

BEDFORD WESTERN BYPASS

ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL AND UPDATED PROJECT DESIGN

VOLUME 2

Contextual hierarchy technical appendices

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Structure of the report

The Assessment/UPD report is divided into four volumes:

- 1) Introduction, summary, assessment and Updated Project Design
- 2) **Contextual hierarchy technical appendices (this volume)**
- 3) Artefact and ecofact technical appendices
- 4) Areas investigated concurrently with construction works (issued at later date to other volumes)

This volume comprises a summary of the approach to assessing contextual data, and then each section presents the contextual hierarchy for individual investigation area.

The sections for each investigation area are laid out in the same way and comprise:

- Data summary table
- All features plan
- Phase summary table
- Textual description organised by Phase and then land use area with standardised figures

Version history

<i>Version</i>	<i>Issue date</i>	<i>Reason for re-issue</i>
<i>1.0</i>	<i>27/06/08</i>	<i>n/a</i>
<i>1.1</i>	<i>19/01/09</i>	<i>Inclusion of comments from consultant</i>





Summary of the approach to assessing contextual data

The contextual data was rapidly assessed in order to establish whether it would provide a coherent spatial and chronological framework.

A total of **6101** contexts (units of archaeological recording) were identified during the investigations. Approximately 4813 of these have been assigned to broad chronological periods as part of the contextual assessment.

An additional **591** context have significance in terms of feature type or location, but it has not yet been possible to assign them to a chronological period.

The remaining **697** contexts have not been assigned to the phasing hierarchy as part of the contextual assessment.

The decision over whether to assign contexts was made on the basis of the following criteria:

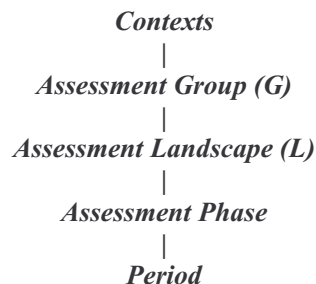
Assessment Group (G) – a collection of contexts which are contemporary and share a function (e.g. ditched boundary, roundhouse, hearth/oven/kiln etc).

Assessment Land Use Area (L) – a collection of Groups which are contemporary (e.g. a domestic enclosure and internal activity, a field, monument, unenclosed dispersed activity etc).

Assessment phase – a collection of land use areas which are all contemporary (e.g. a domestic enclosure, a stock enclosure and a cemetery). This assignment is based on artefact spotdates (principally pottery), spatial positioning and stratigraphic relationships.

Period – Periods are chronological blocks of time (e.g. early-middle Iron Age, Romano-British etc). They are made up of phases; so ten phases of activity can all be Roman, even though they are earlier/later than each other.

Our structural hierarchy follows this pattern:



NOTE. Period is only used in Volume 1 and 3

The numbers assigned for phase, land use area and group reflect the investigation area number e.g. Phase 302, L300 and G3049 are all in Area 3; Phase 803, L805, G8088 are all in Area 8





1 AREA 1 STRUCTURAL HIERARCHY AND TECHNICAL DETAIL

	Mitigation Total	Evaluation Total	Area Total
Contexts	821	31	852
No of Features	301	9	310
Pottery	472	6	478
Fired clay	57	0	57
Registered artefacts	109	0	109
Struck flint	93	14	107
Human bone	6 inhumations, 1 cremation	0	7 individuals
Animal bone	845 (including four burials)	0	845 (including four individuals)
Samples	108	0	108

Table 1: Area 1 data summary

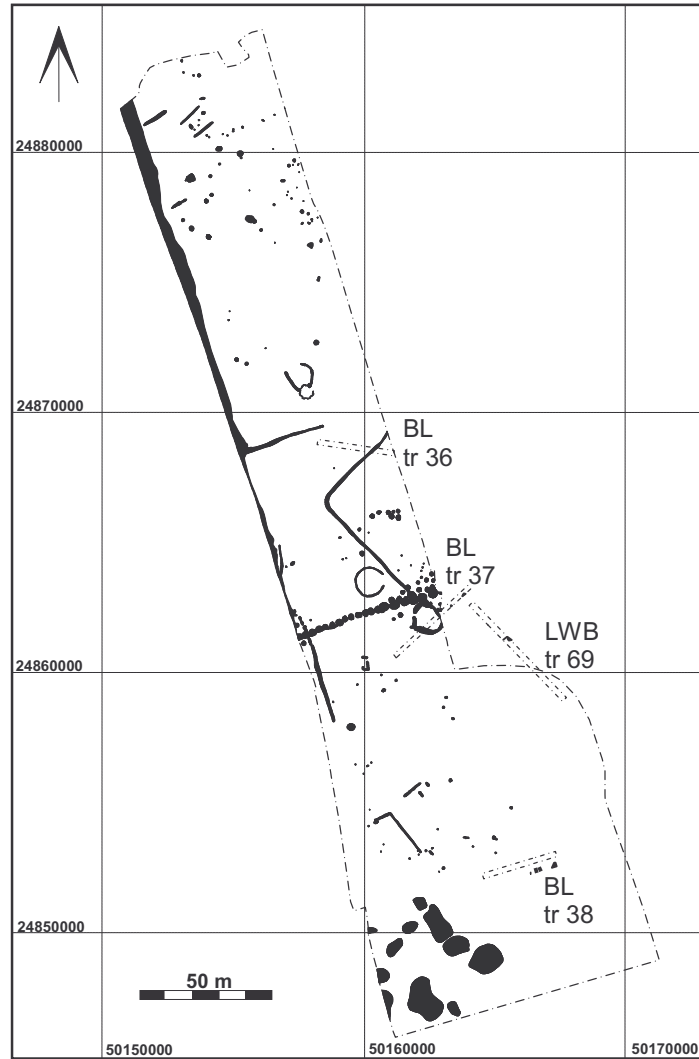


Figure 1: Area 1 all features plan

Introduction

Assessment of the results of all phases of fieldwork has led to the identification of nine phases of activity which are summarised below. Previously this area was evaluated by Wessex Archaeology (BL402) and Albion Archaeology (LWB628) using four trial trenches (Figure 1). This work was commissioned as part of the Bovis housing development located to the east of Area 1.



Phase	Chronological period	Activity type	Evidence	Nb of contexts
101	Late Neolithic - Early Bronze Age	Field Cemetery Enclosure	Ditches Enclosure ditches Six inhumations Three animal burials Enclosure ditch	115
102	Late Bronze Age-Early Iron Age	Boundary	Pit alignment	94
103	Early- middle Iron Age	Unenclosed farmstead Enclosure Enclosure Five activity foci Cemetery	Two Roundhouses Enclosure ditches Pits and postholes Enclosure ditches Pit Two posthole alignments Pits and postholes Storage pits Pits and postholes Cremation	438
104	Late Iron Age	Dispersed activity	Enclosure ditch Pits and postholes	37
105	Late Iron Age-Early Roman	Boundary Ritual activity	Ditch Structure	26
106	Saxon	Unenclosed settlement	Sunken-featured buildings	17
107	Medieval	Cultivation system	Furrows	22
108	Post-medieval	Quarrying	Quarry pits Postholes	8
109	Modern	Agricultural activity	Topsoil Subsoil	9
1	Unassigned contexts	Undated and/or of low potential for further analysis.	Root disturbance Tree throws Geological features Alluvium	86

Table 2: Area 1 Phase summary

1.1 Phase 101 – Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age (Figure 2)

The earliest firm evidence for activity is dated to the late Neolithic to early Bronze Age period. It comprised part of a rectangular field L100, a segmented mortuary enclosure L101, a rectangular mortuary enclosure L102 (redefined as L103), animal burials L104 and enclosure L119. Two enclosures, L101 and L102, were identified as having a mortuary function; they were associated with inhumations and an animal burial. Unusually, mortuary enclosure L101 was delimited by a segmented ditch. L104 contained two animal burials, which may also have been associated with mortuary activity. Several other ditches were present in this area not associated with burials. They were probably related to fields or enclosures. At least one of these was on a different alignment to the mortuary enclosures. The dating is based on stratigraphic position of the field and the mortuary enclosures with the Phase 102 pit alignment. This is supported by the recovery of an amber bead, Bronze Age in date, and a small assemblage of struck flints.

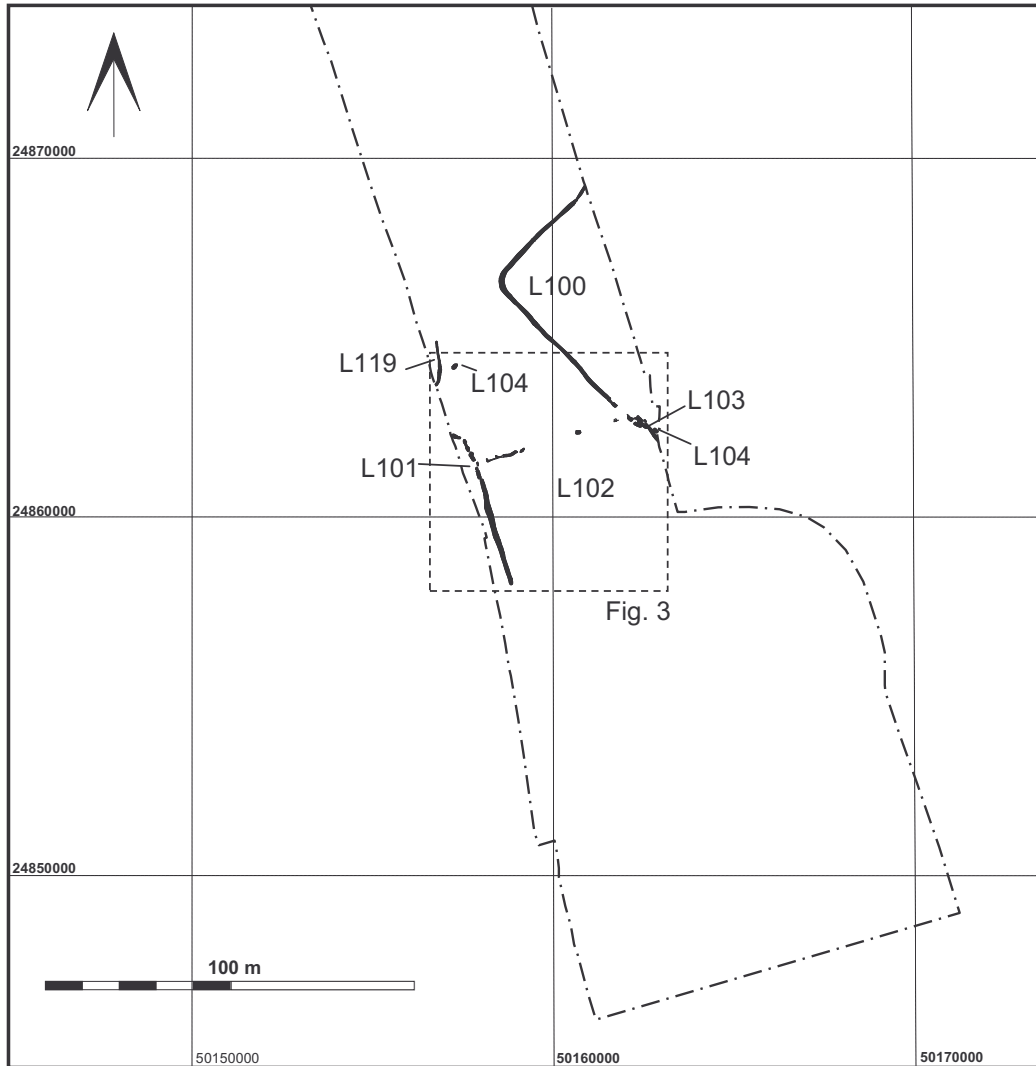


Figure 2: Phase 101 plan

1.1.1 Segmented Mortuary Enclosure L101 (Figure 3)

L101 was a segmented mortuary enclosure. Four inhumation burials and one cow burial were placed in the segmented ditch of the enclosure.

The mortuary enclosure was possibly oval in shape, but its western side extended beyond the area of investigation. It was orientated NW-SE and enclosed an area of at least 14m by 3m. No southern side was located. It was truncated on the western side by a modern river terrace associated with the River Great Ouse.

The four crouched inhumation burials, G1032, were spaced *c.* 1m apart within the mortuary enclosure ditch. Two were located within the same ditch segment whilst the other two were in separate segments. The cow skeleton, G1031, was placed in the ditch segment at the SE end of the mortuary enclosure.



An amber bead (RA 1061), dated to the Bronze Age, was found in the vicinity of the skull of one of the inhumations. A total of six struck flints were recovered; these comprised a flint burin, three flint flakes (RA's 1000-01 and 1014) and two flint blades (RA's 1051-1052).

L101 represents a mortuary monument of late Neolithic to early Bronze Age date. It is likely to have been contemporary with mortuary enclosure L102.

Groups within L101	
G1031	Cow burial. It was laid on its right side and it had been decapitated, with the skull placed between its legs.
G1032	Four crouched inhumation burials. Three individuals were aligned on a NNW-SSE orientation. A fourth individual was on an E-W orientation. All but one of the skeletons faced west with their arms placed on the western side of the body. The remaining skeleton faced east with the arms on the western side of the body.
G1033	NNW-SSE and NW-SE segmented ditch.

1.1.2 Rectangular mortuary enclosure L102 (Figure 3)

L102 was a possible mortuary enclosure. Two inhumation burials, G1034 were placed in individual graves on the same alignment as the incomplete northern enclosure ditch. The mortuary enclosure was located on the eastern side of segmented mortuary enclosure L101 which may have been utilised.

Mortuary enclosure L102 was possibly rectangular in shape, but its eastern side extended beyond the area of investigation. It was orientated NE-SW and enclosed an area of at least 46 by 10m. No southern side to the enclosure was identified.

Two individual inhumation burials, G1034, were placed in individual graves within a c. 27m wide gap on the northern side of the mortuary enclosure. The western inhumation was crouched, orientated NE-SW, whilst the eastern inhumation was supine, and orientated ENE-SWS. No grave goods or remains of coffins were present. Both had been disturbed post-deposition by pits of the Phase 102 pit alignment L105. A small quantity of struck flint was recovered that comprised one flint flake (RA 1043) and one flint blade. Seven fragments of animal skull were also present.

L102 represents a possible mortuary monument, dated to the late Neolithic to early Bronze Age. It is likely to have been constructed after mortuary enclosure L101, but indicates that the same location continued to be used as a focus for mortuary practices.

Groups within L102	
G1029	Eastern enclosure ditch
G1030	Western enclosure ditch.
G1034	Two inhumation burials. One NE-SW orientated crouched burial, laid on its left side, with the skull at the NE end. Supine inhumation was orientated ENE-SWS with the head at the NE end.
G1042	Northern enclosure ditch.
G1043	Northern enclosure ditch.

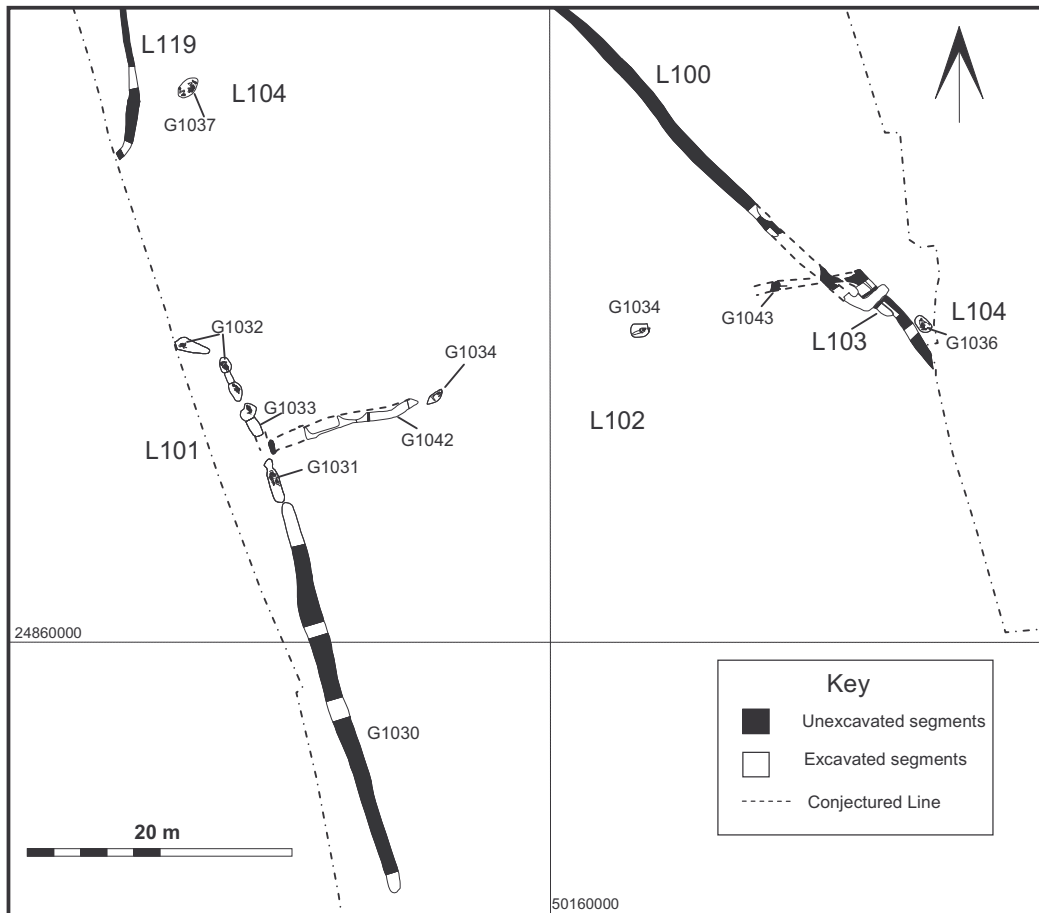


Figure 3: Detailed plan of mortuary enclosures L101 and L102

1.1.3 Redefinition L103 of mortuary enclosure ditch L102 (Figure 3)

L103 was the partial redefinition of mortuary enclosure L102. Ditch G1028 recut a 4m length of the eastern side of mortuary enclosure L102. It terminated at the SE end. A small quantity of struck flint was present; this comprised two flint flakes (RA's 1049-50).

L102 was the partial recut of mortuary enclosure L103. It suggests that the mortuary enclosure was in use for more than a single episode.

Groups within L103

G1028	NW-SE ditch. Redefinition of enclosure ditch G1029.
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1.1.4 Animal burials L104 (Figure 3)

L104 represents two animal burials, G1036 and G1037. The latter was located *c.* 18m to the north of mortuary enclosure L101. G1036 was located *c.* 0.2m from the eastern side of mortuary enclosure L102. They comprised two articulated cow skeletons in individual graves, spaced *c.* 57m apart.

Groups within L104

G1036	Cow burial. Orientated NW-SE and laid on its right side with the head
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	folded back onto the body
G1037	Cow burial. Orientated NE-SW and laid on its right side with the head at the NE end.

1.1.5 Enclosure L119 (Figure 3)

L119 was an enclosure located approximately 17m north of mortuary enclosure L101. It was possibly oval in shape, but the western side extended beyond the limit of the investigation area. No southern side was identified. Enclosure L119 was orientated N-S and enclosed an area of at least 11m by 1m. It was truncated on the western side by a modern river terrace associated with the River Great Ouse.

Groups within L119	
G1047	Enclosure ditch.

1.1.6 Field L100 (Figure 2)

L100 was a NW-SE probably rectangular field, 57 to 36m in extent. The NE side lay beyond the area of investigation. The field ditch terminated on the SE side and may suggest that this side was open. No evidence for internal activity was located. A small quantity of finds was recovered from the field. These comprised one fragment of animal bone, two flint flakes (including RA 1012) and one flint scraper.

L100 represents a late Neolithic to early Bronze Age field, likely to be the earliest activity in the area of investigation. A small quantity of finds suggests that it was not part of a domestic focus.

Groups within L100	
G1000	SW field enclosure ditch. Orientated NW-SE with a steep, V-shaped profile
G1001	SE field enclosure ditch. Orientated NE-SW. with a steep, concave profile.
G1002	NW field enclosure ditch. Orientated NE-SW. with a symmetrical V-shaped profile.

1.2 Phase 102 – Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age (Figure 4)

The only activity assigned to Phase 102 was part of a more extensive pit alignment, L105. It comprised twenty pits aligned on a NE-SW axis. No evidence for other activity was present. The dating is based on the recovery of a small quantity of early Iron Age artefacts and the stratigraphic relationship with Phase 103 early to middle Iron Age clustered settlement.

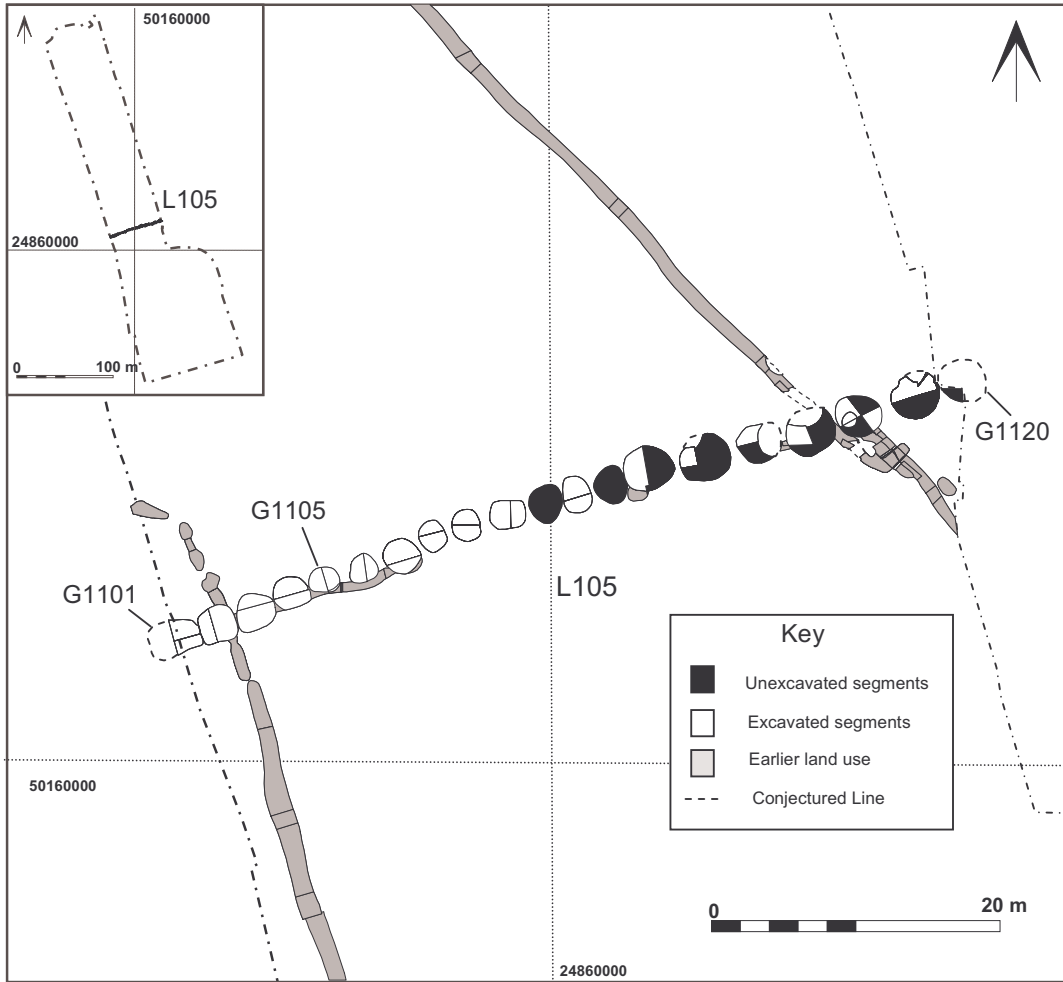


Figure 4: Phase 102 plan

1.2.1 Pit alignment L105 (Figure 4)

L105 comprised 57m of a pit alignment. This consisted of twenty pits aligned on a NE-SW orientation. The alignment extended beyond the eastern and western limits of investigation. It is unlikely that any had survived further to the west due to the recent formation of a river terrace. The largest gap between the pits measured 1m wide. The pits varied in size and shape. At the western end they were sub-square and cut the limestone bedrock, whilst towards the eastern end they were circular and stopped at the top of the limestone bedrock. Although they did not cut the limestone, they were deeper at the eastern end as the gravel was deeper.

The finds assemblage comprised a large quantity of struck flint, early Iron Age pottery, human and animal bone. Details of the finds are summarised in **Table 3**.

Material	Description	Quantity	RA Number (s)
Flint	Flint flakes	26	1003, 1007, 1009, 1019, 1027, 1028



	Flint core	3	1017
	Flint blades	2	1056
	Flint scrapers	2	1005, 1011
	Flint knife	1	1004
	Cutting blade	1	1057
	Flint pick	1	1044
	Utilised flint flake	1	1018
	Flint piercer	1	1006
	Flint awl/piercer	1	-
	Retouched flint	1	-
Pottery	Sherds of early Iron Age pottery	31	-
Human Bone	Abraded fragments of human bone in pit G1105.	15	-
Animal Bone	Fragments of animal bone	80	-
Other	Fragments of fired clay	5	-

Table 3: Finds assemblage from pit alignment L105

L105 represents the western continuation of a pit alignment that may have formed a boundary. No evidence of postholes or access across the pits was visible. The western end of the pit alignment occurred in the same location as Bronze Age mortuary enclosures L101 and L102. This might suggest continuity in the use of a ritual landscape.

Groups within L105

G1101	Sub-square pit. 2m wide and 0.5m deep, with an asymmetrical, concave profile. Partially excavated
G1102	Sub-square pit. 2m long, 1.5m wide and 0.6m deep, with a gradual sloping, concave profile. Fully excavated.
G1103	Oval pit. 2.5m long, 2.6m wide and 0.6m deep, with a gradual sloping, stepped profile. Fully excavated.
G1104	Sub-oval pit. 2m long, 3m wide and 0.5m deep, with steep sloping and stepped sides and a U-shaped profile. Fully excavated.
G1105	Circular pit. 2m in diameter and 0.5m deep, with a stepped, concave profile. Fully excavated.
G1106	Circular pit. 2m in diameter and 0.7m deep, with a stepped U-shaped profile. Fully excavated.
G1107	Circular pit. 3m in diameter and 0.6m deep, with a gradual sloping U-shaped profile. Fully excavated.
G1108	Circular pit. 2m in diameter and 0.7m deep, with an asymmetrical, concave profile. Fully excavated.
G1109	Circular pit. 2m in diameter and 0.8m deep, with a steep, concave profile. Fully excavated.
G1110	Sub-square pit. 3m long, 2m wide and 0.8m deep, with a U-shaped profile. Fully excavated.
G1111	Oval pit. 3m long and 2m wide. Unexcavated.
G1112	Circular pit. 2m in diameter and 0.65m deep, with a gradual sloping, U-shaped profile. 50% excavated.
G1113	Oval pit. 3m long and 2m wide. Unexcavated.
G1114	Circular pit. 3m in diameter and 1m deep, with a steep, U-shaped profile. 50% excavated.
G1115	Circular pit. 2m in diameter and was 1m deep, with a steep, U-shaped profile. Partially excavated
G1116	Circular pit. 1m in diameter and 0.8m deep, with a steep, concave profile. Partially excavated
G1117	Circular pit. 1m in diameter and 1m deep, with a gradual sloping, concave profile. Partially excavated



G1118	Circular pit. 2m in diameter and 1m deep, with a gradual sloping, concave profile. 50% excavated
G1119	Circular pit. 3m in diameter and 1m, deep with a gradual sloping, asymmetrical, concave profile. 50% excavated
G1120	Circular pit. At least 1m wide, but extended beyond the eastern limit of investigation. Unexcavated.

1.3 Phase 103 – Early to middle Iron Age (Figure 5)

Early to middle Iron Age activity comprised clustered settlement to the south (L106, L120, L121, L122 and L123) and centre (L109), along with dispersed evidence for activity to the north (L110, L124 and L125). Enclosure L107 comprised two episodes of redefinition L108 and L120. Mortuary activity was represented by cremation burial L117, located to the west of clustered settlement L109. Dating is based on the recovery of a large assemblage of early Iron Age artefacts. Stratigraphic relationships with earlier land use elements support this date.

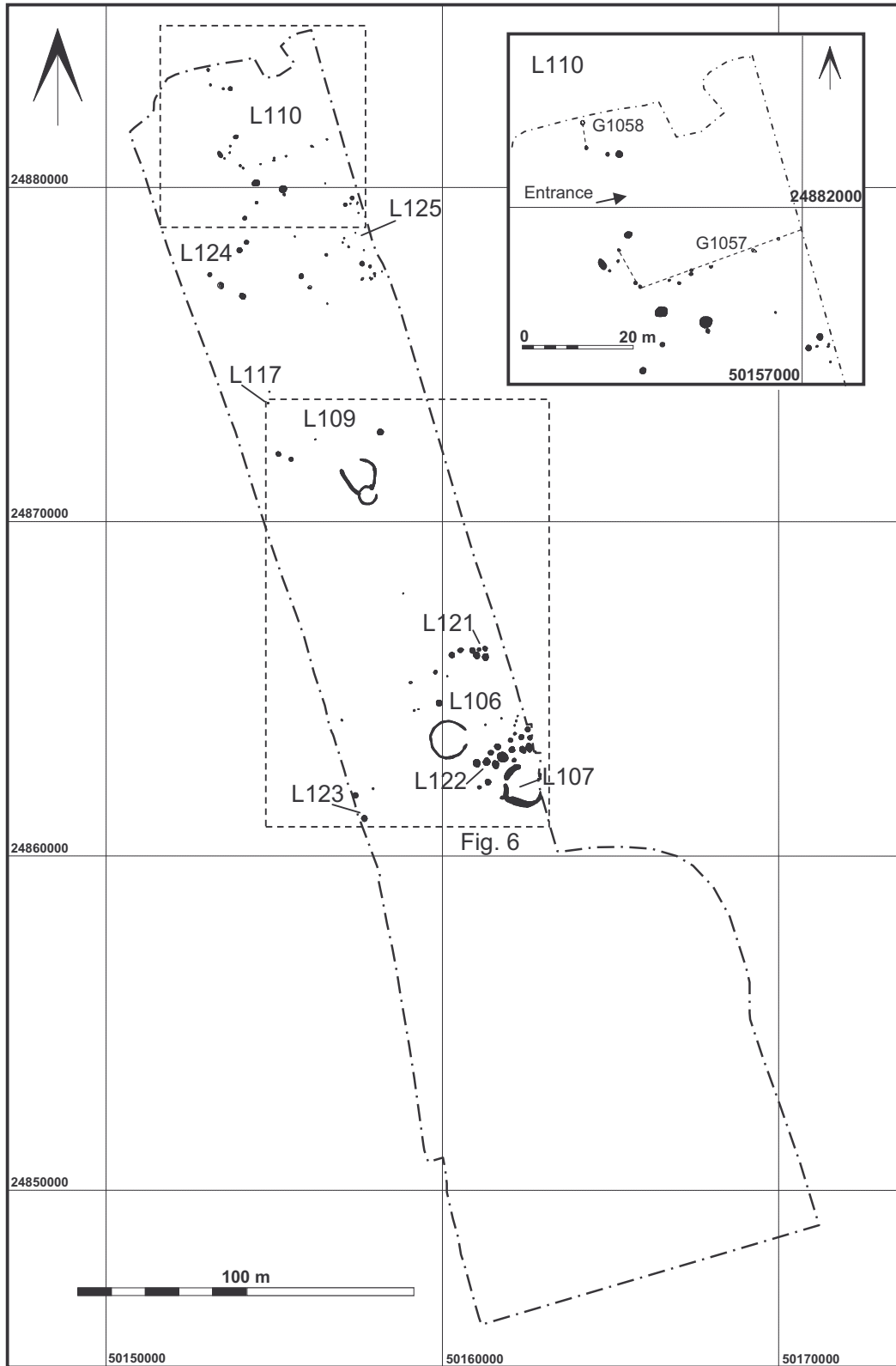


Figure 5: Phase 103 plan



1.3.1 Domestic focus L106 (Figure 6)

L106 was part of a domestic focus that contained a roundhouse (G1013), storage pit (G1100) and associated pits and postholes. The domestic focus covered an area of approximately 54 by 18m.

The roundhouse was located centrally within the domestic focus between storage pit clusters L121 and L122. It was delimited by a circular drainage gully that was 10m in diameter. A 4.2m gap on the eastern side indicated the location of the doorway. No evidence for activity within the roundhouse survived.

An alignment of three postholes (G1075), orientated NE-SW, was present to the east of the roundhouse. The postholes formed a line 4m long that may have continued beyond the eastern limit of investigation. They represent a contemporary fence line. Four other postholes were associated with the domestic focus.

The finds assemblage comprised three sherds of early Iron Age pottery and forty-six fragments of animal bone, including abraded fragments of animal tooth, mostly from storage pit G1100.

L106 represents a domestic focus, elements of which suggest that it was part of a farmstead.

Groups within L106	
G1013	Roundhouse. 10m in diameter. The drainage gully was 0.6m wide and 0.1m deep, with a symmetrical U-shaped profile.
G1069	Posthole. 0.6m in diameter and 0.2m deep, with a steep, asymmetrical, concave profile.
G1072	Two postholes. The oval one was 0.4m long, 0.3m wide and 0.3m deep, with a steep, asymmetrical, concave profile. The circular one was 0.5m in diameter and 0.1m deep, with an asymmetrical, concave profile.
G1073	Small posthole. 0.4m in diameter and 0.2m deep, with an asymmetrical, steep sloping, concave profile.
G1074	Two postholes. 0.5m in diameter and 0.3m in depth, with gradual sloping, symmetrical and concave profiles.
G1075	Fence line. Three postholes and a post-pipe. 0.4m in diameter and 0.3m in depth with symmetrical, concave profiles. The post-pipe was 0.15m in diameter and 0.25m deep, with a steep, V-shaped profile.
G1076	Pit. 5m in diameter and 0.2m deep, with a steep, concave profile.
G1100	Large storage pit. 1.7m in diameter and 1m deep, with vertical sides and a flat base.

1.3.2 Enclosure L107 (Figure 6)

Enclosure L107 was located to the SE of roundhouse G1013. It comprised a sub-square enclosure and pit.

The sub-square enclosure enclosed an area of at least 10m by 10m, but extended beyond the eastern limit of investigation. A 1.3m gap on the western side and a c. 6m gap on the northern side indicated two entranceways. No evidence for internal activity had survived.



A pit was located on the western side of the enclosure. Although it truncated enclosure L107, it has been assigned to the same phase based on early-middle Iron Age pottery retrieved from the pit.

The finds assemblage from L107 comprised twenty-five sherds of early Iron Age pottery (including three from the same vessel), twelve fragments of animal bone, three flint flakes, one flint scraper and a flint piercer. These were mostly concentrated in the northern enclosure ditch.

L107 represents an enclosure and an associated pit contemporary with L106, L121, L122 and L123. It is likely that the enclosure was for stock based on the dimensions of the enclosure ditch and occurrence of at least two entranceways. However, the enclosure had the same diameter as roundhouse G1013 and may in fact define a second one.

Groups within L107	
G1009	Northern enclosure ditch
G1012	Western and southern enclosure ditch
G1040	Eastern enclosure ditch
G1041	Large oval pit. 0.8m long, 1.2m wide and 0.3m deep, with gradual sloping sides and a concave profile.

1.3.3 1st redefinition L108 of enclosure L120 (Figure 6)

L108 was the partial redefinition of enclosure L107. It comprised a curvilinear ditch, which recut a *c.* 13m length of the western and southern side of L107. The eastern end extended beyond the area of investigation. A moderate quantity of early Iron Age pottery was present, totalling twenty-one sherds. Two fragments of animal bone, a flint flake (RA 1021) and a flint cutting blade were also recovered.

Groups within L108	
G1011	Southern and western enclosure ditch.

1.3.4 2nd redefinition L120 of enclosure L107 (Figure 6)

L120 was a second partial redefinition of enclosure L108. It comprised a curvilinear ditch, which recut an 11m length of the western and southern side of L107. It terminated at the northern and eastern end. Three abraded sherds of early Iron Age pottery, three flint flakes (including RA's 1022-23) and one retouched flake were recovered from L120.

Groups within L120	
G1010	Western and southern enclosure ditch.

1.3.5 Storage pit cluster L121 (Figure 6)

Storage pit cluster L121 was located to the NE of roundhouse G1013. It comprised eight storage pits spread across an area of 18m by 8m. They were spaced 1m apart. They varied in shape and size, but were generally 2m in diameter and 1m deep. Three storage pits contained 'special' deposits (G1017, G1018 and G1019).

- G1017 contained the remains of the top half of a cow, laid on a bed of deliberately placed stones.



- G1018 comprised 3881g of cow bones, some of which was partially articulated. The quantity of bones suggested two individuals may have been present.
- G1019 contained scorched clay lining, which covered 90% of the base.

The clay lined pit was likely to have been associated with a storage function, but other pits only contained fragments of fired clay. The cow skeleton suggests that some pits were reused for ritual practices.

A moderate quantity of pottery and animal bone was present in storage pit cluster L121. These comprised twenty-five sherds of early Iron Age pottery, 173 fragments of animal bone (including burnt fragments), twelve fragments of fired clay and an iron strip/blade (RA 1042).

Groups within L121	
G1017	Five large storage pits aligned on an E-W orientation. 1.6m in diameter and were 0.6m deep, with vertical sides and flat bases. One pit was 1.1m in diameter and 0.3m deep, with vertical sides and a flat base
G1017.06	'Special deposit'. Top half of a cow skeleton
G1018	Large storage pit. 1.6m long, 1.9m wide and 1m deep, with vertical sides and a flat base.
G1018.05	'Special deposit'. 3881g of cow bones
G1019	Large storage pit. 2m in diameter and 0.8m deep, with vertical sides and a flat base.
G1019.06	'Special deposit'. Clay lining
G1092	Medium sized storage pit. 1m in diameter and 0.2m deep, with vertical sides and a flat base.

1.3.6 Storage pit cluster L122 (Figure 6)

Storage pit cluster L122 was located to the SE of unenclosed settlement L106. It comprised seventeen storage pits spread across an area of 20m by 17m. They varied in size and shape, but were generally circular with diameters of 2m and were 1m deep. A large quantity of pottery and animal bone was present. These comprised sixty-two sherds of early Iron Age pottery and 264 fragments of animal bone, including skull and mandible fragments from an immature horse. Seventeen fragments of fired clay, eleven flint flakes, one flint blade (RA 1013), three flint scrapers (including RA 1029), one double notched flake and a fragment of saddle quern (RA 1047) were also present.

Groups within L122	
G1020	Ten large storage pits. Seven were circular and measured 2m in diameter and 1m deep with vertical sides and flat bases. Three were oval and measured 2.5m long, 2m wide and 0.9m deep, with vertical sides and flat bases.
G1021	Four large storage pits. They varied from 1.3-1.5m and were 0.6m deep, with vertical sides and flat bases.
G1022	Large storage pit. 3m in diameter and 1m deep, with vertical sides and a flat base
G1023	Three medium sized storage pits. 1m in diameter and 0.2m deep, with vertical sides and flat bases



1.3.7 Activity focus L123 (Figure 6)

Activity focus L123 was located 26m SW of roundhouse G1013. It comprised two circular pits, spaced approximately 6m apart. They were similar in diameter but varied in depth. The finds assemblage comprised a crested flint blade, a utilised flint flake, two flint flakes (including RA 1045) and a truncated flint blade (RA 1058), confined to pit G1044.

Groups within L123	
G1044	Large circular pit. 2m in diameter and 0.7m deep, with a steep, U-shaped profile.
G1045	Large circular pit. 1.6m in diameter and 0.4m deep, with gradual sloping sides and asymmetrical profile.

1.3.8 Unenclosed domestic focus L109 (Figure 6)

L109 was an unenclosed domestic focus located 50m north of roundhouse G1013. It covered an area of 54m by 50m. It comprised a roundhouse (G1014), enclosure (G1015-16), storage pits and dispersed pits and postholes.

The roundhouse was delimited by drainage gully G1014, which was 5m in diameter. A *c.* 3m gap on the eastern side indicated a doorway on this side. No evidence for internal activity survived. A sub-circular enclosure (G1015 and G1016) was abutted to the northern side of the roundhouse. It was defined by two ditches that formed the western and eastern sides. The southern side was enclosed by roundhouse G1014. The open northern side was the only visible entranceway.

A medium sized oval pit (G1024) was located on the eastern side of the enclosure and truncated part of the enclosure ditch. It contained a 'special' deposit that comprised forty-one sherds of early Iron Age pottery all from the same vessel. Although it truncated the enclosure, it has been assigned to the same phase based on the dating evidence.

Other evidence for activity comprised two storage pits to the NW of roundhouse G1014, a large circular pit to the NE, and four postholes to the NW.

A large quantity of early Iron Age pottery was recovered from L109, totalling ninety-seven sherds. In addition twenty-three fragments of fired clay were present, eighteen of which were from pit G1024 and formed part of a slab. Thirty-two fragments of animal bone were also present.

L109 represents an unenclosed domestic focus, likely to be contemporary with domestic focus L106, based on dating evidence and proximity. The roundhouse was significantly smaller than the roundhouse G1013.

Groups within L109	
G1004	Large circular pit. 1.8m in diameter and 0.5m deep, with a gradual sloping symmetrical, concave profile.
G1005	Two storage pits. 1.3m in diameter and 0.6m deep, with vertical sides and flat bases
G1014	Roundhouse. 5m in diameter. The ditch was 0.6m wide and 0.35m



	deep, with a steep V-shaped profile, that became more U-shaped towards the northern side.
G1015	Eastern enclosure ditch. 12m long, 0.8m wide and 0.4m deep, with a symmetrical U-shaped profile.
G1016	Western enclosure ditch. 10m long, 1m wide and 0.8m deep, with a gradual sloping U-shaped profile.
G1024	Medium sized pit. 1m in diameter and 0.4m deep, with a moderate sloping, symmetrical concave profile.
G1024.06	'Special deposit'. 41 sherds of pottery from one early Iron Age vessel
G1070	Two postholes. 0.4m in diameter and 0.2m deep, with steep, U-shaped profiles.
G1071	Posthole. 1m long, 0.6m wide and 0.2m deep, with a symmetrical, gradual sloping, concave profile.
G1090	Small posthole. 0.3m in diameter and 0.4m deep, with a steep, U-shaped profile.

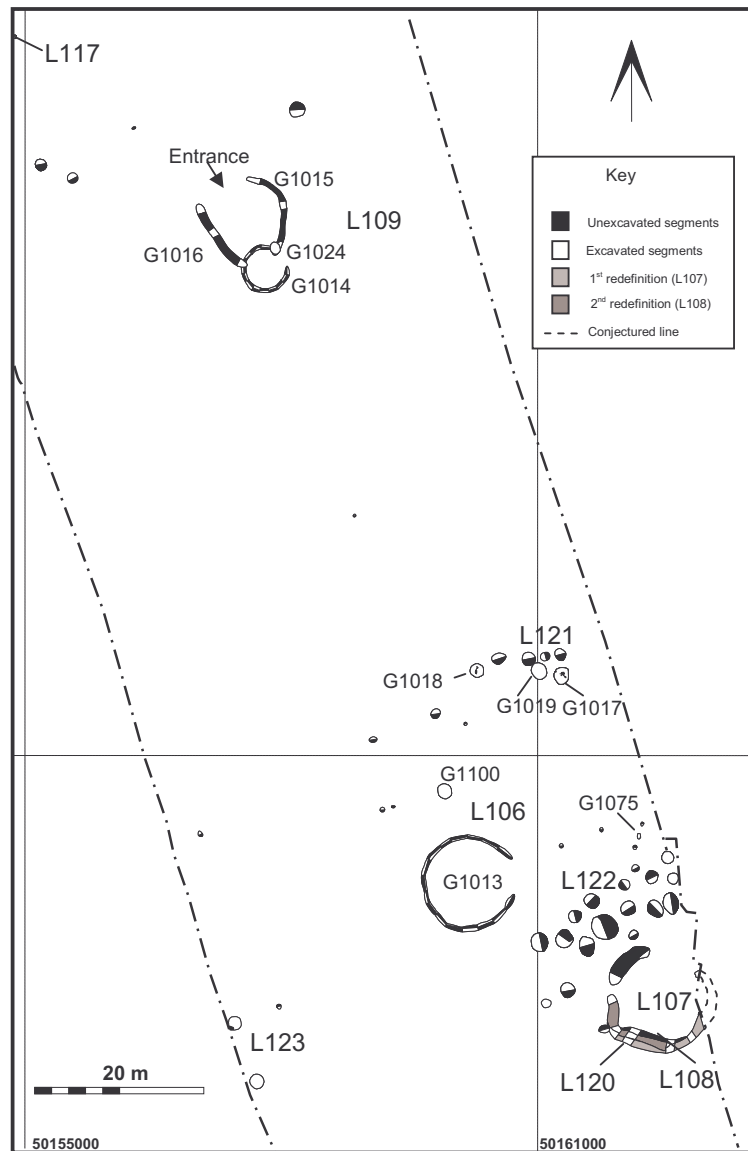


Figure 6: Plan of the early to middle Iron Age unenclosed settlement



1.3.9 Activity focus L110 (Figure 6)

L110 comprised a possible fenced square enclosure (G1057 and G1058), a storage pit, pits and a posthole. L110 covered an area of 37m by 35m.

The fenced enclosure was defined by two lines of postholes (G1057-8) that formed the western and southern sides. The NE part of the fenced enclosure lay beyond the area of investigation. It enclosed an area of at least 32m by 30m. A 19m gap on the western side may indicate an entranceway. Evidence for internal activity comprised a storage pit and smaller.

Activity to the west of the enclosure comprised a pit and posthole, of unknown function. The finds assemblage from L110 comprised twenty-two sherds of early Iron Age, three fragments of animal bone (including two burnt fragments), two flint flakes (RA 1025-26) and one flint blade.

L110 represents an enclosure and associated activity, early to middle Iron Age in date.

Groups within L110	
G1053	Small pit. 0.7m in diameter and 0.2m deep, with an asymmetrical, concave profile.
G1052	Medium sized storage pit. 1.2m in diameter and 0.5m deep, with a steep, U-shaped profile.
G1054	Circular pit. 1m in diameter and 0.4m deep, with an asymmetrical, concave profile.
G1055	Oval pit. 1.2m long, 1m wide and 0.5m deep, with a steep, symmetrical, U-shaped profile.
G1056	Posthole. 0.4m in diameter and 0.2m deep, with a symmetrical, U-shaped profile.
G1057	Southern side of posthole enclosure. Five postholes were generally 0.6m in diameter and 0.4 deep with gradual to steep sloping and concave profiles. Three oval postholes were 0.6m long, 0.49m wide and 0.3m deep, with steep, U-shaped profile.
G1058	Western side of posthole enclosure. 0.6 in diameter and 0.4m deep, with gradual to steep sloping sides and concave profiles.

1.3.10 Activity Focus L124

Activity foci L124 comprised a cluster of five storage pits and eight pits. They were spread across an area of approximately 35m by 32m.

The storage pits varied in size, but were generally 1.5m in diameter and 0.5m deep. Six small and two large pits were located within the cluster, but were of unknown function. The finds assemblage comprised forty sherds of early Iron Age pottery, twenty-six of which were part of the same vessel, 127 fragments of animal bone, a retouched flint blade (RA 1015), a flint blade (RA 1016) two flint flakes and a flint scraper. Forty bones of a piglet were found in the secondary fill of G1026.

L124 represents activity foci, located in close proximity to activity focus L110. They are likely to be contemporary.



Groups within L124	
G1026	Three storage pits. Two large pits were 1.8m in diameter and 1m deep, with steep, symmetrical U-shaped profiles. One medium sized pit was 1.2m in diameter and 0.3m deep, with a concave profile.
G1025	Two storage pits. 1.5m in diameter and were 0.5m deep with steep, symmetrical U-shaped profiles.
G1027	Two pits. 1.4m in diameter and 0.3m deep, generally with gradual sloping, concave profiles.
G1050	Large pit. 2m in diameter and 1m deep, with a steep, stepped concave profile.
G1051	Large oval pit. 2m long, 1.7m wide and 0.9m deep, with a steep, U-shaped profile.
G1059	Three pits. 1m in diameter and 0.3m deep with a gradual sloping, concave profile.
G1079	Circular pit. 1m in diameter and 0.5m deep, with a gradual sloping, concave profile.

1.3.11 Activity focus L125

Activity foci L125 comprised three posthole clusters, two storage pits, one pit and four postholes. L125 covered an area of 35m by 25m.

Three discrete clusters of postholes were located on the eastern side of the activity foci, positioned approximately 4m apart. They did not form any obvious structural patterns.

Two storage pits were located in the northern half of L125. Evidence for other activity comprised smaller pits and postholes scattered across the area. They were of unknown function. The finds assemblage comprised one flint flake.

L125 represents activity foci early to middle Iron Age in date. The activity is defined by clusters of postholes that may have been the remains of small temporary structures.

Groups within L125	
G1060	Posthole cluster, comprising five postholes. 0.5m in diameter and 0.1m deep, with steep, U-shaped profiles.
G1061	Posthole cluster, comprising seven postholes. Four medium sized postholes were 8m in diameter and 0.5m deep, with steep, U-shaped profiles. Three small postholes were 0.5m in diameter and 0.4m deep, with gradual, sloping profiles.
G1062	Posthole cluster, comprising four postholes. 0.4m in diameter and 0.2m deep, with gradual sloping, concave profiles.
G1063	Three postholes. 0.4m in diameter and 0.3m deep with steep, U-shaped profiles.
G1064	Two medium sized storage pits. 1m in diameter and 0.6m deep, with steep U-shaped profiles.
G1065	Circular pit. 0.7m in diameter and 0.2m deep, with a steep, U-shaped profile.
G1078	Posthole with post-pipe. Posthole was 0.8m in diameter and 0.4m deep with a steep, concave profile. The post pipe was 0.5m in diameter and 0.7m deep, with a steep, V-shaped profile.



1.4 Phase 104 – Late Iron Age (Figure 7)

Late Iron Age activity comprised an area of dispersed evidence for activity L111. This included a partial rectilinear enclosure and associated pits and postholes. Dating was based solely on the recovery of a small assemblage of late Iron Age artefacts from the upper fills.

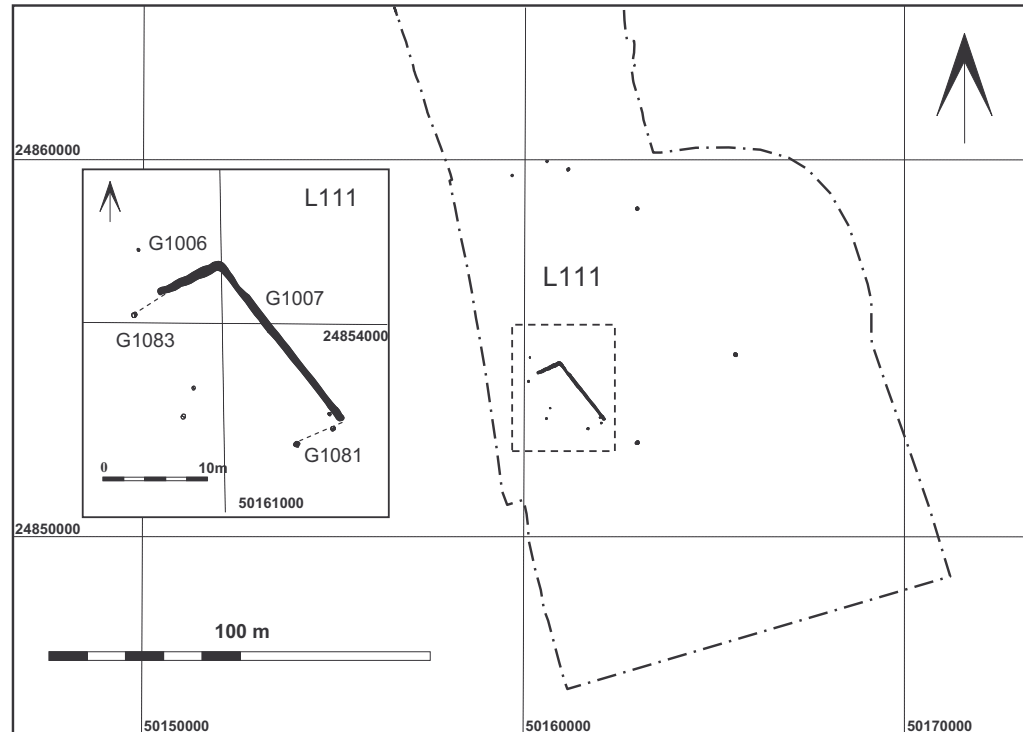


Figure 7: Phase 104 plan

1.4.1 Dispersed activity L111

L111 was an area of dispersed activity. It comprised a partial rectilinear enclosure (G1006, G1007, G1081 and G1083), internal activity and associated pits and postholes. L111 covered an area of 80 by 55m.

The enclosure was orientated NW-SE. It enclosed an area of at least 10m by 20m. The western side was open, which may be a product of heavy truncation in this area. Internal activity was defined by two postholes.

Associated activity was defined by five pits and a posthole which were dispersed across the area. These were assigned to the same phase based on spatial distribution and dating evidence. The finds assemblage from L111 was small and comprised five fragment of late Iron Age pottery, part of the same vessel, a La Tene 111 (?) brooch (RA1030), four Fe nails (RA's 1037-40) and a retouched flint flake (RA 1031).

L111 represents evidence for dispersed activity that is late Iron Age in date.



Groups within L111	
G1006	Eastern enclosure ditch.
G1007	Northern enclosure ditch
G1081	Two postholes. 0.5m in diameter and 0.25m deep, with steep and U-shaped profiles.
G1082	Two postholes. 0.4m in diameter and 0.1m deep, with U-shaped profiles.
G1083	Posthole. 0.5m in diameter and 0.1m deep, with a concave profile.
G1084	Posthole. 1m in diameter and 0.3m deep, with asymmetrical sides and a concave profile.
G1085	Posthole. 0.3m in diameter and 0.1m deep, with a shallow, concave profile.
G1086	Circular pit. 0.1m in diameter and 0.5m deep, with a steep sloping, concave profile.
G1087	Circular pit. 0.9m in diameter and 0.1m deep, with a shallow, concave profile.
G1088	Three pits. One circular pit was 0.6m in diameter and 0.2m deep, with a gradual sloping concave profile. Two oval pits were 0.7m long, 0.8m wide and 0.2m deep, with gradual sloping sides and concave profiles.
G1089	Circular pit. 0.3m in diameter and 0.2m deep, with a steep sloping, concave profile.

1.5 Phase 105 – Late Iron Age to Early Romano-British (Figure 8)

Evidence for activity in this phase comprised a single field boundary L112 and an isolated small rectangular structure L113. Dating was based solely on the recovery of a small assemblage of late Iron Age and early Roman artefacts.

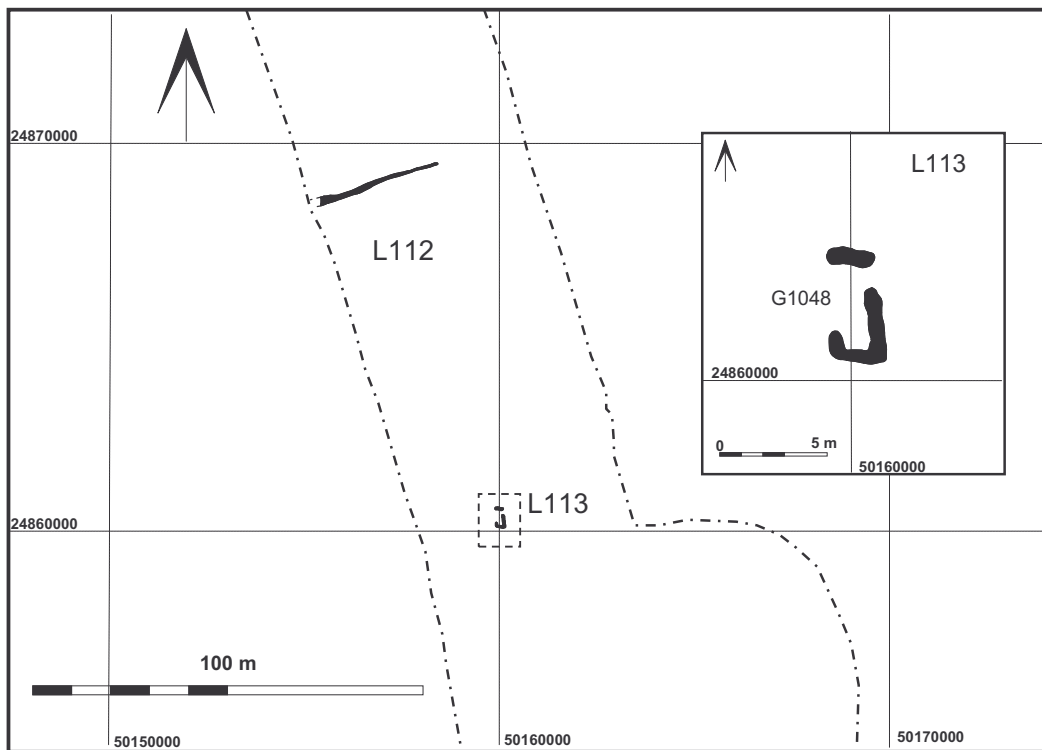


Figure 8: Phase 105 plan



1.5.1 Rectangular structure L113

L113 comprised an isolated rectangular structure, orientated N-S. A 3.5m wide gap on the western side and *c.* 1m wide gap in the NE corner were the only likely entrances. No evidence for internal activity had survived. No finds were present.

Groups within L113

G1048	Rectangular structure defined on four sides by a shallow and narrow segmented ditch. It enclosed an area of 4m x 1.5m.
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1.5.2 Boundary L112

L112 was a field boundary orientated ENE-WSW. It was at least 32m long, but extended beyond the western limit of investigation. It terminated at the eastern end, although this was probably the result of heavy truncation by recent ploughing. A small quantity of pottery was recovered that comprised four sherds of late Iron Age/early Roman pottery and eleven sherds of early Roman pottery.

Groups within L112

G1003	Boundary ditch
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1.6 Phase 106 – Saxon (Figure 9)

Evidence for Saxon activity was restricted to two isolated sunken-featured buildings L114. Their assignment to this phase is based on the recovery of Saxon artefacts and their chronologically characteristic form.

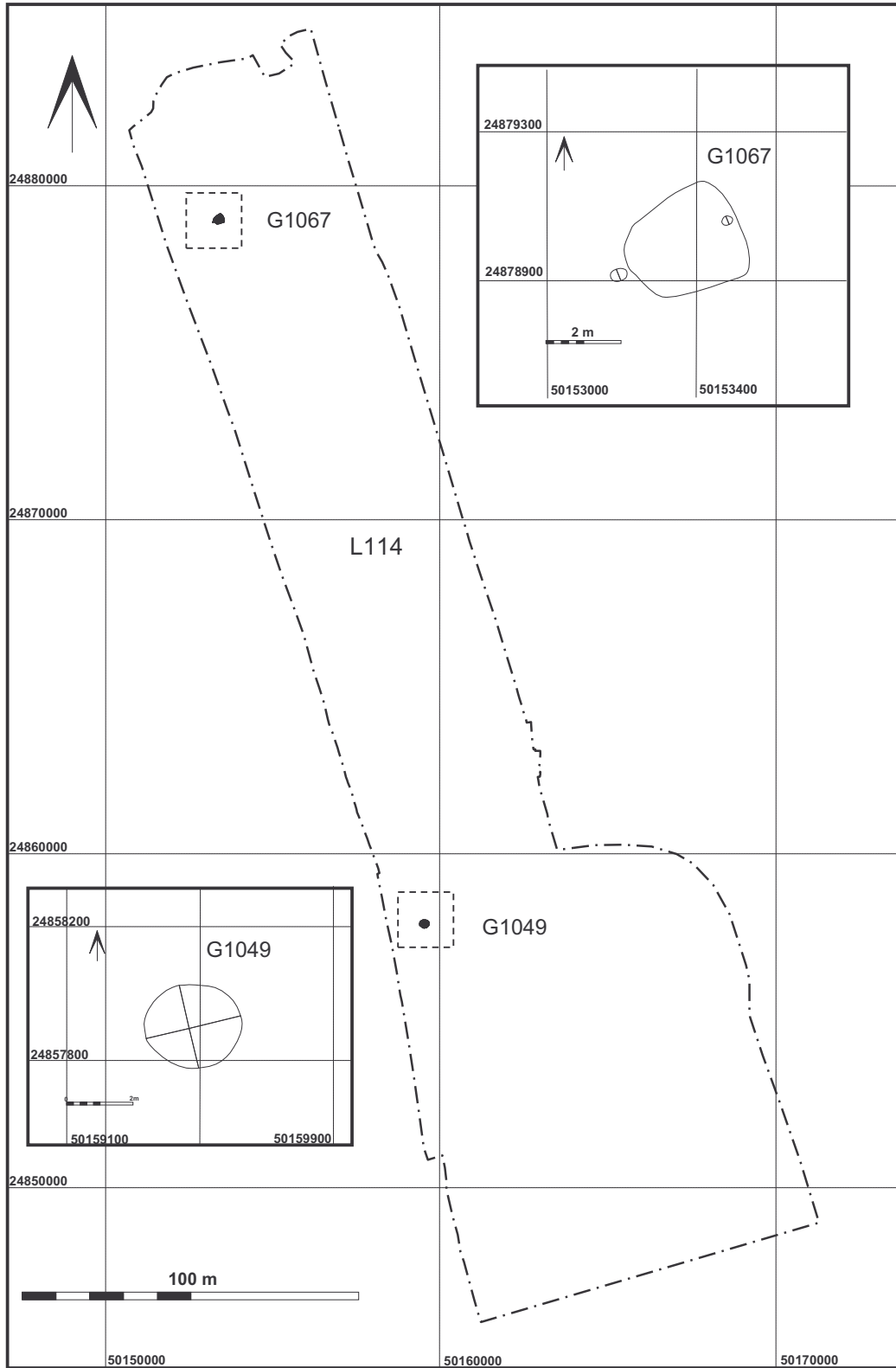


Figure 9: Phase 106 plan



1.6.1 Unenclosed settlement L114

Unenclosed settlement L114 comprised two sunken-featured buildings (SFB) (G1049 and G1067). The northern SFB G1067 was defined by a large sub-square pit with two postholes at either end. It was orientated E-W. A second smaller SFB (G1049) was located 200m to the south. It was oval and had a shallow step on one side. No postholes were present, but this could be the product of heavy truncation evident in this area.

