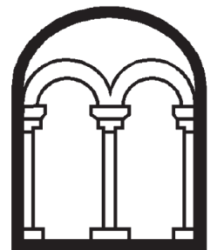


**LAND AT RADSTONE FIELDS  
BRACKLEY  
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE**

**ASSESSMENT AND  
UPDATED PROJECT DESIGN**

**Albion**  
archaeology



**LAND AT RADSTONE FIELDS  
BRACKLEY  
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE**

**ASSESSMENT AND  
UPDATED PROJECT DESIGN**

Project: RF1940

Document: 2017/46  
Version 1.0

OASIS ref. no.: albionar1-171614

19th May 2017

Compiled by	Checked by	Approved by
Iain Leslie	Mike Luke	Drew Shottliff

Produced for:  
CgMs Consulting Ltd

On Behalf of:  
Barratt Homes and Taylor Wimpey



## ***Contents***

---

<b>1. INTRODUCTION .....</b>	<b>6</b>
1.1 Planning background .....	6
1.2 Status and purpose of this report.....	6
1.3 Site location and description .....	6
1.4 Archaeological background.....	7
1.5 Implementation of fieldwork.....	7
1.6 Post-fieldwork tasks .....	8
1.7 Preliminary report and summaries .....	8
<b>2. PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND ORIGINAL PROJECT AIMS .....</b>	<b>9</b>
2.1 Introduction .....	9
2.2 Professional standards .....	9
2.3 National and regional research frameworks.....	9
2.4 Original project objectives .....	10
<b>3. SUMMARY OF RESULTS.....</b>	<b>11</b>
3.1 Introduction .....	11
3.2 Contextual hierarchy .....	11
3.3 Phasing overview .....	11
3.4 Phase 5001: Geological stratum .....	12
3.5 Phase 5002: Residual worked flint.....	12
3.6 Phase 5004: Middle Iron Age settlement.....	12
3.7 Phase 5005: Medieval cultivation.....	26
3.8 Phase 5006: Post-medieval fields.....	27
3.9 Phase 5007: Modern.....	27
<b>4. ASSESSMENT OF THE POTENTIAL OF THE DATA.....</b>	<b>28</b>
4.1 Introduction .....	28
4.2 Contextual data .....	28
4.3 Pottery.....	29



4.4	Fired Clay .....	32
4.5	Other Artefacts.....	32
4.6	Animal Bone .....	42
4.7	Charred Plant Remains .....	44
4.8	Human bone.....	55
<b>5.</b>	<b>RESEARCH OBJECTIVES FOR ANALYSIS .....</b>	<b>56</b>
5.1	Introduction .....	56
5.2	Research Theme 1: The Chronology of Settlement .....	56
5.3	Research Theme 2: Layout and Character of the Settlement .....	56
5.4	Research Theme 3: The Economic Basis of the Settlement .....	57
5.5	Research Theme 4: Local and Regional Settlement Patterns.....	57
5.6	Research Theme 5: Environment .....	58
<b>6.</b>	<b>UPDATED PROJECT DESIGN.....</b>	<b>59</b>
6.1	Introduction .....	59
6.2	Analysis .....	59
6.3	Publication .....	60
6.4	Archiving.....	61
6.5	Post-excavation work programme and task list.....	62
6.6	Project team.....	63
6.7	Management .....	64
<b>7.</b>	<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY .....</b>	<b>65</b>
<b>8.</b>	<b>APPENDIX 1: PROVISIONAL STRUCTURAL PHASING .....</b>	<b>68</b>
<b>9.</b>	<b>APPENDIX 2: PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES .....</b>	<b>71</b>



### **List of Tables**

Table 1: Summary of phases.....	11
Table 2: Pottery quantification by fabric type .....	30
Table 3: Pottery quantification by Site Land-use area.....	31
Table 4: Other Artefact assemblage by material.....	33
Table 5: Other Artefact assemblage from SL5001 .....	34
Table 6: Other Artefact assemblage from SL5006 .....	35
Table 7: Other Artefact assemblage from SL5007 .....	35
Table 8: Other Artefact assemblage from SL5008 .....	36
Table 9: Other Artefact assemblage from SL5009 .....	36
Table 10: Other Artefact assemblage from SL5011 .....	38
Table 11: Other Artefact assemblage from SL5013 .....	38
Table 12: Other Artefact assemblage from SL5016 .....	39
Table 13: Species based on animal bone .....	42
Table 14: Animal bone quantification by Site Land-use area.....	43
Table 15: Charred Plant Remains from SL5001, 5002, 5005, 5006 and 5007 .....	47
Table 16: Charred Plant Remains from SL5008, 5009, 5010, 5011 and 5012 .....	50
Table 17: Charred Plant Remains from SL5013, 5016 and 5021 .....	53
Table 18: Site archive .....	62
Table 19: Key stages and task list.....	63
Table 20: Tasks and allocated specialists .....	64

### **List of Figures**

- Figure 1: Site location
- Figure 2: All-features plan
- Figure 3: Plan of the Iron Age settlement (Phase 5004) with SLs coloured and labelled
- Figure 4: Plan of the Iron Age settlement with unusual Groups labelled



## **Preface**

*Every effort has been made in the preparation of this document to provide as complete an assessment as possible, within the terms of the project design. All statements and opinions in this document are offered in good faith. Albion Archaeology cannot accept responsibility for errors of fact or opinion resulting from data supplied by a third party, or for any loss or other consequence arising from decisions or actions made upon the basis of facts or opinions expressed in this document.*

## **Acknowledgements**

*This document has been prepared by Iain Leslie (Project Officer) and Mike Luke (Project Manager), with contributions by Jackie Wells (ceramic finds), Holly Duncan (other artefacts), John Giorgi (charred plant remains) and Mark Maltby (animal bone).*

*The excavation was supervised by Iain Leslie under the management of Mike Luke. Investigation and recording was undertaken by the following staff: Marcin Koziminski, Marcin Synus, Anna Orłowska-Synus, Gareth Shane, Adrian Woolmer, Ben Carroll, Catie Watts, Mike Emra, Krzysztof Ryniec, Matt Billings, Kathy Pilkinton, Gary Manning, Allan King, Victoria Hainsworth, Juha Vourinen, and Anna Rebisz-Niziolek. Survey was undertaken by Mercedes Planas and metal detecting by Archie Gillespie. All Albion projects are under the overall management of Drew Shotliff.*

*The project was commissioned by CgMs Consulting Ltd on behalf of Taylor Wimpey and Barratt Homes. The fieldwork work was overseen by Paul Gajos and post-fieldwork by Paul Clark (both from CgMs). The project has been monitored on behalf of the local planning authority by Lesley-Anne Mather (County Archaeological Advisor).*

## **Version History**

<i>Version</i>	<i>Issue date</i>	<i>Reason for re-issue</i>
<i>1.0</i>	<i>27/03/2017</i>	<i>n/a</i>
<i>1.1</i>	<i>19/05/17</i>	<i>Comments from Consultant</i>

## **Key Terms**

Throughout this document the following terms or abbreviations are used:

CAO	County Archaeological Officer
CIfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
Client	Barratt Homes and Taylor Wimpey
Consultant	CgMs Consulting Ltd
HER	Historic Environment Record
MoRPHE	Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (Historic England 2015)



## **Non-Technical Summary**

*Archaeological open-area excavation was undertaken during 2014 and 2015 in advance of residential development (planning application: (S/2010/0995/MAO) on land at Radstone Fields, Brackley, Northamptonshire.*

*This report presents an assessment of the results of the archaeological investigations as well as proposals for analysis, publication and archiving. The completion of the programme of works set out will fulfil the requirements stipulated in the Brief (NCC 2012), Written Scheme of Investigation (CgMs 2013) and Project Design (Albion 2014).*

*An area of c. 7ha was excavated, exposing a large, unenclosed, middle Iron Age settlement. The settlement extended over c. 4ha and was characterised by roundhouses, ditched enclosures, post-built structures and an abundance of storage pits. In addition and more unusual were the presence of six stone-lined pits, two stone surfaces and a stone-revetted ditch. Relatively large assemblages of artefacts and ecofacts were recovered from the settlement, including pottery, metalwork, animal bone and charred plant remains. Of considerably less significance was evidence for medieval open field systems as well as post-medieval fields; these will not be subject to any further analysis.*

*The results of the investigations have the potential to contribute to a number of local and regional research themes relating to Iron Age settlement, economy and environment. On this basis a programme for the analysis, publication and archiving of the results is proposed. The main output of this work will be an Albion Archaeology Monograph. It is proposed that results are analysed and published in conjunction with those of the nearby (c. 1km) Northampton Road excavations. Given that both sites investigated unenclosed Iron Age settlements, were excavated by the same organisation, using the same methodology and can be analysed concurrently a combined publication will offer a more meaningful publication and discussion of both settlements within their local context.*

*On completion, the project archive (subject to the landowner's permission with regard to the artefacts) will be deposited with the Northamptonshire Archaeological Research Centre.*



## 1. INTRODUCTION

---

### 1.1 *Planning background*

South Northamptonshire District Council granted planning permission (S/2010/0995/MAO) for residential development at Radstone Fields, Brackley (NGR SP 5887 3878).

As the site lies in an archaeologically sensitive area, two conditions (nos 14 and 22) were attached to the planning permission, requiring the implementation of a scheme of archaeological investigation as a consequence of the development.

Archaeological evaluation (OA 2010), completed in December 2009, indicated that the development site contained archaeological remains of local and regional significance that would require further archaeological investigation before the development could begin.

Albion Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs Consulting Ltd to undertake the programme of archaeological mitigation in accordance with a Brief (NCC 2012), Written Scheme of Investigation (CgMs 2013) and Project Design (Albion 2014). Open-area excavation was undertaken between July 2014 and December 2015.

### 1.2 *Status and purpose of this report*

This report presents an assessment of the results of the archaeological investigation and includes proposals for analysis and publication. The publication and archiving of this project will fulfil the requirements in the Brief (NCC 2012), Written Scheme of Investigation (CgMs 2013) and Project Design (Albion 2014). This is in line with current planning policy expressed in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012) and the standards set out within *Management of Research Projects within the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Mangers' Guide* (Historic England 2015).

### 1.3 *Site location and description*

The site lies on the northern edge of the Brackley urban area, approximately 2km north of the town centre. It is broadly centred on NGR SP 585 390 (Fig. 1). The overall development site covers approximately 44 hectares, largely located between Halse Road and Radstone Road, although it extends to the east of Radstone Road as far as the disused line of the Great Central Railway.

The solid geology is relatively variable across the site, which is reflected in the site's undulating topography. The majority of the site is underlain by Limestone of the Blisworth and White Limestone Formations. This is overlain by Till across the western portion of the site, coinciding with the relatively flat and high ground at c. 142–147.5m OD. The northern boundary slopes down to c. 128 m OD where it meets a small stream with associated alluvial deposits. Across the eastern part of the site (but west of Radstone Road) the topography is undulating with localised dry valleys. The site eventually slopes down to





meet the stream from the northern boundary at c. 116m OD. This borders the northern edge of site to the east of Radstone Road. The shallow valley sides expose a sequence of Rutland Formation Mudstone, Taynton Formation Limestone, Horsehay Sand Formation and Whitby Mudstone Formation overlain by alluvial deposits at the lowest elevation.

#### **1.4 Archaeological background**

Evaluation of the proposed development area comprised geophysical survey and trial trenching. No known heritage assets were known within the area prior to this work. Geophysical survey identified an area of dense anomalies of probable human origin in the northern part of the development site (GSB 2007). Trial trenches targeted these anomalies and demonstrated that they were part a large settlement of Iron Age date (OA 2010). None of the scattered potential archaeological anomalies identified by the geophysical survey proved to be of archaeological origin. The only archaeological feature encountered away from the settlement was a single pit or ditch terminus found in Trench 40.

A number of other Iron Age settlements are now known to exist within c. 1km of Radstone Fields. Around the same time as the Radstone Fields open area excavations were underway a similar investigation on an extensive Iron Age settlement was being undertaken adjacent to Northampton Road, Brackley (Albion 2016a). Subsequent to the completion of these sites, additional Iron Age sites were investigated at Foxhills/Sawmills (MOLA forthcoming).

#### **1.5 Implementation of fieldwork**

The areas requiring open area excavation were determined by the archaeological consultant and CAO (Fig. 1). These were:

- **Area 1** (c. 7ha)- the majority of the work was undertaken between July and December 2014, but a narrow corridor previously not available due to the presence of an overhead power line was investigated in November and December 2015
- **Area 2** (c. 10x10m)- investigation undertaken and completed on 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> February 2014

The methodologies of the investigation were detailed in the Project Design (Albion 2014) and are not repeated here. Suffice to say that all archaeological features and deposits were investigated in accordance with the Brief (NCC 2012), Written Scheme of Investigation (CgMs 2013), Project Design (Albion 2014) and Albion Archaeology's *Procedures Manual* (Albion Archaeology 2001). The WSI was approved by Northamptonshire Council's Archaeology Team on behalf of the Local Planning Authority.

The fieldwork was monitored regularly by the consultant and the CAO.



### **1.6 Post-fieldwork tasks**

Following the completion of fieldwork, the final checking and consolidation of the site records was undertaken. In addition, all outstanding artefacts and ecofact samples were processed. The site archive was consolidated and its internal consistency checked.

### **1.7 Preliminary report and summaries**

A preliminary report was produced in November 2015 (Albion 2015) and based on this a summary of the investigation published in the CBA South Midlands annual report (SMA 2015, 32–4).



## 2. PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND ORIGINAL PROJECT AIMS

---

### 2.1 Introduction

The original aims of the investigation were detailed in the Project Design (Albion 2014); they are summarised in this section of the report along with an overview of the national and regional research frameworks relevant to the project.

### 2.2 Professional standards

Throughout the project the professional standards set out in the following documents have been adhered to:

- CIfA's *Code of conduct* (2014)
- CIfA's *Standard and guidance for archaeological excavation* (2014)
- CIfA's *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (2014)
- Historic England's *Management of Research Projects within the Historic Environment* (2015)

### 2.3 National and regional research frameworks

The project was undertaken in line with national and regional research frameworks. National heritage strategy is embodied within *Heritage 2020: strategic priorities for England's historic environment 2015-2020*<sup>1</sup>; still currently in draft form, it is a cross-sector collaborative initiative being delivered under the auspices of the Historic Environment Forum and supersedes the National Heritage Protection Plan (NHPP) (English Heritage 2013).

The general research parameters and themes for the region are identified within *East Midlands Heritage: An Updated Research Agenda and Strategy for the Historic Environment of the East Midlands* (Knight *et al* 2012).

This builds on previous work on the research context for Northamptonshire provided in the East Midlands Regional Research Frameworks Project (Cooper 1999, 2006). A useful overview of Northamptonshire archaeology has been published by the Northamptonshire Archaeological Society (Tingle 2004). The county also benefits from the results of English Heritage's National Mapping Programme (Deegan and Foard 2007).

These regional documents provide a comprehensive chronological review of the historic environment as investigated so far within Northamptonshire and the East Midlands as well as establishing a research agenda and strategy for future investigations and for consolidating and integrating current knowledge. They are therefore vital tools for the assessment of any heritage asset within its local, regional and national historic environment setting.

---

<sup>1</sup> Available online at <http://www.theheritagealliance.org.uk/historic-environment-forum>



## 2.4 Original project objectives

A series of objectives were identified within the Project Design (Albion 2014). These were based on the results of the evaluation of the site and the wider research strategies for the county and region (Knight *et al* 2012). The results of the evaluation suggested that the following research topics could potentially be addressed:

1. What are the character, type, layout and internal organisation of the core of the middle Iron Age farmstead / settlement?
2. In contrast to many middle Iron Age settlement sites, the evidence at Radstone Fields does not appear to feature major land boundaries or ditched enclosures. Why is this?
3. What was the character and nature of the activity outside the main settlement area?
4. Is there any evidence within the settlement for ritual / structured deposition?
5. Can environmental sampling elucidate the agricultural economy and landscape of the settlement?
6. Can evidence for finds, craft and industry elucidate the economic basis of the settlement or identify connections with the wider region?
7. Is it possible to determine when and why the settlement was abandoned?



### 3. SUMMARY OF RESULTS

#### 3.1 Introduction

The contextual data was assessed in order to establish whether it would provide a coherent spatial and chronological framework. This proved to be the case for Area 1 and therefore the 3688 contexts recorded on site were assigned to a contextual hierarchy. The latter forms the basis of this summary of results and the assessment of all data-sets. Area 2 contained one possible furrow with no artefacts and is not considered further in this report.

#### 3.2 Contextual hierarchy

Contexts were organised into a hierarchy, comprising:

- SG (Subgroup)- small unit of interpretation, e.g. individual structures, roundhouse components.
- G (Group)- more interpretive entities, e.g. clusters of structures or pits, roundhouse gullies, ditch lengths etc.
- L (Land-use area)- collections of contemporary and spatially coherent groups: e.g. an enclosure, unenclosed concentration of pits and post-holes/structures, a roundhouse
- SL (Site Land-use area)- collections of broadly contemporary and spatially coherent Land-use Areas, e.g. a roundhouse with associated enclosures or an extended area of unenclosed pits and post-holes/structures.
- Phases- broad, chronological divisions, e.g. middle Iron Age; medieval.

#### 3.3 Phasing overview

The table below summarises the phases

Phase	Period	Principal features revealed	No. Contexts
5001	n/a	Natural stratum	1
5002	Mesolithic/early Neolithic	Residual flint	0
5004	Middle Iron Age (c. 450–100 BC)	Unenclosed settlement	3662
5005	Medieval	Cultivation furrows	8
5006	Post-medieval	Field ditches	4
5007	Modern	Pits	8
5020	Undated	Tree throws	5

**Table 1: Summary of phases**

The summary in Sections 3.4–3.9 is structured by Phase, Site Land-use Area (SL), Land-use Area (L) and, where relevant, Group (G). All the archaeological features revealed are illustrated in Fig. 2. Further details of the contextual data are tabulated in Appendix 1.



### **3.4 Phase 5001: Geological stratum**

The observed geological stratum consisted of orange and blue clays with occasional lenses of gravel.

### **3.5 Phase 5002: Residual worked flint**

There is little evidence for activity preceding the middle Iron Age, with the exception of six worked flints, two of which may be Mesolithic to early Neolithic in date. The worked flints were all residual and no cut features were dated to this period.

### **3.6 Phase 5004: Middle Iron Age settlement**

#### **3.6.1 Overview**

The vast majority of archaeological remains were dated to this phase. Excavations revealed a large unenclosed settlement that extended over an area of *c.* 4ha and broadly followed the ridgeline running north-east to south-west across the excavation area (Fig. 3). The settlement was characterised by roundhouses, ditched enclosures, post-built structures and an abundance of storage pits. In addition, six stone-lined pits, two stone surfaces and a stone-lined ditch were uncovered. As these are not often found on plough-truncated sites in the region, they are described in some detail in the text below (as are the possible burials).

A consistently middle Iron Age pottery assemblage along with a modest body of stratigraphic evidence means that it is uncertain if the excavated evidence represents a single large settlement or several smaller settlements shifting location over time within the same broad area.

Preliminary dating evidence suggests that the settlement was abandoned by the late 1st century BC. Whilst the conventional date range for the middle Iron Age in the region is 450–100 BC (Willis 2006, 130), on some sites middle Iron Age material culture has been shown to be in use as late as *c.* AD 50 (Willis 2012).

Where it has been possible to cluster settlement elements (e.g. roundhouses, enclosures, activity foci) into coherent units that may have formed contemporary and interlinked activity, they have been assigned to Site Land-use Areas (SL). Along the same lines where there is a clear stratigraphic break between settlement elements or clusters of elements, they have been separated into different SLs. In this way it is hoped that some of the contemporary and interlinked settlement elements can be discussed together.

However, given the lack of resolution in the dating evidence, the modest stratigraphic evidence and the homogenous character of much of the settlement ‘swathe’, it has not always been possible to define coherent units. In these cases, settlement elements have been placed together on the basis of their spatial proximity and in manageable ‘chunks’ to aid easy discussion of the settlement. It, therefore, must be realised that whilst there are coherent



units, which are described in the text below, many of the divisions between SLs are more arbitrary in character.

The text below describes each SL in turn, with significant Groups (G) also described. Specific details such as size and shape of features are not described in detail here; they are only mentioned where they are important to understanding of the evidence.

### 3.6.2 Activity foci SL5001

SL5001 represents activity at the south-west limit of the settlement, although it is possible that the settlement continued beyond the limits of excavation. It comprised four activity foci (L5001, L5003, L5008, L5009) containing post-built structures and storage pits, and a roundhouse (L5002). These represent a 'swathe' of features, which also surrounds the collection of roundhouses in SL5002.

