

T H A M E S      V A L L E Y

ARCHAEOLOGICAL

S E R V I C E S

**Marnel Park, Popley, Basingstoke,  
Hampshire, Phase 1**

**Archaeological Excavation**

**by Genni Elliott**

**Site Code: MPB11/125**

**(SU 6340 5495)**

# **Late Iron Age and Early Roman enclosure at Marnel Park, Popley, Basingstoke, Hampshire**

**An Archaeological Excavation**

**for David Wilson Homes**

by Genni Elliott

Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd

Site Code MPB11/125

**February 2016**

## Summary

**Site name:** Marnel Park, Popley, Basingstoke, Hampshire, Phase 1

**Grid reference:** SU 6350 5500

**Site activity:** Evaluation and Excavation

**Date and duration of project:** 13th November 2014 – 27th January 2015

**Project manager:** Steve Ford

**Site supervisor:** Genni Elliott

**Site code:** MPB 11/125

**Area of site:** c. 6.8 ha (c. 1950 sq m excavated)

**Summary of results:** Evaluation and subsequent excavation have revealed the presence of a small enclosure complex of Late Iron Age and Roman date. Activity on the site commenced in the Late Iron Age in the 1st century BC/AD with construction of a intermittently defined rectangular enclosure. This was enlarged in Early Roman times before being crosscut and presumably going out of use early in the 2nd century AD. A moderate density of pits, post holes and miscellaneous linear features along with a moderate volume of pottery point to a well used location though no habited structural could be identified. Economic evidence was sparse with poor survival of faunal and charred plant remains.

**Location and reference of archive:** The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited with Hampshire Cultural Trust in due course, with accession code A2012.07.

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	Steve Preston ✓ 25.02.16

# **Late Iron Age and Early Roman enclosure at Marnel Park, Popley, Basingstoke, Hampshire, An Archaeological Excavation**

by Genni Elliott

**Report 11/125d**

## **Introduction**

This report documents the results of an archaeological field evaluation (Elliott 2016) and subsequent excavation carried out at a plot of land at Marnel Park, Popley, Basingstoke, Hampshire (SU 6350 5500) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Mr Paul Chadwick of CgMs Consulting, 140 London Wall, London, EC2Y 5DN, on behalf of David Wilson Homes.

Planning permission (appl. no. BDB/75762) has been granted by Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council following appeal (APP/H1705/A/12/2188137) to develop the site for housing. This is subject to a condition which requires a programme of archaeological fieldwork, to take the form of an initial archaeological evaluation, following which further work might be required. Fieldwalking (Ford 2011; 2014) and geophysical survey (WA 2013) had already taken place over two areas within the overall site (known as Phases 1 and 2) with this additional evaluation limited to the southern field, known as Phase 1.

The requirement for the work is in accordance with the Department for Communities and Local Government's *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF 2012), and the Borough Council's policies on archaeology. The field investigation was carried out to a specification approved by Mr David Hopkins of Hampshire County Council, the archaeological adviser to the Borough. Based on the findings from the evaluation (Elliott 2016), excavation followed immediately after, along with additional evaluation trenches to clarify the extent of the archaeological remains. The initial evaluation took place on 11th–12th November 2014 with the excavation and subsequent evaluation trenches taking place between 13th November 2014–27th January 2015. The site code is MPB11/125.

The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited with Hampshire Cultural Trust in due course with accession code A2012.07.

## **Location, topography and geology**

The Phase 1 proposed development comprises a sub-rectangular parcel of arable land centred at NGR SU6350 5500, covering just under 7ha, on the northern margins of Basingstoke, on land to the north of Carter Drive,

Marnel Park. The site comprises a single field on land that slopes very gently up from north to south. The site lies at a height of 80m above Ordnance Datum, representing the lowest point in the local landscape, which rises to 110m at Greatfield Farm to the south (Fig. 1). The underlying geology is Reading Beds, which was observed across the site, with upper chalk just to the south (BGS 1981) and London Clay to the north.

## **Archaeological background**

The site is located within a wider area of later prehistoric settlement and funerary activity with Middle Bronze Age cremations found at Daneshill (Millett and Schadla-Hall 1991) and later Bronze Age activity at Chineham Lane (Boismier 1997) to the south-east of the site. A number of Iron Age settlements are known around the area including an Iron Age hill fort at Winklebury (Smith 1977), a settlement site at Cowdery's Down (Millett with James 1983), Brighton Hill South (Coe and Newman 1992; Fasham and Keevill 1995; Howell and Durden 2005), Rooksdown Hospital (Butterworth 1994; Farwell in prep.) Oakridge (Oliver 1992) and Marnel Park (Wright *et al.* 2009). The site lies *c.* 6km south of Silchester, initially the Iron Age settlement of *Calleva* before Roman occupation in the first century AD when it was known as *Calleva Atrebatum*. The southern road from Silchester (route 42a: Margary 1955, 81–3) splits to the north of Basingstoke to pass to the east and west of the town, providing routes to Winchester (*Venta*) and Chichester (*Noviomagus*).

Various Roman sites are recorded locally, with two suspected villa sites to the north-west at Monk Sherborne (Teague 2003) as well as a bathhouse at Oakridge to the south (Oliver 1992). At Park Prewett Hospital to the west excavation identified a rectangular enclosure with associated internal features and three corn-drying ovens (Coles *et al.* 2011) with an extensive Roman enclosure complex also with a corn drier at Marnel Park Area D, 0.25km to the east of the current site (Wright *et al.* 2000) (see Fig. 1).

In the more immediate vicinity, recent excavations on adjacent sites (including the fields immediately to the south and east of the site) found traces of Neolithic and Early Bronze Age activity and substantial activity dating from the Middle Bronze Age through to the 4th century AD (Wright *et al.* 2009), mainly on the higher ridge to the south. Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age activity was concentrated in a few pits which produced Grooved ware and Beaker pottery as well as other domestic waste. More permanent settlement appears to date from the Middle Bronze Age period with the construction of timber roundhouses and associated pits. Burials were also found associated with the settlement. Settlement was more extensive during the Early Iron Age period, concentrated on the chalk ridge with a number of roundhouses and division of the land in the form of two substantial ditches. A break in occupation appeared to occur during the Middle Iron Age before resettlement of

the area took place in the Late Iron Age/Early Roman period. Settlement, including enclosures, fields and trackways was concentrated to the south on the chalk and in the field immediately to the east of our site on the Reading Beds geology. Within the settlement on the Reading Beds geology were also found roundhouses, a waterhole, corn drier and two cremation burials, as well as an associated trackway and two sub-rectangular enclosures dating from the mid-1st century AD and continuing until the mid-late 4th century.

Fieldwalking over the site itself (Ford 2011, and see below), and the adjacent field to the north (Ford 2014), recovered a modest quantity of artefacts, considering the areas covered, with just 37 Neolithic or Bronze Age flints, one sherd of Bronze Age pottery and 22 sherds of post-medieval to modern pottery from the Phase 2 area.

## **Evaluation**

Evaluation prior to the excavation had several components. An initial phase of fieldwalking recovered a very small amount of material. A few struck flints, largely or wholly of later Neolithic or Bronze Age date were well dispersed across the area. The only pottery recovered was of late post-medieval date (Ford 2011). Subsequent geophysical survey (WA 2013) revealed a number of ill-defined anomalies most of which were located in the northern section of the development site. Two phases of trenching took place (Elliott 2016). The first twelve trenches were dug to target the geophysical anomalies. However, the majority of the trenches were devoid of archaeological features with only Trench 10 producing topsoil finds comprising a prehistoric flint flake and a sherd of Late Iron Age – early Roman pottery. Only Trench 1 to the south-west contained any archaeological features and it was around this trench that the second stage of trenching, and the subsequent excavation took place (Fig. 2). The second phase of trenching comprised the digging of another 11 evaluation trenches, a small area strip (*c.* 200sq m, designated Trench 25) and the supervised excavation of a cable trench dug around the south and west boundary of the (Trench 13). Each of these trenches contained archaeological deposits certainly or probably of Roman date. As a result, an area was opened up around the greatest concentration of these features in the south-west corner of the site (Fig. 3), in effect enlarging Trench 25 to *c.* 1950 sq m. Features from the evaluation are discussed fully below, except that details of dimensions etc are not repeated when already given in the evaluation report (Elliott 2016).

## **The Excavation**

The excavation comprised an irregular area strip of *c.* 2000 sq m which revealed a complex of linear features and a modest number of pits and postholes (Fig. 3). Approximately 0.25m of topsoil was removed by a tracked

excavator fitted with a toothless bucket under archaeological supervision to expose the clay natural geology (Pl. 1). The wintry setting of the excavation and the nature of the natural geology sometimes led to less than ideal digging conditions, but in fact feature definition was usually reasonably clear (if not always so in photographs).

Overall, the chronology of the site as indicated by the pottery is that of a single phase of activity spanning the Late Iron Age and Early Roman period. It is, however, clear from even a casual inspection of the site plan that some time depth is present, with several intercutting ditches representing remodelling of parts of the complex. The following narrative attempts to describe the development of the site in its correct chronological sequence though the phasing applies mainly only to ditches, with the majority of the discrete features only assigned to the general period overall.

Despite the reasonably large quantity of pottery recovered, only occasionally has the ceramic chronology been found sufficiently closely resolved to allow features to be phased without stratigraphy. Twenty-one contexts contained more than 30 sherds, normally a reliable quantity for dating purposes, but 60 contexts contained fewer than ten sherds, and a high number of these contexts were in ditches whose pottery from other cuts suggested different dates. In particular, contexts containing only Late Iron Age (LIA) wares must often be dated to the early Roman period based on pottery in other parts of the same feature. As is often the case therefore, the absence of 'Romanizing' wares from a single context, especially a small assemblage, is not sufficient to assign a certain pre-Conquest date. Broadly the phasing (Fig. 5) seems to correspond to:

Phase A: pre-Conquest (early 1st century AD, possibly earlier, no Roman wares);

Phase B: peri-Conquest (mid to late 1st century AD, with LIA and Romanizing wares together) and

Phase C: Early Roman (late 1st–early 2nd century, LIA wares in a distinct minority if present).

Phase D: Later than Phase C but how much later is uncertain.

However, it should be noted that ceramically there is considerable overlap between these 'periods', and features with no stratigraphic relationships often cannot be assigned to an individual phase. The excavated features are summarized as Appendix 1.

#### *Phase A: 1st century BC/AD, probably pre-Conquest (Figs 3 and 5)*

This phase comprises a series of short ditches and gullies along with a number of pits. The ditches and gullies form no coherent ground plan though it is possible that, in association with an unphased ditch, an enclosed area of sorts is defined albeit with large gaps between. These ditches comprise 310, 312, 314, 316, forming a rectangular area c. 17m by 36m but with gaps of up to 12m and even probably open to the north. All of these

features contained small quantities of Late Iron Age pottery with no Roman wares present, which, as noted above, might not be sufficient evidence to date any one of them, but added together amounts to a significant absence which does suggest a pre-Roman enclosure phase. Ditches 316, 310 and 312 were cut by Roman features. A short stretch of minor gully 320 appeared in plan to be cut by 310, but this was very far from clear, and as 320 contained Roman pottery, this relationship has not been considered conclusive. A single small (6g) sherd of post-medieval pottery from slot 219 (ditch 310) must be intrusive. The only other finds from 310 were 12 and 4 sherds of late Iron Age pottery from slots 100 and 220 respectively, and some burnt flint. Ditch 309, broadly parallel to 310, may have redefined or re-emphasized the east side of the enclosure: slots 48 and 144 both contained late Iron Age pottery (just 4 and three sherds respectively).

It is possible that gully 313 also played a role in this enclosure.

Not apparently connected to the enclosure, but containing similar pottery assemblages, unfortunately, with no stratigraphic confirmation, ditches 125, 308, 309, 319 may also belong to this phase. Ditches 309 and 319 and possibly 125 could all form an enlargement of the enclosure to its east and south, but ditch 308 appears unrelated.

Pit 200 contained no finds but was cut by Roman ditch 301: if 200 and 148 were not a single pit, and they probably were not, then 200 could be this early.

A sub-circular pit (206) with moderately sloping sides and a rounded base, cut by gully 306 and measuring 0.88m by more than 0.71m by 0.1m deep. Its only fill, 377 contained a single sherd of Late Iron Age pottery.

Pit 23=42 was a small oval pit with steep sides and a rounded base, measuring 1.70m by 1.22m by 0.62m deep. It was cut by ditch 304. The pit contained no pottery but can be dated via stratigraphy to no later than the Late Iron Age. Within the upper fill was a substantial amount of burnt flint and at the base was a large segment of quern stone.

Pit 135 was a circular pit with shallow sides and a rounded base, measuring 1m in diameter by 0.13m deep. Its only fill, 353, contained just a single (large) sherd of Late Iron Age pottery, and it was cut by gully 312; it may thus be one of the earliest features on the site.

Posthole 213 was oval in plan with steep sides and a rounded base, measuring 0.32m by 0.22m by 0.22m deep. Its only fill, 384, contained Late Iron Age pottery.

#### Burnt Spread 15

An oval spread measuring 4.10m by 2.12m by 0.06m high and consisting of burnt flint within a grey silty matrix (contexts 64/81) lay above a redeposited natural clay layer (80/174). The spread was cut by ditches 300, 302 and



305 and thus can be dated via stratigraphy to before the early Roman period, but how much earlier remains uncertain. Typically mounds of burnt flint are Bronze Age in date, but burnt flint is also encountered regularly on Roman sites. There was no dating evidence from the spread itself, but set into it was a Late Iron Age cremation (65).