Groups within L114

G1049	Oval SFB. Approximately 2.5 wide, 3m long, and 0.6m deep
G1067	Sub-rectangular SFB. It was sub-square and enclosed an area of approximately 3m x 3m. The postholes were 0.4m in diameter and 0.4m in deep, with vertical sides and U-shaped profiles.

1.7 Phase 107 – Medieval (Figure 10)

Medieval activity comprised open field cultivation L115. It was defined by the truncated remains of five furrows. Dating was based on the chronologically characteristic form and arrangement of the furrows. Cropmark evidence suggests a more extensive layout.

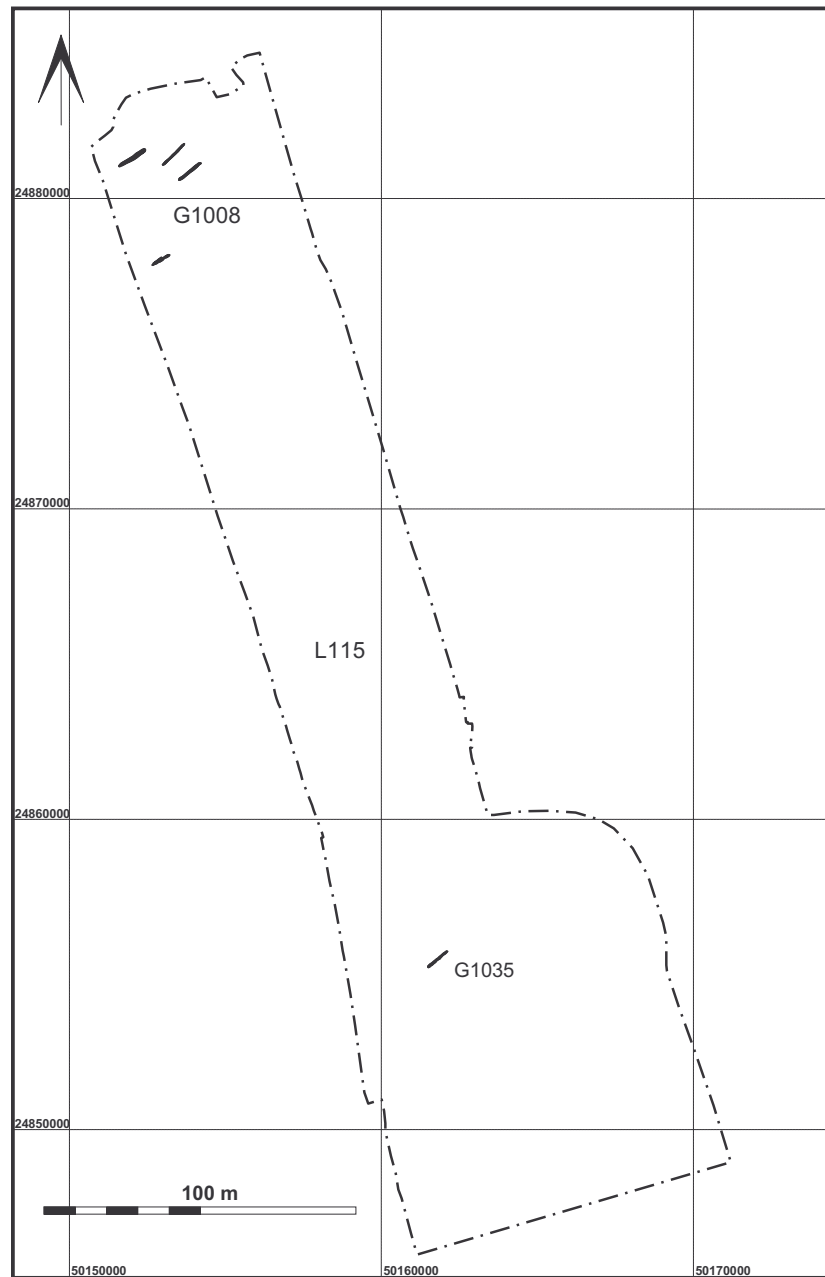


Figure 10: Phase 107 plan

1.7.1 Agricultural activity L115

Agricultural activity L115 comprised five NE-SW orientated furrows. They were located in the north and south of the area of investigation. They were spaced 6m apart. Originally they would have extended across the whole area, but recent ploughing had heavily truncated them.

L115 represents a series of furrows indicating medieval ridge and furrow cultivation.



Groups within L115	
G1008	Four furrows.
G1035	Furrow

1.8 Phase 108 – Post-medieval (Figure 11)

Evidence for post-medieval activity comprised an area of quarrying L116 concentrated in an area where the limestone bedrock was close to the surface. Dating was based on the recovery of post-medieval artefacts.

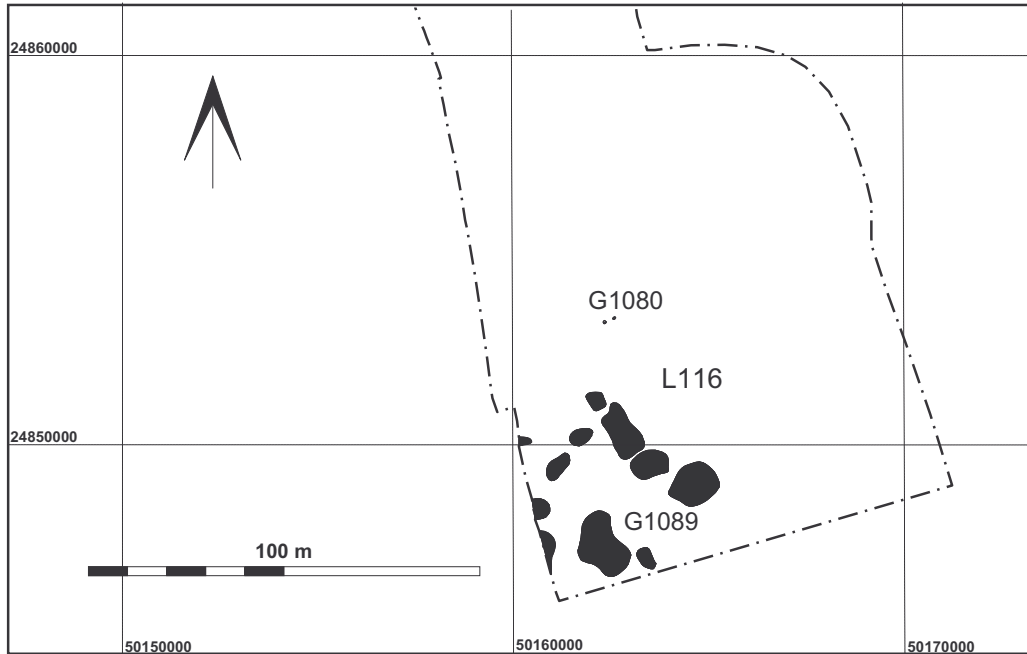


Figure 11: Phase 108 plan

1.8.1 Quarrying L116

L116 comprised eleven large quarry pits and two postholes. The quarry pits were located in a cluster to the south of the area of investigation. They covered an area of at least 50m by 50m, but extended beyond the western and southern limits of investigation. They were irregular in shape. Associated activity was defined by two large postholes located 16m to the north of the quarry pits. Their role is unclear. The finds assemblage comprised one fragment of post-medieval roof tile and one undated fragment of CBM. In addition six iron nails (RA 1032-36 and 1059) and an unidentified iron object (RA1060) were also present.

Groups within L116	
G1089	Eleven quarry pits. They varied from 6m x 3m and 12m x 7m wide.
G1080	Two postholes. 0.8m in diameter and were 0.8m deep, with steep, asymmetrical sides and concave profiles.





2 AREA 2 STRUCTURAL HIERARCHY AND TECHNICAL DETAIL

	Mitigation	Evaluation	Area Total
Contexts	362	43	406
No of features	79	2	81
Pottery	170 (1264g)	0	170 (1264g)
Registered artefacts	46	0	46
Struck flint	81	0	81
Animal bone	59 (201g)	0	59 (201g)
Human bone	0	0	0
Samples	112	0	112

Table 4: Area 2 data summary

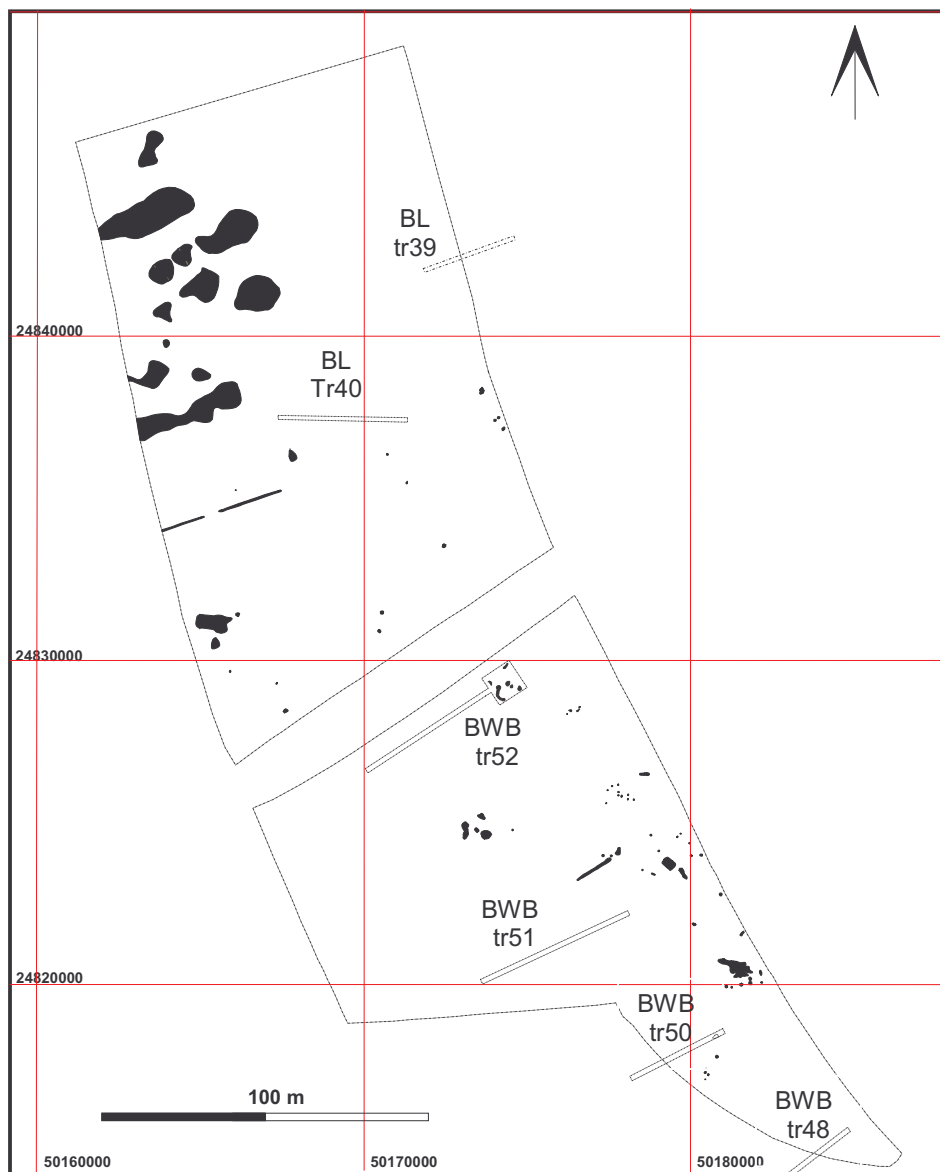


Figure 12: Area 2 all feature plan



Introduction

Assessment of the results of fieldwork has led to the identification of six phases of activity (see Table 5 below). It summarises the results of the Strip, Map and Investigation. This area was evaluated by Wessex Archaeology (BL402 trenches 39 and 40) as part of the Bovis housing development, and by Albion Archaeology (BWB485 trenches 48, 50, 51 and 52) for the road scheme.

Phase	Chronological period	Activity type	Evidence	Nb of contexts
201	Late Neolithic/early Bronze Age	Occupation	Pit and posthole clusters	177
202	Early Iron Age	Dispersed activity	Isolated pit	4
203	Saxon	Occupation	Sunken-featured building Short ditch length	21
204	Post-medieval	Industrial activity Agricultural activity	Quarry pits Field boundary Pits and posthole cluster	85
205	Modern	Agricultural activity	Topsoil and ploughsoil	10
200	Undated	Dispersed activity	Isolated pits Small quarry pit	47
2	Unassigned	Undated and/or of low potential for further analysis.	Root disturbance Tree throws Geological features Alluvium	62

Table 5: Area 2 Phase summary



2.1 Phase 201 – Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age (Figure 13)

Evidence for late Neolithic/ early Bronze Age activity was confined to the southern area of excavation. It comprised six discrete activity foci, between 15 and 25m apart, that were defined by clusters of pits and postholes. These have been placed in the same land use area due to their proximity and likely contemporaneity. They were dated by the inclusion of significant quantities of Beaker pottery and Grooved ware. However, some pits were sterile and were assigned on the basis of their similarity in form and distribution. The find assemblage comprised 156 sherds of pottery and 33 pieces of struck flint, not including the largely undiagnostic material from the environmental samples.

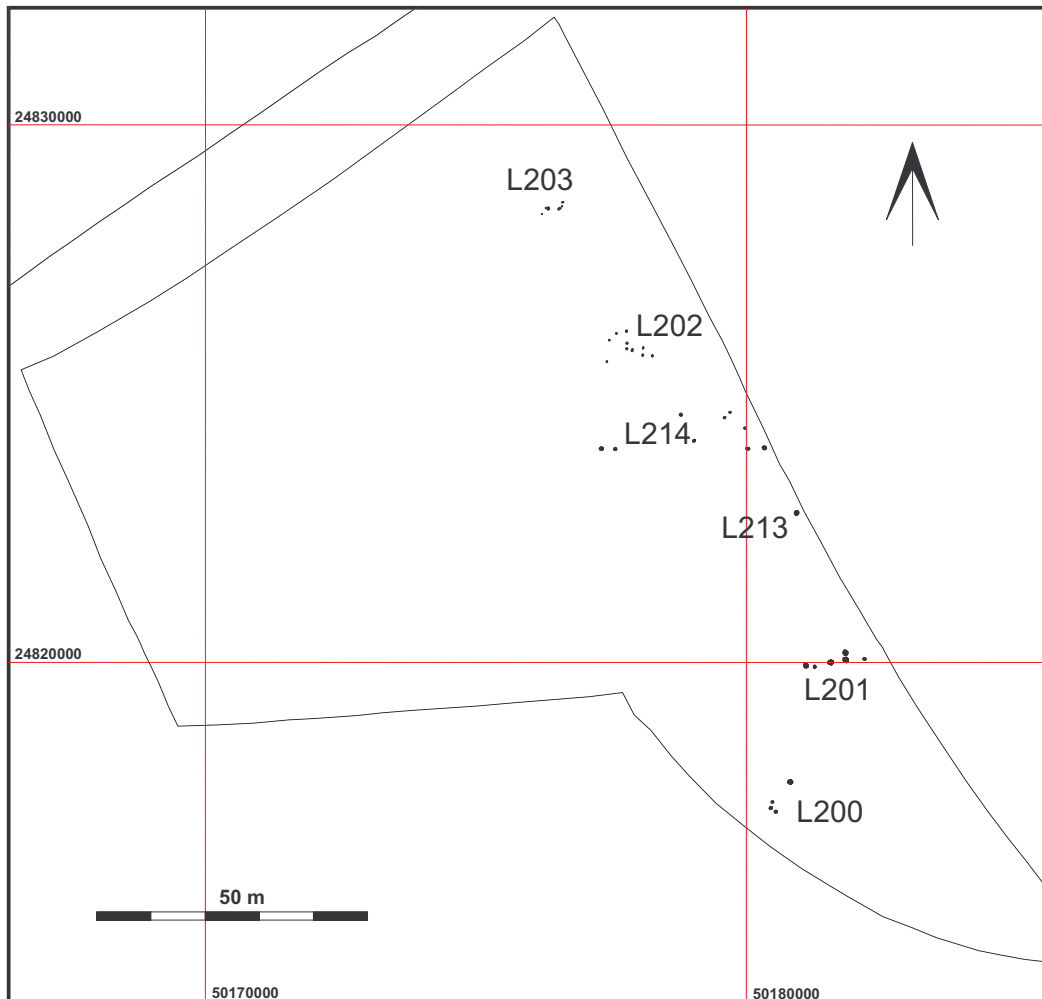


Figure 13: Phase 201 plan



2.1.1 Activity focus L200

L200 was an unenclosed activity focus, located within the southern extension to Area 2, *c.* 25m to the south-west of L201. It consisted of a cluster of four pits, within a 6m by 5m area. All four pits were shallow and less than 1m in diameter. The fills were generally mid greyish brown silts or silty sands with occasional gravel and flecks of charcoal. The finds assemblage comprised 34 sherds (225g) of late Neolithic/early Bronze Age pottery, 2 sherds (22g) of intrusive abraded late Iron Age/early Roman pottery (recovered from the surface), and worked flint RA's 2043, 2043 and 2045.

Groups within L200

G2006	Circular pit, with a U-shaped profile and a concave base. It had a diameter of 0.53m and a depth of 0.20m.
G2007	Circular pit, 0.56m in diameter and 0.12m deep, with a U-shaped profile.
G2008	Circular pit with a U-shaped profile and a flat base, 0.45m in diameter and 0.10m deep.
G2009	Circular pit, 0.88m in diameter and 0.20m deep, with a U-shaped profile and a flat base.

2.1.2 Activity focus L201

L201 was an unenclosed activity focus that consisted of a cluster of six pits. They were located in the south-eastern corner of the southern investigation area, *c.* 25m to the south of L213. They covered an area of 12m by 3m. All of the pits were less than 1.1m in diameter, and most were less than 0.4m deep. Pit G2012, however, was significantly deeper and may have had a different function from the other pits (perhaps storage?). The fills were generally dark greyish brown silty sands with moderate small stones and occasional charcoal flecks. Burnt stones were also recovered. The finds assemblage comprised 3 sherds (67g) of Grooved Ware, 21 sherds (108g) of Beaker ware, 43 sherds (95g) of undiagnostic early Bronze Age date and 2 sherds (6g) of undiagnostic prehistoric pottery. A single flint blade RA 2007 was recovered pit G2012. The soil samples produced another 35g of pottery plus some charcoal and 2g of animal bone. Possible human bone was recovered from a sample from pit G2011.

Groups within L201

G2010	Sub-circular pit, 0.93m in diameter and 0.32m deep. It had a U-shaped profile with a concave base.
G2011	Sub-circular pit, 0.52m in diameter and 0.19m deep. It had a U-shaped profile with a concave base.
G2012	Sub-circular pit with a V-shaped profile. 1.10m in diameter and 0.90m deep.
G2013	It was a sub-ovoid pit, 1.01m long by 0.95m wide, by 0.36m deep. It had a U-shaped profile with a rounded base.
G2014	Sub-ovoid pit, orientated N-S, with a U-shaped profile and a flat base. It was 1.05m long by 0.90m wide and 0.24m deep.
G2015	Sub circular pit, 0.54m in diameter and 0.15m deep. It had an irregular V-shaped profile with a concave base.



2.1.3 Activity Focus L202 (Figure 14)

L202 was an unenclosed activity focus that was located towards the eastern edge of the southern area of investigation, c. 20m to the north of L214. It consisted of a cluster of four pits and six postholes within an area of 9m by 7m. The fills were generally mid brownish grey sandy clayey silts, with moderate stone inclusions. No discernable pattern was visible within the distribution of postholes. No finds were recovered from this land use area.

Groups within L202	
G2028	Ovoid posthole, 0.37m by 0.32m by 0.02m deep. It had a U-shaped profile with an uneven base.
G2029	Shallow posthole, 0.37m in diameter and 0.05m deep. Its shallow depth suggests that it was heavily truncated.
G2030	Posthole, 0.30m in diameter and 0.14m deep. It had a U-shaped profile with a rounded, concave, base.
G2031	Posthole with a U-shaped profile and a rounded base, 0.41m in diameter and 0.20m deep.
G2032	Oval pit, 0.46m long by 0.37m wide and 0.13m deep, orientated N-S. It had a U-shaped profile and an irregular base.
G2033	Posthole, with a U-shaped profile and a concave base. It was 0.40m in diameter by 0.07m deep.
G2034	Sub-oval pit, orientated N-S, 0.61 long by 0.41 wide and 0.12m deep. It had a U-shaped profile with a slightly rounded base.
G2035	Oval pit, orientated N-S, which was 0.33m wide by 0.41m long and 0.09m deep. It had a U-shaped profile and a slightly irregular base.
G2036	Posthole, 0.40m in diameter and 0.16m deep, with a U-shaped profile and flat base.
G2037	Oval pit, orientated N-S. It had a U-shaped profile and a flattish base, and was 0.27m wide by 0.45m long and 0.18m deep.

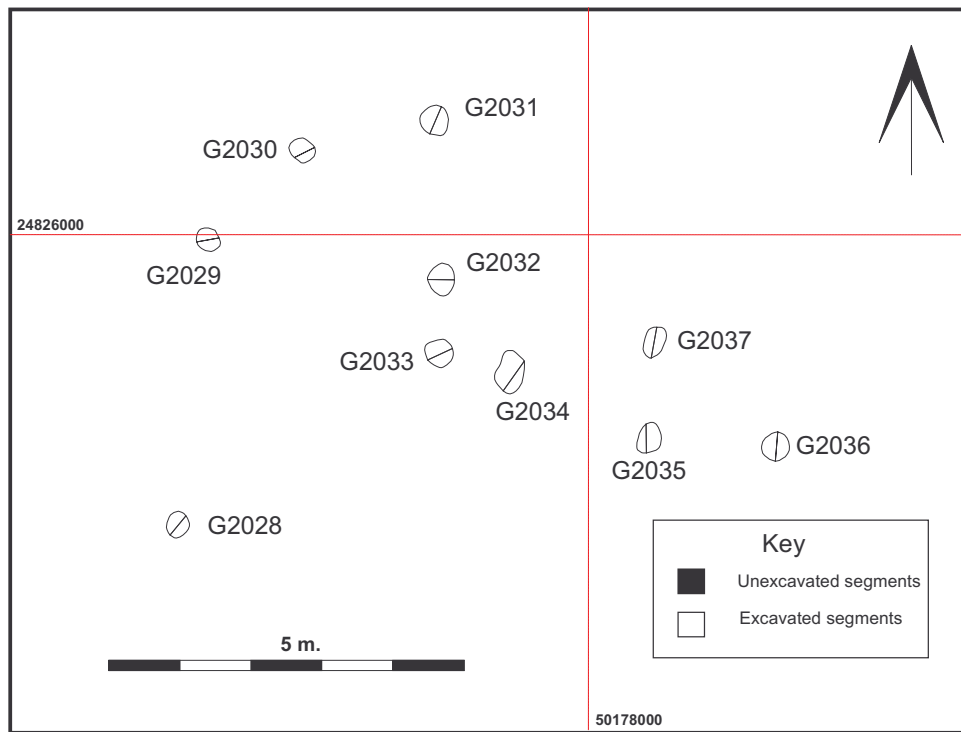


Figure 14: Detailed plan of activity focus L202



2.1.4 Activity focus L203

L203 was an unenclosed activity focus that was located towards the north-eastern corner of the southern area of investigation, *c.* 25m to the north of L202. It comprised two pits and four postholes within an area of 5m by 3m. All were less than 0.6m in diameter and 0.2m deep. No pattern could be discerned within the distribution of postholes. The fills within L203 were generally brownish grey silty sands, with occasional small stones. No finds were present within any of the fills within the features of this land use area.

Groups within L203

G2038	Small posthole with a steep-sided, U-shaped, profile and a concave base. It was 0.23m in diameter and 0.14m deep.
G2039	Small posthole with a U-shaped profile and a flat base. It was 0.22m in diameter and 0.09m deep.
G2040	Small circular pit with a U-shaped profile and a concave base. It was 0.63m in diameter and 0.19m deep.
G2041	Small sub-ovoid pit, 0.70m by 0.40m and 0.21m deep, with a steep-sided U-shaped profile and a concave base.
G2042	Posthole, 0.17m wide by 0.28m long and 0.12m deep, with a steep-sided U-shaped profile and a concave base.
G2043	Posthole, with a U shaped profile and concave base. It was approximately 0.40m in diameter and 0.1m deep and was located in the NE corner of the southern area of investigation.

2.1.5 Isolated Pit L213

L213 was an isolated pit that was located adjacent to the eastern edge of the southern area of investigation, 10m to the south of L214. It was around 15m from the nearest contemporary pit cluster (L214) and was markedly different on the basis of depth and quantity of finds. It contained 49 sherds (497g) of Beaker pottery (a further 23g was recovered from soil sample <2012>); 1 sherd (5g) of undiagnostic prehistoric pottery (plus a further 30g from soil sample <2011>); 2g of animal bone, plus 5 pieces of abraded horn core; 20 flint flakes (7 showing signs of retouch); 4 core fragments (RA2003, RA 2016, 2017 and 2021); 4 scrapers (RA 2004, RA 2015, RA 2018, RA 2023); an axe thinning flake (RA 2005); and antler tine (RA 2011).

Groups within L213

G2017	Circular pit, 0.85m in diameter and 0.40m deep, with a steep-sided U-shaped profile and a concave base.
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2.1.6 Activity focus L214

L214 was an unenclosed activity focus that comprised nine small pits. They were located towards the eastern edge of the southern area of investigation, *c.* 20m to the south of L202, within a 30m by 10m area. All the pits were less than 0.8m in diameter and 0.30m deep. The distribution of pits appeared to be random and there was no significant variation in their distribution by size or shape. The fills of L214 were generally brownish grey sandy silts that contained occasional small stone. These fills were generally sterile, although the most westerly of the pits, G2026, contained charcoal flecks and produced 1 sherd of Beaker pottery. Pit G2020 also produced 75g of burnt stone.



Groups within L214

G2020	Ovoid pit, 0.75m long by 0.50m wide and 0.30m deep, with poorly defined undercutting sides and a concave base.
G2021	Sub-circular pit with a U-shaped profile and slightly rounded base. It was 0.80m by 0.72m and 0.27m.
G2022	Sub-circular pit with a U-shaped profile and a concave base. It was 0.62m by 0.56m and 0.25m deep.
G2023	Sub-circular pit with a U-shaped profile and a concave base, 0.5m in diameter and 0.3m deep
G2024	Sub-circular pit, 0.40m by 0.35m and 0.69m deep, with a U-shaped profile and a flat base.
G2025	Ovoid pit, with a steep-sided U-shaped profile and a flattish base. It was 0.48m wide by 0.60m long and 0.28m deep.
G2026	Ovoid pit, with a U-shaped profile and a concave base. It was 0.80m long by 0.64m wide and 0.17m deep.
G2027	Sub-ovoid pit with a U-shaped profile, 0.60m in diameter and 0.24m deep.
G2051	Small sub-ovoid pit, 0.40m wide by 0.49m long and 0.12m deep. It had a V-shaped profile with a concave base.



2.2 Phase 202 – Early Iron Age (Figure 15)

Evidence for early Iron Age activity comprised an isolated area of pitting. The dating is based on the recovery of one single sherd of datable material. The artefact assemblage also includes two pieces of worked flint. This small quantity supports an interpretation that the activity within Phase 202 only represents a single isolated episode of quarrying.

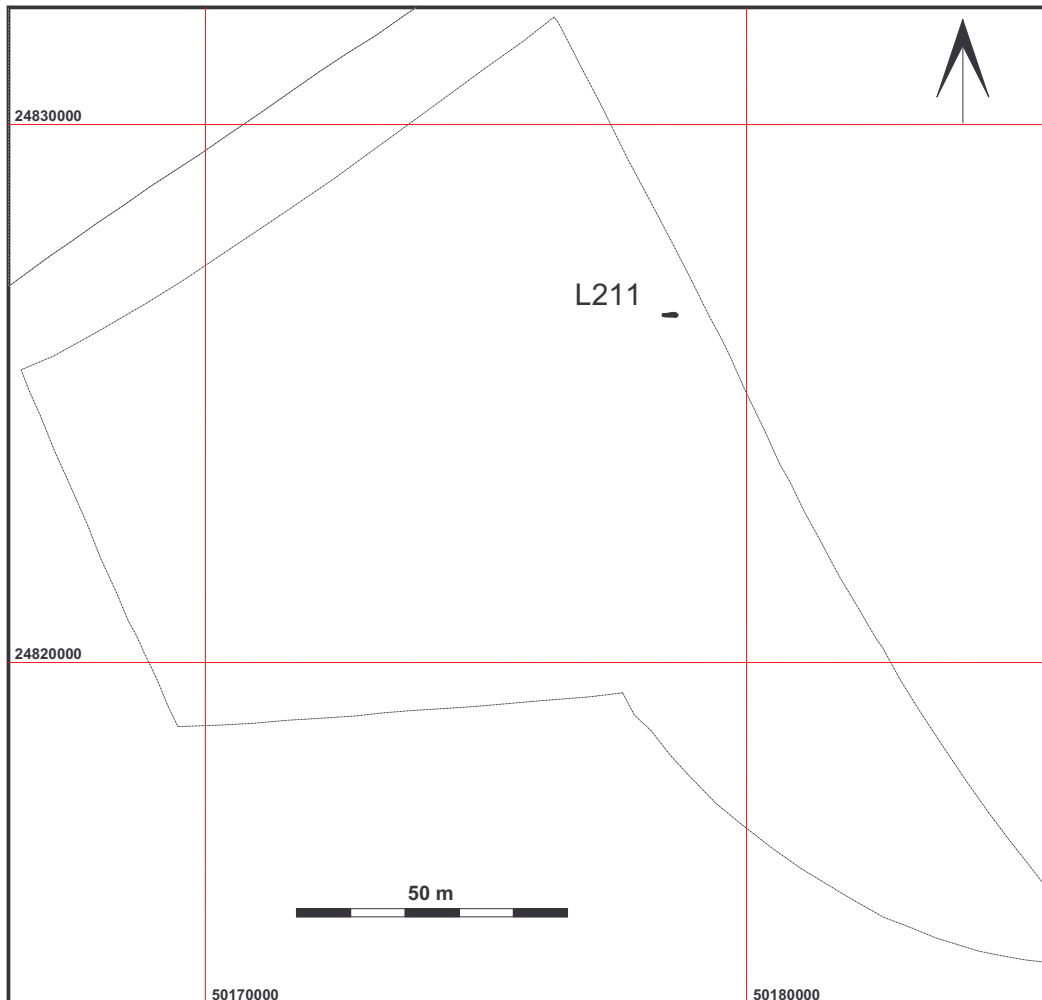


Figure 15: Phase 202 plan



2.2.1 Activity Focus L211 (Figure 16)

This activity focus was located adjacent to the eastern limit of the southern part of the area of investigation. It comprised a single large pit G2049. No other associated activity was identified. The pit produced one small sherd (1g) of early/middle Iron Age pottery and two worked flints: flakes RA 2030 and RA 2036.

The function of the pit is unknown but it is possibly related to quarrying activity.

Groups within L211

G2049	Pit. Sub-rectangular feature, orientated NW-SE, with an irregular concave profile. It was 0.90m wide by 2.90m long and 0.34m deep. The eastern end was deeper than the western.
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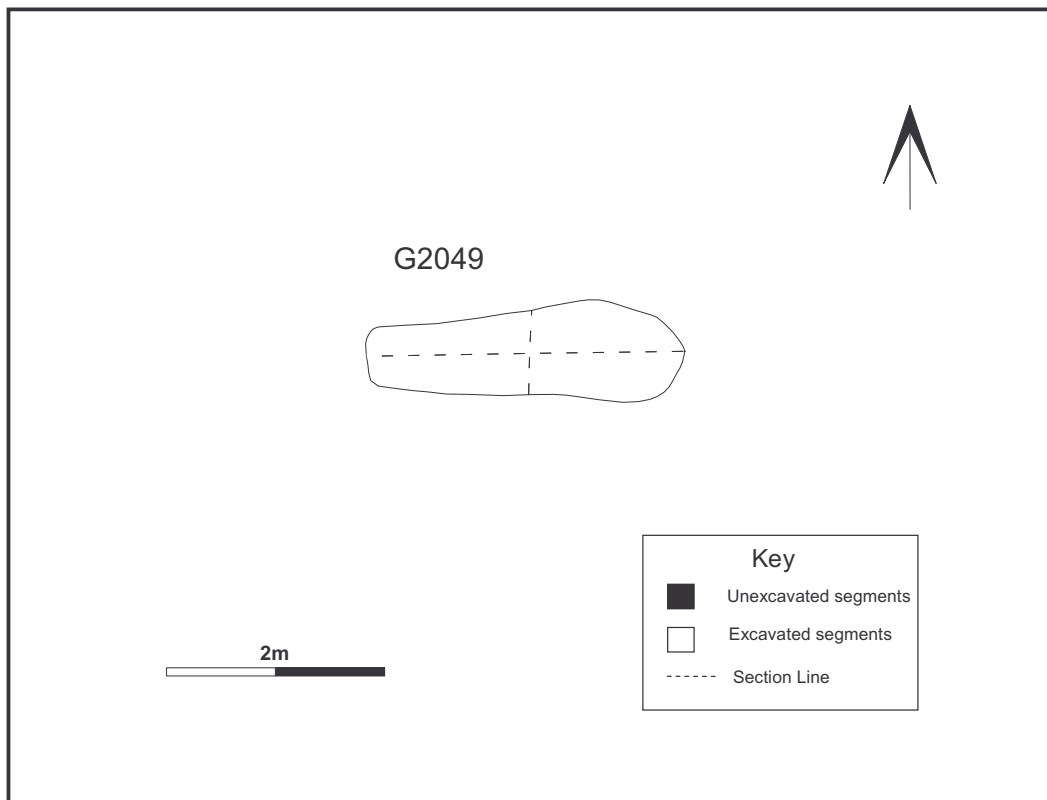


Figure 16: Detailed plan of activity focus L211



2.3 Phase 203 – Saxon (Figure 17)

Evidence for Saxon activity comprised a sunken-featured building and adjacent ditch length. The sunken-featured building was assigned to this period on the basis of its similarity to well-dated structures. The ditch has been included due to its proximity. The finds assemblage comprised a late 6th - 7th century belt fixing and a residual flint, recovered from the structure. The small quantity of pottery and bone suggests that the occupation activity within Phase 203 was of short-lived.

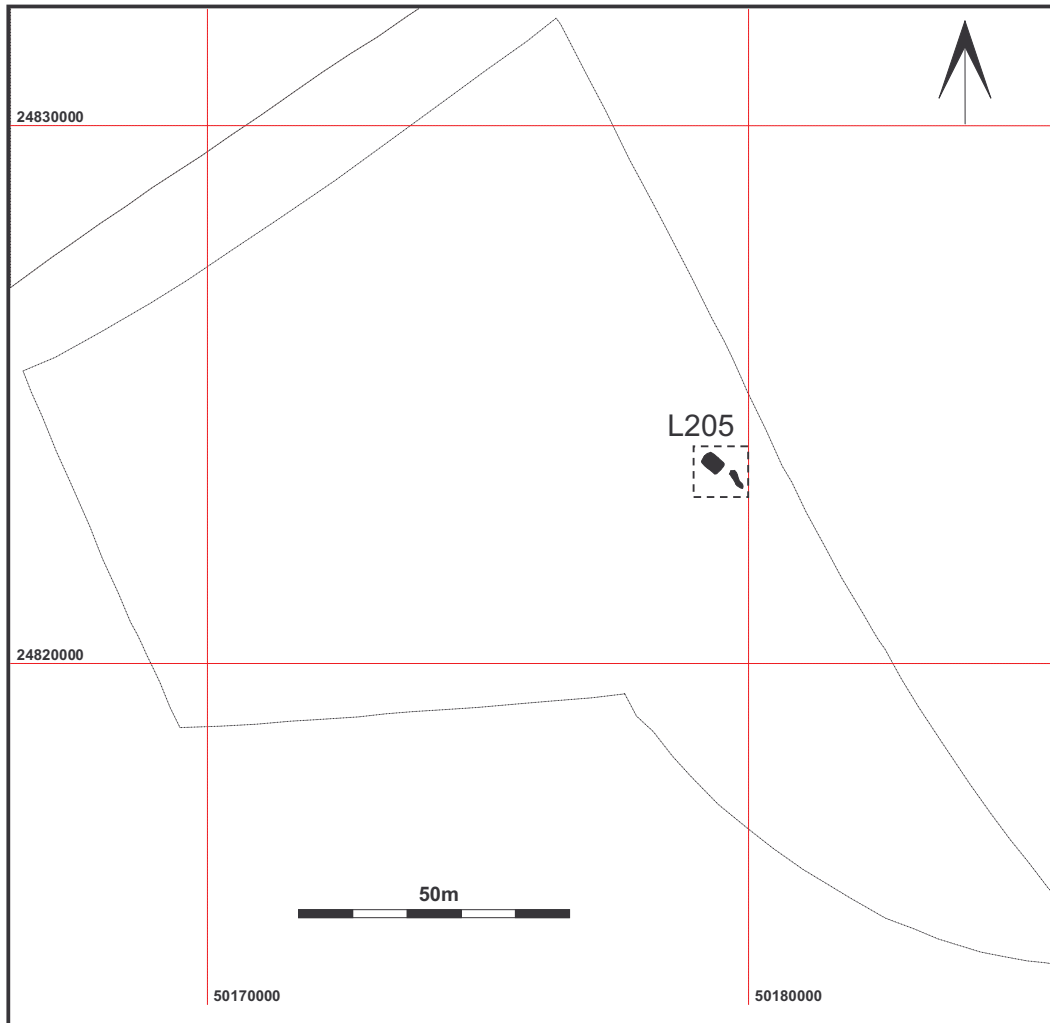


Figure 17: Phase 203 plan



2.3.1 Occupation Activity L205 (Figure 18)

Saxon occupation was located adjacent to the eastern limit of the southern part of the area of investigation. It covered an area of 10m by 10m and comprised sunken-featured building G2002 and a short length of ditch, G2003. No other associated activity was identified. The function of the ditch is unknown and it contained no datable material, however, it was located less than 2m to the southeast of the building. The finds assemblage comprised a late 6th - 7th century belt fixing (RA 2034), and a residual flint. Traces of animal bone, charcoal, charred seeds, and snails were recovered from the environmental samples.

Groups within L205	
G2002	SFB. Sub-rectangular feature and two associated postholes. The pit component was 3.9m long by 2.8m wide and 0.35m deep, and had steep sides and a flat base. It was orientated NW-SE with the two postholes cut into the side at either end. These were roughly 0.55m in diameter and up to 0.65m deep.
G2003	Short ditch. Linear feature orientated NNW-SSE and was 3.8m long, by 1.10m wide and 0.28m deep. The two terminals were poorly defined.

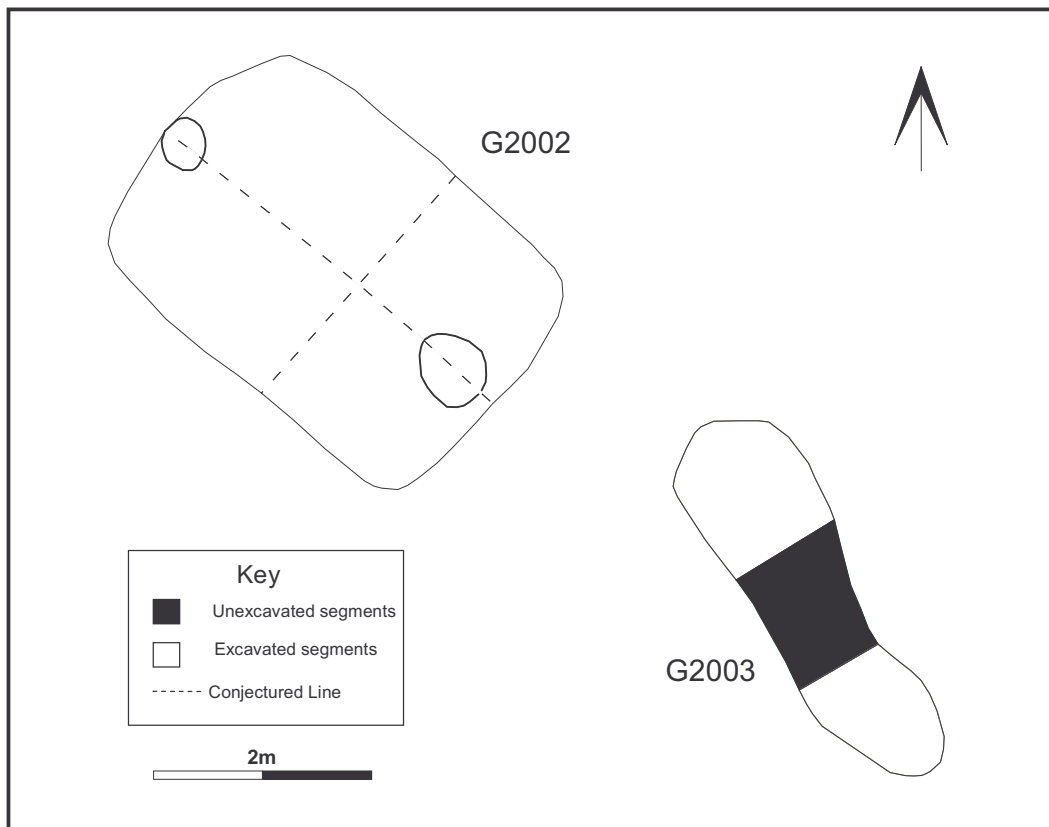


Figure 18: Detailed plan of occupation activity L205



2.4 Phase 204 – Post-medieval (Figure 19)

Evidence for activity within the post-medieval period comprised a field boundary, quarrying and dispersed pitting. No evidence for settlement was found and it is likely that the area was largely agricultural. The overall artefact assemblage is small and suggests that the activity was some distance from settlement. It comprised 4 sherds of pottery, 2 pieces of animal bone, 1 fragment of glass and multiple pieces of post-medieval ironwork.

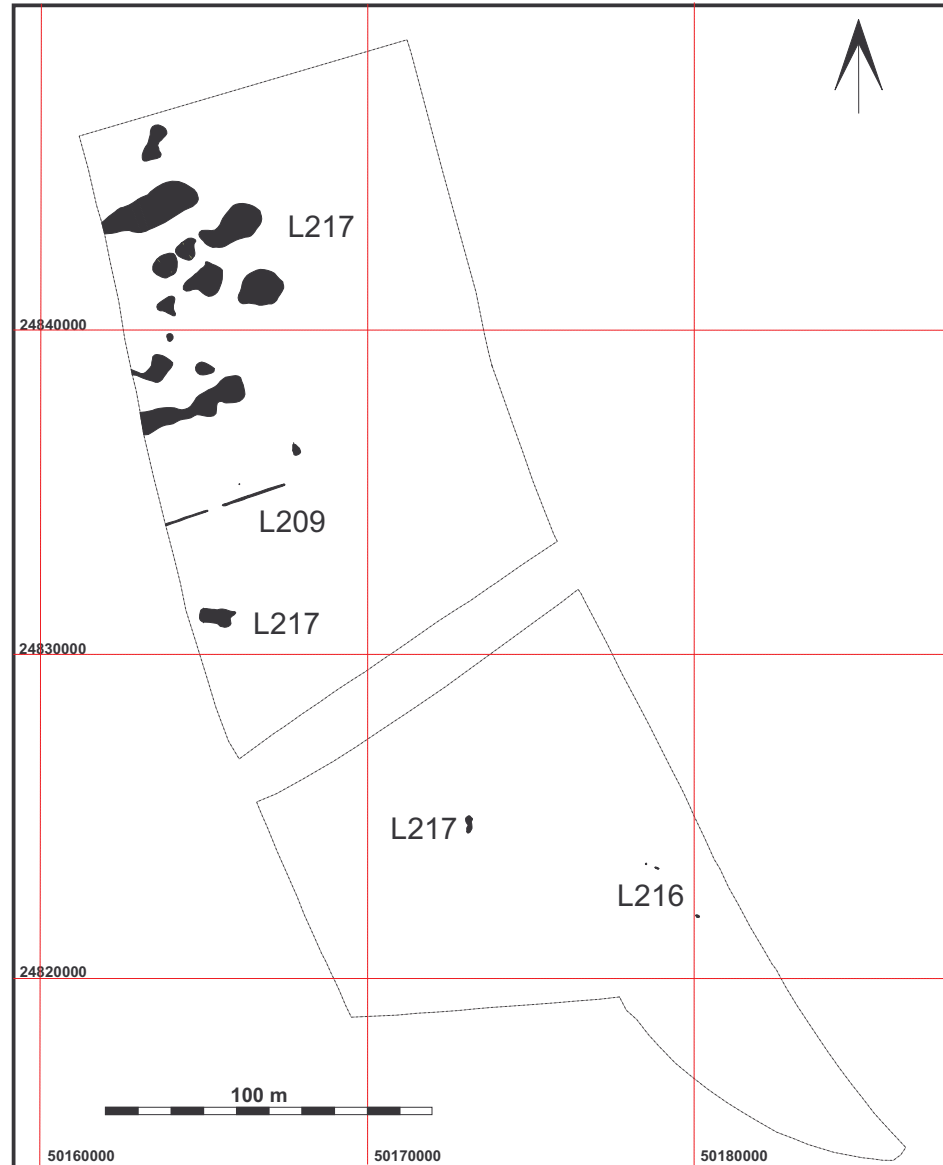


Figure 19: Phase 204 plan



2.4.1 Agricultural Activity L209

L209 represents an agricultural field boundary, located towards the western side of the northern area of investigation, *c.* 30m to the south of the main concentration of quarry pits within L217. It comprised a boundary ditch and associated posthole. The boundary was orientated WSW-ENE and extended beyond the western limit of excavation. It is likely to have been heavily truncated by modern ploughing. The posthole was located less than 5m to the north of the ditch and did not appear to be associated with any other feature.

Although undated by finds, this boundary was orientated at right angles to modern land drains, and as such, is likely to have been an agricultural field boundary. It also defined the southern limit of the majority of the most substantial quarry pits within L217.

Groups within L209

G2001	Boundary ditch orientated WSW-ENE. It was at least 38m long, extending beyond the western limit of excavation. It was <i>c.</i> 0.75m wide, and less than 0.2m deep, with a U-shaped profile.
G2062	Small sub-circular posthole, 0.25m in diameter and 0.23m deep. It had a steep-sided, U-shaped profile and a concave base.

2.4.2 Dispersed Activity L216 (Figure 20)

L216 was an unenclosed activity focus consisting of a large posthole and two pairs of intercutting pits. They were located towards the eastern edge of the southern area of investigation, *c.* 80m from the southern most pit within L216. They were randomly distributed within 20m of each other. The relationship between the two pits, G2019 and G2058, could not be established. All three features were less than 1m in diameter and 0.25m deep. The posthole (G2018) exhibited traces of a post-pipe. The fills of L216 were generally dark brownish grey sandy/silty clays with occasional stones and charcoal flecks. Traces of a post-pipe were present in posthole G2018; its well-defined appearance suggests a recent origin. The finds assemblage comprised 1 sherd of post-medieval pottery from G2050 and 2 sherds of late Neolithic/early Bronze Age pottery from pit G2048. The prehistoric pottery is likely to be residual, as fragment glass was also recovered from the same feature.

Groups within L216

G2016	Sub-ovoid pit with an irregular V-shaped profile and a concave base. It was 0.9m long by 0.7m wide and 0.24m deep and truncated pit G2050.
G2018	Posthole with an asymmetric U-shaped profile and an irregular flat base. It was 0.50m long by 0.40m wide and 0.11m deep.
G2019	Small sub-oval pit, with a U-shaped profile and a rounded base, 0.60m by 0.50m and 0.25m deep. It had an uncertain relationship with G2048, but the two pits are unlikely to be contemporary.
G2048	Small ovoid pit, 0.55m by 0.35m and 0.16m deep. It had a U-shaped profile with a rounded base. It an uncertain relationship with pit G2019.
G2050	Sub-circular pit with a U-shaped profile and slightly irregular base. It was 0.46m in diameter and 0.18m deep. This feature was truncated by pit G2016.

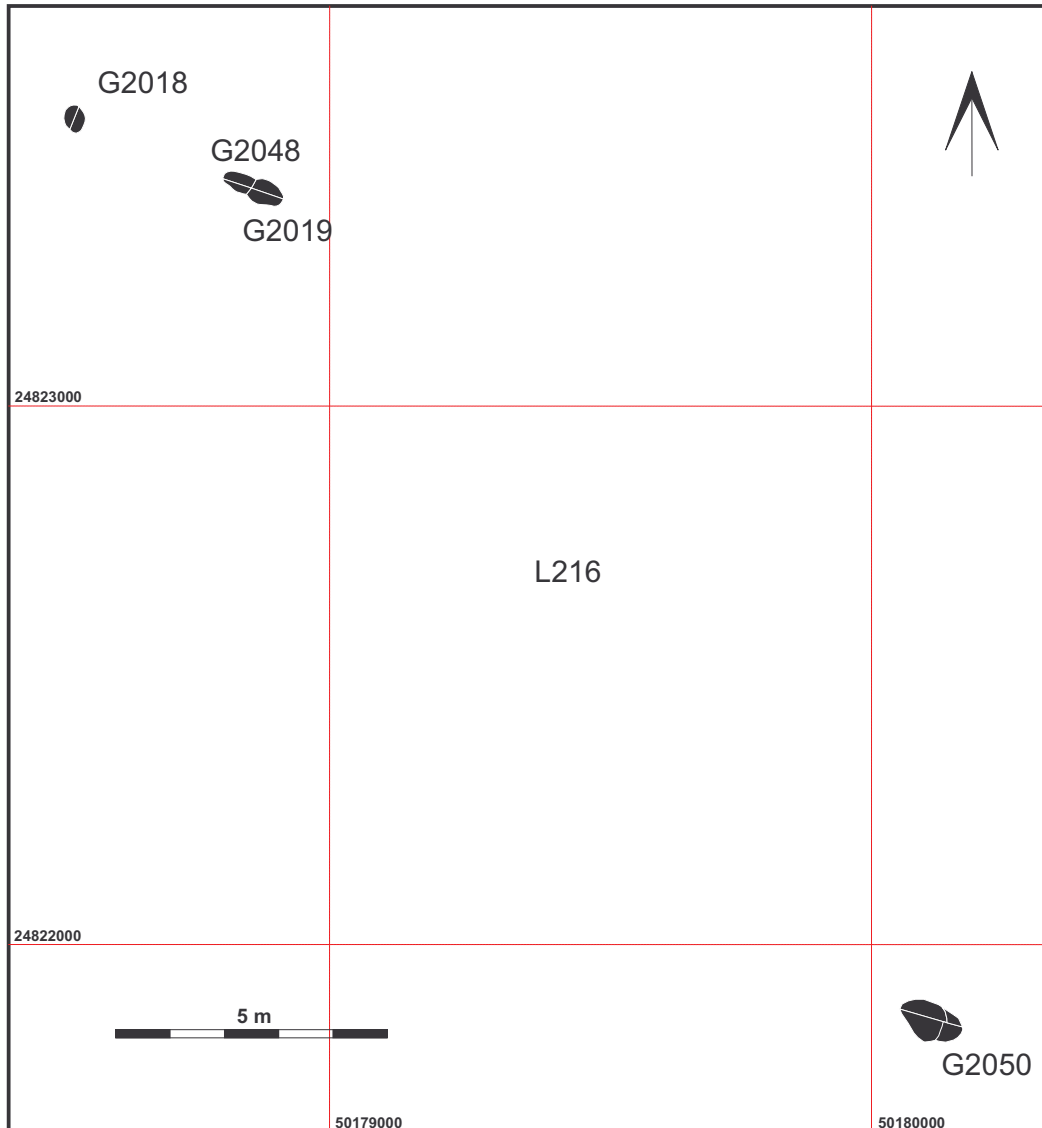


Figure 20: Detailed plan of dispersed activity area L216

2.4.3 Quarrying Activity L217

L217 represents the extensive post-medieval quarrying activity that was evident along the western side of the area of investigation. The identified quarry pits comprised 12 large pits located along the western edge of the northern area of investigation; a large pit on the western edge of the central area of investigation; and a small irregular pit towards the centre of the southern area of investigation. All were irregular shaped features and ranged from 2m to 30m in diameter and 1.2m deep. The fills of these pits were varied and may post date the quarrying activity, however the assemblage includes 2 sherds of post-medieval pottery, 2 pieces of animal bone, 2 iron nails (RA 2002 and RA 1059) and a fragment of post-medieval roof, a late



medieval/post-medieval shoeing nail (RA 2038), an iron nail shank, a perforated iron strap (RA 2041), and an iron plough share (RA 1060).

The post-medieval quarry pits are likely to have been dug to extract the limestone bedrock.

Groups within L217

G2000	Fourteen quarry pits. All were irregular shaped features and ranged from 2 to 30m in diameter and 1.2m deep.
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2.5 Phase 205 – Modern

The modern phase comprised layers of topsoil and subsoil that were the result of modern arable agricultural activity.

2.5.1 Modern Topsoil L218

L218 was the topsoil layer that covered the entirety of the area of investigation and was removed during machining. It produced 3 flint flakes (including RA 2012 and RA 2026), a flint core, a side scraper (RA 2028) and a fragment of leaf shaped arrowhead.

Groups within L218

G2063	Topsoil layer. Mid brownish grey sandy-silty loam, 0.20m thick.
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2.5.2 Modern Subsoil L219

L219 was the subsoil layer that covered the entirety of the area of investigation. One sherd of post-medieval pottery, 5 pieces of animal bone, and 2 nails (RA 2000 and 2001) were recovered. A retouched flint blade (RA 20042) and a Neolithic plano-convex knife variant (RA2033) were also recovered from the interface with the undisturbed natural geological deposit (G2065) below.

This layer represents the natural geology that had been disturbed by modern ploughing and was therefore removed by machine prior to excavation.

Groups within L219

G2064	Subsoil layer. Mid reddish brown sandy silt of 0.20m thick.
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2.6 Phase 200 – Undated (Figure 21)

Evidence of undated activity was dispersed across the investigation area. It comprised small isolated clusters of pits, of unknown purpose, in addition to an area of undated small-scale sand quarrying. These features could not be assigned to other phases as no finds were recovered and their form was dissimilar to features within dated land use areas. Most have been placed in the same land use area due to their proximity and likely contemporaneity.

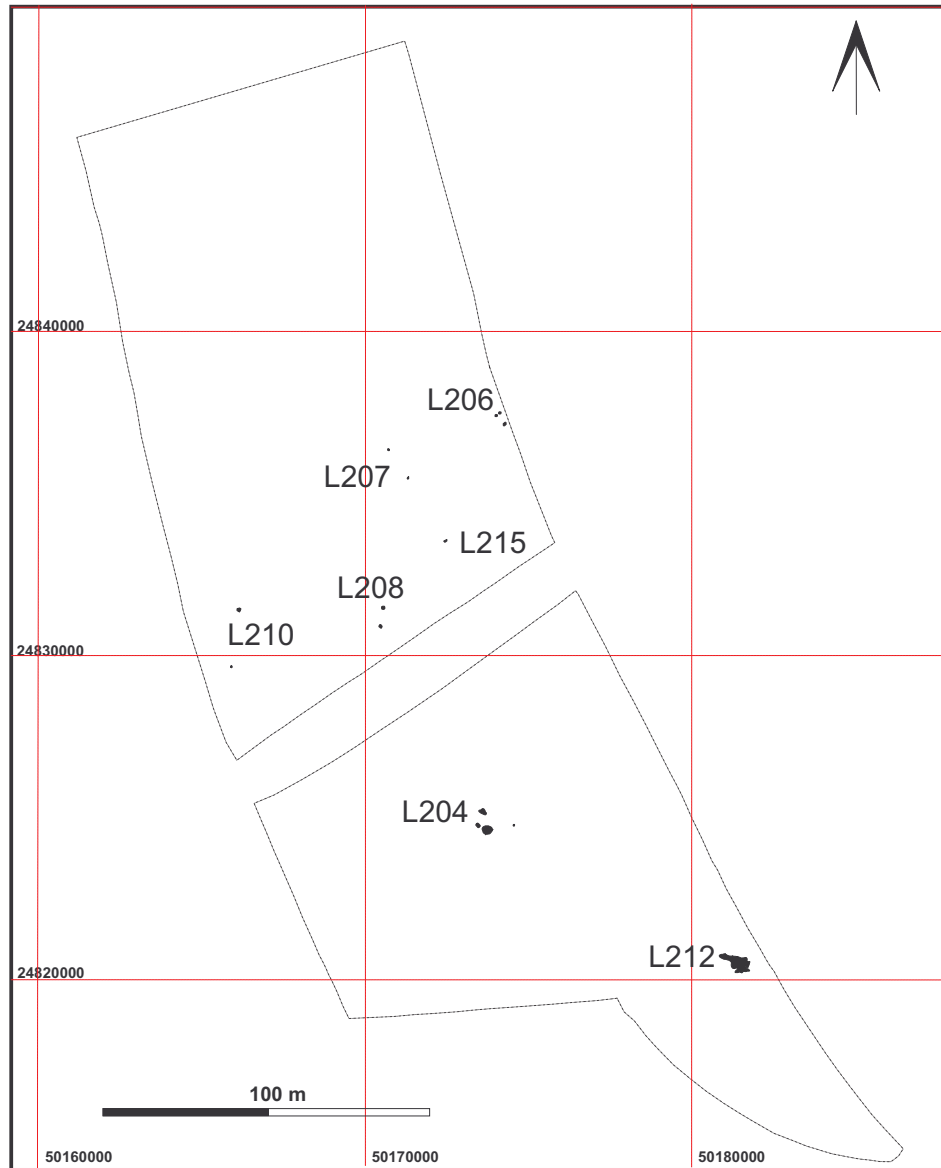


Figure 21: Phase 200 plan

2.6.1 Activity focus L204

L204 was a cluster of four pits within an area of 12m by 8m. They were located towards the centre of the southern area of investigation, c. 70m to the south of L208. The cluster consisted of one large sub-circular pit (G2045), two medium ovoid pits (G2044 and G2046) and one small circular pit (G2047). All were less than 0.3m deep. The fills of L204 were generally very dark and humic in nature, and all contained charcoal flecks. Although the fills did not contain any finds, they were not as heavily leached as those from the prehistoric features.

Groups within L204

G2044	Sub-ovoid pit with a U-shaped profile and an irregular base. It was 1.35m long by 1.00m wide and 0.18m deep.
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G2045	Sub-circular pit, 3.2m in diameter and 0.25m deep. It had an irregular profile with a flat base.
G2046	Shallow, sub-ovoid pit, 0.80m wide by 1.33m long and 0.14m deep. It was heavily truncated, with an irregular flat base.
G2047	Small circular pit, 0.49m in diameter and 0.14m deep. It was slightly irregular with a concave profile and a rounded base.

2.6.2 Activity focus L206

L206 was a cluster of three unenclosed pits located adjacent the eastern limit of the northern area of investigation, *c.* 30m to the east of L207. The pits were located within a 5m by 5m area and were of a similar size. They were all less than 1.3m in diameter and less than 0.3m deep. The northern most pits (G2060 and G2061) were particularly similar. All the pits within this land use area were undated. The sole fills of L206 were generally a mid greyish to reddish brown silty sand with moderate small to medium stone inclusions. No finds or other inclusions were present.

Groups within L206	
G2059	Ovoid pit, 1.3m long by 0.76m wide and 0.26m deep. It was shallow with a U-shaped profile.
G2060	Small circular pit, 0.66m in diameter and 0.16m deep, with a U-shaped profile.
G2061	Small circular pit, 0.66m in diameter and 0.13m deep, with a U-shaped profile.

2.6.3 Activity focus L207

L207 comprised two unenclosed pits located towards the centre of the northern area of investigation, *c.* 20m to the north of L215. The pits were located *c.* 10m apart but were of a similar size and form. They were both shallow elongated ovoids, less than 0.8m long and 0.2m deep. Both the pits within this land use area were undated. The fills of L207 were generally orangish brown silty sands, with no finds or other inclusions.

Groups within L207	
G2057	Elongated ovoid pit, 0.8m long by 0.35 wide and 0.17m deep. It had symmetrical concave sides and a rounded base. Possible pit, thought to be of anthropogenic origin due to its regularity.
G2058	Small ovoid pit, 0.44m wide by 0.64m long and 0.14m deep. It had concave, asymmetrical sides and a rounded base.

2.6.4 Activity focus L208

L208 comprised two unenclosed pits located towards southern edge of the northern area of investigation, *c.* 40m to the east of L210. The pits were located *c.* 10m apart but were of a similar size and form. They were both elongated ovoids, less than 0.8m long and less than 0.2m deep. All the pits within this land use area were undated. The fills of L208 were generally greyish brown sandy silts, with moderate small to medium stones. No finds or other inclusions were present.