Roundhouse L5002 was located towards the western limit of the activity focus and *c.* 20m from the roundhouses of SL5002. It was represented by a small gully that probably surrounded the roundhouse rather than being structural. Within the roundhouse were seven post-holes that, while not forming a coherent pattern, probably represent roof supports or internal partitions.

The four activity foci comprised clusters of storage pits and post-built structures as well as dispersed pits and post-holes. The majority of pits, of which there were 76, displayed the 'classic' storage pit profile with steep sides and a flat base.

The pits were often near to, but not overlapping with, clusters of post-built structures, suggesting that they may have been contemporary. The majority of post-built structures were *c.* 2.8m square and constructed from four posts. Some others of similar dimensions had additional posts, but presumably performed a similar function. They represent the 'classic' Iron Age four-post structures, which are often interpreted as 'granaries'. Two of the structures were rectangular, e.g. G5029 and G5042, constructed of six posts, and *c.* 3m by 6m in size. There were a total of thirteen post-built structures in this SL, compared to a total of only fifty-four over the entire settlement (24%). With the exception of SL5004, which had a similar number of structures (fourteen), there is, therefore, a greater concentration in this area compared to the rest of the settlement. This appears to represent evidence for functionally distinct areas within the settlement. One of the postholes contained a possible cremation burial.

#### *Stone-lined pit G5002*

A single stone-lined pit was located amongst pit cluster G5001. It was heavily truncated; only the base, which was lined with limestone slabs, survived. A single course of stones around part of the edge suggests that dry stone walls may have lined the sides, as seen on most of the other stone-lined pits on site. The 0.17m-deep feature was oval, with a concave base, and a diameter of 1.7m.



#### *Possible cremation burial G5030*

The south-westernmost post-hole of six-post structure G5029 contained burnt bone which may represent a human cremation burial (G5030). A total of 104g of burnt bone was recovered from the deposit and whilst the small weight and fragmented nature of the recovered bone means it cannot be said with certainty whether this represents human or animal bone, the lack of similar deposits elsewhere nevertheless marks this deposit out as unusual. There was no evidence of an urn or other container, although the absence of similar burnt deposits in the adjacent and presumably contemporary post-holes of the six-post structure may suggest that the deposit was an intentional rather than chance inclusion.

### **3.6.3 Domestic focus SL5002**

SL5002 comprised a complex of roundhouses and a possible enclosure. There were two circular roundhouse gullies (L5004, L5006), a sub-square enclosure/roundhouse (L5005) and an enclosure (L5007). Together the elements of this SL appear to form a coherent unit. Although there is some intercutting of ditches (such as between L5004 and L5005), they generally respect the location of the other elements and in the case of enclosure L5007, even incorporate them. This would suggest that the elements are contemporary and formed part of the same domestic focus.

All roundhouses and enclosures had an entrance to the south-east. The roundhouses ranged from *c.* 10–13m in diameter and internal features comprised pits and post-holes, although there was no coherent pattern to their layout. Two post-holes (G5028) may have formed part of an entrance or filter into enclosure L5007, whilst additional post-holes within the enclosure may suggest some sort of roof or covering.

The sub-square enclosure/roundhouse (L5005) is different to the majority of roundhouses because of its shape in plan. Given its small diameter (*c.* 8m) and proximity to the other roundhouses, it is likely that it also represents a structure, although whether it was similar in form to the other roundhouses is difficult to ascertain. Perhaps it was a smaller ancillary building associated with the main roundhouses but used for purposes other than habitation. Alternatively, it may represent a very small enclosure, used for (for example) the corralling of young livestock. It contained two shallow pits and two post-holes, although these shed little light on its function.

The enclosure (L5007) appears to utilise the sides of roundhouses L5004 and L5006 to create an enclosed space between them. Unusually the ditches of enclosure L5007 intrude beyond the limit of the roundhouse gullies, with the roundhouse gully of L5006 in fact terminating to respect those enclosure ditches. This could simply be because, as suggested above, the roundhouse gullies do not represent the actual footprint of the building (i.e. they are for drainage or some other purpose) or that the enclosure ditches actually fed into the interior of the roundhouses.





There were a total of six pits within this SL, all of which were within roundhouses and none of which had the ‘classic’ storage pit profile.

#### 3.6.4 Domestic focus SL5004

SL5004, like SL5001, represents a broad ‘swathe’ of activity rather than a coherent unit. The activity extends north-east from the domestic focus of SL5002 along the ridgeline, as far as the next domestic focus SL5005.

It comprised up to eight roundhouses (L5011, L5013, L5015, L5016, L5019–22), five activity foci (L5010, L5012, L5017, L5018, L5068) and a large post-built structure / enclosure (L5014). Like SL5001, SL5004 was also characterised by roundhouses, clusters of storage pits and post-built structures. In this case, however, there were a greater number of roundhouses, fewer pit clusters and the unusual, large post-built structure / enclosure (L5014).

The eight roundhouses were heavily truncated. Diameters ranged from *c.* 7–13m. One featured a likely south-east entrance; two had no entrance and the rest were too truncated to identify an entrance. Some of the roundhouses overlapped (e.g. L5020/L5021 and L5015/L5016), showing that they were not all contemporary. Some contained internal post-holes and pits; however, in most cases no coherent layout could be identified and it was difficult to ascertain whether the features were contemporary with the roundhouse or (perhaps more likely) were part of activity clusters that appeared to overlap with the roundhouse. Within roundhouse L5020 there was a four-post structure (G5077); it may possibly be contemporary, although this seems unlikely. This same roundhouse contained two concentric gullies demarcating its limits, suggesting that it may have been rebuilt.

There were fifty-one pits, the vast majority of which were of the ‘classic’ storage pit profile. They tended to be in clusters, which sometimes overlapped with the location of roundhouses (e.g. L5010, L5012), suggesting that they were not directly contemporary.

As with SL5001, a similar selection of four- and six-post structures were present; there were fourteen post-built structures in total. They were generally found in clusters, with the greatest number within activity focus L5018. As discussed above, in at least two cases (G5077, G5322) the location of one of these structures did not respect the location of a roundhouse, suggesting not all of the activity was contemporary. As with SL5001, there was a greater concentration of post-built structures in this SL, compared to the majority of the settlement. Of the fifteen SLs that make up the main part of the contemporary settlement, SL5001 and SL5004 account for (50%) of all post-built structures. These two SLs do encompass a larger spatial area than many of the other SLs, which may skew the numbers somewhat, but does not account for the overall disparity in numbers of post-built structures.

Of some interest was the arrangement of post-holes within L5014. These appear to form two rectangular structures, *c.* 10m by 11.5m (G5058) and 9m by 13m (G5059) in size. Another possibility is that the post-holes actually



represent a single, fenced enclosure, measuring 12m by 20m with an internal partition. Alternatively, they may be the remains of numerous partially surviving four-post or similar structures arranged neatly, simply giving the impression of a larger building.

### 3.6.5 Domestic focus SL5005

SL5005 was located centrally within the settlement and was dominated by the large roundhouse enclosure L5023, which had an adjacent activity focus (L5024) and a further nearby roundhouse (L5025). The roundhouse enclosure was characterised by a heavily recut sub-circular ditch, 17.5m in diameter. It had an entrance to the south-east, which an earlier ditch did not respect. The entrance also appears to have been blocked by pit G5082. Within the roundhouse there was no evidence of an inner roundhouse gully; internal features consisted of two post-holes and a shallow pit with some burnt stones.

There was a noticeable paucity of contemporary activity within the vicinity of this central roundhouse. This was especially true to the south-east, the same side as the roundhouse entrance. What activity (L5024) there was consisted of a pair of pits, which block the entrance to the roundhouse (G5082), small clusters of pits and post-holes, an animal burial G5085 and an urned cremation burial G5335. At the rear of the large roundhouse was a smaller roundhouse L5025, c. 9.4m in diameter with an entrance to the east-south-east. The smaller roundhouse contained nine post-holes and four pits, two of which truncated the outer gully.

The size of the roundhouse, its central location within the settlement, its many recuts, and the paucity of activity in the vicinity suggest that this roundhouse had an important position / role within the settlement and persisted over a significant period of time. Also possibly of significance is the presence of the animal burial G5085 and cremation burial G5335, the kind of unusual deposits not present elsewhere in the settlement.

Whilst this central feature has been discussed here as a roundhouse, there is no direct evidence for a roundhouse structure and it is therefore possible that it represents some other feature, such as an enclosure or mound. However, its circular form, south-east entrance and recut nature are similar to other roundhouse enclosures elsewhere on site that did contain an inner roundhouse gully — which in this case may have been truncated.

There were seventeen pits within this SL, of which only five were of a 'classic' storage pit profile. They were located in small clusters and in association with the roundhouses.

#### *Animal burial G5085*

This oval, U-shaped grave contained the remains of a sheep or goat, although mostly just the spine and ribs survived.

#### *Cremation burial G5335*



The urned cremation burial was heavily truncated and only survived to a depth of less than 0.01m. Only the base of the pottery vessel survived along with a small amount of cremated bone (19g).

### 3.6.6 Domestic focus SL5006

This domestic focus forms one of the most coherent domestic units identified within the settlement. It comprised two roundhouses (L5026, L5031), two activity foci (L5027, L5028) and two enclosures (L5029, L5030). These elements appear to respect one another, and in the case of roundhouses L5026 and L5031 and enclosure L5029, were incorporated into each other.

Roundhouse L5026 was perhaps the best example within the excavation area of a roundhouse within a ditched enclosure. A shallow gully *c.* 10.5m in diameter, similar to those found elsewhere on site, is presumed to have defined the actual building. It was enclosed by a larger (1.5m wide, 0.8m deep) V-shaped ditch with a flat base, which had been recut at least twice. The roundhouse had an entrance to the east-south-east and the roundhouse enclosure had entrances to the south-east and north-east. There were no internal features within the area defined by the roundhouse gully; however there were pits (G5348) and post-holes (G5094) in the area between the inner gully and outer enclosure ditch. The majority of these were located near the termini that marked the entrance to the roundhouse and may have prevented access to the area between the inner gully and outer enclosure. Six storage pits (G5095, G5098) were clustered around the outer enclosure ditch, broadly following the curve of the ditch.

To the north-east of the roundhouse was rectilinear enclosure L5029, which measured *c.* 23m by 14m. This appeared to correspond with an entrance to the roundhouse enclosure (entrance later reduced in size) and perhaps represents a contemporary enclosure.

The enclosure had an entrance to the south-east and contained roundhouse L5031 along with pits and post-holes. The roundhouse also had an entrance to the south-east, which corresponded with that of the enclosure. This roundhouse was much smaller, with a diameter of *c.* 7.3m, and may have served a different function to that of roundhouse L5026. The enclosure included internal partitions that created at least three separate areas within it.

To the south-east of the roundhouse and rectilinear enclosure was activity focus L5028. It comprised curvilinear ditches and clusters of storage pits. These often contained dark fills with organic and/or burnt material.

To the south-east of this was non-domestic D-shaped enclosure L5030, covering an area of 24m by 18m and constructed from two separate lengths of ditch. To the south-west and adjacent to roundhouse L5026 was activity focus L5027, which contained four storage pits and a short length of ditch.



There were a total of twenty-seven pits within this SL, only nine of which were not of the 'classic' storage pit profile. They were generally located in clusters, with the storage pits outside of the enclosures.

### 3.6.7 Enclosure SL5007

This enclosure appeared to overlie and, therefore, post-date the activity within SL5006. For this reason it has been given a different SL number despite the fact it represents few features. The enclosure (L5032) comprised an odd arrangement of ditches, which may represent an enclosure or method of collecting livestock.

Three short lengths (5–6m) of ditch form a triangular arrangement with significant gaps (5–9m) between ditches. At the north-west end of the 'triangle' is a curvilinear ditch, which perhaps served to collect livestock funnelled into the main enclosure. Three small pits G5124 were present adjacent to the curvilinear ditch; also included is a four-post structure G5125 adjacent and to the south-west of the enclosure.

### 3.6.8 Domestic focus SL5008

Domestic focus SL5008 comprised two roundhouses L5033, L5035, an activity focus L5034 and a line of four-post structures L5036. It was predominantly located to the north-east of SL5006 and SL5007; however, elements of both of these SLs truncated roundhouse L5033 and, therefore, may post-date at least this element of SL5008. There is little intercutting within the SL and, therefore, much of the activity may be contemporary; however, it does not form an obviously 'coherent' unit as seen in some other cases.

Roundhouse L5033 was defined by two concentric gullies and contained a rough stone surface G5128, set slightly offset from the centre of the roundhouse. The surface was constructed from limestone slabs and rounded pebbles and covered an area of *c.* 4m by 3m. Also present within the roundhouse were eight post-holes G5129, set in a roughly semi-circular arrangement around its southern side. It had an entrance to the south-east and a diameter of 14.5m.

Roundhouse L5035 also had an entrance to the south-east and had a diameter of 11m. Two post-holes / pits G5140 were located symmetrically within the roundhouse and three post-holes G5141 were clustered near its entrance, although they formed no obvious porch or other structure.

The line of four-post structures was aligned broadly north-east to south-west and included four structures to the north-west of the rest of the SL. The remainder of the activity (L5034) predominantly comprised two intercutting curvilinear ditches and thirteen scattered post-holes. Also present were five irregular and shallow pits, quarrying and a large robbed out stone surface G5131. This robbed out surface overlay part of the outer gully of roundhouse L5033 and contained the disturbed remains of limestone slabs and pebbles similar to those found within surface G5128.



### 3.6.9 Domestic focus SL5009

To the north-east of SL5008 was domestic focus SL5009. This comprised three roundhouses (L5041, L5042, L5098), three activity foci (L5037–5039), three enclosures (L5040, L5043, L5096) and an additional boundary or enclosure (L5097). Very similar to SL5008, this SL shows little evidence for the intercutting of features (although there are some examples) and, therefore, much of the activity could be broadly contemporary; however, there is no obvious ‘coherent’ unit of activity. There is little to distinguish this activity from that within SL5008 or SL5016 and the boundaries between the SLs here are for the purpose of easy discussion only.

Two small roundhouses were present of *c.* 7–8.2m diameter. Both had no entrance and comprised gullies that were somewhat angular in form. This may suggest that the gullies were structural in nature. Both contained frequent post-holes, which are generally lacking in the other roundhouses within the settlement. Roundhouse L5041 also contained a sub-rectangular central pit G5173, whilst roundhouse L5042 contained several episodes of quarrying G5177. A further heavily truncated possible roundhouse L5098, of which little remained, was revealed to the east.

Enclosure L5043 was sub-square in shape, enclosed an area of *c.* 11m<sup>2</sup> and was defined by fairly substantial ditches (up to 0.6m deep). Beyond the main enclosure there were several less substantial ditches (G5179, G5178, G5370-5381), defining an additional area *c.* 4m wide to the north and east of the main enclosure. There was no break in the main enclosure ditch to suggest an entrance, although gaps in the less substantial outer ditches suggest it may have been to the north-east. There were only two post-holes (G5378) within the main enclosure.

A further enclosure to the south (L5040) was formed by an L-shaped ditch, marking an area 18m by 10m; it contained only a single shallow pit. Cut into the enclosure ditch was another short length (4m) of ditch G5169, which held a deposit containing an almost complete ceramic vessel, along with some animal bone that had presumably been deliberately placed within the ditch terminus. The short ditch had very steep sides and a flat base, which may suggest that it performed a structural function, although there is no further evidence to suggest what kind of structure it might represent.

Directly to the north-east of the substantial enclosure L5043 was enclosure L5096. This formed a C-shape, defined by a small gully; it contained only a single post-hole. Curvilinear boundary L5097 was also broadly inside and parallel with the enclosure and may be associated. It was defined by a curvilinear ditch, which had been re-cut, as well as a further short length of ditch 10m to the south-east with which it may have formed an enclosure. A similar re-cut curvilinear boundary was identified 50m to the south-west (G5147).

There were a total of forty-two pits within this domestic focus. Only eleven showed a ‘classic’ storage pit profile, although many of the others were



heavily truncated and, therefore, their full profiles did not survive. There was also a stone-lined pit G5152 within activity focus L5037.

There were several instances of short lengths of ditch (4–8m) that formed no obvious pattern. One of these (G5159) contained post-holes in each terminus. A cluster of post-holes G5343 adjacent to roundhouse L5041 formed no obvious pattern or structure. There were also several examples of quarrying within this domestic focus.

#### *Stone-lined pit G5152*

This pit was lined with dry stone walling around the sides. It was circular, U-shaped in profile with vertical sides and a flat base. It was 2.4m in diameter, 0.55m deep and the walling was 0.25m thick. The walling was irregularly coursed with no bonding material. Lenses of sand at the base suggest the bottom of the pit may have been lined with sand.

There was an elongated post-hole / pit dug at the base, against the wall. This appears to have been contemporary given how closely its edge follows that of the stone walling. Next to the post-hole the wall bulged out, suggesting that the post may have been designed to support a collapsing wall. Alternatively it may have served another purpose such as a water sump, with the presence of the post-hole / pit causing the wall to bulge.

The pit backfill included frequent limestone slabs, sometimes larger than those used in the walls suggesting they may have served originally to cap the pit.

### **3.6.10 Domestic focus SL5010**

This domestic focus comprised a cluster of five adjacent roundhouses (L5044–5048) and their associated features L5049. They generally respected each other's location and, therefore, may have been contemporary. This cluster of roundhouses underlay the features of SL5011 (including the stone surface G5197) and it is thought that they pre-date that activity, although there are not direct stratigraphic relationships with each and every feature.

Four roundhouses had entrances to the south-east; the fifth was too truncated to say with certainty which way the entrance faced. Diameters ranged from 8–13m. The roundhouses contained a total of nine pits, none of which were of the 'classic' storage pit profile but rather tended to be smaller with shallower profiles. Also present were occasional post-holes within the roundhouses. The pits may or may not have been contemporary and with one exception the post-holes did not form an obvious pattern. The exception was two post-holes (G5184) at the entrance to roundhouse L5045 which may have formed door posts or a porch structure.

The associated features outside of the roundhouses (L5049) comprised only a short length of ditch and two isolated post-holes.



### 3.6.11 Activity focus SL5011

This activity focus was centred on a substantial stone surface L5050, which was set within a three-sided square enclosure of around 10m by 10m.

Outside and around the edges of this enclosure were frequent storage pits (thirty-seven) as well as a stone-lined pit and two four-post structures. These were generally clustered around the edge of the enclosure but also extended further to the south, north and north-east. A slight curve in their arrangement to the north-east of the enclosure casts some doubt on their association with the rectangular enclosure, and may instead mean that at least some of the pits are associated with the underlying roundhouse (L5045) below the enclosure and surface.

A pit to the north-west of the surface was unusual in that it contained a large volume of burnt grain. This probably represents accidentally burnt grain, dumped into the pit as waste but may offer clues as to the function of the stone-surfaced area.

Two four-post structures were set 3.5–4m from the north-west and south-east sides of the enclosure respectively.

#### *Stone surface G5197*

The stone surface covered an area of *c.* 7.7m by 9.2m, although it appeared to become gradually more truncated to the south-east and may have originally extended further. It was set within enclosure ditches G5194–5196. Although it appeared to generally respect them, suggesting the boundaries still existed, the surface actually overlay parts of the ditches meaning they had been in-filled by the time the surface was constructed.

The surface comprised small to medium rounded stones, overlain by larger limestone slabs. These formed a rough and fairly uneven surface. The best preserved part of the surface was near to the north-west corner. Here some very large slabs survived and also what appeared to be a collapsed dry stone wall (similar in construction to those found in the stone-lined pits and ditch elsewhere on site). This may suggest that the surface was originally surrounded by a wall or even that it represented some sort of building.

#### *Stone-lined pit G5201*

This pit was located *c.* 1.7m from the south-east corner of the stone surface and enclosure (L5050) and was set within a cluster of pits G5200 — although it truncated two of the pits within that cluster. It was circular and U-shaped, with vertical sides and a flat base. Its diameter was 2.35m and it was 0.23m deep with a 0.25m thick dry stone walling on its sides. The walling was constructed from limestone with irregular coursing and with no bonding material.

### 3.6.12 Domestic focus SL5012

This domestic focus was located to the west of SL5011 and comprised at least two roundhouses (L5053, 5056), an enclosure (L5052) and two activity foci



(L5054, L5055). Although most of the elements respected each other, some of the pit clusters and post-built structure encroached upon the roundhouses, suggesting that they may not have been contemporary. Enclosure L5052 overlay one of the roundhouses (L5044) of SL5010 and, therefore, at least this element post-dates that activity; however, the rest may or may not be contemporary. Apart from this stratigraphy and a slight change in character compared to SL5013 to the north, there are no distinct boundaries with adjacent SLs and the divisions are arbitrary and for the purposes of easy discussion only.

