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LAND ADJACENT TO THE A2, FAVERSHAM, KENT

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

Authors: Zbigniew Pozorski	
NGR: TQ 9988 6109	Report No: 5020
District: Swale	Site Code: AS 1796
Approved: Claire Halpin	Project No: 6359
Signed:	Date: 9 th March 2016

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OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

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Project name	Land adjace	ent to the A2, Faversha	m, Kent
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Project dates (fieldwork)	09 – 18/12/2	2015 & 02-03/2016	
Previous work (Y/N/?)	Y	Future work (Y/N/?)	Y
P. number	6359	Site code	AS 1796
Type of project	An Archaeo	logical Evaluation	
Site status			
Current land use	Agricultural:	: arable field and orchar	ď
Planned development	Pre-application	tion stage	
Main features (+dates)	Roman burials (inhumation & cremations), Roman roads		
Significant finds (+dates)	Coins, Rom	an and medieval potter	y, CBM, animal bone
Project location			
County/ District/ Parish	Kent	Swale	Faversham
HER/ SMR for area	Kent HER		
Post code (if known)			
Area of site	c. 49.80ha		
NGR	TQ 9988 61	109	
		05	
Height AOD (min/max)	15/25m	00	
	15/25m		
Height AOD (min/max)	15/25m KCC		
Height AOD (min/max) Project creators	-		
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LAND ADJACENT TO THE A2, FAVERSHAM, KENT

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

SUMMARY

In December 2015 and March 2016 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation at land adjacent to the A2, Faversham, Kent (NGR TQ 9988 6109). The evaluation was commissioned by Shepherd Neame Ltd. It is proposed to submit a planning application for development of the site. No design scheme has been finalised but it may potentially comprise a residential/mixed use development.

The area of the site is known for sparse prehistoric activity and notably for the Roman Road of Watling Street, sections of which may have originated in the late Iron Age. Roman roadside settlement, possibly the station of Durolevum, is situated on the south side of the road at Judd Hill, with activity on the north side comprising a funerary landscape including a mausoleum to the west of the site. A Roman cemetery appears to extend eastwards from the mausoleum, through the site before terminating to the east on the edge of the modern village of Ospringe. Excavations in the 1920s in the south-central area of the site demonstrated that varying concentrations of well-preserved cremations were present, including numerous burial groups with pottery vessels and other artefacts. The cemetery may be delineated by an east/west aligned minor road, parallel to Watling Street that runs through the centre of the site, but this remains unclear. In the medieval period the Maison Dieu hospital was founded close to the east, but the site was outside its precinct and remained as agricultural land until the present day.

The evaluation revealed remains of a Roman road crossing the site, orientated north-east to south-west, and the remains of another road parallel to Watling Street. It also revealed a Roman inhumation burial, two possible inhumations, two cremations and Roman features, principally ditches. The extent of the 1920s archaeological excavation was verified. Unusually Trench 13 contained a pit, F2018, which contained medieval (mid 13th – late 14th century) pottery

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In December 2015 and March 2016 Archaeological Solutions (AS) carried out an archaeological evaluation of land adjacent to the A2, Faversham, Kent (NGR TQ 9988 6109; Figs. 1 & 2). The evaluation was commissioned by Shepherd Neame Ltd. It is proposed to submit a planning application for development of the site. No design scheme has been finalised but it may potentially comprise a residential/mixed use development.

1.2 The evaluation was undertaken in accordance with requirements of the Kent County Council Principal Archaeology Officer, Heritage Conservation (KCC) and a written scheme of investigation (specification) prepared by AS

(dated 20/11/2015) and approved by KCC. The project conformed to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) *Code of Conduct* and *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (2014).

1.3 The trial trenching followed a geophysical survey (Baker & Summers 2015) as part of the KCC requirements. The geophysical survey and trial trenching was carried out within the eastern part of the site while the western half was overgrown by trees of a former orchard (Figs. 1-2). The remaining orchard part of the site was investigated by trial trenching in early 2016 once sufficient trees had been cleared.

1.4 The evaluation aimed to determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development. In particular, it aimed to:

- clarify the extent of the Roman cemetery and the intensity of burials within;
- establish whether or not the cemetery is bounded by the line of the east-west Roman road or if it extends further north;
- confirm if the previous archaeological excavation area has been fully cleared of remains;
- establish the layout of contemporary roads/tracks and roadside settlement (if such exists); and
- confirm the archaeological potential of the area north of the Roman road.

Planning policy context

1.5 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2012) states that those parts of the historic environment that have significance because of their historic, archaeological, architectural or artistic interest are heritage assets. The NPPF aims to deliver sustainable development by ensuring that policies and decisions that concern the historic environment recognise that heritage assets are a non-renewable resource, take account of the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits of heritage conservation, and recognise that intelligently managed change may sometimes be necessary if heritage assets are to be maintained for the long term. The NPPF requires applications to describe the significance of any heritage asset, including its setting that may be affected in proportion to the asset's importance and the potential impact of the proposal.

1.6 The NPPF aims to conserve England's heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance, with substantial harm to designated heritage assets (i.e. listed buildings, scheduled monuments) only permitted in exceptional circumstances when the public benefit of a proposal outweighs the conservation of the asset. The effect of proposals on non-designated heritage assets must be balanced against the scale of loss and significance of the asset, but non-designated heritage assets of demonstrably equivalent significance may be considered subject to the same policies as those that are designated. The NPPF states that opportunities to capture evidence from the historic environment, to record and advance the understanding of heritage assets and to make this publicly available is a requirement of development management. This opportunity should be taken in a manner proportionate to the significance of a heritage asset and to impact of the proposal, particularly where a heritage asset is to be lost.

2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE

2.1 Faversham is a market town and port situated in the Swale district of north Kent, *c*.14.5km west of Canterbury and *c*.19km north of Ashford. The town is situated on Faversham Creek, *c*.2km inland of its confluence with the River Swale, which enters Whitstable Bay and the North Sea 5km to the east. The southern edge of the town is bounded by London Road (A2), the former Watling Street, with the village of Ospringe also on this road, abutting the south-western extent of the modern town.

2.2 The site is bounded by the A2 (London Road) to the south, the B2045 (Western Link) to the west, the railway line to the north and residential development to the east. The western part of the site comprises an orchard, with the remainder comprising agricultural fields. A small industrial area is situated to the north of the orchard, with suburban residential areas to the north-east and east, and agricultural fields and parkland to the south and west, notably that of Syndale Park.

3 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND SOILS

3.1 Faversham Creek and its tributary the Oare Creek extend southwards from the River Swale into Faversham, terminating c.1km to the north-east and c.1.2km to the north of the site respectively. Mill streams, notably those associated with Chart Mill extend south from Faversham Creek into the Davington area of the town c.500m to the north of the site. Numerous waterfilled former gravel pits are also situated adjacent to the creeks. The site is situated on the slopes overlooking this coastal landscape and the town, with the land gradually rising to the south-west and south towards Syndale Park and the village of Painter's Forstal. The site slopes down from its western edge, at c.25m AOD to its eastern edge at c.15m AOD, with the bulk of the town at c.10m AOD and the coastal marshes to the north lower still.

3.2 The town and the site lie on a solid geology that comprises a ridge of the Seaford Chalk formation overlain by brickearth, with the younger Thanet Beds probably outcropping just within the western end of the site. This strata is overlain by drift deposits of head brickearth, which covers the bulk of the site, possibly with outcrops of head gravel in the north-west quarter of the site. The brickearth derived soils overlying the site comprise freely draining, slightly-acid, loamy soils.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 An archaeological desk-based assessment of the site has been prepared by AS (Peachey 2015). In summary:

The assessment site is located on a brickearth ridge overlooking a coastal zone and creeks and has proved conducive for a range of sparse prehistoric activity, but notably for the major Roman Road of Watling Street, sections of which may have originated in the late Iron Age. Roman roadside settlement, possibly the station of Durolevum, is situated on the south side of the road at Judd Hill, with activity on the north side comprising a funerary landscape including a mausoleum to the west of the site. A Roman cemetery appears to extend eastwards from the mausoleum, through the assessment site before terminating to the east on the edge of the modern village of Ospringe. Excavations in the 1920s in the south-central area of the site demonstrated that varying concentrations of well-preserved cremations were present, including numerous burial groups with pottery vessels and other artefacts. The cemetery may be delineated by an east/west aligned minor road, parallel to Watling Street that runs through the centre of the site, but this remains unclear. In the medieval period the Maison Dieu hospital was founded close to the east, but the site was outside its precinct and remained as agricultural land until the present day.

The site has not been subject to any significant ground disturbance, with the adjacent railway and B2045 road built on embankments of made ground, and cultivation limited to arable cultivation and young orchards. Previous archaeological investigations on the site have suggested Roman land surfaces were significantly below that present today, preserving metalled surfaces of roads and well-preserved burial groups. Therefore the site has a very high potential for Roman archaeological remains, though possibly not within the area previously excavated, as well as a moderate chance of sparse prehistoric or medieval remains.

4.2 A geophysical survey has been undertaken (Fig.3) (Baker & Summers 2015). In summary:

The geophysical survey has identified several anomalies which appear to be of archaeological origin. The features identified have been positive trending linear magnetic responses, synonymous with infilled ditch type features (1 - 4).

The anomalies appear to be concentrated in the easternmost section of the study area. The similar alignments of anomalies (1 - 3), could suggest that the anomalies are contemporary, likely relating to road metalling recorded during trenching in 1925. However, due to survey size and interference from magnetic disturbance the attribution of a function or date based on morphology must remain tentative.

Evidence of previous excavations has not been realised in the data, this is possibly due to magnetic interference masking the area of the excavated cemetery.

The clear magnetic contrasts seen in the data indicate that the underlying geology and site formation process are conducive to magnetic geophysical survey. However, the extent of the anomalies recorded in the geophysical data have not been fully recognised in the survey due to magnetic interference from the boundaries of the site (5), (6) and (7).

5 METHODOLOGY

5.1 Ten trenches were excavated using a mechanical 360° tracked excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, and the trench locations were approved by KCC. The trenches overlay the anomalies identified by the geophysical survey; they investigated the area of the 1920s excavations and sought to define the extent of the Roman cemetery and alignment of roads (Fig.3). Following clearance of the orchard in the western part of the site four additional trenches (11-14) were subsequently excavated.

5.2 Trenches 1, 3 - 4 and 9 - 10 measured 40 x 1.80m; Trench 2 measured 30 x 1.80m; Trenches 5 and 8 measured 15 x 1.80m and Trench 6 measured 50 x 1.80m. Trench 7 measured 50 x 1.80m with additional 25 x 1.80m (eastern arm) and 10 x 1.80 (to the north-east). The southern end (11m) of Trench 7 was backfilled shortly after the excavation as it contained a modern service. Also due to safety reasons the eastern arm of Trench 7 was infilled as it contained only backfill from previous excavations (1.20 – 1.50m+ deep). Trenches 11 – 14 were 40m x 1.80m.

5.3 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, drawn to scale, and photographed as appropriate. Excavated spoil was searched for finds and the trenches were scanned by a metal detector.