Groups within L208	
G2054	Sub-circular pit with a U-shaped profile and a concave base. 0.96m in diameter and 0.21m deep.
G2055	Sub-circular pit with a U-shaped profile and a concave base. It was



| 0.93m in diameter and 0.15m deep.

2.6.5 Dispersed activity L210

L210 represents an unenclosed area of isolated pits. It comprised two pits located less than 20m from the western edge of the northern area of investigation, *c.* 20m to the west of L208. Although different in form and size, the two pits were located in the vicinity of the larger Phase 204 post-medieval quarry pits L217 and shared similar fills. The fills of L210 were generally mid reddish/greyish brown sandy silts. No finds or other inclusions were present, although scorched stones were present in the upper fills of the northernmost pit G2052.

Groups within L210	
G2052	Sub-ovoid pit, orientated N-S, with a U-shaped profile and a concave base. It was 0.66m long by 0.42m wide and 0.20m deep.
G2053	Irregular, sub-circular pit. It was 1.2m in diameter and 0.09m deep, with a U-shaped profile and a flat base.

2.6.6 Activity focus L212

L212 represents a discrete area of quarrying activity. It was located close to the eastern limit of the southern area of investigation, *c.* 80m to the south-east of L204. It comprised an irregular, elongated feature with an irregular profile, 11m long by 5.5m wide and 0.41m deep that possibly consisted of multiple pits. This activity was undated but significantly different from the Phase 204 post-medieval limestone quarries L217 to warrant its own land use area. Its location, on an outcrop of sandy natural geology, may suggest the small scale sand extraction was the purpose of these pits. No finds or ecofacts were recovered.

Groups within L212	
G2004	Irregular, elongated quarry pit, orientated NE-SW, with an irregular profile and an uneven base. It was 11m long by 5.5m wide and 0.41m deep, and possibly comprised multiple cuts.

2.6.7 Isolated Pit L215

L215 consisted of an isolated sub-circular pit. It was located in south-eastern corner of the northern area of investigation, *c.* 20m to the south of L207. It was significantly different from the other undated pits in that its fill contained large scorched stones and exhibited frequent charcoal staining. No finds or other inclusions were present.

L215 was a cut of a pit of unknown purpose, representing unenclosed, undated activity.

Groups within L215	
G2056	Sub-circular feature, 1m in diameter by 0.21m deep with a U-shaped profile and a slightly irregular, flat base.



3 AREA 3 STRUCTURAL HIERARCHY AND TECHNICAL DETAIL

	Mitigation	Evaluation	Area Total
Contexts	488	11	499
No of features	196	2	198
Pottery	3630 sherds (70151g)	3 (44g)	70195g
Fired clay	36 (2008g)	0	36 (2008g)
Registered artefacts	353	0	353
Struck flint	19 (63g)	1 (22g)	20 (85g)
Human bone	29 inhumations, 2 cremations	0	31 individuals
Animal bone	1877 (22896g)	112g	23008g
Samples	39	0	39

Table 6: Area 3 data summary



Figure 22: Area 3 all features plan



Introduction

Assessment of the results of all phases of fieldwork has led to the identification of six phases of activity which are summarised below.

Phase	Chronological period	Activity type	Evidence	Nb of contexts
301	Prehistoric	Unenclosed activity	Residual artefacts	0
302	Early middle Iron Age	Unenclosed activity	Pit cluster	13
303	Late Iron Age-early Romano-British	Farmstead	Enclosure ditches Dispersed pits and postholes	26
304	Early Romano-British	Farmstead	Enclosure ditches Unenclosed pits Inhumation	116
305	Later Romano-British	Farmstead	Enclosure ditches Boundary ditch Kiln Cemetery	296
306	Modern	Drainage	Land drains	3
3	Unassigned contexts	Undated and/or of low potential for further analysis.	Root disturbance Tree throws Geological features Alluvium	45

Table 7: Area 3 Phase summary

3.1 Phase 301 – Prehistoric

A small lithic artefact assemblage comprised of 20 pieces of stuck flint of possible Neolithic and early Bronze Age was identified. It is entirely residual within later features.

3.2 Phase 302 – Early-middle Iron Age (Figure 23)

The earliest firm evidence for settlement on the site is a probable farmstead, dated by pottery to the early-middle Iron Age. It comprised pit cluster L300, which was concentrated in the western part of the excavation area. The pits are likely to have been storage pits. Elsewhere on the Biddenham Loop such concentrations of storage pits have been interpreted as being part of a farmstead. They contained seventeen sherds of contemporary pottery.

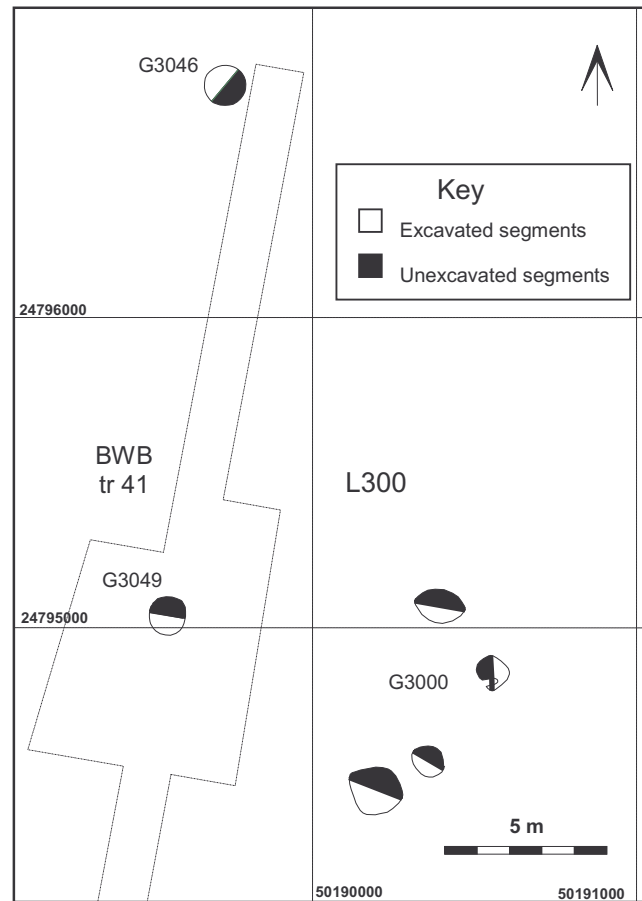


Figure 23: Phase 302 plan

3.2.1 Pit cluster L300

Small pit cluster L300 comprised five pits, spread over an area of 20m, that were either oval (G3000) or circular (G3046 and G3049) in plan. Twenty contemporary pottery sherds were recovered; other domestic debris included 21 fragments of animal bone.

Groups within L300

G3000	Four oval pits between 1m and 1.65m in diameter and up to 0.35m deep with vertical sides and flattish bases.
G3046	Circular pit situated 16m to the NW of pits G3000, 1.3m in diameter and 0.6m deep with vertical sides and flattish base
G3049	Circular pit situated 7m to the W of pits G3000, 1m in diameter, 0.35m deep with vertical sides and a flat base.

3.3 Phase 303 – Late Iron Age-early Romano-British (Figure 24)

In the late Iron Age-early Romano-British period a new farmstead was established 30m to the east of the early-middle Iron Age activity (Phase 302). The stratigraphic and ceramic evidence confirms that this farmstead is of a later date. Its main component comprised enclosure L301. To the west of the enclosure was an area of associated unenclosed activity: L302. This comprised two gullies and two pits. The pits contained quantities of late Iron



Age-early Romano-British pottery and one of the gullies truncated one of the Phase 302 pits.

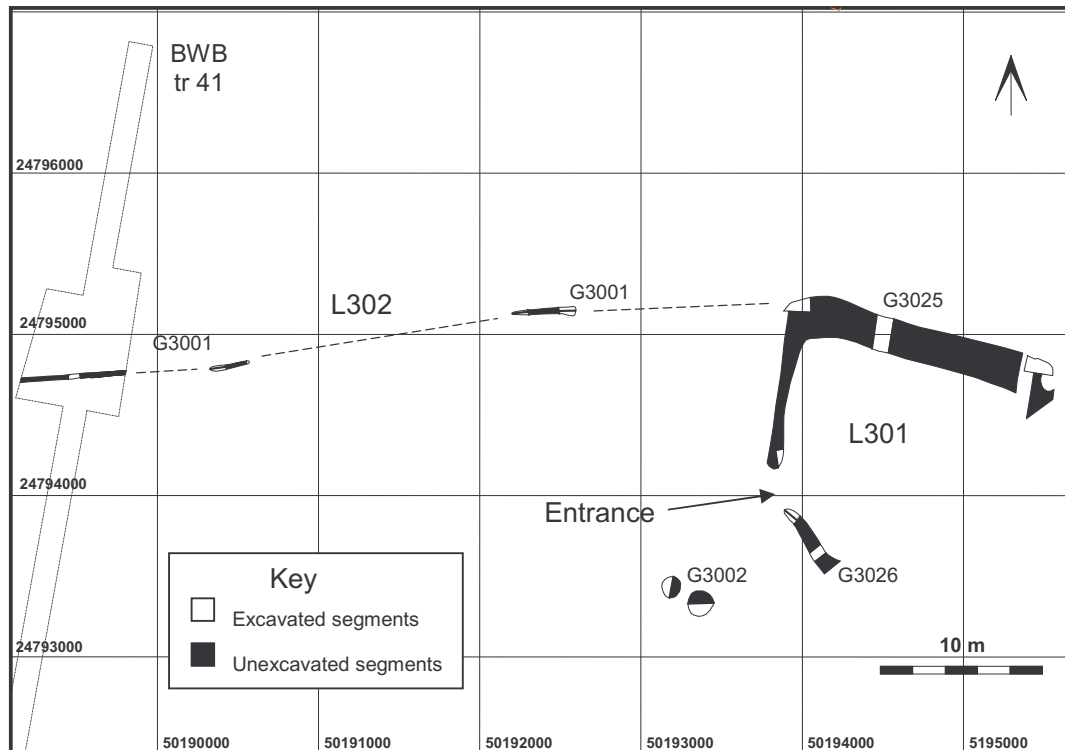


Figure 24: Phase 303 plan

3.3.1 Enclosure L301

Sub-square enclosure L301 was at least 14m wide, enclosing an area over 88sqm, with a 2.5m wide SW entrance. It was defined by continuous ditch G3025 and G3026. The northern ditch G3025 was almost double the width of the southern ditch G3026. The enclosure ditches contained domestic debris comprising 15 sherds of late Iron Age/early Romano-British pottery and 80 fragments of animal bone.

Groups within L301	
G3025	Ditch defining the north, west and east sides of the enclosure
G3026	Ditch defining the southern limit of the enclosure

3.3.2 Unenclosed activity L302

A gully G3001 and two pits G2002 were located to the west of enclosure L301, within a 30m area. The gully was intermittent, due to truncation, but was aligned with the northern side of the enclosure. The pits were situated 6m from the western side of the enclosure. They contained a small assemblage of late Iron Age-early Romano-British pottery, fired clay, burnt stones and animal bone.



Groups within L302	
G3001	Three gullies
G3002	Two circular pits between 1.35 and 1.6m in diameter and up to 0.6m deep with steep sided concave profiles.

3.4 Phase 304 – Early Romano-British (Figure 25)

In the early Romano-British period it is probable that settlement from the previous phase continued in use with the addition of a system of enclosures. The geophysical evidence indicated that these enclosures were situated on the NW periphery of a much larger settlement. The enclosures were orientated on slightly different alignments and, in the northern part, a small rectilinear enclosure L304 was situated inside a larger curvilinear enclosure L303. To the south of these were two rectilinear enclosures L307 and L308. Contemporary internal activity comprised pits and an inhumation burial, whilst outside the enclosure system were pits L314. All of the enclosures contained moderate quantities of domestic debris including pottery, ceramic building material (CBM), animal bone and oyster shells.

3.4.1 Enclosure L303

Curvilinear enclosure L303 was at least 30m by 15m (420sqm) in size with a southern entrance. It was defined by ditch G3010 to the north and ditch G3011 to the south. It is likely that these two ditch lengths were continuous but much of the western side was lost below a later ditch. Located 2.5m to the east of the southern entrance was an associated pit G3041. No internal activity was identified. The northern enclosure ditch contained a moderate assemblage of domestic debris, including 72 sherds of Romano-British pottery and 68 fragments of animal bone, with only a single sherd from the southern enclosure ditch.

Groups within L303	
G3010	Northern enclosure ditch. Sample 3030 taken
G3011	Southern enclosure ditch
G3041	Circular pit, 1.2m in diameter and 0.3m deep with a concave profile and flat base

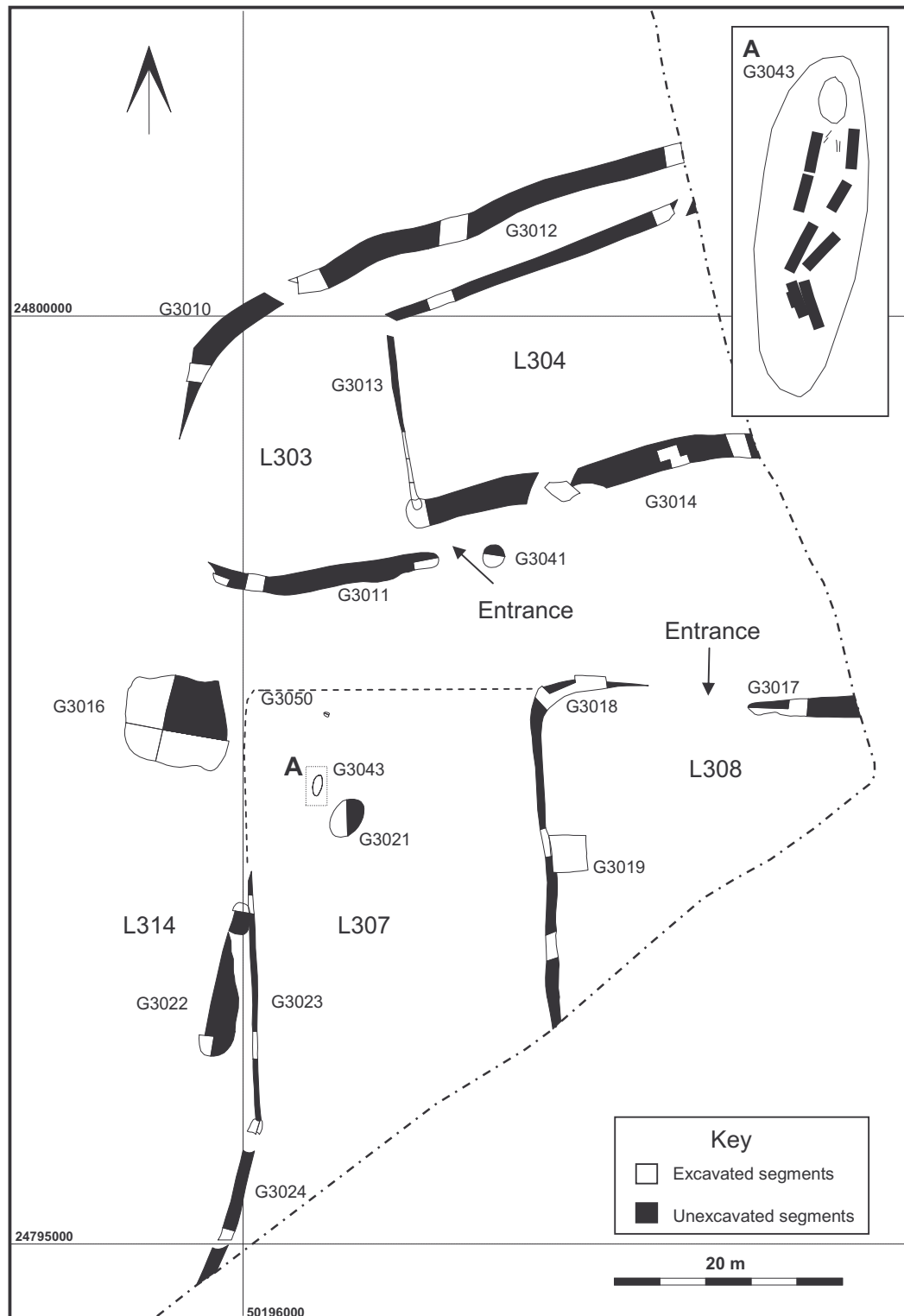


Figure 25: Phase 304 – Early Romano-British plan



3.4.2 Enclosure L304

Rectilinear enclosure L304 was situated within enclosure L303 and was at least 17m by 10m (190sqm) in size. The southern enclosure ditch G3014 was almost double the width of the northern ditch G3012; the western side G3013 had been affected by plough truncation. Its eastern side lay beyond the excavation limit and no obvious entrance or internal activity was identified. The northern and southern enclosure ditches contained moderate quantities of domestic debris including 66 sherds of Romano-British pottery, 55 sherds of 1st-2nd century pottery, CBM, a copper annular ring (RA 3014), two coins (RA 3019) one of which is dated to the late 2nd century, oyster shells and 68 fragments of animal bone.

Groups within L304

G3012	Northern enclosure ditch.
G3013	Western enclosure ditch.
G3014	Southern enclosure ditch.

3.4.3 Enclosure L307

Enclosure L307 was the western of two adjacent enclosures situated in the southern part of the site. It was 15m wide and at least 23m long (350sqm), continuing beyond the southern excavation limit. The western limit was defined by two continuous ditches, G3023 and G3024, and it shared its eastern boundary with the adjacent enclosure. No entrance was identified as its northern limit and part of the western limit was truncated by a later enclosure ditch. Situated in the NW corner of the enclosure were an inhumation burial G3043, a cremation burial G3050 and a pit G3021. The enclosure ditches contained a small assemblage of pottery and animal bone.

Groups within L307

G3021	Oval pit, 2.3m long, 1.5m wide, 0.95m deep with near vertical sides
G3023	Western enclosure ditch
G3024	Western enclosure ditch
G3043	Inhumation burial placed in a N-S aligned grave. The skeleton lay supine though slightly on its right hand side with the head at the N end. The arms lay down by either side and the legs were together and bent at the knees. The grave had been affected by plough truncation as the skull and lower legs were damaged and the lower arms, hands, pelvis and feet were missing. No grave goods or coffin nails were found.
G3050	Cremation burial placed within a grey ware jar that was accompanied by two accessory vessels including a Samian vessel.

3.4.4 Enclosure L308

Enclosure L308 was at least 17m by 16m in size and enclosed an area of at least 190sqm. It continued beyond the southern excavation limit. Ditches G3017 and G3018 defined the western and part of the northern sides of the enclosure. The northern side was truncated by a later ditch, although enough remained to identify part of a northern entrance. Internally, the only contemporary feature to be identified was a possible cess pit. Its fills contained a total of 28 sherds of Romano-British pottery, a 2nd century coin (RA 3011), 223 fragments of animal bone and oyster shells.



Groups within L308	
G3017	Northern enclosure ditch
G3018	Western enclosure ditch
G3019	Regular square pit, c. 2m in size and 0.7m deep with vertical sides.

3.4.5 Unenclosed activity L314

Unenclosed activity L314 comprised three large pits L314 that were located outside the enclosure system. They were situated 7m apart, adjacent to the western side of enclosure L307. Only the largest of the pits (G3016) contained any artefacts; these comprised of 50 sherds of Romano-British pottery and over 150 fragments of animal bone.

Groups within L314	
G3016	Large sub-square pit 5.5m by 4.8m and 0.55m deep with a steep sided profile and flat base.
G3022	Two oval pits between 2m and 5m in size and up to 0.5m deep

3.5 Phase 305 – Later Romano-British (Figure 26)

The farmstead established in the previous phase continued in use into the later Romano-British period, although it underwent some reorganisation. This new land division had a similar alignment to that of Phase 304, with ditches of this phase recutting some of the earlier boundaries, particularly in the southern part. A major boundary L305 defined the western limits of this system, with enclosures established to its east. Four small enclosures, L310, L312, L313 and L317, were located in the northern part of the enclosure system; these replaced the earlier enclosures in this area. Enclosures L310 contained a kiln and associated pitting. Enclosures L312 and L313 contained inhumation burials. A more substantial enclosure L309 was established to the south of these. This may have incorporated at least one of the Phase 304 southern enclosures. Cemetery L306 was situated between this enclosure and the major boundary. The only activity outside and to the west of the major boundary was ditch G311 and another cemetery L315.

3.5.1 Major boundary L305

The major western boundary to the enclosure system was defined by ditches G3008 and G3009. Moderate quantities of pottery and animal bone, as well as some iron objects, were found along the length of the ditch. A complete skull and mandibles of a dog were found in the lower fill of a terminal.

Groups within L305	
G3008	Western boundary ditch.
G3009	Western boundary ditch.

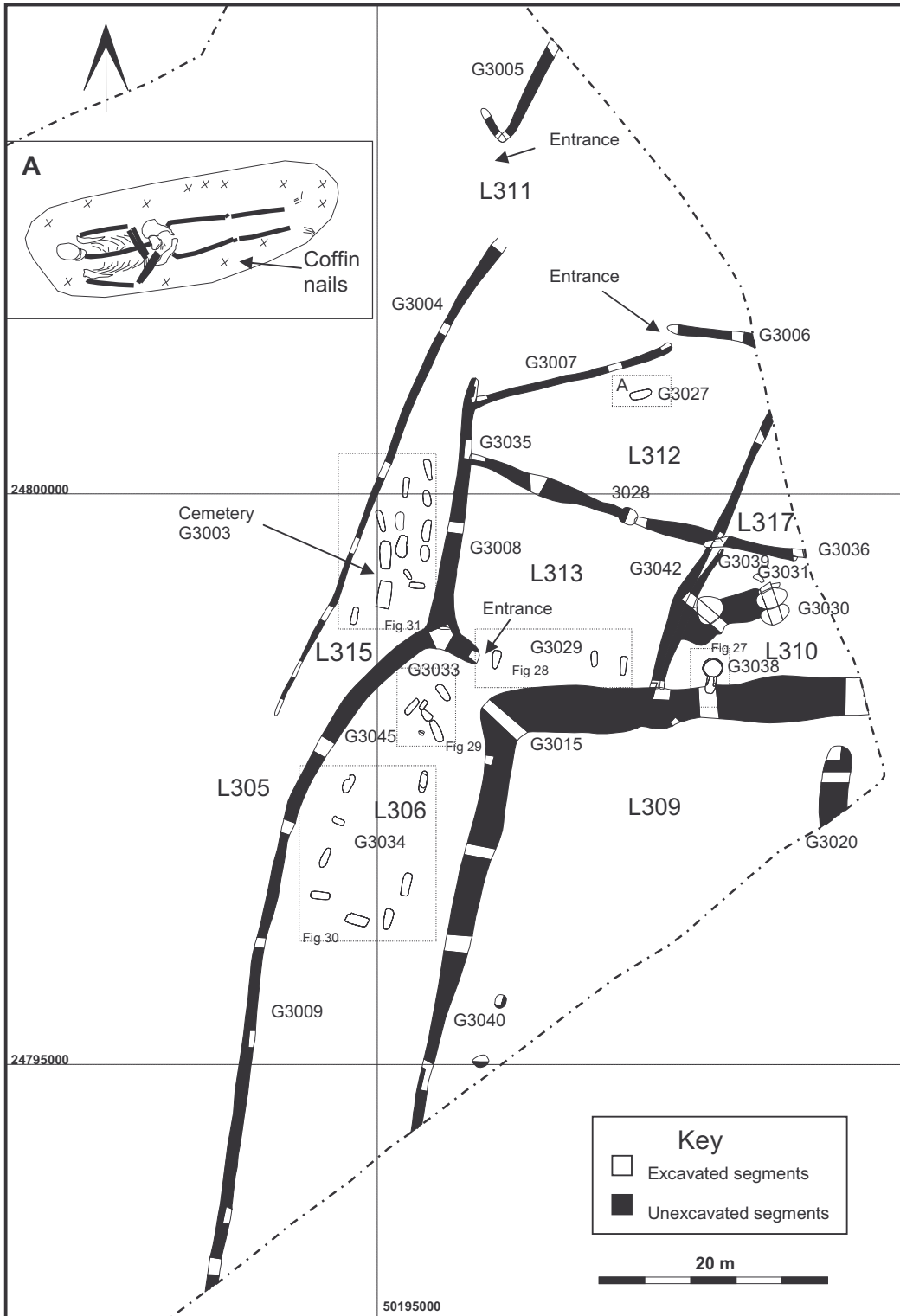


Figure 26: Phase 305 – Later Romano-British plan



3.5.2 Enclosure L309

Presumed rectangular enclosure L309 enclosed an area of at least 35m by 33m (640sqm). It was defined by continuous ditch G3015, of which the northern and western sides were located within the limit of excavation. A short length of ditch G3020 was identified to the east, but it is unknown if this represents part of an eastern limit or if it is an internal ditch. Other internal features included two pits G3040 that truncated one of the Phase 304 ditches. The fills of the enclosure ditch contained large quantities of domestic debris including several coins; further artefacts were recovered from the pits.

Groups within L309

G3015	Enclosure ditch.
G3020	Enclosure ditch.
G3040	Two oval pits c. 1.3m in size and up to 0.3m deep with concave profiles and flattish bases

3.5.3 Enclosure L310

Enclosure L310 was at least 16m by 11m (150sqm) in extent. Ditch G3036 defined the northern side and ditch G3039 defined the western. It shared its southern limit with enclosure L309. No eastern limit or entrance was identified within the excavation. Internally, it contained keyhole-shaped kiln, G3038, orientated N-S, four pits G3030 and a single inhumation burial G3031. The pits were situated 3m to the north of the kiln. Three were intercutting and may be the result of quarrying for clay used in the kiln. The fill of the kiln contained 1490 sherds of Romano-British pottery, 1.67kg of fired clay, oyster shells and 45 fragments of animal bone. The latter included an associated group of foal bones from the final infilling of the kiln G3038.

Groups within L310

G3030	Four oval pits ranging between 2m and 2.7m long, between 0.55m and 1.7m wide and up to 0.55m deep with concave profiles and flattish bases.
G3031	Sub-rectangular grave aligned NW-SE that contained the severely disturbed remains of an inhumation burial. The grave cut was 0.9m long, 0.45m wide and 0.05m deep. Parts of the arms, legs, skull and some of the ribs were present. The skull was located at the NW end of the grave while parts of the legs were at the SE end.
G3036	Northern enclosure ditch
G3038 Figure 27	Kiln that was 3.1m long with the oven to the N and the stokehole to the S. The oven was circular in plan, vertically sided and flat-bottomed, 1.6m in diameter and 0.55m deep. Archaeomagnetic dating was undertaken. A clay lining covered the base and sides of the oven and in its centre was a pedestal comprised of a limestone block 0.45m wide and 0.4m thick that had been carved in-situ out of the natural geology. A lip in the oven suggests that a ledge was present that would have supported kiln bars. The flue was 1.4m long, narrowing from 0.9m wide at the S end to 0.7m wide in front of the oven. The flue walls were constructed in a dry stone style with a possible bonding of sandy silt that was held in place by baked clay lining same as that found in the oven. Limestone slabs lined the east and west walls and the base of the flue chamber and entrance.
G3039	Western enclosure ditch

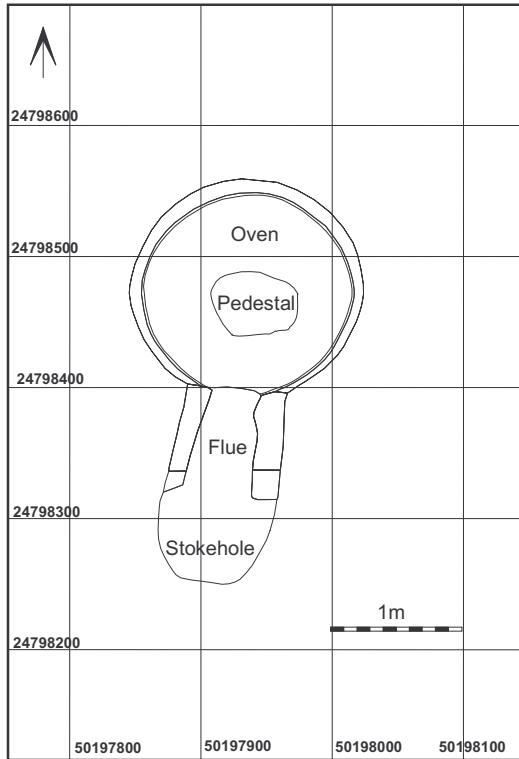


Figure 27: Detailed plan of kiln G3038



Plate 1: Kiln G3038



Plate 2: Kiln G3038



3.5.4 Enclosure L312

Enclosure L312 was 23m by 16m (260 sqm) in size, with a 1m wide northern entrance. The northern enclosure limit was defined by ditches G3006 and G3007; the southern limit by ditch G3035; and the eastern by ditch G3037. Internally, it contained a single inhumation burial G3027. Not all of the activity was contemporary: pit G3028 truncated the southern enclosure ditch. All of the infilled enclosure ditches contained moderate quantities of domestic debris. A complete skull of an adult dog was also recovered from one of the ditch fills.

Groups within L312

G3006	Northern enclosure ditch
G3007	Northern enclosure ditch
G3027	Inhumation burial in an isolated grave orientated E-W. The skeleton lay in a supine position fully extended with the head at the W end. The right arm was bent slightly with the hand resting on the pelvis and the left arm lay across the stomach with the left hand overlying the right arm. The legs were straight out. Thirteen iron nails were found (RA 3067-3074 and 3081-3087) indicating it had been placed in a coffin.
G3028	Sub-circular pit, 1.4m in diameter and 0.3m deep with near vertical sides and a flattish base.
G3035	Southern enclosure ditch.
G3037	Eastern enclosure ditch.

3.5.5 Enclosure L313 (Figure 28)

Enclosure L313 was 19m by 16m (290 sqm) in size, with a SW entrance. The eastern limit was defined by ditch G3042 and the western limit by the major boundary. It shared its northern limit with enclosure L312 and its southern limit with enclosure L309. Internally it contained three single inhumation burials G3029; these were aligned in a row, orientated E-W, close to the enclosure's southern limit. The eastern enclosure ditch contained only a single sherd of Romano-British pottery. The grave backfill contained 28 sherds of pottery, a single sherd of 2nd century pottery and 58 fragments of animal bone.

Groups within L313

G3029	Three inhumation burials (S3143, S3145, S3147) placed in individual graves aligned N-S with the heads positioned at the N end. All of the skeletons lay supine in an extended position. They had been affected by plough truncation as none of the skulls survived. There was no evidence for coffins or grave goods.
G3042	Eastern enclosure ditch.

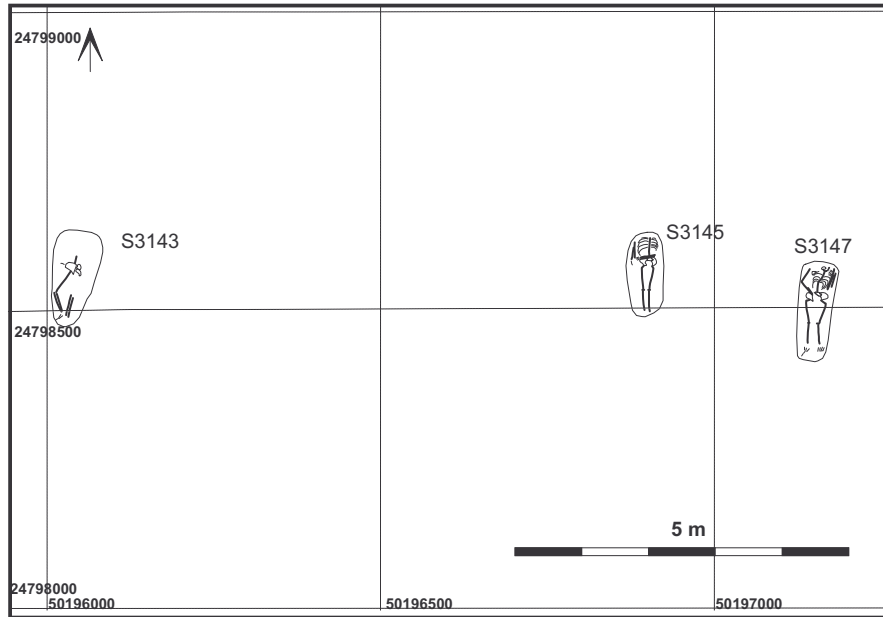


Figure 28: Detailed plan of inhumations G3029 in enclosure L313

3.5.6 Enclosure L317

Only a small part of this enclosure was identified, as the majority of it lay beyond the eastern limit of excavation. It was at least 10m long and 7m wide, sharing its western limit with enclosure L312 and its southern limit with enclosure L310. No entrances or internal features were identified.

3.5.7 Boundary L311

A NE-SW aligned boundary L311, defined by two ditch lengths G3004 and G3005, was located to the west of the enclosure system. There was no further activity to the west of this boundary. The northern part of the boundary turned to create part of an entranceway. Any opposing terminal was lost as this section of the boundary had been truncated. The ditches contained no artefacts, indicating that were located away from the main focus of domestic activity.

Groups within L311

G3004	Southern boundary ditch.
G3005	Northern boundary ditch.

3.5.8 Cemetery L306

Cemetery L306 comprised two groups of graves that were located in the southern part of the enclosure system, between the major boundary ditch and enclosure L309. The northern group comprised five graves G3033, each of which contained a single inhumation burial, and cremation burial G3045. They were laid out more randomly than the southern group. The southern group G3034 comprised nine inhumation burials in individual graves, arranged in a rectangular layout, over an area 7m by 12m.



Groups within L306

G3033	Northern group of five inhumation burials (S3167, S3169, S3171, S3173, S3175). Three of the graves were aligned NW-SE while two were NE-SW. At least one of the burials (S3169) had been placed in a coffin and buried with grave goods comprised of hobnails and a glass bottle base while another (S3173) contained several large stones that had been used to line the base of the grave.
G3034	Southern group of nine inhumation burials (S3177, S3179, S3181, S3183, S3185, S3187, S3189, S3191, S3193). Six of the graves were aligned NNE-SSW while three of the graves were aligned WNW-ESE. An earlier grave (S3177) contained the partial remains of a skeleton as it has been truncated by later grave (S3179). The graves on the eastern side all had their heads positioned at the N end. In grave S3179 the skull had been placed at the northern end between the feet. Those on the western side all had their heads positioned at the southern or western ends. At least three of the inhumations (S3183, S3189, S3191) had been buried in coffins and two (S3189, S3191) contained grave goods comprised of either a glass or ceramic vessel.
G3045	Urned cremation burial S3224 found in a grave 0.25m in diameter and 0.05m deep. Most of the cremation burial was found within the urn though a small amount was located adjacent to it. The urn was a fragmented black and red ceramic vessel with only the lower part and base surviving.

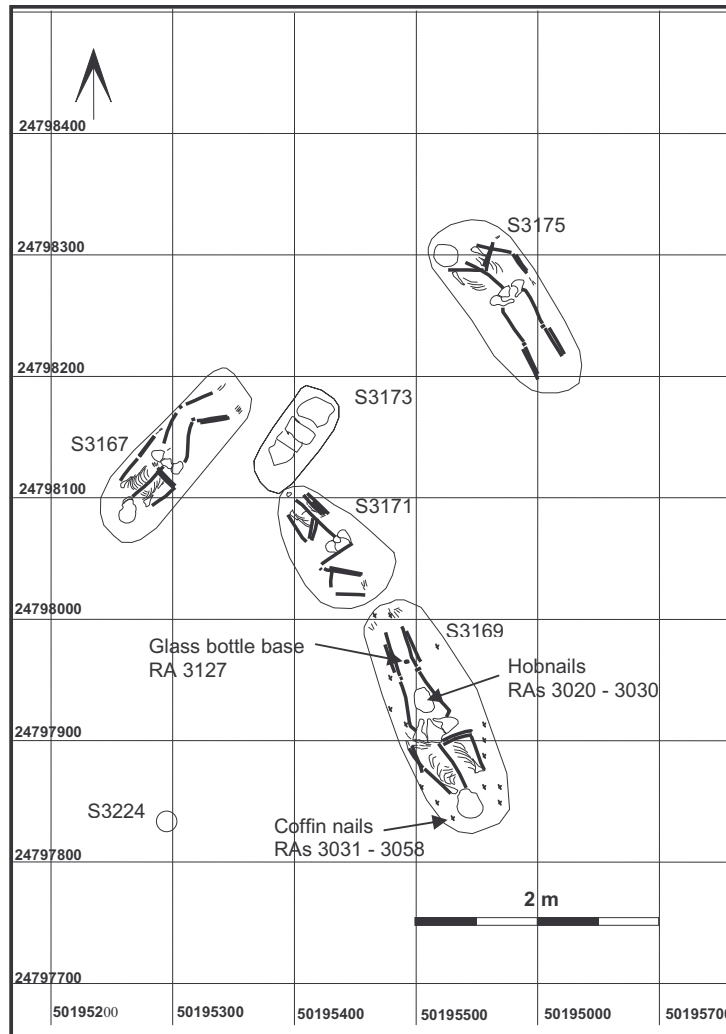


Figure 29: Detailed plan of cemetery L306 with graves G3033

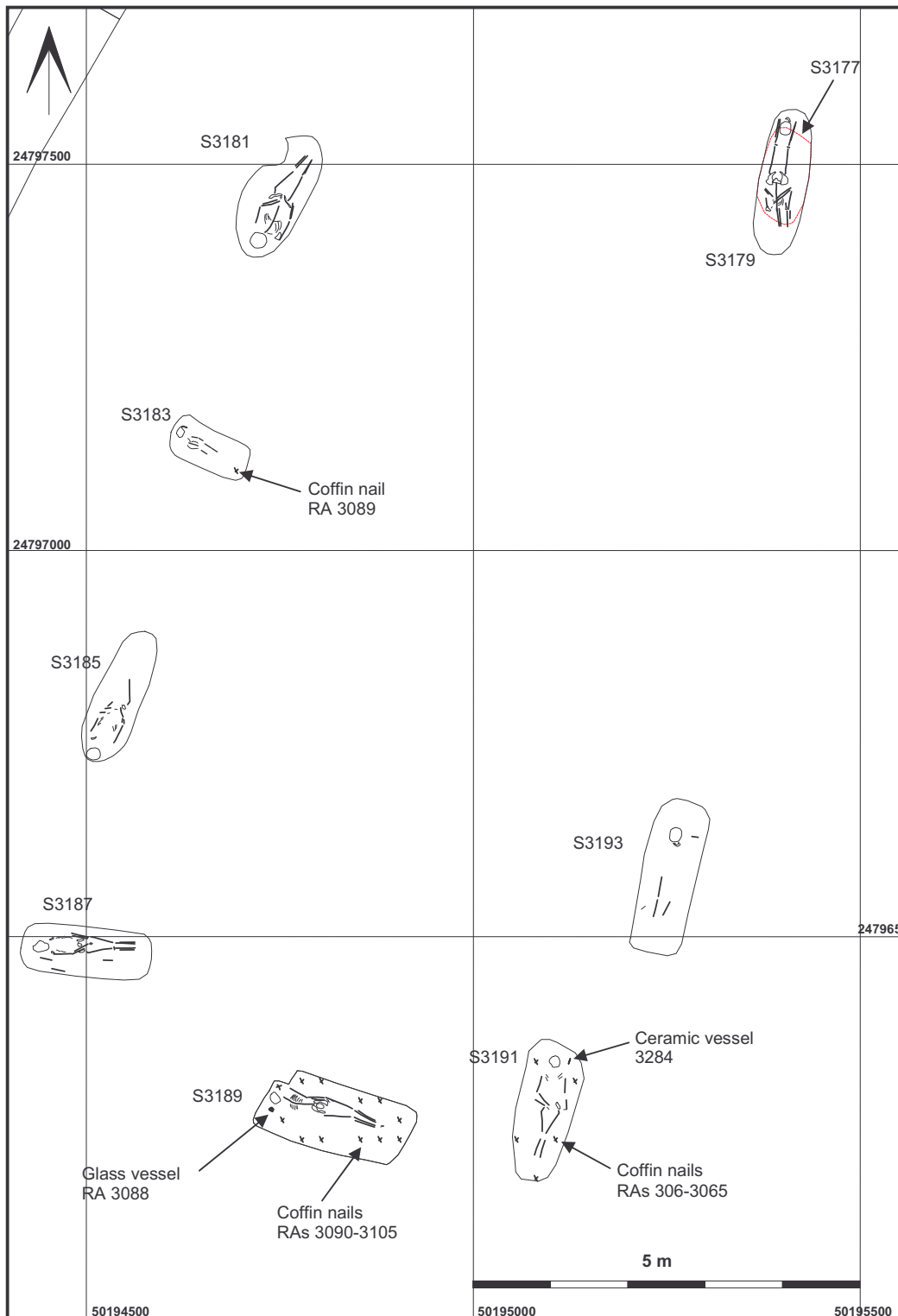


Figure 30: Detailed plan of cemetery L306 with graves G3034



3.5.9 Cemetery L315

Cemetery L315 was located beyond the limit of the major western boundary and was bounded to the west by ditch L311. Although this boundary was not aligned exactly parallel with the western boundary ditch L305, the cemetery appeared to be situated in a small area between them. Thirteen graves were identified, of which all but S3027 contained individual inhumation burials.

Groups within L315

G3003	Thirteen graves (S3019, S3021, S3023, S3025, S3027, S3029, S3031, S3035, S3037, S3039, S3041 and S3043) containing the remains of twelve inhumation burials. Eleven of the graves were aligned N-S, one (S3039) was aligned E-W while another (S3037) was aligned NW-SE. Three of the inhumations (S3031, S3033, S3041) had been buried in coffins and three (S3031, S3033, S3043) contained grave goods. The grave goods included a glass beaded necklace, hobnails, copper bracelets, earrings and a bronze finger ring.
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3.6 Phase 306 – Modern

The only modern features to be identified were several land drains. Eleven sherds of Romano-British pottery were recovered from the ploughsoil.

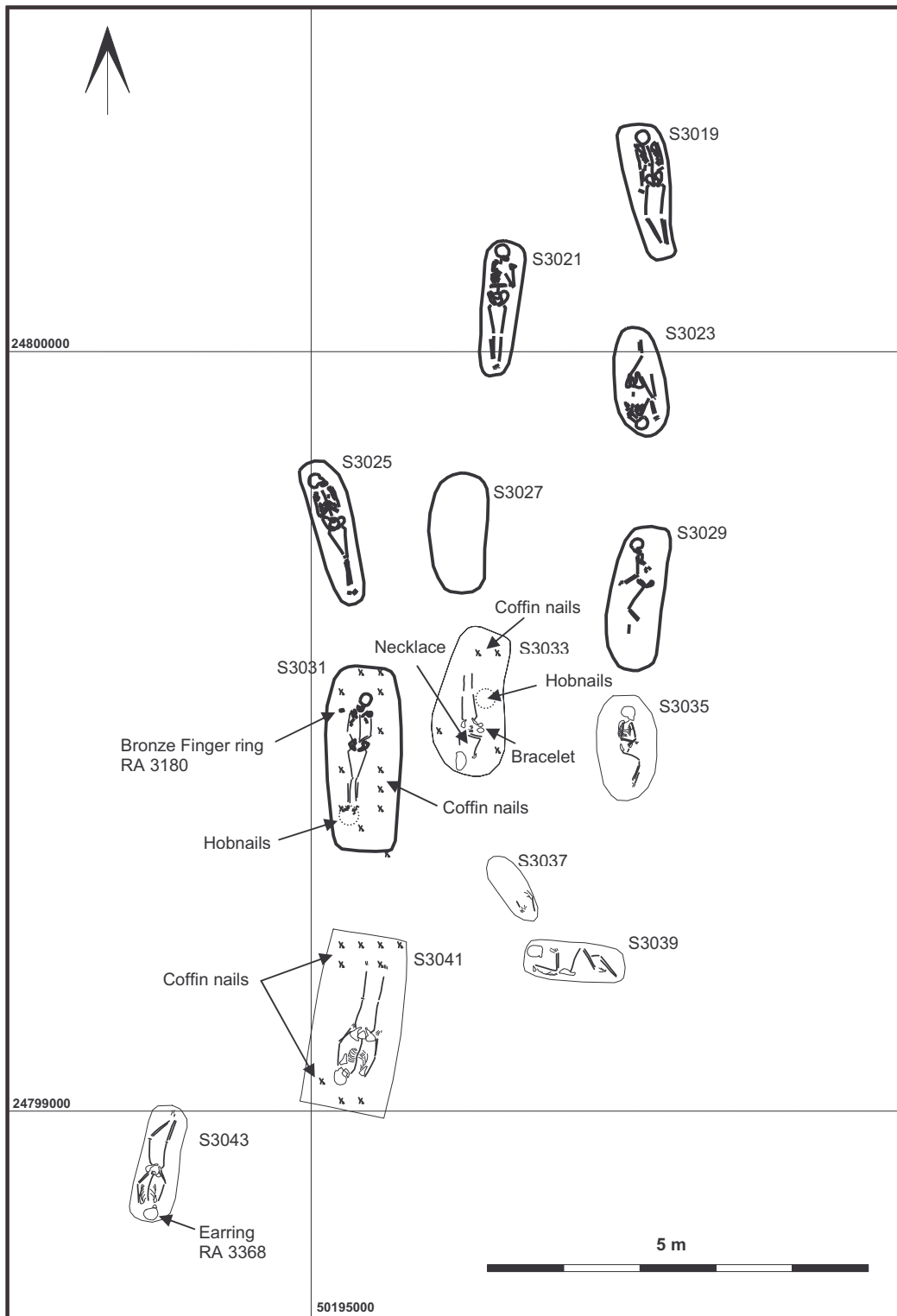


Figure 31: Detailed plan of cemetery L315 with graves G3003





4 AREA 4 STRUCTURAL HIERARCHY AND TECHNICAL DETAIL

Work in this area has yet to commence as of 20/6/08.





5 AREA 5 STRUCTURAL HIERARCHY AND TECHNICAL DETAIL

	Mitigation	Evaluation	Area Total
Contexts	1,895	211	2,017
No of features	763	62	825
Pottery	10,008 sherds (217.7kg)	8.27 kg	225.97kg
Animal bone	4,270 (3.42kg)	1.81kg	5.23kg
Fired clay	249 (13.99kg)	730g	2.12kg
CBM	128 (16.67kg)	530g	2.19kg
Registered artefacts	418	19	437
Struck flint	11	5	16
Human bone	2 inhumations, 1 cremation	1 skull fragment (23g)	4 individuals
Samples	64	0	64

Table 8: Area 5 data summary

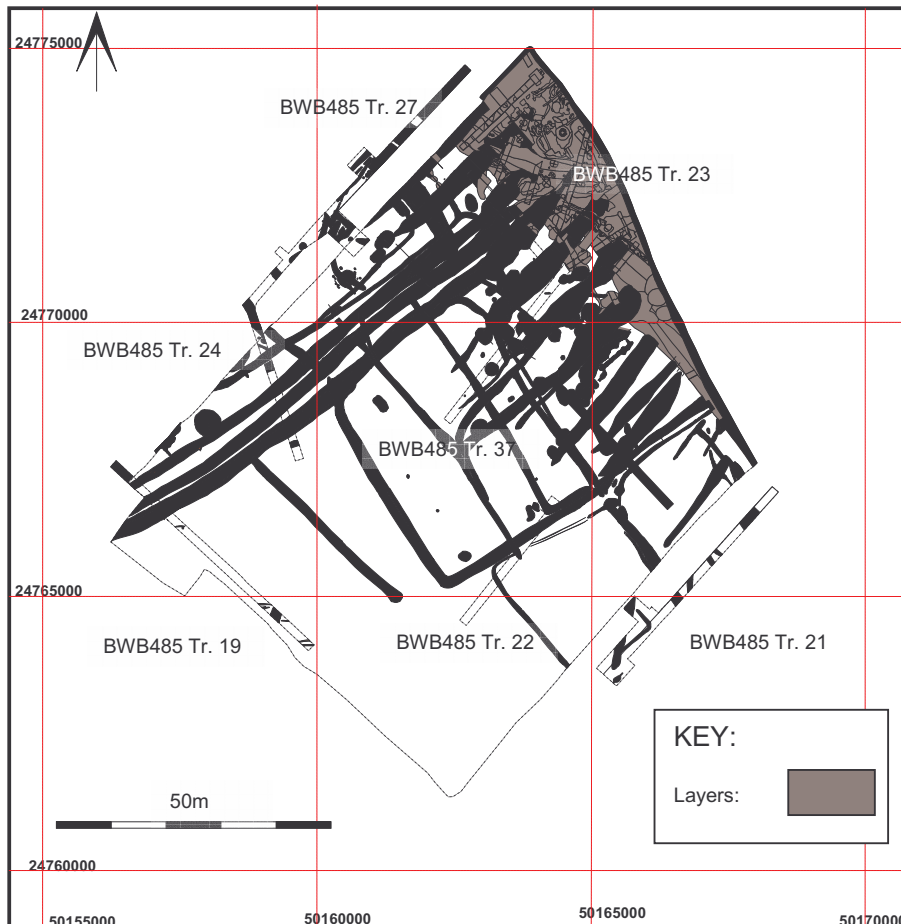


Figure 32: Area 5 all feature plan



Introduction

Assessment of the results of all episodes of fieldwork has led to the identification of ten phases of activity (Table 9). It incorporates the results of seven of the Bedford Western Bypass (BWB485) evaluation trenches that lay within Area 5 (Figure 32).

Phase	Chronological period	Activity type	Evidence	Nb of contexts
501	Prehistoric and undated	Unenclosed activity	Residual artefacts	20
502	Late Iron Age/early Romano-British	Field system Trackways	Field ditch Trackway ditches Pit	109
503	Romano-British 1 st /2 nd century	Roadway Trackway Domestic enclosure	Roadside surface and ditches Enclosure ditches Pits and postholes Building	266
504	Romano-British 2 nd century	Roadway Trackway Domestic enclosure	External surfaces 'yard' areas Cess pits Road surfaces and side ditches Trackside ditches Enclosure ditches Pits, postholes and a well.	465
505	Romano-British 2 nd /3 rd century	Roadway Domestic enclosure	Structures with internal surfaces External surfaces Roadside ditches and surfaces Cess pits Stonelined well, pits and postholes Enclosure ditches	694
506	Romano-British 4 th century	Roadway Domestic activity	Roadside structures Road surface Cess pits Postholes and structural slots	206
507	Late Roman Saxon transitional	Post settlement layer	Layer	13
508	Saxon	Dispersed Saxon activity	Pit Grave	9
509	Medieval	Field system	Furrows	82
510	Modern	Drainage Surface activity	Land drains Geotechnical pit Topsoil	16
5	Unassigned contexts	Undated and/or of low potential for further analysis.	Root disturbance Tree throws Geological features	137

Table 9: Area 5 Phase summary

5.1 Phase 501 – Prehistoric

Phase 501 was comprised of a small lithic artefact assemblage but no subsurface features. Eleven flint fragments of probable Neolithic and early Bronze Age date were distributed in no specific concentrations across the excavation area.



5.2 Phase 502 – Late Iron Age/early Romano-British (Figure 33)

The earliest firm evidence for activity was dated to the late Iron Age/early Roman period. It comprised one trackway, L518, with two adjacent enclosures, L513 and L515, and some unenclosed activity L525. There is a suggestion of a second routeway, NW-SE in the area of L525. This is based on the alignment of the northern ditches of enclosures L513 and L515 and because of the location of the later roadway.

The evidence is thought to indicate fields or peripheral enclosures adjacent to a settlement located to the NW. The latter is known from anomalies detected during geophysical survey undertaken as a part of the BWB evaluation. The dating for the phase is based on the recovery of late Iron Age/early Roman pottery and Roman pottery from the trackside ditches. The artefact assemblage is moderate in size.

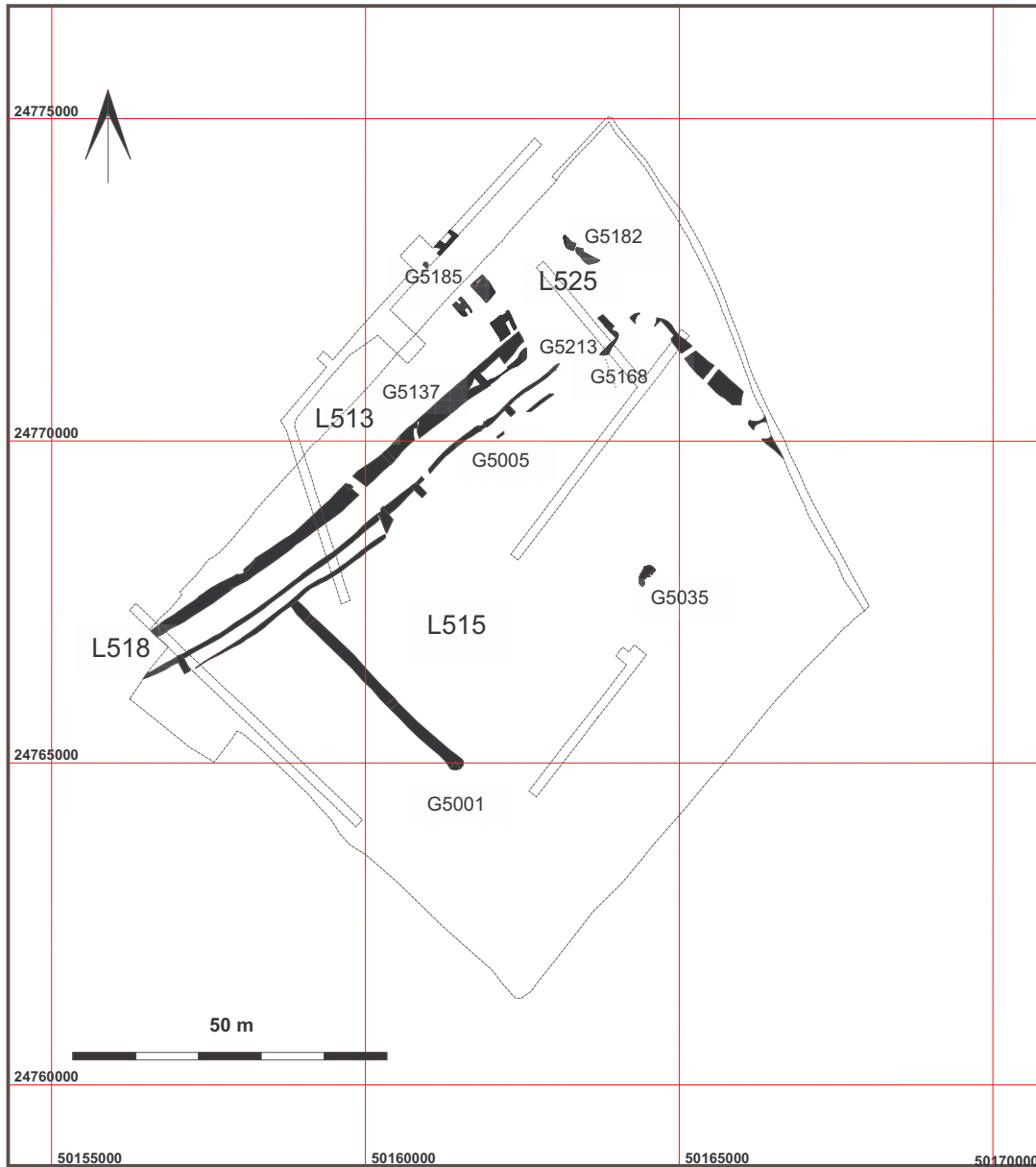


Figure 33: Phase 502 plan

5.2.1 Trackway - L518

A SW-NE aligned trackway was defined by parallel ditches G5005, to the south, and G5137, to the north, that were on average *c.* 4m apart. The trackway was *c.* 83m long and continued beyond the SW limit of excavation. At the NE extent the northern trackside ditch changed alignment to the north and continued beyond the NW limit of excavation. The southern trackside ditch changed alignment to the south and continued beyond the NE limit of excavation. This is thought to be because it either met with a NW-SE routeway



of which no evidence remains or the trackway abuts an open area of land next to the river.

There was no evidence for gaps within the ditches representing entranceways, although the ditches have been re-cut which may have removed this. There was no evidence of surfacing in between the ditches. Drainage ditch G5213 was evident on the western external edge of the trackway; it was truncated by ditch G5005 and only survives in one segment. The ditch fills contained a large finds assemblage consisting mainly of late Iron Age/early Roman pottery and a large quantity of animal bone. A large portion of an adult dog skull was found in the secondary fills of boundary ditch G5005.

Groups within L518	
G5005	Southern trackside ditch
G5137	Northern trackside ditch
G5213	Drainage ditch

5.2.2 Non-domestic enclosure - L513

Enclosure L513 was located to the NW of trackway L518 and was defined by the northern ditch of the latter. It was at least 560sqm in extent but only the southern edge of the enclosure was visible within the excavation area. It contained a ditch that terminated, G5185, in the north of the enclosure, orientated NW-SE and continued beyond the NW limit of excavation. This was either part of an entrance way or was an earlier boundary of the enclosure. The only associated feature is pit G5175 located on the western edge of the enclosure; it was almost totally removed by the re-cut of the northern trackside ditch G5136 (assigned to Phase 503). The absence of internal settlement-type features and domestic debris suggests that this represents a field or paddock. The enclosure contained no finds.

Groups within L513	
G5185	Internal ditch

5.2.3 Non-domestic enclosure - L515

Enclosure L515 was located to the west of but adjacent to trackway L518. It was rectangular in plan, 2400sqm in size but was only clearly defined on three sides. The NE and NW sides were defined by the right angled turn in the southern trackside ditch of L518. To the SW it is defined by ditch G5001. The entire eastern extent remains open; this may be due to truncation as the SE end of ditch G5001 is lost by truncation. There were no clear signs of entrance ways.

The only internal activity was large pit G5035 and medium sized pits G5165 all located on the extremes of the enclosure. The enclosure produced a small assemblage of mainly late Iron Age/early Roman pottery. The absence of internal features and domestic debris suggest that it was a field.

Groups within L515	
G5001	SW enclosure ditch.
G5035	Large pit. Oval in plan, c. 3.3m long x 2.8m wide x 1.4m deep.
G5165	Two postholes. 0.3m diameter x 0.4m deep.



5.2.4 Dispersed activity – L525

Enclosure L525 is comprised of isolated pits located in the area north of trackway L518. The area comprises of two pits, G5182, that are only partially present due to truncation by later features in the area. The pits were large in size and contained two sherds of late Iron Age/early Roman pottery.

Groups within L525

G5182 | Two intercutting pits. Oval in plan, 2m diameter x 1m deep.

5.3 Phase 503 – Romano-British 1st/2nd century (Figure 34)

In contrast to the earlier phase, by the 1st/2nd century AD there is firm evidence for domestic activity. The earlier trackway continued in use but was re-dug. A second routeway, NW-SE, is now evident forming a 'T' junction at the north end of the earlier trackway. Geophysical survey, undertaken as a part of the BWB evaluation, demonstrated that this roadway continues beyond the NW limit of excavation. During this phase it comprised roadside ditches and a gravel surface. Two domestic enclosures were located, L504 adjacent and to the SE of roadway L505 and L502 to the SE of this adjacent to trackway L501. To the north of the roadway L505, was domestic focus L534. An additional non-settlement enclosure is located to the west of trackway L501.

Contemporary internal features to the domestic enclosures include a building, and numerous ditches, pits and postholes. The dating is based on stratigraphic relationships and the recovery of large quantities of late Iron Age/early Roman and Roman pottery from all ditches and the majority of internal features. The ditches and internal features within the settlement enclosures also contained domestic debris in the form of fired clay, metallic artefacts and animal bone.

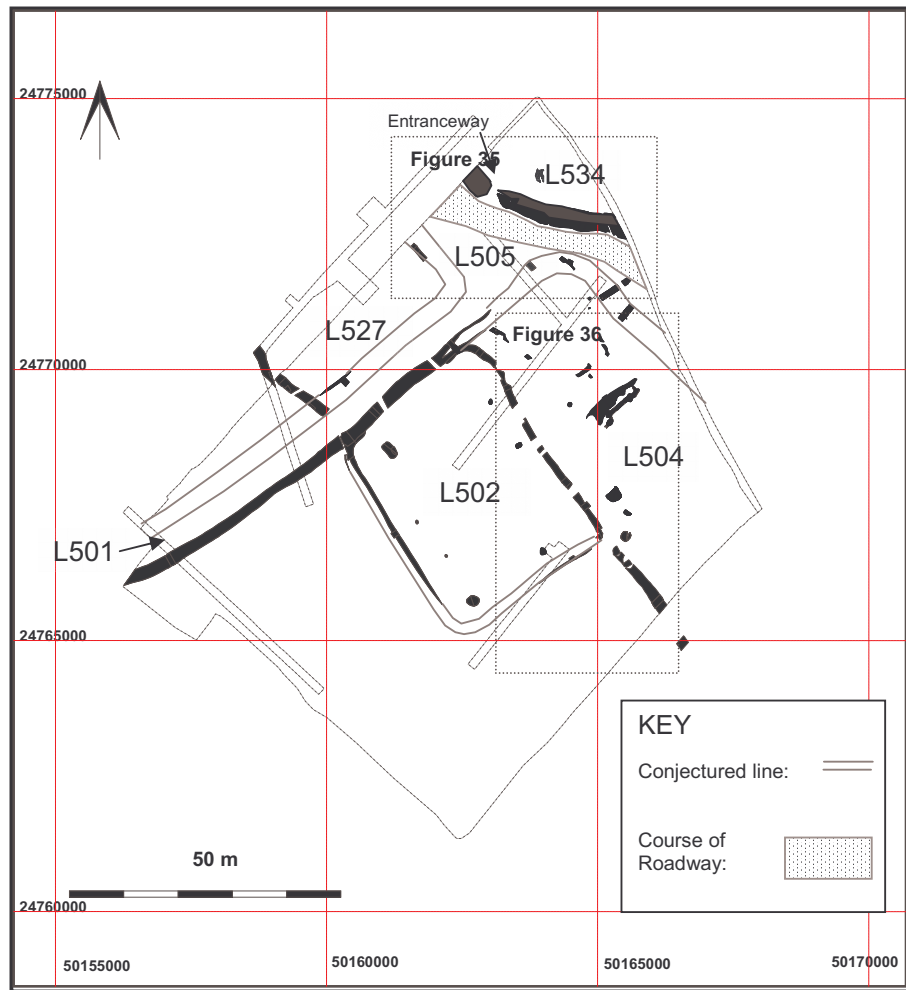


Figure 34: Phase 503 plan

5.3.1 Roadway - L505 (Figure 35)

A WNW-ENE aligned roadway was clearly identified for the first time in the NE part of the excavation area. It was defined by roadside ditches on both sides and between these was evidence for a metallised surface. The roadside ditches consist of G5189 to the NW, G5049 to the NE, trackside ditch G5137 (L501) to the SW and G5179 and its subsequent re-cut G5180 to the SE. The ditches were parallel to each other spaced between 4 and 5m apart. There is a clearly defined gap between the northern ditches of *c.* 1.5m suggesting an entrance at this point. Geophysical anomalies identified to the NW of the excavation area suggest that the roadway continued for at least 33m where it appeared to be on a more NW-SE alignment. To the south the roadway forms a junction with trackway L501, where the road and trackside ditches merge. The evidence for surfacing is located in a single segment with no distinct make up layers. The only layer associated with the roadway was G5090 which was an external dump of organic debris. On the northern edge of the roadside ditches were possible drainage ditches G5194 which were heavily masked by later features.