Where evidence existed entrances to roundhouses were to the east. Diameters ranged from 10.5–13.5m and internal features included post-holes and pits, although especially in the case of roundhouse L5056 these may have instead belonged to the activity focus outside of the roundhouse (L5055).

L5056 represents the site of three possible roundhouse gullies which intercut and are broadly in the same location. Truncation makes it hard to say whether these are roundhouse gullies missing part of their circumference or whether they were originally semi-circular enclosures. As they overlap so much it is reasonable to conclude that the roundhouse (or enclosure) was rebuilt on a slightly shifted location at least twice.

Roundhouse L5053 appears to correspond with enclosure L5052, which extends south-east from the roundhouse entrance and encompasses an area of 18m by 17m. The enclosure has a further entrance to the south-east. Inside the enclosure were a cluster of three pits as well as a stone-lined pit and a cluster of eight post-holes, located near to the stone-lined pit.

There were a total of twenty-two pits within this domestic focus, most of which were of the ‘classic’ storage pit profile. These were scattered around in small clusters. There were four post-built structures, two of which were ‘four-posters’ whilst the other two were more rectangular with six posts. In addition to this were scattered post-holes that formed no obvious structure; the majority were clustered to the north-east of roundhouse L5056.

#### *Stone-lined pit G5209*

This pit was located within enclosure L5052 and was circular and U-shaped with overhanging sides and a flat base. It had a diameter of 3m and a depth of 0.5m. Its sides were lined with dry stone walling, which was 0.3m thick and appeared to be slightly overhanging, giving a corbelled effect.

The base had the very patchy remnants of a possible blue clay lining. Towards the centre of the pit the lining was scorched and a thin layer with occasional charcoal was present overlying this. The main fill was dark with frequent large stones, representing backfill and the remnants of upper stone lining or capping.

A cluster of post-holes G5210 were located adjacent to the pit and may have been associated, although no obvious pattern has been identified.





### 3.6.13 Domestic focus SL5013

This domestic focus was located to the north-east of SL5012. It comprised a roundhouse with roundhouse enclosure (L5060), a roundhouse enclosure with no roundhouse gully (L5063), three enclosures (L5058, L5059, L5062) and three activity foci (L5057, L5061, L5064). Although there is no break in activity from the adjacent SLs to the south and east, there does appear to be a slight change in character, with a greater number of enclosures and roundhouse enclosures found here. The entrances also all appear to face a central point, suggesting that the constituent elements represent a coherent unit.

Roundhouse L5060 consisted of a re-cut outer circular enclosure with an inner roundhouse gully located offset from the centre on the southern side of the roundhouse enclosure. Both had entrances to the south-east. The diameter of the enclosure was *c.* 13m whilst the inner gully was 6.5m. The roundhouse contained two similar oval pits, one of which cut the roundhouse gully. It is most likely then that these are not contemporary with the roundhouse. The outer enclosure had been re-cut at least twice, and the final cut did not entirely follow the line of the earlier cuts, creating a wider entrance and more of a 'U'-shaped enclosure in plan.

Roundhouse enclosure L5063 had been re-cut at least four times and had four post-holes in and around the termini, which may have been associated with a doorway or porch. There was no evidence for an inner roundhouse gully such as that found in L5026 or L5060 or any internal features. The entrance was to the south-west and the diameter was 11.3m.

The three non-domestic enclosures were all fairly different in form. L5059 was particularly unusual in that it had a very deep and steep-sided outer ditch (up to 1m deep). It enclosed an area of 16m by 13m and was D-shaped in plan. L5058 may represent a roundhouse gully, although the shape and north-west-facing entrance would be unusual. It enclosed an area of 14m by 8m and formed a semi-circle with the south-east side open and an entrance at its north-west side. L5062 was set on the periphery of the settlement and contained very sterile deposits. It enclosed an area of 23m by 8m and was C-shaped, with the whole of its south-east side open. Both L5058 and L5059 contained clusters of small pits; whilst L5062 contained no internal features.

The two activity foci consisted of pits, scattered post-holes, six post-built structures, a curvilinear ditch (which may represent a very heavily truncated roundhouse) and a large area of quarrying.

Of the fifty-six pits within this SL around half were of the 'classic' storage pit profile (twenty-four), with the others less regular in shape and profile or too heavily truncated to characterise. There was one stone-lined pit (G5232) within activity focus L5057.

#### *Stone-lined pit G5232*



The pit was located within activity focus L5057 within a cluster of non-lined pits, one of which it truncated. It was circular, U-shaped in profile, with vertical sides and a flat base, measuring 2.4m in diameter and 0.4m deep. A 0.25m-thick dry stone wall lined the sides, constructed from limestone with irregular coursing and no bonding material. The base was also lined with smaller fragments of limestone and sandstone set in an irregular pattern forming a roughly flat base. A thin layer of light yellow-orange sand was deposited above this. It also appeared that the top courses of the stone-lining on the sides had been robbed out.

### 3.6.14 Domestic focus SL5016

This domestic focus was located north of SL5009 and east of SL5013 towards the north and east periphery of the settlement. It comprised up to nine roundhouses (L5065, L5066, L5067, L5069, L5074, L5076–5078, L5095), two enclosures (L5072, L5079), five activity foci (L5071, L5073, L5075, L5080, L5081) and a curvilinear ditch (L5068). There is little differentiation from the activity within SL5009 to the south, whilst SL5013 to the west does seem to form its own separate coherent unit. There is some intercutting between features, and although much of the activity respects other elements it is clearly not all contemporary.

Roundhouse L5074 was a gully set within an enclosure. The gully was positioned at the north-west extremity of the enclosure; it truncated one of its ditches, suggesting that they may not be contemporary, at least with the innermost of the enclosure ditches with which it has a direct relationship. The roundhouse gully was *c.* 8.5m in diameter whilst the roundhouse enclosure was 12m. Both the gully and the enclosure had entrances to the south-east. Within the roundhouse were a four-post structure — presumably not contemporary — as well as two small pits and four post-holes, two of which were near the entrance and may have been associated with it.

Directly to the east and partially blocking the entrance to the roundhouse enclosure was roundhouse L5095. Given its position, this roundhouse is unlikely to have been contemporary with L5074. It also contained a presumably non-contemporary four-post structure and two internal pits. More interestingly it also included an arrangement of seven post-holes near the entrance, which may have formed a porch-like structure. The roundhouse was 13m in diameter.

Three possible roundhouses were clustered in a linear arrangement (L5065, L5066, L5067), each one slightly overlapping the next. The entrances to L5065 and L5066 appear to be to the east (although truncation makes this uncertain) whilst L5069 appears to have an entrance to the north. Diameters were from 10m–10.6m. The northernmost (L5069) had been re-cut and was less than circular, suggesting the possibility that it represents something other than a roundhouse. L5066 contained a four-post structure, which once again was most likely not contemporary.



Elsewhere the possible roundhouses (L5069, L5076–5078) were generally short curvilinear ditches, which were heavily truncated but were of the right curvature to be consistent with more complete roundhouses within the settlement. There were often features within their projected circumference. However, in most cases these were most likely associated with activity continuing outside of the roundhouses and were, therefore, not contemporary.

Of the two non-domestic enclosures L5072 was two-sided and rectilinear, whilst L5079 was D-shaped with an entrance to the north-east. Both contained few internal features.

The activity foci (L5071, L5073, L5075, L5080, L5081) consisted of clusters of pits and post-holes, short lengths of ditch and four-post structures. There were a total of thirty-three pits, the majority of which were not of the ‘classic’ storage pit profile. Post-holes were scattered across the area in small concentrations, forming no obvious arrangements. There were a total of ten four-post structures, most of which were clustered around the periphery of the settlement. They were set on different alignments to each other.

Curvilinear ditch L5068 is difficult to interpret. It forms a crescent shape and is adjacent to the three possible roundhouses (L5065, L5066, L5067) and also overlapped with them.

### **3.6.15 Peripheral activity SL5017**

SL5017 was located to the west of the main body of the settlement. It comprised a single, isolated four-post structure, located *c.* 60m from the nearest contemporary activity.

### **3.6.16 Domestic focus SL5018**

This domestic focus was set apart from the main settlement; it was *c.* 22m south and east of the nearest contemporary activity. It comprised several ditches and a stone-lined pit G5314. The ditches are similar in form to those of enclosure L5007. Enclosure L5007 relies on a group of roundhouses to form part of its enclosure. This suggests that roundhouses may have been present in this location, but their remains have been truncated. The area enclosed was *c.* 9m by 10m.

#### *Stone-lined pit G5314*

Only the very base of this pit survived. It was lined with large slabs of limestone in an irregular arrangement. It was circular, with a flat base (no sides survived); it was 1.1m in diameter and 0.1m deep.

### **3.6.17 Stone-lined ditch and associated features SL5021**

This SL represents a curvilinear ditch (L5088) and nearby features (L5087, L5089, L5099) located at the western edge of the settlement. The curvilinear ditch formed a C-shape and had been re-cut at least five times. The latest re-cut had a stone revetment on its outer edge, similar in construction to those found lining the sides of pits elsewhere on site. It was constructed from limestone slabs with irregular coursing and no bonding material. The



revetment was up to 0.4m high and was highest along the straighter, back edge of the 'C', becoming shallower towards both termini.

The final stone-lined ditch gradually shallowed at each terminus; whilst the earlier cuts tended to remain deep with fairly abrupt termini. The south-west terminus of the final stone-lined ditch did not extend as far to the south as the earlier cuts. The fill of this terminus contained a spread of small stone debris. Initially thought to represent a floor surface, once excavated, it did not appear to be substantial enough and is more likely to represent demolition debris. Whilst the final stone-lined ditch had a generally flat or slightly sloping base, the earlier ditches were generally deeper with a flat base and steep sides, although at least one of the earlier ditches formed more of a distinct V-shape. The final fill of the stone-lined ditch contained a moderate amount of stones, concentrated next to the revetment that were presumably deposited when the upper part of the revetment was demolished or robbed out; however, there were not enough to suggest the collapse of any superstructure.

Activity L5087 was clustered around the 'open' side of the C-shaped curvilinear ditch. It predominantly comprised small clusters of pits that were focussed around the ditch termini. In some cases they contained remnants of burnt material, although it was not in great quantities and there was no evidence of *in-situ* burning. There were ten pits and all but three were of a 'classic' storage pit profile. A short length of ditch (c. 4.5m) blocked part of the 'open' side of the curvilinear ditch. It was very steep-sided and may have been structural.

Some 11.5m to the south-east was a small curvilinear ditch L5090, forming a semi-circle with a diameter of 5.8m. A storage pit was located centrally within the semi-circle. The 'open' side of the semi-circle faced the C-shaped curvilinear ditch and may suggest that the features were associated.

Further scattered activity was located to the north-east of the C-shaped curvilinear ditch. It consisted of a loose cluster of four storage-type pits.

Finds recovered from the stone-lined curvilinear ditch and associated features comprised pottery and animal bone, in volumes consistent with the majority of the settlement. Also recovered was a copper alloy wire bracelet with overlapping zoomorphic terminals, present within an upper fill with no evidence of deliberate placement. These types of bracelet are known in the Iron Age and continue into the Roman period. Only two other items of jewellery were found within the settlement.

### **3.7 Phase 5005: Medieval cultivation**

Evidence for medieval cultivation SL5022 in the form of furrows was poorly preserved and sporadic in its survival. Where furrows survived they were aligned north-east to south-west or north-west to south-east.



### **3.8 Phase 5006: Post-medieval fields**

Evidence for post-medieval fields SL5019 took the form of two ditches, one aligned north-west to south-east and the other north-east to south-west, forming a 'T' shape. They correspond with boundaries present on 1961 OS 1:25,000 and 1883 6-inch maps.

### **3.9 Phase 5007: Modern**

Isolated modern features SL5094 comprised a cluster of three pits, filled with modern material.



## **4. ASSESSMENT OF THE POTENTIAL OF THE DATA**

---

### **4.1 Introduction**

This section provides a summary of all data-sets recovered during the investigations and at the end of each section reviews the potential of each individual data-set to address the original research objectives. Where relevant, information on quantity, condition and spatial provenance is provided.

At the time of writing, for the reason of overall project efficiency and agreed by the consultant, some data-sets have been examined to a greater level of detail than others to allow a smooth transition into the analysis and publication stages of the project. Whilst this has inevitably led to some disparity in the level of detail provided for different data-sets, it was considered to be preferable to release as much information as was available at the time of writing, so as to allow an earlier and fuller dissemination of results within this report.

### **4.2 Contextual data**

The contextual data has been used to create a framework for the assessment and analysis of all data-sets. It has been described in detail above (Section 3), but the Iron Age settlement remains are summarised here.

The settlement was characterised by roundhouses, enclosures, post-built structures and an abundance of pits. There was evidence for the survival of up to thirty-eight roundhouses. These generally took the form of small penannular gullies with internal pits and post-holes. There were three examples where the roundhouse gullies were surrounded by a larger concentric ditch, which have been described as ‘roundhouse enclosures’. Three more similar ditches without an inner gully are also thought to represent ‘roundhouse enclosures’, although in these cases it is assumed the inner gullies had become fully truncated or were not deep enough to leave a visible trace.

As well as the evidence for roundhouses there was also a wealth of post-built structures. The majority of these were small and square or rectangular in plan, evidenced by the survival of four to six post-holes. Similar structures are common on Iron Age settlements in the region and are frequently described as ‘granaries’. In total there were forty-one square and twelve rectangular such structures at Radstone Fields. There were also two examples of possibly larger post-built structures.

Even more abundant than the post-built structures were pits, of which 428 were present. The majority of these fitted the ‘classic’ storage pit type, with vertical or overhanging sides and a flat base. Other pits included those which were of a shallower or less regular profile that are of more ambiguous purpose. Other amorphous pits may represent episodes of quarrying. In addition to this were six examples of pits that had been lined with stone. These are fairly rare features on Iron Age sites and numbers discovered have not increased significantly since the work of Knight (1984, 109), although one was present



at the nearby Northampton Road settlement (Albion 2016a). Like the majority of pits in the settlement these too may have been used for storage; however, their different construction may suggest that they were used for a different product such as meat or dairy.

Perhaps less well represented, although still a significant element of the settlement, were ditched enclosures. These took many forms and were mostly found in close proximity to roundhouses and in some cases integrated roundhouse gullies to create an enclosed space. Those that were not integrated with roundhouses tended to be located towards the periphery of the settlement activity. The relatively small size of these enclosures may suggest that they were used as paddocks.

The most enigmatic feature uncovered was the curvilinear, C-shaped ditch (L5088, SL5021), the latest re-cut of which had a dry stone revetment on its outer side. A summary of this feature has been circulated within the archaeological community (Albion 2016b), but other than some similarities with certain souterrain-type structures in Scotland e.g. Dalladies, Kincardineshire (Watkins 1980, 162), there do not appear to be any parallels to this feature in England.

Also present were two fairly well preserved stone surfaces and a further possible robbed-out stone surface. These may have been yard surfaces and possibly associated with crop processing.

#### **4.2.1 Analytical potential**

The Iron Age contextual data has good potential for analysis. It is evidence for a large, open settlement characterised by numerous pits, post-built structures, roundhouses and small enclosures. More unusual were the six stone-lined pits, a curvilinear ditch with stone revetment and at least two stone surfaces. Although the majority of the features are ditches and pits, smaller features such as postholes and the presence of stone surfaces suggest that modern ploughing has not as detrimental to survival as on some other sites. However the absence of hearths, ovens, kilns and large areas of “positive” features reflects the negative effects of plough truncation.

Evidence for medieval and post-medieval fields survive, but are not coherent enough to justify further analysis.

### **4.3 Pottery**

#### **4.3.1 Methodology**

Pottery was spot-dated by form and/or fabric type, and was a principal determinant in assigning contexts to chronological period. This information was entered onto an Access table in the project database.

#### **4.3.2 Overview**

The assemblage totals 2,398 sherds, weighing 33.5kg, and derives entirely from Iron Age features assigned to Phase 5004. Wares are defined on the



basis of principal inclusion type and character (Table 2), following Ceramics Research Group guidelines (PCRG / SGRP / MPRG 2016).

<b>Fabrics</b>	<b>No. Sherd</b>	<b>Wt. (g)</b>
F1: Coarse shell	683	7,369
F2: Fine shell	485	5,783
F3: Sandy fine shell	447	5,652
F4: Sandy coarse shell	562	12,503
F5: Shell, grog and sand	52	637
F6: Shell and grog	27	368
F7: Grog and sand	11	92
F8: Grog	5	25
F9: Sand	34	477
F10: Sand and organic	12	68
F11: Sand and calcareous	64	512

**Table 2: Pottery quantification by fabric type**

In common with many Iron Age sites in the region, shelly wares are dominant, totalling 95% of the assemblage by sherd count (96% by weight). They comprise a number of variants containing combinations of fine or coarse shell, sand, or grog inclusions. Within this group, coarse shell and shell / sand-tempered vessels (Fabrics F1 and F4) are prevalent. Vessels occur in both oxidised and reduced examples. The remaining wares contain a mixed suite of sand, grog and organic inclusions. A high incidence of abrasion was observed, particularly among the shelly fabrics, which are often vesicular, extensively degraded and leached.

Diagnostic forms are variants of the slack- or round-shouldered, fairly open vessels with either ovoid or globular profiles, which dominate middle Iron Age assemblages in the region. Rim forms are predominantly upright, rounded or flat-topped, with a small number of flattened examples with slight internal or external ledges. Bases, which are poorly represented within the assemblage, are mainly flat: a single example has a slightly pinched-out circumference. Fragments of five strap handles were identified. A more unusual form is complete miniature pot with a rim diameter of 35mm, possibly representing an unused crucible.

Although the assemblage is dominated by plain body sherds, a few fine ware examples have a burnished finish, while the surfaces of coarser wares are often wiped or randomly twig-brushed prior to firing. Scoring, which may have served both functional and cultural purposes, occurs on 36 vessels. Decoration comprises fingernail and/or fingertip impressions, restricted mainly to rim tops and occasionally along vessel shoulders. Two fine ware vessels bear incised curvilinear decoration, and three have stamped/impressed linear design. Sooting visible on the external and/or internal surfaces of 131 vessels indicates use.

### 4.3.3 Spatial distribution

Across fifteen Site Land-use Areas, pottery was collected from 462 features, 88% of which yielded less than 150g. Only eight features contained more than 500g, with the largest single assemblage weighing 3.4kg. One hundred and





forty-four features (31% of deposits yielding pottery) yielded only single sherds.

For a prehistoric assemblage, the pottery survives in fair condition, with a mean sherd weight of 14g. The largest deposits, each weighing in excess of 3kg, derived from domestic foci SL5004, SL5009, SL5010, SL5016 and ditch/pit cluster SL5021 (Table 2). Pits (quarry, rubbish and storage-type) are the main focus of deposition across all SL areas, yielding 51% of the assemblage by sherd count (48% by weight), while 35% (by sherd count) derived from enclosure and roundhouse ditches/gullies. Eighty-nine sherds (930g) were associated with pits and post-holes within the various roundhouses, although none relate to the use of the structures.

A truncated pottery vessel in a coarse shelly fabric was used as an urn for cremation burial G5335 (SL5005). It comprised 53 base and lower body sherds (276g).

Other potentially interesting ceramics comprise 25 sherds (604g) from a vessel which may represent a deliberate deposit in the terminus of ditch G5169, SL5009; and 62 sherds (3.1kg) from a large storage-type vessel collected from the fill of roundhouse L5044 post-hole G5182, SL5010.

Site Land-use Area	No. Sherd	Wt. (g)
SL5001 Domestic focus	255	2,762
SL5002 Domestic focus	92	815
SL5004 Domestic focus	364	3,864
SL5005 Domestic focus	120	758
SL5006 Domestic focus	198	2,501
SL5007 Enclosure	75	1,563
SL5008 Domestic focus	119	1,300
SL5009 Domestic focus	277	3,940
SL5010 Domestic focus	98	3,771
SL5011 Activity focus	90	1,562
SL5012 Domestic focus	92	957
SL5013 Domestic focus	143	2,683
SL5016 Domestic focus	216	3,354
SL5018 Domestic focus	1	6
SL5021 Curvilinear ditch and pit cluster	258	3,667
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,398</b>	<b>33,503</b>

**Table 3:** Pottery quantification by Site Land-use area

#### 4.3.4 Analytical potential

The assemblage has medium potential to contribute to an understanding of the nature, function and character of the site, enabling the latter to be placed within its local and regional context. A major regional tradition spans the middle Iron Age in the East Midlands and the Radstone pottery appears to fit well into this group (Willis 2006, 105-6).