6 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS

Trench 1 (Figs. 3 - 4)

Sample section 1A: north-west end, south-west facing 0.00 = 19.27m AOD		
0.00 – 0.38m	L1000	Topsoil. Dark brownish grey, friable, silt.
0.38m +	L1001	Natural light yellowish brown, compact, brickearth.

Sample section 1B: south-east end, north-east facing		
0.00 = 19.31m AOD		
0.00 – 0.34m	L1000	Topsoil. As above.
0.34m + L1001 Natural brickearth. As above.		

Description: Trench 1 contained Roman ditches and Layer L1038 which was located between the linear features. The latter may have been associated with a road crossing the site north-east to south-west. The ditches were located in two groups of three, c.4.50m apart, each group consisting of parallel and re-cut ditches either side of L1038. The ditches were a continuation of those recorded in Trenches 9 and 10 where the road was also recorded. The ditches were also evident during the geophysical survey.

F1027 (1.80+ x 1.30 x 0.80m; DP 6) was the westernmost ditch and it cut Ditches F1025 and F1029. It had moderate to steep sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1028, was a mid grey, compact, clayey silt with occasional small flints. It contained Roman pottery (1; 3g) and burnt flint (66g).

Ditch F1029 (1.80+ x 0.60+ x 0.45m; DP 6) was cut by Ditch F1027 and cut Ditch F1025. It had gentle to moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1030, was a mid grey, compact, clayey silt. It contained Roman pottery.

Ditch F1025 (1.80+ x 1.30 x 0.60m; DP 6) was the earliest linear on the western side of the road. It had gentle to moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1026, was a light greyish brown, compact, clayey silt. It contained Roman pottery (1; 3g) and animal bone (1g).

L1038 (4.50 x 1.80+ x 0.20m; DP 5) was a layer of a light to mid greyish brown, compact, clayey silt with occasional small stones. It was present below the topsoil and overlay the fills of Ditch F1023 to the east and Ditches F1025, F1027 and F1029 to the west. It was cut by F1018 to the east. L1038 was bounded by the two groups of ditches and likely represented a road surface.

Ditch F1018 (1.80+ x 2.15 x 0.60m; DP 7) was a re-cut of Ditches F1020 and F1023. It had moderate to steep sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1019, was a light to mid orange brown, compact, clayey silt with occasional small flints. It contained Roman pottery.

Ditch F1023 (1.80+ x 1.40 x 0.60m; DP 7) was cut by Ditch F1018 and Layer L1038 overlay its fill. F1023 had moderate to steep sides, stepped on the western side, and a concave base. Its fill, L1024, was a mid greyish brown, compact, clayey silt. It contained Roman pottery (7; 11g), struck flint (21g) and burnt flint (25g)

Ditch F1020 (1.80+ x 0.90 x 0.45m; DP 7) was re-cut by Ditch F1018. It had moderate to steep sides and a concave base. Two fills were present. The upper fill, L1022, was a mid to dark brownish grey, compact, clayey silt. The basal fill, L1021, was a mid greyish brown, compact, clayey silt with

occasional small flint. L1022 contained Roman pottery (1; 2g) and burnt flint (45g).

Trench 2 (Figs. 3-4)

Sample section 2A: south-west end, south-east facing 0.00 = 19.46m AOD		
0.00 – 0.33m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Tr. 1.
0.33m +	L1001	Natural brickearth. As above, Tr. 1.

Sample section 2B: north-east end, north-west facing		
0.00 = 19.23m AOD		
0.00 – 0.38m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Tr. 1.
0.38m + L1001 Natural brickearth. As above, Tr. 1.		

Description: Modern ditch F1002 was present. It was possibly a modern service trench.

Ditch F1002 was linear (1.80+ x 0.90 x 1.15m+; DP 12). It had steep, nearly vertical sides and its base was not reached due to the depth of the feature. It contained at least 4 fills. Uppermost L1006 was a mid orange brown, friable, sandy clay. Modern CBM and wood fragments were present in the fill. Below L1006 was L1005, a mid greyish brown, friable, silty clay. It also contained fragments of modern CBM. L1004 was a mid orange brown, friable, sandy silt. No finds were present. The lowest visible fill was L1003, a mid greyish brown, friable, silty clay. Modern CBM and glass fragments were recovered from the fill. F1002 may have been a modern service, parallel to railway tracks.

Sample section 3A: north-west end, south-west facing 0.00 = 19.41m AOD		
0.00 – 0.35m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Tr. 1.
0.35m +	L1001	Natural brickearth. As above, Tr. 1.

Sample section 3B: south-east end, north-east facing 0.00 = 19.17m AOD		
0.00 – 0.36m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Tr. 1.
0.36m +	L1001	Natural brickearth. As above, Tr. 1.

Description: Trench 3 contained large Quarry Pit F1014 which was probably modern.

F1014 was a circular pit (5 x 1.80m+). It contained a light brownish grey, loose silt with frequent stones and occasional modern CBM fragments (L1015). It

may have been a quarry pit similar to those reported to have been located to the north of the railway.

Trench 4 (Fig. 3)

Sample section 4A: north-west end, south-west facing 0.00 = 19.74m AOD		
0.00 – 0.33m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Tr. 1.
0.33m +	L1001	Natural brickearth. As above, Tr. 1.

Sample section 4B: south-east end, north-east facing		
0.00 = 19.70m AOD		
0.00 – 0.33m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Tr. 1.
0.33m +	L1001	Natural brickearth. As above, Tr. 1.

Description: No archaeological features or finds were present.

Trench 5 (Fig. 3)

Sample section 5A: north-west end, west-south-west facing 0.00 = 20.06m AOD		
0.00 – 0.40m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Tr. 1.
0.40m + L1001 Natural brickearth. As above, Tr. 1.		

Sample section 5B: south-east end, east-north-east facing 0.00 = 20.14m AOD		
0.00 – 0.41m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Tr. 1.
0.41m +	L1001	Natural brickearth. As above, Tr. 1.

Description: No archaeological features or finds were present.

Trench 6 (Figs. 3-4)

Sample section 6A: south end, east-south-east facing 0.00 = 20.90m AOD		
0.00 – 0.53m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Tr. 1.
0.53m +	L1001	Natural brickearth. As above, Tr. 1.

Sample section 6B: north end, west-north-west facing 0.00 = 20.04m AOD		
0.00 – 0.29m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Tr. 1.
0.29 – 0.72m+	L1093	Light brown, compact, clayey silt.

Description: Trench 6 contained seven Roman ditches (F1053, F1055, F1057, F1059, F1061, F1063 and F1065) likely associated with a road. It also contained two additional Roman ditches (F1067 and F1069), Layer L1093 which contained Roman finds, and Trench F1071 likely associated with the previous archaeological excavations.

Layer L1093 (8.00+ x 1.80+ x 0.50m+; DP 28) was present in the northern end of the trench. It consisted of a light brown, compact, clayey silt and contained occasional CBM and Roman pottery. It may represent an alluvial deposit.

Although the majority of ditches present within the trench may have been associated with purported road parallel to Roman Watling Street, no road surface deposits were present. The roadside ditches comprise F1053 to the north and series of inter-cutting and parallel ditches to the south (F1061, F1063, F1065 and F1053, F1055 & F1059). The ditches were aligned west-north-west to east-south-east, and the other ditches within the trench, F1067 and F1069, were orientated west/east.

Ditch F1053 (1.80+ x 1.60 x 0.65m; DP 29) was located *c*.6m north of Ditches F1061, F1063, F1065. It had moderately sloping sides and a flattish, slightly concave base. Its fill, L1054, was a mid to dark brownish grey, compact, clayey silt. It contained Roman pottery.

Ditch F1063 (1.80+ x 0.58 x 0.35m; DP 30) re-cut Ditch F1061 and was entirely contained within F1061. It had irregular steep sides and an irregular concave base. Its fill, L1064, was a light yellow, compact, sandy silt. It contained Roman pottery.

Ditch F1061 (1.80 x 0.95 x 0.51m; DP 30) was re-cut by Ditch F1063 and cut Ditch F1065. It had steep sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1062, was a dark grey, compact, clayey silt. It contained CBM (194g) and an iron fragment (55g)..

Ditch F1065 (1.80+ \times 0.67 \times 0.33m; DP 30) was cut by Ditch F1061 to the north and cut Ditch F1055 to the south. It had moderate to steep sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1066, was a mid brownish and yellowish grey, compact, clayey silt. It contained Roman pottery.

Ditch F1055 (1.80+ x 1.60 x 0.41m; DP 31) was cut by Ditch F1065 to the north and Ditch F1057 to the south. It had gently sloping sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1056, was a light to mid yellowish brown, compact, clayey silt. It contained Roman pottery (1; 3g) and burnt flint (59g).

Ditch F1057 (1.80+ x 1.15 x 0.38m; DP 31) re-cut Ditch F1055. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1058, was a mid to dark brownish grey, compact, clayey silt. It contained Roman pottery.

Ditch F1059 (1.80+ 1.65 x 0.45m; DP 32) was located just to the south of Ditch F1057. It had moderately sloping sides and an irregular concave base.

Its fill, L1060, was a mid grey, compact, clayey silt. It contained Roman pottery.

At least some of the ditches described above continued to the east and were recorded in Trench 7 (F0187, F1089 and F1091).

Trench F1071 (1.80+ x 0.85 x 0.45m+; DP 33) cut Ditch F1069. F1071 had near vertical sides and its base was not established. Its fill, L1072, was similar to the backfills of the previous excavations and comprised a mixed mid yellow and brownish grey, friable, sandy silt. No finds were present. F1071 was likely a trench excavated during the archaeological excavations in the early 20^{th} century.

Ditch F1069 (1.90+ x 0.85+ x 0.44m; DP 33) was cut by F1071 and Ditch F1067. It had gently sloping sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1070, was a mid to dark grey, compact, clayey silt. It contained Roman pottery (2; 15g).

Ditch F1067 (1.90+ x 2.00 x 0.86m; DP 33) was large. It had moderately sloping sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1068, was a light to mid brownish grey, compact, clayey silt. It contained Roman pottery (8; 72g) and iron fragments (2; 54g).

Trench 7	(Figs. 3 & 6)
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Sample section 7A: south-west end, east-south-east facing 0.00 = 20.96m AOD		
0.00 – 0.33m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Tr. 1.
0.33m +	L1001	Natural brickearth. As above, Tr. 1.

Sample section 7B: north-east end, west-north-west facing 0.00 = 20.19m AOD		
0.00 – 0.38m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Tr. 1.
0.38m +	L1001	Natural brickearth. As above, Tr. 1.

Sample section 7C: south-east end, west-north-west facing 0.00 = 20.71m AOD		
0.00 – 0.39m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Tr. 1.
0.39 – 1.20m+	L1098	Backfill of previous excavations. Mixed yellow and grey, friable, clayey silt.

Description: Trench 7 contained three Roman Ditches F1087, F1089 and F1091), a possible Roman gully (F1085), two previously-excavated cremation burials (F1081 and F1083) and a possible inhumation burial (F1096). The majority of the trench was located within the truncated area of the previous excavations: the entire south-eastern and eastern arms of the trench contained only backfill of the excavations while the remainder of the trench was partially truncated. In addition the trench also contained a large archaeological pit, F1094, associated with the 1920s excavations.