Roadway L505 is the earliest of three and is contemporary with trackway L501 with which it forms a junction. The ditch fills contained a large assemblage of pottery, the majority of which was late Iron Age/early Roman in date.

Groups within L505

G5049	Northern road-side ditch
G5071.02	Road surface
G5090	External dump
G5179	Southern roadside ditch
G5180	Southern roadside ditch re-cut
G5189	North west roadside ditch
G5194	Drainage ditches

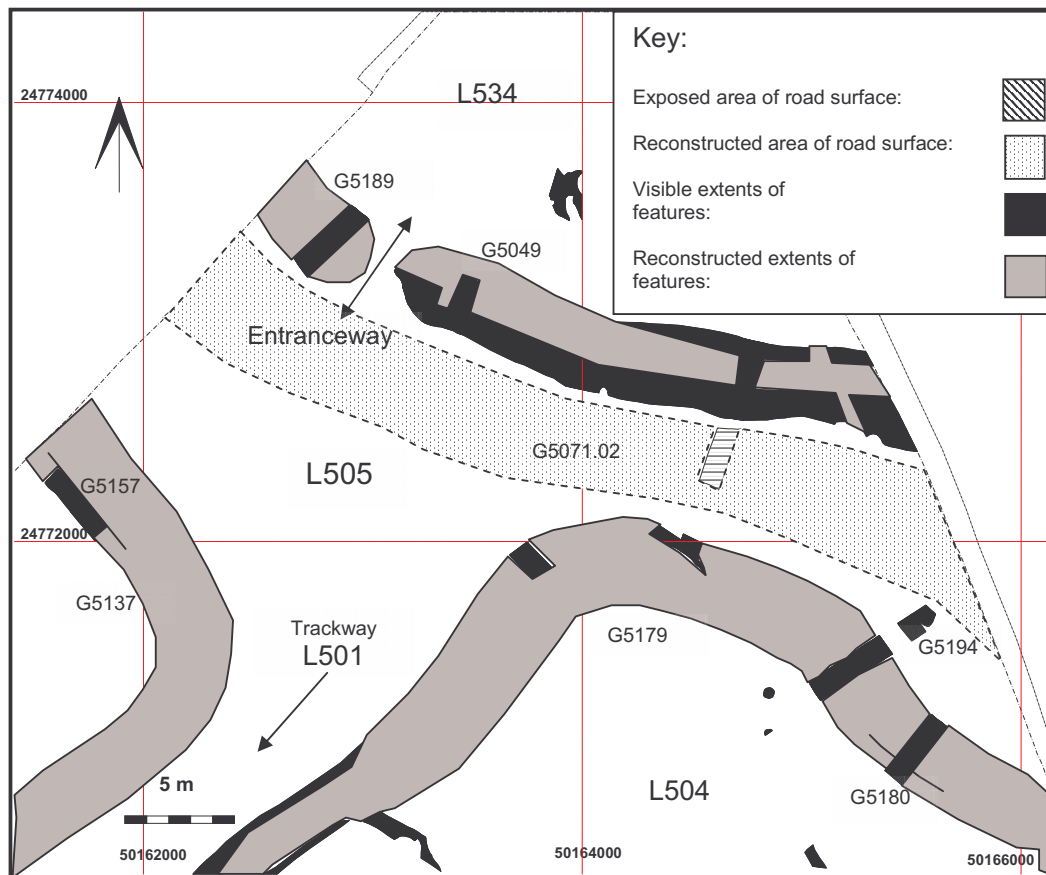


Figure 35: Detailed plan of roadway L505

5.3.2 Trackway - L501

A SW-NE trackway that was defined by two parallel ditches which were re-cuts of those associated with earlier trackway L518 (Phase 502). Ditch G5007 was located to the south and ditch G5136 to the north and has subsequent re-cut ditch G5157. The ditches were 4m apart and no evidence of a surface was identified between them. There was no evidence for gaps in the trackway ditches that could be suggestive of entrance ways, although they were only investigated within individual segments. The trackside ditches contained a



moderate finds assemblage including late Iron Age/early Roman, Roman pottery, fired clay and animal bone.

This trackway represents a later development of trackway L518 and serves as a subsidiary of the main roadway L505.

Groups within L501	
G5007	Southern trackside ditch.
G5136	Northern trackside ditch.
G5157	Northern trackside ditch re-cut.

5.3.3 Domestic enclosure - L502

Enclosure L502 was located to the south of and adjacent to trackway L501 and to the west of enclosure L504. It was rectangular in plan, aligned NW-SE and 1200sqm in size. It was defined to the NW by southern ditch of trackway L501, ditch G5002 to the SW; ditch G5003 to the SE and ditch G5004 to the NE. The SW and SE boundaries are partially obscured by later activity. No entrances were identified. Curiously all the internal activity was located around the periphery of the enclosure, within *c.* 4m of the enclosure ditch. It comprised two intercutting pits G5016, large pits G5008 and G5025, small pit G5033 and postholes G5006 and G5039.

L502 is an enclosure that contained sufficient evidence of internal activity and domestic debris to suggest it served a domestic function. The distribution of the pits and postholes around the periphery may suggest that the central area was occupied by building/s that was undetected. The enclosure ditches and internal features contained a moderate assemblage mainly of late Iron Age/early Roman pottery and some Roman and a moderate quantity of animal bone.

Groups within L502	
G5002	South western enclosure ditch.
G5003	South eastern enclosure ditch.
G5004	North eastern enclosure ditch.
G5006	Two postholes. Circular in plan, <i>c.</i> 0.4m diameter x 0.15m deep.
G5016	Intercutting pits. Both oval in plan, 1.8m long x 1m wide x 0.35m deep and 2.15m wide x 1.75m wide x 0.2m deep.
G5025	Small pit. Oval in plan, 1.3m long x 1.2m wide x 0.3m deep.
G5033	Small stone filled pit. Oval in plan, 0.9m long x 0.6 wide x 0.25m deep.
G5039	Large posthole. Oval in plan, <i>c.</i> 1.2 long x 0.8 wide x 0.1m deep.

5.3.4 Domestic enclosure - L504 (Figure 36)

Enclosure L504 was located in the right angle formed by the meeting of trackway L501 and roadway L505. It was sub rectangular in plan and at least 1400 sqm in size but it continued beyond the limit of the excavation area. It was defined to the NE and NW by trackside ditch G5007, assigned to L501, and to the SE by ditches G5004, assigned to L502, and its southern continuation G5017. The only clearly identified entrance comprised a gap *c.* 2.5m in the SW boundary. Another possible entrance may be defined by a short length of ditch G5177 in the NW of the enclosure.

The enclosure contained one possible square building G5145, two isolated postholes G5032, which may be suggestive of other structures and three pits



G5036, G5121 and G5176. The possible square building, G5145, was located centrally within the enclosure and respected its alignment. It comprised of postholes, postpads, beamsills and an internal surface. The large pits, G5036, G5121 and G5176 had vertical sides and flat bases and were located in the vicinity of the possible SW entrance to the enclosure. They did not contain cess or rubbish and are interpreted as serving a storage function. Finds were recovered from all features except the postholes. This was a modest assemblage of pottery, the vast majority either late Iron Age/early Roman or Roman in date. The fills also contained moderate amounts of animal bone, a large amount of fired clay and a small number of metallic objects. A fragmented horse skull was found in the tertiary fill of enclosure ditch G5017.

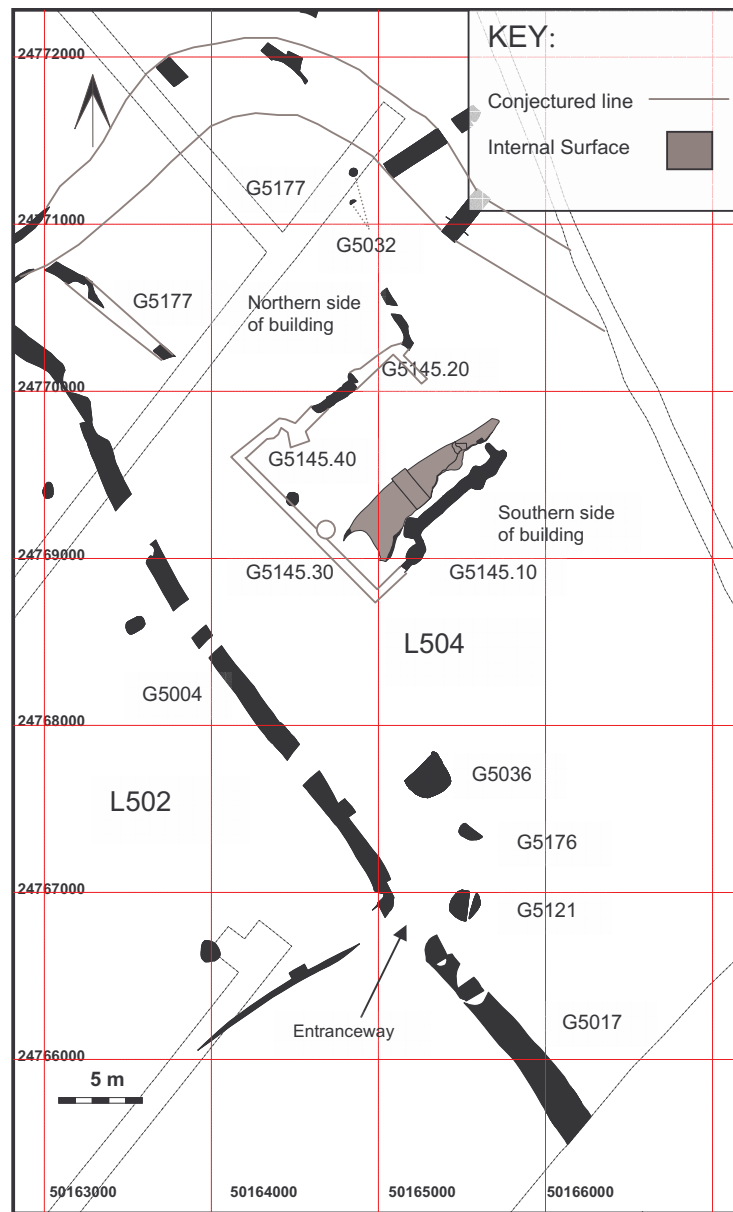


Figure 36: Detailed plan of domestic enclosure L504 and building G5145



Groups within L504	
G5017	South eastern enclosure ditch
G5032	Posthole. Sub circular in plan, 0.7m diameter x 0.14m deep
G5036	Individual large pit. Oval in plan, 2.9m long x 2.7m wide x 1.2m deep. Vertical sides and flat base.
G5121	Individual large pit. Oval in plan, 2.9m long x 2.7m wide x 1.2m deep. Vertical sides and flat base.
G5145	Building
G5145.10	Southern side of building including postpads and beamsils.
G5145.20	Northern side of building
G5145.30	Internal surface of building
G5145.40	Later alterations of building
G5160	Two postholes. Circular in plan c. 0.4m x 0.4m deep
G5176	Individual large pit. Oval in plan, 2.9m long x 2.7m wide x 1.2m deep. Vertical sides and flat base.
G5177	Internal ditch

5.3.5 Non-domestic enclosure - L527

Enclosure L527 was located in the right angle formed by the meeting of trackway L501 and roadway L505. It was sub rectangular in plan, aligned SW-NE and visible for 640sqm in size continuing beyond the northwest limit of excavation. It was defined to the north and east by trackside ditch G5136, which was assigned to L501. There were no gaps or other possible indicators of possible entranceways.

The enclosure contained an internal divisional ditch, G5113 aligned SE-NW, located in the centre of the large enclosure. The enclosure appears to have had no contemporary internal features.

L527 is an enclosure that is divided into at least two parts. The absence of internal features suggests that this area continued to be used as a field or paddock.

Groups within L527	
G5113	Internal divisional ditch

5.3.6 Domestic focus - L534

L534 comprises enclosed features located to the north of roadway L505. The features are a silting or trample layer, G5099; a large pit, G5183 and drainage ditches G5192 and G5194. This is an area of definite domestic activity. The small number of features identified is a reflection of the depth they occurred at and that they were only examined within box sections.

Groups within L534	
G5099	Layer.
G5183	Pit. Sub oval in plan, 1.5m diameter unexcavated.
G5192	Drainage ditch.
G5194	Drainage ditch.



5.4 Phase 504 – Romano-British 2nd century (Figure 37)

Settlement continued with a number of earlier enclosures being redefined. Domestic activity was concentrated in those enclosures adjacent to the roadway. The trackway, L506, continued to function and has subsequently moved c. 3m westwards. The roadway, L511, has a more extensive surface and has re-cut ditches (assigned to this phase) on both sides. To the south and east of this junction there are three enclosures, L507, L509, and L510. Both L509 and L510 have evidence of definite domestic activity. To the south west of the junction enclosure L512 appears to contain settlement whereas its predecessors in this area have not. The domestic focus north of road L519, is more evident in this Phase, although the majority is still masked by later deposits preserved in-situ. The dating is based on stratigraphic positioning and the finds assemblage that includes very large amounts of late Iron Age/early Roman pottery through to large amounts of 2nd century pottery. All the settlement areas also contained other evidence of domestic debris such as large quantities of animal bone, CBM, fired clay and metallic objects.

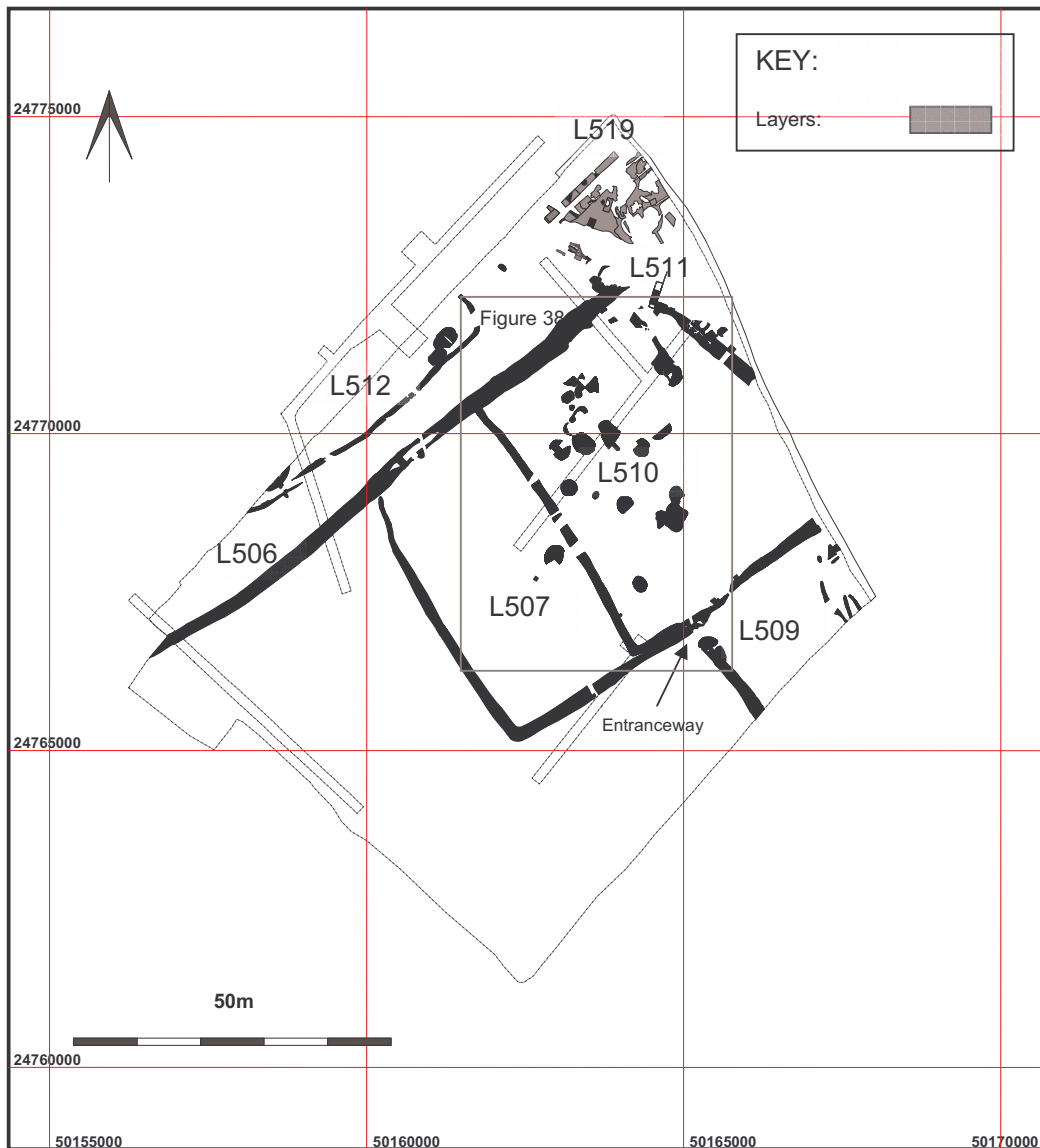


Figure 37: Phase 504 plan

5.4.1 Roadway - L511

A WNW- ESE aligned roadway defined by roadside ditches and a gravel surface was located adjacent to enclosures L510 and L512. It comprised roadside ditch G5187, and its subsequent re-cut G5188, to the NW. To the NE existing ditch G5049, assigned to L505 (phase 504), is considered still in use and to the SE trackside ditch G5139, and its subsequent re-cut G5168, assigned to L506. The ditches are *c.* 5m apart. The only clearly defined entrance way comprised a gap of 1.5m in the NW ditches. A cobbled and gravelled road surface, G5069.01, found only in patchy form due to furrow truncation, is located within the corridor between the ditches. This is supported by make up layers G5069.02. Small pit G5117 is located on the SW extent of the road surface within the road corridor. Although the pit has no obvious function it may be an indicator of the limit of the road surface in this area.



This roadway is a later, more substantial development of road L505 (phase 504). The ditch fills contained a mixed finds assemblage consisting of moderate amounts of late Iron Age/early Roman, moderate amounts of Roman pottery and moderate amounts of 2nd century pottery this is combined with moderate amounts of animal bone.

Groups within L511	
G5069.01	Make up layers for road surface.
G5069.02	Road surface.
G5117	Oval pit, 1.4m long x 0.8m wide x 0.25m deep.
G5187	NW road side ditch.
G5188	NW road side ditch.

5.4.2 Trackway - L506

A NE-SW trackway, defined by two parallel ditches set up to 6m apart, ran for c. 80m; they continued beyond the limit of excavation to the southwest and adjoined roadway L511 to the northwest. It had trackside ditches of different proportions; G5139 located to the south was the larger and was re-cut during this phase becoming G5138. The northern trackside ditch G5101, assigned to L513, was far smaller in size and was essentially an enclosure ditch being utilised. There was no evidence for gaps within the ditches suggestive of entranceways, although they were only investigated within individual segments; there was no evidence for surfacing in between the ditches. Trackside ditch re-cut G5138 truncates a small pit G5169 that was previously located on the edge of ditch G5139 and has no certain function. The dating is based on stratigraphy and a very large finds assemblage consisting of a large amount of Roman pottery also with good quantities of late iron Age/early Roman and 2nd century pottery. Domestic debris in the form of CBM, fired clay and animal bone was also located. The majority of the cattle bones from a secondary fill of ditch G5138 appear to represent the disposal of specialist processing of upper limb bones for their marrow.

Groups within L506	
G5138	Re-cut southern trackside ditch.
G5139	Southern trackside ditch.
G5169	Pit. Circular in plan, 1m diameter x 0.3m depth.

5.4.3 Non-domestic enclosure - L507

Enclosure L507 was located adjacent to trackway L506 and enclosure L510. It was rectangular in plan aligned NW-SW and 920 sqm in size. It was defined to the NW by the southern ditch of trackway L506; to the SE by G5012, to the SW by G5013 and to the NE by the southern ditch of enclosure L510. There was a small gap of 0.4m in the NW corner suggestive of an entranceway. The only internal activity was a large cess pit G5029 located close to the boundary with enclosure L510.

The absence of internal activity suggests it was either a paddock or back plot possibly related to the adjacent settlement enclosure L510. The enclosure contained a large finds assemblage mainly of late Iron Age/early Roman and Roman pottery and a large amount of animal bone.



Groups within L507	
G5012	South western enclosure ditch.
G5013	South eastern enclosure ditch.
G5029	Cess pit. Circular in plan, 3.8m diameter x 1.5m deep.

5.4.4 Domestic enclosure - L509

Enclosure L509 was located to the west, adjacent to enclosure L510. It was rectangular in plan and visible for 375sqm but continued beyond the limit of excavation. It was defined to the NW by the SE enclosure ditch of L510, ditch G5015, and to the SE by still existing enclosure ditch of earlier landscape L504, ditch G5017. An entrance way can be identified in the NW corner where a gap of *c.* 2m is present between ditches G5015 and G5017.

Internally at the south of the enclosure were large pits G5120, truncating the NW end of enclosing ditch G5017. The pits are thought to have served a secondary function for rubbish disposal, although the primary function is unknown. To the NE of the enclosure were intercutting small ditches G5127, G5173 and G5174, which thought to be internal divisions. To the north of the internal divisional ditch G5127 were two pits, G5158 of varying sizes, these served a secondary function for dumping of domestic debris, the primary function is also unknown. The presence of domestic refuse pits is suggestive of occupation within the enclosure. The finds assemblage consisted of very large quantities of Roman pottery with very minor amounts of late Iron Age/early Roman, 2nd and 3rd century pottery. Other indicators of domestic activity were the moderate quantities of CBM, fired clay and large quantity of animal bone recovered from the fills.

Groups within L509	
G5120	Large pits. Oval in plan 3m x 2m x 0.85m.
G5127	Internal ditch
G5173	Internal ditch
G5174	Internal ditch
G5158	Two pits. Oval in plan, 2.7m x 0.5m x 0.1m and 1m x 0.5m x 0.1m

5.4.5 Domestic enclosure - L510 (Figure 38)

Enclosure L510 was located in the right angle formed by the meeting of trackway L506 and roadway L511. It was sub rectangular in plan, aligned NW-SE and visible for 2000sqm but continued beyond the limit of excavation. It was defined to the NW and NE by track side ditch G5139, assigned to L506; to the SW by ditch G5014 and to the SE by ditch G5015. There was 0.5m of internal ditch G5195 located on the eastern edge of the enclosure the majority of which was masked by later furrowing. There is no clearly defined space for an entrance way.

The enclosure contained eleven cess pits G5034, G5038, G5040, G5043, G5129, G5130, G5140, G5199, G5207, G5208 and G5209 located mainly in the NW of the enclosure. These were definable by their oblong shape, large size, straight sided profile and primary cess deposits.



Located mainly in the south of the enclosure were eight more pits G5030, G5031, G5124 (two pits), G5144, G5161, G5200, G5201 not containing cess. Six of the pits were similar in size to the cess pits but were shallower and had gradual sided concave profiles; they were also more circular in plan. The seventh pit was small and oval. The original function of these pits is unsure but many were subsequently filled with domestic debris.

The north of the enclosure contained stone lined well G5150 and associated features G5089 and G5159. G5089 is a gravel surface associated with the well, and G5159 is a channel/gully from the well redirecting spilt or excess water in to nearby trackside ditch G5139. The SE of the enclosure contained isolated posthole G5028.

L510 is an enclosure located, possibly significantly, at a routeway junction. It clearly served a domestic function because of the large cess/waste component and pitting activity. It has a large space in the east of the enclosure where nothing has survived, a possible location for ephemeral structures/buildings. The fills contained an extremely large finds assemblage. The majority of the pottery was late Iron age/early Roman, Roman and 2nd century in date.

Groups within L510

G5014	SW enclosure ditch.
G5015	SE enclosure ditch.
G5028	Posthole. Circular in plan c. 0.4m diameter x 0.2m deep.
G5030	Pit. Circular in plan, 2.5m diameter x 1m deep.
G5031	Pit. Oval in plan, 1.1m long x 0.6m wide x 0.4m deep.
G5034	Cess pit. Sub-circular in plan 3.3m long x 2.3m wide x 1.2m deep.
G5038	Cess pit. Sub-circular in plan 2.2m long x 2m wide x 1.5m deep.
G5040	Cess pit. Oval in plan, 2.8m long x 2m wide x 1.1m deep.
G5043	Cess pit. Oval in plan, 2.4m long x 1.7m x 1.25m deep.
G5089	Gravel layer.
G5124	Three pits. Circular in plan, between 2 – 2.8m diameter x 0.9m deep.
G5129	Cess pit. Oval in plan, 2m long x 0.85m deep.
G5130	Cess pit. Sub-rectangular in plan, 3.4m long x 2.8m wide x 1.2m deep.
G5140	Cess pit. Sub-oval in plan, 1.5m diameter x 1.2m deep.
G5144	Pit. Circular in plan, 0.8m diameter x 0.35m deep.
G5150	Stone lined well. Construction cut 2.6m diameter, shaft 0.8m diameter.
G5159	Drainage gully
G5161	Pit. Oval in plan, 2.5m long x 1.3m wide unexcavated.
G5195	Internal division ditch
G5200	Pit. Sub circular, 2.3m diameter x 0.7m deep.
G5201	Pit. Sub-circular, 2m diameter x 0.85m deep.
G5207	Cess pit. Oval in plan, 3.5m long x 2.8m wide x 1.4m deep.
G5208	Cess pit. Oval in plan, 2.9m long x 1.8m wide x 0.7m deep.
G5209	Cess pit. Sub-oval in plan, 4m in diameter x 1.2m deep.

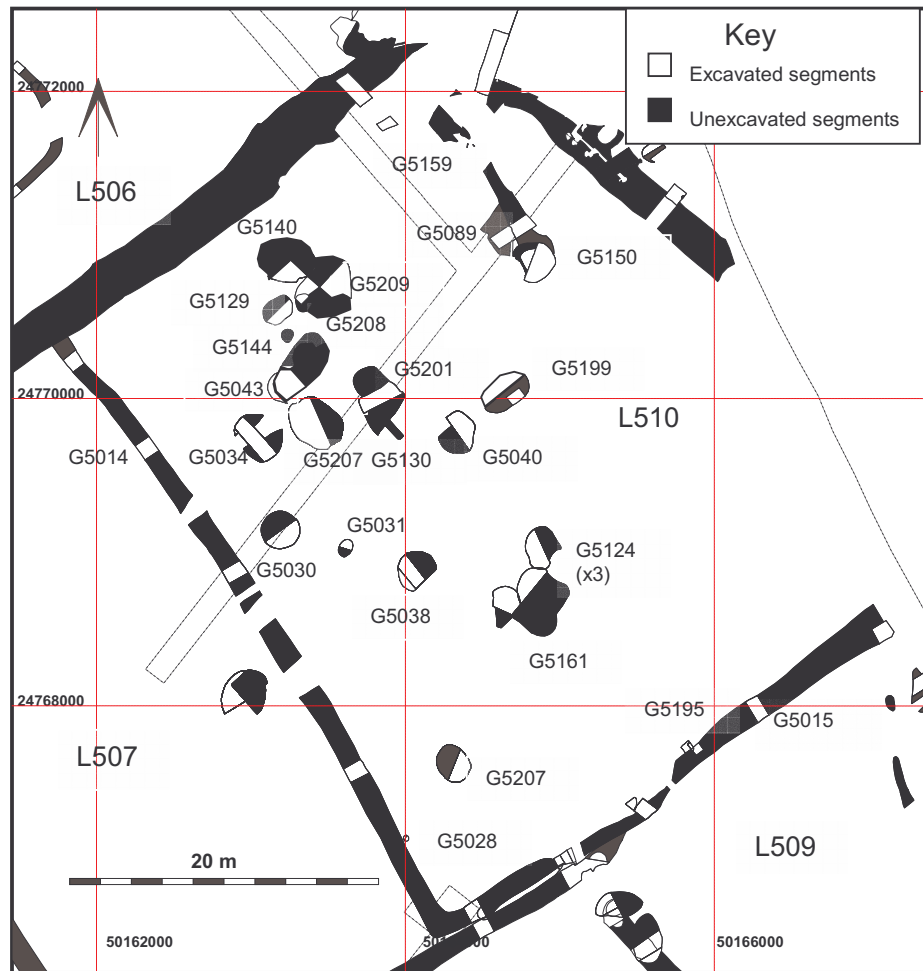


Figure 38: Detailed plan of domestic enclosure L510

5.4.6 Domestic enclosure - L512

Enclosure L512 was located in the right angle formed by the meeting of trackway L506 and roadway L511, the opposing right angle to enclosure L510. It appears to be rectangular in plan aligned NE-SW, although only a small proportion is visible within the excavation area. It was at least c. 300sqm continuing beyond the limit of excavation. It was defined on the only visible extent, the SW, by ditch G5101. There are no gaps for possible entrance ways.

The north of the enclosure contained intercutting large pits, G5114, G5115 and G5131 that served a function for rubbish disposal. Integrated with the intercutting pits were two postholes, G5116 that may be suggestive of an ephemeral structure associated with the pitting. To the very south of the enclosure was a curving linear feature G5111 overlaying a straight linear feature G5112, it is unsure as to what purpose these served.

L512 is an enclosure located, possibly significantly, at a routeway junction. Although the entire nature of the enclosure can not be ascertained, the proportion of settlement-type features located in the visible part would suggest that it is of domestic nature.



Groups within L512	
G5101	Enclosure ditch.
G5111	Curving linear feature.
G5112	Straight linear feature.
G5114	Large pit. 2.6m long x 1.5m wide and 0.9m deep.
G5115	Later pit. 3m diameter x 1m deep.
G5116	Two postholes. Circular in plan 0.3 x 0.55m
G5131	Later pit. 3m diameter x 1m deep.

5.4.7 Domestic focus - L519

Domestic focus L519 was located to the north of roadway L511. The northern ditch of the roadway forms the only visible boundary for this area. In plan it incorporates an area of 160 sqm and continues beyond both the north-east and north-west limits of excavation. The main feature in this area is *c.* 100 sqm of external yard surface, G5074.02 that comprised a compacted pebble layer. Beneath the surface it had make up layers G5074.01 that consisted of sands and gravels. At the same stratigraphic level was a dark black organic external dump G5095. Associated with this were two postholes G5165, spaced 0.5m apart, two small pits located 1.5m apart, an isolated larger pit G5171 and a structural slot G5196. Overlying the surface and some of the features was G5074.03, alluvial silt mainly located on the top of the surface. Only the external dump contained finds, consisting of small quantities of late Iron Age/early Roman pottery and Roman pottery.

The features of L519 had only been located due to the truncation of later layers by furrowing and exploratory sondages. Otherwise any contemporary features were masked by later activity, mainly surfacing, in this area that has remained unexcavated due to preservation in-situ.

Groups within L519	
G5074.01	Make up layers. Orange grey/brown sands and gravels.
G5074.02	External/yard surface. Pebble layer with grey silt/clay matrix.
G5074.03	Alluvial layers.
G5095	External dump.
G5165	Two postholes. Circular in plan, 0.3m in diameter x 0.4m deep.
G5166	Two pits. Both circular in plan, 0.8m in diameter x 0.2m deep.
G5171	Pit. Sub oval in plan, 1.2m diameter x 1m deep.
G5196	Structural slot.

5.5 Phase 505 – Romano-British 2nd/3rd century (Figure 39)

Settlement continued with a number of earlier enclosures being redefined creating seven visible enclosed areas, L508, L514, L520, L522, L524, L526 and L535. Domestic activity was concentrated within those enclosures adjacent to the roadway, L514, L522 and L524. The E-W roadway L523 is now in its most evident form. The SW-NE trackway that was L506 (phase 504) is now out of use and its southern area is now being utilised by encroaching domestic focus L528 and the northern area has been incorporated into enclosures L526 and L522. The area L517 to the north of roadway L523 has an abundance of deposits including evidence of structures and associated features. The dating is based on stratigraphic position and the very large finds



assemblage that contained large amounts of late Iron Age/early Roman pottery, Roman pottery, 2nd century pottery and 3rd/4th century pottery. The fills also contained a large amount of domestic debris in the form of fired clay, CBM, metallic objects, oyster shell and animal bone.



Figure 39: Phase 505 plan

5.5.1 Roadway - L523

L523 is a WNW-ESE aligned roadway that is the third roadway located in this area. It was defined by roadside ditches located either side and roughly parallel up to 7m apart. It was c. 34m long continuing both beyond the NE and NW limits of excavation. The defining ditches were G5046 to the N-NE; ditch G5190 to the NW and G5211 to the SE. The SW limit of the road area now



seems to be defined by enclosure ditch G5118 (assigned to L514) as its extent boundary.

In between the trackside side ditches is an extensive road surface, G5066.02 that covers almost the entire corridor in the SE. This gravel and cobbled surface has remnants of a kerb, G5066.04, of nine large limestone blocks lined along the southern edge. The surface and kerb were sat on an equally extensive make up sequence, G5066.01, consisting of sands and gravels. Located upon the surface is silting G5066.03 that was contained within surface undulations.

Located on the northern edge of roadside ditch G5211 is a trench cut G5193.1, that contains ten visible stakeholes G5193.2, this is suggestive of an ephemeral structure between it and the road. There are two gaps suggestive of entrance ways. Two terminals in the NW roadside ditches provide an entranceway to domestic focus L517 and a gap in the SW roadside boundary provides a clear c. 1.5m access route between the road and domestic enclosure L521.

This roadway represents a later development of roadway L511. It is more substantial in construction than its predecessor and is imposed directly over the top of it. The dating is based on positioning within the stratigraphic sequence. The finds assemblage is moderate in size consisting mainly of late Iron age/early Roman, Roman and 2nd century pottery. The proximity of a domestic area is evident in the recovery of fired clay, CBM, metallic objects and animal bone.

Groups within L523

G5046	Northern roadside ditch.
G5066.01	Make up layers for road surface.
G5066.02	Road surface.
G5066.03	Silting on roadway
G5066.04	Kerb for roadway
G5092	Silting deposits
G5190	NW roadside ditch
G5193	Roadside structure
G5193.10	Trench cut for roadside structure
G5193.20	Stakeholes for roadside structure
G5211	SE roadside ditch.

5.5.2 Non-domestic enclosure - L508

Enclosure L508 was located adjacent to enclosures L520 and L535. It was rectangular in plan and visible to 440sqm but continued beyond the limit of excavation. It was defined to the SW by ditch G5009; ditch G5010 to the NW and ditch G5011 to the NW. The only clearly identified entranceway was a gap of 4.5m was located in the NW corner of the enclosure.

The enclosure contained no internal features. The location on the periphery of the settlement and the absence of internal features suggest that this was a field or a paddock. The enclosure contained a small amount of finds mainly pottery and Roman in date.



Groups within L508	
G5009	SE-NW enclosure ditch.
G5010	ENE-WSW enclosure ditch.
G5011	NW-SE enclosure ditch.

5.5.3 Domestic enclosure - L514

Enclosure L514 was located to the SW of and adjacent to roadway L523 and to enclosure L526. It was sub rectangular in plan, aligned NE-SW and visible for 375sqm but continued beyond the limit of excavation. It was defined to the SW by ditch G5100 and to the NE by ditch G5154. The NE ditch contains a gap of at least *c.* 2.5m that is suggestive of an entranceway although it was obscured by later furrowing. It is evident that the enclosure has been extended within this phase. The earlier adjacent trackway L506 seems to have gone out of use freeing some of the land where it meets road L517. This 'freed' land in the NW has been incorporated into the enclosure via the addition of ditches G5118 replacing previous NW boundary ditches G5154. These ditches have a clearly defined entranceway consisting of a gap 1.5m.

The enclosure contained a very large pit G5103 which either was associated with or truncated a cluster of twenty postholes, G5104 and G5156. Five postholes were located on the southern side of the pit and five on the north, the other ten were located in revetment trenches G5102. The pit also truncates NW-SE curving gully G5105. The revetment trenches combined with the postholes are thought to be a structure that either predates the large pit or is a structure associated with it. Located near the entranceway to the north was pit G5155, the pit was of unknown function. Beyond the entrance way next to the northern extent of ditch G5100 was large unexcavated pit G5119. The fills contained a moderate amount of pottery, mainly Roman in date with small amounts of fired clay and animal bone. Though only a small proportion is visible the amount and nature of the features suggest that this enclosure was of domestic nature.

Groups within L514	
G5100	Enclosure ditch.
G5102	Revetment trench.
G5103	Pit. Sub-circular in plan, 3m diameter x 1.1m deep.
G5104	Twenty postholes. Circular in plan, between 0.1m and 0.5m diameter, up to 0.3m deep,
G5105	NW-SE gully
G5118	Boundary ditch.
G5119	Pit. Oval in plan, 3.2m long x 2m wide, unexcavated.
G5154	Ditch.
G5155	Later pit. Oval in plan, 1.1m long x 0.8m wide x 0.2m deep.
G5156	Two postholes. Circular in plan 0.2m diameter.

5.5.4 Domestic focus - L517

L517 consists of the area north of roadway L523. It was *c.* 160sqm in area continuing beyond both the NE and the NW limits of excavation. The area contained one building G5058, with an associated surface, G5058.5, and make up layers G5058.6. The building appears to face toward the roadway, orientated NW-SE. Thought to be external to the building are surfaces



G5072.02 and G5077.02 and their associated make up layers G5072.01. Other features in this area consist of a stone lined well G5044 located close to the structure, unexcavated hearths G5061 and G5203 located just to the south of the structure, pits G5062, G5064 and G5178, as well as silting G5082 and G5096, gully G5065 and external dump material G5079. Pit G5172 and gully G5191 are located to the west of this area and not associated with the surfacing.

L517 is an area with the characteristics of domestic activity. The majority of features may represent a building with light industrial purpose and an associated yard area. The fills contained a small pottery assemblage mainly consisting of Roman and 3rd /4th century pottery along small quantities of fired clay, shell and animal bone.

Groups within L517	
G5044	Stone lined well. Circular in plan, construction cut has a 2.5m diameter, well shaft 0.75m diameter.
G5058	Building
G5058.10	Two beam slots of building
G5058.20	Northern most slot of building
G5058.30	5 postholes of building. Oval/circular in plan, generally 0.5m diameter, all unexcavated.
G5058.40	Two postholes of building. 0.3 – 0.4m in diameter, unexcavated.
G5058.50	External 'yard' surface of building.
G5058.60	Make up layers for surface building G5058.50.
G5058.70	Silting episodes upon G5058.50.
G5061	Hearth/oven. Irregular in plan, 2m long x 0.7m wide.
G5062	Medium sized pit. Sub oval in plan, 2m long x 1.5m wide, unexcavated.
G5064	Small pit. Circular in plan, 0.52m diameter,
G5065	NNW-SSE gully.
G5072.01	Make layers for occupational/yard surface G5072.
G5072.02	External/yard surface.
G5079	'Dump' material under surface G5058.5.
G5082	Alluvial silt layer.
G5096	Localised silting.
G5172	Later pit. Sub oval in plan, 1.8m long x 1.4m wide x 0.45m deep.
G5178	Pit. Sub-circular, 1.4m long x 1.1m wide x 0.15m deep.
G5191	Pit. Oval in plan, 1.1m long x 0.6m wide x 0.15m deep.
G5203	Hearth/oven. Irregular in plan 2.4m long x 1.95m wide, unexcavated.

5.5.5 Non-domestic enclosure – L520

L520 is a NW-SE aligned enclosure located adjacent to enclosures L526, L524, L535 and L508. It was rectangular in plan and c. 300sqm in size. It was defined in the NW by ditch G5026, assigned to L524; ditch G5021 to the SW; ditch G5010, assigned to L508, to the SE and ditch G5020 to the NW. The only clearly identified entrance way comprised a gap of 1.7m in the SE corner. The enclosure contained no internal features.

L520 contained a moderate pottery assemblage the majority of which was Roman pottery and also a moderate amount of animal bone. Substantial parts of an adult horse skull were found in tertiary fill of boundary ditch G5021. The enclosure is thought to be an outlying plot associated with one of the adjacent enclosures.



Groups within L520	
G5020	NW enclosure ditch.
G5021	SW enclosure ditch.

5.5.6 Space previously the NW-SE trackway – L521

L521 was located north of domestic focus L528 and adjacent to the southern limits of enclosures L514 and L526. L506 represents the space that was previously the south western part of trackway L506, the north eastern half was incorporated into enclosure L526. It was defined by the southern limit of enclosure L514 in the north and the still partially existent re-cut of trackside ditch G5138, assigned to L506, to the south east. These boundaries contained a wedge shaped space of *c.* 85sqm. Contained within the space was square pit G5167.

L521 represents the space created by the disuse of trackway L506. The location of internal features appears suggestive the space was now being used for some settlement activity.

Groups within L506	
G5167	Square pit. Square in plan, 1.15m x .6m deep.

5.5.7 Domestic enclosure - L522

Enclosure L522 was located adjacent to roadway L523 and enclosures L524 and L526. It was sub rectangular in plan, aligned NW-SE and at least *c.* 440sqm in size but it continued beyond the north east limit of excavation. It was defined to the NW and partially to the north east by trackside ditches G5138, assigned to L521; ditch G5020 to the SW, assigned to L520, and ditch G5026, assigned to L524, to the SE. There are no obvious gaps for entranceways although these may be lost as G5020 is only present for a small length of the SE edge and G5026 is obscured by medieval furrows.

The internal activity mainly comprises a ring of features in the centre of the enclosure. These consist of five cess pits G5042, G5141, G5142, G5206 and G5210. Two of these cess pits, G5042 and G5206, have associated structural features of timber slots and postholes and are thought to have served directly as privies. The posts are thought to be a surrounding superstructure possibly supporting a roof and/or a seat and the slots a revetment of the pit itself and the second slot a screen or again part of the overlying structure. The one internal feature of the enclosure located separately is to the north and is large shallow pit G5170.

The fills of the domestic enclosure L522 contained a very large finds assemblage consisting mainly of Roman pottery with significant amounts of residual late Iron Age/early Roman and later 3rd/4th century pottery. The enclosure has sufficient internal activity to suggest that it was a settlement enclosure in its nature.

Groups within L522	
G5042	Cess pit and associated features. Oval in plan, 4m long x 2.5m



	wide x 0.9m deep. Had associated slot.
G5132	Two large adjacent pits. Oval and sub-circular in plan, 3m long x 2m wide and 3.5 diameter and both up to 1.3m deep.
G5141	Cess pit. Sub-oval in plan, 2.5m long x 2.1m wide x 1.05m deep.
G5142	Large cess pit. 5m long x 3.5m wide x 1.5m deep.
G5143	Post pit. Sub-circular in plan, 0.9m diameter x 0.45m deep.
G5148	Two oval pits. 2m x 0.6 – 1m wide x 0.5m deep.
G5149	Structural slots associated with G5148
G5152	Structural slot associated with G5148
G5170	Large shallow pit. 3.2m diameter x 0.2m deep.
G5206	Cess pit. Oval, 2m long x 1.9m wide x 1.7m deep. Has associated two slots (revetment) and three postholes.
G5210	Cess pit. Sub-circular, 3.5m diameter x 1.1m depth

5.5.8 Non-settlement enclosure - L524

Enclosure L524 was located adjacent to enclosures L520, L522 and L535 to the south of roadway L523. It was rectangular in plan, orientated NE-SW, and was 370sqm in size. It was defined to the NW by ditch G5026; to the north east by ditch G5018, by G5024 to the south west and ditch G5019, assigned to L535, to the south east. There is one possible entrance way in the southern corner constituting a gap of 2.7m though this gap does contained pitting. The enclosure contains five pits. Two, G5123, are located in the NW corner and are large in size. Two, G5122, were located in the 'entrance way' in the southern corner of the enclosure and are small to medium in size. The final pit, G5037, was located centrally and was medium in size.

The fills of the non-settlement enclosure L524 contained a moderate sized finds assemblage consisting of mainly Roman pottery. There was also a moderate sized amount of animal bone present. The enclosure is of possible domestic use although there is insufficient evidence to be conclusive.

Groups within L524

G5018	NNW-SSE enclosure ditch.
G5024	NW-SE enclosure ditch.
G5026	NE-SW enclosure ditch.
G5037	Individual small pit. Oval in plan, 1.87m long x 0.6m wide x 0.3m deep.
G5122	Two oval pits. Both oval in plan, 2m long x 1.2m wide x 0.3m deep.
G5123	Two later pits. Both oval in plan, between 2.4 – 3.5m long x between 1.7 – 2m wide x between 0.4 – 0.75m deep.

5.5.9 Non-domestic enclosure – L526

An enclosure located adjacent to enclosures L514, L521 and L522. It was rectangular in plan, aligned NW-SE, and 470sqm in size. It was defined to the north west by trackside ditch G5138, assigned to L521; ditch G5022 to the south east; G5027 to the south west and ditch G5020, assigned to L520, to the north west. The enclosure has incorporated some of the land that was previously occupied by trackway L506 (phase 504). There is a gap of 1m in the SW of the enclosure that is the only clearly identifiable entrance way. The enclosure contains no features internally.



L526 contains a moderately sized finds assemblage; the majority of the pottery is Roman or 3rd century. The absence of internal features would suggest that the enclosure is of a non-domestic nature. It appears to be following a pattern of a settlement enclosures being attached to a non-settlement one. This would give it an association with enclosure L522.

Groups within L526	
G5022	NW-SE boundary ditch.
G5027	NE-SW truncated boundary ditch

5.5.10 Domestic Focus – L528 (Figure 40)

Domestic focus L528 is located to the south of enclosure L514 and area L521. It comprises a cluster of varied activity located within an area of 170sqm. It is contained within the limits of earlier trackway L506 (Phase 504) and the eastern extent is defined its trackside ditch G5138 that is thought to be partially still in use. The features comprise a structure G5107 made up of structural slots, G5107.1 and G5107.4, five postholes, G5107.2, and a postpad G5107.3. The true form of the structure cannot be identified as it continues beyond the limit of excavation. Also contained within the area is a very large water pit G5106, ditch G5109, an inhumation G5146 (Figure 40A) and an urned cremation G5147 (Figure 40 B).

The burials were located *c.* 15m apart and both were cut into the final fills of trackside ditch G5137 (phase 502). The cremated remains were contained within an urn (FD5008) that was dated as late Iron Age/early Roman and placed in a small pit. The inhumation (SG5718) was laid supine, aligned NE-SW, but heavily truncated missing the head and legs. It contained no grave goods.

L528 is an area of domestic activity that appears to continue west, beyond the limit of excavation. The dating is based on the recovery of a moderate finds assemblage containing mainly Roman and 3rd and 4th century pottery. Other domestic indicators were moderate quantities of CBM, metallic objects, shell and animal bone.

Groups within L528	
G5106	Large pit. Circular in plan 4.7m diameter x 2.2m deep.
G5107.	Possible structure.
G5107.10	Structural slots.
G5107.20	Five postholes. 0.4 – 0.5m diameter x 0.25m depth.
G5107.30	Postpad. 0.85m x 0.22m.
G5107.40	Structural slot
G5108	Two pits. Sub oval in plan 1.25-2.6m x 1m.
G5109	Ditch
G5146	Inhumation. Placed in NE-SW aligned grave. The grave measured 1.17m x 0.48m x 0.1m suffering from heavy truncation from ploughing. The skeleton (SG5718) was poorly preserved and was laid supine with the skull and feet both removed by truncation. The head would have been located in the SW of the grave. No grave goods or coffin nails were found.
G5147	Urned cremation burial placed within late Iron Age/early



Roman vessel FD5008. This was placed within a small pit that was 0.4m diameter x 0.2m depth.

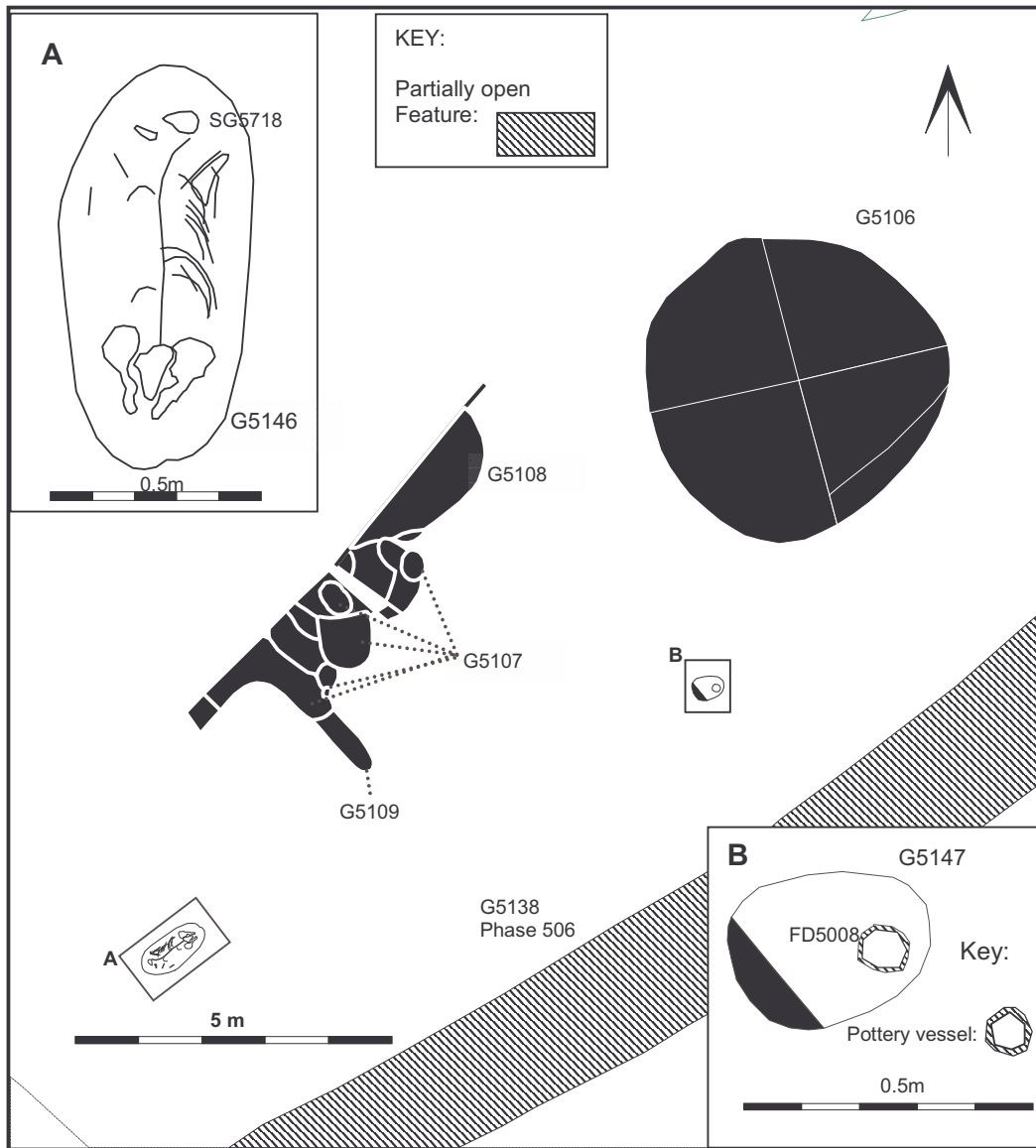


Figure 40: Detailed plan of domestic focus L528 with inserts for burials

5.5.11 Non-domestic enclosure - L535

L535 is a NW-SE aligned enclosure located adjacent to enclosures L508 and L524. It was rectangular in plan and visible for 365sqm but continued beyond the limits of excavation. To the south east it was defined by ditch G5011, assigned to L508; ditch G5018, assigned to L524, to the north east and G5019 to the north west. The enclosure contained one internal divisional ditch G5126 aligned on the same axis as the enclosure. Next to internal division ditch G5126 was smaller ditch G5128 that may be serving the same purpose. The only clearly defined entranceway comprised a 4.5m gap in the eastern corner; this allows access to the three neighbouring enclosures L508, L520 and L524.



The ditch fills contained a large finds assemblage of which most was pottery. Of this, the majority was broadly Roman in date with modest amounts of securely dated 2nd, 3rd and 4th century material. A non-domestic enclosure based on the absence of internal features although the quantity of finds is indicative of domestic debris.

Groups within L535

G5019	NE-SW enclosure ditch.
G5126	NW-SE aligned enclosure ditch.
G5128	Internal ditch.

5.6 Phase 506 – Romano-British 4th century (Figure 41)

By the late Roman period a change to unenclosed settlement had taken place. All activity was now concentrated around roadway L523 (assigned to phase 505). Although the road surface may still be in place the roadside ditches have since filled and new structures abut the road surface edge. The majority of late Roman features are structural in nature though not all form coherent forms. There were extensive cess pits to the SE of the area which suggest that it is still of a domestic nature. The dating for this phase is based mainly on stratigraphic location as the majority of features remain unexcavated as a result of the preservation in-situ strategy. The excavation that did take place produced a moderate to large finds assemblage mainly of Roman pottery and animal bone.

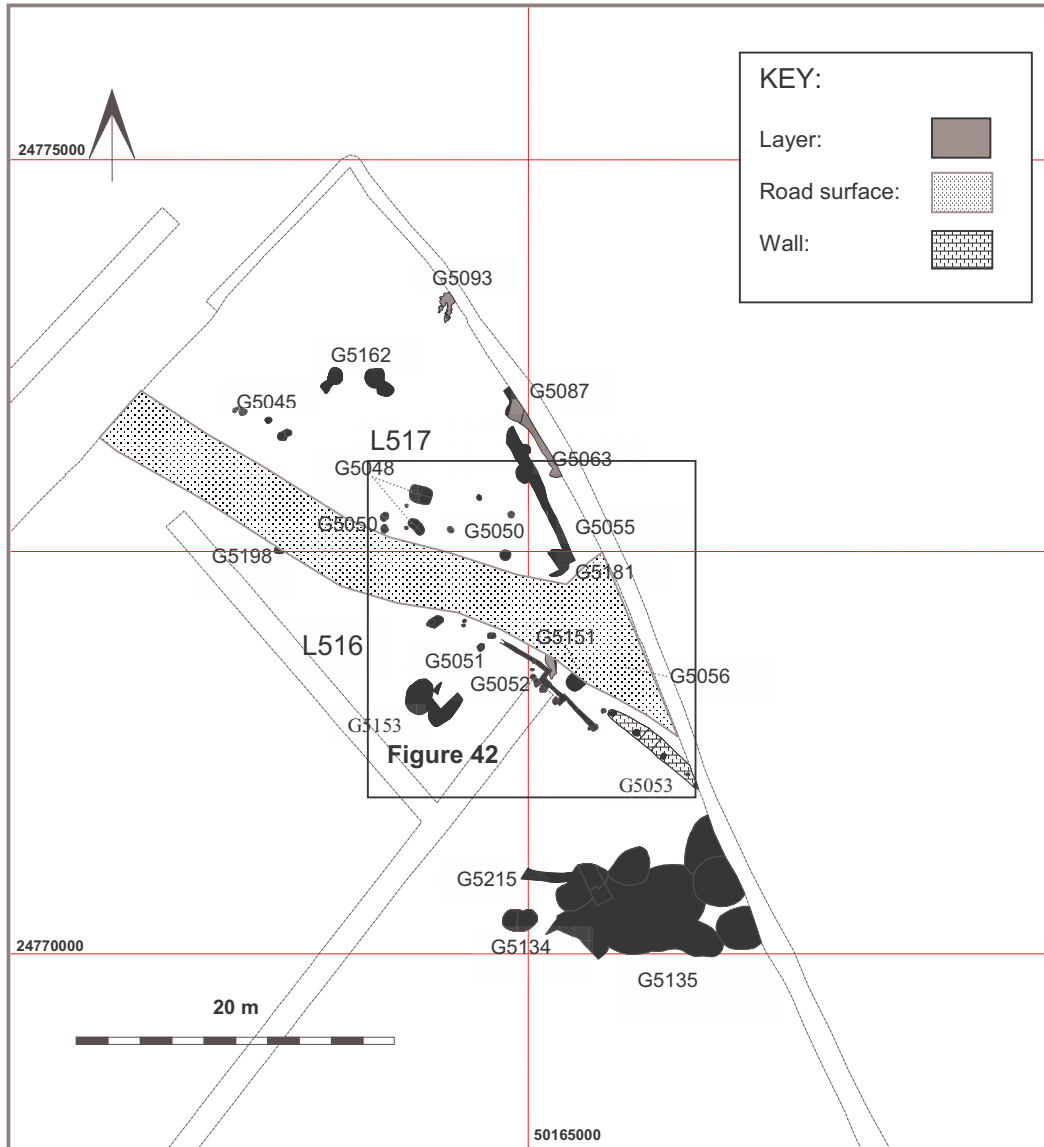


Figure 41: Phase 506 plan

5.6.1 Domestic focus - L516 (Figure 42)

L516 represents unenclosed activity concentrated to the south of roadway L523, which as a surface is still in use at this stage. Located on the southern edge of the roadway and facing the road was building G5052. Building G5052 comprised structural slots G5052.1, beam slot G5052.2, and postholes G5052.3, 5052.4 and 5052.5. These are suggestive of a building facia that has survived the rest of the building possibly because of more constructional effort put in to the foundations of the building facing the roadway (Figure 41). To the west of this is possible structure G5051 consisting of four large postholes, G5051.1. This is less convincing as a structure in its construction and may have even been an out building for G5052. To the east of the original building G5052 is a length of wall G5053. It was 7m long and orientated on the same NW-SE alignment as the constructional components for building G5052. All



that survives are a single course of roughly hewn foundations that have evenly spaced postholes, G5054 five in total, set amongst the foundations. This is considered as a possible building.

Gully G5055 also appears structural in nature and was located on the same alignment as G5056 (assigned to L537) NNW-SSE, on opposing sides of the roadway both respecting its course and boundary. There were two small to medium sized pits G5151 and G5153 within the area neither of which appear to have a specific function. Hearth G5134 maintained some of its structure and was cut into the top of an earlier pit. An area of surfacing G5097, was located to the north of building G5052. To the south east of the area were 12 to 15 large cess pits G5135 and a single gully G5215.

There is evidence of this area still being used for a domestic purpose. The dating is based on the stratigraphic positioning of the features. The landscape contained large amounts of pottery the majority of which were late Iron age/early Roman or Roman in date, moderate numbers of metallic objects and a moderate amount of animal bone.

Groups within L516

G5051	Possible Structure.
G5051.10	Postholes for possible structure. Oval or circular in plan up to 0.55m long and 0.4m wide.
G5052	Roadside building.
G5052.10	Structural slots for building
G5052.20	Beam/sill slot for building
G5052.30	Posthole associated with the entrance way in building.
G5052.40	Postholes integrated with building G5052.
G5052.50	Postholes with spatial association to building G5052.
G5053	Construction cut for wall consisting of a foundation trench, bedding layer and limestone blocks for walling.
G5056	NW-SE gully with terminus.
G5097	Isolated area of surfacing.
G5134	Hearth/oven. Oval shaped hearth/oven was 2m long x 1.3m wide and 0.35m deep.
G5135	Intercutting cess pits. Between 12 and 15 oval or circular in plan, ranging from 2.1m to 3.7m in size.
G5151	Pit. Sub oval, 1.5m long x 1m wide and 0.3m deep.
G5153	Two intercutting pits. 2.5m long x 1.5m wide and up to 0.35m deep.
G5198	Unexcavated posthole. Circular in plan, 0.5m in diameter.
G5215	E-W unexcavated gully.

5.6.2 Domestic focus – L537

L516 represents unenclosed activity concentrated to the north of roadway L523 (phase 505), which as a surface is still in use at this stage. The area is visible for c. 200sqm and comprised of varied activity. It contained five postholes of no obvious form or alignment G5045, two oval pits G5048, a cluster of eight circular postholes also of no obvious form G5050, isolated collapse layer G5093, surfacing and make up layer, G5087.01 and G5087.02, and NW-SE aligned gully G5056. It also contained two small pits G5063, single pit G5162 and large unexcavated pit G5181. The majority of the activity was located against or within a 10m proximity to the road surface with the



exception of layer G5093 located to the north of the area and surface G5087.02 abutting the baulk.

There is evidence of this area still being used for a domestic purpose. The dating is based on the stratigraphic positioning of the features. The fills contained moderate amounts of pottery the majority of which was Roman in date this was added to by small amounts of fired clay, CBM and animal bone.