Pits are the main focus of deposition, and to a lesser degree, enclosure and roundhouse ditches/gullies. Study of the pottery from these deposits may help to elucidate the nature of domestic activity undertaken, particularly when



examined in conjunction with the larger ceramic assemblage from nearby investigations at Northampton Road (Albion in prep).

#### 4.4 **Fired Clay**

##### 4.4.1 **Methodology**

Fired clay was recorded by fabric type, and quantified by minimum fragment count and weight. This information was entered onto an Access Table in the project database.

##### 4.4.2 **Overview**

An assemblage of 48 fragments (508g) derived entirely from Iron Age features assigned to Phase 5004, principally domestic focus SL5002 and pit clusters associated with SL5021. The material, which occurs in a friable oxidised coarse sandy fabric, is entirely redeposited and has no direct association with the features from which it was collected. Most fragments are amorphous, although a few have smoothed surfaces. Twenty-four pieces (249g), deriving mainly from domestic foci SL5002 and SL5004 are identifiable as daub, characterised by wattle impressions of approximately 10mm-15mm diameter.

##### 4.4.3 **Analytical potential**

The small and redeposited nature of the assemblage indicates that the assemblage has little potential for further analysis with the exception of spatial plotting in an attempt to identified domestic foci.

#### 4.5 **Other Artefacts**

##### 4.5.1 **Methodology**

Each object was identified, quantified by number and/or weight and assigned to a functional category. This data was entered into the project database. All ironwork and selected non-ferrous objects were x-rayed by Pieta Graves of Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery and the relevant plate numbers have been entered into the database. Petrological identifications of worked stone were carried out by Dr. J Eyers, of Chiltern Archaeology; species identification of the animal bone artefacts was carried out by Dr. M Maltby, Bournemouth University.

##### 4.5.2 **Overview**

Archaeological investigations produced an assemblage of 77 'Other Artefacts' (defined as registered and bulk finds excluding pottery and ceramic building material); 67 items derived from phased deposits. Quantities by material and Phase are presented in Table 4. In addition, small quantities of ferrous slag, fuel ash slag and vitrified clay were recovered.

<b>Material</b>	<b>Phase 5004</b>	<b>Unphased</b>	<b>Total</b>
<i>Objects</i>			
Antler	2		2
Bone	2		2
Ceramic	7		7



Copper alloy	7		7
Iron	39	10	49
Stone	3		3
Flint	6		6
Glass	1		1
	67		77
<i>Bulk finds</i>			
Fuel ash slag	65.9g		65.9g
Vitrified clay	2.1g		2.1g
Ferrous slag	170.4g		170.4g

**Table 4: Other Artefact assemblage by material**

This report focuses on the assemblage recovered from middle Iron Age deposits (Phase 5004), which comprised the focus of the investigations; an 18th-19th century iron patten ring with oval hoop and plain ring was found in modern deposits.

A small assemblage of six worked flints was found within middle Iron Age deposits. Two pieces were found within the fills of storage pits, one comprising a partially patinated blade with parallel ridges on the dorsal surface, traits suggestive of a Mesolithic to early Neolithic date. The distal end of the blade is missing and the proximal end damaged suggesting this was re-deposited within storage pit G5098 (SL5006, L5028). A hard-hammer struck primary flake with prominent bulb was recovered from the fill of storage pit G5227 (SL5013 L5057); this had a heavily nicked lateral edge suggesting that it too may have been re-deposited in the storage pit fill. The remaining flints, comprising parts of two tertiary flakes and shatter, derived from the fill of an internal posthole in roundhouse L5031; these all displayed signs of damage suggesting these were also residual.

#### 4.5.3 Spatial distribution

##### *SL5001*

Textile production is indicated by loom weight fragment OA1 found within the fill of a pit within G5004. Although only fragmentary, OA1 did retain the edge of a diagonal perforation indicating the weight was of triangular form characteristic of the Iron Age. Other domestic activity in the form of grain processing is represented by a small fragment of a saddle quern (OA2). The quern is formed of Millstone Grit probably sourced from the Pennines (Eyers 2015a), suggestive of trading links with, or at least access to a market with links to, the Pennine region.

The flat-headed nail (RFOA3) from G5008 and iron strip fragments from G5015 and G5038 do not contribute to understanding the nature of occupation at Radstone Fields, but do demonstrate the use of iron objects and suggests the inhabitants may not have viewed iron as a scarce resource requiring recycling.

SL	L no	Description	Material	Object	No	Wt (g)
5001	5001	Pit cluster G5004	Ceramic	Loom weight fragment	1	26g
5001	5001	Dispersed pits G5008	Iron	Nail	1	
5001	5003	Dispersed pits G5015	Stone	Saddle quern	1	



			Iron	Perforated strip fragment	1	
5001	5008	Pit cluster G5038	Iron	Strip fragment	1	
5001	5009	Pit G5045	Ceramic	Hearth lining/burnt clay		2.1

**Table 5: Other Artefact assemblage from SL5001**

#### *SL5002*

Other Artefacts were limited to a single piece of dense ferrous smelting slag weighing 145g found within the fill of sub-square enclosure L5005. Although the small quantity of slag is likely to have been re-deposited and does not suggest iron smelting was carried out within enclosure L5005, it does suggest iron smelting may have been carried out in the vicinity of SL5002.

#### *SL5004*

Other Artefacts were limited to fragments of two ceramic loom weights. OA4 was found in the fill of a pit, part of a cluster of pits G5055, situated close to the exterior of roundhouse L5016. Although incomplete, OA4 retained part of a diagonal perforation indicating that it, like OA1 from SL5001, was of triangular form. The second loom weight fragment OA5, found within the fill of a posthole of four-post structure G5067 in L5018, did not retain diagnostic features but was likely to have also been of triangular form. These fragments provide further evidence of textile production and, as weaving was a home-based craft during the Iron Age, suggest that at least some of the roundhouses were domestic in nature.

#### *SL5005*

Despite the presence of a large (17.5m diameter) roundhouse L5023 within SL5005, and evidence of a smaller roundhouse L5025, small clusters of pits and postholes, an urned cremation burial and animal burial, the only Other Artefact recovered from SL5005 was a tapering iron wire/rod (OA6) found within the fill of animal burial G5085.

#### *SL5006*

The fill of the recut roundhouse enclosure ditch G5092 contained an iron ploughshare tip (OA7) and a socketed mortise chisel (OA9). Ploughshare OA7 is an example of Rees' type IA share having a flanged socket. This is the most common form of share during the Iron Age and is not a closely dated form. The only other agriculturally-related object from SL5006 was a flanged reaping hook (OA8). This was found via metal detecting in subsoil overlying the area of SL5006 and cannot be definitely assigned to the Iron Age activity. However the inverted J-shaped blade on OA8 can be paralleled by a reaping hook from Danebury (Cunliffe and Poole 1991, fig. 7.9 no. 2.211). This blade form is equivalent to Manning's type 3 reaping hooks (1985, 55). The tang is riveted with only the edges of the flanges surviving.

Socketed mortise chisel OA9, from the same fill as iron ploughshare tip OA7, was primarily intended for chopping mortises and similar heavy work (Manning 1985, 22).



SL	L no	Description	Material	Object	No	Wt (g)
5006	5026	Roundhouse enclosure ditch G5092	Iron	Plough share	1	
			Iron	Mortise chisel	1	
5006	5027	Pit group G5095	Iron	Ring	1	
5006	5028	Pit group G5099	Ceramic	Fuel ash slag		4.6
			Slag	Ferrous slag		8.2
			Iron	Punch	1	
			Bone	'Gouge' pin-beater	1	
5006	5028	Curvilinear ditch G5101	Slag	Ferrous slag		17.2
			Iron	Sheet fragment	1	

**Table 6: Other Artefact assemblage from SL5006**

Other crafts possibly undertaken in SL5006 include leatherworking, as represented by iron punch OA10, found within the fill of storage pit group G5099. Weaving is suggested by bone point/gouge OA11

Small quantities of ferrous slag were found in L5028 (Table 6), both instances were examples of undiagnostic slag, which could have been a by-product of either smithing or smelting. The quantities are too small to argue for ironworking activity in the immediate area of L5028, but it is suggestive of ironworking taking place somewhere within the environs of Radstone Fields.

Iron annular ring OA12, from pit group G5095, is at c. 20mm diameter too small to be a rein ring off a bridle bit, but it could have served as a component of a chain.

#### *SL5007*

An iron strip fragment and a fragment of a ceramic loom weight (OA13) (form indeterminate) were found within the fill of ditch G5119, which cut through the fills of earlier enclosure L5029. As no Other Artefacts had been recovered from the earlier enclosure L5029 it is not known whether the loom weight and strip fragment might have originated from activity in SL5006 or SL5007. The fill of two of the postholes forming four-post structure G5125 contained small quantities of fuel ash slag, indicative of high temperatures but not of any specific craft activity.

SL	L no	Description	Material	Object	No	Wt (g)
5007	5032	Enclosure ditch G5119	Iron	Strip fragment	1	
			Ceramic	Loom weight fragment	1	31
5007	5032	Four post structure G5125	Ceramic	Fuel ash slag		59.9

**Table 7: Other Artefact assemblage from SL5007**

#### *SL5008*

The Other Artefact assemblage is meagre, its distribution limited to two curvilinear ditches (G5134 and G5136) forming part of L5034. Inner ditch G5136 contained an iron perforated strip fragment (OA14) and two nails, one retaining a small, flat head (OA15).



The outer curvilinear ditch contained part of an antler cheek piece (OA16). It was decorated with ring and dot ornament, albeit only one ring and dot survives on this incomplete example.

SL	L no	Description	Material	Object	No	Wt (g)
5008	5034	Boundary ditch G5134	Antler	Cheek piece	1	
5008	5034	Boundary ditch G5136	Iron	Strip fragment	1	
			Iron	Nail	2	

**Table 8: Other Artefact assemblage from SL5008**

#### SL5009

The fill of C-shaped ditch G5147 contained two iron finds, a fragment of narrow strip from the northern terminus of the ditch and a ring-headed pin (OA17) from the southern terminus. The fill of quarry pit G5149, situated within the area enclosed by C-shaped ditch G5147, contained a fine tapering bone shank (OA18), possibly the point and shaft of a pin or from a needle.

SL	L no	Description	Material	Object	No	Wt (g)
5009	5037	Boundary ditch G5147	Iron	Nail	1	
			Iron	Pin	1	
5009	5037	Quarry pit G5149	Bone	Pin?	1	
5009	5039	Pit group G5164	Iron	Reaping hook	1	
			Stone	Quern	1	
			Iron	Strip fragment	1	
5009	5042	Roundhouse gully G5175	Iron	Ring	1	
5009	5042	Quarrying in roundhouse gully G5177	Iron	Riveted strip	1	
5009	5043	Outer enclosure ditch G5178	Antler	Handle	1	
5009	5043	Inner recut enclosure ditch G5180	Iron	Ring?	1	
5009	5097	Boundary ditch G5374	Iron	Knife	1	

**Table 9: Other Artefact assemblage from SL5009**

One cluster of three pits G5164 contained an open flanged socket and part of a blade (OA19) in one pit, and a saddle quern (OA20) and an iron strip or blade fragment from another pit. Although the blade of OA19 is incomplete, its curvature is suggestive of a Manning type 2 or type 3 reaping hook, a form in use in both the Iron Age and Roman periods (Manning 1985, 53-55). These tools were primarily used for cutting cereals. Saddle quern OA20 is of Lower Greensand, probably deriving from Sussex, possibly Lodsworth area, or Weald area Kent (Eyers 2015a).

The gully of small roundhouse L5042, contained an annular iron ring (OA21) of c. 27.5mm diameter, while the fill of quarrying activity of the same roundhouse gully produced a riveted iron strip fragment (RAOA22). Neither item is closely dated, nor can exact uses be suggested. Due to its size, ring OA21 is unlikely to be part of a bridle-bit, but could have been used as a chain component.

Ditch G5178 contained an antler handle (OA23) of which the tine is partially hollowed out to accommodate a tanged handle for a knife or similar iron implement. The fill of a recut of enclosure ditch (G5180) contained a small



fragment of an iron annular ring with an estimated diameter of c. 60mm (OA24). While this was large enough to have formed part of a bridle-bit certainly as to function is not possible.

Part of a small tanged knife (OA25) was recovered from the fill of ditch G5374. The full width of the blade does not survive and only the stub of the tang, the back of the blade is slightly convex then has a concave step which begins to curve up. The tip of the blade is missing. This form of blade, in particular the concave step, is not readily paralleled. The form closest is perhaps Manning's type 24 (1985, 118-9), a type which has its origins in the Iron Age (Manning 1985, 118-9).

#### *SL5011*

The majority of the Other Artefact assemblage from SL5011 was recovered from stone surface G5197 (Table 10). The curvature of blade fragment OA26 strongly suggests this formed the tip of a reaping hook and could therefore have been associated with crop processing activity.

The remaining artefacts from stone surface G5197 cannot be so readily associated with processing of crops. OA27 is a small, tanged gouge probably set in a wooden, bone or antler handle, perhaps not dissimilar to handle OA23 from SL5009. Similar small gouges were found at Danebury, where they were considered to be hand-held wood-working tools (Cunliffe and Poole 1991, fig.7.13 nos. 2.246-2.247). OA28 comprises a tapering tip of a narrow, convex backed blade with straight edge rising just at the tip. This is likely to be part of a knife, rather than shears, as current evidence suggests that shears were only introduced to southern Britain in the 1st century BC (Hill and Crummy 2005, 4).

The stone surface also contained one arm, and start of a penannular spring, from a pair of tweezers (OA29). A definite function cannot be assigned to the final two items from G5197. OA30 consists of a rectangular-sectioned strip, one end is broken while the other end has been hammered out, the expanded end containing a circular perforation. It can only be suggested that this formed binding for a wooden object or furnishing. A second and shorter rectangular-sectioned strip is broken at both ends and retains no diagnostic features.

Despite the quantity of pits surrounding G5197, few Other Artefacts were found within their fills. A copper alloy sheet fragment and the flat, rectangular headed nail (OA31) offer no clues as to the activities taking place in and around G5197. The function of ceramic object OA32 from pit G5336 is unknown; it comprises about a quarter to a third of a plano-convex disc with off-centre perforation.

The final object from SL5011 was recovered from the fill of one pit within pit cluster G5200. OA33 comprised the coiled head and part of the pin from an iron brooch. Identification of its precise form is problematic without more of the brooch surviving. It bears similarities to the iron brooch of Hull's type La



Tene 1C or 2A from SL5016 (OA42), but it could equally be an example of another form of La Tene I or even a La Tene III Nauheim Derivative brooches.

SL	L no	Description	Material	Object	No	Wt (g)
5011	5050	Stone surface G5197	Iron	Reaping hook	1	
			Iron	Gouge	1	
			Iron	Knife blade tip	1	
			Iron	Tweezers	1	
			Iron	Binding strip?	1	
			Iron	Strip/rod fragment	1	
5011	5051	Pit group G5200	Iron	Brooch	1	
5011	5051	Two intercutting pits G5202	Copper alloy	Sheet fragment	1	
5011	5051	Pit G5203	Iron	Nail	1	
5011	5051	Pit G5336	Ceramic	Reel?	1	

**Table 10: Other Artefact assemblage from SL5011**

### SL5013

A flat, pentagonal headed nail (OA34) was found within pit G5227, part of pit group L5057 situated to the south and east of non-domestic enclosures L5058 and L5059. The fill of enclosure ditch L5059 contained a small iron cleat (OA35) within its northern segment, while the southern segment contained a fragment of a ceramic loom weight (OA36) retaining part of a perforation.

The remainder of the Other Artefacts were concentrated in the area of roundhouse enclosure L5060. The items from the fill of the enclosure ditch itself were not particularly noteworthy or informative, comprising an iron nail (OA37) and a fragment of iron, but the fill of one of a pair of pits (G5243) within the area enclosed by the roundhouse gully did yield two more interesting objects. OA38 comprises a double-riveted handle with thickened edges and the start of the blade of a hand saw with backward sloping teeth. The hand saw may have been used for wood-working or perhaps bone/antler working. The same pit fill also contained the terminal bulb socket and part of a baluster-shaped shaft of a side link from a double-jointed bridle-bit (OA39).

SL	L no	Description	Material	Object	No	Wt (g)
5013	5057	Pit group G5227	Iron	Nail	1	
5013	5059	Enclosure ditch G5236	Ceramic	Loom weight	1	51.2
			Iron	Cleat?	1	
5013	5060	Roundhouse enclosure ditch G5240	Iron	Nail	1	
			Iron	Fragment	1	
5013	5060	Pit pair G5243	Iron	Saw	1	
			Iron	Bridle-bit	1	

**Table 11: Other Artefact assemblage from SL5013**

### SL5016

Generally the Other Artefact assemblage was small and fragmentary. Finds deriving from pit groups comprised an incomplete perforated iron strip from L5075, and a nail shank and the tip of a tapering blade (OA40), perhaps from a knife or reaping hook, from L5080. Finds from features associated with domestic roundhouses/enclosures were limited to four small pieces of plain





copper alloy sheet from G5356, a clay lined pit within enclosure L5066, and a short portion of U-sectioned copper alloy binding (OA41) from the fill of an enclosure ditch forming enclosure L5260. The four-post structure situated within roundhouse G5273 contained a small quantity (1.4g) of fuel ash slag, which formed as a result of a high temperature fire, but does not attest to a particular craft being carried out. Although this assemblage attests to the use of objects of iron and copper alloy, it cannot provide insight into the nature of activity nor duration of occupation within SL5016.

SL	L no	Description	Material	Object	No	Wt (g)
5016	5075	Pit group G5276	Iron	Perforated strip	1	
5016	5080	Pit G5284	Iron Iron	Nail Knife	1 1	
5016	5066	Clay-lined pit G5356	Copper alloy	Sheet fragments	4	
5016	5067	Enclosure ditch G5260	Copper alloy	Binding	1	
5016	5068	Curvilinear ditch G5262	Iron	Brooch	1	
5016	5074	Four-post structure G5274	Ceramic	Fuel ash slag		1.4

**Table 12: Other Artefact assemblage from SL5016**

In contrast iron brooch OA42 can at least suggest a date range for some of the activity in SL5016. The brooch was found in the fill of C-shaped ditch L5068, a ditch which cut into the fill of adjacent enclosure ditch L5067. OA42 is an example of either a Hull and Hawkes La Tene IC or La Tene II Hull and Hawkes type 2A brooch, the damage to the foot of the brooch prevents a certain attribution; if the foot merely reverts towards the bow it would conform to La Tene 1C, but if the foot was attached to the front of the bow by a clip or rivet, it would be classed as a La Tene 2A. Given that a greater number of La Tene I brooches are found in Britain, as compared with La Tene II types (Hattatt 1985, 12), probability may lie with brooch OA42 being a La Tene 1C, an example of a type described by Wheeler as a 'Swallowcliffe Down' (Wheeler 1943, 255-6). La Tene IC brooches date to c. 290-200 BC (Hull and Hawkes 1987, 116-9) or 250-150 BC (Hattatt 1989, table 3).

### *SL5021*

Only two Other Artefacts were found in deposits assigned to SL5021. Curvilinear ditch L5088 had been recut on up to eight occasions, the final cut lined with stone along its outer edge. The fill of this final manifestation of the ditch contained a narrow, copper alloy spiral bracelet, its ends overlapping for half the diameter of the bracelet (OA43). One terminal of the bracelet is more tapered than its counterpart, and this end has a series of transverse grooves leading to a narrowed head with 'snout' and two holes for nostrils on the terminal end; the opposing terminal has a series of worn transverse grooves, narrowing to a plain rounded end (tail?). The surface of the bracelet has an even patina and is worn smooth but may have originally had continuous grooves along its length. OA43 is an example of a type A snake bracelet, a single snake with head at one end and tail at the other (Johns 1996, 44, 109 and fig. 3.3).

Snake jewellery is a specific class of ornament with complex symbolic meanings derived entirely from Graeco-Roman thought (Johns 1996 12).



Serpentiform jewellery, occurring in the form of finger rings and bracelets, is believed to have been introduced to Britain in the 1st century AD (Johns 1996, 12 and 44). Finger rings and spiral bracelets of type A are early in the series of serpentiform jewellery and are quite rare in Britain, having passed the peak period of its popularity by the time Britain became a province of the Roman Empire (Johns 1996, 44). OA43 was found in association with a sherd of Fabric type F16 (10g) and two sherds (30g) of Fabric type F18 (see Wells). Although there is some evidence for continuation of middle Iron Age fabric types into the late Iron Age, no late Iron Age 'Belgic' style pottery was recovered, nor was any evidence found of Romano-British activity in the investigation area. The presence of OA43 suggests one of three scenarios; serpentiform jewellery may have been introduced to Britain at an earlier date than previously recognised, the pottery associated with the bracelet continued in use into the 1st century AD or the bracelet was intrusive, a chance stray loss occurring in the 1st century AD.

