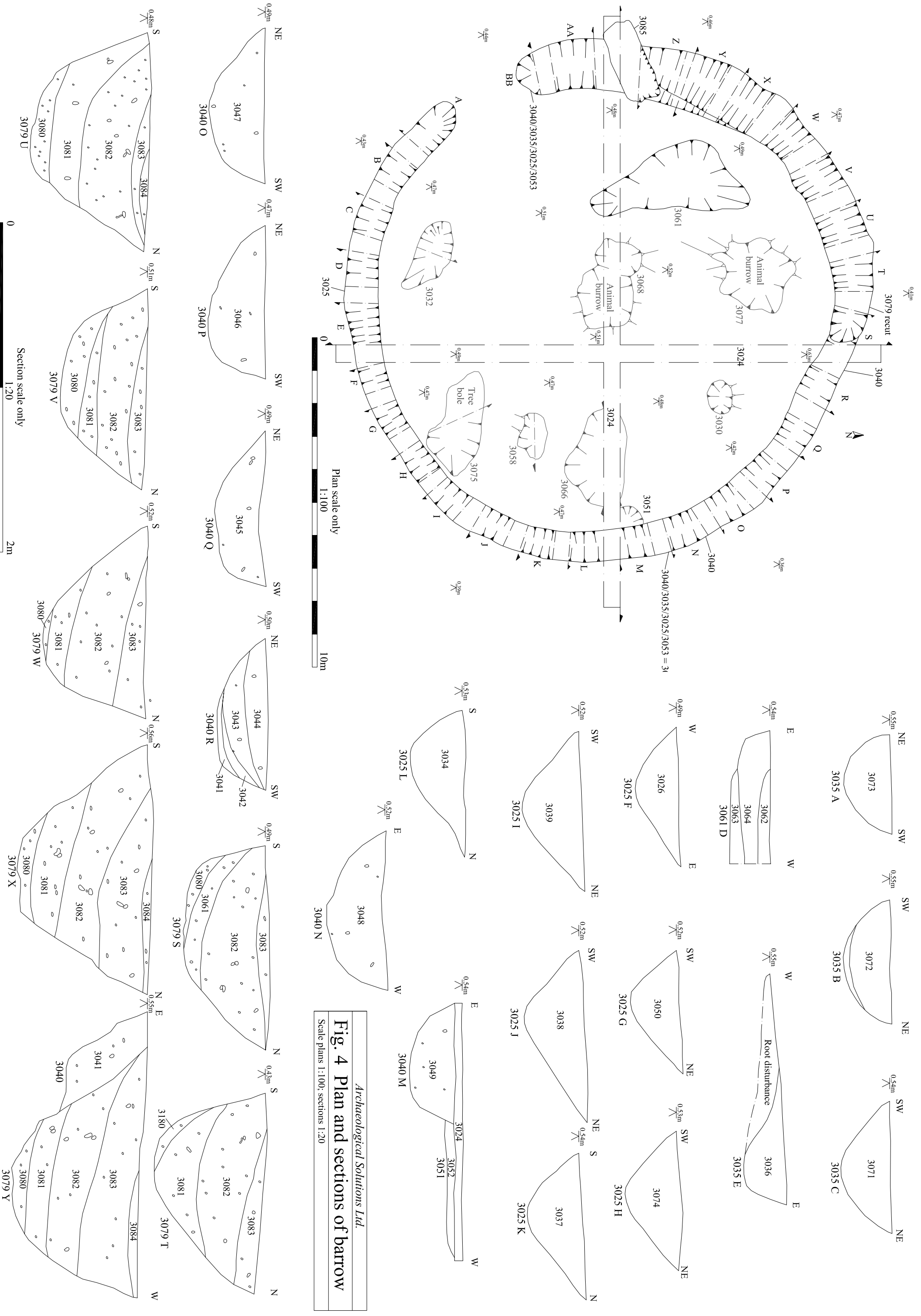




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**Fig. 3 Plan and sections of natural features inside & outside barrow**

Scale plan 1:250; sections 1:20



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**Fig. 4 Plan and sections of barrow**  
 Scale plans 1:100; sections 1:20