Groups within L537

G5045	Five postholes. Circular or sub circular in plan, 0.4-0.5m in diameter, 0.2-0.4m deep.
G5048	Two pits, oval in plan, 1.2m long x 0.8m wide x 0.2m deep.
G5050	Cluster of eight postholes. All sub circular or circular in plan, between 0.2 and 0.45m in diameter, between 0.15 and 0.3m deep.
G5056	NW-SE gully.
G5063	Two pits, oval in plan 0.55-1m long x 0.65m wide x 0.25m deep.
G5087.01	Make up layer for surface G5087.02.
G5087.02	Isolated patch of gravel and pebble surface.
G5093	Collapse/demolition spread.
G5162	Pit. Sub oval in plan c. 0.9m diameter x 0.45m deep.
G5164	Hearth. Sub-circular in plan 1.2m diameter x 0.45m deep.
G5181	Large unexcavated pit. Circular in plan, 0.5m in diameter.

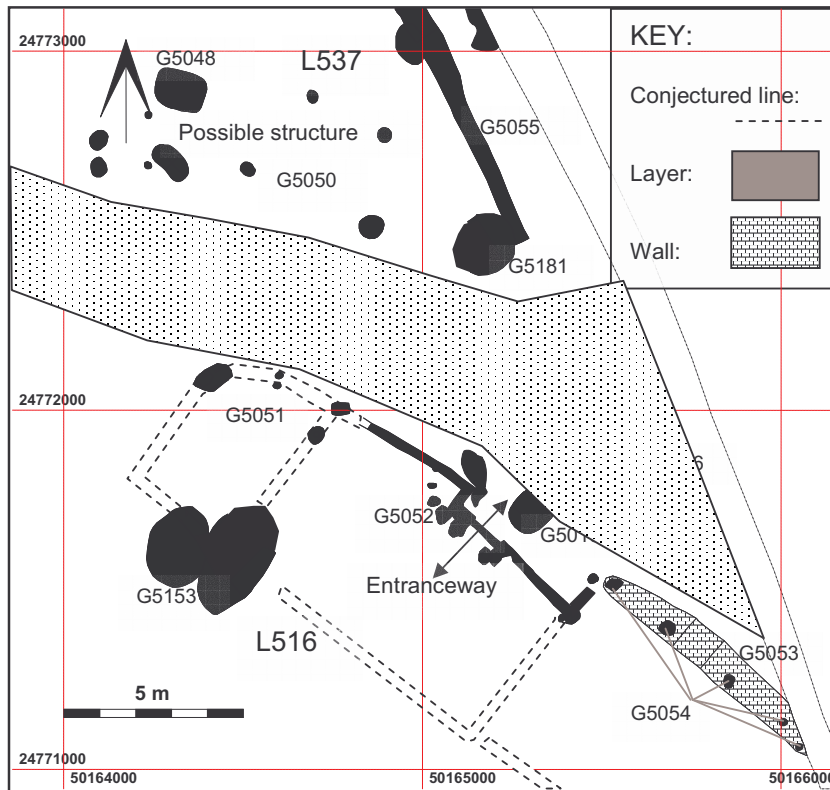


Figure 42: Detailed plan of domestic focus L516



5.7 Phase 507 – Late Roman (Figure 43)

Within Phase 507 the Romano-British settlement appears to have gone out of use. A post-settlement layer L531 has accumulated over it and only survives within the north of the excavation area, where the subsurface level slopes toward the river. There are no new Roman cut features. The layer contained a large finds assemblage almost entirely of Roman pottery with a significant number of metallic artefacts including 11 coins, slag and metal fragments.

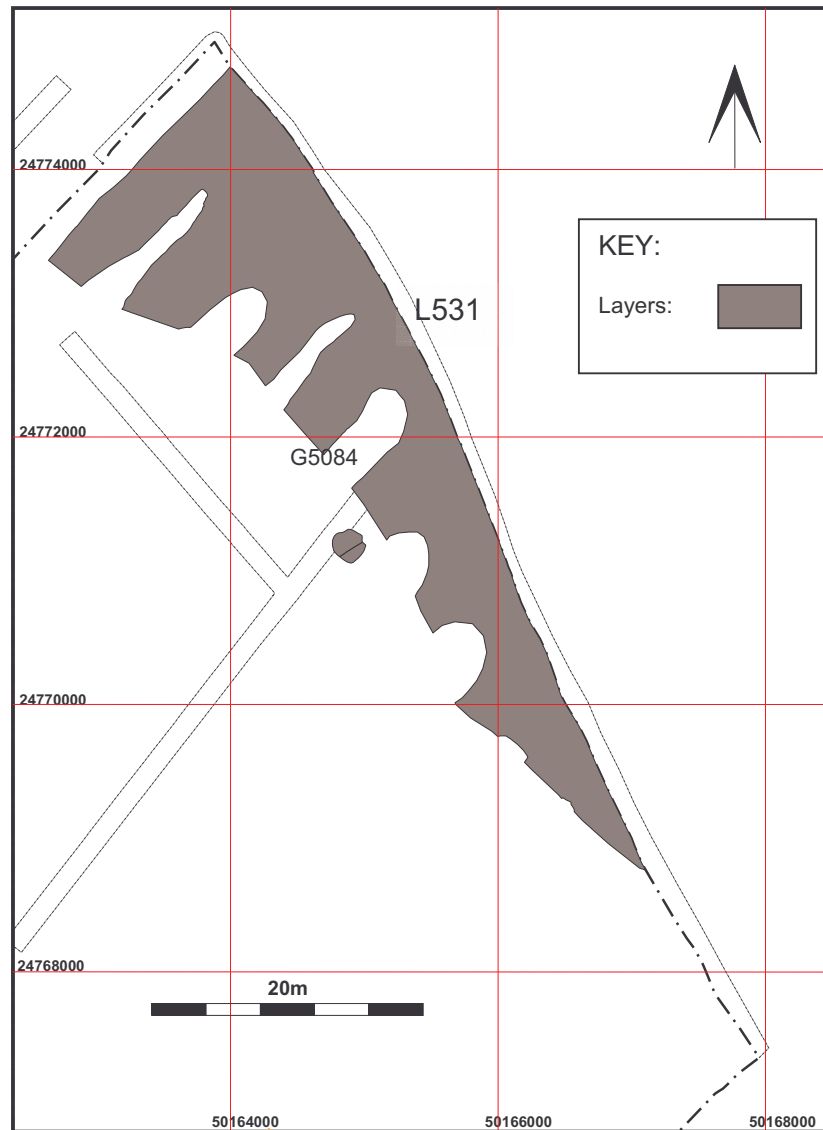


Figure 43: Phase 507 plan showing post-settlement layer

5.7.1 Post-settlement layer – L531

Post-settlement layer L531 is a mix of alluvial silt and domestic debris. It is either a product of flooding occurring at the end of the Romano-British settlement mixed with domestic debris from the settlement and organic material, or the layer is a remnant top/plough soil caught and only preserved within the sloping ground level in the north of the site and could have



originally covered a larger area. The layer covers all Romano-British features at the north end of the excavation and no new Romano-British features appear to post date the layer. The layer contains a large quantity of pottery representing all the Romano-British phases, large quantities of fired clay and CBM. It also contains a significant number of metallic artefacts including a large quantity of late Roman coins.

Groups within L531	
G5084	Post settlement layer.

5.8 Phase 508 – Saxon (Figure 44)

Saxon activity was represented by a small amount of dispersed features. The amount and type of features, that include an inhumation, could be suggestive of more substantial Saxon activity nearby. The dating is based on a small amount of Saxon pottery and stratigraphic relationships with earlier deposits.

5.8.1 Dispersed Saxon Activity – L503

Saxon activity L503 comprised dispersed activity consisting of three features. A single pit, G5047 located in the north of the excavation area, was only visible in section and had a long shallow profile. The pit was cut into the top of Romano-British ditch G5026 (L524, P505) and its visible form is suggestive of a sunken-featured building. Only the pit contained Saxon finds consisting of a small amount of pottery that was mixed with residual Roman pottery and small amounts of animal bone.

To the NW was a partial inhumation G5186 (Figure 41, A). The inhumation had suffered modern truncation, although from the remaining skeletal evidence it was possible to gauge that it was laid supine and the head would have been located in the SW of the grave. The inhumation has no visible grave goods. The inhumation is believed to be Saxon in date based on stratigraphic location. It is cut into the post-Romano-British settlement layer G5084 (L531, Phase 507).

Robber pit G5204 is more tenuously dated based on the thought that the well G5150 (L510, Phase 504) that it is robbing, was still serving the domestic focus L516 at the end of the Romano-British settlement (Phase 506). The removal of the stone lining from the well is thought to have occurred after this phase and is tenuously dated to the Saxon period.

The small finds assemblage contained mainly Roman pottery from all phases along with minor amounts of Saxon pottery, fired clay, CBM, a metallic object and animal bone.

Groups within L503	
G5047	Pit or possible SFB. Only visible in section, 2.5m wide x 0.5m deep with a long shallow concave profile, cut in to the top of Roman ditch and obscured in plan by furrows.
G5186	Inhumation. Oval in plan, a NE-SW aligned grave 0.1m deep that contained the partial remains of a single inhumation burial. Only the lower legs survived which were at the NE end of the grave. The head



G5204 would have been positioned at the SW end and the skeleton lay supine in what is presumed to be an extended position. No grave goods.
 Robber pit. Circular in plan, 1.7m x 1.1m deep. The robbing of stone lining from well G5150.

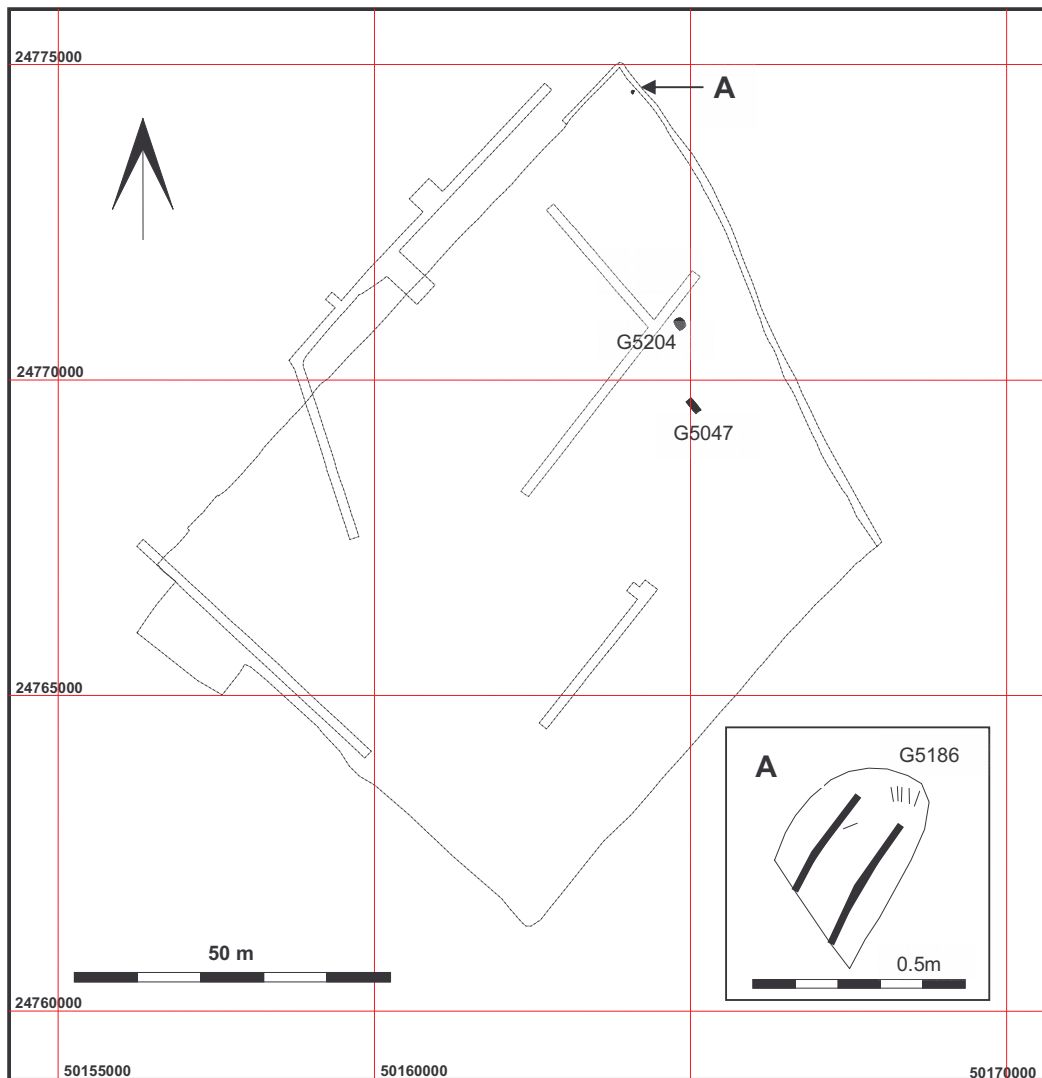


Figure 44: Phase 508 plan with insert for burial

5.9 Phase 509 – Medieval (Figure 45)

During the medieval period the site was within a strip field probably associated with Kempston Church End. The presence of arable fields at this time is indicated by a system of parallel furrows which survive in the NE half of the excavation area. A period of flooding post-dating the furrows is indicated by a significant depth of alluvial silts. The finds assemblage was moderate in size and comprises solely of residual Roman finds contained amongst the furrows.

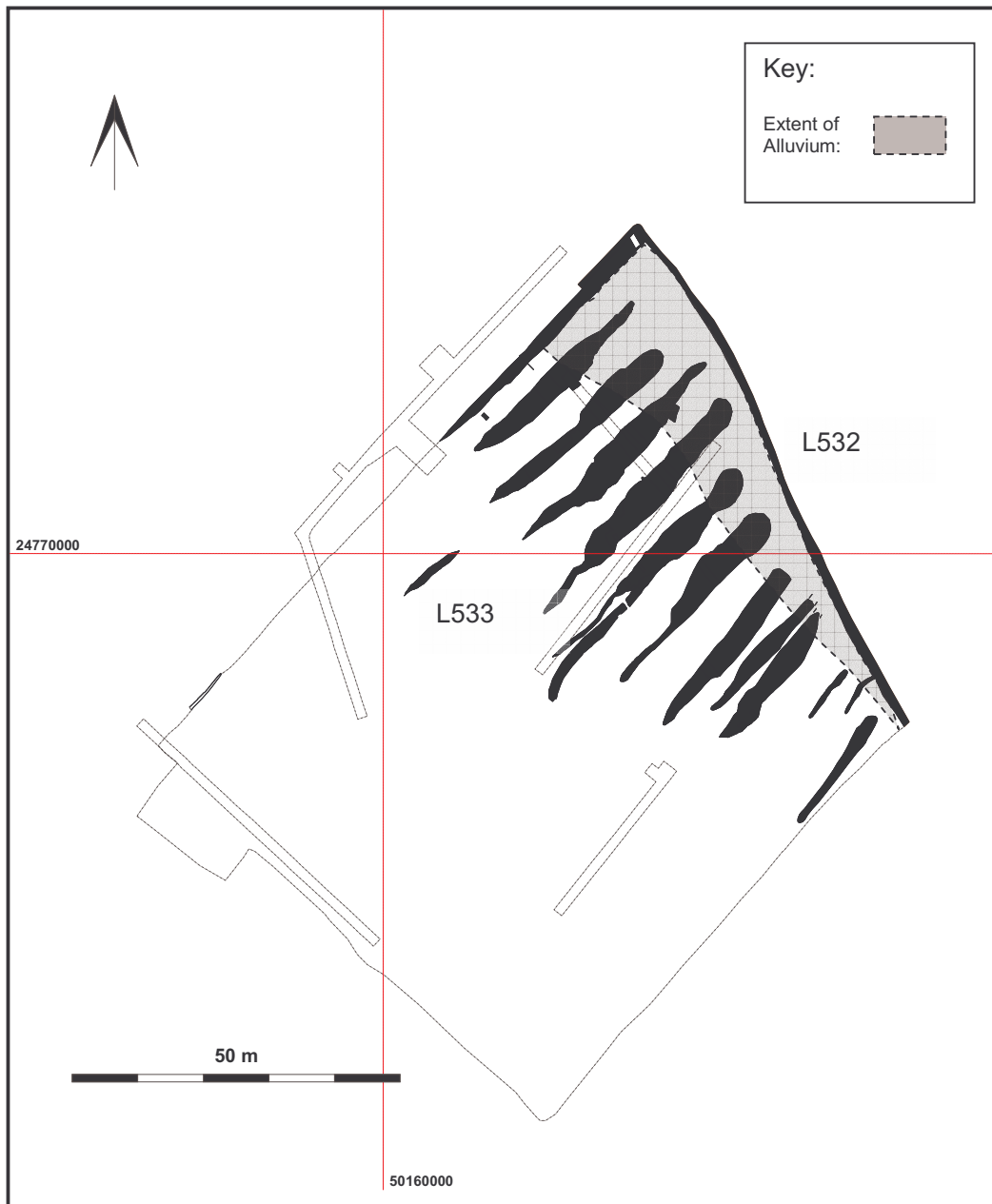


Figure 45: Phase 509 plan

5.9.1 Field system – L533

Field system L533 consists of twelve furrows. The furrows are on a NE-SW alignment and are regularly spaced across the entire breadth of the excavation area at an average of 3-5m apart. The twelve furrows are preserved to a better degree to the north of the excavation area where they reached the largest width and depth. Furrow G5041 was originally thought to be a ditch and is only isolated for that reason. The furrows truncate and overlie all features from Phase 507, and pre-date medieval flood episodes L532. The furrow fills contained a small assemblage of entirely Roman finds including a moderate



amount of metallic artefacts. The furrows are the result of the strip field arable system of the medieval period.

Groups within L533	
G5023	NE-SW furrow isolated as originally thought to be a ditch.
G5041	NE-SW furrows.

5.9.2 Alluvial deposits – L532

Alluvial deposits L532 were only located toward the NE limit of excavation (**Figure 45**). They comprised at least 3-5 alluvial flood episodes and in total were up to 1m thick. The deposits were varying shades of yellow sandy silt. The alluvium contained no finds and is dated upon its stratigraphic relationship alone. The flood deposits fill the soil sequence between the medieval furrows and the modern subsoil at the north end of the excavation.

Groups within L532	
G5091	Post furrow alluvial sequence. Yellow sandy silt.

5.10 Phase 510 – Modern

Evidence for modern activity is indicated by topsoil, geotechnical pits, evaluation trenches and sub-surface land drains. These contained a small assemblage of Roman pottery and at least one medieval artefact.

5.11 Modern – L536

Modern activity consisted of a geotechnical pit G5094, located in the north of the excavation area that truncated inhumation G5186 (L503, P508). The land drains were orientated SE-NW with very little ceramic remaining and none collected. The evaluation trenches were also evident at sub-surface level and their location is highlighted in **Figure 32**. Topsoil and subsoil comprise G5084. These soils contained a small finds assemblage of Roman to modern artefacts and animal bone.

Groups within L536	
G5084	Topsoil, 0.2m thick. Subsoil, 0.3m thick.
G5094	Geotechnical pit, evaluation trenches, land drains.





6 AREA 6 STRUCTURAL HIERARCHY AND TECHNICAL DETAIL

	Mitigation	Evaluation	Area Total
Contexts	31	13	44
No of features	12	5	17
Pottery	0	1	1
Fired clay	0	0	0
Registered artefacts	0	1	1
Struck flint	0	0	0
Animal bone	0	0	0
Samples	0	0	0

Table 10: Area 6 data summary

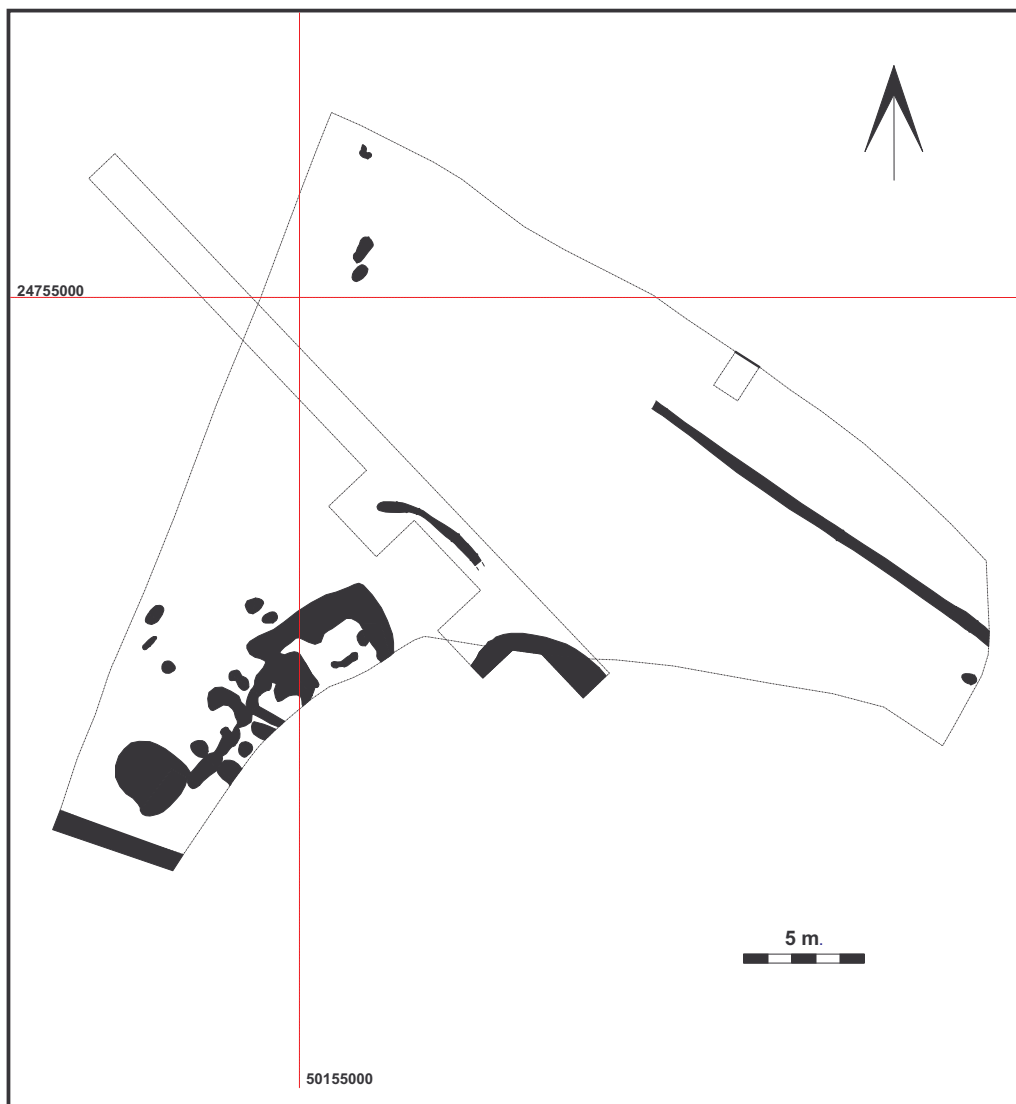


Figure 46: Area 6 all feature plan



Introduction

Assessment of the results of fieldwork has led to the identification of 5 phases of activity (see Table 11 below). It summarises the results of the open area excavation in addition to that of the evaluation.

Phase	Chronological period	Activity type	Evidence	Nb of contexts
601	Undated	Boundary construction Unenclosed activity	Gully Possible pits	11
602	Romano-British	Boundary	Ditch	6
603	Medieval	Boundary	Gully	8
604	Post-medieval	Quarrying	Quarry pit	2
605	Modern	Agricultural activity	Topsoil	2
6	Unassigned contexts	Undated and/or of low potential for further analysis.	Root disturbance Tree throws Geological features	15

Table 11: Area 6 Phase summary

6.1 Phase 601 – Undated (Figure 47)

Phase 601 included all the undated activity identified. It included a group of small pits and a gully of uncertain extent and alignment. No finds were recovered from any features within this phase.

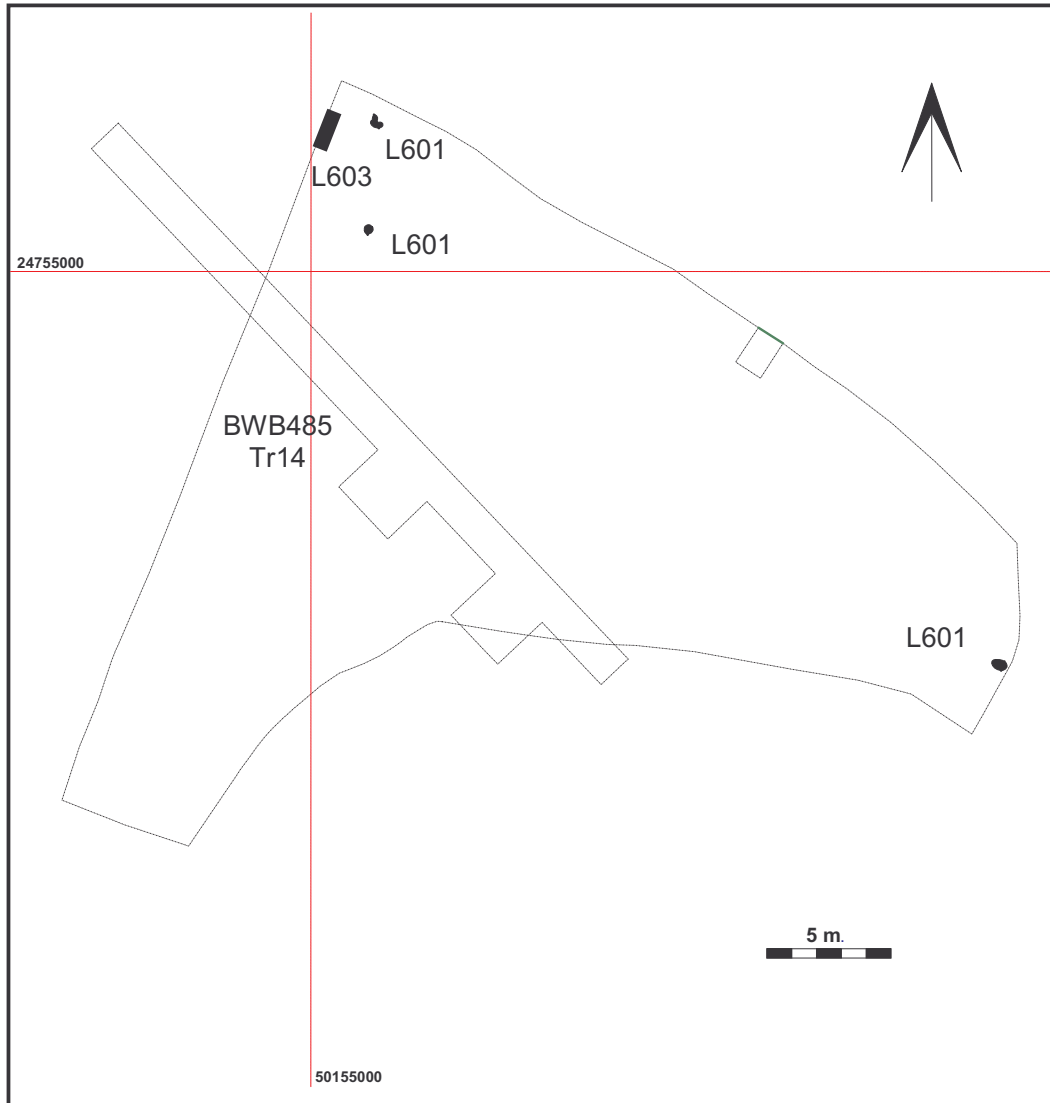


Figure 47: Phase 601 plan

6.1.1 Pits L601

Four steep-sided circular pits were identified. Three were located within 5m of each other, whilst the fourth was *c.* 30m to the southeast. Two of the pits within the cluster intercut and may not be contemporary. All of the pits were sterile and contained no finds. An anthropogenic origin for these features was deemed likely on the basis of their regularity and contrast to surrounding features of geological origin or to those created by root disturbance.

Groups within L601

G6005	Four small pits, less than 0.5m in diameter and less than 0.15m deep.
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6.1.2 Gully L603

Gully L603 was only identified in the north-western limit of excavation. It was of uncertain extent and alignment. No finds were recovered from its sterile fill. L603 a boundary that was heavily truncated, possibly by machine action.

Groups within L602

G6009	Gully with a regular U-shaped profile and was 0.89m wide by 0.31m deep.
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6.2 Phase 602 – Romano-British (Figure 48)

Evidence for activity within the Romano-British period comprised a single boundary ditch. This is likely to have been associated with agricultural activity related to the extensive settlement of this period, partly investigated within Area 5. Although no datable material was recovered from this phase, the ditch (L602) shares an alignment with boundary L701 within Area 7, c. 80m to the northwest.

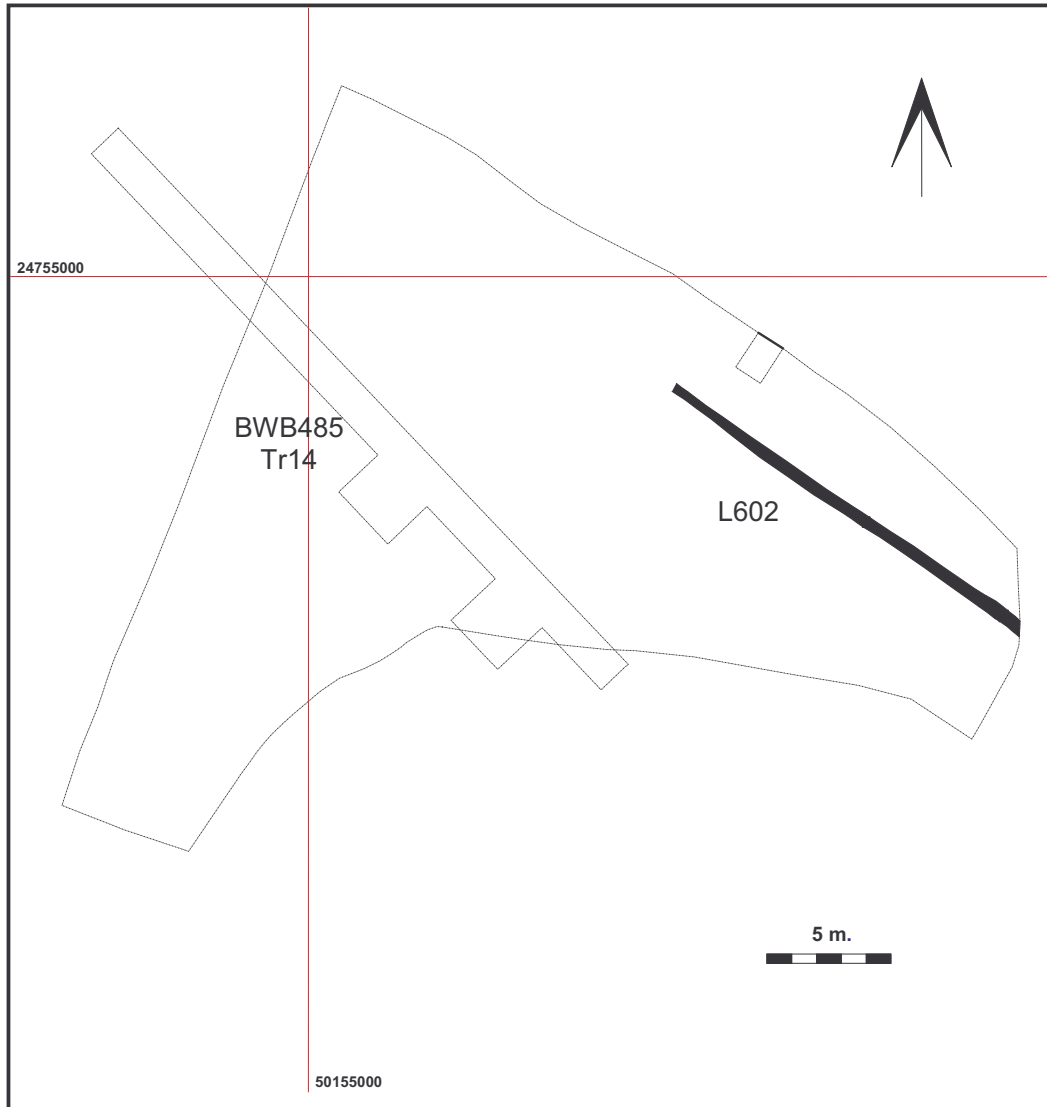


Figure 48: Phase 602 plan

6.2.1 Boundary L602

Boundary L602 comprised a NW-SE orientated ditch. It continued beyond the SE limit of investigation and ended towards the centre of site due to truncation. No finds were recovered from its sterile fill.

Boundary L602 is likely to have been highly truncated and represents a continuation of L701 within Area 7.

Groups within L602

G6006	Ditch, with a V-shaped profile, 6.9m in length and a maximum of 0.52m wide and 0.11m deep, becoming slightly flatter to NW.
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6.3 Phase 603 – Medieval (Figure 49)

Evidence for medieval activity comprised a single boundary gully, probably associated with agricultural activity. The gully was located within trench 14 of the Bedford Western Bypass evaluation. Dating is based on the recovery of a fragment of lava quern, and a small quantity of animal bone and a sherd of possible medieval pottery.

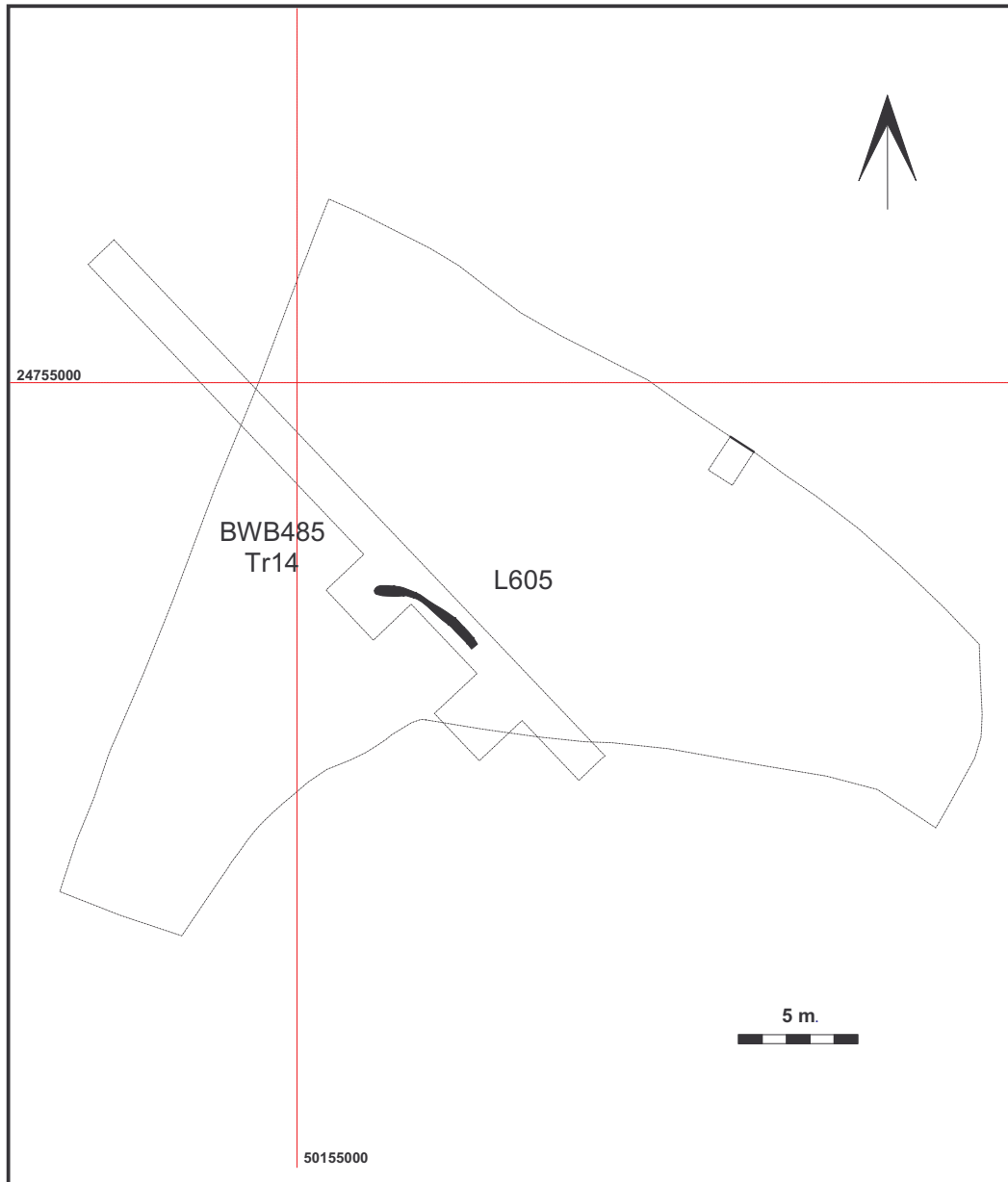


Figure 49: Phase 603 plan



6.3.1 Gully L605

Gully L605 was a curvilinear feature. It exhibited a broadly NE-SW alignment, curving to the west at its northwestern end, with an apparent terminus at either end. It is likely to have been heavily truncated and was only identified within the evaluation. The artefact assemblage consists of one fragment of lava quern.

Groups within L605

G6011 | Gully that was 5.5m long by 0.4m wide and less than 0.1m deep.

6.4 Phase 604 – Post-medieval (Figure 50)

Evidence for activity within the post-medieval period comprised a large quarry pit identified within trench 14 of the Bedford Western Bypass evaluation, and against the southern limit of the excavation area. This activity is dated on the identification of tile within the unexcavated fills. No other artefacts were recovered.

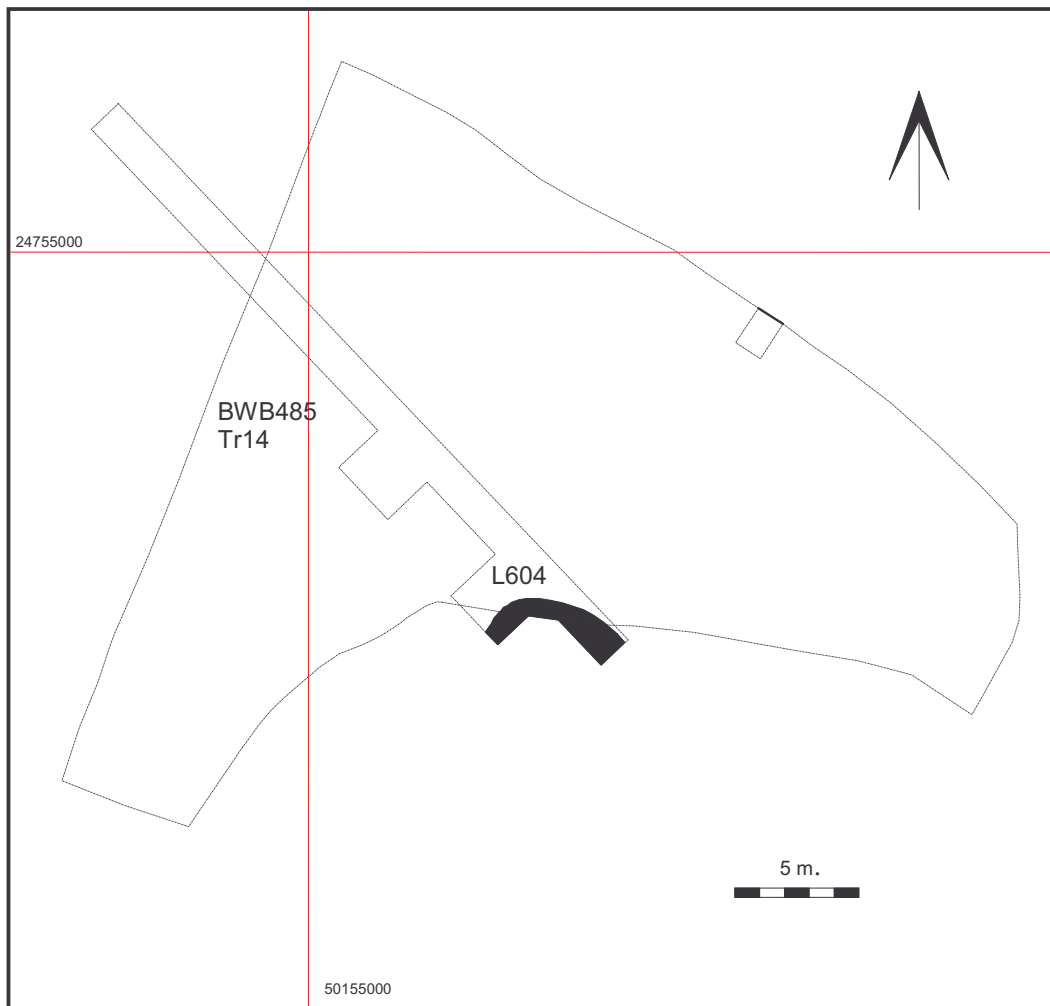


Figure 50: Phase 604 plan



6.4.1 Quarrying L604

The quarrying activity identified within L604 consisted of a large, irregular feature, adjacent to the southern baulk of the excavation area. It was not excavated, but modern tile fragments and gravel deposits were identified within its backfill.

Groups within L604
G6010 | Quarry Pit, 6m by 1.5m.

6.5 Phase 605 – Modern

Phase 605 consisted of the layer of topsoil that was removed during machining. It was largely the product of modern agricultural activity. Approximately 11g of residual medieval pottery was recovered from this deposit during the evaluation.

6.5.1 Topsoil L606

L606 comprised the modern topsoil identified during the evaluation trenching and strip map and investigate stages. It consisted of greyish brown silty clay, c. 0.4m thick. Approximately 11g of residual medieval pottery was recovered.

Groups within L606
G6001 | Topsoil



7 AREA 7 STRUCTURAL HIERARCHY AND TECHNICAL DETAIL

	Mitigation	Evaluation	Area Total
Contexts	306	0	305
No of features	163	0	163
Pottery	59 sherds (1046g)	0	59 sherds (1046g)
Fired clay	3(220g)	0	3(220g)
Registered artefacts	18	0	18
Struck flint	19(104g)	0	19(104g)
Animal bone	251 (10282g)	0	251 (10282g)
Human bone	1 skeleton		1 skeleton
Samples	27	0	0

Table 12: Area 7 data summary

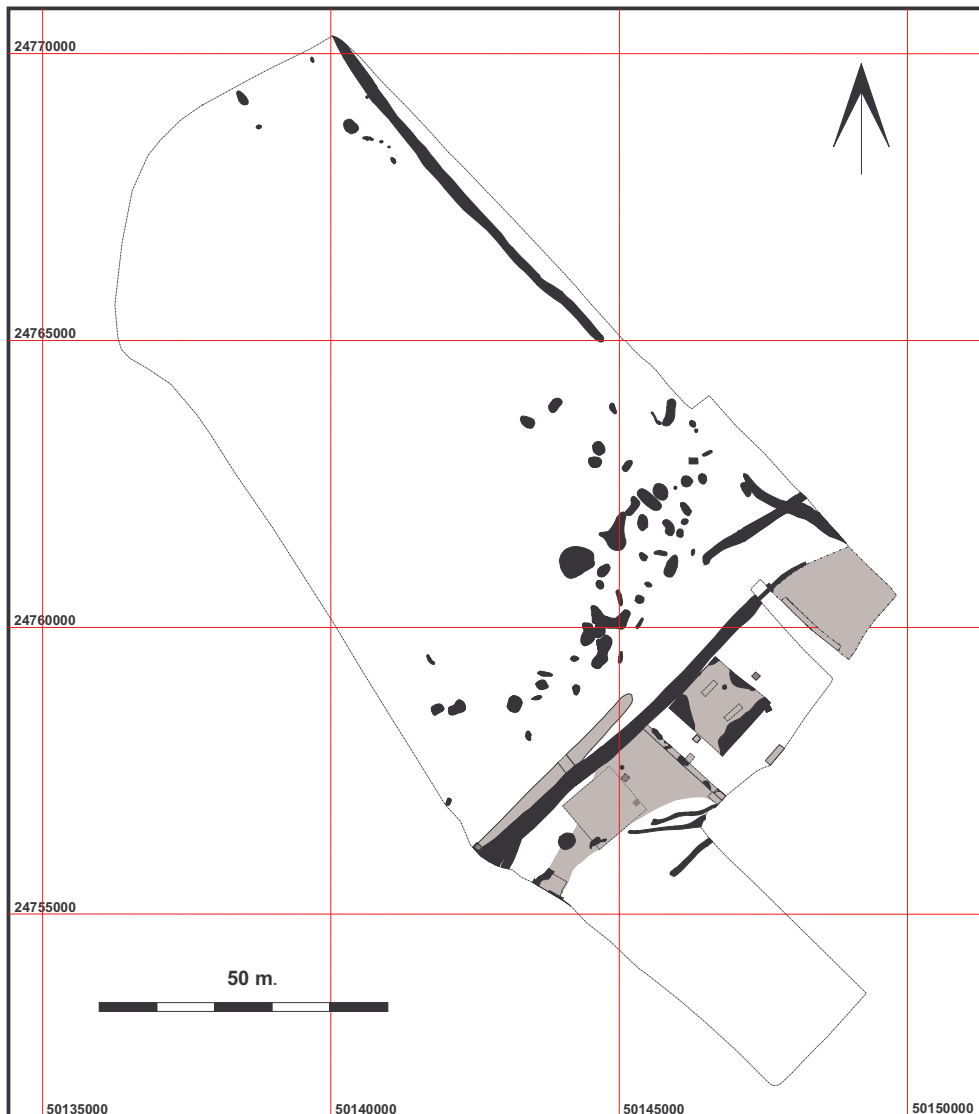


Figure 51: Area 7 all feature plan



Introduction

Assessment of the results of fieldwork has led to the identification of seven phases of activity (see Table 13 below). It summarises the results of the Strip, Map and Investigation, which is the only fieldwork to have taken place within this area.

Phase	Chronological period	Activity type	Evidence	Nb of contexts
701	Undated	Boundary construction Unenclosed activity	Gullies Possible pits and a posthole	24
702	Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age	Possible monument construction	Ditch	5
703	Late Iron Age	Peripheral settlement activity	Pit Buried soils	24
704	Romano-British	Peripheral settlement activity Pastoral activity	Boundary ditches Burial Pitting Trackway Colluvial build-up	54
705	Early medieval	Trackway Arable cultivation	Ditch Furrow	11
706	Later medieval	Trackway Woodland	Ditch Metalled surface Root disturbance	41
707	Post-medieval	Trackway Tree clearance Agricultural activity	Ditch Tee alignment Pitting Field boundary ditch	62
708	Modern	Arable cultivation	Land drain Topsoil	6
7	Unassigned	Undated and/or of low potential for further analysis.	Root disturbance Tree throws Geological features	78

Table 13: Area 7 Phase summary



7.1 Phase 701 – Undated (Figure 52)

Phase 701 included evidence for boundary construction and unenclosed activity. It comprised two undated gullies and pitting. The pits were sealed by colluvial deposits assigned to Phase 704. No datable material was present within the features within this phase.

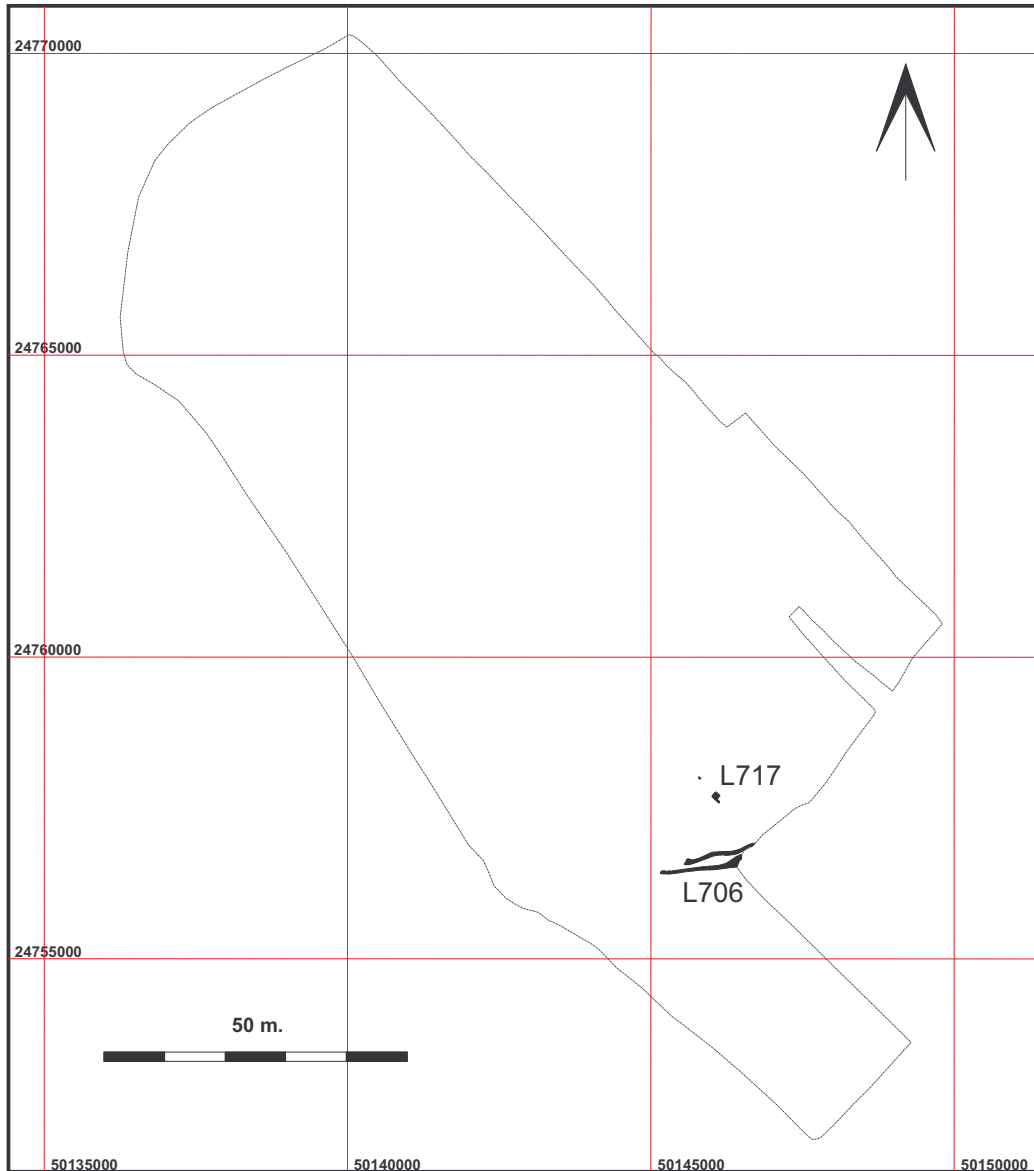


Figure 52: Phase 701 plan

7.1.1 Gullies L706

Two gullies were located at the SE corner of site. They were roughly parallel and spaced approximately 1m apart. They were orientated E-W and terminated at their western ends. Their fills were heavily leached and did not contain any finds. Their heavily leached appearance was suggestive of a prehistoric date.



Groups within L706	
G7005	Shallow E-W gully.
G7006	Shallow E-W gully.

7.1.2 Unenclosed activity L717

Evidence for unenclosed activity comprised two possible pits: G7027 and a small posthole G7030. These features were located within sondages through subsequent colluvial build-up (L707) within Phase 704. They were distinguished from features of geological origin due to their regularity. No finds were recovered.

Groups within L717	
G7027	Two possible pits that were sub-ovoid, 1.5m NW-SE by 1.0m wide and 1.0m deep; and sub-circular, 0.3m in diameter and 0.3m deep.
G7030	Posthole that was ovoid in plan orientated, 0.4m long by 0.3m wide and 0.3m deep.

7.2 Phase 702 – Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age (Figure 53)

The only evidence for late Neolithic/ early Bronze Age activity was located against the south-western side of the excavation. It comprised a possible ditch whose nature, extent and orientation were impossible to determine. However, its fill contained eight sherds of Beaker pottery and 5 pieces of struck flint. It is tentatively suggested that the ditch was part of a burial monument.

The total lithic artefact assemblage comprised 19 struck flints of possible Neolithic/ early Bronze Age date. This total includes the struck flints that were residual within later deposits.

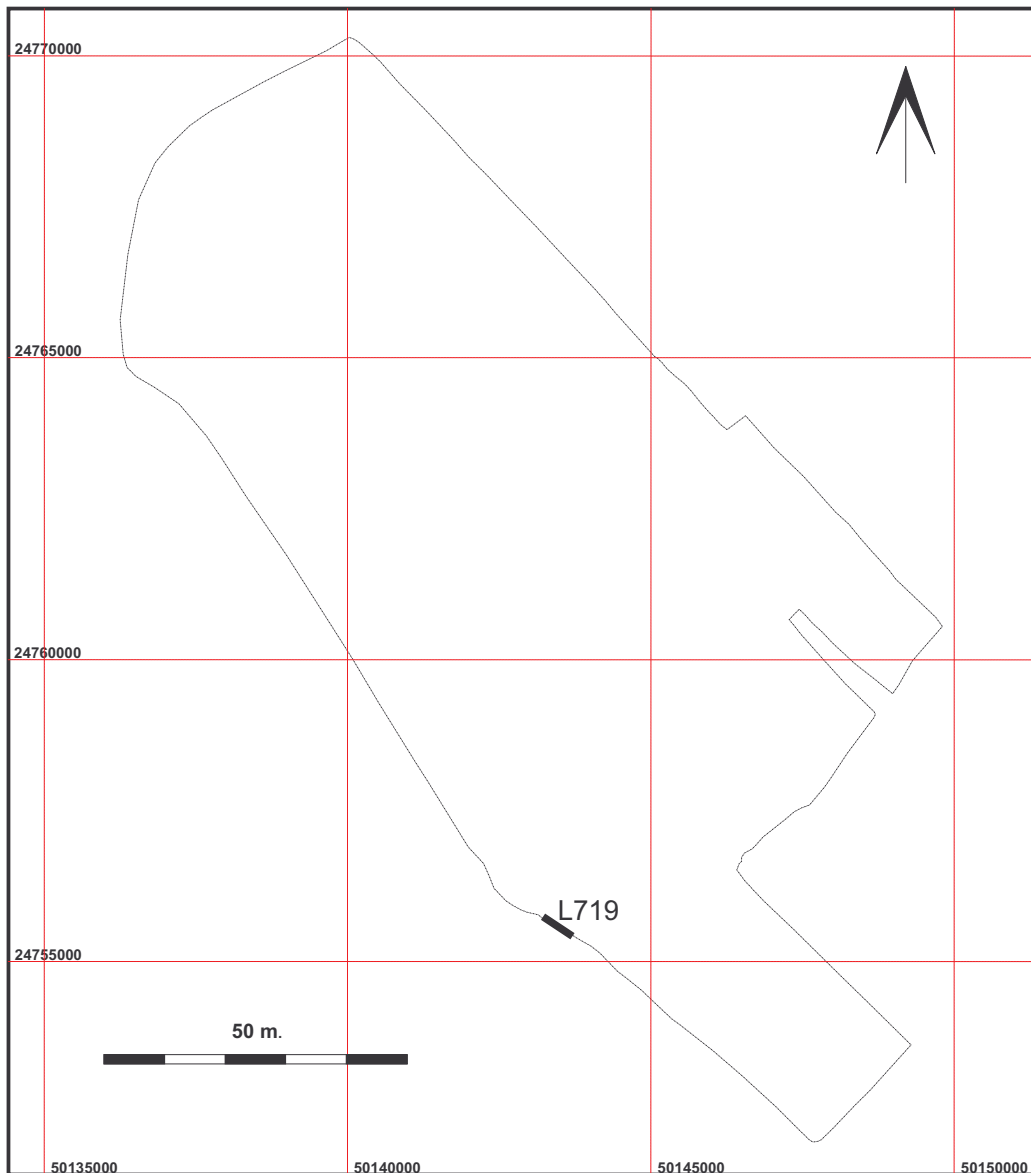


Figure 53: Phase 702 plan

7.2.1 Possible Ring Ditch L719

L719 was a U-shaped ditch identified in the section of hand-excavated slot against the south-western limit of excavation. Although not clearly visible in plan it produced eight sherds of Beaker pottery, dating to the late Neolithic/early Bronze Age. In addition, three flint flakes and two flint scrapers (RA 7015 and RA 7016) were also recovered. The deliberate backfilling included a thin layer of stones than may indicate the creation of a surface.

Groups within L719

G7036	Ditch visible in section only. It was 2.65m wide by 0.33m deep.
G7009	Stone surface consisting of a dispersed layer of small stones 2.70m by 2.61m by 0.10m thick.



7.3 Phase 703 – Late Iron Age (Figure 54)

Evidence for activity dated to the late Iron Age comprised an isolated pit and contemporary layers of buried topsoil and subsoil. The dating is based on stratigraphic relationships with the Phase 704 colluvium (L707). The artefact assemblage comprised 7 sherds of Iron Age pottery and 2 pieces of struck flint. This small quantity supports a non-domestic, peripheral interpretation of the activity within Phase 703.

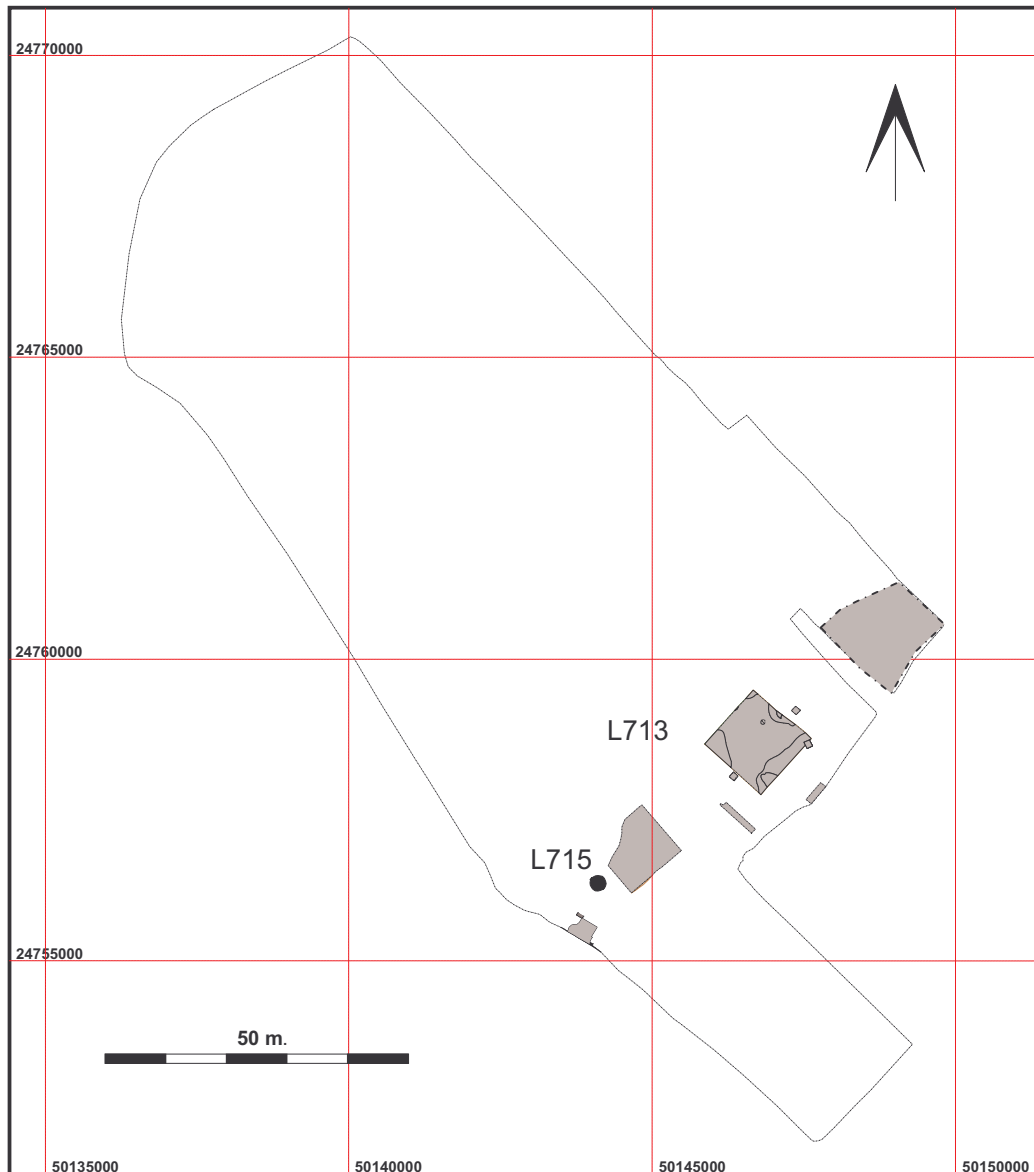


Figure 54: Phase 703 plan



7.3.1 Buried Soils L713

The buried soil layers L713 were located at the SE end of the excavation area and formed a band 15m wide by c. 50 long that extended beyond the SW edge of site. It comprised three distinct layers of soil, up to 0.30m thick, sealed below the Phase 704 colluvial layer (L707). The soil layers consisted of buried topsoil (G7019), buried subsoil (G7020), and isolated patches of disturbed natural geology (G7021). The latter layer was thought to have been the result of animal herding or trampling (R. MacPhail, *pers coms*). The artefact assemblage consists of two residual flint flakes.

Groups within L713	
G7019	Buried topsoil layer
G7020	Buried subsoil layer
G7021	Disturbed natural geological layer

7.3.2 Isolated Pit L715

Isolated pit G7025 was located towards the south-western edge of site. Its relationship with the Phase 704 colluvial layer (L707) was unclear, but it produced 7 sherds of late Iron Age pottery and 2 pieces of burnt flint.