The only Other Artefact recovered from SL5021 is an incomplete and burnt saddle quern of Lower Greensand (OA44) imported from Sussex or Kent (possibly Lodsworth or Weald area of Kent) (Eyers 2015a). OA44 was found within the fill of pit G5303 in L5087, situated adjacent to the southeast terminus of curvilinear stone lined ditch L5088, suggesting grain processing during the occupation of SL5021.

#### 4.5.4 Analytical potential

If a chronological pattern could be established amongst the recovered artefact assemblages, this could shed light on the probability of a single large settlement versus settlement shift. However, as the majority of the Other Artefact assemblage comprises craft-related or subsistence-related objects, which are not readily susceptible to changes in fashion, the potential for this is low. Even the five dress-related items are not particularly closely dated, either due to being a long-lived type, such as the possible bone pin OA18 from SL5009, or only partially preserved, such as brooch OA33.

A variety of crafts were represented amongst the assemblage. Textile-working was the best represented with at least five SLs containing related items; loom weight fragments occurring in four cases (SL5001, SL5004, SL5007 and SL5013) while a bone gouge/point (OA11) was found in SL5006. Wood-working was also fairly well-represented, with a mortise chisel from SL5006 (OA9), a gouge from SL5011 (OA27) and a saw from SL5013 (OA38). There was no substantial evidence for ironworking. Leatherworking too was poorly represented with a single punch from SL5006 (OA10). No evidence in the form of off-cuts was found for bone or antler working, but the presence of bone gouge/point OA11 from SL5006, an antler cheek piece from SL5008 (OA16), and from SL5009 a bone pin/needle shaft (OA18) and antler handle (OA23) suggest at least ad hoc working of skeletal material.

There were several examples of agricultural tools, with at least two reaping hooks represented in SL5009 (OA19) and SL5011 (OA26), while a third (OA8) is likely to have been used during the lifetime of SL5006. More



noteworthy however, was the iron plough-tip share (OA7) found deposited, along with mortise chisel OA9, in a west-southwest segment of the fill of roundhouse enclosure ditch G5026 (SL5006). Although grain processing was a domestic activity during the Iron Age, only three SLs yielded examples of querns; two querns (from SL5009 and SL5021) had a Sussex/Kent source, while third (from SL5001) originated in the Pennines.

Two Site Land-use Areas yielded evidence of horse(s). The iron terminal bulb socket with baluster-shaped shaft forming part of a side link (SL5013; OA39) is cut above the norm and when considered alongside the expense of keeping a cart, or perhaps a riding, horse suggests someone of status may have resided in SL5013. Although the antler cheekpiece OA16 from SL5008 would have required less of a 'financial' outlay, the cost of feeding the animal still suggests some form of 'income' above the average.

Hill has argued that certain feature types were selected for the deposition of certain finds, suggesting that items which transform agricultural/natural resources were intentionally deposited in pits, whilst finer, dress-related objects were deliberately placed in other feature types (Hill 1995, 65-7). An examination of what types of features were selected for the deposition of certain finds types at Radstone Fields has the potential to shed light on Iron Age depositional practice and belief.

The assessment has shown therefore that the other artefacts assemblage has the potential to contribute to an understanding of the economic basis of the settlement as well as the possible status of some of the inhabitants. In addition it has the potential to add to knowledge of depositional practices and belief in the Iron Age. In terms of dating, it has been shown that the assemblage can aid in the broad dating of the settlement; however has little potential to contribute to a detailed chronology of settlement evolution.

The examined Other Artefact assemblage suggests that the middle Iron Age settlement at Radstone Fields had a predominantly agricultural-based economy. Woodworking also seems to have played a sizeable role in the economy of the site, but other crafts, such as bone/antler-working and leather-working appear to have been of less importance; there was no evidence of iron working, either smelting or smithing. Domestic level activity, such as textile production, is well-attested to, as is, to a lesser extent, grain processing. The lack of evidence for iron-working juxtaposed with the quantity of iron tools and finer goods such as brooch OA42 or bridle-bit OA39, implies access to traded goods. This is also evidenced by imported querns from the Pennine area and from West Sussex or The Weald area. The presence of horse(s), as indicated by antler cheekpiece OA16 and iron bridle-bit OA39, suggests above average economic status of at least some of the inhabitants.



## 4.6 Animal Bone

### 4.6.1 Methodology

Faunal remains excluding those from samples were scanned and counted by fragment count and species. Notes were made on evidence for butchery, age at death etc.

### 4.6.2 Overview

The assemblage totals approximately 5,094 fragments, weighing 56.2kg. Bone preservation including surface condition is generally good.

### 4.6.3 Species and butchery

The assemblage is dominated by the domestic species, particularly sheep and cattle (Table 13). There is very little evidence for hunting and fishing.

Butchery marks, mainly in the form of fine incisions made with a metal blade, were observed on 109 of the identified fragments. Most (71) were found on cattle bones, but they were also recorded on sheep/goat (21), pig (6), and notably horse (10), indication that horseflesh was sometimes eaten as well as lamb, beef and pork. There were also sawing marks on a red deer antler.

Species	Quantity
Cattle	744
Sheep/goat (nearly all sheep)	926
Pig	162
Horse	124
Dog	47
Red deer	4
Roe deer	1
Wild boar	1
Hare	1
Duck (mallard-sized)	1
Frog/toad	1
Unid. large mammal	773
Unid. Medium-sized mammal	838
Unid. small mammal	1
Unid. mammal	637
Unid.	833
<b>Total identified</b>	2012
<b>Total unidentified</b>	2249
<b>Total</b>	5094

**Table 13:** Species based on animal bone

### 4.6.4 Animal bone groups

The assemblage includes some very interesting groups of bones. For example, one pit produced 73 bones from at least four young lambs that had been deposited together. The group consisted mainly of limb bones and a few of the bones had been butchered. A second pit produced 88 bones from two or more adult sheep, several of which bore butchery marks. A third produced a further



36 bones of sheep/goat, several of which again bore cut marks. Finally, another disused storage pit produced nine bones of a sub-adult sheep, most of which bore cut marks. These finds suggest that on occasions several sheep may have been slaughtered and processed at the same time. Another adult sheep (63 bones) had been buried in its own grave. Unlike the groups of sheep bones described above, there is no evidence of butchery on this animal and the body was still articulated. Fourteen vertebrae and ribs of a calf were found in another storage pit. None of these had evidence of butchery. Most (35) of the dog bones came from an adult skeleton recovered from another pit. A substantial portion of an adult horse skull was found in another pit. Grooves on the nasal bones possibly indicate that this animal had been ridden.

#### 4.6.5 Age at death

Another notable feature of the assemblage was the common recovery of bones of very young cattle and sheep. These had died during or soon after birth and were probably natural mortalities. Their presence indicates that cattle and sheep were being kept and bred on the settlement. A fuller picture of the mortality and slaughter patterns will emerge when the ages of the 62 sheep/goat and 45 cattle jaws have been analysed.

#### 4.6.6 Spatial distribution

Fragments were collected from 569 features, 72% of which yielded less than 100g. The material is generally well fragmented, with a mean bone weight of 11g. Only two features contained assemblages in excess of 1kg, with the largest single deposit weighing 1.6kg. The distribution of animal bone is fairly evenly split, with pits (quarry, rubbish and storage type) containing 49% of the assemblage (by weight) and enclosure and roundhouse ditches/gullies yielding 44%. Where multiple fills occur, most fragments derive from the secondary and tertiary deposits. Fifteen Site Land-use Areas yielded faunal remains. The largest deposits, each weighing in excess of 5kg, derived from domestic foci SL5001, SL5006, SL5009 and SL5013 (Table 14). Although the vast majority of the assemblage is randomly deposited, the post-cranial remains of a probable sheep or goat (820g) were collected from SL5005 burial G5085.

Site Land-use Area	No.Frag.	Wt. (g)
SL5001 Domestic focus	650	5,327
SL5002 Domestic focus	226	2,801
SL5004 Domestic focus	491	4,128
SL5005 Domestic focus	265	4,702
SL5006 Domestic focus	617	6,700
SL5007 Enclosure	87	1,126
SL5008 Domestic focus	239	2,170
SL5009 Domestic focus	408	6,088
SL5010 Domestic focus	119	1,276
SL5011 Activity focus	470	4,532
SL5012 Domestic focus	284	3,492
SL5013 Domestic focus	468	5,330
SL5016 Domestic focus	439	4,275
SL5018 Domestic focus	2	1
SL5021 Curvilinear ditch and pit cluster	329	4,255
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,094</b>	<b>56,203</b>

**Table 14: Animal bone quantification by Site Land-use area**

*Land at Radstone Fields, Brackley, Northamptonshire:  
Assessment and Updated Project Design*



#### **4.6.7 Analytical potential**

The assemblage will provide valuable new information about animal husbandry in this region of Northamptonshire during the Iron Age. Further analysis will also examine whether there are significant differences in what types of bones were deposited in different areas of the settlement. The faunal assemblage is sufficiently large and well preserved to provide useful insight into diet, animal husbandry and carcass processing. A proportion of the material has potential to provide ageing evidence through a study of epiphyseal fusion. Additionally, mandibles can be used to provide tooth ageing data. The combined results will contribute to an understanding of mortality profiles and animal husbandry practices.

Detailed quantification will indicate if the apparent paucity of wild species in the assemblage suggested by the assessment is correct. If so this will preclude any detailed comment on the characteristics of local habitats. Comparison of the faunal remains with contemporary local and regional assemblages will help to place the site within a wider context, with particular reference to material from nearby excavations at Northampton Road (Albion Archaeology in prep.)

### **4.7 Charred Plant Remains**

#### **4.7.1 Overview including recovery and identification methods**

A total of seventy environmental bulk soil samples was collected during excavations. The samples were taken primarily for the recovery of charred plant remains which may provide information on the agrarian economy of the two sites.

The samples were collected largely from the fills of enclosure ditches, roundhouse gullies and pits including storage and stone-lined pits. There were smaller numbers from post-hole fills, some associated with post-built structures, and occasional samples from post-pipe fills. All the sampled features have been dated to the middle Iron Age. The volume of the soil samples ranged from just 1 to 60 litres although most were greater than 20l. Fifty-five of seventy samples were selected for processing and assessment. The selected samples were either partially or completely processed using a Siraf-style type flotation tank and meshes of 0.3mm and 1mm for the recovery of the flot and residue respectively.

The flots were then dried. Charred botanical remains were sorted from the flots and identified using a binocular microscope (with a magnification of up to x40) together with modern and charred reference material and reference manuals (Cappers et al 2006; Jacomet 2006). Two flots, from pits (163) and (2573), contained exceptional rich charred plant assemblages and were sub-sampled, small fractions (1.56%; 6.25%; 12.5%) being sorted and quantified and the remaining larger fractions scanned for the presence of additional species. All the sorted charred plant remains were counted except for small cereal grain fragments, indeterminate items and charcoal, estimated frequencies of which were made on the basis of the following rating system: + = <5; ++ = 5-25; +++ = 26-100; ++++ = 101-300; +++++ = >300 items. The



same scale was also used for the unsorted fraction of the two rich charred plant assemblages. Item densities were calculated based upon the number of charred plant remains counted divided by the volume of soil processed.

The charred plant remains consisted mainly of grains (69%) with smaller amounts of chaff and wild plant/weed seeds making up 12% and 19% respectively of the material.

#### 4.7.2 Spatial distribution

The charred plant remains were from sampled from features associated with 13 SLs.

##### *SL5001: Domestic Focus*

Six samples from three pit fills (L5001, L5009), two storage pit fills (L5003) and a post-hole fill (L5008) produced variable amounts of charred plant remains (Table 15) including several large assemblages.

##### Pit (163) fill [164] (sample <1>) (G5045, L5009)

This sample was taken from an isolated pit in the north-eastern area of SL1005 and produced a very rich charred plant assemblage containing thousands of grains, 12.5% of the flot being sorted and the other 87.5% being scanned for additional information. The sorted fraction consisted almost entirely (97%) of cleaned hulled wheat grains; there was no chaff in either the sorted or scanned fraction although good numbers of the well-preserved grains in both fractions were identified as spelt wheat. A relatively small number of sprouted grains were noted in the scanned fraction but these may be the result of accidental germination because of damp conditions. There were very few weed seeds in the whole flot mainly large weed seeds including *Bromus*. There was a high concentration of charred remains with the sorted fraction giving an estimated density of 185 per litre of processed soil. These remains largely represent burnt and very clean and de-husked hulled (spelt) wheat grain which may have been part of a cereal deposit originally stored in the pit most likely as spikelets.

##### Stone-lined Pit (408) fill [409] (sample <3>) (G5002, L5001)

##### Storage Pit (412) fill [413] (sample <2>) (G5015, L5003)

The charred plant remains from these two samples are considered together because they produced broadly similar fairly rich assemblages with a similar item density (c. 6-7 items per litre of processed soil). Grain was the dominant component of both, 64% in (408) and 74% in (412), but there was also a fairly good representation of weed seeds, 22% in (408) and 20% in (412), mainly large ones in (408), and smaller amounts of chaff, 14% in (408) and just 6% in (412). The mixed assemblages containing different cereal types and both large and small weed seeds suggest that these charred remains may be from a number of activities associated with the latter stages of crop cleaning (including de-husking of hulled wheats) and food preparation; some of the grains may have originally been stored in the pits as spikelets.

##### Other Charred Plant Assemblages from SL1005



Two of the other samples from this area, from a pit (G5008) and storage pit (G5015), produced only modest amounts of charred plant remains, largely grains, from the latter stages of crop-processing and food preparation. There were virtually no charred plant remains in the other post-hole (G5030) sample.

Phase	5004													
	Site Land-use	5001					5002	5005		5006		5007		
Land-use area	5001		5003		5008	5009	5004	5023	5024	5026	5028	5032		
Group	5002	5008	5015		5030	5045	5018	5080	5335	5092	5098	5119	5121	
Feature type	P	P	T	T	S	P	D	D	G	D	T	D	D	
Feature number	408	480	412	1061	1312	163	1057	1849	2297	671	551	894	687	
Context type	FILL	FILL	FILL	FILL	FILL	FILL	FILL	FILL	FILL	FILL	FILL	FILL	FILL	
Context number	409	482	413	1063	1313	164	1058	1851	2298	672	552	896	688	
SAMPLE NUMBER	3	5	2	9	14	1	78	20	29	6	10	8	7	
vol sample (l)	20	20	16	20	8	18	15	20	10	20	20	18	20	
vol flot (ml)	5	2	45	10	4	100	2	1	<1	1	10	4	2	
% sorted/scanned						12%	88%							
LATIN_NAME	ENGLISH													
Cereal grains														
<i>Triticum spelta</i> L.	spelt wheat					8	+++						1	
<i>T. cf. spelta</i>	?spelt wheat					7							1	
<i>T. dicoccum/spelta</i>	emmer/spelt wheat	1		1	1	32	+++ ++	2				3	2	1
<i>T. aestivum/spelta</i> type	free-threshing/spelt wheat						+					1		
<i>T. aestivum</i> type	free-threshing wheat				1		+							
<i>Triticum</i> sp(p).	wheat	3	3	3	3	26	+++ ++					13	4	1
cf. <i>Triticum</i> sp(p).	?wheat	2	3	4	7	57		2				2	2	3
<i>Hordeum vulgare</i> L.	barley, hulled twisted			4										
<i>H. vulgare</i> L.	barley, hulled straight			1										
<i>H. vulgare</i> L.	barley, hulled indet.	2		5				1	1			2		1
<i>H. vulgare</i> L.	barley, indet.	2	2	5				1						1
cf. <i>H. vulgare</i>	?barley	1	1	2										
Cerealia	indet. cereal (estimate)	69	11	54	11	275	+++ ++	13	2	2	31	11	12	
Cerealia	indet cereal fragments <2mm	++	+	++	+	+++ +	+++ ++	+	+	+	+	++	++	++
Cereal chaff														
<i>Triticum spelta</i> L.	spelt spikelet forks				1							3		
<i>T. spelta</i> L.	spelt glume bases	2		1						1	49	1	1	
<i>T. spelta</i> L.	spelt rachis fragments	1									2			
<i>Triticum</i> sp(p).	wheat glume bases	13		3	2						49	3	2	
<i>Triticum</i> sp(p).	wheat spikelet forks/bases	2		1								2		
<i>Triticum</i> sp(p).	wheat rachis fragments			2							2	1		
Other plant/weed seeds														
<i>Corylus avellana</i> L.	hazel nut shell fragments	1										1		
<i>Chenopodium</i> spp.	goosefoots etc.												1	
<i>Fallopia convulvulus</i> (L.) A Love	black bindweed			1										





<i>Rumex acetosella</i> agg.	sheep's sorrel	1													
<i>Rumex</i> sp(p).	dock		1	4			+	1				1			
<i>Malva</i> spp.	mallow			1											
<i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> sp(p).	vetch/tare/vetchling (seeds<2mm)														3
<i>Medicago/Trifolium</i> sp(p).	medicks/clovers (seeds<1mm)			1			+								
Fabaceae indet.	pea family (small round cotyledons)	1	1	3		2		1				2			3
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i> L.	ribwort plantain												1		
<i>Euphrasia/Odontites</i> sp(p).	eyebrights/bartsias	1					4	+				2			1
<i>Galium aparine</i> L.	cleaver	4	1	2											
<i>Tripleurospermum inodorum</i> (L.) Sch. Bip.	scentless mayweed							+							1
<i>Bromus</i> sp(p).	brome	3	1	2			7	++	1			16	2		1
cf. <i>Bromus</i> sp(p).	?brome	4	3	2				+		1		18	2		
Poaceae indet.	grasses (large seeds)	12	5	4			1	+		1		12	3		4
Poaceae indet.	grasses (small seeds)	1		1				+				3			2
indeterminate	charcoal	+++	++	++++	++++	++++	+	+	++++	+++	+++	++++	++++	++++	++++
indeterminate	indet items			+	+		+	+				+	+	+	
<b>total nos of items</b>		<b>126</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>417</b>		<b>22</b>	<b>5</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>38</b>
	<b>item density (per litre of processed soil)</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>185.3e</b>		<b>1.5</b>	<b>0.3</b>		<b>0.2</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>1.9</b>

key: item frequency: + =1-5 items; ++ =6-25 items; +++ = 26-100; ++++ = 101-300; +++++=>300items

m=mineralised

A=postpipe; D=ditch; H=hearth; P=pit; R=rubbish pit; S=posthole; T=storage pit; W=waterpit

**Table 15: Charred Plant Remains from SL5001, 5002, 5005, 5006 and 5007**

*SL5002: Domestic Focus*

One sample from this area (north of SL5001) from a roundhouse gully (G5018, L5004) contained a small number of cereal grains and a few weed seeds, debris from small scale domestic activities associated with the final stages of crop-cleaning and food preparation (Table 15).

*SL5005: Domestic Focus*

Two samples from SL005 (central area of excavations) produced virtually no charred plant remains; a roundhouse ditch fill (G5080, L5023) with a few grains and large weed seeds and traces of cereal grain fragments in an urned cremation burial (LU5024, G5335) (Table 15).

*SL5006: Domestic Focus*

Two samples from SL5006 (just to the south-east of SL5005) produced charred plant remains; one of the samples from a roundhouse enclosure ditch (G5092, L5026) contained just a few grains and a spelt glume base.

Storage Pit (551) fill [552] sample <10> (G5098, L5028)

The other sample, however, from a storage pit (551) produced a rich charred plant assemblage with an item density of 10.6 per litre of processed soil. Hulled (spelt) wheat chaff fragments made up 50% of the quantified remains, grains including (hulled) wheat 25% and weed seeds (almost all large) the



other 25% (Table 15). These remains may be from burnt hulled (spelt) wheat spikelets which may have been originally stored in the pit; the large wild grass seeds including *Bromus*, which made up 85% of all the weed seeds, are often found in cereal storage deposits.

*SL5007: Activity Focus*

Two samples from SL5007 (north of SL5006) from two enclosure ditch fills (G5119, G5121, L5032) contained modest amounts but low densities (1.9 and 2.1) of charred plant remains, mainly grains (50% and 57%) and large and small weed seeds (24% and 42%) and smaller amounts of hulled wheat chaff (8% and 19%) (Table 15). These remains represent debris from the latter stages of crop-processing, including the de-husking of hulled wheats, and food preparation.

*SL5008: Domestic Focus*

There were two samples from this area (north-east of SL5007); a roundhouse gully (G5139, L5035) produced a few charred grains and a hazelnut shell fragment while the fill of a robbed out stone surface (G5131, L5034) contained a small number of grains and a few mainly large weed seeds, debris from virtually cleaned grain (Table 16).