?Gully F1085 (1.80+ x 0.38 x 0.11m; DP 39) was located in the northern end of the trench. It was orientated west-north-west / east-south-east. It had moderately sloping sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1086, was a dark grey, compact, silty clay. It contained Roman pottery (1; 5g).

F1094 (3.50 x 1.80+ x 0.30m+) was likely an archaeological pit associated with the 1920s archaeological excavations. Its backfill, L1095, consisted of a light yellowish brown, friable, clayey silt with frequent small and medium stones and flints. The pit may have contained a ditch which would have been a continuation of Ditch F1053 (Trench 6) to the west.

Ditch F1091 (1.80+ x 4.30 x 0.68m; DP 40) was a large ditch located close to the northern limits of the excavated cemetery. It was orientated west-north-west / east-south-east, parallel to existing road to the south. It had gently sloping sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1092, was a mid greyish brown, compact, clayey silt. It contained Roman pottery. F1091 was a re-cut of Ditches F1087 and F1089.

Ditch F1089 (1.80+ x c.1.20 x 0.54m; DP 40) was cut by F1091 and cut Ditch F1087. It had moderately sloping sides and its base was not established. It contained L1090, a light yellowish brown, compact, clayey silt. No finds were present.

Ditch F1087 (1.80+ x c.1.80 x c.0.70m; DP 40) was cut by Ditches F1089 and F1091. It likely had moderately sloping sides and its base was not established. Its fill, L1088, was a mid grey, compact, clayey silt. Roman pottery (13; 75g), CBM (26g), struck flint (56g) and an iron fragment (426g) were present within the fill.

Ditches F1087, F1089 and F1091 possibly correspond with the ditches recorded in Trench 6 (a cluster defined by F1061 to the north and F1059 to the south). Numerous re-cuts, however, make it difficult to exact `match' the features in both trenches.

Two cremation pits, F1081 and F1083 were located in the central part of the trench. The pits were truncated and partially excavated. Remnants of the original fills were still present beneath the backfill. F1083 (0.64 x 0.60 x 0.22m; DP 41), was a circular pit and it had moderately sloping sides and a flattish base. F1081 (0.69 x 0.64 x 0.24m; DP 42) was also circular and it had moderately sloping sides and a slightly concave base. The fills of the pits, F1084 and F1082, respectively, consisted of light brownish grey, compact, clayey silt with occasional charcoal flecks. Very small fragments of human bone were present in the both fills. L1082 contained Roman pottery (15; 99g), CBM (1g) iron fragments (185g) and burnt flint (12g).

F1096 (0.80+ x 0.64m) was a rectangular feature, only partially revealed within the trench. It was orientated east/west and was possibly an unexcavated inhumation burial. The fill of the pit, L1097, was a light grey, compact, clayey silt. No finds were present.

Trench 8 (Fig. 2)

Sample section 8A: south end, east facing 0.00 = 20.16m AOD		
0.00 – 0.29m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Tr. 1.
0.29m +	L1001	Natural brickearth. As above, Tr. 1.

Sample section 8B: north end, west facing			
0.00 = 20.05m AOD			
0.00 – 0.31m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Tr. 1.	
0.31m +	L1001	Natural brickearth. As above, Tr. 1.	

Description: Trench 8 contained two Roman ditches (F1016 and F1032), a Roman inhumation burial (F1034), a possible inhumation burial (F1039) and two undated ditches (F1049 and F1051).

Ditch F1032 was linear ($1.80+x 2.45 \times 0.89m$; DP 46), orientated west / east and it was recognised by geophysical survey. It had steep sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1033, was a dark greyish brown, compact, clayey silt. It contained Roman pottery (8; 74g), CBM (62g) and animal bone (428g). F1032 re-cut Ditch F1016.

Ditch F1016 was linear $(1.80+ \times 0.32+ \times 0.50m$: DP 46) and re-cut by F1032. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1017, was a mid to dark yellowish brown, compact, silty clay. It contained Roman pottery (2; 8g).

Ditch F1049 was shallow (2.00 + x 0.65 + x 0.25m; DP 47), aligned north-west / south-east. It was cut by Ditch F1051. F1049 had moderately sloping sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1050, was a mid greyish brown, firm, clayey silt with occasional small flints and stones. No finds were present.

Ditch F1051 was wide and shallow (2.00+ x 1.96 x 0.42m; DP 47) was a wide and relatively shallow. It cut Ditch F1049 and located adjacent to Inhumation F1034. The ditch had steep sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1052, was a dark greyish brown, firm, clayey silt with occasional small flints and stones. It contained animal bone (51g).

F1034 (2.00+ x 1.00 x 0.52m; DP 48-50) was a rectangular pit orientated west-north-west/east-south-east and contained an inhumation burial. The grave had vertical sides and a flattish base. Its fill, L1035, was a mid greyish brown mottled with orange brown, friable, clayey silt. The grave was partially excavated and once the burial was confirmed the exposed remains were recorded without further excavation and preserved *in situ*. The exposed human remains in the eastern end of the pit consisted of the well preserved leg bones of a single individual laid in prone position with the feet crossed (DP 49-50). The bones were present at the base of the grave pit and the body was originally contained in a coffin as three iron nails were found on a rectangular outline of the burial. The burial had grave goods comprising two

pottery vessels: a bowl and a flagon. The bowl was resting against the top of the feet and the flagon was adjacent.

Another potential inhumation burial was present to the south-east of F1034. Pit F1039 cut F1034. It contained L1040, a mid greyish brown mottled with orange brown, friable, clayey silt. No finds were present.

Sample section 9 0.00 = 19.75m A		vest end, south-west facing
0.00 – 0.30m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Tr. 1.
0.30 – 0.67m+	L1037	Fill of Ditch F1036. Light yellowish brown, compact, clayey silt.

Trench 9	(Figs. 4 & 7)
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Sample section 9B: south-east end, north-east facing 0.00 = 19.72m AOD		
0.00 – 0.31m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Tr. 1.
0.31m +	L1001	Natural brickearth. As above, Tr. 1.

Description: Trench 9 contained three Roman ditches (F1007, F1009 and F1011) and a layer (L1101), all associated with the road which traversed the site north-east to south-west. The features were located during by the geophysical survey and they were present in Trenches 1 and 10. An additional Roman ditch (F1036) was also present in the trench.

F1036 (6.50+ x 1.55+ x 0.37m; DP 55) was a curvilinear ditch. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1037, was a light to mid brown, compact, clayey silt. It contained Roman pottery (1; 8g).

Ditch F1011 (1.80+ x 1.70 x 0.70m; DP 56) was likely the western roadside ditch. It was aligned north-east / south-west and it had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Two fills were present. The upper fill, L1031, was a light to mid greyish brown, compact, clayey silt. The lower fill, L1012, consisted of mid to dark grey, compact, clayey silt. L1012 contained Roman pottery (1; 9g). Five coins were found within L1012 and may have been contained within a pouch as they appeared to be associated with a small $(c.0.10m^3)$ lump of dark grey, friable, sandy silt (L1013).

Layer F1101 (0.15m thick; DP 58) was present between Ditch F1011 and Ditches F1007 and F1009. It was present beneath the topsoil, *c*.0.35m below existing ground level, and consisted of a light grey, compact, clayey silt with occasional small stones and flints. No finds were present. The layer likely represented a deposit related to the road surface.

Ditch F1007 was linear (1.80+ x 0.90+ x 0.84m; DP 57), aligned north-east to south-west. It was cut by parallel ditch F1009. F1007 had moderate to steep sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1008, was a light to mid greyish brown, compact, clayey silt. It contained Roman pottery.

Ditch F1009 was linear (1.80+ x 1.70 x 0.80m; DP 57), orientated north-east / south-west. It had moderate to steep sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1010, a light to mid greyish brown, compact, clayey silt. It contained animal bone (5g).

Trench 10	(Figs.	3	& 8	8)
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Sample section 10A: north-west end, south-west facing 0.00 = 20.53m AOD		
0.00 – 0.29m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Tr. 1.
0.29m+	L1001	Natural brickearth. As above, Tr. 1.

Sample section 10B: south-east end, north-east facing 0.00 = 20.49m AOD		
0.00 – 0.30m	L1000	Topsoil. As above, Tr. 1.
0.30m +	L1001	Natural brickearth. As above, Tr. 1.

Description: Trench 10 contained Roman features: five ditches (F1043, F1045, F1047, F1073 and F1077), two pits (F1041 and F1075) and two layers (L1099 and L1100). Layer L1099 and Ditches F1043, F1047 and F1077 were associated with the road which traversed the site and was also located in Trenches 1 and 9.

Ditch F1073 was linear (2.20+ x 1.60 x 0.72m; DP 63, 65, 66), aligned eastnorth-east / west-south-west. It had gently sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1074, was a mid greyish brown, compact, clayey silt. It contained Roman pottery (20; 361g), CBM (493g), and oyster shells (46g).

Pit F1075 was circular (2.10 x 2.00 x 0.88m; DP 64 – 66) and cut by Ditch F1043. It had moderate to steep sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1076, was a mid brown, compact, clayey silt. It contained Roman pottery (29; 658g), CBM (40g), animal bone (30g), oyster shells (180g), struck flint (2g) and glass (16g).

Ditch F1043 was linear (2.00+ x 1.30 x 0.77m; DP 65-66), orientated eastnorth-east/west-south-west. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1044, was a mid brownish grey, compact, clayey silt. The upper section of the fill contained large amounts of oyster shells. Roman pottery (108; 1622g) and oyster shell (186g) were recovered.

Pit F1041 was circular ($c.1.80 \times 1.60 \times 0.65m$; DP 65 – 67) and cut by Ditches F1043, F1045 and F1047. It had steep sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1042, was a mid to dark grey, compact, clayey silt. It contained Roman pottery (4; 43g), and oyster shell (7g).

Ditch F1045 was linear (1.80+ x 0.65 x 0.60m: DP 65 – 67), orientated northeast/south-west. It cut Pit F1041 and Layer L1100 and was cut by Ditch F1047. F1045 had steep sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1046, was a dark grey, compact, clayey silt. It contained Roman pottery.

Ditch F1047 was linear (1.90+ x 1.50 x 0.80m; DP 65 – 66), orientated northnorth-east/south-south-west. It cut Pit F1041, Layer L1100 and Ditch F1045. F1047 had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L1048, was a mid to dark grey, compact, clayey silt. It contained Roman pottery (5; 19g), CBM (5g), and oyster shells (3g).

Layer F1099 (DP 68 – 70) was present below the topsoil at c.38m below existing round level and it was 0.10 - 0.13m thick. It was between Ditches F1047 and F1077 and overlay L1100. It comprised a mid greyish brown, friable, clayey silt with frequent small and medium stones and flints. The stones may have been originally compacted but disturbed by ploughing. The southern section of the trench was better preserved; northwards the stones were looser. The layer represented a road surface. Such a surface was not preserved in Trenches 1 and 9.

Layer L1100 (0.26m thick, 2.50m wide; DP 68-70) was present beneath L1099. It was a deposit of light grey mottled with yellow, compact, clayey silt and pre-dated the construction of the road. No finds were present.