#### Cremation Deposit 65

Set into the top of the burnt mound (15) was a cremation deposit (65) within spread 64; there was no urn and no evidence for a cut. All the pottery that was recovered with the cremation (89 small sherds) dated to the Late Iron Age period. Some 550g of burnt bone from an unsexed adult were recovered, along with a fragment of copper alloy.

#### *Phase B, LIA to Early Roman transition, mid 1st century AD*

This phase also comprises a series of ditches, which appear to redefine and enlarge the earlier, incomplete, enclosure. Ditch 300 is the major feature, and seems to have been long lived, being recut in phase C. The recut contains the only pottery from the site that might be assigned a 2nd century date (slots 6 and 107), but it is likely that the original cut for this ditch was established much earlier. Ditch 300 forms the north and west sides of an enclosure whose southern side would lie beyond the site boundary. It is possible that ditch terminal 142 may have formed the southern side of the enclosure, creating entrances at both the southeast and southwest corners. In the east, it connects with north-south ditch 301, which also seems to have been long lived (or if not, then must be originally dug later than 300). Most of the pottery from 301 suggest a transitional date, with just slots 215 (where several features converged) and 239 (likewise) suggesting the later date. Unlike many enclosures it would appear that a secondary function of the ditches was to drain the enclosed area with ditch 301 continuing to the north, beyond the junction with ditch 300

#### Ditch 300 (Slots 6, 10, 11, 13, 19, 22, 26, 38, 46, 105/106, 107, 227)

Ditch 300 formed the western and northern arms of the enclosure. In plan form it was curvi-linear with a 'u-shaped' profile, measuring approximately 1.80m wide by approximately 0.75m deep, but becoming shallower towards the terminus at the south end. The number of fills within each slot varied between one and six dependent on proximity to the southern terminus and interaction with other ditches. The pottery from ditch 300 is a mix of dates, but slots 6 and 105 have Phase D pottery; this suggests this major feature was cut earlier, in Phase B or C but stayed open until Phase D.

Ditch 301 (Slots 35, 119, 149, 203, 215, 225, 226, 228, 229, 230, 239 and 241)

Ditch 301 formed the eastern arm of the enclosure. In plan form it was linear, aligned north–south, with a 'u-shaped' profile, measuring approximately 1.40m wide by approximately 0.40m deep, but becoming shallower towards the terminus at the southern end. The northern end extended beyond its junction with ditch 300, where the fill differed from the darker soils to paler soils representing natural silting. The ditch was traced through trenches 26–28, some 60m beyond the trench 25 limit; no terminus was found.

Within the central section of the ditch was perhaps an entrance, where the ditch became two narrow gullies (slots 225, 226, 229, 230). A brooch from slot 49 confirms the pottery evidence that this ditch was filling in the later 1st or early 2nd century.

Leading off west from ditch 300, ditches 302 and 304 may belong to this period or the next. In the east of the site, minor gully 321 ceramically could belong in this phase; again it had no stratigraphic confirmation. Minor gully 320 plays no obvious role in the layout, but also contained pottery likely to put it in this phase: its ambiguous relationship with 310 need not rule this out.

Six small pits or post holes (109, 111, 221–2, 231, 233) lie beneath a large hollow 317 assigned to phase C. All contained small amounts of LIA/ERO or early Roman pottery though as 109 cuts 110, it is assigned to phase C. Similar pottery might date pit 131. The hollow (excavated as 113, 123, 124) had a variable number of fills. In segment 113 these were fills 265 and 266, which contained no finds; in segment 123, fill 274; and in segment 124, which had fills 286–9 combined for over 200 sherds of pottery, while fill 287 had a stylus and a fragment of lead plate.

Pit 47 was a large sub-circular pit with steep sides and an angled base measuring 2.52m by more than 1.40m by more than 0.60m deep. It cut ditch 304 and was in turn cut by that ditch's recut 305, but it is unlikely to represent a new phase, it may have been a localized cleaning out of the earlier ditch, as it was virtually wholly contained within the latter and whatever time passed does not seem to have prevented the recut following the same line as the original ditch. Two fills were observed (72 and 73) both containing pottery – Late Iron Age in the primary fill with early Roman pottery also present in the secondary fill. It contained a few fragments of unidentified animal bone and a fragment of brick/tile.

Pit 126, an oval pit with moderately steep sides and a rounded base was 2.04m by 1.43m by 0.30m deep. Its two fills (292 and 351) contained 55 sherds of Late Iron Age – early Roman pottery. Within 292 was also animal bone and a fragment of lead sheet.

Pit 130 was a shallow oval pit with gently sloping sides and a rounded base measuring 1.87m by more than 0.70m by 0.11m deep. Its only fill, 298, contained 7 sherds of Late Iron Age – early Roman pottery and was cut by gully 315.

Pit 131 was another shallow, sub-circular pit with gently sloping sides and a rounded base, measuring 0.90m in diameter by 0.12m deep. Its only fill, 299 contained five sherds of Late Iron Age – early Roman pottery.

Pit 148 was circular in plan 1.87m across and 0.62m deep and was truncated by ditch 301. Its two fills (366-7) contained 8 sherds of Late Iron Age-Early Roman pottery and a fragment of animal bone.

Pit 221 was circular in plan 0.65m across and 0.3m deep. Its only fill, 399 contained 4 sherds of Late Iron Age-Early Roman pottery.

### *Phase C: Middle to Later 1st century AD*

The major enclosure (300, 301) is recut and fills with pottery which now suggests a fully Romanized repertoire. Ditch 305 also recuts the western spur ditch 304 in this phase (either at the same time that 300 was recut, or perhaps slightly earlier). At the south end of ditch 301, several short, wide ditches converge and appear potentially to be related to the entrance to the enclosure (142, 201, 306, 307). Of these, 142, 206 and 306 all contained early Roman pottery, 307 had just a single sherd of Late Iron Age pottery. Alternatively, it is possible that 307 was the end of the post-medieval boundary along the south of the site observed in several of the evaluation trenches. Within the enclosure, ditch 315 contained similar pottery.

A sub-circular pit (201), or perhaps a ditch terminus, was only partially exposed at the southern edge of the excavation, with steep sides and a flat base, measuring more than 1.70m x 1.40m by 0.38m deep. Its only fill, 373, contained 27 sherds of early Roman pottery. It contained a few fragments of unidentified animal bone and a fragment of brick/tile.

Stratigraphically, feature 216 marks the end of Phase C and may suggest a hiatus before Phase D. It was probable sub-circular pit with moderately steep sides and a rounded base, only surviving very partially, as it had been cut by ditch 311 and cutting ditch 301. If it had had a relationship with ditch 310, this had been lost to the truncation by 311. It measured more than 1.0m by 0.16m by 0.46m deep. There were three fills, 391–393 which contained 61 sherds of Late Iron Age and early Roman pottery and a single flint flake. It contained a few fragments of unidentified animal bone. It is also possible that this feature is not a pit but the terminal of gully 322.

Posthole (103) was 0.47m in diameter but only 0.07m deep. Its only fill, 250, contained six tiny sherds of early Roman pottery and six fragments of non-descript fired clay. It probably formed a pair with nearby very similar post hole 102 (oval, 0.57m by 0.35m by 0.25m deep, no finds) but no function can be assigned. The post-pair could belong in this phase or the previous one.

Pit 222 was the only pit assigned to this phase. It was circular in plan up to 0.76m across and 0.13m deep. It was overlain by the fill of hollow 113 and its single fill, 450 contained 17 sherds of Early Roman pottery and a sheep/goat bone.

### *Phase D: Later 1st century AD, possibly early 2nd*

The final phase of activity on the site before late post-medieval times is formed by ditch 311 which cuts across enclosure 301 and the earlier 309, 310, and 322. It contained very few finds, and those may have been picked up from the features through which it cut, so that although it appears to be early Roman, its complete disregard for the earlier layout suggests it could just as easily be much later: its pottery is a mix of early Roman and Late Iron Age. It is broadly parallel to the post-medieval gully. Although by no means certain, it is also possible that this continued east as ditch 31 observed in evaluation Trench 19. If this were the case, this alignment would strengthen the argument for this being related to post-medieval ditch.

### *Post-medieval Ditch 303*

This ditch cut across every other feature it encountered and was clearly post-medieval.

### *Undated Pits and postholes*

The following contained no finds and contribute nothing to understanding the site.

<i>Type</i>	<i>Cut</i>	<i>Fill(s)</i>	<i>Diam (m) or l x b (m)</i>	<i>Depth</i>	<i>Note</i>
Pit	39	171	1.06 x 0.62	0.17	sub-rectangular
Pit	117	273	0.90	0.14	Circular, cuts gully 313, so no earlier than the Late Iron Age
Pit	121	280	1.50 (+) x 0.63	0.11	sub-rectangular, cut by 122
Pit	122	281	1.67 x 1.54	0.12	Oval; cuts 121 and 120
Pit	132	350	0.75 x 0.50	0.10	oval
Pit	236	467	1.10	0.12	sub-circular
Pit	237	468	1.62 x 1.12	0.15	oval
Post hole	120	279	0.40	0.11	sub-circular, cut by 122
Post hole	134	352	0.41 x 0.20	0.07	oval
Post hole	140	358	0.74	0.22	circular located on the edge of hollow 113

## **Finds**

### *Pottery* by Jane Timby

The evaluation and excavation combined recovered 3352 sherds of pottery, weighing *c.* 30.7 kg, mostly dating to the later Iron Age – early Roman period, with a single post-medieval piece. The assemblage was moderately well preserved although the sherds are quite fragmented with an overall average sherd weight of 9.2g. Pottery was recorded from some 74 cuts, mainly ditches, gullies, pits and postholes, with additional material from a further seven contexts including one cremation.

The assemblage was sorted into fabric groups based on the principal inclusions present in the clay, the frequency and grade of the inclusions and the firing colour. Very small crumbs were counted and weighed only. Later prehistoric material was coded using the letters denoting the main aplastic inclusions in the clay following the recommendations in PCRG (1997). Known Roman traded wares were coded following the National Roman fabric reference series (Tomber and Dore 1998). Unknown fabrics were labelled more generically according to firing colour and texture.

The sorted sherds were quantified by count and weight for each recorded context. Rim percentages were measured for estimated vessel equivalence (EVE) (Orton *et al.* 1993). Any decoration, or surface finish, such as burnishing, was noted along with evidence for use in the form of sooting, residues or internal calcareous deposits.

### Description of fabrics and associated forms (Appendix 2)

#### **Later prehistoric fabrics**

*Coarse flint-tempered ware* (FL1). This handmade ware dominates the assemblage accounting for 44.7% by count; 35.4% weight. It directly equates with ‘Silchester ware’ (Timby 2000, 239) with a coarse calcined flint tempered and a very limited repertoire of forms. Eighty-nine sherds came from a beaded rim jar associated with cremation 65. Other forms include internally-thickened rim jars, large everted rim jars and simple lids.

*Flint-tempered ware* (FL2). A handmade sandy textured ware with sparse coarse angular flint. The only featured sherd is from a necked jar.

*Fine flint-tempered ware* (FL3). A generally black ware with a sparse to moderate frequency of fine white angular flint less than 1mm in size. Usually with a burnished exterior surface. Vessels include necked bowls with one sherd from ditch 108 decorated with diagonal double parallel lines and another small bowl or cup with a band of incised decoration (Fig. 6.5).

*Fine flint-tempered ware* (FL4). Fabric as FL3 but with a moderate to common frequency of fine flint. Vessels include two saucepan-style pots, beaded rim jars, necked bowls and angular squat jar (Fig. 6.6). There are two decorated bowls (Fig. 6.1, 4) both with impressed dot decoration.

*Sandy, flint-tempered ware* (SAFL1-2). Sandy ware with sparse flint. A single, coarse, sandy ware with a scatter of large, rounded, quartz grains up to 5mm, red-brown iron and sparse flint (SAFL2) is represented by a single handmade, quite thick-walled sherd. Featured sherd are mainly from beaded rim and simple everted rim jars with a single example of a flask from ditch 6.

*Sandy with flint and iron* (SAFLFE). A dark grey to red-brown sandy textured ware with a sparse scatter of ill-sorted, sub-angular to rounded, quartz up to 2mm in size, sparse white flint less, than 1mm in size, and red-

brown ferruginous grains. A small group which includes several sherds from a wheel-made necked bowl with wavy-line decoration (Fig. 6.18).

*Grog-tempered* (GR1). Dark grey ware with a soapy texture. The paste contains a sparse to moderate frequency of sub-angular pale buff and dark grey grog. Vessels are both handmade and wheel turned and include beaded rim and necked rim jars / bowls (Fig. 6.9-10). This ware contributes 6.3% by count to the overall assemblage.

*Grog-tempered* (GR2). A light grey ware with a soapy texture and a sparse to moderate frequency of grog. A single featured sherd is from a large jar (Fig. 6.17).

*Grog-tempered* (GR3). a greyish ware with a brownish surface tinge. Sandy textured matrix with a sparse scatter of grey grog. A single sherd from a large saucepan-style pot (Fig. 6.7).

*Grog-tempered* (GR4). A red-brown grog-tempered ware, the equivalent to Silchester fabric G4 (Timby 2000, 235). Featured sherds include a sharply everted rim beaker copying a butt beaker form (Fig. 6.12).

*Grog and ?shell* (GRSH). A single small grog-tempered sherd with voids possibly from dissolved shell or other calcareous material.

*Grog and flint* (GRFL). Fabric as GR1 but with a rare to sparse scatter of flint. usually with a burnished finish. Vessels include necked jars/ bowls.