Phase	5004														
	5008		5009			5010			5011			5012			
Site Land-use	5034	5035	5037	5042		5044	5045	5051			5052	5054	5056		
Land-use area															
Group	5131	5139	5152	5148	5175	5182	5183	5200	5201	5203	5209	5217	5352		
Sub-group	5148	5156	5170	5166	5194	5201	5202	5223	5224	5226	5232	5240	5409		
Feature	P	D	P	T	D	S	D	T	T	P	P	P	T	T	
Feature number	862	1139	220	2319	2792	2483	2645	2217	2217	2389	2573	1330	2085	1976	
Context type	FILL	FILL	FILL	FILL	FILL	FILL	FILL	FILL	FILL	FILL	FILL	FILL	FILL	FILL	
Context number	864	1140	222	2320	2793	2485	2484	2646	2218	2221	2391	2574	1333	2086	1978
SAMPLE NUMBER	12	13	4	28	79	31	30	35	26	27	32	34	36	24	23
vol sample (l)	20	18	16	20	16	10	10	20	20	20	10	20	20	20	20
vol flot (ml)	2	2	4	1	3	1	2	1	<1	2	<1	800	1	1	5
% sorted/scanned												2%	98%		
LATIN_NAME	ENGLISH														
Cereal grains															
<i>Triticum dicoccum</i> Schubl.	emmer wheat												1	1	
<i>T. cf. dicoccum</i>	?emmer wheat														
<i>T. dicoccum/s pelta</i>	1		5				1		1	1				1	1
<i>T. aestivum/spelta</i> type				1											
<i>T. aestivum</i> type				1											
<i>T. cf. aestivum</i> type				2											
<i>Triticum</i> sp(p).	1		4	1	2					3					2
cf. <i>Triticum</i> sp(p).	3	2	5		1		2	1		2					4
<i>Hordeum vulgare</i> L.						2	3	1	1			96	+++	++	



<i>H. vulgare</i> L.	barley, hulled straight						1					68					
<i>H. vulgare</i> L.	barley, hulled indet.			1	1	2	6	7	1		1	25			1		
<i>H. vulgare</i> L.	barley, indet.				1	2	6	6		1		11	+++				
cf. <i>H. vulgare</i>	?barley	1		1			4	2			1	1				1	
<i>Avena</i> spp.	oat			1									++			1	
cf. <i>Avena</i> sp(p).	?oat			1								2					
Cerealia	indet. cereal (estimate)	10	3	30		14	16	25		3	3	1	10	+++	1	1	16
Cerealia	indet cereal fragments <2mm	+		++	+	+	++	++	+	+	+	+	++	+++		+	++
<b>Cereal chaff</b>																	
<i>Triticum spelta</i> L.	spelt glume bases			7		1											
<i>T. spelta</i> L.	spelt rachis fragments			1													
<i>Triticum</i> sp(p).	wheat glume bases			12		1				2		3			1		12
<i>Triticum</i> sp(p).	wheat spikelet forks/bases					1											2
<i>Triticum</i> sp(p).	wheat rachis fragments			3													
<b>Other plant/weed seeds</b>																	
<i>Ranunculus</i> sp.	buttercups			1												1	
<i>Corylus avellana</i> L.	hazel nut shell fragments		1			4											
<i>Chenopodium</i> spp.	goosefoots etc.									1				+			
<i>Atriplex/Chenopodium</i> spp.	orache/goosefoots etc.						1							+			
<i>Silene</i> spp.	campion/catchfly													+			
<i>Persicaria lapathifolia</i> (L.) Gray	pale persicaria								1								
<i>Polygonum aviculare</i> L.	knotgrass			1													
<i>Fallopia convulvulus</i> (L.) A Love	black bindweed											1		+			
<i>Rumex</i> sp(p).	dock			2						1		3	+++		1		
Brassicaceae indet.	cabbage family													+			
<i>Potentilla</i> spp.	cinquefoils									1							
<i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> sp(p).	vetch/tare/vetchling (seeds<2mm)			1										+			
<i>Medicago/Taraxacum</i> sp(p).	medicks/clovers (seeds<1mm)			1										++	1		
Fabaceae indet.	pea family (small round cotyledons)	1															
<i>Hyoscyamus niger</i> L.	henbane			1													
<i>Lithospermum arvense</i> L.	field gromwell										1(m)			+	(m)		
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i> L.	ribwort plantain						1										
<i>Euphrasia/Odonites</i> sp(p).	eyebrights/bartsias											1				5	
<i>Galium aparine</i> L.	cleaver					1											
<i>Centaurea cyanus</i> L.	cornflower													+			
<i>Centaurea</i> spp.	knapweeds													+			
<i>Anthemis cotula</i> L.	stinking chamomile															1	
<i>Tripleurospermum inodorum</i> (L.) Sch. Bip.	scentless mayweed																28
Asteraceae indet														+		18	



<i>Eleocharis palustris/uniglumis</i>	spike-rush			1													
<i>Carex</i> sp.	sedge						2							+			
cf. <i>Lolium</i> spp.	rye-grass													+			
<i>Bromus</i> sp(p).	brome	2		8		3	1				1		8	+++ +	1		2
cf. <i>Bromus</i> sp(p).	?brome			4		1					2	1	3			1	
Poaceae indet.	grasses (large seeds)	3		16	1	3	2				5	2		+++			2
Poaceae indet.	grasses (small seeds)			7						1				+	4		
indetermina te	charcoal	++++	++++	++++	++++	++++	++++	++++	++	++	+++	++		+++	++++	+++	++++
indetermina te	indet items			+										+	+		
<b>total nos of items</b>		<b>22</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>54</b> <b>6</b>		<b>63</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>46</b>
	<b>item density (per litre of processed soil)</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17</b> <b>63e</b>		<b>3.2</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>2.3</b>

key: item frequency: + =1-5 items; ++ =6-25 items; +++ = 26-100; ++++ = 101-300; +++++=>300items

m=mineralised

A=postpipe; D=ditch; H=hearth; P=pit; R=rubbish pit; S=posthole; T=storage pit; W=waterpit

**Table 16: Charred Plant Remains from SL5008, 5009, 5010, 5011 and 5012**

#### *SL5009 Domestic Focus*

Three samples from this area (north-east of SL5008) produced charred plant remains (Table 16). There were just traces of grains and weed seeds in a storage pit (G5148, L5037) and a modest assemblage of grains, a few hulled wheat chaff fragments and large weed seeds, and several hazelnut shell fragments in a roundhouse gully (G5175, L5042).

#### Stone-lined Pit (220) fill [222] sample <4> (G5152 L5037)

The other sample, however, from a stone-lined pit (220) produced a fairly rich charred plant assemblage (an item density of 7.4 per litre of processed soil) consisting largely of small grains (44%) and weed seeds (36%) but mainly large wild grass seeds, and some hulled (spelt) wheat chaff (20%). This is debris from the final stages of crop-processing activities including the de-husking of hulled wheats possibly originally stored in the pit as spikelets.

#### *SL5010: Domestic Focus*

Two fill samples from the same internal post-hole (G5182, L5044) of a roundhouse (north-west of SL5008) both produced similar modest sized charred plant assemblages (item densities of 4.2 and 4.5) of mainly cereal grains, largely hulled barley, plus a few weed seeds in one of the fills. This material mainly represents accidentally burnt cleaned barley grains. Another sample from this area from a roundhouse gully (G5183, L5045) just to the north also produced traces of barley grain (Table 16).

#### *SL5011: Stone surfaces and adjacent features*

Four samples from this area (adjacent and to the north of SL5010) contained charred plant remains from pits (L5051) surrounding enclosure (L5050) which had an extensive stone surface (Table 16). Two of the samples from a storage pit (G5200) produced small numbers of different cereal grains, a few chaff



fragments and mainly large weed seeds while a sample from a stone-lined pit (G5201) contained a few grains, chaff fragments and weed seeds.

Pit (2573) fill [2574] (sample <34) (G5203)

The other sample from a pit, c. 8m to the north of the enclosure, produced the richest and densest concentration of charred plant remains; 1.56% of the flot was sorted and quantified and the remaining 98.44% scanned for other species. The sorted fraction consisted almost entirely (97%) of clean and well-preserved six-row hulled barley grains and just a small number of weed seeds, mainly large wild grass seeds (*Bromus*) with an estimated density of 1763 items per litre of processed soil. The scanned fraction of the flot contained thousands of six-row hulled barley grains; some showed evidence of the palea and lemma adhering to the grain which would have been removed and de-husked by pounding followed by winnowing and sieving if the grain was intended for human consumption. The relatively small number of weed seeds in the scanned fraction consisted mainly of large wild grass seeds again mostly *Bromus* and also some *Avena* seeds along with a small range of smaller weed seeds mainly from *Rumex* and legumes.

The high concentration and rich charred plant assemblage in this pit represents the residues of a virtually clean hulled barley deposit which may have been stored and burnt 'in situ' and was probably intended for human consumption given the virtual absence of weed seeds. Some of the barley grains suggest that de-husking may have been required before use as human food; it is interesting to note that barley grains (albeit in smaller numbers) were also the main cereal represented in a post-hole (G5182) within a roundhouse close-by. The exceptionally good preservation of the grains in the pit suggests that the fire which caused the charring must have been quickly extinguished or the grains rapidly covered over so that they were not reduced to ash.

It has been suggested that the stone surface within the enclosure close to the pit may have been used for crop-processing activities including possibly the threshing, winnowing and sieving of this barley crop before storage although there is no significant charred crop-processing debris in the vicinity of the feature to support this. However, during the evaluation a complete upper part of a beehive rotary quern was found in a pit adjacent to the stone surface G5197 which may point to milling activities (OA 2010).

#### *SL5012: Domestic Focus*

Three samples from pits (south and west of SL5011) contained charred plant remains; a modest amount in a stone-lined pit (1330) (L5052, G5029) produced mainly small weed seeds particularly from *Tripleurospermum inodorum*, and only traces of grains and chaff. The small weed seeds may be a by-product of the 'wheat' sieve used in the later stages of crop cleaning. Another modest-sized assemblage from a roundhouse internal storage pit (G5352, L5056) contained mainly grains and then hulled wheat chaff and a few large weed seeds, debris from the final stages of crop-cleaning (including de-husking) and food preparation, taking place within the roundhouse. The



other sample from another storage pit (G5217, L5054) produced just a few grains and a possible *Bromus* seed (Table 16).

**SL5013: Domestic Focus**

Four samples from two pits and two ditches (north-west of SL5011) produced charred plant remains; three of these assemblages from two roundhouse ditches (L5060, L5063) and a stone-lined pit (L5057) consisted of only traces or small amounts of mainly grain, a few chaff fragments and weed seed. The other sample, however, from a pit (G5238, L5059) within an enclosure produced a fairly good assemblage of grains (43%), hulled (spelt) chaff (32%) and small and large weed seeds (24%) plus two hazelnut shell fragments, debris from the later stages of crop-processing (including de-husking) and food preparation, presumably taking place within the enclosure (Table 17).

Phase	5004													
	Site Land-use	5013				5016		5021						
Land-use area	5057	5059	5060	5063	5067	5074	5087		5088			5089		
Group	5232	5238	5240	5249	5260	5274	5325	5326	5305		5304		5331	
Sub-group	5256	5262	5267	5279	5296	5311	5379	5380	5342		5341		5385	
Feature	P	P	D	D	D	S	T	P	D	D	D	T	T	
Feature number	2367	3196	3105	2994	3262	3057	3317	3281	10042	10008	10014	3300	3296	
Context type	FILL	FILL	FILL	FILL	FILL	FILL	FILL	FILL	FILL	FILL	FILL	FILL	FILL	
Context number	2371	3197	3108	2995	3263	3058	3318	3282	10075	10011	10015	3301	3299	
SAMPLE NUMBER	33	47	44	38	49	42	55	50	56	19	21	52	51	
vol sample (l)	20	20	8	20	9	10	16	16	20	20	20	20	17	
vol flot (ml)	34	50	<1	<1	<1	1	140	<1	2	3	<1	1	2	
%sorted/scanned														
LATIN_NAME	ENGLISH													
Cereal grains														
<i>T. cf. spelta</i>	?spelt wheat				1									
<i>T. dicoccum/spelta</i>	emmer/spelt wheat	1	1			3			1					
<i>T. cf. dicoccum/spelta</i>	?emmer/spelt wheat											1		
<i>T. aestivum</i> type	free-threshing wheat				1									
<i>T. cf. aestivum</i> type	?free-threshing wheat									1				
<i>Triticum</i> sp(p).	wheat		2		3	1	1		1	2		1	1	
cf. <i>Triticum</i> sp(p).	?wheat		3				1		2	3		3	1	
<i>Hordeum vulgare</i> L.	barley, hulled twisted				1							1		
<i>H. vulgare</i> L.	barley, hulled straight													
<i>H. vulgare</i> L.	barley, hulled indet.					1	3							
<i>H. vulgare</i> L.	barley, indet.				1	2	3	1	1	1				
cf. <i>H. vulgare</i>	?barley		2		1	1	2	1		1		1		
Cerealia	indet. cereal (estimate)	5	27		7	8	28	8		10	12	1	11	4
Cerealia	indet cereal fragments <2mm	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	++	++	+	+	+
Cereal chaff														
<i>Triticum spelta</i> L.	spelt spikelet forks											1		



<i>T. spelta</i> L.	spelt glume bases		6										6	1
<i>Triticum</i> sp(p).	wheat glume bases	1	18				3		4	1			35	
<i>Triticum</i> sp(p).	wheat spikelet forks/bases								3				4	
<i>Triticum</i> sp(p).	wheat rachis fragments		2										4	
<b>Other plant/weed seeds</b>														
<i>Ranunculus</i> sp.	buttercups						1							
<i>Urtica dioica</i> L.	common nettle						5							
<i>U. urens</i> L.	small nettle						1							
<i>Corylus avellana</i> L.	hazel nut shell fragments		2											2
<i>Atriplex</i> spp.	orache		2				3							
<i>Chenopodium</i> spp.	goosefoots etc.		2											
<i>Rumex</i> sp(p).	dock		2				1							1
<i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> sp(p).	vetch/tare/vetchling (seeds<2mm)						12							
<i>Medicago/Trifolium</i> sp(p).	medicks/clovers (seeds<1mm)		1		1		3							
Fabaceae indet.	pea family (small round cotyledons)	1	2											1
<i>Lithospermum arvense</i> L.	field gromwell													
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i> L.	ribwort plantain						1							
<i>Euphrasia/Odontites</i> sp(p).	eyebrights/bartsias						21							2
<i>Sherardia arvensis</i> L.	field madder						1							
cf. <i>Lapsana communis</i>	?nipplewort		1											
<i>Tripleurospermum inodorum</i> (L.) Sch. Bip.	scentless mayweed						18							
Asteraceae indet			1				13							3
<i>Eleocharis palustris/uniglumis</i>	spike-rush													1
<i>Bromus</i> sp(p).	brome		1		1	2	1	2		1	1			
cf. <i>Bromus</i> sp(p).	?brome		2		1				3	1				
Poaceae indet.	grasses (large seeds)	2	4			4	1	1		1	1		2	
Poaceae indet.	grasses (small seeds)						4							1
indeterminate	charcoal	++++	++++	++	+++	++++	+++	++++	+++	++++	+++	++	++++	++++
indeterminate	indet items						+	+						
<b>total nos of items</b>		<b>10</b>	<b>81</b>		<b>17</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>18</b>
	<b>item density (per litre of processed soil)</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>4.1</b>		<b>0.9</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>1.1</b>

key: item frequency: + =1-5 items; ++ =6-25 items; +++ = 26-100; ++++ = 101-300; +++++=>300 items  
 m=mineralised  
 A=postpipe;  
 D=ditch;  
 H=hearth;  
 P=pit;  
 R=rubbish pit;  
 S=posthole;  
 T=storage pit;  
 W=waterpit

**Table 17: Charred Plant Remains from SL5013, 5016 and 5021**



#### *SL5016: Domestic Focus*

A sample from an enclosure ditch (G5260, L5067) (east of SL5013) contained a small amount of charred plant remains while another from a post-hole fill (G5274, L5074) associated with a four post structure within a roundhouse, produced a greater although still modest charred plant assemblage. The composition of the two, however, was very similar, consisting of mainly grains and only a small number of large weed seeds with no chaff, indicative of cleaned cereals accidentally burnt during food preparation.

#### *SL5021: Curvilinear Ditch with stone revetment and associated features*

Seven samples from four pit fills and three fills of the curvilinear ditch produced charred plant remains (Table 17). One of the three fills (G5034) of the curvilinear ditch (L5088) contained only traces of grain although the other two (G5305) produced modest numbers of grain and a few chaff fragments and large weed seeds. A pit (G5326, L5087) adjacent to the ditch only contained traces of grain while a storage pit (G5331, L5089) produced a small assemblage of grains, small weed seeds, two hazelnut shell fragments and a spelt glume base. A more substantial although still fairly modest charred assemblage was recovered from another storage pit (G5385, L5089) close-by, most (71%) of these remains consisting of chaff from the de-husking of spelt wheat with grains making up the rest except for two large wild grass seeds.

#### Storage Pit (3317) fill [3318] sample <55> (G 5325, L5087)

The richest assemblage from this area, albeit with only just over 100 quantified items (density of 6.4) was from a storage pit (G 5325), located near the eastern terminus of the curvilinear ditch. This assemblage contained only a small number of grains (13%) including barley and just a few hulled wheat glume bases (3%) with most (84%) of the remains being weed seeds mostly small ones and from a fairly wide range of species, the most frequent being *Tripleurospermum inodorum*, *Euphrasia/Odontites* and small leguminous weeds including *Vicia/Lathyrus*; the small weed seeds represent a sieved by-product from a late stage of grain cleaning.

The charred plant remains from the curvilinear ditch and surrounding pits cannot shed any light on the use of this feature other than that small-scale activities associated with the later stages of crop-processing and food preparation including chaff from de-husking, small weed seeds from sieving and clean grain from drying before milling or storage, were being carried out close-by.

### **4.7.3 Analytical potential**

The composition of the charred plant assemblages shows that grains, which appear in virtually all the samples, were the dominant component (69%). Hulled wheat chaff made up 12% of the quantified remains and was present in twenty samples. Wild plant/weed seeds made up 19% of the quantified remains and were present in 35 of 41 samples.

Collectively the charred plant remains from the samples may provide basic information on the range of cereals cultivated over these periods, initial results





suggest spelt wheat and hulled barley were the main cereals being grown and used during middle Iron Age at Radstone Fields, with both being equally well represented. Free-threshing wheat may have been grown on a limited scale. Similar results are found on other Iron Age settlements in southern England including contemporary Iron Age sites to the north-east of Brackley (Carruthers 2007).

More detailed investigations into other aspects of crop husbandry, such as the range of soils used for cultivation, sowing times and harvesting methods and potential changes over time, may be carried out on the basis of the weed seed assemblages. The charred plant remains may also be used to provide further information on crop-processing activities on the site.

#### **4.8 Human bone**

Two possible cremation burials were identified. All were assigned to the early –middle Iron Age. They were low in weight with only 104g recovered from post-hole with possible cremated human bone G5030 and 19g from urned cremation G5335.

Whilst the remains are worthy of some further analysis, especially to confirm that they represent human individuals, they offer little potential to answer local or regional research aims beyond acknowledgment of their presence, which is relatively unusual on Iron Age sites, and consideration of their position within the settlement. The limited nature of the remains means that they are likely to be relatively uninformative in anthropological terms



## 5. RESEARCH OBJECTIVES FOR ANALYSIS

---

### 5.1 Introduction

The assessment in Section 4 indicates that the results of the fieldwork can contribute to the following research themes. These are based on objectives taken from the local and regional research frameworks (Knight *et al* 2012) and refines and builds upon the original objectives listed in Section 2.5.

### 5.2 Research Theme 1: The Chronology of Settlement

The settlement appears to have been established in the middle Iron Age and have been abandoned by the late 1st century BC with little evidence for earlier or later activity. Further research may refine our understanding of the establishment and abandonment of the settlement as well as exploring the possible reasons behind these.

The assessment has shown the difficulty in establishing a detailed chronological framework for the development of the settlement. Because of a lack of resolution in the dating evidence coupled with the paucity of physical and stratigraphic relationships, there is very little detailed chronology available. Therefore whilst a discussion as to what extent the settlement represents a single broadly contemporary entity as opposed to a much smaller level of activity shifting location over time will form a major element of research, detailed description of the chronology of individual elements may not be possible.

### 5.3 Research Theme 2: Layout and Character of the Settlement

The settlement can be described as ‘open’ because no outer boundary was present within the excavation area.