Ditch F1077 was linear (1.80+ x 2.30 x 1.06m; DP 71) and was the eastern roadside ditch. It was orientated north-east/south-west and it had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It contained three fills. The uppermost fill, L1078, was a dark grey, friable, clayey silt. Roman pottery (5; 108g), animal bone (9g) and shell (20g) was present in this fill. Below L1078, L1079, was a light brownish yellow, firm, sand. No finds were present. The basal fill, L1080, was a light to mid yellowish brown, compact, clayey silt. It contained Roman pottery (2; 141g) and animal bone (3g).

Sample section 11A: north-east end, south-east facing 0.00 = 23.75m AOD		
0.00 – 0.28m	L2000	Topsoil. Very dark grey brown, friable, sandy clay.
0.28 – 0.40m	L2001	Subsoil. Mid grey brown, firm, sandy clay.
0.40m +	L2003	Natural. Mid yellow-red brown. compact. sandy clay with patches of flint.

Trench 11	(Fig. 3)
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Sample section 0.00 = 24.32m A		h-west end, north-west facing
0.00 – 0.39m	L2000	Disturbed topsoil. As above
0.39 – 0.52m	L2001	Subsoil. As above
0.52m +	L2003	Natural. As above

Description: No archaeological features or finds were present.

Trench 12 (Figs. 3 & 9)

Sample section 0.00 = 21.88m A		h-east end, north-west facing
0.00 – 0.32m	L2000	Topsoil. As above, Tr. 11
0.32 – 0.42m	L2001	Subsoil. As above,Tr. 11
0.42m +	L2003	Natural. As above, Tr. 11

Sample section 12B: south-west end, south-east facing 0.00 = 22.57m AOD		
0.00 – 0.30m	L2000	Disturbed topsoil. As above, Tr. 11
0.30 – 0.40m	L2001	Subsoil. As above, Tr. 11
0.40m +	L2003	Natural. As above, Tr. 11

Description: Trench 12 contained Ditch F2005.

Ditch F2005 was linear in plan $(1.90 + x 0.97 \times 0.16m)$, orientated east / west. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L2006, was a mid yellow brown, firm, sandy clay with occasional small sub-angular to sub-rounded flint stones. It contained no finds.

Trench 13 (Figs. 3 & 9)

Sample section 13A: south-east end, south-west facing 0.00 = 21.10m AOD		
0.00 – 0.30m	L2000	Topsoil. As above, Tr. 11.
0.30 – 0.81m	L2002	Made ground. Very dark grey brown, firm, sandy clay.
0.81 – 1.06m	L2001	Subsoil. As above, Tr. 11.
1.06m+	L2003	Natural. As above, Tr.11.

Sample section 13B: north-west end, south-west facing		
0.00 = 21.59m AOD		
0.00 – 0.29m	L2000	Topsoil. As above, Tr. 11.
0.29 – 0.49m	L2001	Subsoil. As above, Tr. 11.
0.49m +	L2003	Natural. As above, Tr. 11.

Description: Trench 13 contained Ditches F2007, F2011, F2013, ?F2015 and Pits F2009, F2017 and F2021.

Ditch Terminus F2007 was linear in plan (4.10+ x 0.78 x 0.26m), orientated east / west. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L2008, was a firm, mid orange brown, clay silt and it contained Roman (late 1^{st} – early 3^{rd} century) pottery (11; 100g) CBM (1g) and animal bone (41g).

Pit F2009 was sub circular in plan ($0.32 \times 0.30 \times 0.05m$). It had gently sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L2010, was a mid orange brown clayey silt

with occasional small, sub-angular flint. It contained Roman (late 1st – early 3rd century) pottery (1; 2g).

Ditch F2011 was linear in plan (1.80+ x 0.96 x 0.20m), orientated east / west. It cut Ditch F2013 and was cut by ?Ditch F2015. It had gently sloping sides and a concave base. Its basal fill, L2019, was a friable, dark grey brown sand silt with frequent oyster shells. Its upper fill, L2012, was a friable, dark grey brown sand silt. L1019 contained Roman (mid/late 2^{nd} – early 3^{rd} century) pottery (3; 22g) and CBM (393g).

Ditch F2013 was linear in plan ($1.80 + x 0.60 \times 0.16m$), orientated east / west. It was cut by Ditch F2011. It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L2014, was a dark yellow grey, compact, silty sand with occasional small, sub-angular flint. It contained no finds.

?Ditch F2015 was linear in plan ($1.80 + x 0.73 \times 0.30m$). It cut Ditch F2011. It had steep sides and a flattish base. Its basal fill, L2016, was a dark brownish grey, compact, sand silt with occasional small, angular flints. Its upper fill, L2020, was a mottled brown and yellow sandy silt with occasional small angular flint. No finds were present in either fill.

Pit F2017 was sub circular in plan (0.95+ x 2.50 x 0.44m). It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L2018, was a dark grey brown, firm, silt sand with frequent large, sub-angular flints. It contained medieval (mid 13^{th} – late 14^{th} century) pottery (15; 150g) and animal bone (25g).

Pit F2021 was sub-circular in plan ($0.85 \times 0.62 \times 0.17$ m). It had moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, L2022, was a dark grey brown, friable sand silt with occasional small, sub-angular flints. It contained no finds.

Sample section 14A: south-east end, south-west facing		
0.00 = 21.10m AOD		
0.00 – 0.25m	L2000	Disturbed topsoil. As above, Tr. 11
0.25 – 0.45m	L2001	Subsoil. As above, Tr. 11
0.45m +	L2003	Natural. As above, Tr. 11

Trench 14	(Fig. 3)
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Sample section	14B: nortl	n-west end, north-east facing					
0.00 = 22.66m A	0.00 = 22.66m AOD						
0.00 – 0.28m	L2000	Disturbed topsoil. As above, Tr. 11					
0.28 – 0.30m	.30m L2001 Subsoil. As above, Tr. 11						
0.30m +	0.30m + L2003 Natural. As above, Tr. 11						

Description: No archaeological features or finds were present.

7 CONFIDENCE RATING

7.1 It is not felt that any factors inhibited the recognition of archaeological features or finds.

8 DEPOSIT MODEL

8.1 The site was commonly overlain by Topsoil L1000, a dark brownish grey, friable, silt (0.30 - 0.40m thick). It overlay the natural light yellowish brown, compact, brickearth.

9 DISCUSSION

Trench	Context	Description	Date
1	F1018	Roadside ditch	-
	F1020	Roadside ditch	-
	F1023	Roadside ditch	Roman
	F1025	Roadside ditch	Roman
	F1027	Roadside ditch	Roman
	F1029	Roadside ditch	-
	L1038	Road surface	-
2	F1002	Ditch / Service	Modern
3	F1014	Quarry Pit	Modern
6	F1053	Roadside ditch	-
	F1055	Roadside ditch	Roman
	F1057	Roadside ditch	-
	F1059	Roadside ditch	-
	F1061	Roadside ditch	-
	F1063	Roadside ditch	-
	F1065	Roadside ditch	-
	F1067	Ditch	Roman (late 1 st – early 3 rd C) Roman (late 1 st – early 3 rd C)
	F1069	Ditch	Roman (late 1 st – early 3 rd C)
	F1071	?Previously excavated roadside ditch	Roman
7	F1081	Remnant cremation	Roman
	F1083	Remnant cremation	Roman
	F1087	Roadside ditch	Roman (late 1 st – early 3 rd C)
	F1089	Roadside ditch	-
	F1091	Roadside ditch	-
	F1096	?Inhumation	-
8	F1016	Roadside ditch	Roman
	F1032	Roadside ditch	Roman
	F1034	Inhumation	Roman
	F1039	?Inhumation	-
	F1049	Ditch	-
	F1051	Ditch	-
9	F1007	Roadside ditch	-
	F1009	Roadside ditch	-
	F1011	Roadside ditch	Roman
	F1036	?Curvilinear ditch	Roman
	L1101	Road surface	-

9.1 The recorded features are tabulated:

10	F1041	Pit	Roman (late 1 st – early 3 rd C)
	F1043	Roadside ditch	Roman (early 2 nd C)
	F1045	Ditch	-
	F1047	Roadside ditch	Roman (2 nd C)
	F1073	Ditch	Roman (late 1 st – mid 2 nd C)
	F1075	Pit	Roman (early – mid 2 nd C)
	F1077	Roadside ditch	Roman (late 1 st – early 3 rd C)
	L1099	Road surface	-
	F1100	Road layer	-
12	F2005	Ditch	-
13	F2007	Ditch Terminal	Roman (late 1 st – early 3 rd C)
	F2009	Pit	Roman (late 1 st – early 3 rd C)
	F2011	Ditch	-
	F2013	Ditch	-
	F2015	?Ditch	-
	F2017	Pit	Medieval (mid 13 th – late 14 th C)
	F2021	Pit	-

9.2 Considering the location of the site, which includes a known and previously-excavated Roman cemetery, possible roads associated with the cemetery and nearby settlement, the site had a very high potential for further Roman remains. The project aimed to answer questions regarding the extent and character of the cemetery, the extent of previous excavations and the evidence for the two purported Roman roads which traverse the site.

The cemetery

9.3 The evaluation located one definite (F1034; Trench 8) and two possible inhumation burials (F1039, Trench 8 and F1096, Trench 7). F1096 was located within the area of the known cemetery, and the inhumations within Trench 8 lay beyond this. No burials were recorded in Trench 13, to the west of the previous excavation. It has been suggested that the cemetery may have extended from the mausoleum to the west, through the site, to the boundaries of Ospringe village to the east. It is possible that the main burial ground was located within the intersection of the two roads. Isolated Roman graves or groups of burials located away from the main cemetery but in close proximity to a road are common.

9.4 Two partially–excavated cremation pits were located within the known area of the cemetery (F1081 and F1083 (Trench 7)). A large number of cremations were excavated in the 1920s, and in later years, to the south of the modern road.

9.5 The grave goods within F1034 are of a comparable quality to those from the earlier excavations. Fine pottery and metal objects suggest an early Roman date and this compares with the previous dating of the cemetery and nearby settlement.

9.6 The evaluation indicates that the majority of the cemetery has been excavated but that the site contains more burials.

The roads

9.7 The earlier excavations suggested the presence of two Roman roads, one crossing the site on a north-east/south-west alignment and the other running broadly parallel to Roman Watling Street. The geophysical survey detected two roadside ditches on the course of north-east/south-west road but the other road was not discernible due to interference.

9.8 Trenches 1, 9 and 10 contained the remains of the road which extended (presumably) from Syndale Park to the south-west towards a possible settlement to the north-east. The road was relatively narrow (3.50 – 4.00 m) with a compacted stone surface (L1099) in the south part of the site (Trench 10). It became wider (6.00m) and with no preserved surface northwards (Trench 9), and narrowed again to 4.50m (Trench 1). These irregularities may suggest the road was well built in the vicinity of Watling Street and the cemetery and further north its character was more like that of a field track. The point where the character of the road altered may have been the point where it was joined by a second road (between Trenches 9 and 10).

9.9 The roadside ditches were frequently re-cut.

9.10 Another road was understood to traverse the site parallel to Watling Street. The evaluation revealed numerous ditches associated with this road in Trenches 6 and 7 but no preserved layers or surfaces. It was thought that this road may have extended further to the west and led to the mausoleum, *c*.200m away, but it was not recorded in Trenches 11 and 12. It may also have demarcated the northern boundary of the cemetery.