*Fine sandy with grog* (GRSA). A sandy textured ware with sparse grog inclusions. Vessels include a sieve or colander; wheel-made cordon necked, jars/ bowls and a beaded rim jar.

*Iron-rich sandy* (FE1). A slightly sandy textured ware with rare angular flint up to 1mm in size and a sparse to moderate frequency of red-orange to dark brown rounded to sub-angular ferruginous inclusions up to 2mm and finer. A single bodysherd.

*Sandy ware* (SA1). Dark grey with a brown interior and grey core with orange margins. A finely micaceous, fine textured sandy ware with a rare scatter of visible sub-angular quartz less than 0.5mm and sparse red-brown iron grains. A small group including a rounded rim neckless jar (Fig. 6.15).

*Sandy ware* (SA2). A black handmade ware with a moderate to common scatter of ill-sorted rounded to sub-angular quartz up to 2mm, mainly finer. Rare angular flint up to 1mm. Limited to jar forms.

*Glauconitic sandy ware* (SA3). Two small sherds with a glauconitic sandy fabric.

*Sandstone-tempered ware* (SST) (Peacock 1969, Group 9, fabric 25). This ware has an oxidized or black surface and quite a gritty feel. The paste is quite coarse-textured and contains an ill-sorted temper of ferruginous sandstone fragments up to 2mm in size, sub-angular quartz, rare iron and occasional calcareous inclusions. A potential source in the Mendip Hills is suggested (Peacock 1969). Represented by two vessels (Fig. 6.2-3) one of which is a necked jar; the other may be a bowl.

### Continental imports

*Samian*: A single basesherd of South Gaulish samian (LGF SA) is present from hollow 123. The piece was originally stamped by the potter but the surface slip is lost and the piece is too abraded for the stamp to be deciphered.

*North Gaulish white ware* (NOG WH) (Tomber and Dore 1998, 22-4). Forms include a butt beaker Camulodunum (Cam.) type 113 from pit 124 (Fig. 6.11) and sherds from a flagon, probably Cam. type 161 from ditch 215. Pre-Flavian.

*Baetican amphora* (BAT AM) (Tomber and Dore 1998, 84). A single bodysherd from a Dressel 20 amphora was recovered from ditch 227.

*Cadiz amphora* (CADAM) (Tomber and Dore 1998, 87). Two bodysherds were recovered from hollow 123.

### Local wares

*Alice Holt wares*: A significant component of the assemblage, 30.9% by count, comprises wares in the Alice Holt tradition. Some minor variations in the fabrics could suggest other potential local sources or may reflect a greater inconsistency in production as the wares belong to the earlier phases of the industry. In addition to the more standard grey wares (ALH RE) (Tomber and Dore 1998, 138), a distinction has been made here between the black-fired wares (ALH BW); oxidized wares (ALH OX); sandy wares with sparse flint (ALH FL) and a much coarser variant with larger rounded, polished quartz sand grains (ALH SA). All these variants feature in the early pre- and post-conquest levels at Silchester.

A diverse range of jars, bowls, platters, lids and beakers are present. Copies of Gallo-Belgic imports occur as butt beakers and two platters imitating moulded types (Fig. 6.14). Beaded rim and everted rim jars dominate accounting for 30% and 21% of the group. Also present are jars with bevelled rims (cf. Lyne and Jefferies 1979, early corpus, class 3A; necked cordoned jars (ibid.) class 1 (Fig. 6.16), and jars with carinated shoulders (Fig. 6.19). The bowls feature one reeded-rim form and several 'Atrebatian'-style examples, (ibid. class 5) (Fig. 6.20). Overall jars account for 77% of the recorded rims, beakers for 2.4%, bowls for 14.3%, platters for 2.5% and lids for 1.6 % EVE.

*White ware (possibly Oxfordshire ware (OXF WH) (Tomber and Dore 1998, 174). Several sherds from ditch 107 probably from a single flask.*

*Grog-tempered storage jar (GRSJ). A single handmade, thick-walled, sherd from a large storage jar in recut 13.*

*Miscellaneous reduced wares (GY; GYF; GYFSYMIC). Various grey, black and brown sandy wares of unknown source. There are no featured sherds in this group although one of the finer wares shows traces of barbotine dots suggesting a beaker form.*

*Miscellaneous oxidized wares (OXSY; OXF; OXFFE; OXFMIC; OXFSY; OXSAFL). A small but relatively diverse group of mainly non-featured oxidized wares. At least one sherd in a fine sandy oxidized ware (OXF) has a surviving matt colour-coat and appears to be a copy of an imported pedestal-style beaker (Fig. 6.13). It appears to be of British origin rather than an import. Other sherds include copies of butt beakers and a colander in an oxidized sandy ware.*

### Site chronology and distribution

The pottery appears to belong to one continuum of use of the site starting in the later Iron Age and continuing through to the Flavian period and possibly slightly later into the later 1st or early 2nd century. The earlier phase of use is typified by finer flint-tempered wares (fabrics FL3-4), with examples of saucepan-style pots, beaded rim vessels and by the two sandstone-tempered Glastonbury-style vessels. With a potential source in the Mendips these are clearly traded vessels or reflect some movement of goods from the Somerset area. At some point in the later years of the 1st century BC both the coarser flint-tempered wares along with the grog-tempered wares appear accompanied by increasing numbers of sandy wares typified by the Alice Holt products moving towards the mid-1st century AD. Probably at this time the few imported Gaulish fine wares present along with the two *amphorae* forms from Spain are reaching the site.

In terms of distribution across the site pottery only a single sherd came from the northern zone of the land investigated (from Trench 10). With such a concentration of features in one small area there is inevitably quite a high level of redeposition. Most of the deposits dated to the earlier phase of use have very small assemblages.

A moderately large assemblage was recovered from ditch 5, with 246 sherds mostly in quite fragmented condition with an average sherd weight of 6.8g. The group includes a mixture of flint, grog and Alice-Holt-type wares along with one of the Glastonbury-style sherds. On balance it suggests a date sometime in the first half of the 1st century AD. Slightly more material came from ditch 6 with 384 sherds and a slightly better level of preservation at 10.7g. A higher incidence of Alice Holt-type wares from this feature which accounts for 45.5% (count) compared to 20% from ditch 5 might argue for a slightly later date in the post-conquest period. Further larger groups of pottery came from ditches 19 with 108 sherds; 26 with 232 sherds and 46, with 70 sherds, all of which might suggest an early Roman date.

Ditches 20, 25 and 45 appear to be later Iron Age features.

Ditch 22 also appears to be a late Iron Age-early Roman feature as do ditches 38 and 25. Ditches 100 and 17 could potentially be earlier but contained small amounts of pottery.



The earlier features appear to include nine ditches: 104, 108, 119, 113, 142, 143, 217, 220 and 242; two gullies (112, 114) and three pits (200, 206 and 207). Most of the other features with pottery fall into the later Iron Age-early Roman bracket. Of particular note are ditches 107 with 639 sherds and hollow 317 with 237 sherds. A number of white-ware sherds from a flask from the former, which may be Oxfordshire white ware, could perhaps push the date into the 2nd century.

#### Regional comparison

The Basingstoke area has been the focus of numerous excavations over recent decades most of which have produced later prehistoric and Roman activity. In particular late Iron Age and Roman occupation was identified from previous work at the same general locality (Wright *et al.* 2009). In contrast to this recent assemblage the pottery from the earlier work suggested that there was no mid-late Iron Age activity comparable to that here suggesting a slightly later start date in the immediate pre- or early post-conquest period. There was, however, a significantly longer phase of occupation extending from the later Iron Age through into the late Roman period (Seager Smith 2009). As with the recent nearby site material (Wright *et al.* 2009) there were a few early Roman imports including a Gallo-Belgic *terra nigra* platter, North Gaulish butt beakers, South Gaulish samian and a Dressel 1B Italian *amphora* and Dressel 2-4 *amphorae*.

Moving slightly further to the south, of particular interest is the pottery from the second phase of occupation at Winklebury hillfort (Smith 1977). This shows many comparable forms with plain and decorated saucepan style pots; decorated vessels with stabbed decoration, and infilled linear and geometric designs suggesting a chronological overlap between the reoccupation of this site and Marnel Park. In particular, the Winklebury assemblage contained a Glastonbury-style necked jar in a sandstone-tempered fabric (Smith 1977. fig 35.14) identical to the sherds from Marnel Park. Various sites to the immediate south of Basingstoke, for example, Brighton Hill South (Fasham and Keevill 1995), also demonstrate a chronological overlap in the wares present. There, there was material dated to the early Iron Age; the mid-late Iron Age and the later Iron Age – early Roman period. As with Marnel Park the latter phase produced a small number of continental imports in the form of *amphora*, North Gaulish white-ware and one sherd of pre-Flavian samian (Rees 1995).

An Iron Age enclosure was excavated at Kennel Farm (Site A) immediately south of Brighton Hill South which was dated to the early-middle and middle Iron Age overlapping with the Brighton Hill assemblage (Chapman 2006). Further later Iron Age and Roman activity has also been recorded at Old Kempshott Lane, Basingstoke (Haslam 2012) with examples of flint-tempered saucepan pots amongst the earlier pottery.



Collectively all these sites, along with others investigated in the locality, demonstrate a strong Iron Age and Roman presence in the Basingstoke area.

#### Catalogue of illustrated sherds (Fig. 6)

1. Handmade bowl with two slightly irregular girth grooves and decorated with lines of impressed dots. Abraded interior surface; burnished exterior. Fabric: FL4. Ditch 5 (70).
2. Bodysherd from a Glastonbury-style bowl with a depressed circular facet surrounded by curvilinear decoration infilled with lattice-work. Fired to a black colour. Fabric: SST. Pit 47 (72).
3. Necked jar with very faintly visible curvilinear and lattice-work decoration in the Glastonbury style. Orange-brown in colour. Fabric: SST. Ditch 220 (398).
4. Globular bodied bowl decorated with impressed dots. Fabric: FL4. Layer 175.
5. Small rounded bowl or cup with a band of incised decoration. Worn on the lower interior. Black in colour. Fabric: FL3. Buried soil 290)
6. Handmade wide-mouthed squat jar with a carinated shoulder. Black exterior with a grey interior. Burnished exterior. Fabric: FL4. Ditch 215 (396).
7. Large saucepan-style vessel. Grey in colour with a brownish tinge and a grey core. Fabric: GR3. Ditch 6 (57).
8. Small necked bowl. Handmade, wheel finished. Blackening on the interior from use. Fabric: GR1 Ditch 46 (185).
9. Handmade large globular, wide-mouthed jar with a beaded rim. Black exterior and core with a mid-brown interior. Fabric GR1. Gully 112 (264).
10. Handmade, wheel-finished rounded bowl (or barrel-shaped jar) with a body cordon and a bevelled internal rim face. Fabric: GR2. Ditch 38 (170).
11. Butt beaker Cam. type 113. Fabric: NOG WH. Pit 124 (288).
12. Wheel-made butt beaker copy. Fabric: GR4. Pit 124 (288).
13. Finely sandy oxidized ware with traces of a matt dark red-brown colour-coat. Possible copy of a pedestalled bowl or a cup. Ditch 13 (58).
14. Platter / shallow dish imitating an imported moulded form. Fabric: ALH BW. Ditch 107 (255).
15. Short rim neckless jar. Fabric: SA1. Ditch 107 (255).
16. Wheel-made necked, cordoned jar. Fabric: ALHBW. Ditch 107 (255).
17. Large, wide-mouthed jar with a high shoulder. Handmade, wheel-finished. Light grey interior and core and a darker grey surface. Fabric: GR2. Ditch 107 (254).
18. Wheel-made necked jar with tooled decoration around the neck and a burnished body. Black to red-brown in colour. Fabric: SAFLFE. Ditch 26 (193).
19. Wheel-made necked, cordoned jar with a carinated shoulder. Fabric: ALH RE. Ditch 227 (455).
20. 'Atrebatian' bowl. Fabric: ALH BW. Ditch 216 (393).

#### *Metalwork* by Susan Porter

A total of fourteen metal artefacts were recovered. Four were copper alloy, two were lead, and eight were ferrous metal. Cat no 1 was a copper alloy coin of Roman date (see below). The remaining metal artefacts are detailed below. The assemblage appears all to be mid 1st - 2nd century date (supported by the date of the coin) and appears domestic in nature with the two *fibulae* and metal stylus suggestive of a reasonable level of social status.

#### Brooches (Pl. 6)

Cat no 2: Recovered from ditch 49 was a copper alloy 'T' shaped tapering bow brooch with hinge of late 1st century into 2nd century AD date. It is 54mm in length with a weight of 4.5g and appears undecorated save for a narrow central ridge.

Cat no 9: Recovered from ditch 6 was a much more substantial copper alloy brooch, weighing 17g. It is a fibula in the Langton Down style of Central Gaul dating to the first century AD. The spring is enclosed within tubing of thin construction, something distinctive to this type of brooch, while the bow itself is flat, squared at the end decorated with reeding (grooves and ribs).

### Copper Alloy Fragment

Cat no 10: A tiny fragment of copper alloy, recovered from cremation (65) weighing less than 0.5g, it is likely to be a portion of clothing attachment or jewellery

### Stylus handle

Cat no 6: Recovered from hollow (123) is a ferrous metal stylus handle 64mm in length, flattened at one end with three globular spheres along the length of the handle, the flattened end being used as an eraser. A hole at the base of the third globular sphere forms the attachment for the thinner stylus itself which has not survived in this context.

### Nails

Seven nails were recovered from separate contexts across the site, and they ranged in length from 25-110mm and in weight from 2-32g. Cat no 3 was particularly chunky and may be part of a much larger structural bolt, whilst Cat no 11 was much longer 110mm in length with a rectangular profile tapering towards the tip, possibly part of a furniture attachment.