It was characterised by roundhouses, enclosures, post-built structures and an abundance of pits. Whilst this initially may appear to be formed by a continuous ‘swathe’ of activity there are hints of more coherent smaller ‘units’ of activity as well as the preference for certain types of features (*e.g.* granaries) in certain areas. There also appears to be some organisation of the settlement around a central roundhouse enclosure.

One of the fundamental themes to explore, therefore, is the layout and character of the settlement and more specifically to what extent there was organisation at both the level of smaller ‘units’ and at the broader settlement level. Further analysis of the artefactual and ecofactual assemblages may be able to shed light as to any differences between coherent ‘units’ of activity and what they may therefore represent.

In addition to this, the abundance of certain settlement elements (such as roundhouses, roundhouse enclosures, post-built structures and pits) presents a fairly large dataset with which to conduct a more detailed analysis of these feature types, exploring such themes as form, function and construction



techniques. In addition, the stone-lined pits, stone-revetted ditch and stone-surfaces are unusual features and will require detailed analysis and research.

For decades Iron Age settlements have been known to either have no or only a small number of human burials (Wait 1985, 98–100). Only one possible burial was found within the settlement. However, disarticulated fragments of human bones were found in non-funerary features and more may be identified when the animal bone is fully quantified. Their presence will be compared with indicators of excarnation on other Iron Age sites. The occurrence of dog burials on other Iron Age sites will also be examined. Very few ‘structured’ deposits have been identified during fieldwork. The deposition of ceramic vessels, partial/complete animal and human remains in the terminals of ditches and storage pits, is well documented on Iron Age settlement sites (Hill 1995). It is possible that when all the data-sets are fully quantified that more ‘structured’ deposits will be identified, but at the moment their absence is unusual and worthy of further research.

#### **5.4 Research Theme 3: The Economic Basis of the Settlement**

Closely linked to the character of the settlement is the economic basis of the settlement. Although faunal and ecofactual data points towards a mixed economy, the abundance of storage pits and post-built granaries may suggest greater emphasis on agriculture and perhaps even the production of a surplus. The other artefacts assemblage gives evidence for craft activities at a household level as well as an unusually large number of agricultural implements.

Comparisons with contemporary settlements elsewhere may allow a more detailed discussion of the economic basis of the settlements in comparison to other sites in the region. This may be combined with further study of the surrounding landscape to allow a better understanding of the factors that contribute to economic variation. Further analysis of faunal, ecofactual and other artefact assemblage and in particular their comparison with comparable sites in the region will greatly aid in this process.

#### **5.5 Research Theme 4: Local and Regional Settlement Patterns**

Comparison of the character, economic basis and setting of this settlement with other local and regional examples may allow a greater understanding of settlement patterns. The recent excavations at Northampton Road (Albion 2016a) and Foxhills/Sawmills (MOLA in prep) both within 1km of Radstone Fields may allow a greater understanding of local interaction and economics. The presence of the two contemporary and nearby settlements at Radstone Fields and Northampton Road, excavated by the same unit, to the same methodology and to be analysed concurrently offers an excellent opportunity to understand them within their local context.

At a broader level situating Radstone Fields within spatial and temporal trends of the region may allow a greater insight into the nature of the settlement as well as contributing to the picture of the region as a whole. Of particular interest may be understanding differences between open settlements such as



Radstone Fields and the well documented ‘aggregated’ settlements of Northamptonshire such as those of the Crick-Kilnsby community (Masefield *et al* 2016).

### **5.6 Research Theme 5: Environment**

Human interaction with landscape and environment is central to archaeological study. The impact of agricultural developments during the Iron Age on the environment is one of the key avenues for further study.

Further analysis of the charred plant remains will provide some, albeit limited, data regarding local environmental conditions which can be added to the available data from other Iron Age assemblages in the area.



## **6. UPDATED PROJECT DESIGN**

---

### **6.1 Introduction**

Overall, the Iron Age data sets from Radstone Fields have good potential to contribute to a number of local and regional research objectives. On this basis analysis, publication and archiving of the results is recommended.

It is intended, as agreed on-site between the consultant, CAO and Albion, that a joint publication with the excavations at Northampton Road would offer the most meaningful output of the results from both investigations. This is because both sites revealed Iron Age settlements and were only 1km apart. The fact that both have been excavated by the same organisation (Albion), using the same methods and can be analysed concurrently allows an excellent opportunity to examine them together and provide a more coherent understanding of Iron Age settlement in this part of Northamptonshire. This will certainly provide a more meaningful publication than if they were published individually.

The following sections present an updated project design, outlining the nature of the analysis, publication and archiving. They also provide a task list, key stages, a timetable and details of the project team who will undertake the work.

### **6.2 Analysis**

#### **6.2.1 Contextual**

The underlying framework for the analysis and publication of the results of the excavation will be the contextual hierarchy. A provisional version of this has been described in this report. It will be rigorously checked when quantification of the pottery has been completed. It may require some refinement based on the results of artefact and ecofact analysis. Completion of the contextual analysis is one of the key stages of this project.

The digitised plan data will be interrogated via the site database to produce mock-up publication illustrations. Plans will be produced to show all features in each Phase, with individual Site Land-use areas, Land-use areas and Groups identifiable as appropriate.

#### **6.2.2 Artefact and ecofact analysis**

The same specialists who worked on the assessment will also be used for the analysis. The assemblages will be fully quantified in line with national standards and entered in the site database.

The specialist reports will present the results and include a discussion with reference to the spatial framework of the study area and comparable data from similar sites. Pottery and other artefacts will be selected during the quantification/identification process for publication-standard illustration.



Completion of the artefact and ecofact analysis is one of the key stages of this project.

## **6.3 Publication**

### **6.3.1 Monograph**

#### **6.3.1.1 Overview**

This project will be published in the Albion monograph series. However, all publication work will be undertaken to the standards and formats used in the East Anglian Archaeology monograph series.

A likely publication layout will be as follows:

#### **Chapter 1: Introduction**

Summary  
Introduction  
Project background  
Location, topography and geology  
Archaeological background  
The archaeological investigations  
Layout of report

#### **Chapter 2: Site narrative**

Radstone Fields  
Northampton Road

#### **Chapter 3: Specialists reports**

Artefacts  
Ecofacts

#### **Chapter 4: Discussion**

The project's contribution to the research themes will be discussed with reference to comparative local and regional sites.

#### **Bibliography**

#### **6.3.1.2 Introduction and Site Narrative**

The Introduction will provide sufficient information to put the results into context but will not be as detailed as this assessment report. The contextual hierarchy will provide the chronological/spatial structure for the site narrative. In addition, it will be organised by Site Land-use area, as well as where relevant, Land-use area and Group. Artefactual and ecofactual information will be integrated into the text as appropriate. The level of detail presented will be commensurate to the significance of the results, e.g. inhumations, stone-lined pits, stone-surfaces will be described in detail whereas features of uncertain function containing few finds will not.



### **6.3.1.3 Specialist reports**

All the specialist reports will be read and edited to ensure a consistency in approach. Specialist reports will be published in full, either as part of the text or as an appendix in digital or text format. They will be presented within chapters for artefacts and ecofacts.

### **6.3.1.4 Discussion**

This synthetic text will discuss the key elements of the site and compare them with those from other excavations in the vicinity and further afield, as appropriate.

### **6.3.1.5 Illustrations**

Illustrations will be produced for the introductory, site narrative and synthetic chapters. The selected artefact illustrations will be checked and scanned, and a digital paste-up of the final figures completed.

## **6.3.2 Publication draft and refereeing process**

The production of a draft publication is a key stage in the project. Albion has a policy of circulating the first draft of publications to the archaeological consultant, client and any other relevant stakeholders. Comments received will be used to amend the publication.

## **6.3.3 Publication production and printing**

The publication will go through the ‘standard’ stages of publication, e.g. copy-editing, page layout, proof-reading and printing.

## **6.4 Archiving**

The site archive currently comprises the elements listed in Table 15. It will increase in size once the contextual analysis and specialist reports have been completed (these will form the full archive report).

The site archive is currently held at offices and stores of Albion Archaeology in Bedfordshire. On publication the project archive will be deposited in the Northamptonshire County Stores. Transfer of title for the deposit of all artefacts has been granted by the landowners.

Full analysis of the human cremated bone material will give a directive as to its future research potential and as to whether the remains will be retained within the archive or reburied.

The intellectual property rights for all text and graphics/illustrations are retained by Albion Archaeology and individual authors. Archiving will be undertaken in line with MoRPHE (English Heritage 2006) and other relevant national standards, including the Archaeology Data Service’s (ADS) Guide to Good Practice for digital archiving (ADS 2013).



<b>Component</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Format</b>
Management records	2	A4 folders
Contexts records	9	A4 folders
Site drawing sheets	61	Permatrace sheets
Films	47	Various
Pottery	11	Cardboard boxes
Fired clay	1	Plastic box
Other artefacts	3	Plastic boxes
Human bone	1	Cardboard box
Animal bone	25	Cardboard boxes
Shell	1	Cardboard box
Ecofactual records	1	A4 folders
Ecofactual flots and residues	2	Cardboard boxes
Database	1	Digital
CAD drawings	1	Digital

**Table 18: Site archive**

## **6.5 Post-excavation work programme and task list**

### **6.5.1 Overview**

Following the approval of the assessment and updated project design by the client and HET, Albion would like to proceed rapidly with the analysis and publication of the results. This would minimise any loss of project momentum. Detailed professional standards and guidelines to be adhered to are provided in Appendix 1.

### **6.5.2 Key stages and project review**

Seven key stages can be identified within the analysis, publication and archiving programme (Table 19). Completion of these principal stages of the project will each provide a natural review point as recommended by MoRPHE (English Heritage 2006).





Tasks to be undertaken within each key stage and a timeframe for each stage are listed in Table 19: below.

<b>Task Description</b>	<b>Name*</b>	<b>Time estimate</b>
Contextual analysis	IL	
<b>Keystage 1: completion of contextual hierarchy</b>		6 months
Pottery quantification and recording	JW	
Other artefacts quantification and recording	HBD	
Animal bone quantification and recording	MM	
Charred plant remains quantification and recording	JG	
Human bone quantification and recording	CD	
<b>Keystage 2: completion of quantification</b>		6 months
Introduction and site narrative text	IL	
Structural illustration	JL/IL	
<b>Keystage 3: completion of first two chapters</b>		3 months
Pottery publication text including type series	JW	
Other artefacts publication text including catalogue	HBD	
Artefact illustrations	MT	
Animal bone publication text	MM	
Charred plant remains publication text	JG	
Human bone publication text	CD	
<b>Keystage 4: completion of specialist chapters</b>		6 months
Synthesis text	IL	
Synthesis illustration	JL/IL	
Editing of entire monograph	ML	
<b>Keystage 5: 1st draft of publication</b>		3 months
Albion's refereeing process	ML	**
Addressing comments received	ML	
<b>Keystage 6: Submission of final draft for publication production</b>		
Archive preparation (contextual)	IL	
Archive preparation (artefacts/ecofacts)	HP/JW	
Archive preparation and liaison with Museum	HP	
Archive microfiching	External	
Archive transfer	HP	
<b>Keystage 7: end of project</b>		

**Table 19: Key stages and task list**

\* For initials below

\*\* The timescale beyond this point is dependant on receipt of feedback from third parties and is therefore beyond the control of Albion Archaeology

## 6.6 Project team

The project will be run by Albion Archaeology whose staff form the majority of the core project team (Table 20). MoRPHE stresses the possibilities for personal and professional development (English Heritage 2006, 16 and 26) and every opportunity will be taken to facilitate CPD for team members, giving them the opportunity to expand their experience of post-excavation analysis within the scope of this project.



<b>Task</b>	<b>Name, organisation / title</b>	<b>Initials</b>
Project executive and joint author	Mike Luke (Albion Project Manager)	ML
Contextual analysis and joint author	Iain Leslie (Albion Project Officer)	IL
Ceramics	Jackie Wells (Albion Finds Officer)	JW
Other artefacts	Holly Duncan (Albion Finds Manager)	HBD
Animal bone	Mark Maltby (Bournemouth University)	MM
Plant remains	John Giorgi (Independent specialist)	JG
Human remains	Corinne Duhig (Cambridge University)	CD
Structural illustration	Joan Lightning (Albion CAD technician)	JL
Finds illustrations	Mike Trevarthern (Freelance)	MT
Worked stone	Jill Eyres (Chiltern Archaeology)	JE
Archiving	Helen Parslow (Albion Archives Officer)	AO

**Table 20: Tasks and allocated specialists**

## **6.7 Management**

All project tasks will be tracked on Albion's Time Recording System (TRS) so that expenditure and resources can be monitored throughout the life of the project. The management of the project includes monitoring the task budgets, programming tasks, checking timetables, and liaising with all members of the project team.



## 7. BIBLIOGRAPHY

---

- Archaeological Data Service and Digital Antiquity 2013, *Guides to Good Practice*. Available: <http://guides.archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/g2gp/Main>
- Albion Archaeology, 2001, *Procedures Manual Vol. 1: Fieldwork*. 2nd edition
- Albion Archaeology, 2014, *Land at Radstone Fields, Brackley, Northamptonshire: Detailed Project Design for Archaeological Excavation*. (Report: 2014/10)
- Albion Archaeology 2015, *Preliminary report on archaeological investigations at Radstone Fields, Brackley, Northamptonshire* (Report: 2015/199)
- Albion Archaeology 2016a, *Preliminary report on archaeological investigations at Northampton Road, Brackley, Northamptonshire* (Report: 2016/66)
- Albion Archaeology 2016b, *The Radstone Fields 'wotsit': a stone revetted ditch* (Report 2016-52)
- Albion Archaeology, in prep. *Excavations at Northampton Road*
- Cappers R. T. J, Bekker R. M. and Jans J. E. A. 2006, *Digitale Zadenatlas Van Nederland. Digital Seed Atlas of the Netherlands*
- Carruthers W. 2007, Charred Plant Remains, in A Mudd (ed) *Iron Age and Roman settlement on the Northamptonshire uplands. Archaeological work on the A43 Towcester to M40 Road Improvement scheme in Northamptonshire and Oxfordshire*, Northamptonshire Archaeology Monograph 1, 147-159
- Champion T.C., Haselgrove C., Armit I., Creighton J. and Gwilt A., *Understanding the British Iron Age: an agenda for action*
- CgMs (2013), *Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Excavation: Land at Radstone Fields, Brackley, Northamptonshire*
- Cooper N. 1999 *East Midlands Archaeological Research Frameworks; Resource assessment and Research Agenda*. (Unpublished University of Leicester Archaeological Services project design)
- Cooper N. (ed) 2006, *The archaeology of the East Midlands An Archaeological Resource Assessment and Research Agenda*, Leicester Archaeology Monograph 13
- Cunliffe B. and Poole C. 1991, *Danebury An Iron Age Hillfort in Hampshire vols 4 & 5 The excavations 1979-1988* Council for British Archaeology
- Deegan A. and Ford G. 2007, *Mapping Ancient Landscapes in Northamptonshire*. English Heritage



- DCLG 2012, *National Planning Policy Framework*, (London: Department for Communities and Local Government)
- Driesch A. von den 1976, *A Guide to the Measurement of Animal Bones from Archaeological Sites*. Harvard, Peabody Museum Monograph 1
- English Heritage 2003, *Ripping up History. Archaeology under the Plough*
- English Heritage 2006, *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers Guide*
- English Heritage 2008, *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment. PPN 3: Archaeological Excavation*
- English Heritage 2013, National Heritage Protection Plan Framework. Available: <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/nhpp-plan-framework/>
- Eyers J. 2015, *Radstone Fields stone report* (Unpublished report for Albion Archaeology)
- GSB Prospection Ltd 2007, *The Robson Land, Radstone Fields, Northamptonshire Geophysical survey* (Unpublished client report G2007/37)
- Hattatt R. 1985, *Iron Age and Roman Brooches*
- Hill J. D. 1995, *Ritual and Rubbish in the Iron Age of Wessex*, BAR British Series 242, *Tempvs Reparatvm*
- Hill J.D. and Crummy N. 2005, 'Late Iron Age shears from Hertfordshire' in *Lucerna Roman Finds Group Newsletter* 30, 2-4
- Historic England 2015, *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide*
- Hull M.R. and Hawkes C.F.C. 1987, *A Corpus of ancient brooches in Britain: Pre-Roman bow brooches (PBB)*. British Archaeological Reports 168, Oxford, B.A.R.
- Jacomet S. 2006, *Identification of cereal remains from archaeological sites* 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. Archaeobotany Lab IPAS
- Johns C. 1996, *The Jewellery of Roman Britain*
- Knight, D., 1984 *Late Bronze Age and Iron Age Settlement in the Nene and Great Ouse Basins*, Brit. Archaeol. Rep. Brit. Ser. 130



- Knight D., Vyner B., and Allen C. 2012, *East Midlands Heritage: An Updated Research Agenda and Strategy for the Historic Environment of the East Midlands*, Nottingham Archaeological Monographs 6. Available: <http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/researchframeworks/eastmidlands/wiki/Main>
- Manning W.H. 1985, *Catalogue of the Romano-British Iron Tools, Fittings and Weapons in the British Museum*
- MoLa in prep. *Archaeological investigations at Foxhill/Sawmills, Brackley, Northamptonshire*
- NCC 2012, *Brief for a programme of archaeological excavation, recording, analysis and publication of land at Radstone Fields, Brackley, Northamptonshire*
- Oxford Archaeology 2002, *Management of Archaeological Sites in Arable Landscapes BD1701* (Unpublished report)
- Oxford Archaeology 2010, *Land to the North of Brackley, Northamptonshire, Archaeological Evaluation Report* (Unpublished client report 4592)
- PCRG / SGRP / MPRG, 2016, *A Standard for Pottery Studies in Archaeology*, Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group / Study Group for Roman Pottery / Medieval Pottery Research Group
- South Midlands Archaeology 2015, *Radstone Fields*, 32-34
- Tingle M. 2004, The Archaeology of Northamptonshire, *Northamptonshire Archaeology* 35, 95-137
- Wait, G.A., 1985 *Ritual and Religion in Iron Age Britain*, Brit. Archaeol. Rep. Ser. 149
- Watkins, T., 1980b 'Excavation of an Iron Age open settlement at Dalladies, Kincardineshire', *Proc. Soc. Antiq. Scot.* 110, 122-164
- Wheeler R.E.M. 1943, *Maiden Castle*, Report of the Research Committee Society of Antiquaries London 12
- Willis, S. 2012 in Knight D, Vyner B, and Allen C 2012, *East Midlands Heritage: An Updated Research Agenda and Strategy for the Historic Environment of the East Midlands*, Nottingham Archaeological Monographs 6. Available: <http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/researchframeworks/eastmidlands/wiki/Eastmid5>
- Willis, S. 2006 'The Later Bronze Age and Iron Age', in Cooper N. (ed) 2006, *The archaeology of the East Midlands An Archaeological Resource Assessment and Research Agenda*, Leicester Archaeology Monograph 13, 89-136



## 8. APPENDIX 1: PROVISIONAL STRUCTURAL PHASING

The following table comprises the provision structural phasing, with reference to Phase (P), Site Land-use (SL) and Land-use area (L):

Phase	Site Land-use	Land-use Area	Land-use area description
5001	-	5093	Natural stratum
5004	5001	5001	Activity focus at SW limit of settlement
		5002	Roundhouse, NW of L5001
		5003	Activity focus to the SW of roundhouse L5004
	5002	5008	Activity focus to NE of SL5002
		5009	Activity focus N of SL5002
		5004	Roundhouse, NE of L5003
		5005	Sub square enclosure / roundhouse, N of L5004
		5006	Roundhouse, NE of L5005
		5007	Non-domestic? enclosure, incorporates L5006 and L5004
		5004	5010
	5011	Roundhouse, NE of SL5002	
	5012	Activity focus NE of SL5003	
	5013	Possible roundhouse, heavily truncated, NE of L5012	
	5014	Large post built structure/s or enclosure, NE of L5011	
	5015	Possible roundhouse, heavily truncated, occupying same area as L5014	
	5016	Roundhouse, NW of L5014	
	5017	Activity focus near roundhouses L5015. L5016 and L5020	
	5018	Activity focus comprised of post built structures to the NE of L5014	
	5019	Roundhouse, NE of L5018	
	5020	Roundhouse, NW of L5017	
	5021	Possible roundhouse, heavily truncated, cuts L5020	
	5022	Roundhouse, N of L5021	
	5086	Activity focus, NW of L5025	
	5005	5023	Roundhouse, NE of SL 5004
		5024	Activity in the vicinity of roundhouse L5023
		5025	Roundhouse, NW of roundhouse L5023
	5006	5026	Roundhouse, E of SL5004
		5027	Activity focus to the SW of L5026
		5028	Activity focus, E of L5026
		5029	Domestic enclosure, to the NE of roundhouse L5026
		5030	Non-domestic enclosure, SE of roundhouse L5026
		5031	Roundhouse, within enclosure L5029
	5007	5032	Non-domestic enclosure, truncates enclosure L5029
	5008	5033	Roundhouse, truncated by enclosure L5029
		5034	Activity focus to the NE of roundhouse L5033
		5035	Roundhouse, N of roundhouse L5033
		5036	Line of 4 post structures, W of L5035
		5009	5037
	5038	Activity focus, N of L5037	
	5039	Activity focus, SE of L5038	
	5040	Non-domestic enclosure, SE of L5039	
5041	Roundhouse, NE of L5037		