Groups within L715	
G7025	Medium-sized pit that was circular with a slightly irregular U-shaped profile, 2.58m in diameter by 1.55m deep.

7.4 Phase 704 – Romano-British (Figure 55)

Evidence for activity within the Romano-British period comprised a boundary ditch, unenclosed activity, a trackway, an inhumation, and a colluvial layer. Whilst the latter may be related to agricultural activity, the majority of the evidence is indicative of peripheral settlement activity. The boundary and trackway share the same alignment with similar features within Area 5 and are therefore considered to be contemporary. The overall artefact assemblage is small and supports the peripheral location to settlement. It comprised 20 sherds of pottery, a copper alloy object, and an iron nail.

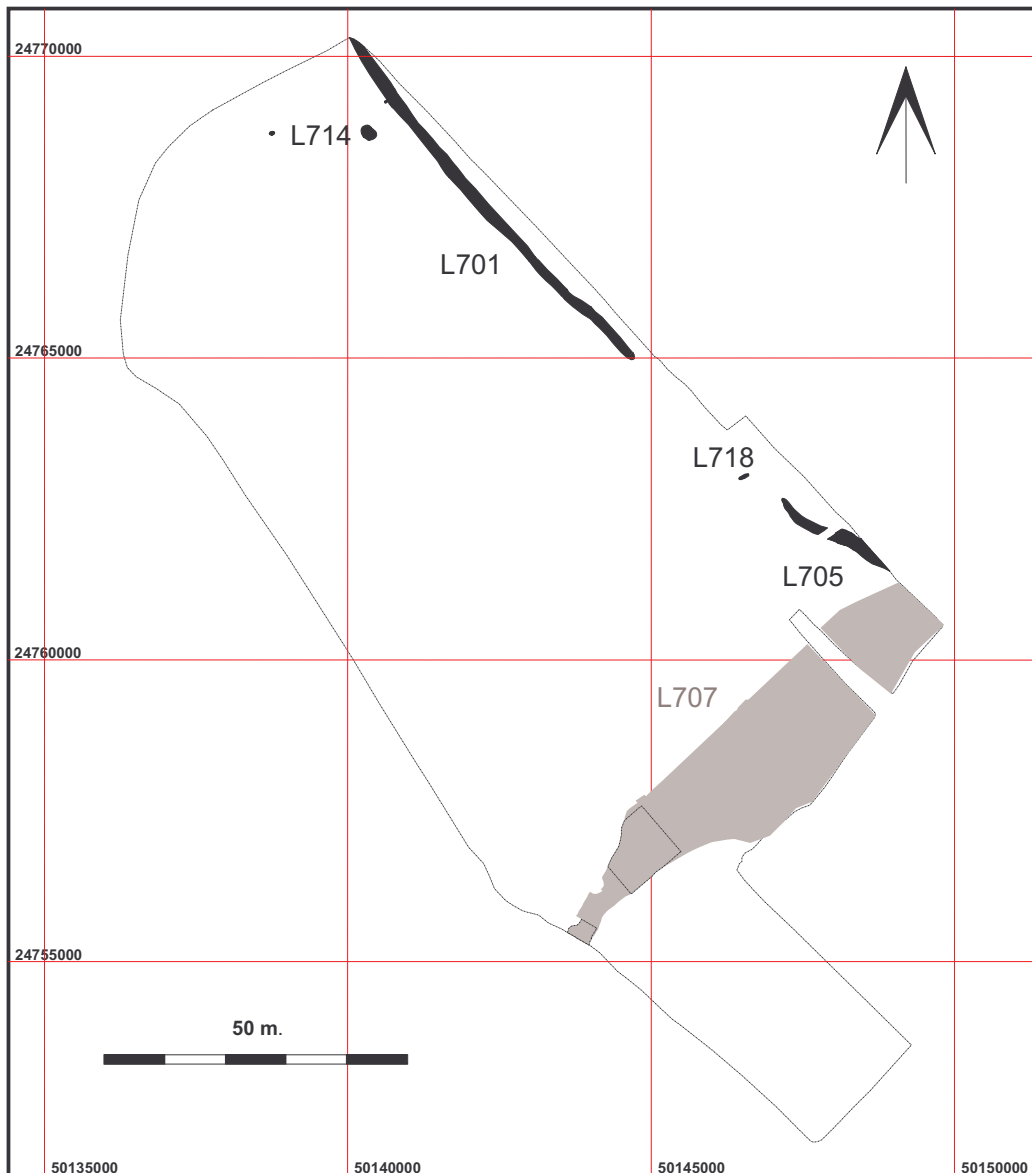


Figure 55: Phase 704 plan

7.4.1 Boundary L701

Boundary L701 consisted of one ditch and an associated posthole. Ditch G7000 was orientated approximately NW-SE. It extended beyond the north-western limit of the excavation area and ended in a shallow terminal to the south-east. Two sherds of Roman pottery and a nail (RA 7009) were recovered plus one sherd of intrusive medieval pottery. Posthole G7029 was located at its north-western end, on its western edge; it was sterile and appeared to be highly truncated.

This ditch is likely to have defined the south-western boundary to a field-system associated with the settlement identified in Area 5.



Groups within L701	
G7000	NW-SE Boundary ditch that was <i>c.</i> 71m long, between 1.3m and 2.3m wide and 0.3m deep.
G7029	Posthole that was 0.4m in diameter by 0.1m deep.

7.4.2 Trackway L705

Trackway L705 was defined by a shallow cut or depression containing a compacted gravel surface. This narrow linear feature was orientated NW-SE and extended beyond the north-eastern edge of site. The NW end appeared to be truncated. The gravelled surface was covered by a thin layer of silt which contained no finds.

Although not dated by finds, trackway L705 shares the same alignment as boundary L701.

Groups within L705	
G7004	Trackway that was less than 1.7m wide and 0.2m deep, by 17.5m long.

7.4.3 Unenclosed activity L714

L714 was an area of unenclosed activity, located *c.* 20m to the west of boundary L701. The activity was defined by two pits (G7023 and G7024) that were assigned together due to their proximity. G7023 was an ovoid small pit, located approximately 18m from the boundary ditch whilst G7024 was much larger. The pits produced 1 sherd of abraded Romano-British pottery and 3 residual flint flakes.

This unenclosed activity is likely to be associated with agricultural activity that was peripheral to the Romano-British settlement further to the east.

Groups within L714	
G7023	Small pit that was ovoid, with a concave profile, 0.9m by 0.6m and 0.2m deep.
G7024	Large pit that was sub-circular, with an irregular U-shaped profile, 2.8m long by 2.0m wide and 0.8m deep.

7.4.4 Burial L718

Burial L718 was an isolated inhumation, orientated NE-SW. It was located in the vicinity of boundary L701 and trackway L705 and shared a common alignment. The body was probably buried with jewellery on one of the wrists and neck, as indicated by green staining. However, the only find recovered from the grave fill was a fragment of copper alloy wire or pin shank (RA 7014), presumably from a brooch.

Grave L718 had been subject to considerable truncation and may not originally have been an isolated inhumation.

Groups within L718	
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G7031	Grave: elongated oval cut with a U-shaped profile and a flat base. It was orientated NE-SW, 1.83m long by 0.35m wide and 0.13m deep. It contained a supine human skeleton with right arm by its side and left arm laid over the pelvis. The head was at the SW end. It was slightly truncated and was missing its feet and the front of skull. The bones displayed copper alloy staining around the wrist and neck
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7.4.5 Colluvium L707

The colluvial layer L707 was located at the SE end of the excavation area and formed a band 15m wide by *c.* 50 long that extended beyond the SW edge of site. It comprised a layer of soil, up to 0.30m thick. A moderate quantity of pottery, and a small amount of struck flint (2 pieces) was recovered. The pottery comprised 3 sherds of Roman pottery, 9 sherds of Iron Age (6 late Iron Age), and 3 sherds of residual late Bronze Age/early Iron Age pottery, and 1 unidentified sherd. Two registered artefacts were also recovered from the colluvium: a disc scraper (RA7012) and an opposed platform core (RA 7017).

The accumulation of colluvial material may have been the result of increased agricultural exploitation of the area and the breakdown of the soil structure caused by animal trampling within Phase 703.

Groups within L707

G7018 | Colluvial layer.

7.5 Phase 705 – Early Medieval (Figure 56)

The evidence for activity within Phase 705 comprised the remains of a NE-SW trackway and traces of ridge and furrow cultivation. They were dated to the early medieval period on the basis of a small amount of pottery from the ditch and its stratigraphic relationship with later medieval activity. The finds assemblage is small and comprises 15 sherds of pottery and 13 pieces of animal bone; it supports the non-domestic interpretation of the activity.

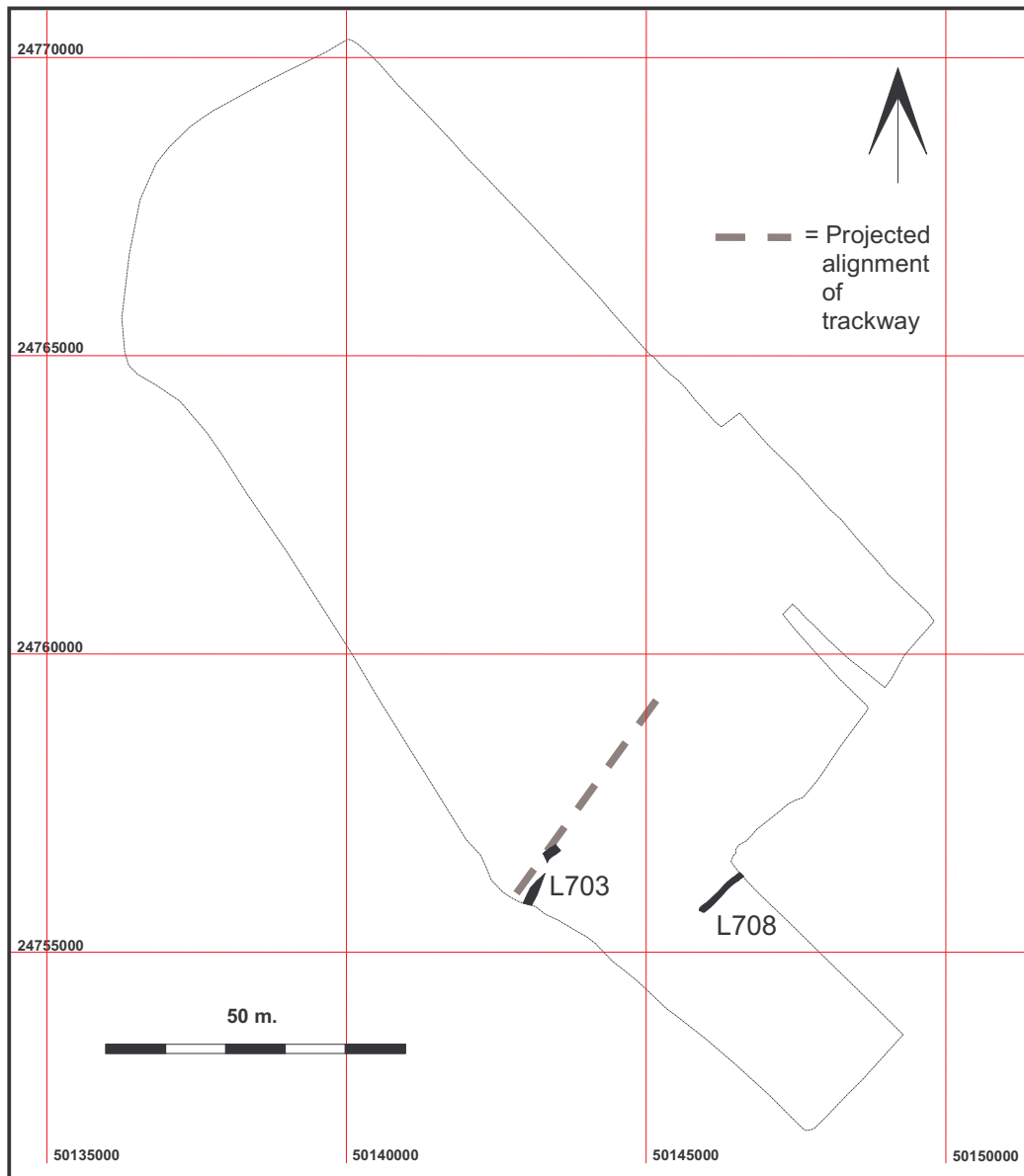


Figure 56: Phase 705 plan

7.5.1 Trackway L703

Trackway L703 consists of a NE-SW trackside ditch G7002, which extended beyond the SW limit of excavation. It was highly truncated by Phase 706 trackside ditch (G7037) and only survived for approximately 10m. No associated surfaces or rutting survived and it is likely that they have been truncated or reworked by later activity associated with the Phase 706 trackway (L709). Fourteen sherds of early medieval pottery and one residual sherd of late Saxo-Norman pottery were recovered from the fill of G7002, as well as 13 pieces of animal bone.



The trackway is likely to have been contemporary with settlement activity within Area 8 to the south, and may be a continuation of a route established in the Romano-British period.

Groups within L703
G7002 | Short NE-SW ditch.

7.5.2 Agricultural Activity L708

Evidence for agricultural activity is represented by furrow G7008. It was orientated NE-SW, 25m to the south-east of trackway L703. It had a regular concave profile, but was less than 0.1m deep. It extended for 9m, but continued NE beyond the limit of investigation. The SW end was not a terminus and likely to be the result of plough truncation. The shallow depth and profile of this feature suggests that it was a furrow. No finds were present.

Groups within L708
G7007 | Shallow NE-SW furrow.

7.6 Phase 706 – Later Medieval (Figure 57)

Activity during this phase comprised the continuation in use of the Phase 705 trackway, and an area of woodland. The evidence for this activity consists of the surfacing of the NE-SW trackway and root disturbance holes. The dating of this activity is largely based on the truncation by post-medieval field boundary ditches and pits, and the recovery of artefacts from the trackway surface. The artefact assemblage is limited to seven registered objects, of a variety of dates. No other finds were present.

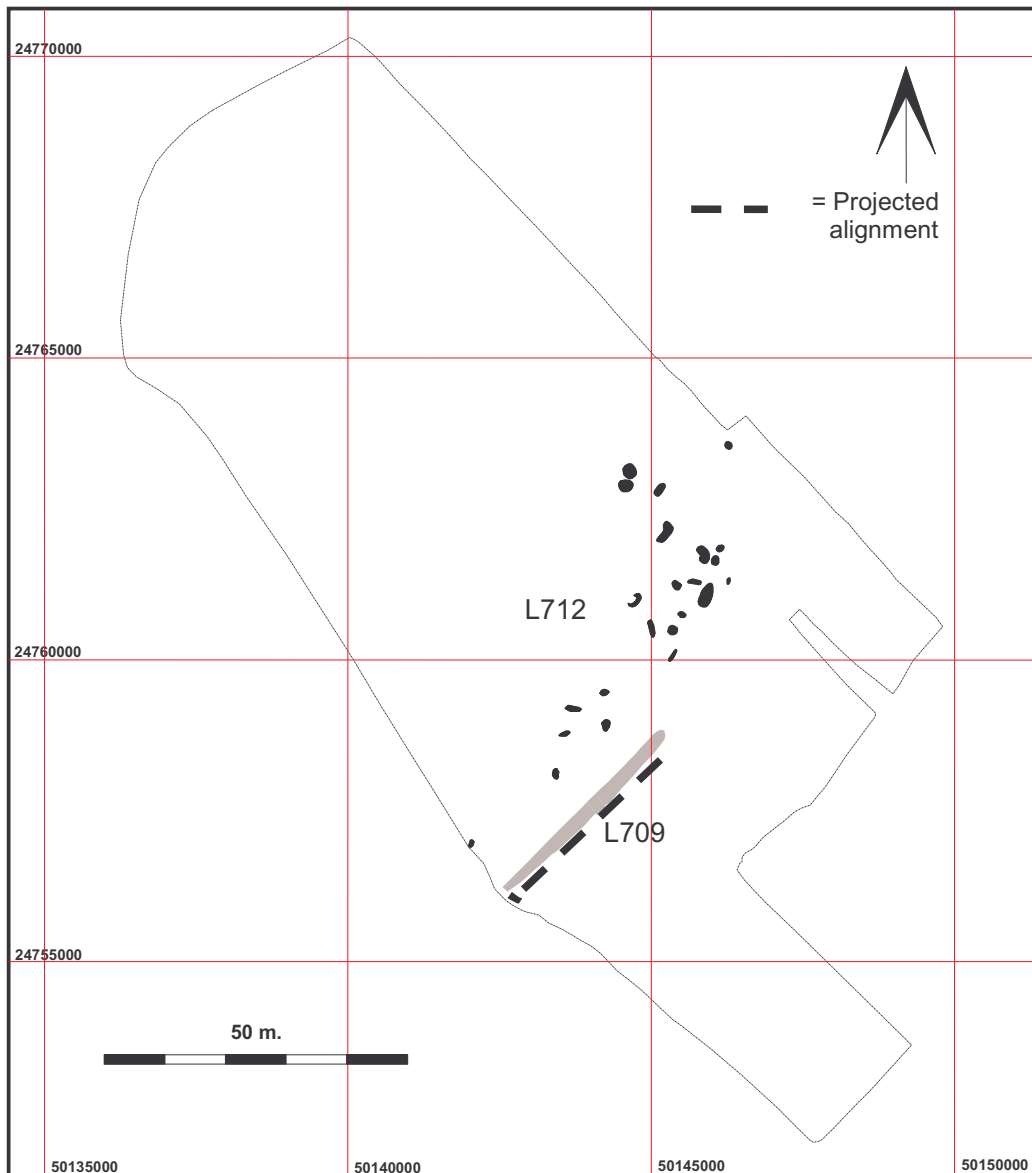


Figure 57: Phase 706 plan

7.6.1 Trackway L709

L709 comprised NE-SW trackway surface G7008 and associated ditch G7037. The trackway surface survived for over 38m in length and continued beyond the south-western edge of the excavation area. The NE end was a product of truncation. The ditch is likely to have been the northern trackside ditch, but was only identified in sections through later ditches. The southernmost ditch is likely to have been lost to truncation by later features. No evidence for rutting survived. Several fragments of metal sheet (RA 7001, RA7002, RA7004 and RA 7011) and an intrusive Roman coin (RA 7000) were recovered from the surviving metallised surface of the trackway.



The trackway would have continued across the full width of the investigation area, but has been truncated by later unidentified activity.

Groups within L709	
G7008	NE-SW trackway surface comprised of medium to large rounded stones on a bed of sand and gravel.
G7037	NE-SW trackside ditch.

7.6.2 Woodland L712

Approximately 23 irregular root disturbance holes were identified within a 20m by 80m area, concentrated along the north-western side of trackway L709. These were not tree-throw holes and are, instead, likely to be associated with trees that were within an area that was not under arable cultivation. Due to the disturbed nature of these deposits, the artefact assemblage was highly mixed and small in quantity. It comprised 3 pieces of animal bone and an abraded roof tile. Two registered artefacts were also recovered: an iron nail (RA 7003) and a piece of shale (RA 7013). These finds are likely to relate to clearance during a later phase (P707).

Groups within L712	
G7012	Root disturbance holes.

7.7 Phase 707 – Post-medieval (Figure 58)

The post-medieval phase comprised a trackway and agricultural activity. The trackway was on a different NE-SW alignment than trackway L709 in Phase 706 and represents its replacement. The agricultural activity is represented by the replacement of the earlier trackway with a field boundary ditch and the clearance of woodland. These changes to the landscape may reflect the transition from the open field system to enclosure. The identification of the trackway rests on its correlation with a footpath on the 1881 Ordnance Survey maps. The finds assemblage is small and comprises 9 sherds of pottery, 31 pieces of animal bone, 3 fragments of CBM and one piece of clay pipe.

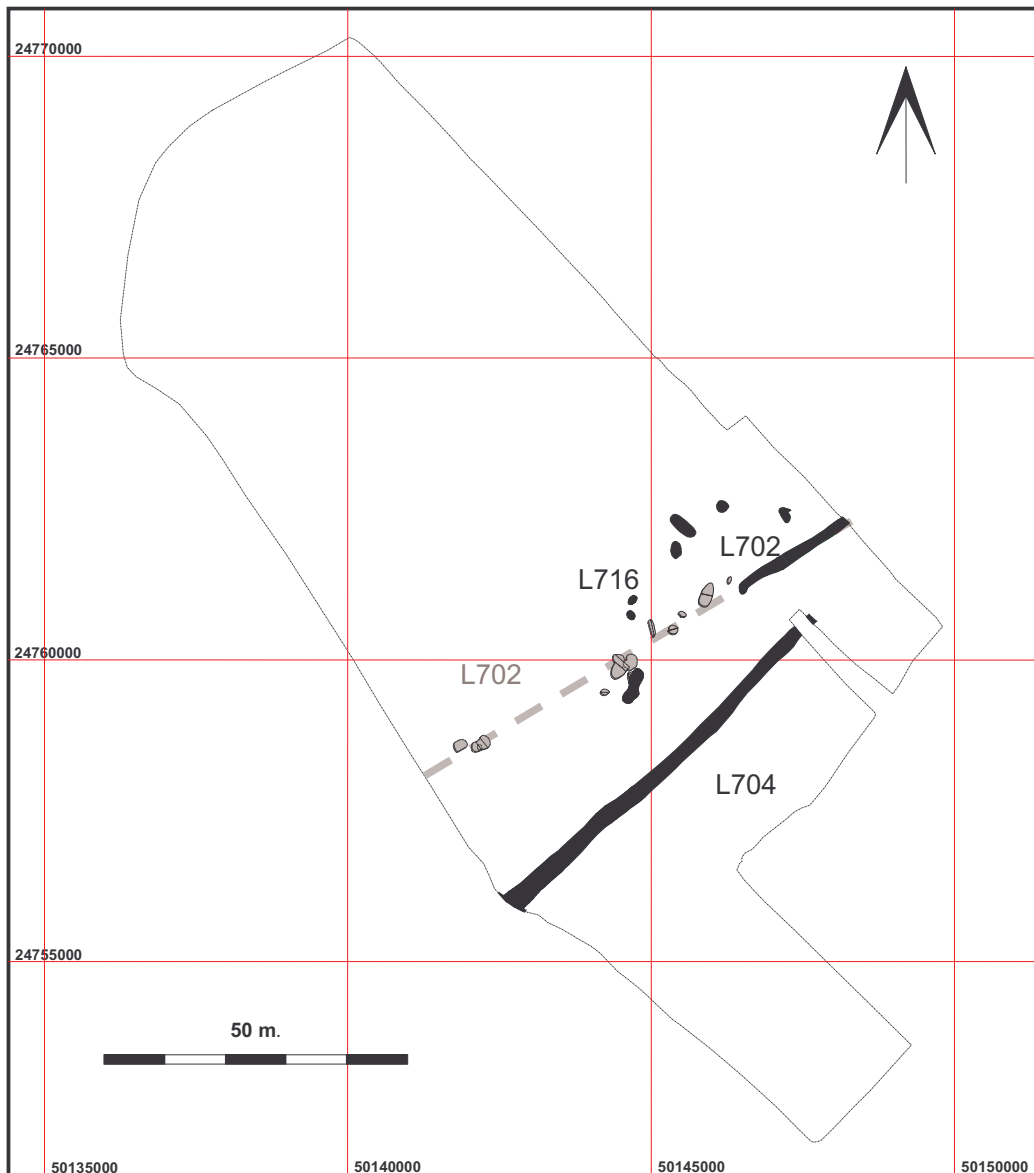


Figure 58: Phase 707 plan

7.7.1 Trackway L702

Trackway L702 was defined by a small ditch in eastern corner of the excavation area and an alignment of tree bowls. They formed a NE-SW alignment that was at least 21m long and terminated to the SW. The ditch (G7001) continued beyond the NE limit of the excavation area. It is likely that the trackway was defined to the SW by trees, rather than by a ditch, as suggested by some of the patches of root disturbance that continue the alignment (G7039). The fills of the ditch produced 3 sherds of residual late Bronze Age/ early Iron Age pottery and 2 sherds of early / middle Iron Age pottery; however it aligns perfectly with a trackway leading to Green End, shown on the 1881 first edition Ordnance Survey map.



Groups within L702	
G7001	NE-SW ditch.
G7039	Tree bowls aligned with boundary.

7.7.2 Field Boundary L704

Field boundary L704 extended for *c.* 75m across the SE end of site. It comprised NE-SW orientated ditch G7003, which continued beyond the SW limit of investigation. Its NE end was highly truncated and is likely to have continued, as indicated on the 1881 first edition Ordnance Survey map. No datable artefacts were recovered but the fills were very humic clearly and contained fence posts and animal bone.

Groups within L704	
G7003	Cut of ditch.

7.7.3 Tree Clearance L716

The evidence for tree clearance L716 comprised 7 discrete pits within a 20m by 40m area that was previously occupied by the root disturbance L712 in Phase 706. They differed from the root disturbance holes of L712 in their regularity or obvious anthropogenic origin. The pits could be divided into two categories: G7026 represented the relatively small and regular sub-circular features, whilst G7028 consisted of two large pits that were elongated and irregular in plan. The artefact assemblage comprised 2 sherds of post-medieval pottery, 2 fragments of CBM, 1 piece of clay pipe, 38 pieces of animal bone and 1 sherd of residual Roman pottery.

There is evidence that some of the pits cut some of the root disturbance holes within L712 and it is probable that the pits are associated with the clearance of the trees before the enlargement of the field system.

Groups within L716	
G7026	5 small pits that were sub-circular and less than 2m in diameter and 0.6m deep.
G7028	2 large pits that were 5m by 2m by 0.6m deep; and 4.8m long by 2m wide by 0.4m deep.

7.8 Phase 708 – Modern (Figure 59)

The modern phase comprised arable agricultural activity. Field boundary L704, from Phase 707, was deliberately backfilled. This activity may mark the transition to the present day, large open-field system. Dating of this phase is based on stratigraphic evidence and the presence of a ceramic land drain within the deliberate backfill of the boundary ditch.

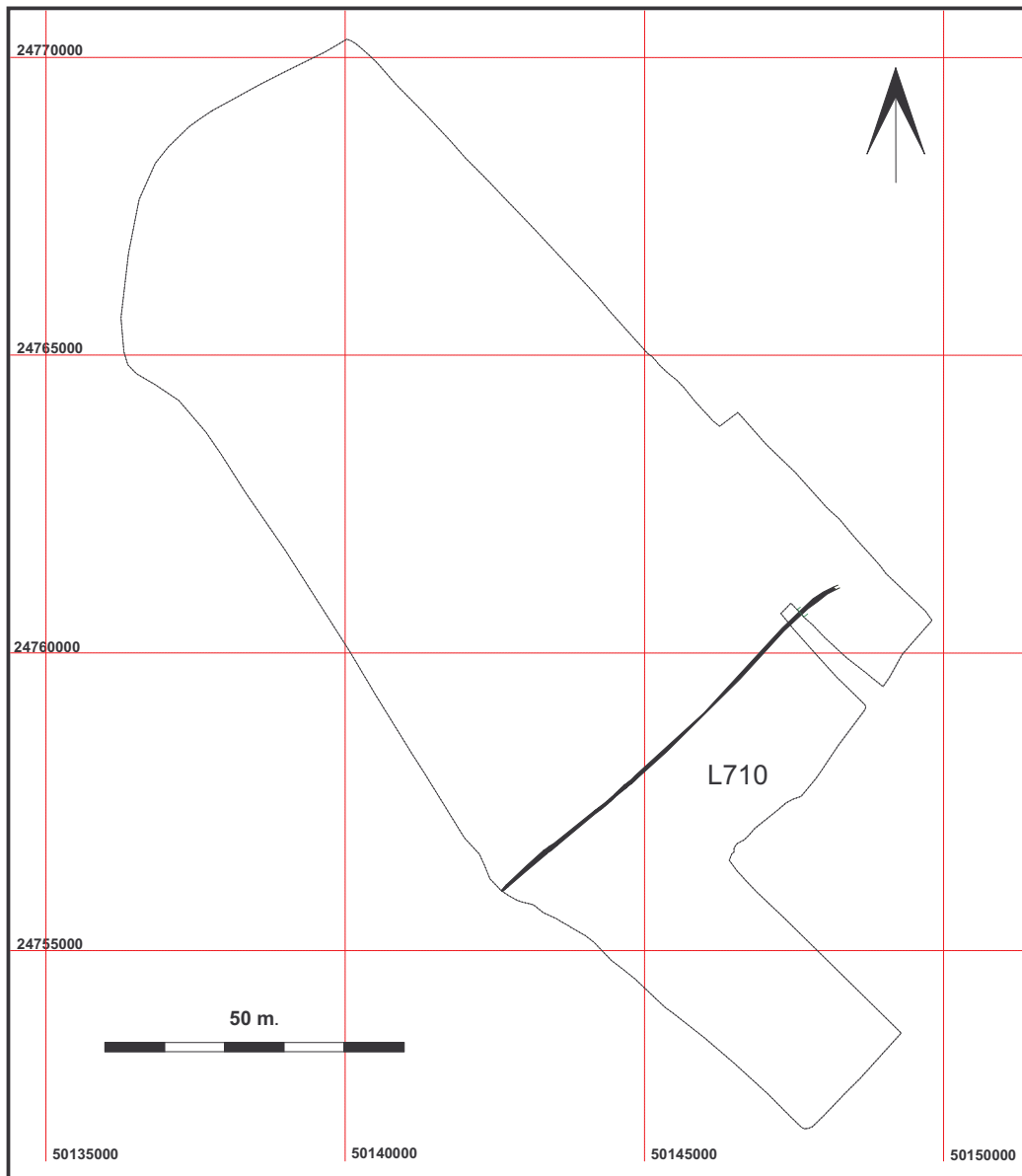


Figure 59: Phase 708 plan

7.8.1 Land Drain L710

Land drain G7032 extended for *c.* 75m across the SE end of site. It represents the disuse of the Phase 707 field boundary ditch G7003 and its deliberate backfilling and insertion of a land drain. This was orientated NE-SW and continued beyond the SW limit of investigation. No artefacts were recovered but the nature of the ceramic land drain indicates a modern origin.

Groups within L710	
G7032	Land drain.



7.8.2 Modern Topsoil L711

L711 consisted of the modern topsoil and subsoil layers that were removed during machining. These layers produced two fragments of flint core.

Groups within L711

G7014	Topsoil layer.
G7015	Subsoil layer



8 AREA 8 STRUCTURAL HIERARCHY AND TECHNICAL DETAIL

	Mitigation Total	Evaluation Total	Area Total
Contexts	779	80	859
No of Features	338	30	368
Pottery	1697 (19.7 kg)	(1.6g)	1697 (21.3kg)
Fired clay	1 (6g)	0	1
Registered artefacts	20	5	25
Struck flint	8 (3 RA)	0	8
Animal bone	746 (14.3kg)	0	746 (14.3kg)
Samples	48	0	48

Table 14: Area 8 data summary

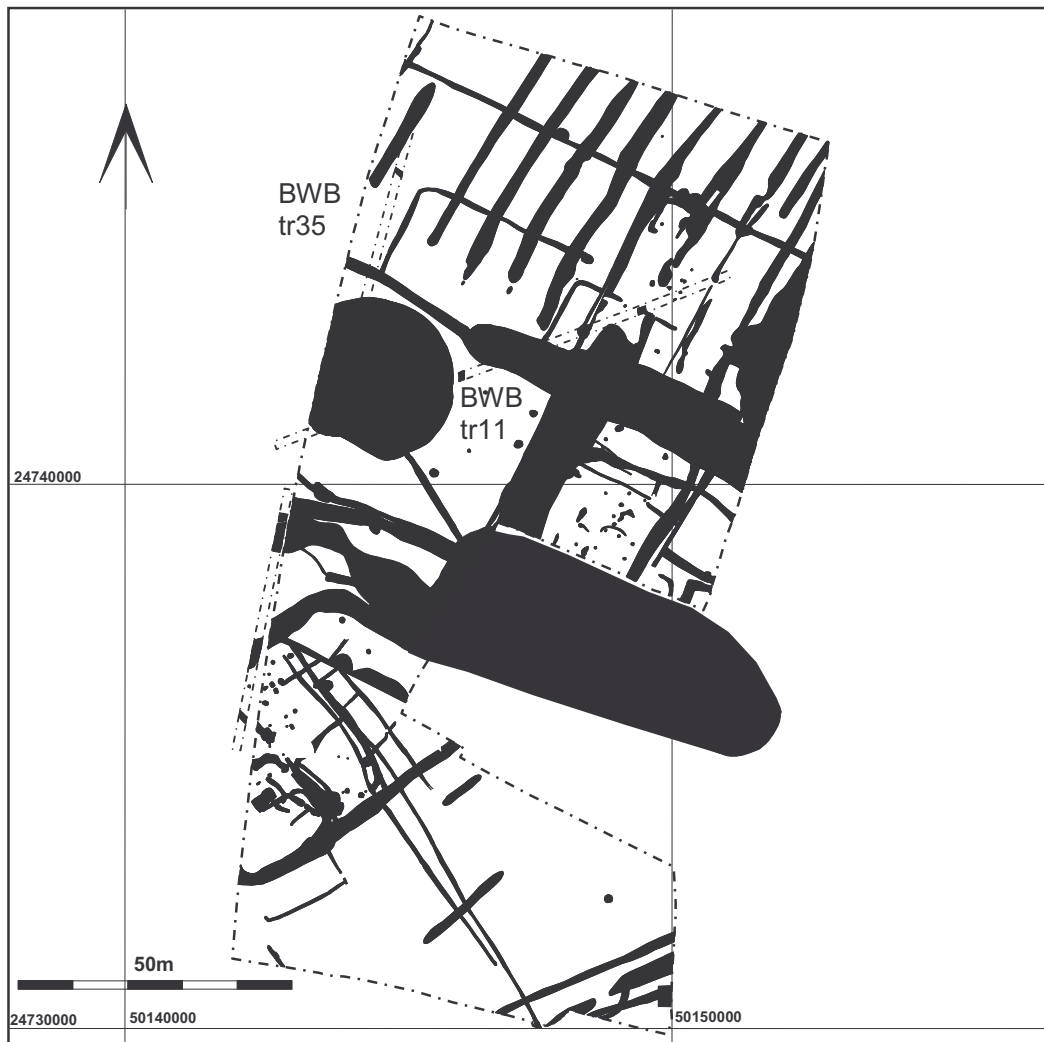


Figure 60: Area 8 all feature plan



Introduction

Assessment of the results of all phases of fieldwork has led to the identification of six phases of activity which are summarised below.

Phase	Chronological period	Activity type	Evidence	Nb of contexts
800	Prehistoric	Unenclosed land use	Residual artefacts	0
801	Romano-British	Cultivation system. Mortuary land use	Cultivation ditches Possible shrine Cremation	55
802	Earlier Saxo-Norman	Field system Trackway	Field enclosure ditches Trackway ditches	71
803	Later Saxo-Norman	Enclosed farmstead Boundary	Settlement enclosure ditches Boundary ditch	118
804	Early medieval	Field system Enclosures Enclosed farmstead Trackway	Furrows Field enclosure ditches Settlement enclosures Pond	320
805	High medieval	Unenclosed land use	Pits	7
806	Late medieval	Fields Unenclosed land use Fishpond	Enclosure ditches Postholes Pond	67
807	Early post-medieval	Fishpond	Pond	17
808	Late post-medieval	Fields Levelling Orchard	Field enclosure ditches Levelling layers Tree planting holes	76
809	Early modern	Trackway	Trackway surface	2
810	Modern	Drainage Levelling	Land Drains and culverts Levelling layer	39
8	Unassigned contexts	Undated and/or of low potential for further analysis.	Tree root disturbance Relic subsoil Geological features Topsoil and subsoil	87

Table 15: Area 8 Phase summary

8.1 Phase 800 – Prehistoric

A small lithic artefact assemblage was identified that comprised 8 struck flints of possible Neolithic and early Bronze Age date. All of the struck flints were residual within later features. No sub-surface features of this period were present.

8.2 Phase 801 – Romano-British (Figure 61)

The earliest firm evidence for activity is dated to the Romano-British period. This included mortuary land use area L800, defined by a possible shrine and unurned cremation burial. A second area of activity was defined by cultivation ditches L801, located 100m to the south. They were confined to the silty geology on the south-facing slope. The dating is based on the recovery of a moderate quantity of Roman pottery from the ditches of the possible shrine, cultivation ditches, and their stratigraphic relationships.

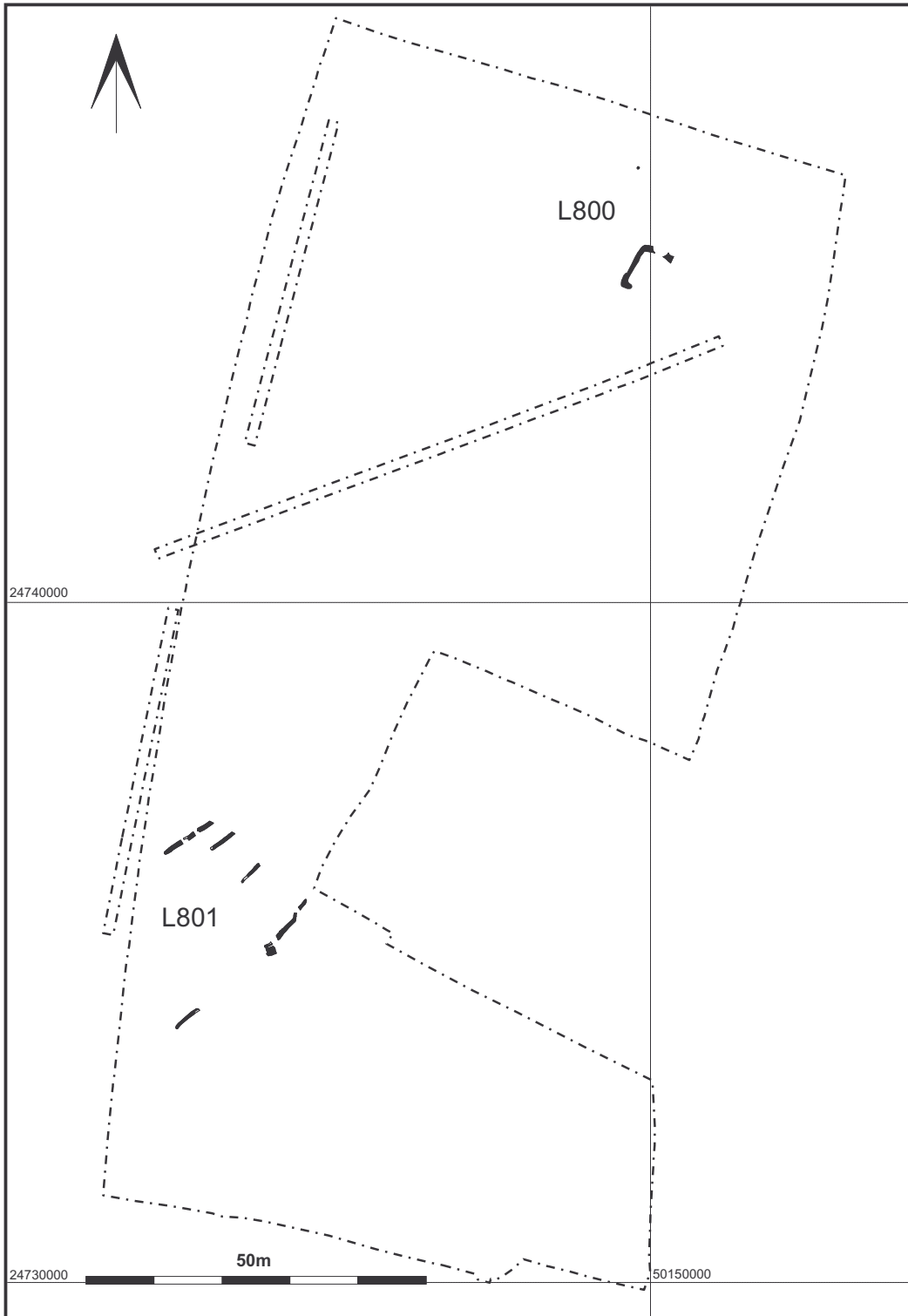


Figure 61: Phase 801 plan



8.2.1 Mortuary land use area L800

A mortuary land use area L800 comprised possible shrine G8013 and cremation burial G8015. The structure was square. The southern side was deliberately unenclosed and is likely to have been the access. The finds assemblage comprised three sherds of Roman pottery and three fragments of animal bone.

Unurned cremation burial G8015 was situated 11m to the north of mortuary structure G8013. Despite truncation, it contained a relatively high quantity (144.8g) of human bone fragments, most of which were small, and frequent burnt stones. Only one undiagnostic sherd of pottery was present.

Groups within L800	
G8013	Square structure. The structure was square and defined on three sides by a narrow, continuous ditch. It enclosed an area of 5 x 5m
G8015	Unurned cremation burial. Circular, 0.35m wide and 0.13m deep, with a steep, concave profile.

8.2.2 Cultivation ditches L801

L801 was a series of cultivation ditches located on silty geology, 100m to the south of mortuary land use area L801. It was defined by six shallow and narrow ditches. They were orientated NE-SW and positioned between 3-5m apart. The ditches were truncated by a Saxo-Norman field system. They contained a relatively large quantity of Roman pottery, totalling thirty-one sherds, and fifteen fragments of animal bone.

Groups within L801	
G8076	NE-SW ditch
G8077	NE-SW ditch
G8078	NE-SW short ditch
G8079	NE-SW short ditch
G8093	NE-SW short ditch
G8116	NE-SW short ditch

8.3 Phase 802 – Earlier Saxo-Norman (Figure 62)

The activity within Phase 802 comprised elements of a field system incorporating two fields L802 and associated trackway L803. It was dated to the earlier Saxo-Norman period on the basis of a small amount of pottery and its stratigraphic relationship with early medieval activity.

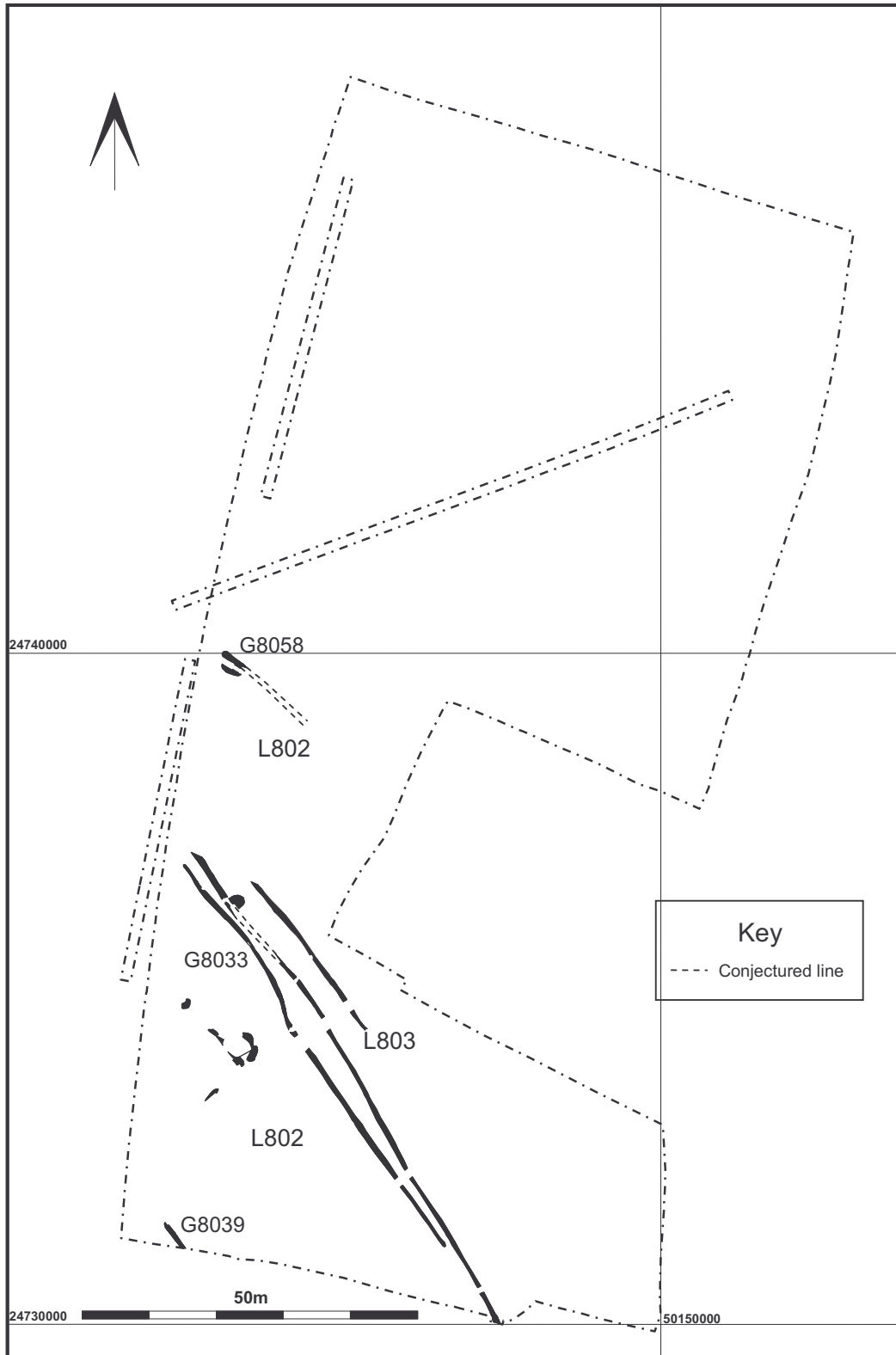


Figure 62: Phase 802 plan



8.3.1 Field System L802

Field system L802 comprised two rectilinear enclosures orientated NNW-SSE. It was *c.* 40m long and extended beyond the western and southern limits of the excavation area. Four sherds of Saxo-Norman pottery and seven fragments of animal bone were recovered from the ditches. Several areas of tree root disturbance within the field system are likely to have been contemporary on the evidence of stratigraphical relationships.

This field system represents the first phase of land use during the Saxo-Norman period. Evidence of clearance activity is indicated by tree root disturbance.

Groups within L802	
G8033	Central ditch
G8039	Southern ditch
G8058	Northern ditch
G8120	Tree root disturbance

8.3.2 Trackway L803

Trackway L803 was centrally located within field system L802 on the same NNW-SSE alignment. It was defined by two parallel ditches, G8025 and G8041, which were *c.* 4m apart. The southern ditch G8025 most likely replaced adjacent field system ditch G8033, although there is no stratigraphic relationship to support this. It was at least 85m long and extended beyond the western and southern limits of the excavation area. The northern ditch was heavily truncated at the eastern end. No evidence of a metalled surface or rutting survived. Seven sherds of Saxo-Norman pottery and five fragments of animal bone were recovered from the trackway ditches.

The trackway is likely to have been contemporary with the fields on either side and would have formed an integral part of the field system.

Groups within L1112	
G8025	Southern trackway ditch
G8041	Northern trackway ditch

8.4 Phase 803 – Later Saxo-Norman (Figure 63)

The activity within Phase 803 comprised elements of a field system L804 and an enclosed farmstead L805. The latter was defined by two episodes of construction with entrances. The field system was defined by two fields. It was dated to the Saxo-Norman period on the basis of a large quantity of pottery and its stratigraphic relationship with elements of earlier and later land use areas.

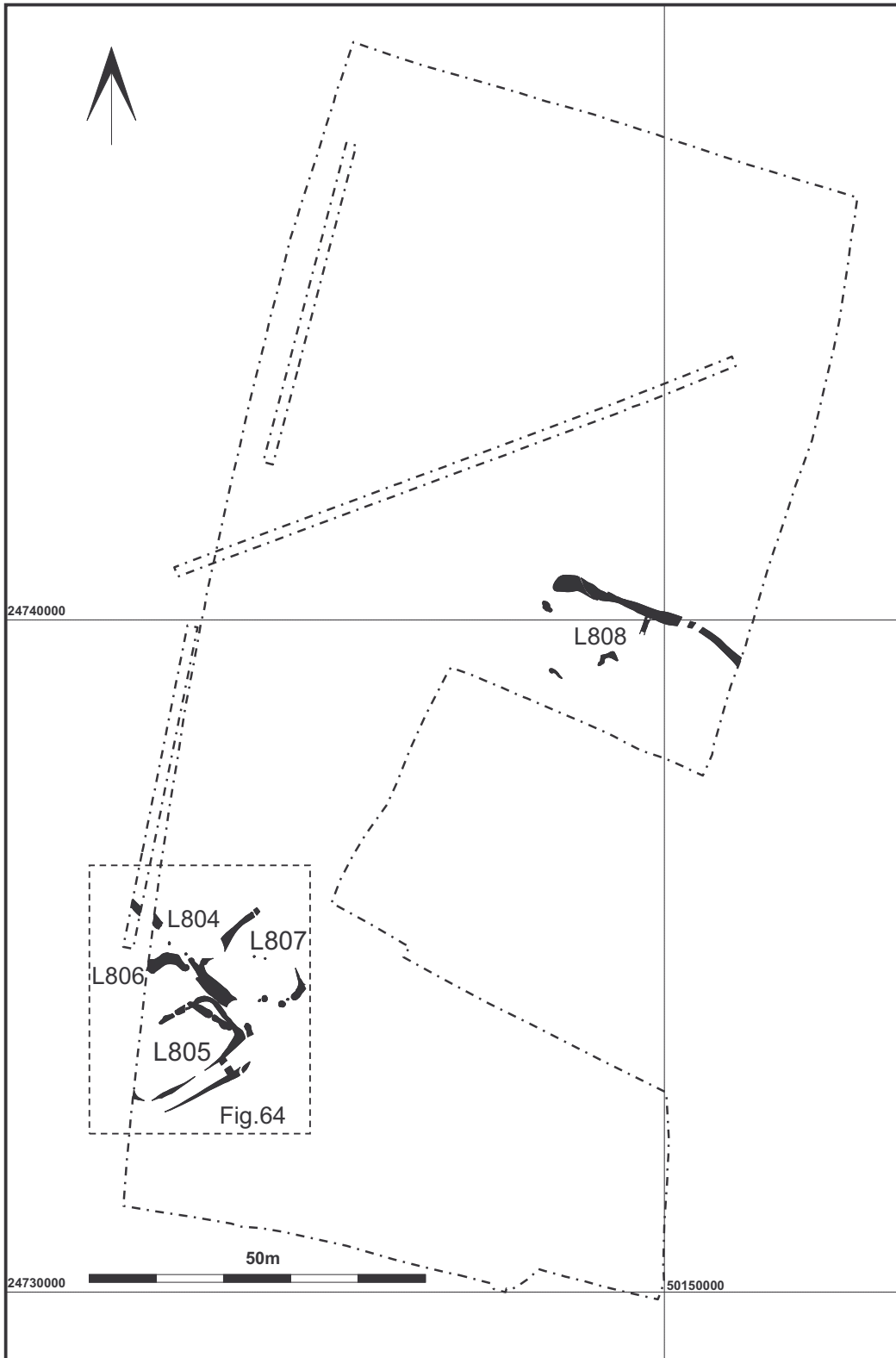


Figure 63: Phase 803 plan



8.4.1 Enclosed Farmstead L805 (Figure 64)

Enclosed farmstead L805 was located to the south of field L804. It enclosed building G8088. The enclosure was defined by a heavily truncated ditch that formed the northern, southern and eastern sides. The western side extended beyond the limit of the excavation area. It enclosed an area of at least 14 x 17m. A c. 2m gap on the eastern side was the only surviving entrance into it. Evidence for internal activity was represented by building G8088, located against the southern edge. The western side extended beyond the limit of the excavation area. A break in the northern side provided an entrance way into the building. Two short ditches, orientated NW-SE, were located within the building and partially truncated the northern side. They were likely to have been a second episode of construction. The finds comprised a moderate quantity of Saxo-Norman pottery, consisting of fifty-seven sherds. A moderate quantity of animal bone was present, comprising twenty fragments. An off-cut of antler (RA 8015) and an iron nail (RA 8006) were also recovered.

This enclosed settlement area is characteristic of a small farmstead, associated with field L804. It is likely that trackway L803 was still in use, as the latter activity respected its position.

Groups within L805	
G8085	Southern enclosure ditch
G8086	Eastern enclosure ditch
G8088	Rectangular building. Defined by a steep sided ditch that enclosed an area of 17 x 9m.
G8091	Short NW-SE ditch. Deep and steep sided.
G8094	Short NW-SE ditch. Deep and steep sided
G8097	Northern enclosure ditch

8.4.2 Redefinition L806 of enclosed farmstead (Figure 64)

The redefinition of enclosed farmstead ditch L805 comprised curvilinear ditch G8096. It recut part of the original northern and western sides of the enclosure, but extended beyond the western limit of excavation. It contained sixteen sherds of Saxo-Norman pottery and thirteen fragments of animal bone.

Groups within L806	
G8096	Curvilinear ditch. Re-definition of ditch G8097.

8.4.3 Stock Enclosure L807 (Figure 64)

Square enclosure L807 was located to the east of enclosed farmstead L805. It was defined by ditches on the northern, southern and western sides, which enclosed an area of 11 x 11m. Most of the eastern side had been truncated by later phases of activity. The western side truncated enclosed farmstead ditch L805. An entranceway was formed by a c. 6m gap in the southern corner that contained two pairs of postholes. Internal activity comprised two central postholes of unknown function. Finds comprised thirty-four sherds of Saxo-Norman pottery and thirty-one fragments of animal bone.



Groups within L807

G8075	Eastern enclosure ditch
G8081	Northern enclosure ditch
G8082	Western enclosure ditch
G8103	Two small circular postholes. c. 0.3m wide and 0.1m deep.
G8104	Two large circular postholes. 0.8m wide and c. 0.4m deep. Two small postholes. c. 0.3m wide and 0.1m deep.

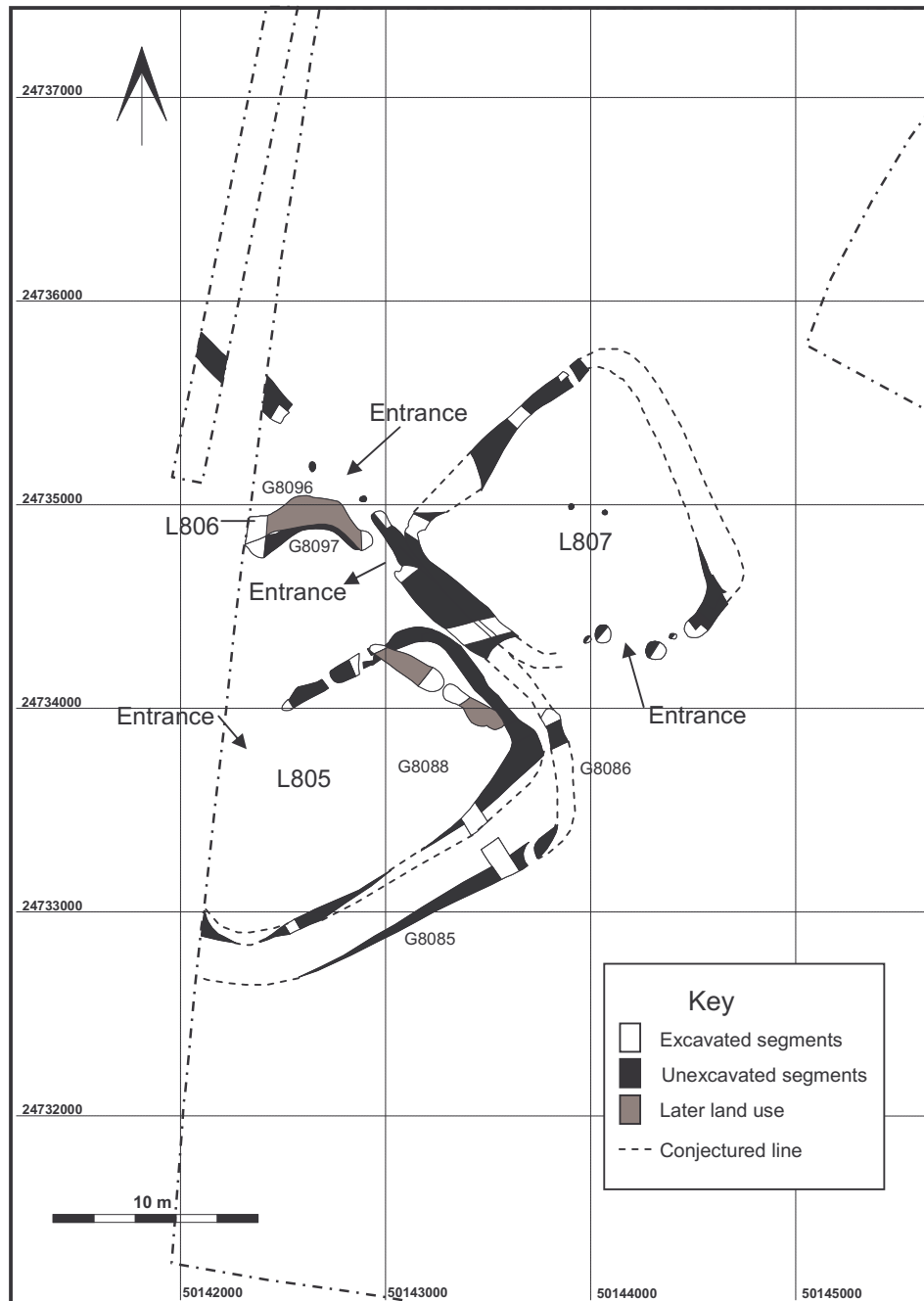


Figure 64: Detailed plan of enclosures L805/L807



8.4.4 Boundary L804

Boundary L804 was defined by two ditches, G8099 and G8084, which formed a single NW-SE field ditch. The boundary was at least *c.* 14m long, but extended beyond the western limit of the excavation area. The eastern end was truncated by several enclosures which belonged to the same phase of activity. A 5m gap in the field boundary provided the only known route across it. Two postholes were positioned in this gap. A small quantity of Saxo-Norman pottery was recovered, comprising nine sherds. Thirty-one fragments of animal bone were also present.

It is likely that this field was part of a field system associated with a farmstead. Postholes located in a gap in the boundary were most probably gateposts.

Groups within L804	
G8099	Boundary ditch
G8084	Boundary ditch
G8105	Two postholes. <i>c.</i> 0.4m wide and 0.05m deep.

8.4.5 Boundary L808

Boundary L808 was located *c.* 70m NE of enclosures L805 and L807. It was defined by northern ditch G8036 orientated NW-SE. Heavily truncated ditch G8035 extended SSW from the centre of the northern side for a distance of *c.* 2m. Associated activity comprised tree throws and tree root disturbance located to the south of boundary ditch G8036. Finds were present in all of the features. They comprised a large quantity of Saxo-Norman pottery, totalling seventy-seven sherds. Seventeen fragments of animal bone and one residual struck flint were also present.

L808 represents a field containing evidence of tree and scrub clearance and later subdivision.

Groups within L808	
G8029	Tree root disturbance
G8035	NNE-SSW ditch
G8036	NW-SE ditch

8.5 Phase 804 – Early medieval (Figure 65)

Early medieval activity was represented by three domestic foci L810/811, L812 and L813, central NW-SE orientated trackway L819, circular pond L814 and two field enclosures L815 and L817. Two episodes of furrows were associated with the field enclosures. Settlement was defined by a large sub-rectangular enclosure containing posthole buildings and cess pits. A second area of settlement was defined by a smaller square enclosure, two square buildings and a series of pits and ditches. Adjacent to this was a third domestic focus defined by a square enclosure with associated pits and ditches. Dating evidence was based on pottery obtained from the majority of features, in particular those associated with the domestic foci. All elements of this phase follow the same alignment and respect each other spatially.