### Lead plate

Two unidentifiable fragments of lead plate (Cat no's 7 and 8), were recovered from hollow (123) and pit (126) weighing 49.5 and 51 g.

### *Roman Coin* by Susan Porter

A single coin was recovered from Gully 139. It was 27mm in diameter and weighed 9g, the size and weight suggest an *As* rather than *Dupondius*. Although heavily worn and pitted with corrosion on both faces it was possible to discern the features of the imperial portrait which are very strongly suggestive of Domitian (AD 81-96). The reverse is in similarly poor condition, however a standing figure striding to the right is visible holding a spear and parazonim, most likely *Virtus*. The S-C mint mark of Rome is visible in the field. It seems highly likely that this coins equates to RIC II 499.

### *Human Bone* by Ceri Falys

Small pieces of human bone were recovered from ditch 5 (68). A total of 83 fragments were present for analysis, weighing just 75g. The preservation of the remains was generally poor, with a small fragment size noted and large areas of cortical exfoliation present. Maximum fragment lengths ranged between 6.3mm and 53.2mm. The skeletal remains were subjected to osteological analysis following procedures suggested by Buikstra and Ubelaker (1994) and Brickley and McKinley (2004).

With the exception of a single mid-shaft piece of left rib, all fragments were cranial in origin. The frontal, parietal(s) and occipital bones were all represented. Although attempted, no pieces were able to be refit into

larger fragments. A determination of sex could not be made, due to the lack of necessary cranial landmarks, and only a tentative estimation of age at death as “adult” (20+ years) could be made, based on the overall thickness of the cranial bones, and the presence of a small segment of suture (lambdoid) that was in the process of fusing. No pathological alterations were observed, however, a single non-metric trait was identified. The presence of a triangular shaped piece of bone (measuring 24.5mm by 18.4mm) with sutures on all three sides indicate it is an ossicle that would sit within one of the cranial sutures. No further information could be retrieved.

### *Burnt Human Bone* by Ceri Falys

A single deposit of burnt human bone was recovered within the investigated area (context 65). The deposit was whole-earth recovered on site, and subsequently floated and wet-sieved to a 2mm mesh size during post-excavation processing. The bone was sorted using a sieve stack of 10mm, 5mm, and 2mm mesh sizes, and the bone from each fraction weighed. A total of 559g of bone was present for analysis: 225g (40.2%) of bone was recovered from the 10mm sieve, 114g (20.4%) from the 5mm mesh, and 220g (39.4%) from the 2mm sieve. The smallest fraction also contains a moderate amount of pea gravel and pieces of burnt flint, which could not be efficiently separated from the bone.

In general, the burnt bone was dense in texture and fairly well preserved. A moderate degree of fragmentation was present as demonstrated by the overall weights of bone from each sieve size. A maximum fragment size of 60.6mm by 20.5mm was recorded for a piece of a tibial shaft (anterior surface). Large fragment sizes were noted for several mid-shaft pieces of long bone, however, the majority of the remaining bone in the assemblage was much smaller in size. All bone was uniformly white in colour, indicating the skeleton was subjected to an efficient cremation process (i.e. an adequate time, temperature and oxygen supply was applied to the skeleton to allow for the organic components of the bone to be fully oxidized).

Each piece of bone was subjected to osteological analysis following procedures suggested by Buikstra and Ubelaker (1994) and Brickley and McKinley (2004). The purpose of osteological analysis is to determine the species of origin of the burnt bone (i.e. human or non-human), and the demographic profile of skeletal assemblage based on the assessment of age at death, sex, pathological conditions and non-metric traits that can be extracted from the bone. In addition, the minimum number of individuals (MNI) present within the assemblage was determined. The lack of element duplication or identification of differing states of skeletal development, a minimum number of one individual was present in this deposit.

Initial osteological analysis divided fragments into five main areas of the body: cranial, axial, upper limb, lower limb and non-descript long bone (unidentifiable to specific limb). A more detailed identification of fragments to specific skeletal element and side was also undertaken, where ever possible. The most frequently preserved identifiable elements were portions of the cranial vault and mid-shaft fragments of long bones (upper and lower limbs). With the exception of the axial skeleton (i.e. vertebrae, ribs and pelvis), all regions of the skeleton were represented.

Duplication of skeletal elements was not found, suggesting the presence of a minimum of one individual. Due to the lack of necessary aspects of the skeleton, the sex and the age at death of the individuals represented in the deposits of burnt bone could not be determined with any specificity. A broad age estimation of “adult” (i.e. 20+ years) was based solely on the overall thicknesses of the cranial vault fragments and the cortical bone of the long bone shaft fragments. An assessment of sex could not be made (i.e. indeterminate sex).

A small ovoid lesion of smooth and dense cortical bone, measuring 4.1mm by 2.5mm, was present on the ectocranial surface of an unidentifiable fragment of cranial vault (measuring 15.4mm by 13.3mm). Such rounded projections of dense bony tissue are known as ivory or button osteomas, and are not an unusual finding in skeletal remains, most commonly on the frontal bone (Roberts and Manchester 1995). They are localized benign tumours (abnormal masses of tissue), that do not tend to spread from their point of origin throughout the body, or threaten life (Roberts and Manchester 1995). Clinically, they are asymptomatic, and do not produce pain. No non-metric traits were observed.

In summary, a single human cremation burial was recovered from the investigated area. The remains were of an adult individual, of indeterminate sex, who had a single button osteoma on the ectocranial surface of the cranial vault. No further information could be retrieved from this deposit of burnt human bone.

### *Animal Bone by Lizzi Lewins*

A small collection of animal bone (471 pieces), weighing a total of 2818g was recovered from 33 features throughout the course of the evaluation and excavation. The bone was classified according to size (Large mammal - cow/horse; Medium - sheep/goat, deer), and where possible to species level (Schmid 1972; Hillson 1992). The bone was in poor condition and was highly fragmented, hindering identification, with many of the pieces showing high amounts of surface abrasion and erosion. A full inventory of the bone can be found in Appendix 6.

There were too few bones and poor preservation to merit detailed discussion of the collection either by phase or as a whole. The bones represented were typical of a domestic setting with cattle sheep/goat pig and horse being represented.

### *Stone* by Genni Elliott

A total of 16 fragments of non-local stone weighing 9.6kg was recovered. These mostly comprised quernstones, but with four cobbles and some smaller fragments, possibly from quernstones, also present.

#### Petrology

Three different stone types were present within the quernstone assemblage and these were examined using a handlens (x15) to determine the geological character. Where the site is located, on the Reading Beds, close to the Upper Chalk, there are no suitable stone types, other than Sarsen, which is suitable for quernstone use, meaning that all the stone types (Greensand, ferruginous sandstone and Millstone grit) have been imported to the site. The majority of the quernstones were of Greensand with only single examples of Millstone grit and ferruginous ironstone.

Greensand: There are a number of sources for Greensand, with a popular source being the Lodsworth/Pulborough region of West Sussex, approximately 50–70km away, though more local sources are available including around the Kingsclere area and East Hampshire/West Surrey.

Ferruginous sandstone: A likely source would be Tertiary Gravels, with outcrops occurring on the Silchester Gravels, approximately 20km away

Millstone grit: This was probably imported from Derbyshire or South Yorkshire, approximately 300km away, although an alternative source could be the Mendips. Querns of Millstone grit are far from rare in southern England, though generally in a minority where more than one stone is found: locally, examples are known from the Park Prewett Hospital site (Coles *et al.* 2011), earlier fieldwork at Marnel Park (Wright *et al.* 2009) and Silchester (Wooders 2000).

### *Flint* by Steve Ford

A small collection of 15 struck flints was recovered during the excavation fieldwork. They comprised 12 flakes, two tested nodules and a spall (flake less than 20 x20mm). One of the flakes was narrow but was not obviously a by-product of blade manufacture. None of the flint is closely datable but is likely to be of later Neolithic or

Bronze Age date. Even combined with the 44 finds from the earlier fieldwalking this is too small an assemblage from which to draw many conclusions.

### *Burnt Flint*

Almost 59 kg of unworked, burnt flint was recovered from the site, with most features containing some. The burnt flint spread 64 was only sampled but 15kg came from this context alone. Although the natural geology did include flint pebbles, this quantity seems to reflect deliberate burning rather than the accidental product of, say, tree-clearance. Although a small amount of worked flint hints at a Bronze Age presence in the area, the context of the burnt flint spread here, indicates it is more likely to be of Roman date.

### *Ceramic Building Materials* by Danielle Milbank

A total of 1697g of ceramic building material (37 fragments) were recovered during the evaluation and excavation (Appendix 7). Of these, the majority of identifiable fragments were brick, with several tile fragments also identified. A significant proportion of the material comprised small fragments that could not be identified. The condition of the majority of the fragments was fair to poor, with three contexts containing abraded material, and overall the material was fragmented. The pieces were examined under x10 magnification.

Examples from 5 (72) are of a medium soft clay fabric with sparse fine pale inclusions and an orange red colour, and are likely to represent brick of broadly Roman date based on the fabric. This fabric was also encountered in contexts 290 and 298. Deposit 79 contained a single plain roof tile of the same fabric and date, with a small fingermark on one side where it has been held while 'green', before firing.

Deposit 162 contained two abraded brick fragments of a slightly sandy moderately hard fabric with a light orange red colour, of broadly Roman date, though the brick type could not be determined.

Four brick fragments were recovered from deposit 287. The first of these is a slightly soft fine to medium clay with sandy and frequent groggy inclusions, some large (1–4mm). The colour is a pale grey at the lower surface, with a pale orange pink base and a grey pink core, with frequent pale yellowish lensing. The piece is 54mm thick, unfrogged, with fairly sharp arrises, though slightly uneven, and with dragmarks on one side where the clay was cut. A rough side rather than base suggests it was laid on edge (rather than flat) for drying. A second piece is a very hard, slightly brittle clay fabric with frequent medium and fine (and occasional larger 11mm) groggy inclusions, and sparse sand inclusions. The colour is a pink grey colour at the surface, with a pale grey red core. The measurements and finish are the same as the first, with a rough side again suggesting it was dried laid on edge, and it appears to be an unusual variation of the first brick example from this context.

Two further fragments from this context co-join and are a slightly soft fine clay with sparse sandy and groggy inclusions and a pale orange-red colour. They are 38mm thick and may represent a flat brick form such as a '*bessalis*' fragment, though no complete examples were recovered which would confirm this. *Bessales* were commonly stacked to form the *pilae* supporting a hypocaust floor.

The largest quantity of material comprised 15 fragments recovered from deposit 296. These were all of a similar fabric, a slightly to very soft fine clay fabric with moderate fine sand and fine to coarse (and occasional large, 2–4mm) groggy inclusions.

A piece from 381 comprises a plain tile fragment, 18mm thick, of a moderately hard, fine sandy fabric with a dark red colour.

Overall, the ceramic building material assemblage recovered from the site is modest, and is of broadly Roman date, with none of the more closely dateable forms of tile present. The two brick fragments from deposit 287 illustrate the contrasting results of fairly typical, if uneven, Roman firing (the first example) against an unusually hard, possibly twice fired, piece. The limited range of fabric and form is suggestive of a site with little Roman building activity. Even where structures have been 'robbed out' for the material to be re-used, the resulting debris is typically fairly characteristic (Brodrigg 1987), however the assemblage contains little of this kind of material.

### *Fired clay* by Danielle Milbank

A total of 26 contexts produced fired clay (a total of 72 fragments, weighing 1008g) which was typically in small quantities and highly fragmented (Appendix 8). The fabric is typically was medium to soft, with a few examples of harder material, and is typically fine clay with sand inclusions. The colour is typically a dark red, unevenly-fired, with frequent examples of blackening which is indicative of reduced oxygen conditions during heating. Although the majority of the pieces have no marks made by the wooden wattles, it is possible that the material represents very fragmented daub.

Two examples represent clay objects rather than possible daub. The first of these was recovered from context 108 (257) is of a medium-hard fine sandy fabric with a black (reduced) core and orange surface colour. There are no perforations suggestive of a loomweight, however the curvature of the outside surface suggests it would have been a cylindrical object, perhaps a weight.

The second was recovered from 219 (397) and is a soft to medium fabric, with moderate to frequent poorly sorted angular and subangular flint and sand inclusions. The curved exterior surface suggests a diameter of c. 80mm, with the diameter of the central pierced hole of 13mm. The form suggests it is of a cylindrical type

(rather than triangular) weight, although it is not possible to closely date. Two small fragments of a similar fabric may also represent a clay object such as a weight.

### *Macrobotanical plant material and charcoal* by Jo Pine

A total of 41 bulk soil samples were processed from the evaluation and excavation combined. The samples were wet-sieved to 0.25mm and air dried and examined under a low-power binocular microscope at a magnification of x10m. Seeds were only recovered from two samples. Single charred cereal grains were identified from both samples <4> (56) and <33> 149 (369) both were very poorly preserved and lacked identifying characteristics. There was a notable absence of charcoal in the samples. Only samples <4> (56) and <22> 102 (198) contained single fragments of charcoal which were less than 2mm; too small to identify.

## **Conclusion**

The excavation has uncovered a complex of archaeological deposits, much of which was not identified by geophysical survey, nor suggested by fieldwalking, but was revealed by the evaluation trenching. The earliest finds on site were a small quantity of flint tools of later Neolithic or Bronze Age date found as residual material in later features, in addition to that found whilst fieldwalking (Ford 2011; 2014). The significance of these durable finds is likely to be no more than casual loss or discard within the prehistoric landscape.