Phase	Site	Land-use	Land-use Area	Land-use area description
			5042	Roundhouse, NE of L5041
			5043	Enclosure, SE of L5042
			5096	Non-domestic enclosure at SE limit of DA
			5097	Enclosure or boundary, SE of L5096
			5098	Possible heavily truncated roundhouse
	5010		5044	Roundhouse, NW of SL5008
			5045	Roundhouse, NE of L5044
			5046	Roundhouse, NE of L5045
			5047	Roundhouse, NW of L5046
			5048	Roundhouse, SW of L5047
			5049	Isolated features in vicinity of roundhouse L5045
	5011		5050	Enclosure containing substantial stone surface overlying L5045
			5051	Activity focus, surrounding enclosure L5050
	5012		5052	Non-domestic enclosure, post-dates roundhouse L5044
			5053	Roundhouse, NW of L5052
			5054	Activity focus, W of L5053
			5055	Activity focus, N of L5053
			5056	Enclosures / roundhouses, heavily truncated, NW of L5053
	5013		5057	Activity focus, NE of SL5012
			5058	Non-domestic? enclosure, N of L5057
			5059	Non-domestic? enclosure, NW of L5058
			5060	Roundhouse, NE of L5059
			5061	Activity focus, located between L5060, L5059 and L5058
			5062	Non-domestic enclosure, NE of L5060
			5063	Roundhouse, E of L5060
			5064	Activity focus, S of L5063
	5016		5065	Roundhouse, E of L5046
			5066	Roundhouse, N of L5065
			5067	Enclosure, N of L5066
			5068	Curvilinear ditch, E of L5067
			5069	Roundhouse / enclosure, E of L5065
			5070	Activity focus, S of L5069
			5071	Activity focus, NE of L5069
			5072	Non-domestic enclosure, NE of L5042
			5073	Activity focus, S of L5072
			5074	Enclosure and roundhouse, NE of L5072
			5075	Activity focus, S of L5076
			5076	Possible roundhouse, heavily truncated, W of L5074
			5077	Possible roundhouse, heavily truncated, cuts L5076
			5078	Possible roundhouse, heavily truncated, NE of L5077
			5079	Non-domestic enclosure, NW of L5078
			5080	Activity focus, N and E of L5079
			5081	Activity focus, E of SL5016
			5095	Roundhouse at eastern limit of DA
	5017		5082	Activity focus, W of main settlement activity
	5018		5083	Enclosure, similar to L5007?
	5021		5087	Activity adjacent to curvilinear ditch with revetment
			5088	Curvilinear ditch with stone revetment
			5089	Activity to the NE of curvilinear ditch with stone revetment L5088
			5090	Small semicircular enclosure, facing curvilinear ditch with stone revetment L5088



---

<b>Phase</b>	<b>Site</b>	<b>Land-use</b>	<b>Land-use area description</b>
	<b>use</b>	<b>Area</b>	
5005	5022	5084	Furrows
5006	5019	5085	Post-med field system
5007		5092	Overburden
5007		5094	Modern features
5020		5091	Tree throws and rooting

---





## 9. APPENDIX 2: PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES

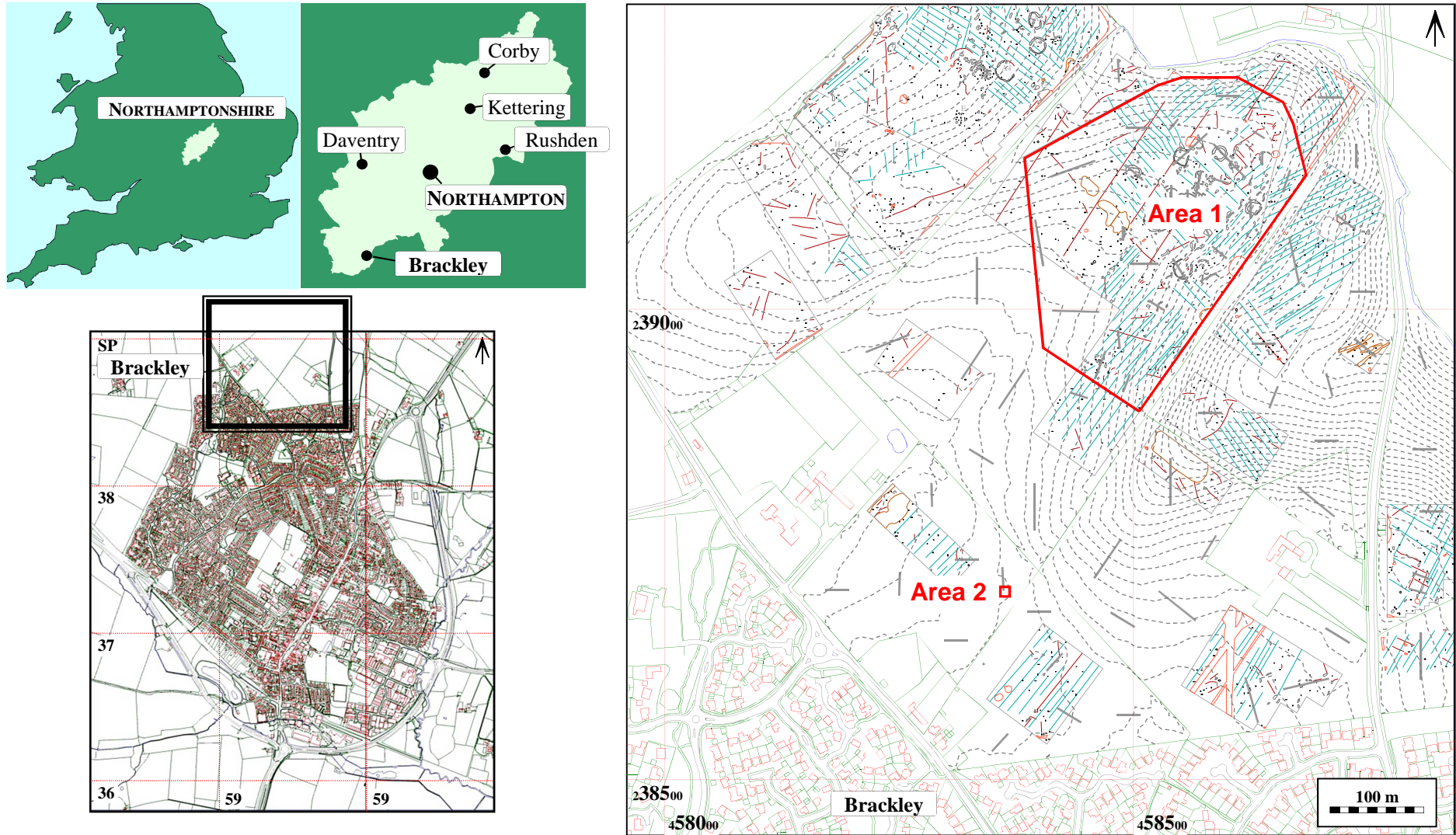
---

The project will be undertaken using Historic England's guidelines on *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE) (Historic England 2015) and the complementary, *Project Planning Note 3* (English Heritage 2008) regarding archaeological excavation.

Throughout the project, the following standards and guidance will also be adhered to:

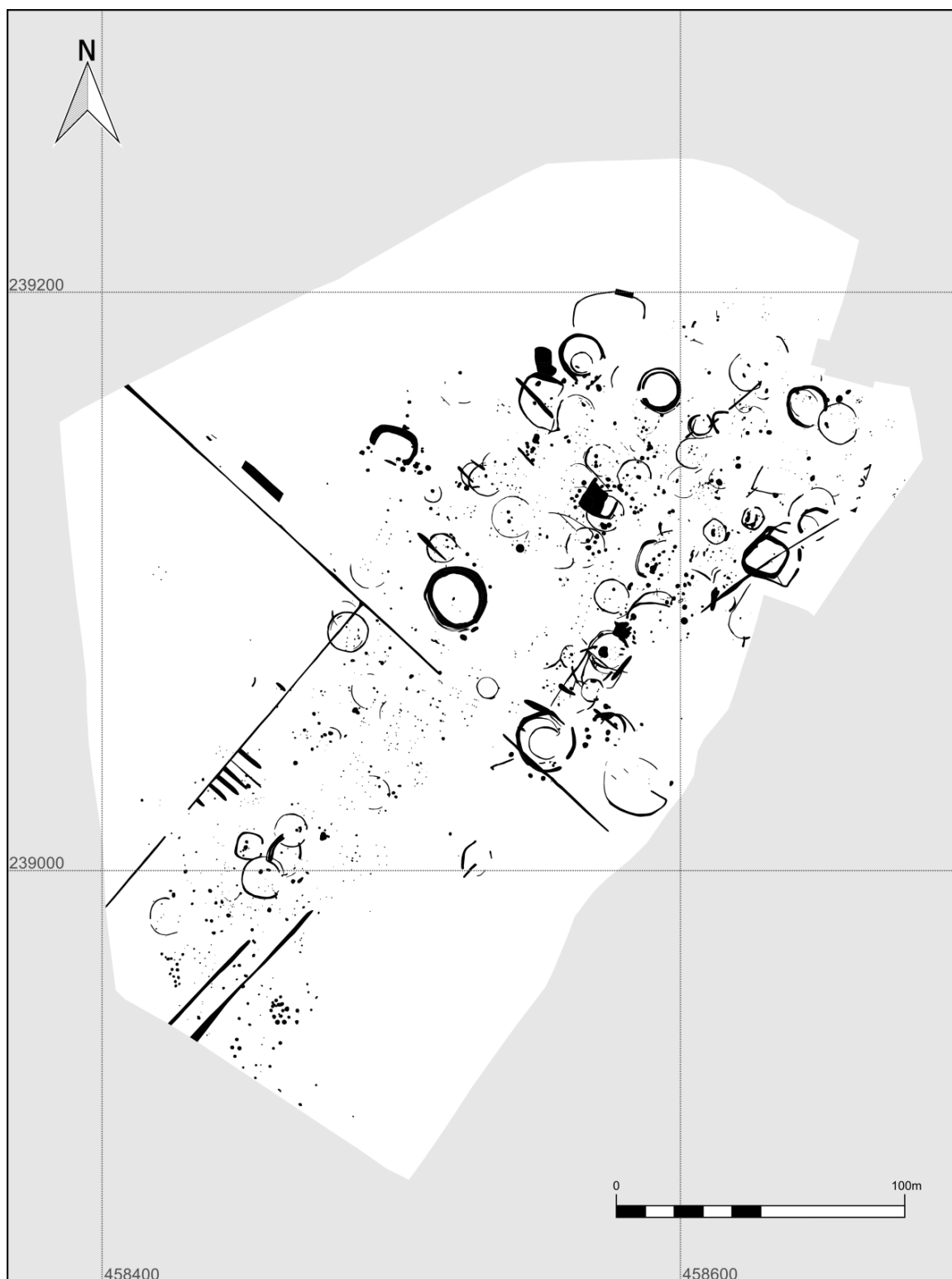
- *Environmental Archaeology. A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation* (English Heritage 2011)
- Archaeology Data Service guidelines regarding the archiving of digital data from archaeological projects (available online at <http://guides.archaeologydataservice.ac.uk>)
- *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper, 14), by D Gurney (2003).
- Society of Museum Archaeologists (SMA) – *Archaeological Archives - a Guide to Best Practice in Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Curation* (Brown 2007) and *Preparation of Archaeological Archives: Selection, Retention and Dispersal of Archaeological Collections* (SMA 1993).
- Unpublished Bedford Museum guidelines — *Preparing Archaeological Archives for Deposition in Bedfordshire* (Bedford Museum 2010)
- The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' (CIfA) *Codes of Conduct* and standard and guidance documents relevant to the project. These include:
  - *Standard and guidance for archaeological excavation* (2014)
  - *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (2014)

In addition, relevant guidelines published by national or regional societies and specialist interest groups will be consulted, where applicable.

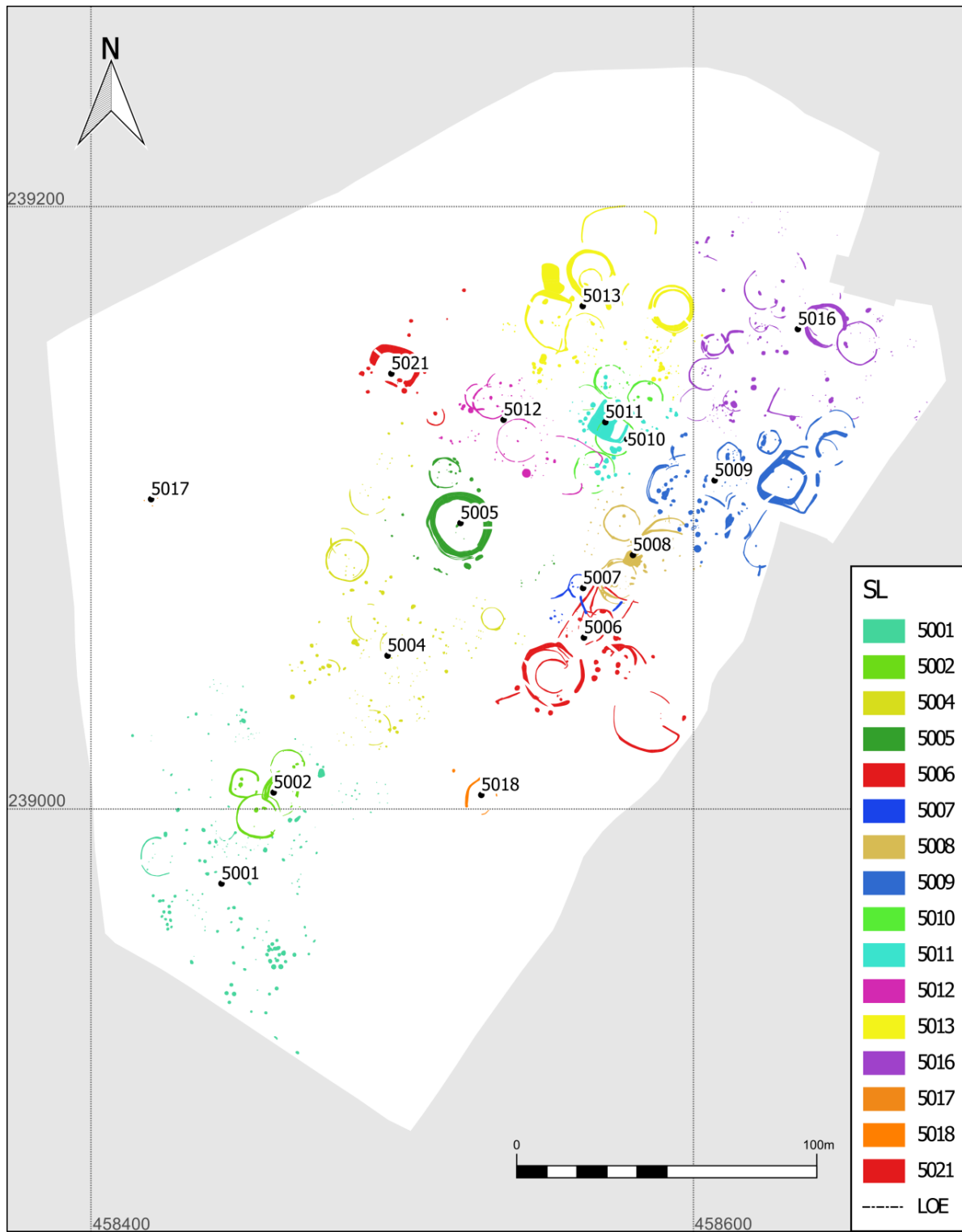


**Figure 1: Site location**

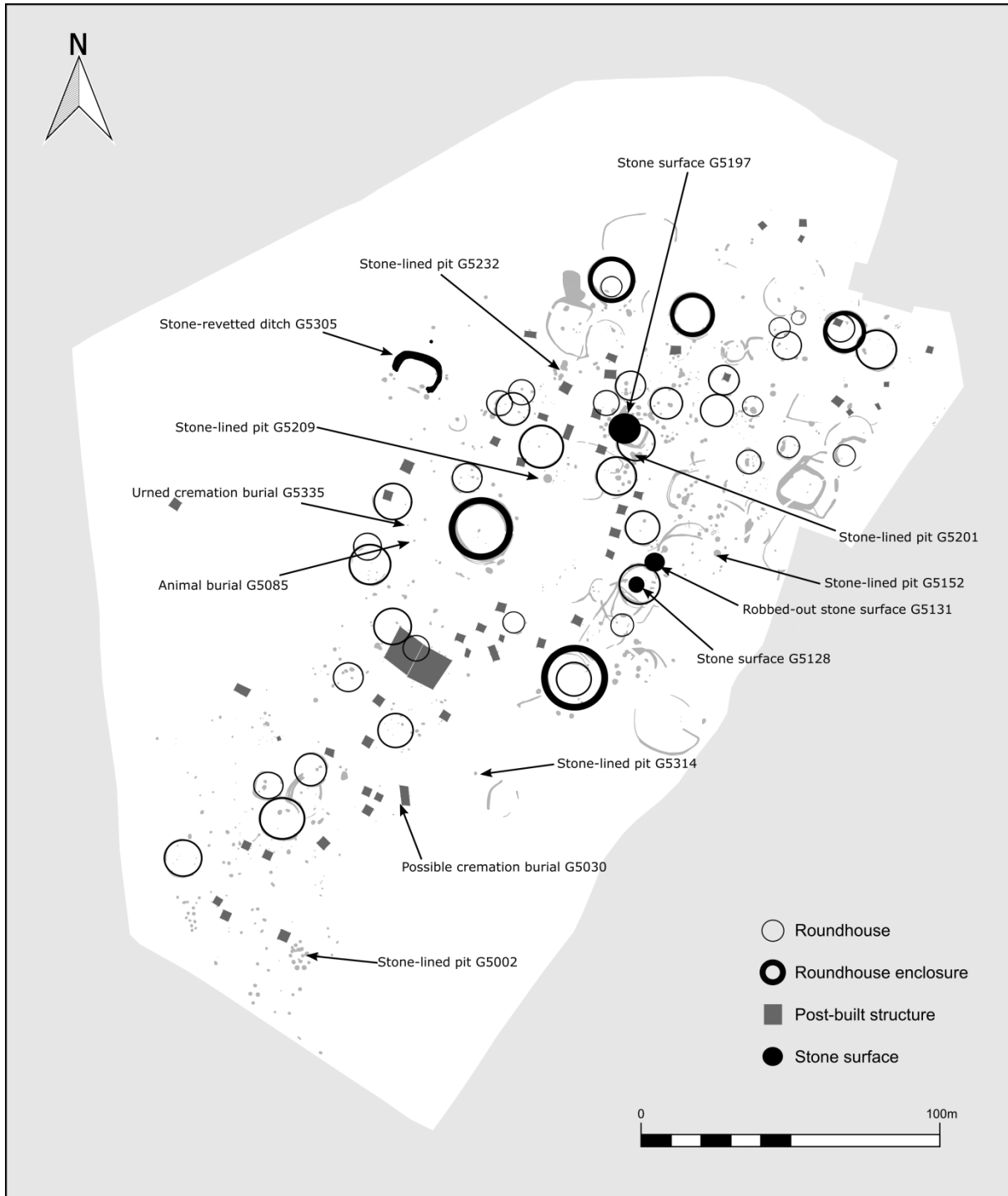
This map is based upon Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Central Bedfordshire Council. Licence No. 100049029 (2011)



**Figure 2:** All-features plan



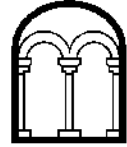
**Figure 3:** Plan of the Iron Age settlement (Phase 5004) with SLs coloured and labelled



**Figure 4:** Plan of the Iron Age settlement with interesting groups labelled

Central  
Bedfordshire

**Albion**  
archaeology



Albion Archaeology  
St Mary's Church,  
St Mary's Street,  
Bedford,  
MK42 0AS

**Telephone** 0300 300 8141  
**Email** [office@albion-arch.com](mailto:office@albion-arch.com)  
[www.albion-arch.com](http://www.albion-arch.com)