Domestic activity

9.11 Settlement activity was located in close proximity to the south-west and another possible settlement was located to the north-east. The quantity and character of the finds is suggestive of local activity, for example, oyster shells were present within Trench 10. Trenches 2 - 5 did not contain archaeological features and no features were found in the eastern sectors of Trenches 1, 9 and 10 suggesting that within the site the archaeology comprises the roads and cemetery excepting Trench 13 where pits and ditches containing pottery, CBM and animal bone were found. Unusually Trench 13 contained a pit, F2018, which contained medieval (late $12^{th} - 14^{th}$ century) pottery. A slightly intriguing ?curvilinear ditch (F1036) was recorded in Trench 9.

Previous excavations

9.12 The evaluation revealed the extent of the excavations conducted in the early 1920s. The area previously recognised as the main cemetery was heavily truncated although some of the features were not completely excavated. The western part of the site (Trench 6) was not as truncated as it was previously judged. The truncation extended eastwards almost to Trench 10. Backfilled trial pits and trenches were also located. The excavations were

characterised by their significant depth (1.20 - 1.50m+). Funerary remains were not recorded Trench 13.

Archaeological potential

9.13 The site retains a high potential for archaeological remains. Despite previous investigations it contains some burials. It also contains well preserved sections of Roman roads. The site has the potential to allow further characterisation of the Romano-British landscape in this part of Kent. Further investigation is likely to provide clearer evidence for the extent of funerary activity and possibly to provide evidence for the spatial relationships between the cemetery, the road system, and the settlement activity. From this inferences with regard to the societal relationships between these elements may be drawn. Unusually Trench 13 contained a pit, F2018, which contained medieval (mid 13^{th} – late 14^{th} century) pottery

9.14 Information relating to Romano-British funerary practices is likely to be present and informative research may be conducted through comparison of the burials at this site with those of other known cemeteries both in Kent and elsewhere in Roman Britain. Grave goods may reveal information about relative levels of wealth, cultural attitudes, and, in themselves, about manufacturing activities. Information relating to identity (Hill 2001, 12-18) may be obtained from an examination of these aspects. Demographic information may be obtained from examination of the skeletal remains.

9.15 As part of the Roman settlement of *Durolevum*, the site has the potential to provide information relating to research subjects associated with Roman urbanism such as urban function, settlement morphology, and internal land-use (Burnham *et al* 2001). The presence of Roman roads within the site has the potential to contribute to an understanding of the Roman road system in Kent and in the province of *Britannia* as a whole, offering information on the construction of lesser roads and tracks and on the routes that they took and their relationships with more major roads such as Watling Street.

10 DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

10.1 Archive records, with an inventory, will be deposited with any donated finds from the site at the appropriate local museum depository, once such a facility is available in Kent. The archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross-referenced and checked for internal consistency.

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APPENDIX 1 CONCORDANCE OF FINDS

Concordance of Finds

AS1796, P6359, Land adjacent to A2 Faversham

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Archaeological Solutions

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	2010	13	Fill of Pit	Late 1st-Early 3rd C AD	-	2					
	2018	13	Fill of Pit		15	150		25			
	2019	13	Fill of Ditch	Mid/Late 2nd-Early 3rd C AD	3	22	393				
	N/S								S. Flint	2	11
	N/S								Fe.Frag	1	426
	N/S								H.Bone	1	8
	N/S			Mid-Late 1st C AD	3	40					
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APPENDIX 2 SPECIALIST REPORTS

The Struck Flint

Andrew Peachey MCIfA

The evaluation recovered a five pieces (34g)g) of struck flint as residual or unstratified material in Roman features, in a moderately to heavily rolled condition. The struck flint was manufactured utilizing high quality mid to dark grey raw material with, where extant a medium chalky white cortex. Two uncorticated blade like flakes (11g) recovered as un-stratified material may be of early Neolithic origin, while two un-corticated flakes (21g) contained in Ditch F1023 (L1024) exhibit very regular square profiles and may have been intended as flake blanks, but show no evidence for trimming or retouch. The only implement in the assemblage comprises a thumbnail scraper (2g) in Ditch F1027 (L1028) that had semi-invasive retouch around its leading edges, with a corticated butt, characteristic of small tools typically found in early Bronze age assemblages.

The Roman Pottery

Andrew Peachey

The evaluation recovered a total of 285 sherds (4672g) of early to mid Roman pottery in a well-preserved condition. The bulk of the pottery comprised coarse wares and fine grey wares produced in north Kent, with sparse sherds of south and central Gaulish samian ware also present (Table 1). The early Roman pottery includes a significant early 2nd century AD group contained in Ditch F1043, which includes two fine grey ware beakers; with a smaller possibly contemporary early to mid 2nd century AD group contained in Pit F1075. However; limited sherds from a south Gaulish mould-decorated bowl in Ditch F1032 suggest the earliest activity on the site originated in the mid/late 1st century AD. The mid Roman pottery is represented by two complete coarse ware vessels: a flask and dish, deposited as grave goods in Grave F1034, and dated to the late 2nd to mid 3rd century AD. The remaining Roman sherds were sparsely distributed in Ditch features and while not diagnostic, appear consistent with the early to mid Roman pottery, with evidence for later Roman deposition apparently absent.

Methodology

The pottery was quantified by sherd count, weight (g) and R.EVE with fabrics examined at x20 magnification and fully described in the report, in accordance with the guidelines developed by the Study Group for Roman Pottery (Darling 1994). Where possible Roman fabrics were assigned a code from the National Roman Fabric Reference Collection (Tomber & Dore 1998) or assigned an alpha-numeric code based on this system. Samian ware form types follow the classification outlined in Webster (1996). All data will be entered into a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet that will form part of the site archive.

- LGF SA: La Graufesenque samian ware (Tomber & Dore 1998, 28)
- LEZ SA2: Lezoux samian ware 2 (Tomber & Dore 1998, 32)
- UPC FR: Upchurch fine reduced ware (Tomber & Dore 1998, 168; Monaghan 1987, 252: fabric N2/1b)
- GRF: Fine grey ware. Mid grey surfaces over a dark grey core; inclusions comprise common quartz and sparse mica (both <0.1mm), with occasional grog and voids (<0.75mm). Similar to Upchurch N2/1 and N3/1 (Monaghan 1987, 252) and probably produced there.
- PAT GT: Patchgrove grog-tempered ware (Tomber & Dore 1998, 167)
- GRS1: Sandy grey ware. Mid grey surfaces, typically fading to slightly lighter margins and a slightly darker grey core. Inclusions comprise common fine quartz (<0.1mm), spare cream/mid grey clay pellets (0.5-1.5mm), and sparse dark grey/red ?clay pellets (<0.25mm). A hard smooth fabric; probably an Upchurch/Thameside product, but kiln at Canterbury or in the local area cannot be discounted.
- GRS2: Sandy grey ware. Mid grey, sometimes with a pale oxidised core; inclusions comprise common quartz, sparse red iron ore/magnetite (both <0.25mm), sparse fine mica and sparse red grog (<1mm). A north Kent source appears likely.
- GRS3: Sand and flint tempered ware. Mid-dark grey surfaces, thin pale grey margins and a mid grey core; inclusions comprise common quartz (<0.5mm), sparse fine mica and sparse flint (0.25-2mm). Wares with flint temper are known to have been produced at Upchurch (Monaghan 1987, 250).
- GRS4: Black-very dark surfaces over a dark grey core; inclusions comprise common-abundant quartz (0.1-0.25mm), common fine mica and occasional flint (<3mm). Probably an 'Upchurch' type: S1/3b (Monaghan 1987, 245).
- GRS5: Sandy grey ware. Mid-dark grey throughout; inclusions comprise common quartz, with occasional flint and black iron rich grains (all 0.25-0.5mm). Hard with a moderately abrasive feel; probably produced locally although other north Kent sources cannot be discounted.
- OXS1: White-slipped oxidised ware (Pollard 1988, 211: fabric 24). Orange-red throughout with white-slipped external surfaces; inclusions comprise common quartz and sparse red/black iron ore/magnetite (all 0.1-0.25mm). Distribution suggests a north Kent source that has yet to be identified.
- OXS2: as GRS2 but with orange surfaces fading to a mid grey core

Fabric type	Sherd Count	Weight (g)	R.EVE
LGF SA	3	14	0.05
LEZ SA2	5	26	0.05
UPC FR	3	32	0.05
GRF	49	316	1.20
PAT GT	93	2411	0.20
GRS1	24	773	1.00
GRS2	6	50	0.00
GRS3	16	111	0.00
GRS4	16	152	0.05
GRS5	25	141	0.00
OXS1	26	255	0.00
OXS2	19	391	1.00
Total	285	4672	3.60

Table 1: Quantification of Roman fabric types by sherd count, weight (g) and R.EVE

Discussion

The relatively diverse range of fabrics present, notably the coarse wares and fine grey wares reflect the considerable variation of pottery production in north Kent, potentially with a bias towards the major industry in the Upchurch area c.13km to the west (including UPC FR, GRF, GRS4 and possibly GRS1). Watling Street would also have provided a direct connection to kilns serving the urban centre of Canterbury, while further kilns producing similar coarse wares must have served the roadside settlement at Ospringe and villas in the close vicinity. Nevertheless, the total quantity of sandy grey wares (GRS1-5) is equaled by grog-tempered wares assigned to Patchgrove (PAT GT); and while a broader local tradition of grog-tempered wares cannot be discounted; this fabric group appears entirely comprised of storage jars (possibly biasing the quantification), which suggests local coarse ware kilns may have progressed chronologically or technologically beyond the production of 'Belgic' grog-tempered wares, with only the robust large/storage jars remaining. Imported wares are rare in the assemblage and limited to samian ware, though this may be a reflection of sample size in comparison to previous excavations at Ospringe (i.e. Whiting et al 1931).

The earliest Roman pottery in the assemblage is evidenced by a south Gaulish samian ware (LGF SA) bowl contained on Ditch F1032 (L1033), in association with body sherds of GRF, PAT GT and GRS4. The LGF SA bowl is of Dr.29 type with an internal step to the rim, and a non cross-joining body sherd exhibiting a limited part of a poorly-impressed upper mould-decorated zone that contains a festoon incorporating a spiral with the partial figure of a hare to the right (Oswald 1936: figure 2129/2136?), above a beaded border. The festoon, spiral and associated borders appear consistent with the products of Vitalis ii of La Graufeseque, c.AD60-90 (RGMZ database: 0001001, 0003148 & 004005), with comparable hares also appearing on his bowls, including an example from London (003164 & 003171). However, closely similar motifs and designs appear on bowls of M.Crestio c.AD50-80 at Canterbury (0000382), as well as Mommo c.AD70-90 (0002491). The presence of mid-late 1st century AD activity on the site is further supported by a GRS4 devolved Gallo-Belgic platter (Monaghan 1987, 159: type 7B1.4) recovered as un-stratified material.