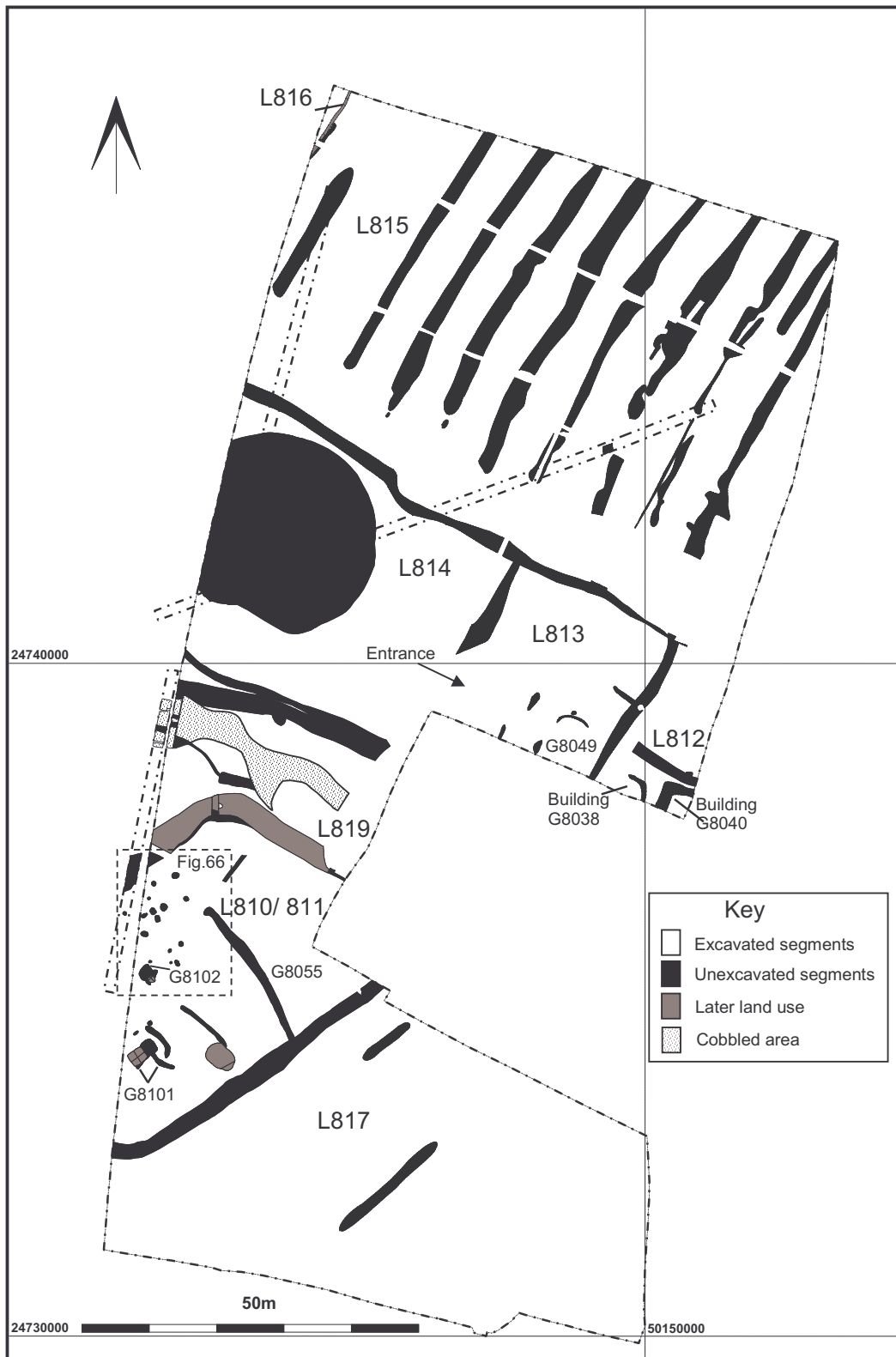


Figure 65: Phase 804 plan



8.5.1 Enclosed farmstead L810 (Figure 66)

The enclosure was NE-SW orientated and defined by three heavily truncated ditches (G8068 and G8065). The western side extended beyond the limit of the excavation area. It enclosed an area of *c.* 48 x 32m that contained two buildings, G8107 and G8109, and associated settlement activity. The buildings were located centrally, adjacent to the northern edge of the enclosure.

Building G8109 was defined by four post holes. No internal features were visible. Building G8107 was defined by eight posts. Part of the northern and western sides lay beyond the excavation area. Several internal postholes, G8108, of varying sizes were identified within G8107. A single posthole, G8112, located on the eastern outside edge of the building may be the remains of a porch, indicating an eastern entranceway.

G8098 represented a building in the southern half of the enclosure. This was orientated NE-SW and defined by continuous ditch G8098 that formed the northern and western sides. The southern and eastern sides were unenclosed.

Two sub-square cess pits were located centrally within the southern half of the enclosure. The northern cess pit, G8102, was associated with two ovoid postholes G8106 which were located along its western edge. The southern cess pit G8101 was associated with curvilinear ditch G8095 located to the east, and two postholes G8114 and G8115, on its northern side.

Two NW-SE orientated ditches, G8055 and G8083, were located in the centre of the enclosure. A further truncated ditch G8080, orientated NE-SW, was located in the northern half. They represent contemporary sub-divisions of the enclosure.

A large assemblage of early medieval pottery was recovered, totalling 225 sherds. A large proportion of this pottery was concentrated in three features. Fifty-eight sherds came from cess pits G8101 and G8102 and eighty-three from subdivision G8055.

L810 comprised an enclosure containing evidence for settlement activity. Occupation was represented by a posthole building, a four-post auxiliary building, an open-sided farm building and cess pits. Postholes and a curvilinear ditch associated with the cess pits may be indicative of shelters and wind breaks erected around them. The subdivision of the enclosure by ditches G8055, G8083 and G8080 may indicate the presence of zones of different activity within the enclosure.

Groups within L810	
G8055	Subdivision ditch
G8065	Northern and eastern Enclosed farmstead ditch
G8068	Southern Enclosed farmstead ditch
G8080	Subdivision ditch
G8083	Subdivision ditch
G8095	Curvilinear ditch associated with cess pit G8101.
G8098	'L' shaped building



G8101	Sub-square cess pit. c. 2m wide and 0.6m deep.
G8102	Sub-square cess pit. c. 1m wide and 0.35m deep.
G8106	Two ovoid postholes associated with cess pit G8102. c. 1m long, c. 0.6m wide and c. 0.2m deep.
G8107	Rectangular posthole building. Two square and one ovoid in shape, c.0.8m long, c. 0.7m wide and c. 0.2m deep. Six circular in shape, c. 0.5m wide and c. 0.15m deep. It enclosed an area of c. 10 x 4m.
G8108	Three internal postholes within G8107. Two circular in shape, c. 0.4m wide and c. 0.1m deep and one ovoid in shape, c. 0.9m long, c. 0.6m wide and c. 0.2m deep.
G8109	Square posthole building.. c. 0.8m wide and c. 0.15m deep. It enclosed an area of c. 4 x 3m.
G8112	Large circular posthole. c. 0.8m wide and 0.15m deep.
G8114	Ovoid posthole associated with cess pit G8101. 0.85m long, 0.34m wide and 0.06m deep.
G8115	Circular posthole. 0.7m wide and 0.1m deep.

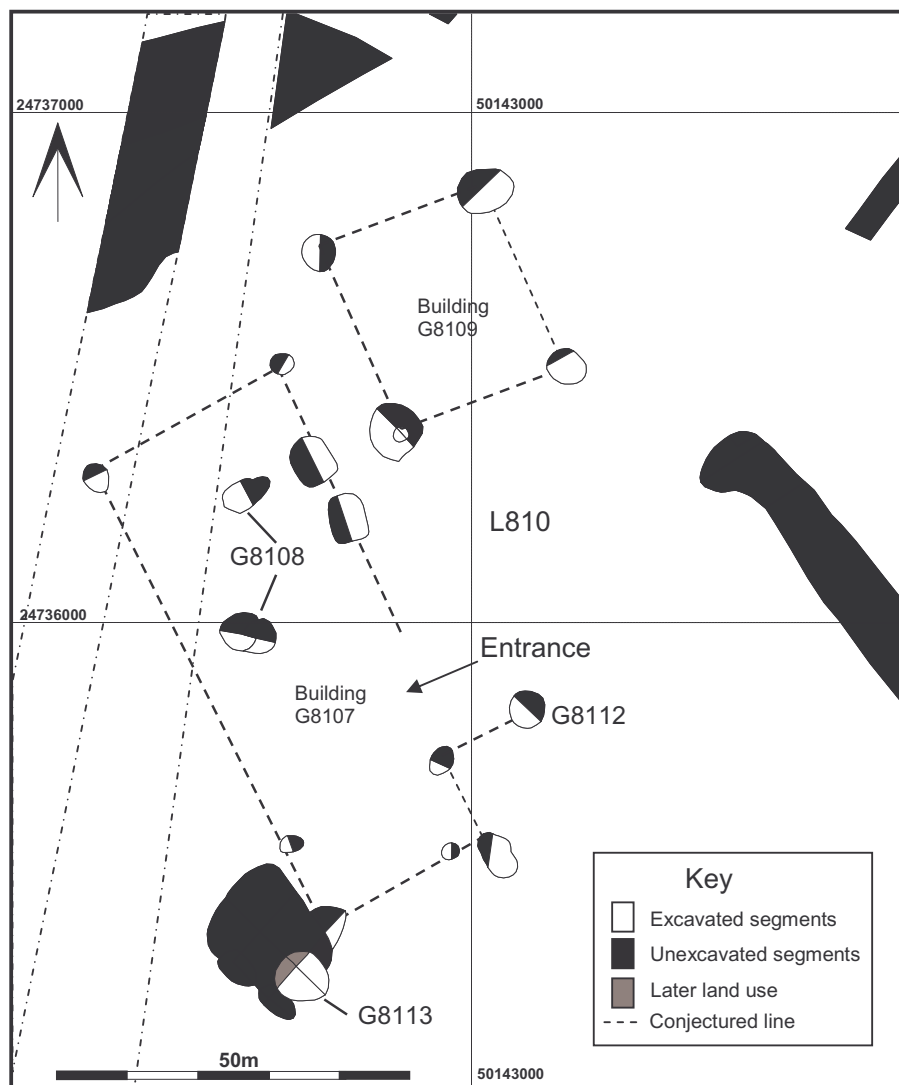


Figure 66: Detailed plans of buildings G8107 and G8109



L811 represented the redefinition of enclosed farmstead ditch L810 and additional internal features indicating the continuity of settlement within the enclosure. The later activity was identified through stratigraphic relationships.

The redefinition of enclosure ditch L810 took the form of four large, but shallow ditches which almost totally replaced the pre-existing enclosure ditch. The northern side was defined by ditch G8063, the eastern side was defined by ditch G8064 and the southern side was defined by ditch G8067. Most of the western side lay beyond the limit of the excavation area. It enclosed an area of 50 x 33m. Sub-square cess pit G8100 was located in the southern half. It truncated the edge of an earlier cess pit from L810, but it is likely that a ditch and postholes associated with the earlier cess pit continued in use. Water pit G8092 was centrally located along the southern edge. It was noticeably deeper than other features and given its large size would most likely have been for the storage of water. It truncated a subdivision from L810. Posthole G8113 was present in the centre of the enclosure and truncated cess pit G8102. Its function within the enclosure is unknown. A large quantity of early medieval pottery was present within L811, totalling forty-two sherds. Forty fragments of animal bone were also present.

L811 represents a renewal of the enclosed farmstead ditch and a continuation of settlement activity within the interior. Buildings G8107 and G8109, present in L810, are likely to still have been in use, whilst other features had gone out of use.

Groups within L811

G8063	Northern Enclosed farmstead ditch. Recut of ditch G8065.
G8064	Eastern Enclosed farmstead ditch. Recut of ditch G8065.
G8067	Southern Enclosed farmstead ditch. Recut of ditch G8068.
G8092	Large ovoid water pit. <i>c.</i> 4.5m long, <i>c.</i> 2.5m wide and < 0.6m deep.
G8100	Square cess pit. <i>c.</i> 2m long, <i>c.</i> 2m wide and 0.4m deep.
G8113	Large circular post hole. 1m wide and 0.25m deep.

8.5.2 Settlement Enclosure L812

L812 was defined by an enclosure ditch and internal settlement activity. The latter comprised two buildings.

Settlement enclosure L812 was located *c.* 50m NE of settlement enclosure L810/L811. It was square in shape and defined on two sides by ditches. The northern side was formed by NW-SE orientated ditch G8047. The western edge was formed by NNE-SSW orientated ditch G8037, which also formed the eastern side of field L813 (described therein). The southern and eastern extents lay beyond the limit of the excavation area. A posthole situated on the outside northern edge suggests that part of the enclosure may also have been defined by a fence line. It enclosed an area of *c.* 10 x 6m and contained two square buildings. The eastern building G8040 was defined by a ditch of which only the northern and western sides lay within the excavation area. Large posthole G8042 was located at the base of the northern ditch, indicating that posts were used to construct the buildings. The western building, G8038 was defined by a ditch on the northern and eastern sides. The southern side lay



beyond the excavation area. The western side was unenclosed, indicating a possible entranceway. Finds comprised a moderate quantity of early medieval pottery, including thirty-four sherds and nine fragments of animal bone.

Activity in L812 represents a settlement enclosure, enclosing elements of two buildings, one of which may have been a post built building.

Groups within L812	
G8038	Building. Orientated NNW-SSE and defined by a narrow, but shallow ditch.
G8040	Building. Orientated NNE-SSW and defined by a wide ditch.
G8042	Ovoid posthole. >0.5m long, <i>c.</i> 1m wide and <i>c.</i> 0.3m deep.
G8046	Ovoid posthole. 0.85m long, 0.5m wide and 0.07m deep.
G8047	Northern settlement enclosure ditch

8.5.3 Enclosure L813

L813 was represented by a square enclosure located on the western side of settlement enclosure L812. Several associated pits and ditches were present within the interior.

The eastern side of the enclosure was formed by NNE-SSW orientated ditch G8037. The northern edge was defined by NW-SE orientated ditch G8019, which also formed the southern extents of field L815 (described therein). The western edge was defined by NNE-SSW orientated ditch G8022, which also formed the western edge of field enclosure L814 (described therein). A break in the western side provided the only known entranceway. It enclosed an area of at least 25 x 23m, although the southern side lay beyond the excavation area. Evidence for subdivision was supported by short length of ditch G8034 that extended from the centre of the eastern edge, on a NW-SE alignment. The ditch did not extend the full width of the enclosure, but this could be attributed to heavy truncation in this area. A partial skeleton of a human infant was recovered from the western terminal of ditch G8034.

Occupation activity was represented by several internal features situated in the SE corner. They comprised two pits, G8049 and G8050, two ditches, G8030 and G8048, and curvilinear ditch G8028. Ditch G8048 extended beyond the excavation area, suggesting that the main activity foci lay beyond the excavation area. Finds comprised a large assemblage of early medieval pottery, totalling 312 sherds, 223 sherds of which were from pit G8049. Ninety-nine fragments of animal bone were also recovered.

L813 was an enclosure containing a small concentration of features characteristic of settlement activity.

Groups within L813	
G8028	Curvilinear
G8030	Ditch
G8034	Sub-division ditch
G8037	Eastern field enclosure ditch
G8048	Ditch
G8049	Ovoid pit. <i>c.</i> 2m long, <i>c.</i> 0.9m wide and <i>c.</i> 0.10m deep.



G8050 | Ovoid pit. *c.* 1m long, *c.* 0.5m wide and *c.* 0.2m deep.

8.5.4 Enclosure and pond L814

L814 was defined by a rectangular enclosure, located to the west of field enclosure L813. Pond G8052 was situated within.

The enclosure was defined on three sides by ditches. The southern side was defined by ditch G8057 and the eastern side was defined by ditch G8022. The northern side was defined by ditch G8019, which also formed the southern extents of L815 (described therein). It enclosed an area of at least 34 x 44m, although the western edge lay beyond the excavation area. A *c.* 15m gap in the eastern side provided the only known entrance into the enclosure. Large circular pond G8052 was situated in the western half of the interior. Finds comprised sixty four sherd or early medieval pottery and thirty fragments of animal bone, none of which came from pond G8052. This suggests the pond was regularly cleaned out.

L814 was a small enclosure formed around a pond and located on the periphery of two settlement areas.

Groups within L814	
G8052	Sub-circular pond. <i>c.</i> 24m wide and 1.5m deep with a steep, asymmetrical profile.
G8057	Southern field enclosure ditch
G8022	Eastern field enclosure ditch

8.5.5 Large field system L815 and redefinition L816

L815 was a large field system containing furrows. L816 represents the partial re-definition of the western field enclosure ditch.

The field was defined on the southern side by NW-SE ditch G8019 and on the western side by NNE-SSW ditch G8011. The eastern and northern extents lay beyond the excavation area. The southern side of the field system also formed the northern extents of L814 and L813. The field enclosed an area of at least 46 x 80m. It contained a system of furrows, which were orientated NNE-SSW. They extended across the whole area, but faded out 6m north of the southern field boundary. L816 represents the later re-definition of ditch G8011 which was replaced by ditch G8010. The finds assemblage comprised nine sherds of early medieval pottery and twelve fragments of animal bone.

L815 was an agricultural system defined by a field and evidence for strip field cultivation.

Groups within L815	
G8006	NNE-SSW furrows
G8011	Western field enclosure ditch
G8019	Southern field enclosure ditch



8.5.6 Furrows L817

L817 is defined by a system of furrows to the east of enclosed farmstead L810/L811. Furrows G8009 were orientated NE-SW. They were set 15m apart and had been heavily truncated.

L817 is evidence of an adjustment to a second system of furrows, which may represent a different episode of cultivation from L815 due to their different alignment.

Groups within L817	
G8009	NE-SW furrows

8.5.7 Trackway L819

L819 was a trackway orientated NW-SE. It was located between enclosed farmstead L811 to the south and field L814 to the north. The northern side of the trackway was defined by ditch G8059 and the southern side was defined by enclosure ditch G8064, also forming the northern side of L811 (described therein). The trackway ditches were set *c.* 13m apart and extended beyond the limit of the excavation area. Cobbled surface G8054 was located between the trackway ditches. Wheel ruts G8061 and G8062 were located along the trackway and were filled by the cobbles, suggesting this surface replaced an earlier trackway surface. Tree root disturbance G8060 located on the side of the northern ditch, suggests the trackway was well established. Finds comprised nine sherds of early medieval pottery and ninety-one fragments of animal bone.

Groups within L819	
G8056.01	Cobbled surface. Covered an area of 26 x 16m. Consisting of stones of varying sizes and shapes.
G8059	Northern trackway ditch
G8060	Tree root disturbance
G8061	Wheel ruts. 1- 5m long, <i>c.</i> 0.5m wide and <i>c.</i> 0.15m deep, with symmetrical, concave profiles.
G8062	Wheel ruts. At least 9m long and 0.35m wide.

8.6 Phase 805 – High medieval (Figure 67)

Activity within the high medieval period was represented by unenclosed activity l829, defined by two hearths and a pit. They were located on the southern side of early medieval trackway L819 and are likely to have been the remains of temporary activity along this route. Dating evidence was secured through a small quantity of pottery and stratigraphic relationships.

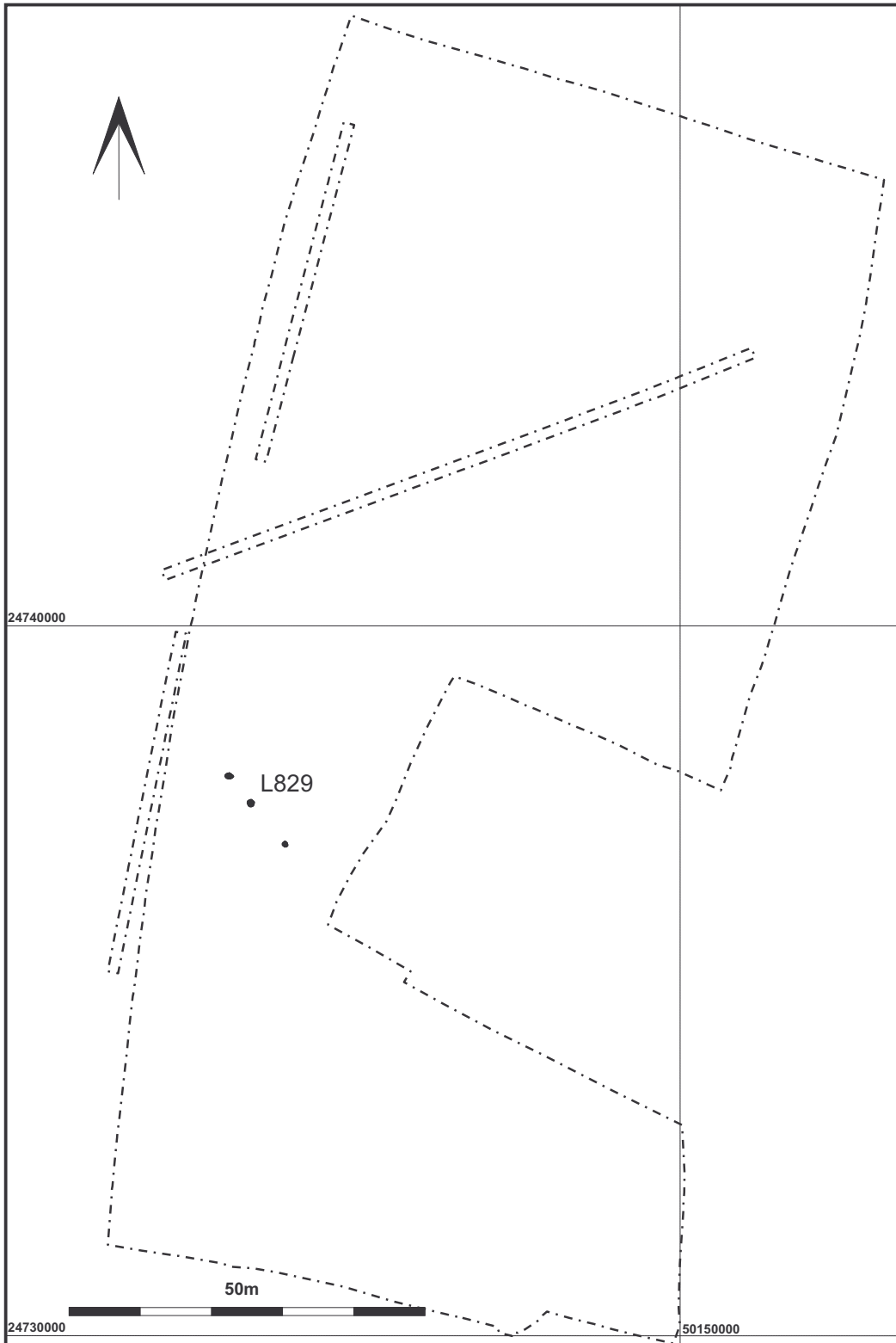


Figure 67: Phase 805 plan



8.6.1 Unenclosed activity L829

L829 was an area of unenclosed activity located to the south of early medieval trackway L819. The activity was defined by two hearths, G8066, and a circular pit, G8069. Hearths G8066 were set *c.* 4m apart and consisted of circular, shallow pits. They contained evidence of in situ burning and several large fragments of stone. A third pit, G8069, was located 6m to the SE. It was similar in shape, but did not contain evidence of burning. The northern hearth truncated Enclosed farmstead L811. Finds comprised four sherds of high medieval pottery, fired clay and fragments of ceramic building material.

L829 was an area of unenclosed activity, likely to be temporary activity associated with the use of trackway L821. The alignment of the hearths and pit suggests continuity of use of the trackway.

Groups within L829

G8066	Sub-circular hearth pit. <i>c.</i> 1m wide and 0.15m deep.
G8069	Sub-circular pit. 0.7m wide and 0.24m deep.
G8126	Sub-circular hearth pit. <i>c.</i> 1m wide and 0.15m deep.

8.7 Phase 806 – Late medieval (Figure 68)

Late medieval activity was represented by fields L809 and L818, unenclosed activity L832 and pond and overflow channel L833. The fields were defined by two rectangular enclosures. Unenclosed activity was located to the north of the fields and was defined by a fence line and posthole built building that was likely to be temporary. They both truncated early medieval furrows in L815 and are likely to be associated. The pond and overflow channel were located to the south of the fields. It is likely that they represent the latest phase of a fish pond complex which utilised ponds from phases 804 and 807. Dating evidence was secured through stratigraphic relationships and a small pottery assemblage from the fields and unenclosed activity.

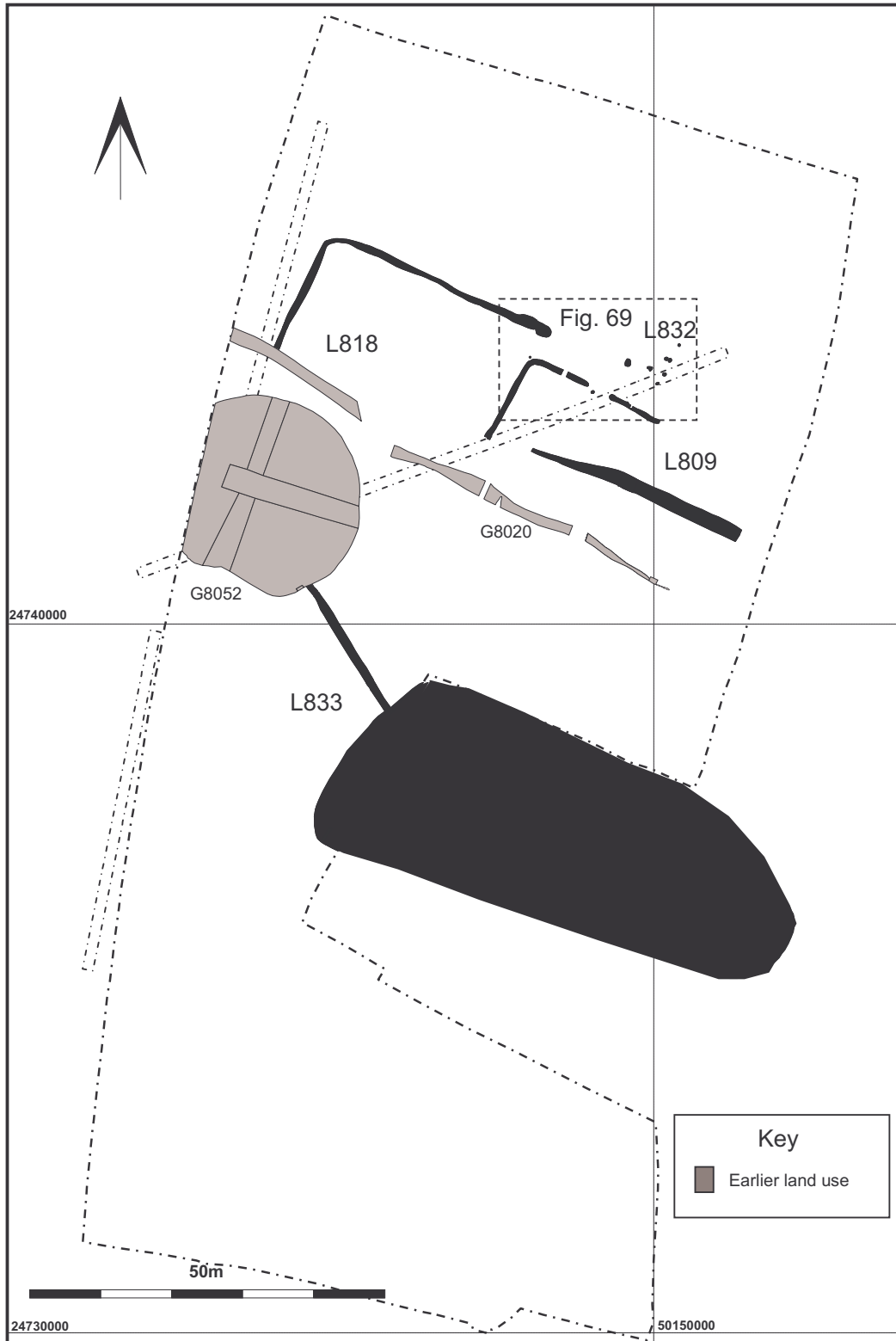


Figure 68: Phase 806 plan



8.7.1 Field L809 (Figure 69)

A rectangular field orientated NW-SE was defined by three ditches and enclosed an area of *c.* 12 x 19m. The western side was defined by ditch G8002, the northern side was defined by two ditches, G8003 and G8004 and the southern side was defined by ditch G8021. The eastern side was unenclosed. Two entranceways were present. One was formed by a 3m wide gap in the northern side and the other was on the unenclosed eastern side. Posthole G8014 was positioned in the gap on the northern side, which is likely to have been a gate post. Finds comprised sixteen sherds of late medieval pottery and one fragment of animal bone.

Activity in L809 is represented by a field that was different in charter from the larger early medieval open fields.

Groups within L809

G8002	Western field enclosure ditch.
G8003	Northern field enclosure ditch
G8004	Northern field enclosure ditch
G8021	Southern field enclosure ditch
G8014	Circular posthole. 0.2m wide and 0.1m deep.

8.7.2 Field L818 (Figure 69)

Rectangular field L818 was located to the west of L809. It was orientated NW-SE and defined by three ditches. The western side was defined by ditch G8000 and the northern side was defined by ditch G8001. The eastern side was defined by ditch G8001, which also formed the western side of enclosure L809. The southern side was defined by ditch G8020 that also formed the southern side of early medieval field system L815 (described therein). Field L818 enclosed an area of *c.* 17 x 32m. An entranceway existed on the eastern side, which was formed by a 3.5m gap between the terminus of ditch G8001 and the western side of field L809. Posthole G8016 was positioned in this gap and is likely to have been a gatepost. Finds comprised ten sherds of late medieval pottery and forty-two fragments of animal bone.

L818 was a field which incorporated boundaries from early medieval land use.

Groups within L818

G8000	Western field enclosure ditch
G8001	Northern field enclosure ditch
G8016	Circular posthole. <i>c.</i> 0.4m wide and <i>c.</i> 0.1m deep.

8.7.3 Unenclosed Activity L832 (Figure 69)

Unenclosed activity L832 was located to the north of field L818. It was represented by NE-SW orientated fence line G8017, defined by five postholes. A further two postholes, G8018 and G8027, were located to the west of the fence line and are likely to have been part of a temporary structure contemporary with fields L809 and L818. Finds comprised three sherds of late medieval pottery and one fragment of animal bone.

Groups within L832

G8017	Fence line of five postholes. 8m long, 0.4m wide and 0.15m deep. ,
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	The postholes were set <i>c.</i> 1.5m apart.
G8018	Ovoid posthole. 0.7m long, 0.63m wide and <i>c.</i> 0.1m deep.
G8027	Ovoid posthole. 0.81m long, 0.76m wide and 0.12m deep.

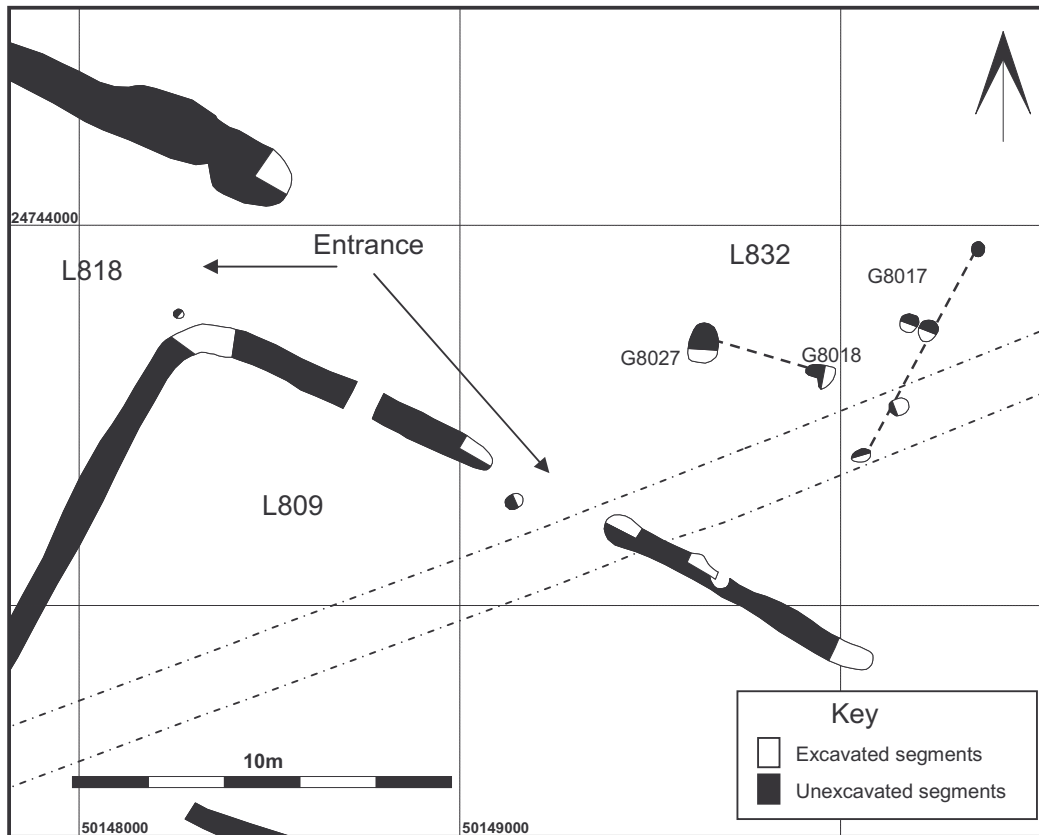


Figure 69: Detailed plan of L832 with entrances into L809 and L818

8.7.4 Pond and over-flow channel L833

L833 was defined by linear pond G8053 and over-flow channel G8051. They were located to the south of fields L809 and L818. The pond was orientated NW-SE. It was *c.* 69m long and extended beyond the eastern limit of excavation. It terminated at the western end where it joined to over-flow channel G8051. The over-flow channel was orientated NNW-SSE. It terminated at the edge of pond G8052 in early medieval land use area L814.

Pond L833 is the second pond to be constructed in this area. It is likely that early medieval pond G8052 in L814, *c.* 21m to the NW, was still in use. This is supported by an over-flow channel which connected the two. Pond L833 subdivides this area to present day.

Groups within L833	
G8051	Over-flow channel. <i>c.</i> 21m long, 0.5-1m wide and <i>c.</i> 0.3-0.6m deep with a concave profile.
G8053	Fish pond. <i>c.</i> 16m wide and <i>c.</i> 3m deep, with steep sides, flat base and a concave profile.



8.8 Phase 807 – Early post-medieval (Figure 70)

Phase 807 is represented by a pond, very similar in layout and form to the late medieval pond in phase 806. It is likely that ponds from phases 804 and 806 were still in use and were utilised to create a fish pond system associated with the Tudor building at The Bury. Dating evidence was secured through stratigraphic relationships and a small pottery assemblage.

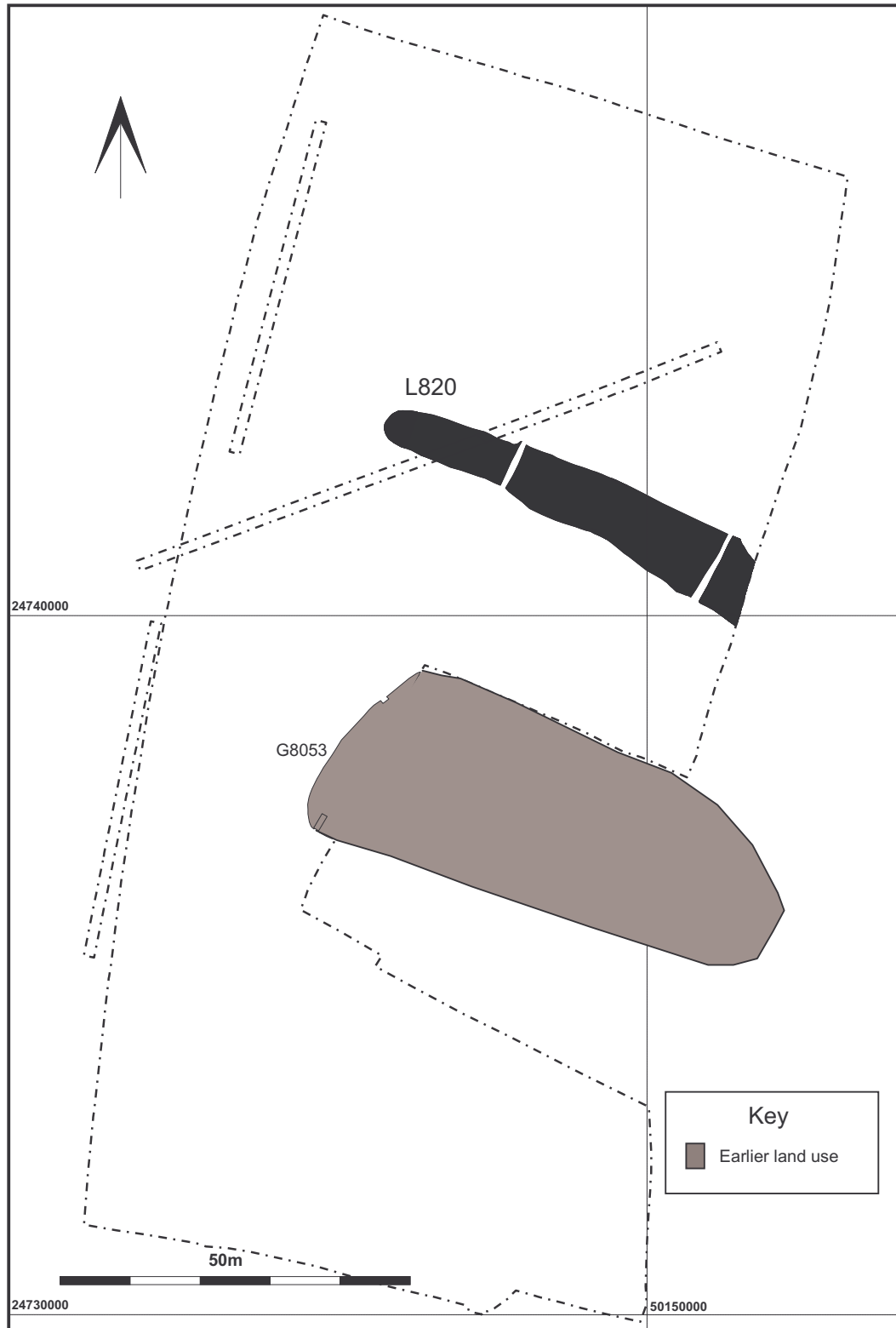


Figure 70: Phase 807 plan



8.8.1 Pond L820

Linear pond G8020 was orientated NW-SE. It was located *c.* 35m north of pond G8053 in late medieval land use area L833. Pond G8020 extended beyond the eastern limit of excavation. The western end terminated *c.* 8m east of early medieval pond G8052 (L814). Finds comprised four sherds of early post-medieval pottery, one fragment of ceramic building material and thirty-two fragments of animal bone. The low quantity of finds suggests it was regularly cleaned out.

L820 represented the third pond to be constructed in this area. It is likely that the ponds in L814 and L833 were still in use.

Groups within L820

G8020	Pond. It was <i>c.</i> 57m long, <i>c.</i> 10m side and 3m deep at the eastern end, becoming narrower and shallower towards the western, where it was <i>c.</i> 5m wide and <i>c.</i> 1.5m deep. It had steep sloping symmetrical sides and a concave profile.
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8.9 Phase 808 – Late post-medieval (Figure 71)

Activity in P808 is represented by three fields, an episode of ground levelling and dumps of material in earlier features. Several levelling layers were deposited in hollows in and around pond L820 and L833, prior to the establishment of fields L823, L824 and L831. Wheel ruts were found in association with the layers. Two fields enclosed groups of tree planting holes. In particular, field L824 contained an orchard in one corner. These truncated early post-medieval activity. A third field existed to the south, aligned NE-SW. A tree planting hole was also present within this field. Dating evidence was secured through comparison with the 1881 1st edition Ordnance Survey map and a small assemblage of late post-medieval pottery.

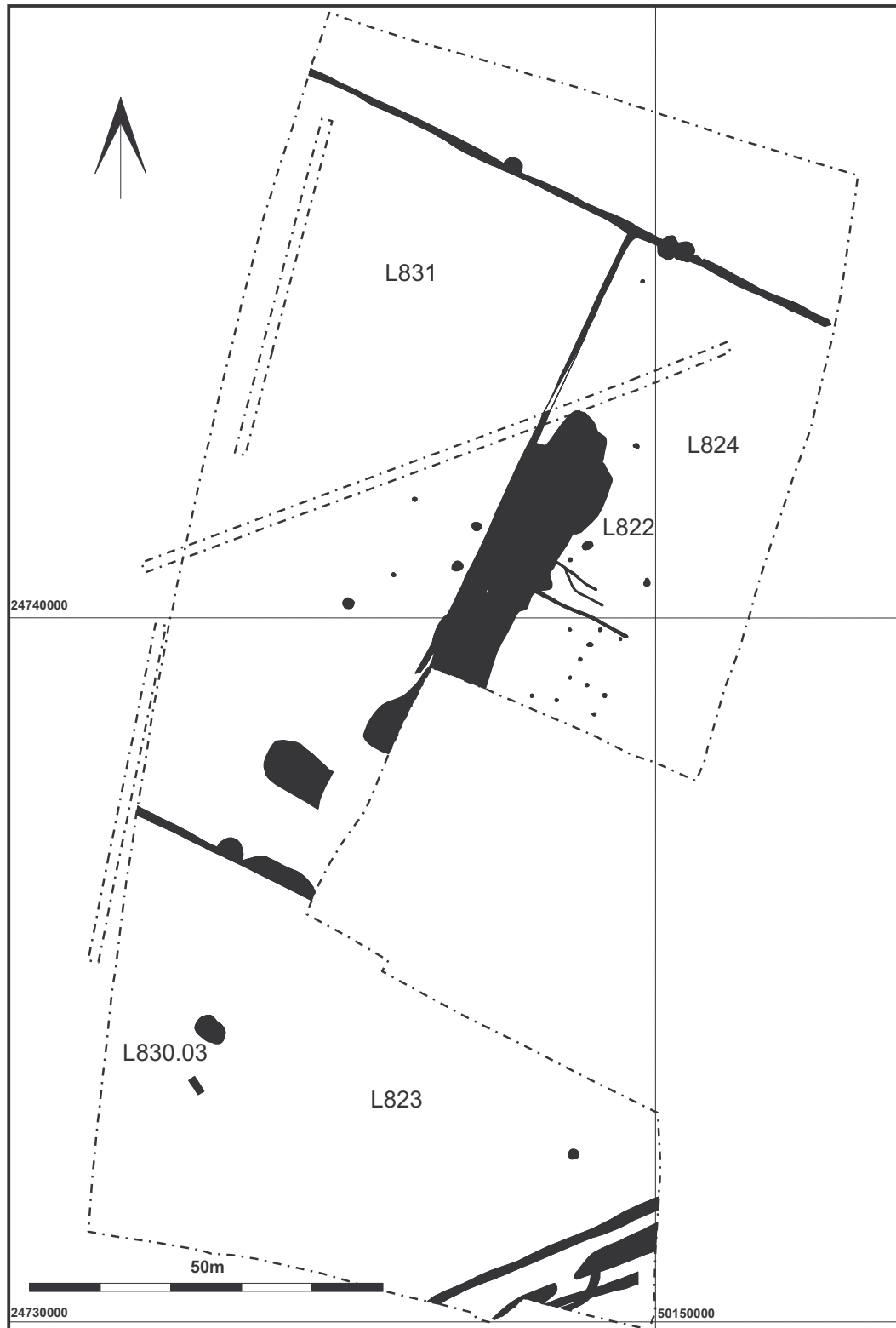


Figure 71: Phase 808 plan



8.9.1 Episode of ground levelling and wheel ruts L822

Activity in L822 was represented by an episode of ground surface levelling around ponds G8020, L820, and G8053, L833. Several distinct levelling deposits, G8023 and G8054, comprised well sorted cobbles and Oxford clay, indicating several dumps of material. The levelling material contained at least fifty-nine fragments of post-medieval CBM. Wheel ruts G8032 and G8121 were present beneath and truncating the levelling layers. They were orientated NW-SE and NE-SW and varied in dimension and form.

This episode of levelling was associated with the disuse of earlier ponds from L820 and L833. The wheel ruts are likely to be associated with the transportation of the levelling material as the variation in their alignments does not suggest the presence of a regularly used trackway.

Groups within L822	
G8023	Levelling layers
G8031	Levelling layers
G8054	Levelling layers
G8032	Wheel rut
G8121	Wheel rut

8.9.2 Field L823

L823 was a triangular field with a long axis orientated NNE-SSW. It was located to the south of contemporary fields L824 and L831. The northern side was defined by ditch G8070, also forming the southern side of field system L831 (described therein). The eastern edge, G8072, was defined by two parallel ditches, with evidence for a hedge line between the two. The western and southern extents lay beyond the limit of excavation. Large tree planting hole G8124 was present in the NE corner of the field. Although no finds were present, field L823 has been dated by its correlation to one shown on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map. It is likely to be earlier still as trees depicted alongside the eastern field boundary indicate it was already well established.

Groups within L823	
G8072	Tree root disturbance
G8124	Large tree planting hole. 1.54m wide and 0.07m deep.

8.9.3 Field L824

Field L824 was rectangular with a long axis orientated NNE-SSW. It was located to the east of field L831. It was defined by three ditches. The northern side was defined by ditch G8007 and the western side was defined by ditch G8008, which also formed the eastern side of field L831 (described therein). The eastern and southern extents lay beyond the excavation area. Irregular patches of tree root disturbance, G8012, were present along the northern side, suggesting the field system was well established. A concentration of tree planting holes, G8026 enclosed tree planting holes in the SW corner formed a pattern characteristic of an orchard. A further group of tree planting holes, G8090, were found dispersed across the enclosed area. Only residual finds were present, but the field system was marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map and has been dated on this evidence.



Groups within L824	
G8007	Northern field enclosure ditch
G8012	Tree root disturbance
G8090	Five circular tree planting holes. 0.8m wide and 0.07m deep.
G8026	Orchard. Eleven circular tree planting holes, 0.6m wide and 0.1m deep.

8.9.4 Post-medieval tertiary fills L830.03

L830.03 is represented by the post-medieval tertiary fill of early medieval pit G8092 and ditch G8067. They generally consisted of dark greyish brown, silty clay, containing stones and charcoal flecks. They contained a moderate quantity of post-medieval finds. Finds comprised one sherd of post-medieval pottery, one fragment of post-medieval roof tile, seventeen large fragments of post-medieval glass and 115 fragments of animal bone. Although described onsite as disarticulated, these represent the associated bones from at least three large horses.

L830.03 represents the final backfill of elements of the early medieval land use area during the post-medieval period when they were only present as slight depressions.

Groups within L830.03	
G8092.03	Tertiary fill of pit G8092
G8067.03	Tertiary fill of ditch G8067.

8.9.5 Field L831

Field L831 was rectangular and orientated NNE-SSW. It was located to the west of field L824. The northern side was defined by ditch G8007, which also formed the western side of L824 (described therein). The eastern side was defined by ditch G8008, which also formed the western side of L824. The southern side was defined by ditch G8070, which also defined the northern side of L823. The western extents lay beyond the excavation area. Irregular patches of tree root disturbance, G8125 and G8070, were present along the northern and southern sides, indicating a well established field. A group of tree planting holes, G8123, were present in the SE corner, which indicates an episode of deliberate tree planting. Finds comprised one fragment of late post-medieval glass, six fragments of animal bone and frequent brick rubble, mainly from ditch G8070.

Groups within L831	
G8008	Eastern field enclosure ditch
G8070	Southern field enclosure ditch
G8071	Tree root disturbance
G8123	Three sub-circular tree planting holes. 0.1m wide and 0.1m deep.
G8125	Tree root disturbance.

8.10 Phase 809 – Early modern (Figure 72)

Activity in the early modern phase was represented by a trackway L821. The trackway survived as a thin layer of disturbed natural and some of the



trackway surface rubble was visible in the adjacent ploughed field. It truncated the late post-medieval field system. Dating was secured through modern cartographic sources, rather than artefact identification. However, as some of the early medieval furrows in this area appear to curve around the trackway, it is likely to have earlier origins.

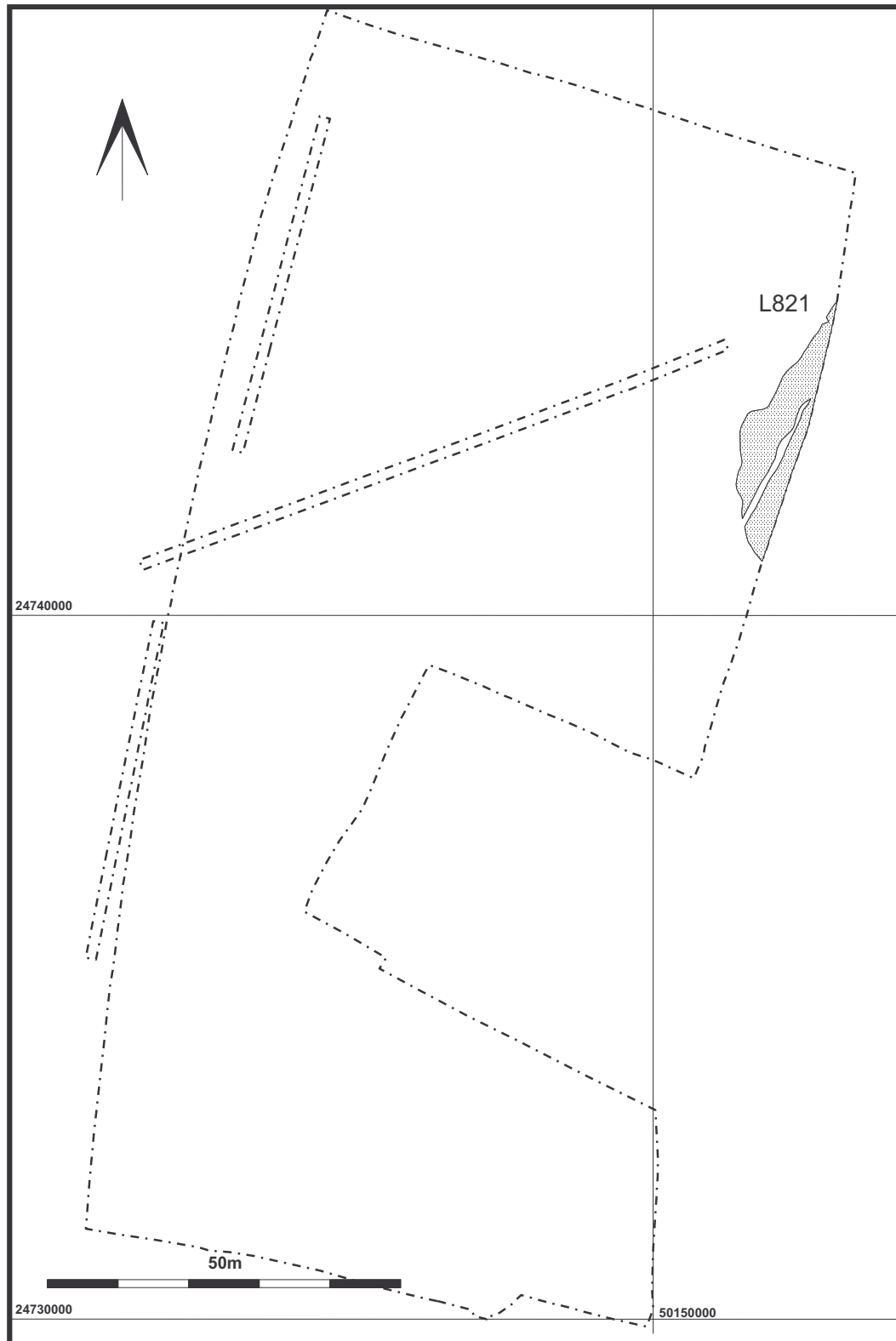


Figure 72: Phase 809 plan



8.10.1 Trackway L821

L821 was a trackway, orientated NE-SW. The full extent lay beyond the eastern limit of excavation. It was defined by an irregular spread of light bluish orange, clay silt. Only the base had survived due to heavy truncation. It truncated early post-medieval pond L820. No artefacts were present, but it was dated by its appearance of the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map; where it was shown leading towards Bury farm.

Groups within L821

G8117.01 | Trackway

8.11 Phase 810 – Modern (Figure 73)

Activity in the modern phase was represented by two episodes of drainage system, L825, modern field drains L828, part of a modern trackway L826 and a second phase of ground levelling, L827. Drainage system L825 was established to channel water away from the existing central pond. It truncated all post-medieval phases. Modern field drains were spread across the site, which truncated all other phases. A final brick rubble layer was deposited around the western terminus of the existing pond. The modern trackway was defined by a substantial cobbled surface leading from The Bury into the neighbouring fields. Dating evidence was secured through stratigraphic relationships and modern ceramic building material.

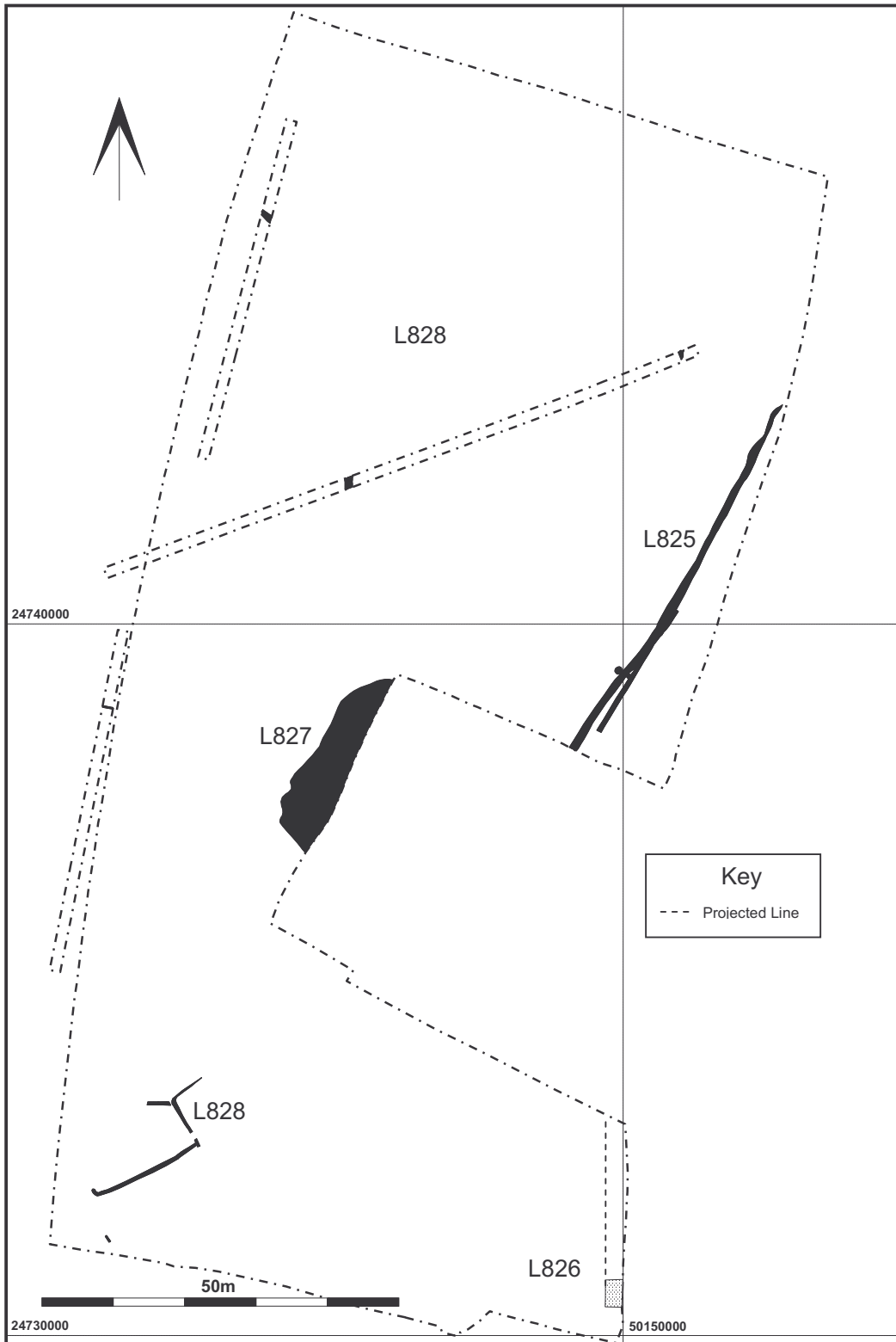


Figure 73: Phase 810 plan



8.11.1 Drainage system L825

Drainage system L825 was represented by brick culvert G8044 and associated soak-away G8045, located to the south of early post-medieval pond G8020 (L820). The culvert was orientated NNE-SSW. It terminated at the northern end and ended to the south. Soak-away G8045 was connected to the centre of the brick culvert. A second drainage channel, G8043, was also present in this area, orientated NNE-SSW. It extended beyond the excavation area to the north and west. It truncated brick culvert G8044 and was backfilled with bricks from the culvert and clean Oxford clay. No artefacts were present, but the bricks from the culvert were used to date the drainage system to the modern period.

Activity in L825 is likely to have been a water management system, channelling excess water away from existing pond G8053. Drainage channel G8043 superseded brick culvert G8044, but evidence suggests that it was abandoned soon after being excavated.

Groups within L825	
G8045	Circular brick soak-away. 1m wide.
G8044	Brick culvert. 20m long
G8043	Drainage channel. 57m long.

8.11.2 Modern trackway L826

The remains of modern trackway L826 were identified. A 2 x 4m area of the trackway was left in situ for recording purposes. It was orientated N-S. The northern, southern and eastern extents lay beyond the excavation area. It was defined by a cobbled surface. No artefacts were present, but dating was based on its position directly beneath the topsoil.

Groups within L826	
G8074.01	Modern trackway, consisting of compacted, small stones. C. 31m long

8.11.3 Second episode of ground levelling L827

L827 was represented by a second episode of ground levelling, G8054.02. This overlay part of post-medieval levelling layer L822. It consisted of an amorphous layer of brick and stone rubble at the western end of late medieval pond G8053 (L833). It sealed all features in this area and was therefore dated to the modern phase. The only artefacts consisted of a large quantity of modern bricks.

Groups within L827	
G8054.02	Rubble levelling layer

8.11.4 Drainage system L828

Drainage system L828 was formed by ceramic land drains G8111 and G8118 and short brick culvert G8122. They were located on all parts of the site, truncating all archaeological features. They were orientated E-W, N-S, NE-SW and NW-SE and varied in length.



Groups within L828

G8111	Brick culvert. 1m long, 0.4m wide.
G8118	Land drain
G8122	Land drain



9 AREA 9 STRUCTURAL HIERARCHY AND TECHNICAL DETAIL

	Mitigation	Evaluation	Area Total
Contexts	127	0	127
No of features	57	0	57
Pottery	22 (89g)	0	22 (89g)
Fired clay	5 (22g)	0	5 (22g)
Registered artefacts	1	0	1
Struck flint	11 (107g)	0	11 (107g)
Animal bone	23 (53g)	0	23 (53g)
Samples	4	0	4

Table 16: Area 9 data summary

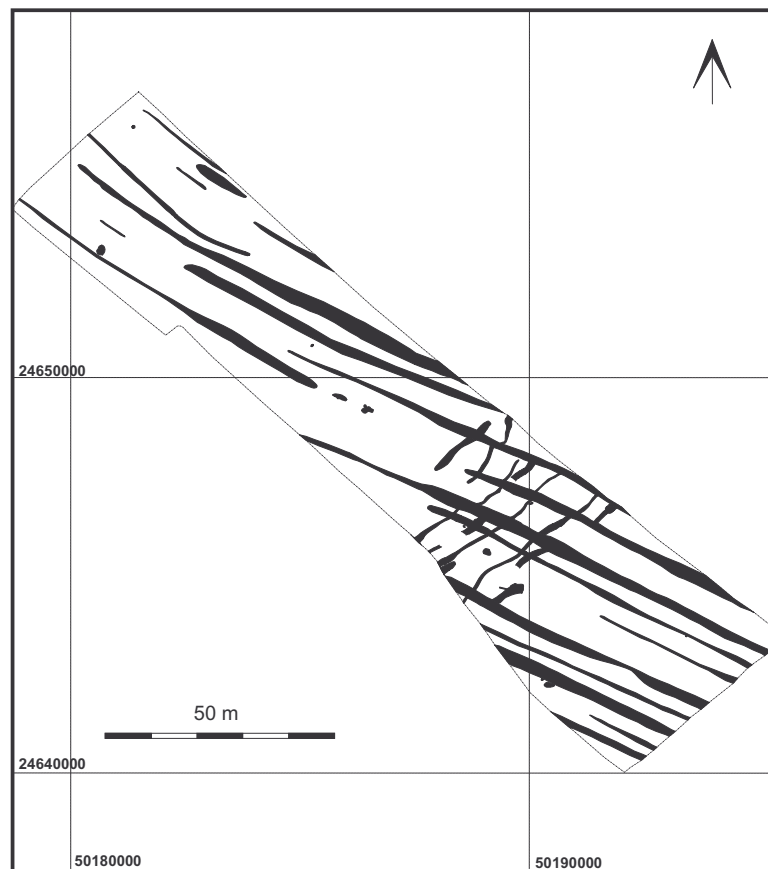


Figure 74: Site 9 all feature plan



Introduction

Assessment of the results of all phases of fieldwork has led to the identification of four phases of activity which are summarised below.

Phase	Chronological period	Activity type	Evidence	Nb of contexts
901	Prehistoric and undated	Unenclosed activity	Residual artefacts	0
902	Romano-British	Unenclosed activity	Boundary ditch Agricultural activity Pits and postholes	110
903	Medieval	Field system	Furrows	2
904	Modern	Drainage	Land drains	2
9	Unassigned	Undated and/or of low potential for further analysis.	Root disturbance Tree throws Geological features	13

Table 17: Area 9 Phase summary

9.1 Phase 901 – Prehistoric

Eleven flint fragments of possible Neolithic and early Bronze Age were identified, all of which were residual within later features.

9.2 Phase 902 – Romano-British (Figure 75)

The earliest firm evidence for activity comprised boundary ditch L901 and several discrete areas of unenclosed activity: L902 and L905. The pottery assemblage is unable to provide a specific date for this activity as it is comprised of extremely small sherds of pottery that range in date from the late Bronze Age-early Iron Age to the late Iron Age-early Romano-British period.

9.2.1 Boundary L901

Continuous boundary ditch L901 extended for at least 46m on a NW-SE alignment. It continued beyond the NW limit of excavation and curved slightly towards the ESE before terminating. The ditch was 0.5m deep and infilled with a deposit of orange brown silty clay that contained two sherds of late Iron Age-early Romano-British pottery and 1g of fired clay.

Groups within L901	
G9001	Boundary ditch.

9.2.2 Activity focus L902

Activity focus L902 was located in the northern half of the excavation area. It was spread over an area of *c.* 60m and consisted of two groups of features: G9003 comprised two pits to the north; and G9004 comprised two postpits, each containing postpipes, to the south. Another isolated pit was located 12m to the NW of these. Their fills contained a single sherd of late Bronze Age-early Iron Age pottery, two sherds of late Iron Age-early Romano-British pottery, 23 fragments of animal bone and 21g of fired clay.