The majority of the features on site dated to the Late Iron Age – early Roman period, perhaps extending up to the 2nd century, but certainly not beyond, and consist of an enclosure with additional boundary features, along with a typical range of deposits such as pits, postholes and gullies. Despite the relatively short chronology of the site (nevertheless spanning more than a century) there were still several episodes of reorganization though less evidence for re-cutting of ditches, but with the presence of a few intercutting features. The data suggest three main phases of use (with some localized sub-phasing) with a fourth phase seeming to represent disuse (Fig. 5). Overall the evidence for the economy of the site was sparse in all phases, with poor survival of faunal remains which simply indicated the presence of the usual domesticated animal species, and charred plant remains which consisted of a few cereal grains and charcoal.

Linear features continued outside the excavated area in all directions, but the very limited results from the evaluation trenching, and absence of Roman pottery from the field-walked area, to the north and north-east, suggest that it will not have extended far in those directions. Perhaps only a trackway led off the site to the west, which might again suggest a limit has been reached in that direction, but it appears likely that further remains would lie to the south. To the east, the situation is less clear, as there is a dense occupation zone around 250m



away (Wright *et al.* 2009, Area D) but with what appears to be a 'blank' zone (Area E) in between: however, the investigation in that area was very limited.

The earliest phase (A) dated to the Late Iron Age, in the first centuries BC/AD, probably immediately pre-conquest, and consisted of a ditched enclosure that was intermittently defined, along with a number of other gullies and pits, but with no structural remains evident. This latter observation is frequently made and presumably reflects the use of non-earthfast foundations which are vulnerable to removal by later ploughing (Booth *et al.* 2007, 289).

The earliest feature on the site is probably the spread of burnt flint, into which an unurned cremation burial had been set, just outside the enclosure of this period. While the spread itself is undated, the cremation was accompanied by Late Iron Age pottery, and the spread was cut by ditches of phases B and C. Although 'burnt mounds' are generally considered a Bronze Age monument class (one such from the excavations to the south had a very late Bronze Age radiocarbon date: Wright *et al.* 2009, 11), examples from many periods can be found, and there seems no real reason here to make the spread much earlier than the cremation set into it. The location of the cremation, immediately outside the enclosure, may also support the case for seeing this as effectively the settlement boundary, although in the excavations to the east, cremation burials were found within enclosures.

The enclosure was replaced in phase B (Late Iron Age/Early Roman) by another, larger, enclosure, perhaps D-shaped in plan and possibly open to the south (though a return could be present beneath the baulk, in which case the ditch terminus (105) suggests an entrance opening to the west). A possible trackway (itself recut within this phase) also allowed access to the north-west. Again there were a miscellany of small gullies, pits and postholes, both within and beyond the enclosed areas but with no structural remains evident.

In phase C it is considered that this enclosure is substantially recut, with evidence of the previous ditch being present in only a few locations. If there was a trackway entering the site from the west in phase B, this has now gone out of use with the enclosure ditch forming a continuous circuit across the former entrance. As before a few pits and postholes are present, with no obvious patterning.

In all three phases, it is difficult to assign a function to the enclosure, especially if we accept that buildings might have been present but not archaeologically visible, however it might be suggested that the relative rarity of pits for storage or rubbish disposal hints that the occupation lay elsewhere and the enclosure was for stock control purposes. The emphasis on ditch digging rather other types of feature may also reflect the poor drainage on this area, so evident during the fieldwork.

The site appears to have gone out of use by early in the 2nd century AD (phase D). This is represented by a single boundary ditch (311) which cuts across the earlier enclosures. That this ditch terminates within the site, suggests that the latter still has some relevance in the landscape, but no may be no more than a nodal point for boundaries in the landscape rather than a settlement site. Further activity on the site is not demonstrable until the site is cross cut by a post-medieval ditch.

The post-war expansion of Basingstoke has led to the discovery of a number of Iron Age and Roman (and other) sites which are available for comparison. At Oakridge (Oliver 1992), Cowdery's Down (Millett and James 1983) and Rooksdown (Farwell, in prep.), rectilinear enclosures of Late Iron Age date lasted only until early Roman times, yet at Viabes Farm an early Roman enclosure continued throughout the Roman period (Millett and Russell 1984). One area on the nearby Marnel Park excavations (Wright *et al.* 2009, Area A south) also revealed a rectilinear Late Iron Age enclosure that went out of use early in the Roman period, and, as here, does not appear to continue much beyond the start of the 2nd century. However, the excavations to the east of this site (Wright *et al.* 2009, Area D) showed a contrasting pattern of more sustained development, with dense settlement within enclosures, similar in form to our site, but remodelled over a long period from the 1st to 4th centuries AD and with clearer evidence for occupation and for iron working. It is possible that our site represents a precursor to the Area D occupation (whose early phase is poorly dated), or a short-lived early extension of it onto more marginal land, where perhaps the effort required to keep it drained proved unsustainable.

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APPENDIX 1: Feature details

<i>Cut</i>	<i>Fill (s)</i>	<i>Group</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Dating evidence</i>	<i>Phase</i>
1			<i>Not used</i>			
2	53	305	Ditch			B
3	54	302	Ditch			B
4	51	303	Ditch			Post-Med
5	52, 68–70	305	Ditch	Late Iron Age–Early Roman	Pottery	B
6	55– 57, 154–157	300	Recut Ditch	Late Iron Age to 2nd century	Pottery	D
7	71, 74	304	Ditch	Late Iron Age	Pottery	B
8	75, 78	302	Ditch	Late Iron Age	Pottery	B
9	76	303	Ditch			Post-Med
10	61	300	Ditch			B
11	62, 63	300	Ditch	Early Roman	Pottery	B
12	66, 67	302	Ditch			B
13	58–60	300	Re-cut of 10	Late Iron Age–Early Roman	Pottery	D
14	79	303	Ditch			Post-Med
15	80, 81		Burnt flint			
16	82, 83	305	Ditch	Late Iron Age–Early Roman	Pottery	B
17	84, 152	302	Ditch			B
18	85, 150	303	Ditch			Post-Med
19	87, 88	300	Ditch	Early Roman	Pottery	B
20	89	303	Ditch		LIA Pottery	Post-Med
21	158–161	316	Ditch			A
22	90	300	Ditch	Late Iron Age–Early Roman	Pottery	D
23/42	176-7,187-8	318	Pit	Late Iron Age	Stratigraphy	A
24	186	304	Ditch			B
25	189–191	305	Ditch	Late Iron Age	Pottery	B
26	192, 193	300	Ditch	Late Iron Age–Early Roman	Pottery	B
33	98	319	Gully	Late Iron Age–Early Roman		A
34	99	321	Linear	Late Iron Age–Early Roman	Pottery	B
35	162–166	301	Ditch	Late Iron Age–Early Roman	Pottery	B
36	167	308	Ditch	Late Iron Age	Pottery	A
37	168	311	Ditch		Stratigraphy	D
38	169, 170	300	Ditch	Late Iron Age–Early Roman	Pottery	B
39	171		Pit			
40			<i>Not used</i>			
41	173	302	Ditch	Late Iron Age–Early Roman	Pottery	B
43	178	305	Ditch	Early Roman	Pottery	C
44	179	304	Ditch	Late Iron Age–Early Roman	Pottery	B
45	180, 181	316	Ditch	Late Iron Age	Pottery	A
46	182–185	300	Ditch	Late Iron Age–Early Roman	Pottery	D
47	72, 73		Pit	Late Iron Age–Early Roman	Pottery	B
48	194	309	Ditch	Late Iron Age	Pottery	A
49	195	301	Ditch	Late Iron Age	Pottery	B
100	196	310	Ditch	Late Iron Age	Pottery	A
101	197	308	Ditch			A
102	198, 199		Posthole			
103	250		Posthole	Early Roman	Pottery	C
104	251	314	Ditch	Late Iron Age	Pottery	A
105	252	300	Ditch			D
106			<i>Tree bole</i>			
107	254, 255	300	Ditch	Early Roman (2nd century?)	Pottery	B
108	256, 257	314	Ditch	Late Iron Age	Pottery	A
109	258, 259		Pit			
110	260		Pit	Late Iron Age–Early Roman	Pottery	B
111	261		Pit	Late Iron Age–Early Roman	Pottery	B
112	263, 264	312	Gully	Late Iron Age	Pottery	A
113	265-6	317	Hollow	Late Iron Age–Early Roman	Same as feature 123, 124	C
114	267, 268	313	Gully			A
115	269, 270	312	Gully			A
116	271, 272	313	Gully			A
117	273		Pit	Late Iron Age or Later	Stratigraphy	
118	275, 276	312	Gully			A
119	277, 278	301	Ditch	Late Iron Age	Pottery	B
120	279		Posthole			
121	280		Pit			
122	281		Pit			
123	274	317	Hollow	Late Iron Age–Early Roman	Same as feature 113, 124	C
124	286-9	317	Hollow	Late Iron Age–Early Roman	Same as feature 113, 123	C
125	291		Gully	Late Iron Age	Pottery	A

<i>Cut</i>	<i>Fill (s)</i>	<i>Group</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Dating evidence</i>	<i>Phase</i>
126	292, 351		Pit	Early Roman	Pottery	B
127	293, 295	315	Gully	Late Iron Age–Early Roman	Pottery	C
128	296		Posthole			
129	297	315	Gully	Early Roman	Pottery	C
130	298		Pit	Late Iron Age–Early Roman	Pottery	B
131	299		Pit	Late Iron Age–Early Roman	Pottery	B
132	350		Pit			
133	294	314	Ditch	Late Iron Age	Pottery	A
134	352		Posthole			
135	353		Pit	Late Iron Age	Pottery	A
136	354	312	Gully	Late Iron Age	Pottery	A
137	355		Ditch	Late Iron Age	Pottery	A
138	356	312	Gully			A
139	357	315	Gully			C
140	358		Posthole			
141	359	306	Ditch	Early Roman	Pottery	C
142	360		Ditch	Early Roman	Pottery	B
143	361	306	Ditch	Late Iron Age	Pottery	C
144	362	309	Ditch	Late Iron Age	Pottery	A
145	363	311	Ditch	Early Roman	Stratigraphy	D
146	364	311	Ditch		Stratigraphy	D
147	365		Ditch			
148	366, 367		Pit	Late Iron Age–Early Roman	Pottery	B
149	368, 369	301	Ditch	Late Iron Age–Early Roman	Pottery	B
200	370–372		Pit	Late Iron Age	Pottery	A
201	373		Pit	Early Roman	Pottery	C
202	374	316	Ditch			A
203	375	301	Ditch			B
204	376	306	Ditch	Late Iron Age	Pottery	B
205	378	306	Ditch			C
206	377		Pit	Late Iron Age	Pottery	C
207	379, 380	307	Pit	Late Iron Age	Pottery	A
208	381	307	Pit			A
209	382	319	Gully	Late Iron Age	Pottery	A
210	383	306	Ditch	Late Iron Age–Early Roman	Pottery	B
211	385	309	Ditch			A
212	386, 387	311	Ditch		Stratigraphy	D
213	384		Posthole	Late Iron Age	Pottery	A
214	389	313	Gully	Late Iron Age	Pottery	A
215	390, 396	322	Ditch	Early Roman	Pottery	C
216	391–393	322	Ditch	Late Iron Age–Early Roman	Pottery	C
217	394	311	Ditch	Late Iron Age	Stratigraphy	D
218	395	310	Ditch			A
219	397	310	Ditch	Late Iron Age	(Post-medieval pottery intrusive)	A
220	398	310	Ditch	Late Iron Age	Pottery	A
221	399		Posthole	Late Iron Age–Early Roman	Pottery	B
222	450		Posthole	Early Roman	Pottery	C
223	451	320	Posthole	Late Iron Age–Early Roman	Pottery	B
224	452	320	Gully			B
225	453	301	Ditch			B
226	454	301	Gully			B
227	455, 456	300	Ditch	Late Iron Age–Early Roman	Pottery	D
228	457, 458	301	Ditch	Late Iron Age–Early Roman	Pottery	B
229	459	301	Ditch			B
230	460	301	Gully			B
231			<i>Tree bole</i>		<i>LIA–E Rom pot</i>	<i>B</i>
232	462	317	Hollow	Late Iron Age–Early Roman	Same as feature 123	C
233	463		Posthole	Late Iron Age–Early Roman	Stratigraphy	
234	464	309	Ditch			A
235	465, 466	308	Ditch			A
236	467		Pit			
237	468		Pit			
238	470, 471	322	Gully			C
239	472–476	301	Ditch	Early Roman	Pottery	B
240	469	321	Gully			B
241	477		Gully	Late Iron Age–Early Roman	Pottery	B
242	478	311	Ditch	Late Iron Age	Stratigraphy	D