The largest group in the assemblage comprises 106 sherds (1676g) contained in Ditch F1043 (L1044). The group includes two GRF beakers: the first a plain carinated type (Monaghan 1987, 69: type 2G1.9) and the second with an everted rim and bulging cordons (Pollard 1988, 112: fig.41.125) that collectively indicate a date in the early 2nd century AD. They are associated with a PAT GT storage jar with a grooved neck, slashed decoration on the shoulder and a scored body; comparable to long-lived variants in the region (Pollard 1988, 49: fig.13.20 & 14.27), while body sherds of LEZ SA2, OXS1, GRS1 and GRS4 were also present. This general pattern of sandy grey wares (including GRS1-5) associated with PAT GT and OXS1 is mirrored by the low quantities of body sherds recorded in numerous ditches across the site, notably 20 sherds (348g) in Ditch F1073 (L1074) whose chronology could potentially extend to the early 3rd century AD; however a second

diagnostic group of 28 sherds (635g) contained in Pit F1075 (L1076) suggests the bulk of deposition was earlier. This group included the everted bead rim of a further PAT GT storage jar, associated with small sherds of an UPC FR flanged bowl (Monaghan 1987, 138: type 5B6), and the flange of an LEZ SA2 bowl with trailed leaf decoration, possibly Dr.36/Curle 11 type; collectively dating the group which also contains a range of sandy grey wares to the early to mid 2nd century AD. Potentially slightly later, in the latter half of the 2nd century AD is Ditch Terminus F2011, which contained a basal fragment of a LEZ SA2 Dr.18/31R or Dr.31R dish with a rouletted circle on the interior.

Contrasting with the Roman pottery from the ditches, both in terms of preservation and chronology are complete examples of a GRS1 flask (SF2) and OXS2 dish (SF3) deposited as grave goods in Grave F1034 (L1035), which collectively suggest a date in the late 2nd to mid 3rd centuries AD. The GRS1 flask has a disc (ring) neck with a faint zone of roulette decoration on the upper body and upper part of the disc. This vessel type is a common component of burial groups previously recorded at Ospringe (Whiting et al 1931: vessels 50, 52, 76, 185, 362, 472 & 505), and is also known to have been a rare product of the Upchurch kilns (Monaghan 1987, 46: type 1A1.1). The OXS2 dish is a shallow type with an internal bead and footring base, very similar to two examples previously recorded in burial groups at Ospringe (Whiting et al 1931: vessels 270 & 582), both of which were also recorded in a closely comparable red fabric suggestive of a shared source. The base of dish exhibits a graffito, probably an owner's mark, that comprises a cross dividing the base into quadrants, with two quadrants containing T-shapes parallel to the cross, and two containing T-shapes oblique to the cross. One might speculate the graffito was associated with the occupant of the grave, with numerous owners' marks recorded in burial groups previously recorded at Ospringe (Whiting et al 1931: plate LII), including numerous variants including crosses and T-shapes.

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Website

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The Post-Roman Pottery

Peter Thompson

Introduction

The archaeological evaluation recovered 15 medieval sherds weighing 148g from Pit F2017. The assemblage ranged from moderate to heavy in abrasion.

Methodology

The pottery was examined under x35 binocular microscope and recorded by context below (Table 2). The recording was done in keeping with the Medieval Pottery Research Group Guidelines (Slowikowski et al 2001 & MPRG 1998). Fabric codes are those appropriate to Kent.

The Pottery

The assemblage includes 8 sherds of shelly and sandy and shelly Early Medieval wares. Two dark grey sherds with abundant, mainly fine to medium well sorted sub-rounded grey, clear and occasionally white quartz are probably Canterbury early medieval sandy wares. Four sherds with orange brown surfaces and grey cores, including one with heavily abraded external glaze, and a wide flanged bowl rim with finger tip decoration are Tyler Hill products (McCarthy and Brooks 1988, 315). A fine sandy oxidised sherd with all over white slip and patchy clear glaze may be a Mill Green ware imported from Essex. The assemblage indicates a mid 13th to late 14th centuries date range.

Key

Kent Code: Ware name and date range EM1: Canterbury sandy ware mid 11th-early 13th EM2: Early medieval shelly ware late 11th-early 13th EM36: North-west Kent Sandy Shelly Ware 12th-mid 13th M1: Tyler Hill Ware early 13th-late 14th MG: Mill Green ware late 13th-mid 14th

Feature	Context	Quantity	Date	Comment
Pit 2017	2018	2x9g EM1? 3x12g EM2 5x60g EM36 4x62g M1 1x5g MG?	Mid 13 th – 14 th C	EM1: simple rounded jar rim EM36: flat topped everted cooking pot rim 20cm diameter M1: wide flanged bowl rim with faint dispersed finger tip decoration on top 30cm diameter; x1 glazed (9g)

Table 2: Quantification of sherds by Context

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The Ceramic Building Materials

Andrew Peachey

The evaluation recovered a total of 13 fragments (722g) of Roman CBM in a very highly fragmented condition. The CBM occurred in a uniform fabric that was red-orange throughout, with inclusions of sparse-common quartz and sparse black iron-rich grains (both 0.1-0.25mm), with very occasional shell (2-7mm). Two fragments (393g) contained in Ditch Terminus F2011 (L2019) had flanged edges that identify them as tegula roof tile (with a thickness of 20mm); while a single fragment (194g) contained in Ditch F1061 (L1062) had an extant thickness of 30mm with a sanded base, and appears to be derived from a further tegula roof tile. However the remaining small, fragments contained in Ditches F1032, F1047, F1087, Ditch Terminus F2007, Pits F1075 and F1081 are insufficiently extant for any further identification. Based on the very limited quantitiy and poor preservation of the CBM, these fragments were not associated with a structure in the vicinity and may have been used in the surfacing of roads or tracks, or possibly to improve drainage in ditches.

The Roman Coins

Andrew Peachey MCIfA

The evaluation recovered a total of five Roman coins that are well preserved with a green patina. The coins (SF1) were contained in the fill of a 'pouch' in Ditch F1011 (L1013) and comprise the following **AE2** denominations minted by emperors belonging to the House of Constantine (Reece period 18):

1. Constans, AD.348-350 (diameter: 21mm, weight: 4.8g)

Obverse: DN CONSTANS PF AVG

Reverse: FEL TEMP REPARATIO with emperor in military dress, standing on galley left, holding phoenix on globe & laborum; Victory sitting at stern steering ship. Mint mark of Trier (TRS).

2. Magnentius, AD350-1 (diameter: 23mm, weight: 5.3g)

Obv: DN MAGNENTIUS PF AUG

Rev: GLORIA ROMANORUM emperor on horse right spearing kneeling enemy in front of horse. Mint mark of Lyon (RPLG). Possible barbarous radiate (copy).

3. Magnentius, AD 350-353 (diameter: 22mm, weight: 3.6g)

Obv: DN MAGNEN-TIVS PF AVG; 'A' in left field

Rev: VICTORIAE DD AVG ET CAES, Two Victories supporting wreath inscribed VOT V MVLT X; chi-rho above. Mint mark of Amiens (AMB crescent). Possible barbarous radiate (copy), possibly originally silver-washed.

4. Magnentius, AD 350-353 (diameter: 22mm, weight: 4.6g)

Obv: D N MAGNEN-TIVS P F AVG

Rev: FELICITAS REIPVBLICAE, Emperor standing left, holding Victory on globe and labarum with hook. Mint mark of Lyon (RPLG).

5. Constans, AD.348-350 (diameter: 22mm, weight: 6.1g)

Obv: DN CONSTA-NS PF AVG

Rev: FEL TEMP-REPARATIO, emperor on galley left, holding labarum and phoenix on globe; Victory at the helm. Mint mark of Lyon (star PLG). Possible barbarous radiate (copy).

The Animal Bone Report

Julia E. M. Cussans

A small quantity of animal bone (Table 3) was recovered from trail trench excavations at Faversham. Preservation was rated as very poor through to ok on a scale from very poor through to excellent, with most contexts being recorded as ok. Abraded bones and fresh breakages were fairly common; gnawed bones were recorded for Ditch Fills L1033 and L2008.

Identified taxa present (Table 3) were cattle, sheep/ goat, pig, horse and dog. However the majority of fragments could only be recorded large (cattle or horse sized) or medium (sheep or pig sized) mammal. The majority of the identified bone came from L1033 which included a cattle tibia fragment, a horse tibia fragment (both butchered) two pig metapodia and a dog tooth. A sheep/ goat lower 3rd molar (LM3) showed very slight wear on the first cusp, indicating a young adult animal. No other butchered or ageable bones were noted in the assemblage and no signs of pathology were noted. None of the bones were complete enough to be measured. A larger assemblage is likely to be useful in shedding some light on site economy.

The Environmental Samples

Dr John Summers

Introduction

During trial excavations on land adjacent to the A2, Faversham, 14 bulk soil samples for environmental archaeological assessment were taken and processed. The samples were predominantly from Roman period ditch fills. This report presents the results from the assessment of the bulk sample light fractions, and discusses the significance and potential of any remains recovered.

Methods

Samples were processed at the Archaeological Solutions Ltd facilities in Bury St. Edmunds using standard flotation methods. The light fractions were washed onto a mesh of 500 μ m (microns), while the heavy fractions were sieved to 1mm. The dried light fractions were scanned under a low power stereomicroscope (x10-x30 magnification). Botanical remains were identified and recorded using a semi-quantitative scale (X = present; XX = common; XXX = abundant). Reference literature (Cappers *et al.* 2006; Jacomet 2006) and a reference collection of modern seeds was consulted where necessary. Potential contaminants, such as modern roots, seeds and invertebrate fauna were also recorded in order to gain an insight into possible disturbance of the deposits.

Results

The assessment data from the bulk sample light fractions are presented in Table 4. Carbonised plant remains were recorded in four of the nine samples spot dated to the Roman period. Most of these were as single finds of wheat (*Triticum* sp.) and barley (*Hordeum* sp.) grains. Ditch fill L1044 (F1043) contained a slightly higher concentration, producing three cereal grains and an emmer/ spelt wheat (*T. dicoccum/ spelta*) glume base. A small number of charcoal fragments were present in five of the samples, although these were too small and of insufficient quantity for detailed analysis.

A single sample was present from pit fill L2018 (F2017), spot dated to the late 12th-14th century. Only a single barley grain was recorded in this deposit. The richest sample was from undated pit fill L2022 (F2021), which contained hulled barley, wheat and oat grains. In addition was a small collection of likely

arable weeds in the form of goosefoot (*Chenopodium* sp.), stinking chamomile (*Anthemis cotula*) and wild grass (Poaceae).

Conclusion

The assessment of the bulk sample light fractions from Faversham indicate little association of the excavated features with the use and processing of cereals. The low concentrations of carbonised remains are indicative of scattered carbonised debris that became accidentally incorporated into the feature fills. It seems likely that the excavated features were set away from core areas of domestic activity or agricultural processing.

References

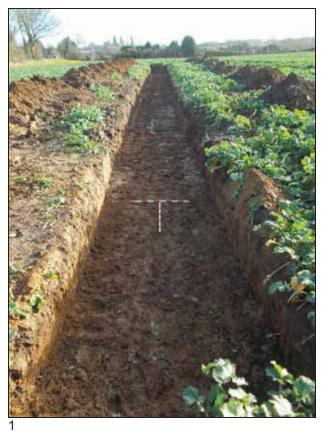
Cappers, R.T.J., Bekker R.M. and Jans J.E.A. 2006, *Digital Seed Atlas of the Netherlands. Groningen Archaeological Studies Volume* 4, Barkhuis Publishing, Eelde

Jacomet, S. 2006, *Identification of Cereal Remains from Archaeological Sites* (2nd edn), Laboratory of Palinology and Palaeoecology, Basel University

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ants	Insects				I	ı			,				
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	Sample number		1.2	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.8	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.4
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PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX





2 F1018 and F1023 in Trench 1 looking south-west

Trench 1 looking south-east



3 F1025 and F1029 in Trench 1 looking south-west



Trench 2 looking south-west



F1002 in Trench 2 looking south-east



7 Trench 4 looking south-east



6 Trench 3 looking north-west



8 Trench 5 looking south-east





10 F1053 in Trench 6 looking east

9 Trench 6 looking north



11 F1055 & 1057 in Trench 6 looking west



12 F1059 in Trench 6 looking west





F1081 in Trench 7 looking north-east

Trench 7 looking north-east



15 F1083 in Trench 7 looking north-east



16 Trench 8 looking north with skeleton inhumation F1034 in the foreground



F1016 & 1032 in Trench 8 looking west



19 Trench 9 looking north



21 F1011 in Trench 9 looking south-east



18 Inhumation and vessels within F1034 in Trench 8



20 F1007 & 1009 in Trench 9 looking south-east



22 F1036 in Trench 9 looking west



23 Trench 10 looking south-west



25 F1077 in Trench 10 looking east



27 F2005 in Trench 12 looking north-west



24 F1073 in Trench 10 looking east



26 Trench 12 looking north



28 Sample-section 12B in Trench 12 looking northwest





F2007 in Trench 13 looking north-west

Trench 13 looking west



F2011, F2013 and F2015 in Trench 13 looking west



F2021 in Trench 13 looking east









Base of shallow dish showing makers mark from Inhumation in Trench 8



37

Iron fragments (possible nail) from F1034 in Trench 8



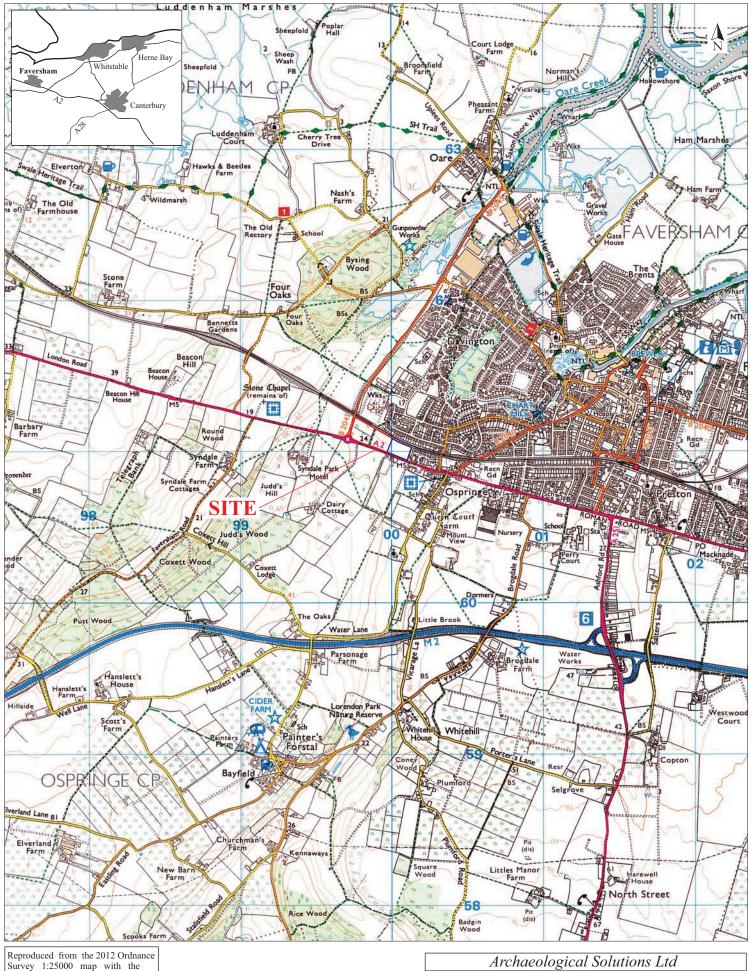
34 Vessel from F1034 in Trench 8



36 Iron nail from F1034 in Trench 8





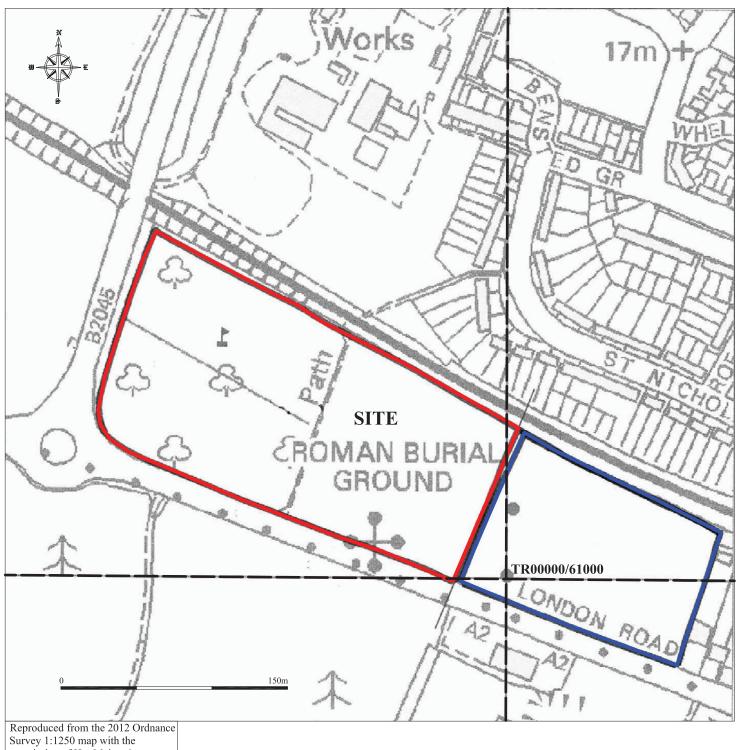


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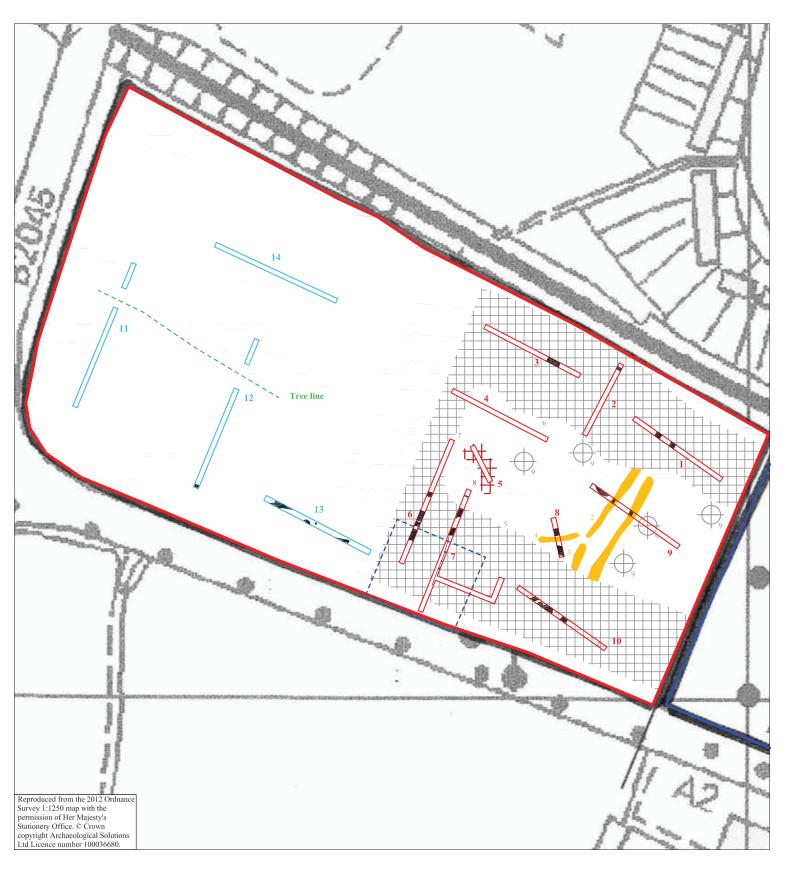
 Fig. 1
 Site location plan

 Scale 1:25,000 at A4
 London Rd, Faversham, Kent (P6359)



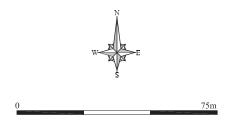
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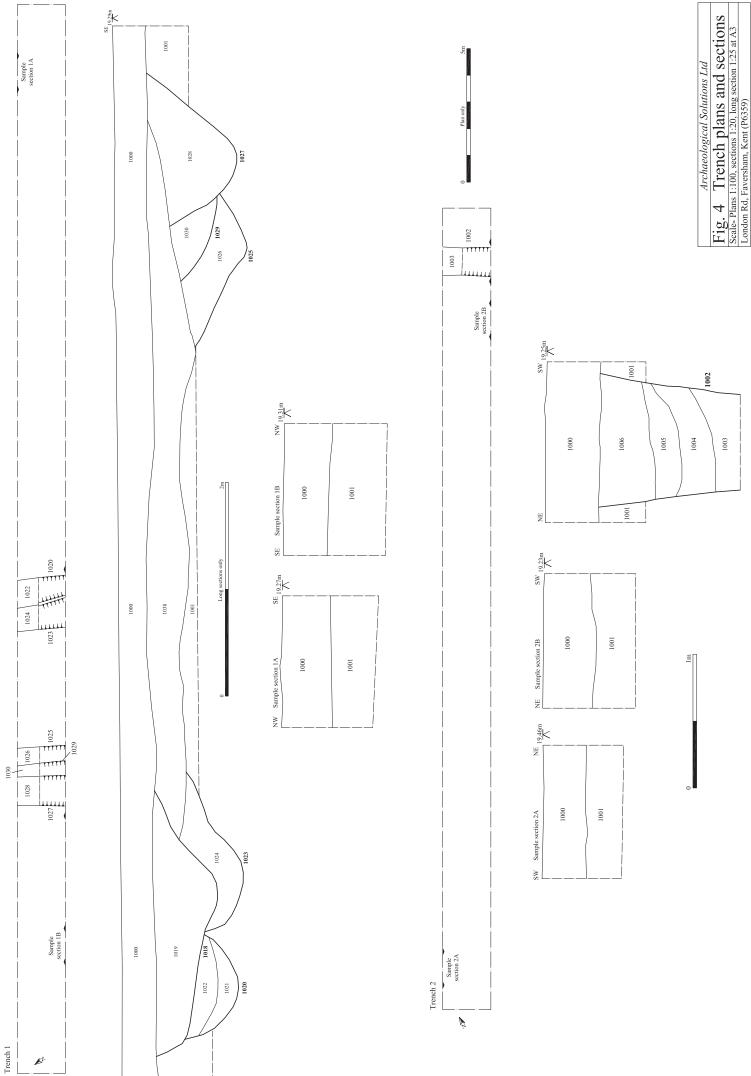
> Archaeological Solutions Ltd Fig. 2 Detailed site location plan Scale 1:2500 at A4 London Rd, Faversham, Kent (P6359)