APPENDIX 2: Pottery

	<i>Fabric</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>No%</i>	<i>Wt</i>	<i>Wt%</i>	<i>Eve</i>	<i>Eve%</i>	
Flint	FL1	coarse flint	1004	31.0	10846	35.4	361	16.1	
	FL2	fine sparse flint	20	0.6	109	0.4	12	0.5	
	FL3	fine flint	22	0.7	209	0.7	22	1.0	
	FL4	denser version of FL3	161	5.0	1939	6.3	108	4.8	
	SAFL1	sand with flint	156	4.8	810	2.6	103	4.6	
	SAFL2	coarse sandy with flint	1	0.0	28	0.1	2	0.1	
	SAFLFE	sandy with iron and flint	15	0.5	201	0.7	30	1.3	
	Grog	GR1	soapy grog-tempered	255	7.9	2030	6.6	152	6.8
GR2		grey wheel-thrown grog-tempered	28	0.9	712	2.3	40	1.8	
GR3		grog-tempered	1	0.0	23	0.1	7	0.3	
GR4		grog-tempered	7	0.2	35	0.1	7	0.3	
GRSH		grog and ?shell	1	0.0	4	0.0	0	0.0	
GRFL		grog and flint	78	2.4	256	0.8	14	0.6	
GRSA		fine sandy with grog	70	2.2	342	1.1	75	3.3	
GRSJ		grog-tempered storage jar	1	0.0	80	0.3	0	0.0	
Iron-rich		FE1	iron -rich fine sandy	1	0.0	12	0.0	0	0.0
Sandy		SA1	fine textured sandy ware	15	0.5	98	0.3	7	0.3
	SA2	coarser sandy ware	9	0.3	209	0.7	10	0.4	
	SA3	glauconitic sandy ware	2	0.1	8	0.0	0	0.0	
Sandstone	SST	sandstone tempered	5	0.2	108	0.4	12	0.5	
Imports	LGF SA	South Gaulish samian	1	0.0	36	0.1	0	0.0	
	NOG WH	North Gaulish whiteware	6	0.2	63	0.2	23	1.0	
	BAT AM	Baetican <i>amphora</i>	1	0.0	41	0.1	0	0.0	
	CAD AM	Cadiz <i>amphora</i>	2	0.1	109	0.4	0	0.0	
Alice Holt-type	ALH RE	grey sandy wares	753	23.2	6370	20.8	696	31.0	
	ALH BW	black sandy ware	391	12.1	3630.5	11.9	435	19.4	
	ALH FL	sandy with flint	10	0.3	76	0.2	3	0.1	
	ALH OX	oxidized sandy	10	0.3	60	0.2	8	0.4	
	ALH SA	coarse sandy	88	2.7	1613	5.3	61	2.7	
Oxford	OXF WH	Oxfordshire white ware	21	0.6	79	0.3	0	0.0	
Misc sandy	GY	grey sandy wares	25	0.8	164	0.5	0	0.0	
	GYF	fine grey ware	1	0.0	0.5	0.0	0	0.0	
	GYFSYMIC	grey fine micaceous sandy	5	0.2	16	0.1	0	0.0	
	OXSX	oxidized sandy	39	1.2	162	0.5	15	0.7	
	OXF	fine oxidized	24	0.7	64.5	0.2	17	0.8	
	OXFFE	fine oxidized iron-rich	1	0.0	2	0.0	0	0.0	
	OXFMIC	fine micaceous oxidized	2	0.1	13	0.0	0	0.0	
	OXFSY	fine sandy oxidized	6	0.2	56	0.2	23	1.0	
	OXSXFL	oxidized sandy with flint	1	0.0	4	0.0	0	0.0	
	<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>3239</b>		<b>30619</b>		<b>2243</b>	
	OO	crumbs	114		73.5				

### APPENDIX 3: Metalwork

<i>Cut</i>	<i>Deposit</i>	<i>Cat No</i>	<i>Material</i>	<i>Object</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>Wt (g)</i>	<i>Comment</i>
		1	Cu alloy	Coin	1		8As of Domitian AD 86, see below
49	195	2	Cu alloy	Fibula	1	4.5	Late 1st/2nd century AD
49	195	3	Fe	Nail	1	6.5	Fragment
107	254	4	Fe	Nail	1	3	
107	254	5	Fe	Nail	1	2.5	
123	287	6	Fe	Stylus	1	18	Globular spheres, type handle
123	287	7	Pb	Plate Fragment	1	51	
126	292	8	Pb	Plate fragment	1	49.5	
6	56	9	Cu alloy	Fibula	1	17	Langton Down Style 1st century
56	65	10	Cu alloy	fragment	1	0.5	
9	76	11	Fe	nail	1	32	
217	391	12	Fe	nail	1	4	
	396	13	Fe	nail	1	4	
	396	14	Fe	nail	1	2	

#### Coin

<i>Ruler/Type</i>	<i>RIC/BMC</i>	<i>Date/ Size</i>	<i>Details</i>
Domitian	RIC: II 499	Date: 86AD	Obv: [IMP CAES DOMIT AVG GERM COS XII CENSPER PP]
Denom: As		Weight: 9 g	Rev: [VIRVTI AVGVSTI]
Wear: VW/ VW	Axis: 6	Diameter: 27mm	Mint: Rome

#### APPENDIX 4: Worked Stone

<i>Cut</i>	<i>Deposit</i>	<i>Group</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Wt (g)</i>	<i>Comment</i>
-	175		Greensand	1	345	Quernstone, burnt?
-	290		Greensand	2	1759	Quernstone
6	56	300	Greensand	1	7	Fragment
22	90	300	Greensand	2	436	Quernstone
42	187	318	Millstone grit	1	5200	Quernstone
46	182	300	Ferruginous sandstone	1	981	Quernstone, burnt
107	255	300	Quartzite	1	161	Cobble with a flat surface
123	287	317	Quartzite	2	94	Fragments
124	288		Quartzite	1	127	Cobble
127	293	315	Greensand	1	110	Quernstone, burnt (from sample)
149	368	301	Greensand	1	215	Quernstone, burnt
149	368	301	Quartzite	2	162	Cobble



## APPENDIX 5: Burnt flint

<i>Trench</i>	<i>Cut</i>	<i>Deposit</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Wt (g)</i>
1		64	Burnt flint	15465
1		65	Cremation	489
1	5	52	Ditch	16
1	5	68	Ditch	2
1	5	69	Ditch	381
1	5	70	Ditch	2781
1	6	55	Ditch	1189
1	6	56	Ditch	379
1	6	57	Ditch	6
1	7	71	Ditch	399
1	8	78	Ditch	1767
1	9	76	Ditch	109
		77	Spread	52
1	13	58	Re-cut	23
1	16	83	Ditch	726
1	19	87	Ditch	3
1		174	Layer	1760
14	22	90	Ditch	1202
1	23	187	Pit	3472
1	25	189	Ditch	266
1	25	191	Ditch	543
1	26	192	Ditch	703
22	29	92	Ditch	44
24	32	96	Ditch	62
24	32	97	Ditch	100
17	33	98	Ditch	100
17	34	99	Ditch	2823
17	36	167	Ditch	533
1	40	172	Ditch	543
1	41	173	Ditch	26
1	43	178	Ditch	669
1	44	179	Ditch	419
1	45	180	Ditch	908
1	46	182	Ditch	2093
1	46	183	Ditch	611
1	46	185	Ditch	510
1	47	72	Pit	456
18	48	194	Ditch	153
18	49	195	Ditch	1384
15	100	196	Ditch	217
17	101	197	Ditch	100
25	107	254	Ditch	3542
25	107	255	Ditch	17
25	108	256	Ditch	233
25	112	263	Gully	23
25	112	264	Gully	69
25	119	277	Ditch	136
25	123	287	Hollow	165
25	124	288	Pit	298
25	125	291	Gully	712
25	126	292	Pit	304
25	126	351	Pit	145
25	127	293	Ditch	364
25	128	296	Posthole	715
25	129	297	Gully	44
25	131	299	Pit	47
25	143	361	Ditch	45
25	144	362	Ditch	469
25	145	363	Ditch	108
25	148	366	Pit	147
25	148	367	Pit	153
25	149	368	Ditch	1728
25	149	369	Ditch	1370
25	200	372	Pit	846
25	201	373	Pit	8

25	215	396	Ditch	37
25	216	391	Ditch	39
25	219	397	Ditch	265
25	220	398	Ditch	107
25	221	399	Pit	775
25	222	450	Posthole	1111
25	235	466	Ditch	302
25	240	469	Gully	252
25	242	478	Ditch	801
25	303	397	Ditch	4
			<b>Total</b>	<b>58865</b>

## Appendix 6: Animal Bone Inventory

Cut	Fill	Sample.	Type	Phase	No. Frags	Wt (g)	Horse	Cattle	Pig	Sheep/Goat	Large	Med	Unid Tooth	Unid	Notes
5	52	-	Ditch	B	1	1							1		
5	70	-	Ditch	B	1	2							1		
6	55	-	Ditch	D	6	58					1		5		
6	56	-	Ditch	D	46	262	1	2			4	1	3	35	Burnt
6	56	4	Ditch	D	4	4								4	Burnt
6	57	-	Ditch	D	10	85		1			1	1		7	Cut Marks
7	71	-	Ditch	B	10	52				1		1	3	5	
13	59	-	Ditch	D	6	28								6	
19	87	-	Ditch	D	1	24					1				
25	190	-	Ditch	B	4	41	4								
26	192	-	Ditch	D	24	62	1					1	19	3	
26	193	-	Ditch	D	2	3								2	
35	162	-	Ditch	B	6	186		1			2			3	?Chopped
35	166	-	Ditch	B	3	1								3	
38	170	-	Ditch	D	5	162		2			1			2	
46	182	-	Ditch	D	6	43				1				5	
46	183	-	Ditch	D	9	49		1		2	1			5	
47	72	-	Pit	B	24	65					1	1		22	
47	72	2	Pit	B	89	38								89	Burnt
49	195	-	Ditch	B	3	30								3	
104	251	-	Ditch	A	41	294		7			1			33	
106	253	-	Tree bole	-	1	4								1	
107	254	-	Ditch	D	2	4			2						
107	255	-	Ditch	D	2	3								2	Burnt
108	256	-	Ditch	A	6	186	1	1			1			3	
108	256	24	Ditch	A	38	110		2					1	35	Burnt
119	277	-	Ditch	B	4	102		1			2			1	
124	288	-	Hollow	C	3	2								3	
126	292	-	Pit	C	15	108	1			1		1	1	11	Burnt
133	294	-	Ditch	A	23	184		3			4		1	15	
148	366	31	Pit	B	1	2								1	Burnt
148	367	-	Pit	B	2	14						1		1	
149	368	-	Ditch	B	9	135			1		2			6	
149	368	32	Ditch	B	1	6								1	
149	369	-	Ditch	B	1	47								1	
200	372	-	Pit	A	1	19								1	
201	373	-	Pit	C	1	3							1		
215	396	-	Ditch	C	15	16								15	
216	391	-	Ditch	C	21	18								21	
219	397	-	Ditch	A	1	16					1				
222	450	40	Posthole	C	1	3				1					
223	451	-	Posthole	B	1	4				1					
227	455	-	Ditch	D	1	37	1								
228	458	-	Ditch	B	8	100	2					1		5	
238	471	-	Gully	C	11	191		2			6			3	?Chopped
242	478	-	Ditch	D	1	14								1	
			Total		471	2818	11	23	3	7	29	8	36	354	
			MNI				1	2	1	1					

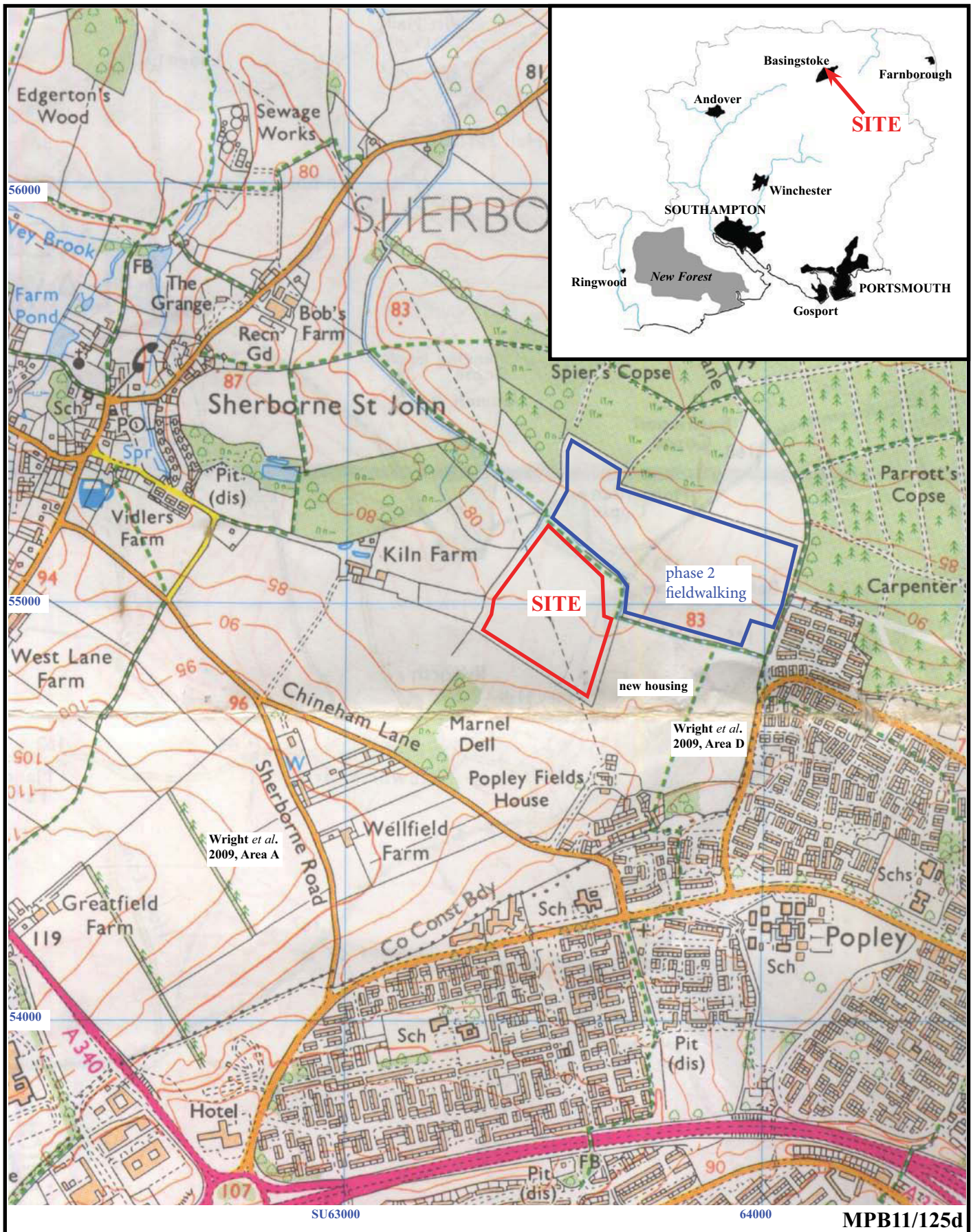
## Appendix 7: Catalogue of Ceramic Building Material