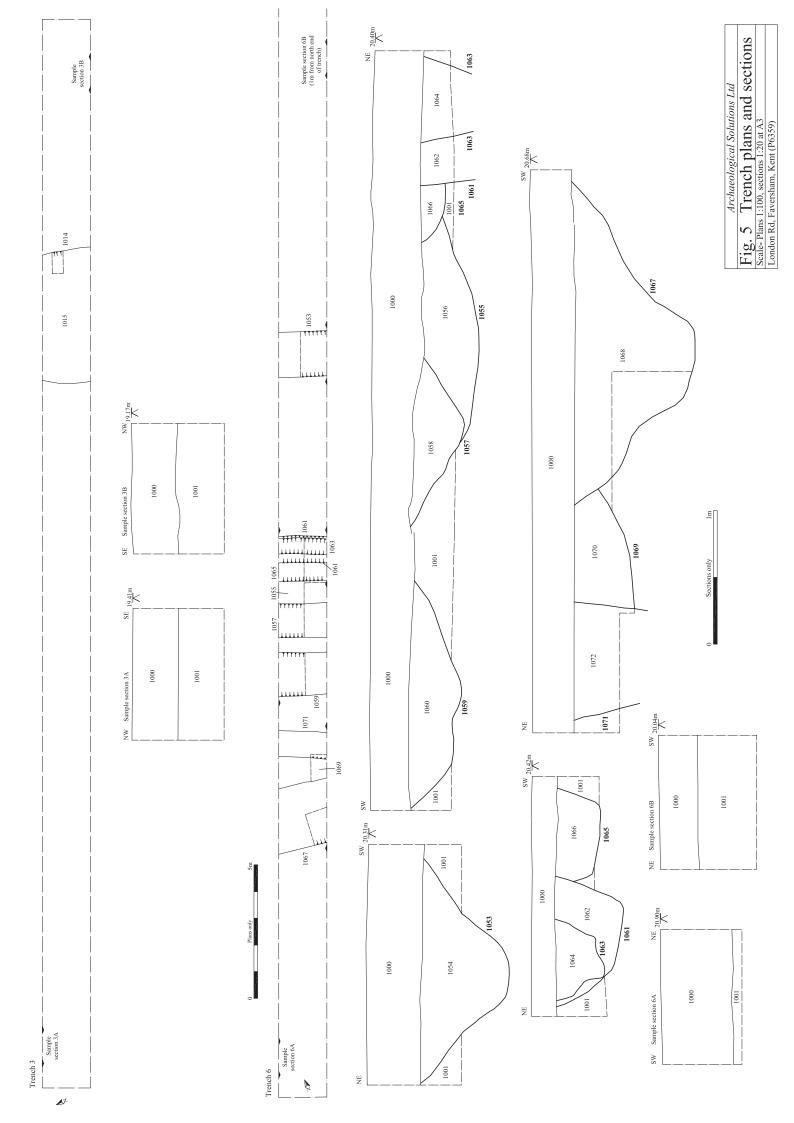


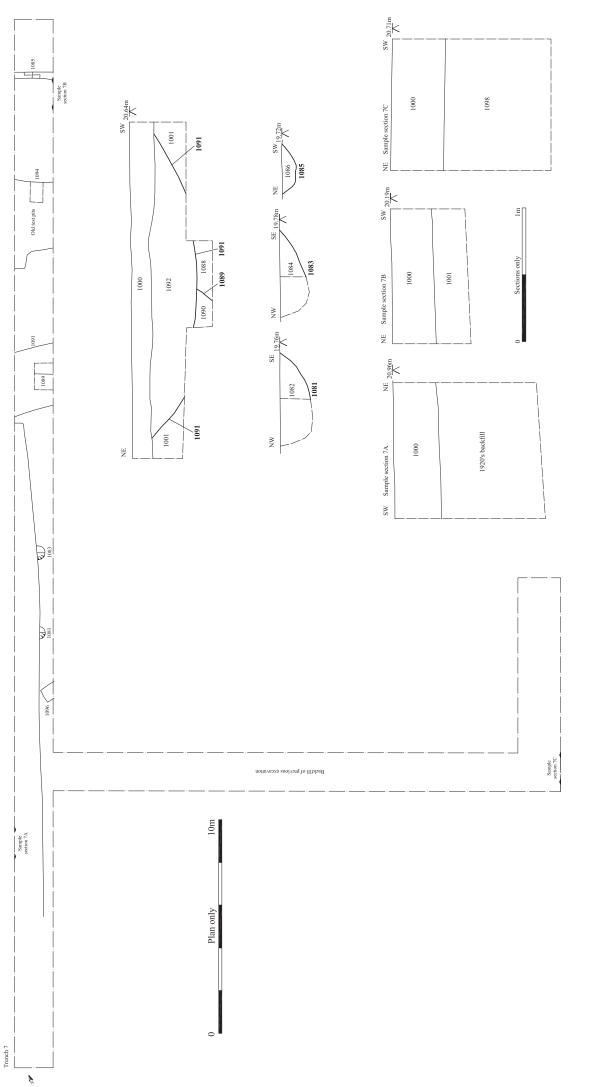






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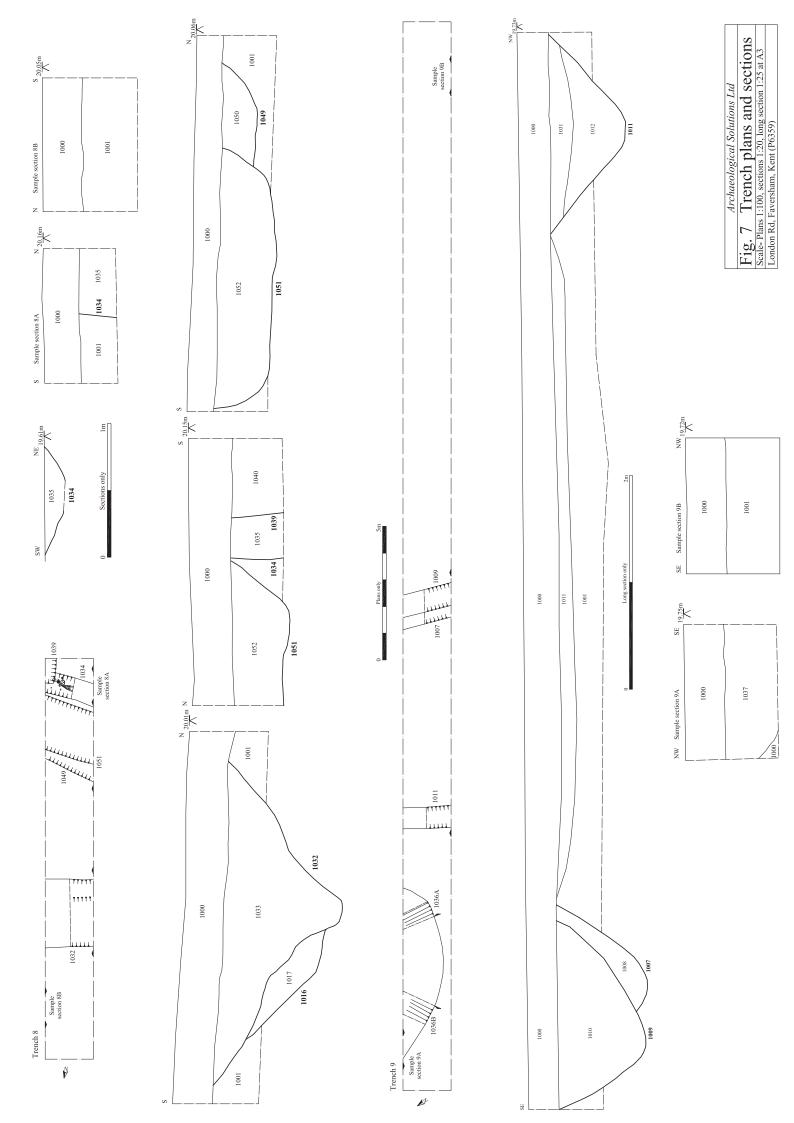




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 Fig. 6
 Trench plans and sections

 Scale - Plan 1:125, sections 1:20 at A3
 London Rd, Faversham, Kent (P6359)



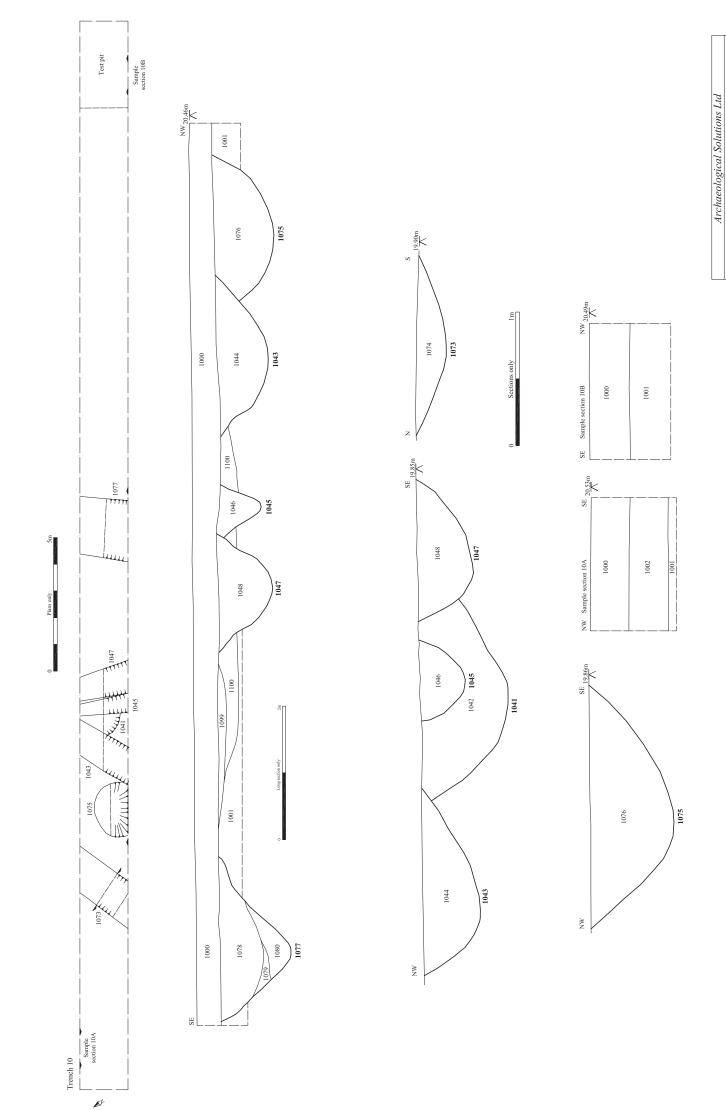


Fig. 8 Trench plans and sections Scale-Plans 1:100, sections 1:20, long section 1:40 at A3 London Rd, Faversham, Kent (P6359)