<i>Cut</i>	<i>Deposit</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Trench</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Wt (g)</i>
47	72	Pit	1	1	21
14	79	Ditch	1	1	64
35	162	Ditch	16	2	34
100	196	Ditch	15	3	9
123	287	Hollow	25	10	655
	290	Buried soil	25	1	29
128	296	Posthole	25	15	774
130	298	Pit	25	1	11
201	373	Pit	25	1	67
208	381	Pit	25	1	25
219	397	Ditch	25	1	8

**Appendix 8: Catalogue of fired clay**

<i>Cut</i>	<i>Deposit</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Trench</i>	<i>Sample</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Wt (g)</i>
6	56	Ditch	1		1	18
6	57	Ditch	1		2	28
11	62	Ditch	1		1	39
	64	Burnt flint	1		1	14
47	72	Pit	1	2	11	111
19	87	Ditch	1		4	13
34	99	Linear	17	7	2	2
38	169	Linear	15		1	2
40	172	Ditch	1		5	139
	174	Layer	1	14	2	4
44	179	Ditch	1		1	12
48	194	Ditch	18		1	6
107	254	Ditch	25		3	15
108	257	Ditch	25		1	86
123	287	Hollow	25		16	191
124	288	Pit	25		1	8
127	293	Gully	25		2	2
129	297	Gully	25		1	11
136	354	Gully	25		5	24
148	367	Pit	25		3	19
201	373	Pit	25		1	12
216	391	Ditch	25		1	55
216	392	Ditch	25		1	9
215	396	Ditch	25		2	3
219	397	Ditch	25		1	155
242	478	Ditch	25		2	30

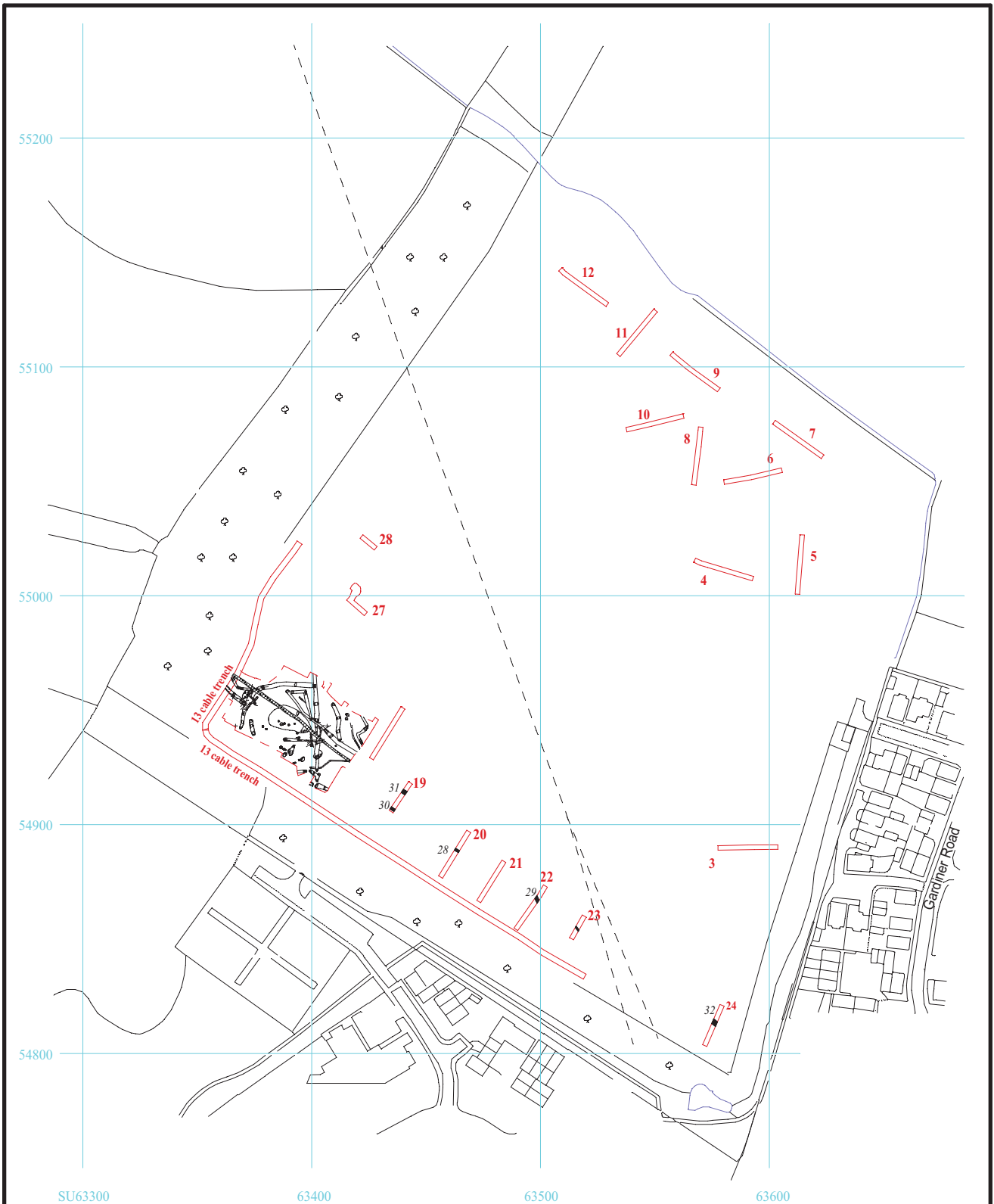




**Marnel Park, Popley, Basingstoke, Hampshire, 2015  
Archaeological Excavation**

Figure 1. Location of site within Popley and Hampshire, with locations of nearby excavations referred to in the text.

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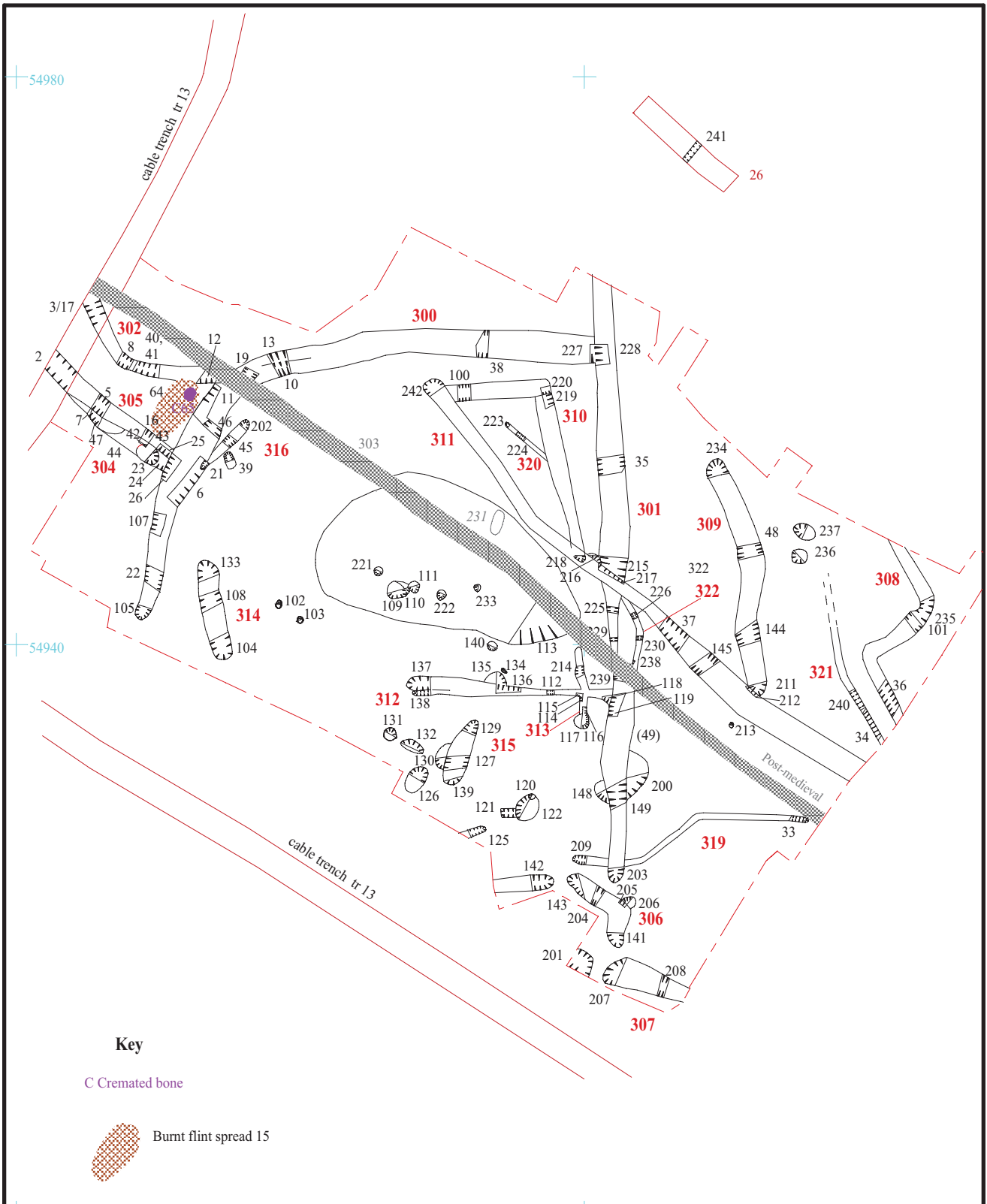
**Marnel Park, Popley, Basingstoke,  
Hampshire, 2015  
Archaeological Excavation**

Figure 2. Detailed location of the excavation site.



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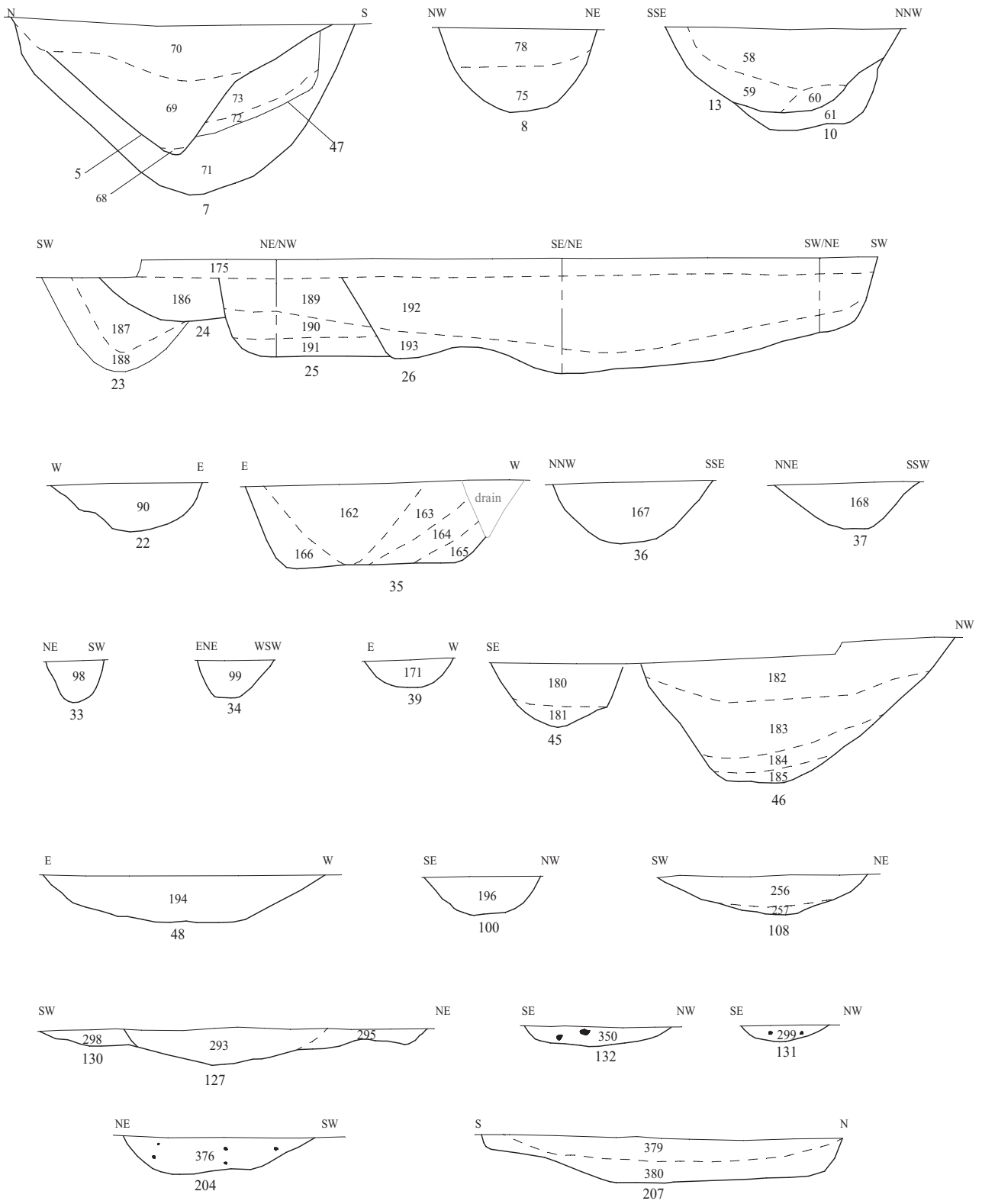


**Marnel Park, Popley, Basingstoke, Hampshire, 2015  
Archaeological Excavation**

Figure 3 Main excavation area







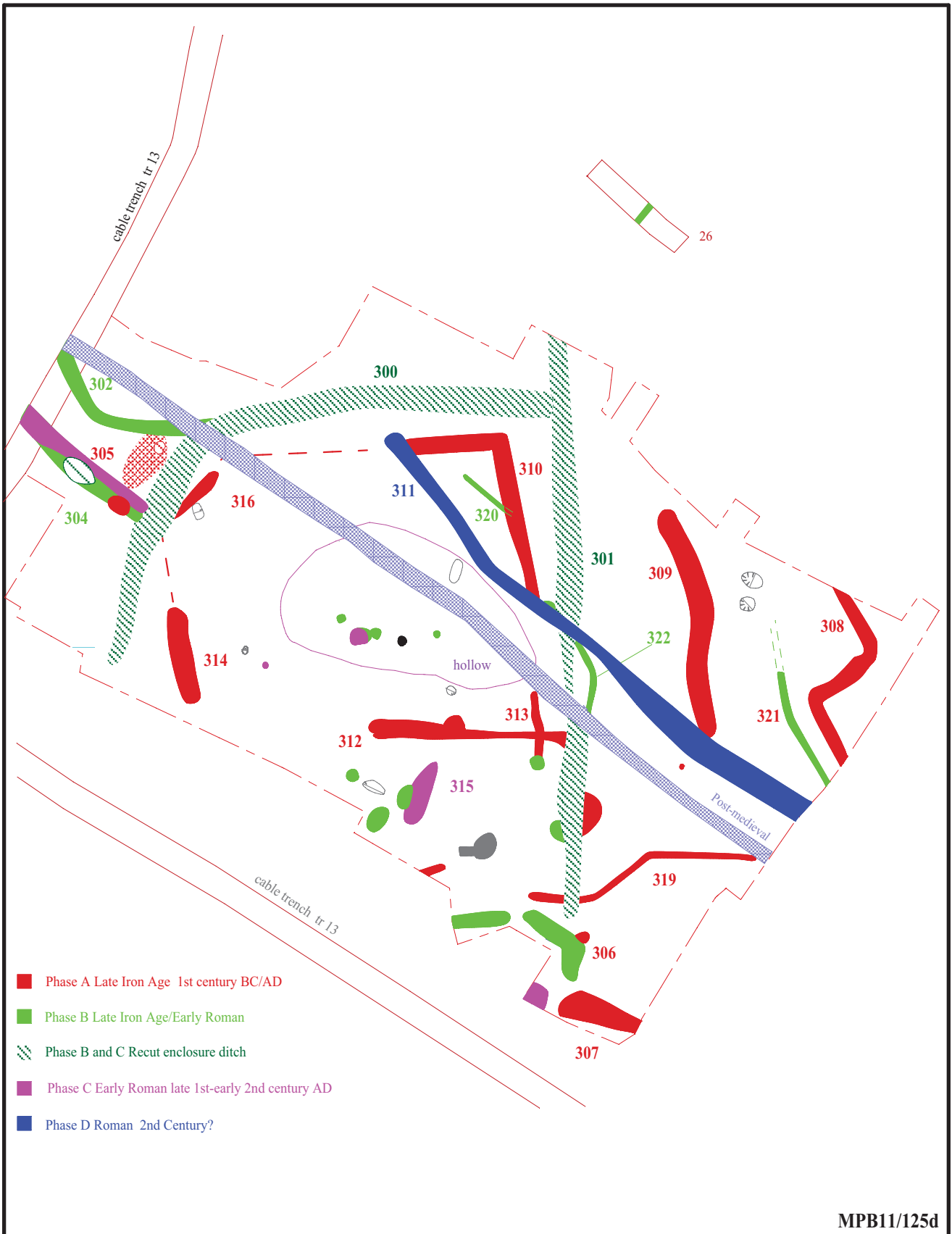
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Figure 4. Sections.



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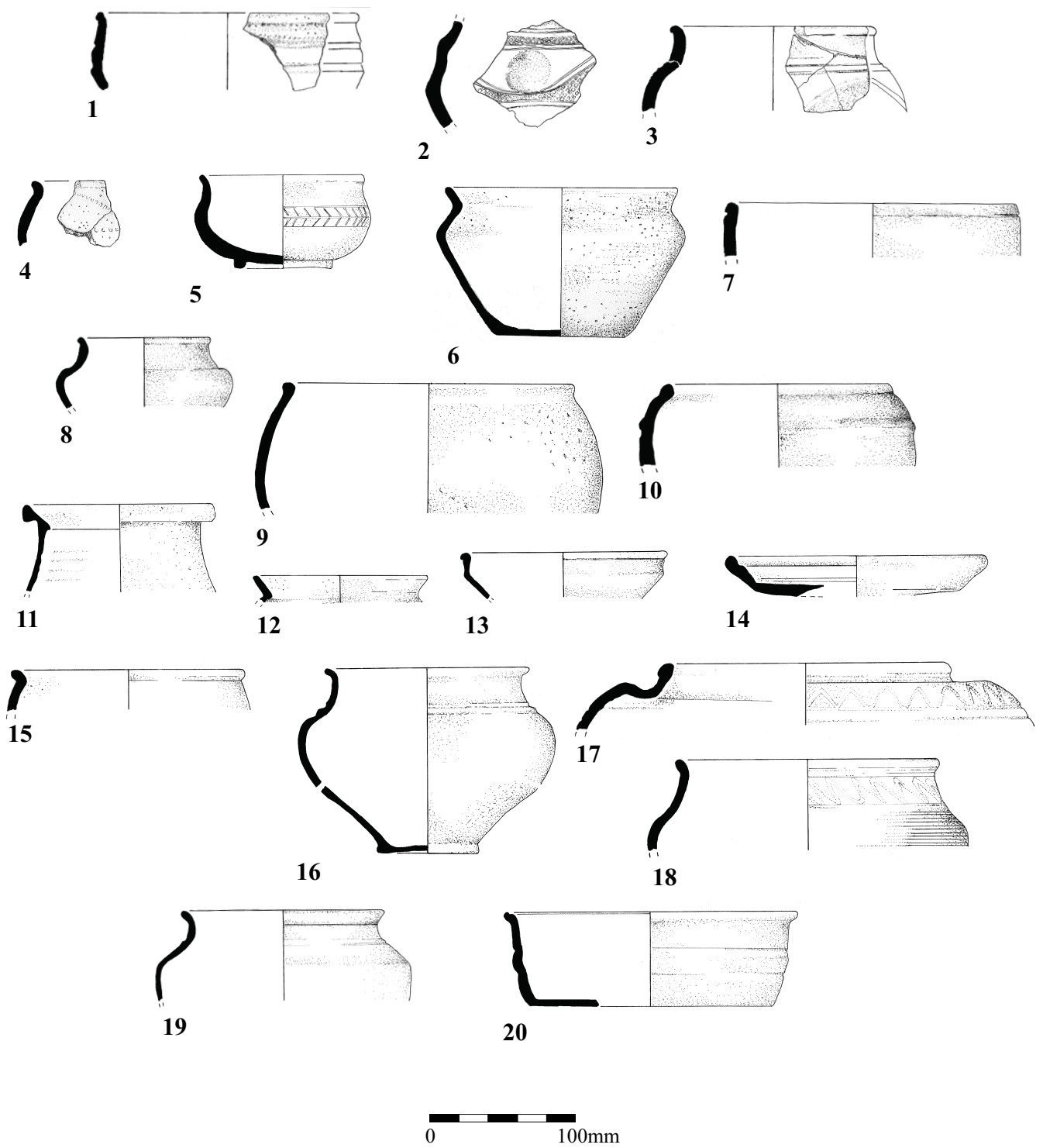


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Figure 5 Phase plan



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Figure 6. Pottery: see text for details.



Plate 1. Cuts 23,24 and 25 looking north west, Scales: 1m and 0.5m.



Plate 2. Ditch 301 (slot 35) looking south, Scales 1m and 0.5m.

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Plates 1 and 2

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Plate 3. Burnt flint spread 64 looking south, Scales: 2m and 1m.



Plate 4. Pits 109, 110 and 111 looking north west, Scales 2m and 0.5m.

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Plates 3 and 4

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Plate 5. General view of site looking west.



0 50mm

Plate 6 . The two brooches: cat. no. 2 (from ditch 301 slot 49) to left, cat. no. 9 (from ditch 300, slot 6) to right, also showing underside.

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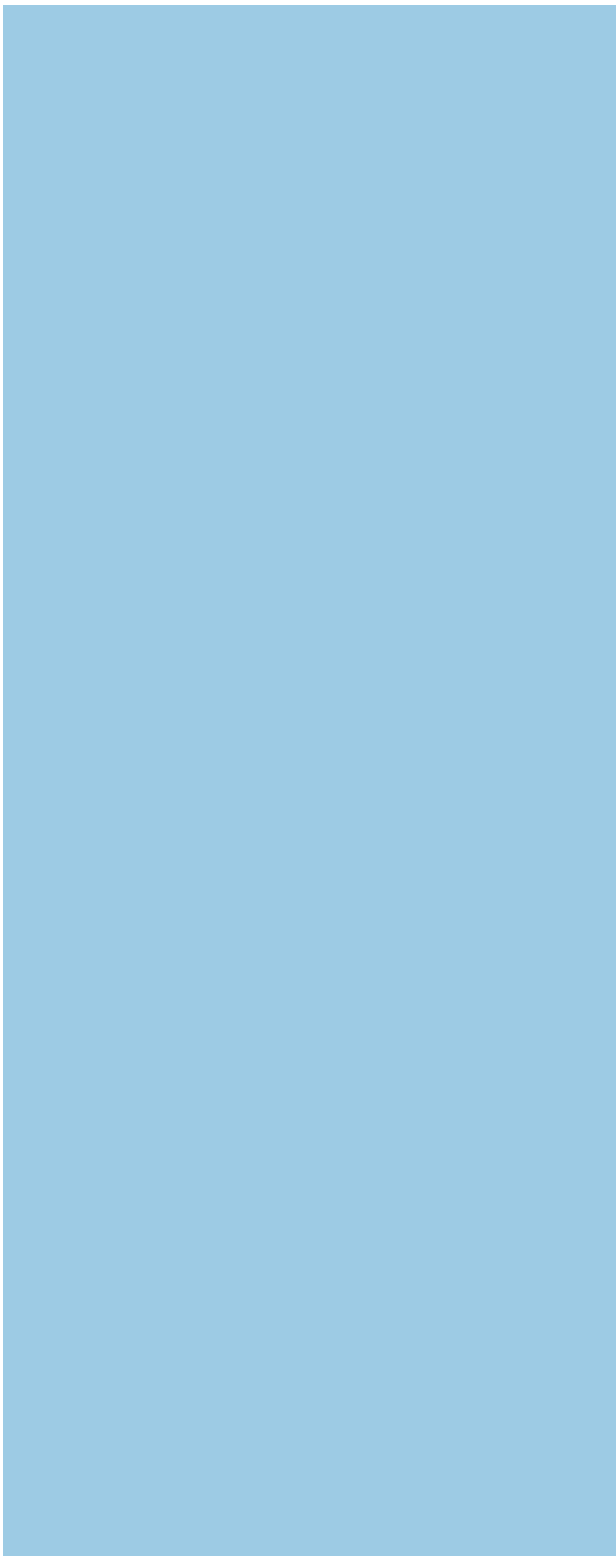
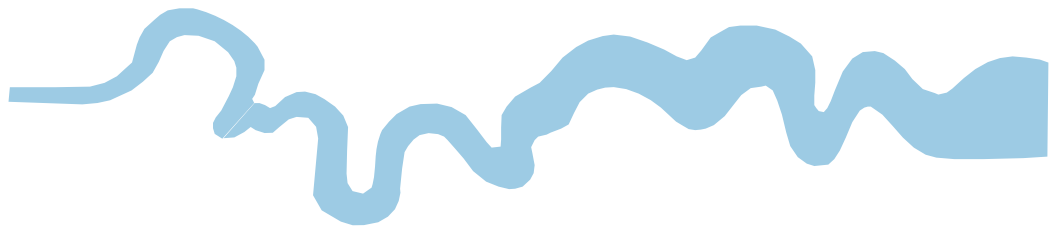
Plates 5 and 6

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## TIME CHART

	Calendar Years
Modern _____	AD 1901
Victorian _____	AD 1837
Post Medieval _____	AD 1500
Medieval _____	AD 1066
Saxon _____	AD 410
Roman _____	AD 43
Iron Age _____	BC/AD 750 BC
Bronze Age: Late -----	1300 BC
Bronze Age: Middle -----	1700 BC
Bronze Age: Early -----	2100 BC
Neolithic: Late .....	3300 BC
Neolithic: Early .....	4300 BC
Mesolithic: Late .....	6000 BC
Mesolithic: Early .....	10000 BC
Palaeolithic: Upper .....	30000 BC
Palaeolithic: Middle .....	70000 BC
Palaeolithic: Lower .....	2,000,000 BC





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