Groups within L902

G9003	Northernmost pits. The pits were between 0.8m and 2m in diameter and between 0.25m and 0.4m deep with asymmetrical steep concave profiles.
G9004	Southernmost postpits and isolated pit. The postpits were between 2.4m and 3.2m in size and no more than 0.25m deep. The postpipes varied from 0.25m to 0.5m in diameter. Packing material used in the postpits comprised light yellow grey clay redeposited natural. The other pit was 0.6m long and 0.45m wide with an asymmetrical U-shaped profile and flat base.

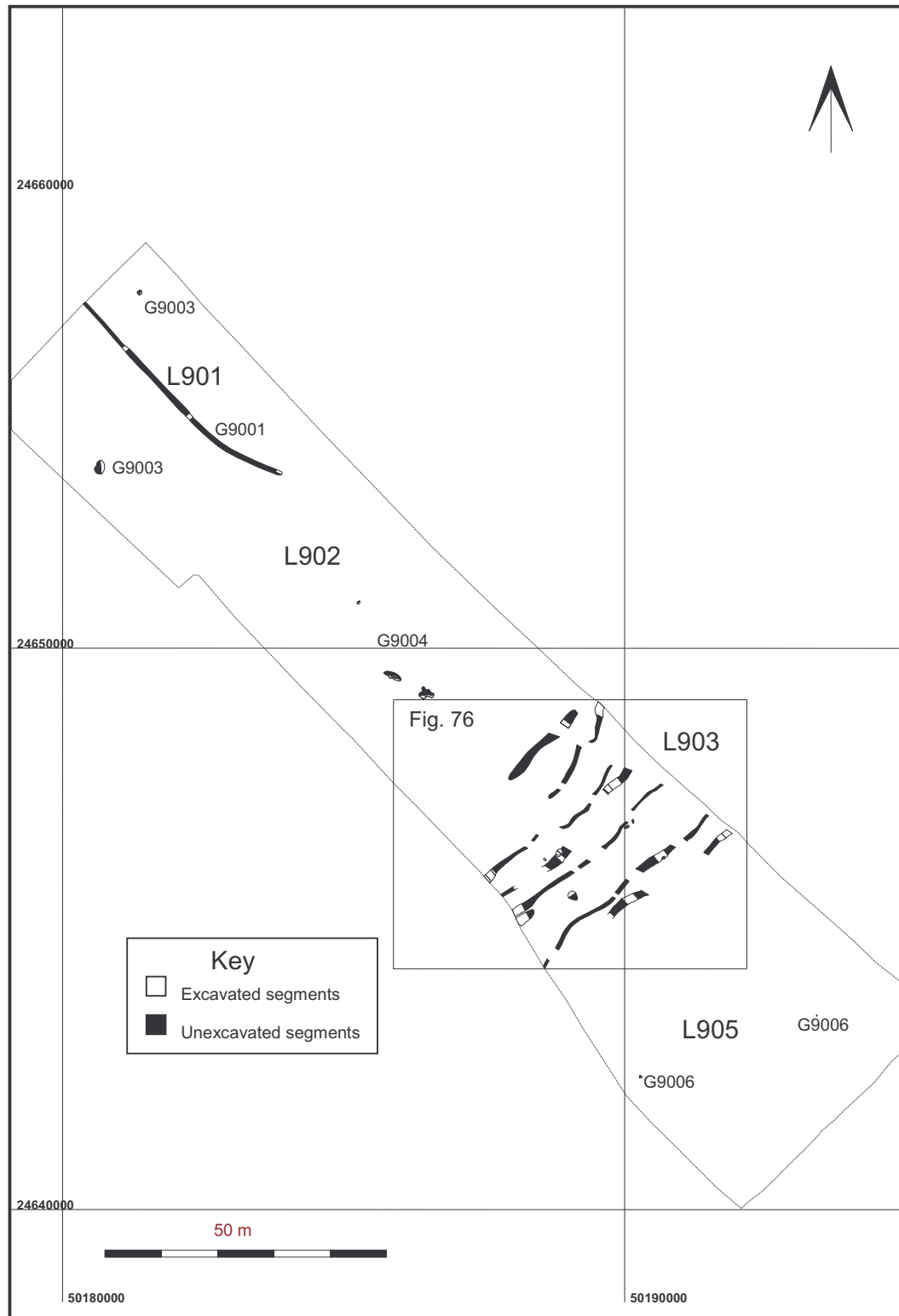


Figure 75: Phase 902 plan



9.2.3 Agricultural activity L903 (Figure 76)

Evidence of possible agricultural activity was identified in the southern part of the excavation area. This activity was represented by eight NE-SW aligned gullies that could be associated with drainage for agricultural trenches. These gullies were all irregular in plan, being quite curvy in nature and they varied from 0.25m to 0.55m deep with asymmetrical concave profiles and flattish bases. They all appeared to continue beyond the limit of excavation. Gully G9012 contained two postholes that may be associated. Five pits and three postholes, G9005, were also located within this area which, with the exception of G9015, may be contemporary with the gullies. All of the gullies had been truncated by medieval furrows. The gullies contained a small artefact assemblage that comprised of a single sherd of late Bronze Age-early Iron Age pottery, five sherds of late Iron Age-early Romano-British pottery and a whetstone (RA 9000).

Groups within L903

G9002	Northernmost NE-SW aligned gully
G9005	Three pits and three postholes. The two smallest pits were between 0.45m and 0.9m in diameter and 0.15m deep with steep sided profile and flat base. The largest pit was 1.8m long, 1.5m wide and 0.1m deep with a shallow concave profile and concave base. The postholes were c. 0.2 m in diameter and 0.15m deep with near vertical sides and slightly rounded bases.
G9008	NE-SW aligned gully.
G9009	NE-SW aligned gully.
G9010	NE-SW aligned gully.
G9011	NE-SW aligned gully.
G9012	NE-SW aligned gully.
G9013	Southernmost NE-SW aligned gully.
G9014	NE-SW aligned gully.
G9015	Two oval pits between 0.6m and 1.5m long, 0.35m to 1m wide and no more than 0.2m deep with U-shaped profiles and concave bases.

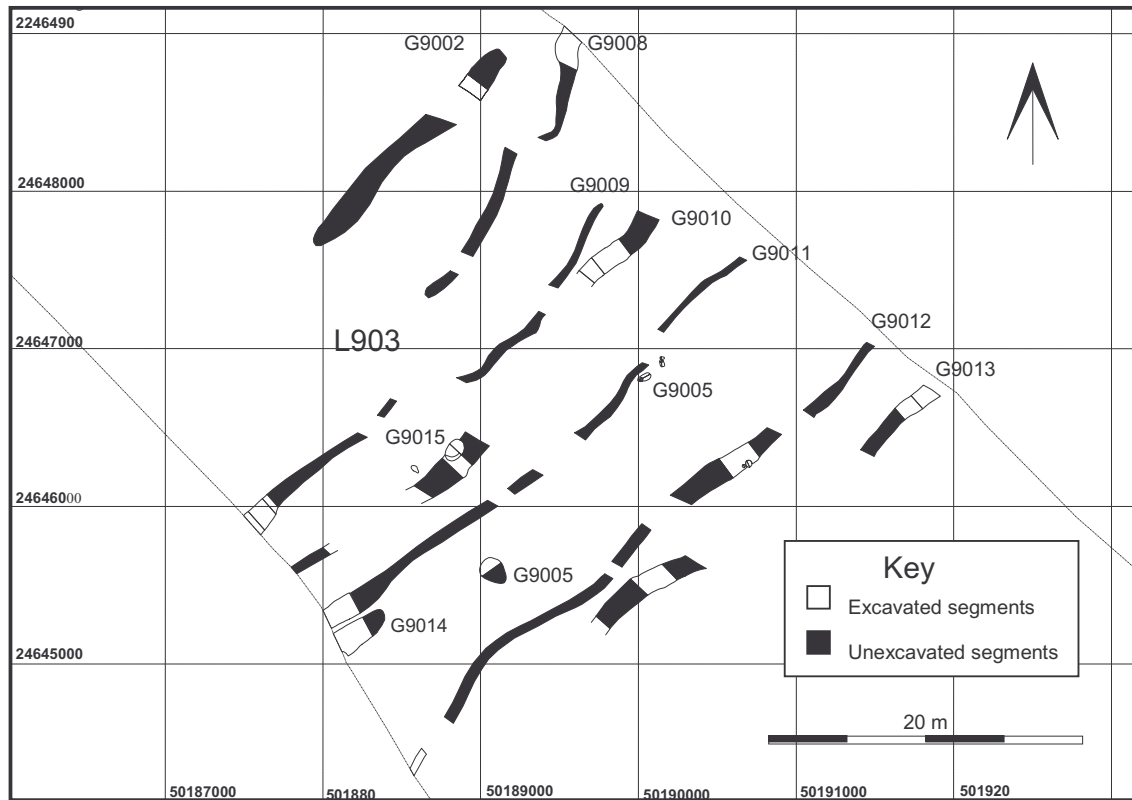


Figure 76: Detailed plan of gullies L903

9.2.4 Activity focus L905

A pit and posthole L905 were located *c.* 25m to the SE of the gullies L903. They were situated 32m apart and were the most southerly features to be identified. Their sterile fills contained no artefacts.

Groups within L905

G9006	Pit and posthole The pit was <i>c.</i> 0.45m in diameter and 0.2m deep with a U-shaped profile. The posthole was 0.2m in diameter and 0.15m deep with a rounded concave profile and base.
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9.3 Phase 903 – Medieval (Figure 77)

Medieval activity was represented by a regular system of NW-SE aligned parallel linear gullies: L904. These gullies were identified as furrows, which were the result of the strip field arable system of the medieval period.

9.3.1 Furrows L904

A system of NW-SE aligned medieval furrows was identified as sub-surface features in the excavation area. They were spaced at either 3 or 7m intervals and truncated the Phase 902 gullies. There were no visible boundaries or limit to these furrows and they continued beyond the limit of excavation.

Groups within L904

G9007	Furrows
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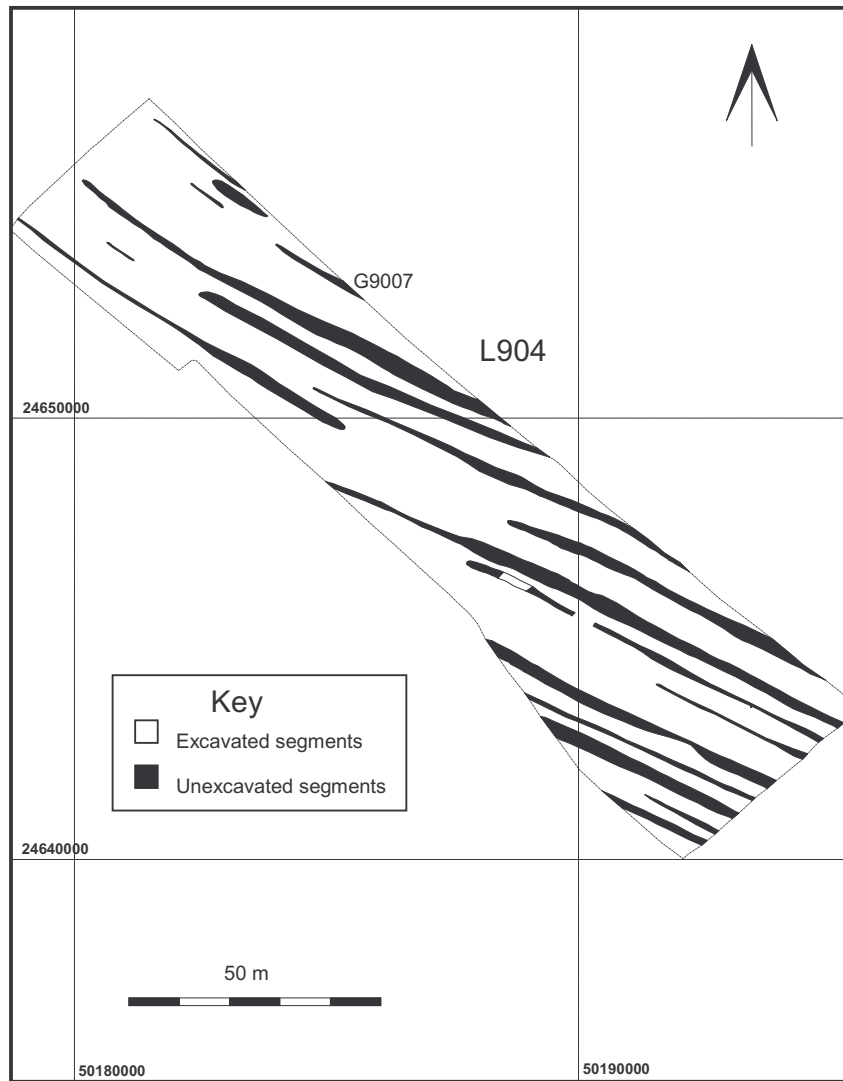


Figure 77: Phase 903 plan

9.4 Phase 904 – Modern

The only modern sub-surface feature to be identified, besides several land drains, was a small pit. It was infilled with dark black grey clay silt with moderate charcoal flecks that contained six sherds of modern pottery. The ploughsoil comprised mid brown grey clay silt topsoil overlying light brown silty clay subsoil, the latter contained two sherds of post-medieval pottery, 43g of ceramic building material and four flints.





10 AREA 10 STRUCTURAL HIERARCHY AND TECHNICAL DETAIL

	Mitigation	Evaluation	Area Total
Contexts	392	14	406
No of features	179	2	181
Pottery	216 (2333g)	3 (42g)	219 (2375g)
Registered artefacts	8	0	8
Struck flint	12 (125g)	0	12 (125g)
Animal bone	105 (606g)	10 (200g)	115 (806g)
Samples	17	0	17

Table 18: Area 10 data summary

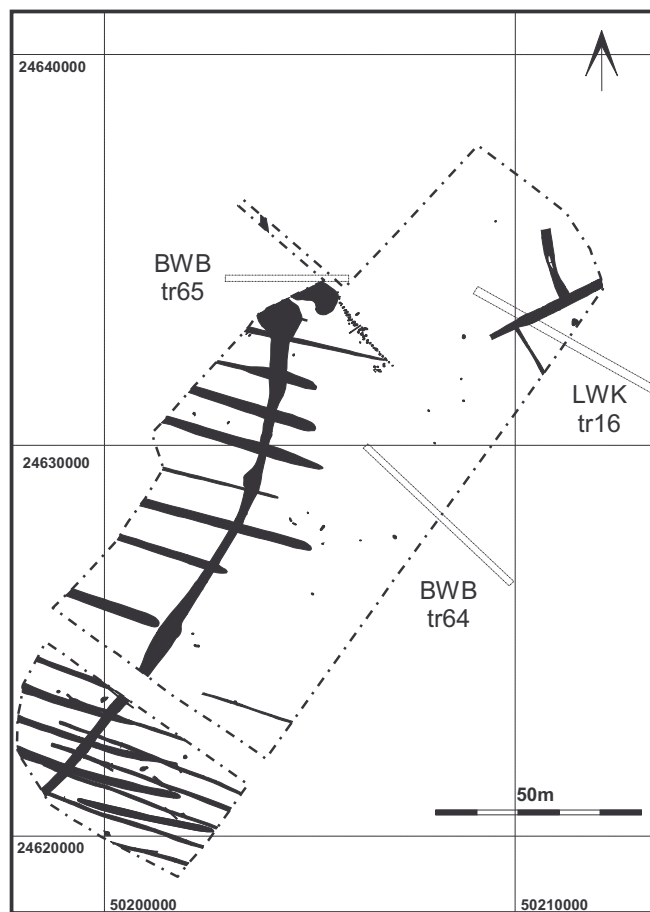


Figure 78: Area 10 all feature plan



Introduction

Assessment of the results of all phases of fieldwork has led to the identification of six phases of activity which are summarised below.

Phase	Chronological period	Activity type	Evidence	Nb of contexts
1001	Prehistoric	Unenclosed activity	Residual artefacts	0
1002	Late Bronze Age early Iron Age	Unenclosed activity	Boundary ditch Water pits Pits and postholes Posthole alignment	238
1003	Romano-British	Vineyard	Bedding trenches	73
1004	Medieval	Field system	Furrows	6
1005	Post-medieval	Tackway Field system	Trackway Field boundary	32
1006	Modern	Drainage	Land drains	7
10	Unassigned	Undated and/or of low potential for further analysis.	Root disturbance Tree throws Geological features	50

Table 19: Area 10 Phase summary

10.1 Phase 1001 – Prehistoric

A small lithic artefact assemblage comprised of 10 flint fragments of possible Neolithic and early Bronze Age date was identified. However, all of the flints were residual within later features.

10.2 Phase 1002 – Late Bronze Age-early Iron Age (Figure 79)

The earliest firm evidence for activity was dated to the late Bronze Age-early Iron Age. This activity comprised a boundary ditch, L10000, and several discrete areas of unenclosed activity, L10003, L10004 and L10007. These areas of activity may provide evidence of settlement, along with an extensive posthole alignment L10006. Two waterpits, L10001 and L10008, were identified and, although one of the waterpits (L10001) truncated the boundary and is therefore not contemporary, it may be associated with settlement activity.

10.2.1 Boundary L10000

Continuous boundary ditch L10000 ran for at least 130m on a NE-SW alignment and continued beyond the limit of excavation in both directions. It had a slight curve to it and was truncated along its length by several later features. Its primary fill was relatively sterile; however, its secondary fill contained quantities of early-middle Iron Age pottery, fragments of animal bone and burnt stones. In addition, the fragmented remains of at least two late Bronze Age-early Iron Age ceramic vessels were discovered at the northern end of the boundary ditch.

Groups within L10000	
G10000	Major boundary ditch.



G10033 Unusual pottery deposit

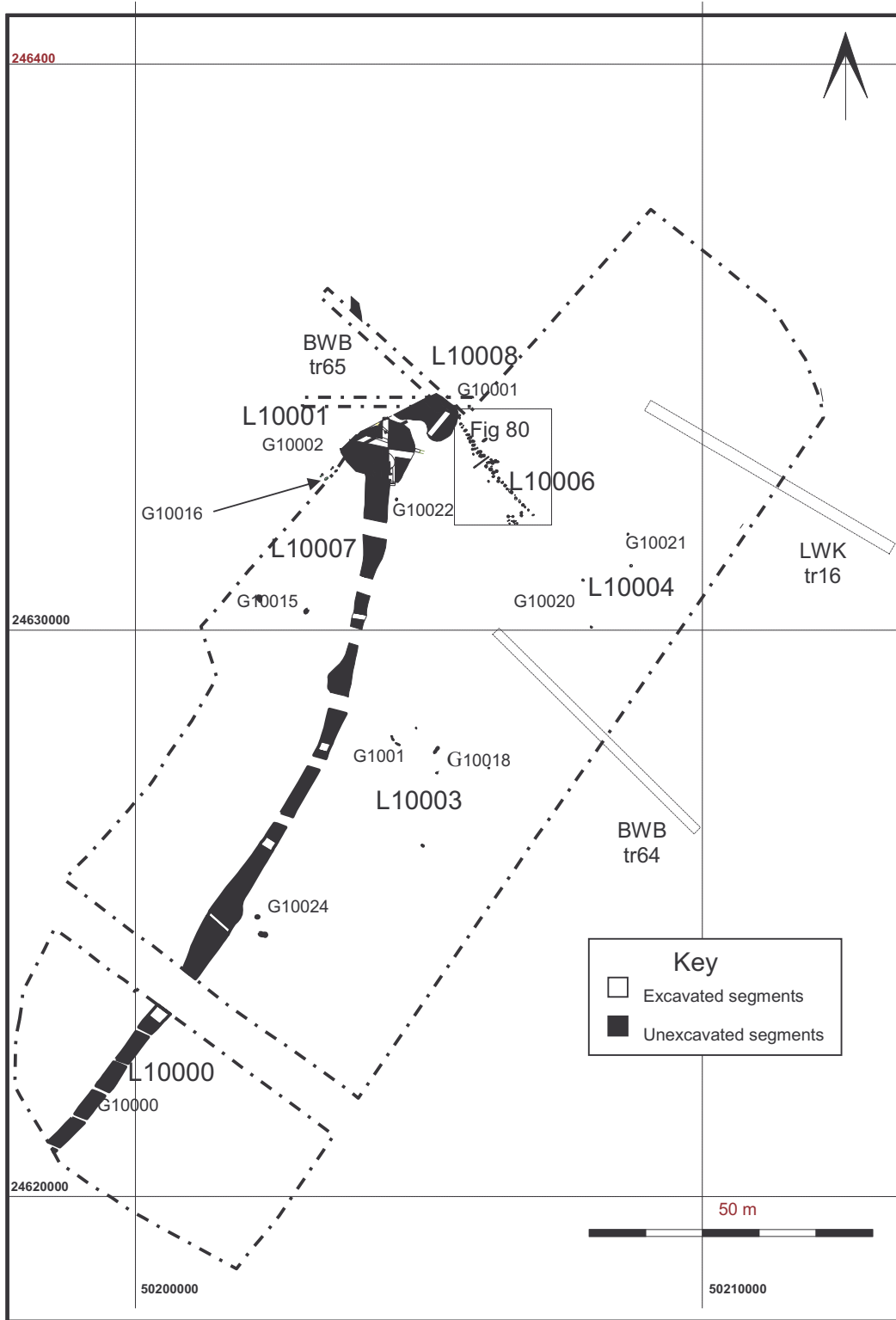


Figure 79: Phase 1002 plan



10.2.2 Activity foci L10003

Activity foci L10003 was located on the eastern side of the boundary ditch. It comprised a scatter of five pits (G10019 and G10024) and four postholes (G10018) spread over an area that was *c.* 50m in diameter. All of the pits were oval in plan, though three (G10019) were slightly more elongated. They contained only a single undated sherd of pottery.

Groups within L10003	
G10018	Circular postholes <i>c.</i> 0.3m in diameter and under 0.1m deep.
G10019	Elongated oval pits 0.9m to 1.4m long, 0.4m to 0.5m wide and 0.25m deep with concave profiles and flat bases.
G10024	Oval pits, 0.55m to 1m long, 0.35m to 0.5m wide and 0.2m deep with concave profiles and flat bases.

10.2.3 Pit cluster L10004

A small pit cluster L10004 was located *c.* 30m to the NE of L10003. It comprised four shallow pits within a 12m area that were situated in two pairs, spaced between 5m and 8m apart. They were almost identical in size and profile. Their sterile fills contained no artefacts.

Groups within L10004	
G10020	Southernmost pair of pits <i>c.</i> 0.5m in diameter and under 0.15m deep with shallow concave profiles and slightly concave bases
G10021	Northernmost pair of pits <i>c.</i> 0.5m in diameter and under 0.15m deep with shallow concave profiles and slightly concave bases

10.2.4 Posthole alignment L10006 (Figure 80)

A NW-SE alignment of postholes L10006 was found extending over 23m. It comprised two main lengths of postholes on slightly different alignments separated by a small gap. The northern length of the alignment (G10025 and G10026) had clearly been re-established on a number of occasions, in contrast to the southern length (G10029). This may be an indication that the northern section of the alignment was part of a more substantial construction, or that it was maintained to a greater degree. Immediately on either side of the gap, separating the two lengths, were multiple intercutting postholes (G10028 and G10034). Two postholes (G10027) were offset from the main alignment, whilst, at the southern end of the alignment, two pairs of postholes (G10030 and G10032) were also offset. A cluster of smaller postholes and stakeholes (G10027) were located slightly further to the south of these. They contained a small quantity of artefacts that comprised five sherds of undated pottery, three fragments of animal bone and some burnt stones.

Groups within L10006	
G10022	Isolated posthole
G10025	Northernmost postholes
G10026	Northern section of posthole alignment comprised of pairs of postholes. Some of the postholes were found to cut others; some were doubles while others were additions.
G10027	Cluster of postholes and stakeholes spread over a 1.5m area and offset from the main alignment.
G10028	Multiple intercutting postholes
G10029	Southern section of posthole alignment comprised of only single



	postholes.
G10030	Southern pair of postholes offset from the main alignment.
G10031	Small cluster of postholes and stakeholes.
G10032	Southern pair of postholes offset from the main alignment.
G10034	Multiple intercutting postholes.

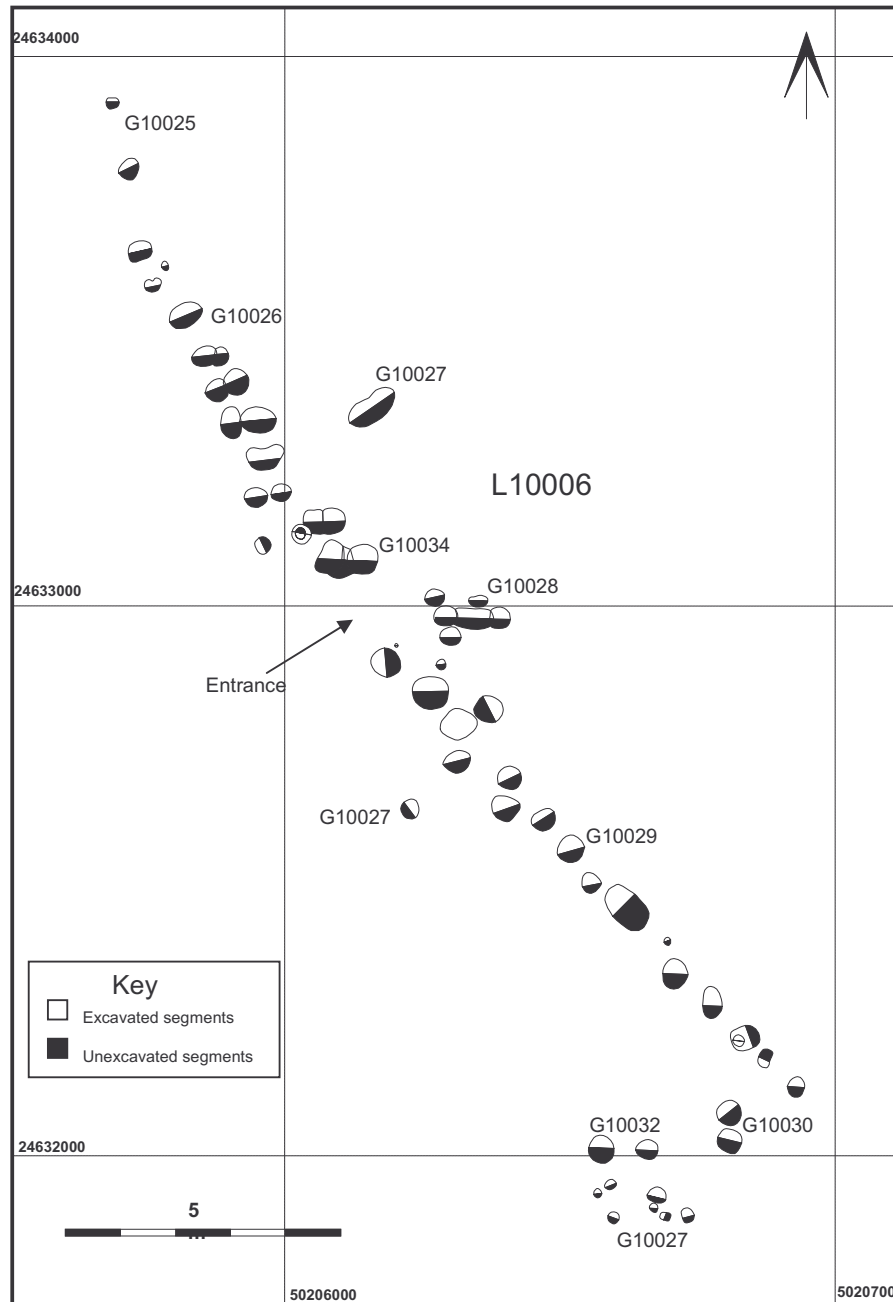


Figure 80: Detailed plan of posthole alignment L 10006



10.2.5 Activity focus L10007

An activity focus L1007 was situated on the western side of the boundary ditch. It comprised two discrete clusters of features that were located 23m apart. The northern cluster, G10016, comprised two postholes and a stakehole; whilst the southern cluster, G10015, comprised two pits. One of the pits had two small stakeholes adjacent to it. All of these features contained charcoal-rich deposits, including a large lump of burnt wood; this could be evidence of in situ burning or may represent material dumped here from elsewhere.

Groups within L10007	
G10015	Southern cluster of pits and stakeholes.
G10016	Northern cluster of postholes and stakeholes.

10.2.6 Activity focus L10008

Situated 5m from the NE side of the boundary ditch was a large irregular sub-oval feature G10001, which was presumed to be a waterpit. It was at least 8m in diameter and 0.6m deep. Probable access was indicated by a spread of stones and a shallower profile to the NE. Its relatively sterile fills contained a single sherd of undated pottery and six fragments of animal bone.

Groups within L10008	
G10001	Waterpit.

10.2.7 Activity focus L10001

Another large sub-circular waterpit was located 1m to the west of L10008. Although it was not contemporary with the boundary ditch, which it truncated, it may be associated with other nearby features. The profile of the waterpit suggests that access was gained on the eastern side and a layer of stones lead down into the base of the waterpit from this side. No dating evidence was obtained from the waterpit, which only contained two fragments of animal bone.

Groups within L10001	
G10002	Waterpit.

10.3 Phase 1003 – Romano-British (Figure 81)

Activity during this phase is represented by the establishment of a possible vineyard L10002. It was comprised of NW-SE aligned parallel bedding trenches spaced at *c.* 5m intervals. Located 12m to the NE of these trenches was a gully that may have defined a northern boundary that confined the trenches to this area. Some of the trenches truncated the Phase 1002 ditch L10000.

10.3.1 Land use area L10002 – Vineyard

The vineyard comprised six bedding trenches at least 45m long, which continued beyond the SE limit of excavation and terminated to the NW. They were generally between 0.7m and 0.9m wide and 0.35m deep with near vertical sides and flat bases. Associated postholes and stakeholes were identified in three of the trenches. Two were located on the side of the



trenches while the others were located at the base of the trenches. The gully to the NE only survived at a depth of 0.05m and, although it was spaced further away, could be the truncated remains of another bedding trench. The fills contained 11 sherds of late Iron Age/early Romano-British pottery and 29 sherds of Romano-British pottery.

Groups within L10002	
G10003	Boundary ditch.
G10004	Bedding trench.
G10005	Bedding trench.
G10006	Bedding trench.
G10007	Bedding trench.
G10008	Bedding trench.
G10009	Bedding trench.

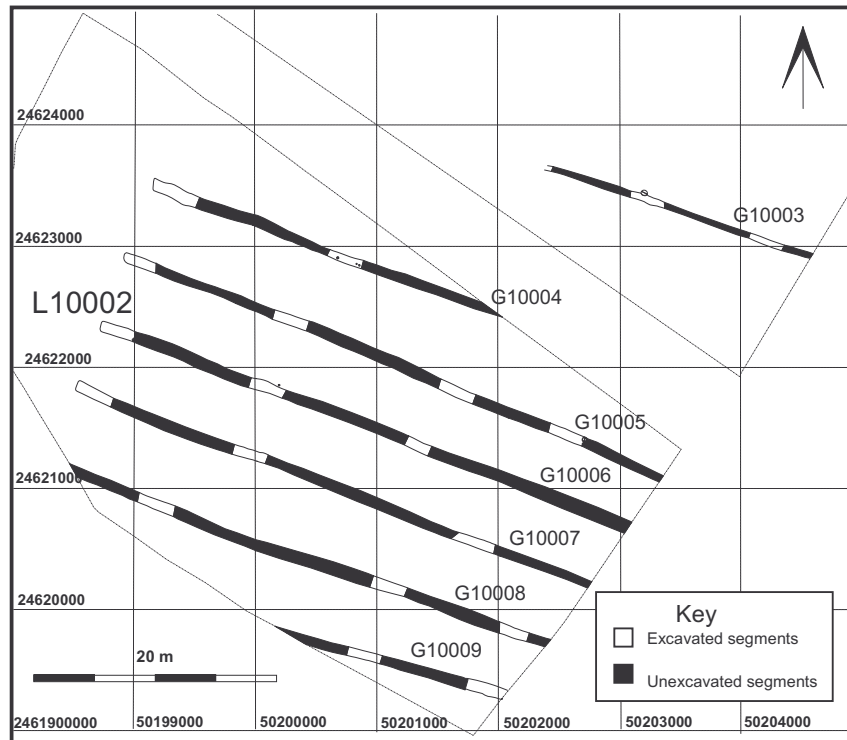


Figure 81: Phase 1003 plan

10.4 Phase 1004 – Medieval (Figure 82)

Medieval activity was represented by a regular system of NW-SE aligned parallel linear gullies that truncated bedding trenches L10002 within Phase 1003. These gullies were identified as furrows that are the result of the strip field arable system of the medieval period.

10.4.1 Furrows L10010

A system of NW-SE aligned medieval furrows was identified as sub-surface features in the excavation area, spaced between 6 and 9m apart. There were no visible boundaries or limit to these furrows though they survived to a lesser extent to the SE. It is likely that much of the area was cultivated in this way during this period.



Groups within L10010
G10035 | Furrows

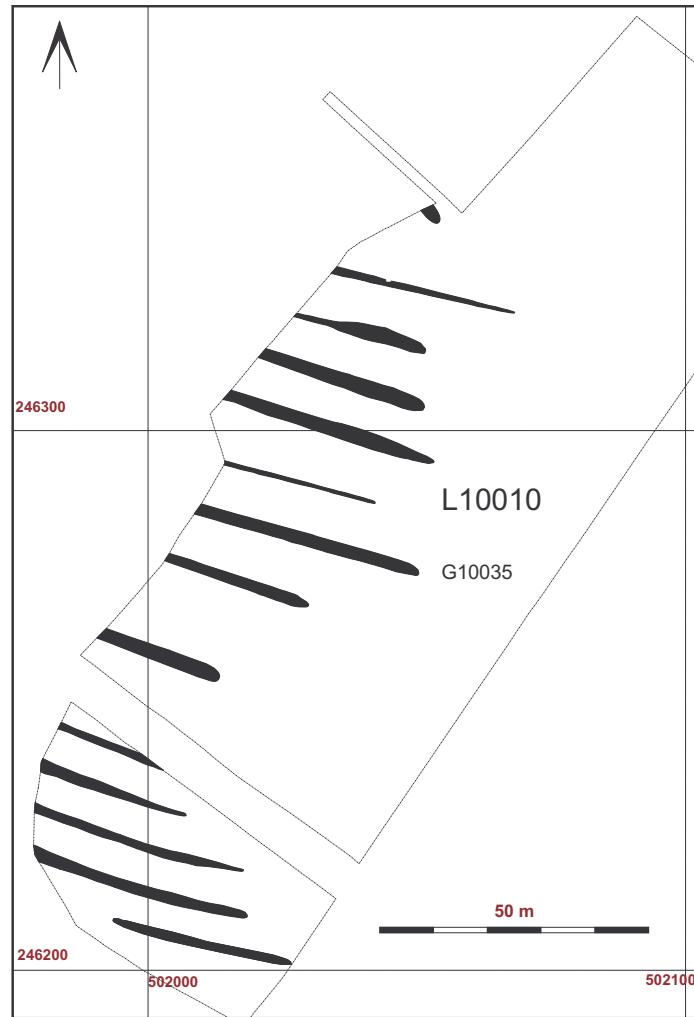


Figure 82: Phase 1004 plan

10.5 Phase 1005 – Post-medieval

Activity during this phase occurred in the NE of the excavation area. It comprised two trackways L10005 and the remnants of a field system L10009. One of the trackways was aligned NE-SW and contained a stone surface, whilst the other was aligned perpendicular to it. The field system was represented by a ditch that extended out from the NE-SW aligned trackway.

10.5.1 Trackways L10005 (Figure 83)

A short length of the NE-SW aligned trackway G10011 survived. The surface comprised tightly packed whole and half pebbles, other smaller stones and flint fragments *c.* 0.3m thick. Remnants of wheel ruts were discovered below the stone surface indicating that an earlier trackway was in use prior to the stone surface being laid. Perpendicular to it on its northern side was trackway G10014, which despite containing several wheel ruts, did not survive to the



same extent and did not have a stone surface. Sherds of post-medieval pottery and objects of a similar date were recovered.

Groups within L10005	
G10011	NE-SW trackway
G10014	NW-SE trackway

10.5.2 Field boundary L10009

NW-SE ditch G10012 was orientated perpendicular to the main trackway, on its southern side. It is likely to have been part of a field boundary attached to the trackway. It was at least 14m long and continued beyond the SE limit of excavation; it did not continue beyond the trackway to the NW. Its infilling deposits contained five sherds of post-medieval pottery.

Groups within L10009	
G10010	NW-SE field boundary ditch

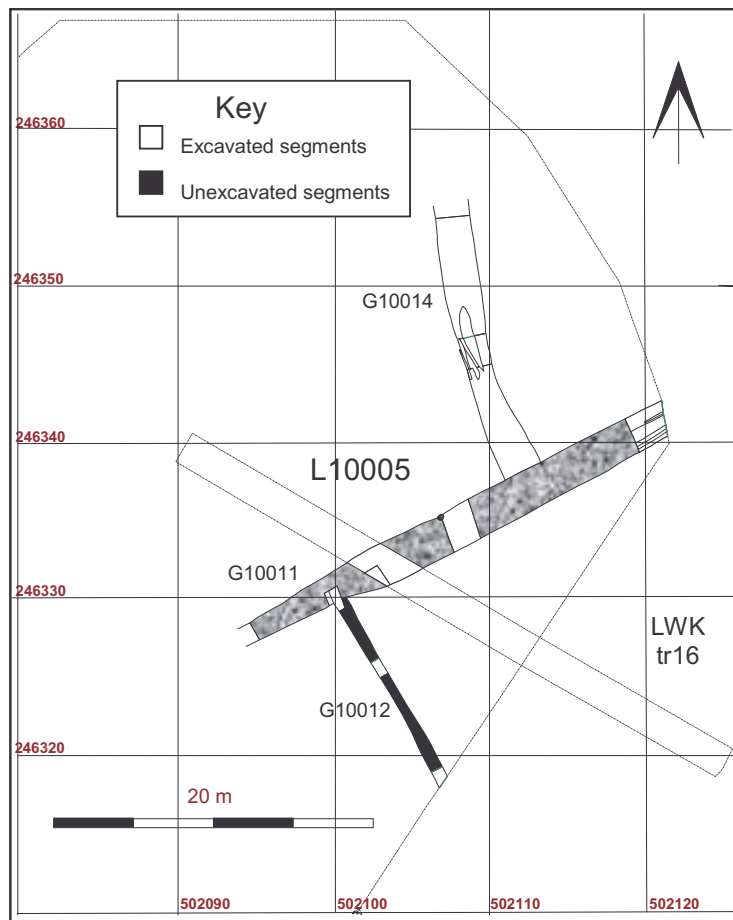


Figure 83: Detailed plan of trackways L10005

10.6 Phase 1006 – Modern

The only modern sub-surface features were several land drains that were located mainly in the southern part of the excavation area. The ploughsoil



contained a flint flake, 13 fragments of animal bone and 17g of post-medieval ceramic building material.



11 AREA 11 STRUCTURAL HIERARCHY AND TECHNICAL DETAIL

	Mitigation	Evaluation	Area Total
Contexts	601	31	632
No of features	281	10	291
Pottery	66 sherds (836g)	3	69
Fired clay	4 (253g)	0	4(253g)
Registered artefacts	0	0	0
Struck flint	12 (66g)	0	12
Animal bone	27 (138g)	0	27 (138g)
Samples	17	0	17

Table 20: Area 11 data summary

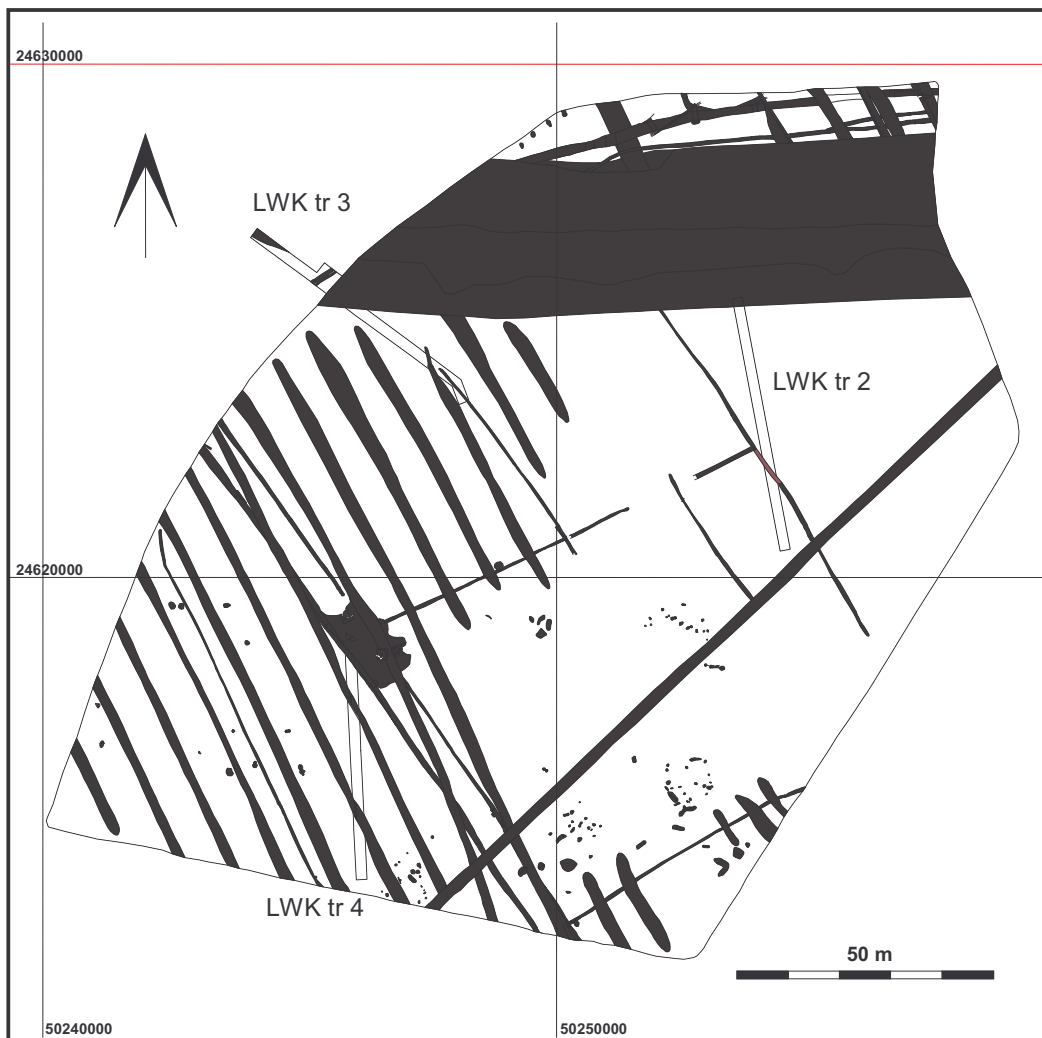


Figure 84: Area 11 all feature plan



Introduction

Assessment of the results of all episodes of fieldwork has led to the identification of seven phases of activity (see Table 21 below). It incorporates the results of the three Land West of Kempston (LWK) housing development evaluation trenches that lay within the Area 11 (see Figure 84 above).

Phase	Chronological period	Activity type	Evidence	Nb of contexts
1101	Prehistoric and undated	Unenclosed activity	Tree throws; residual artefacts	10
1102	Late Iron Age	Enclosed farmstead	Enclosure ditch Boundary ditch	27
1103	Romano-British	Trackways Field system Dispersed activity	Trackway ditches Enclosure ditches Dispersed pits and postholes	340
1104	Later Romano-British	Field system Unenclosed activity	Enclosure ditches Quarry pits	75
1105	Medieval	Field system	Furrows	20
1106	Post-medieval	Field system	Boundary ditch and parallel pits	35
1107	Modern	Drainage	Land drains and service trenches	14
11	Unassigned	Undated and/or of low potential for further analysis.	Root disturbance Tree throws Geological features	111

Table 21: Area 11 Phase summary

11.1 Phase 1101 – Prehistoric and undated

Phase 1101 included residual flint artefacts and undated tree-throw holes. The artefact assemblage comprised 12 flint fragments of probable Neolithic and early Bronze Age date. All of the flints were residual within later features. Tree-throw holes have been included in this phase due to their uncertain dating and the likelihood that most trees would have been felled prior to the Phase 1103 field system.

11.1.1 Tree-throw holes L1114

Three characteristic tree-throw holes were identified: they were irregular features, often crescent-shaped, that contained a mixture of disturbed topsoil and natural geology. One of the tree-throw holes within G11061 contained two fragments of fired clay, but no dating evidence was recovered.

L1114 comprises undated features that are likely to have been created by the action of a tree falling over or through being uprooted.

Groups within L1114

G11032	Single tree-throw hole. 'Banana' shaped feature, 3m long and c. 1m wide.
G11061	Two tree-throw holes. One irregular feature, 1m long by 1m wide, and one a large, curved, irregular linear feature > 3.5m long.



11.2 Phase 1102 – Late Iron Age (Figure 85)

The earliest firm evidence for activity was dated to the late Iron Age. It is restricted to the northeast corner of the excavation area. It comprised a possible settlement enclosure and a boundary ditch. The dating is based on the recovery of late Iron Age pottery from the enclosure ditch; the boundary ditch was truncated by Phase 1103 ditches. The artefact assemblage is small and is comprised of 179g of pottery (14 sherds).

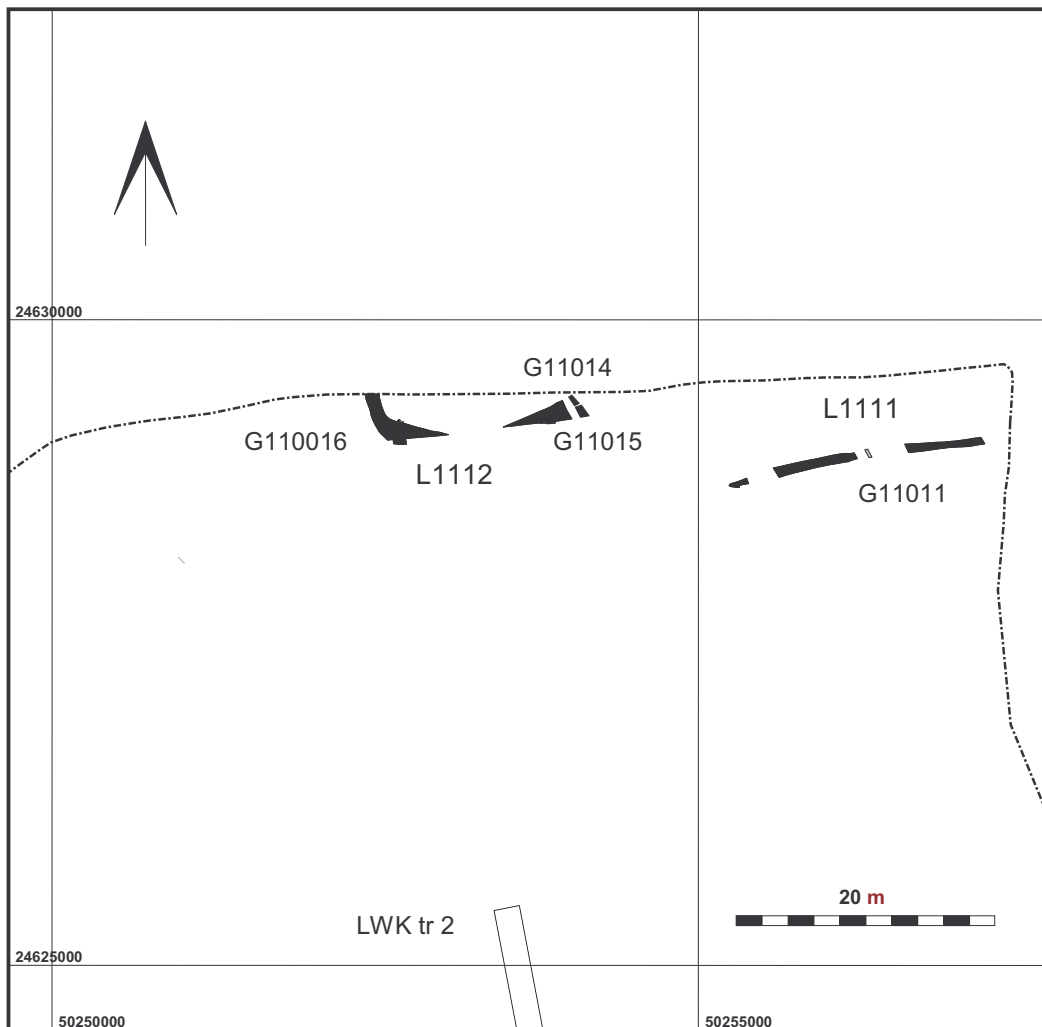


Figure 85: Phase 1102 plan

11.2.1 Boundary ditch L1111

Boundary ditch L1111 was orientated approximately E-W and was c.22m long. It extended beyond eastern limit of the excavation area and ended in a terminal to the west. It did not contain any artefacts, although charcoal flecks were noted in one of its excavated segments.



This ditch is likely to have defined the southern boundary to settlement activity to the north.

Groups within L1111	
G11011	Boundary ditch.

11.2.2 Enclosure L1112

Enclosure L1112 was located on the northern edge of the site. Only the southern enclosure ditch was identified and this was heavily truncated. The enclosure exceeded 4m wide, north to south, and was at least 17m wide, east to west. The shape of the enclosure was likely to have been rectilinear although only the southern edge was exposed. No entranceway or internal activity was identified. The south-eastern corner of the enclosure ditch had been re-cut. Thirteen sherds of late Iron Age pottery were recovered from the enclosure ditch in the south-western corner.

The enclosure is likely to have contained settlement activity to the north of the excavation area, due to the relatively high quantity of domestic debris recovered from the ditch.

Groups within L1112	
G11014	Enclosure ditch. Re-cut of G11015.
G11015	Enclosure ditch.
G11016	Enclosure ditch

11.3 Phase 1103 – Romano-British (Figure 86)

The activity within Phase 1103 comprised elements of a field system that incorporated two trackways and three fields. It was dated to the Romano-British period on the basis of a small amount of pottery and its alignment with the Romano-British farmstead identified at Marsh Leys Farm, 400m to the south-east. Dispersed pitting and several activity foci (characterised by concentrations of postholes) were largely undated but respected the boundaries of the field system and are likely to be contemporary. Most were located within the southern fields although there was also unenclosed activity to the west of the NW-SE trackway. The finds assemblage is small and comprises 310g of pottery (38 sherds), animal bone (138g) and two residual struck flints.

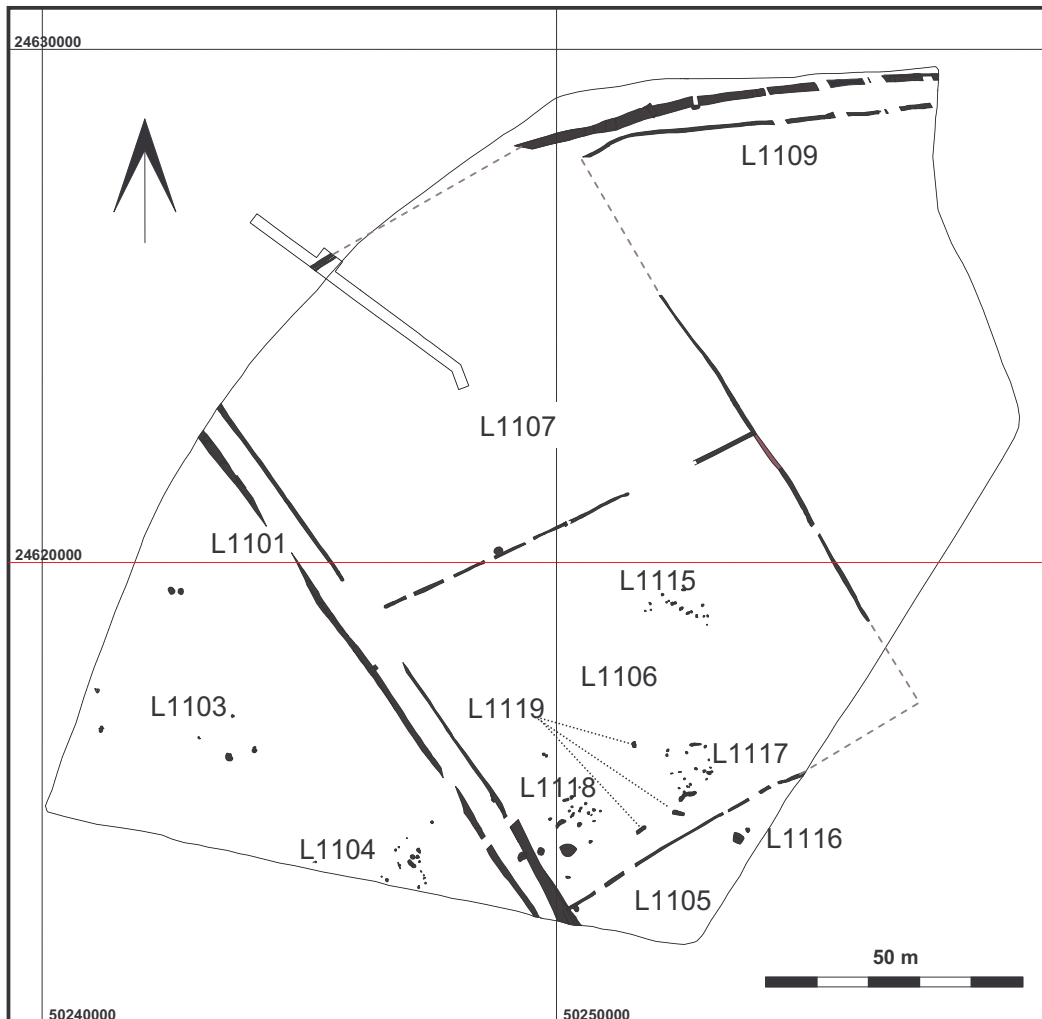


Figure 86: Phase 1103 plan

11.3.1 Trackway L1101

A NW-SE trackway, over 122m in extent, was defined by parallel ditches G11002 and G11003/G11004 c. 5m apart. They continued beyond the southern and northern limits of the excavation area. The western ditch, G11002, was later re-cut by ditch G11001. The eastern ditch was highly truncated; it was represented by G11003 to the northwest and G11004 to the southeast. No trace of metalling or rutting survived. The relationship of trackway L1101 to the Phase 1104 quarrying activity (L1102) was uncertain but it is assumed to be earlier. One sherd of residual Iron Age pottery was recovered from the fill of the re-cut of the western ditch (G11001), and two residual struck flints came from the eastern ditch (G11003 and G11004).

The trackway is likely to have been contemporary with the adjacent fields and would have formed an integral part of the field system.

Groups within L1101

G11001	Western trackside ditch. Re-cut of G11002.
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G11002	Western trackside ditch.
G11003	Eastern trackside ditch to NW.
G11004	Eastern trackside ditch to SE.

11.3.2 Trackway L1109

An E-W trackway, over 80m in extent, was defined by parallel ditches G11010 and G11012 *c.* 4.5m apart. They continued beyond the north-east corner of the excavation area and were truncated by the Southern Orbital Sewer to the west. The southern ditch, G11010, was significantly narrower than the northern ditch, G11012. It curved to the south at the western end of the ditch; this was not mirrored by ditch G11012. No trace of metalling or rutting survived. Twenty-two sherds of Roman pottery, seven fragments of animal bone, and eight residual sherd of late Iron Age pottery were recovered from the northern ditch (including two from the evaluation trench); the southern ditch was sterile.

The trackway is likely to have been contemporary with the adjacent fields and would have formed an integral part of the field system. The larger size of G11012 may be accounted for by its proximity to the tributary to the Elstow Brook, immediately to the north.

Groups within L1109	
G11010	Southern trackside ditch.
G11012	Northern trackside ditch.

11.3.3 Field L11005

The southernmost field within the excavation area was defined by field ditch G11008 to the northwest, and trackway ditch G11055 to the southwest. The field was in excess of 54m NE-SW and extended beyond the southern and eastern extents of the excavation area. No entrances to the field were identified, although its ditches were highly truncated. Internal activity was restricted three pits, represented by L1116 (discussed below), which may be contemporary. The ditch fills were sterile of finds.

Groups within L1105	
G11008	Field ditch.

11.3.4 Field L1106

Field L1106 was located immediately to the northwest of field L1105. It was rectangular and *c.* 70m NW-SE by 80m NE-SW, although the extreme south-eastern corner lay beyond the limit of the excavation area. The field was defined by field ditch G11008 to the southeast, trackway ditch G11055 to the southwest, and field ditches G11009 and G11007 to the northwest and northeast respectively. No entrances were identified and any gaps were likely to be a product of truncation. Field L1106 contained three concentrated areas of postholes and pits: L1117 and L1118, to the south, and L1115, to the northeast; they are discussed below. L11010 represents a subdivision of field L1106 and is also discussed below. No finds were recovered from the fills of the field ditches.

Groups within L1106



G11009 | Field ditch.

11.3.5 Field L1107

Field L1107 was located to the northwest of field L1106. It was rectangular and extended beyond the northern limit of the excavation area. The field was defined by field ditch G11009 to the southeast, trackway ditch G11003 to the southwest and by field ditch G11007 to the northeast. No north-western boundary survived within the mitigation excavation area, however, the continuation of ditch G11012 into evaluation trench LWK trench 3 suggests a probable extent of *c.* 70m NW-SE by 80m NE-SW. No entrances were visible in the surviving boundary ditches and no internal activity was identified. One residual sherd of late Iron Age pottery was recovered from the fills of the field ditches.

Groups within L1107	
G11007	Field ditch.

11.3.6 Activity Focus L1115 (Figure 87)

Activity focus L1115 was located towards the northeast of field L1106, possibly restricted to one of the subdivisions (see L1110). It comprised 20 postholes concentrated within a 10m square area. The majority of the postholes were part of a broad NW-SE alignment. Two different sizes of postholes were identified: G11048 comprised ten small postholes; and G11049 comprised the ten larger postholes. Many of the postholes were in pairs of similar sizes. The fills contained frequent flecks of charcoal. Two fragments of fired clay were recovered from the fills of two separate postholes within G11049.

Groups within L1115	
G11048	Ten small postholes. <i>C.</i> 0.3m wide and <0.2m deep.
G11049	Ten large postholes. <i>C.</i> 0.4 to 0.6m in diameter and 0.2 to 0.3m deep.

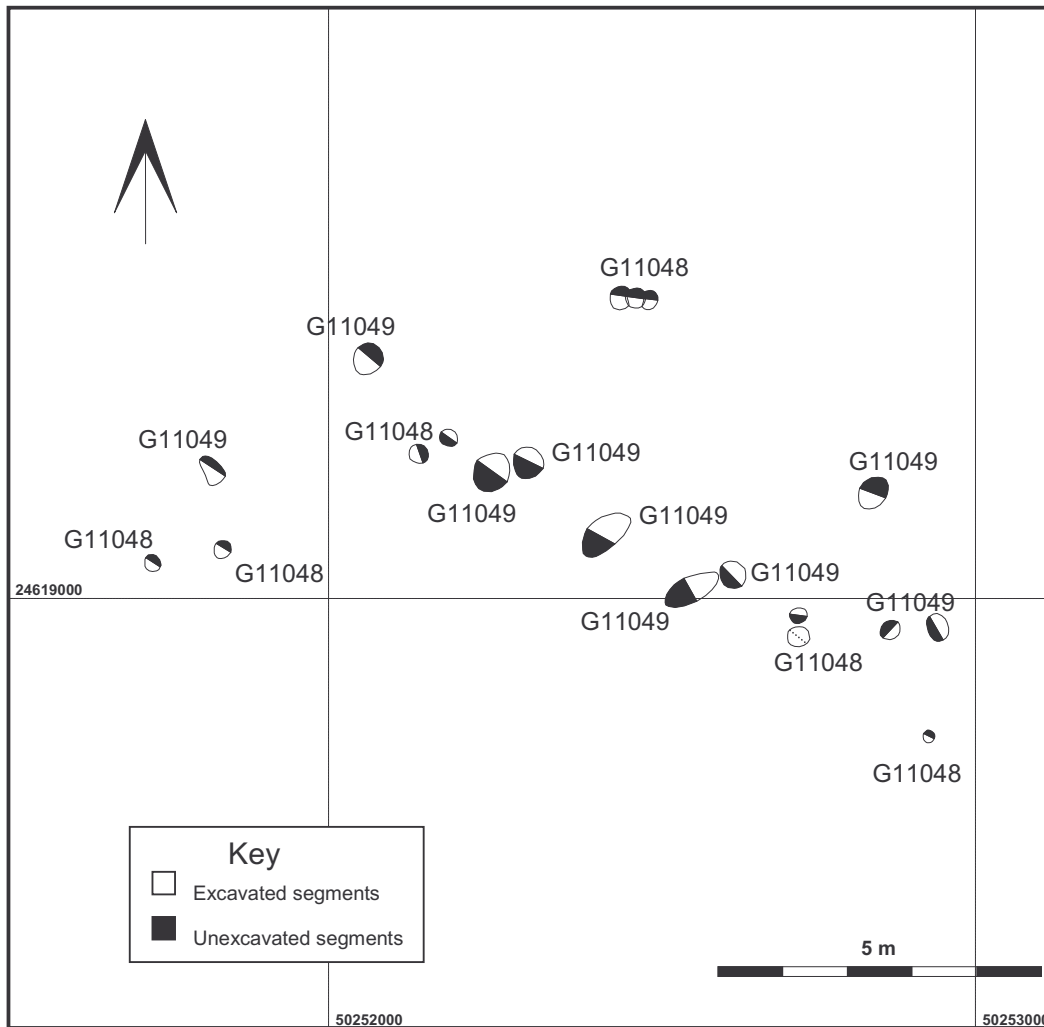


Figure 87: Detailed plan of activity focus L1115

11.3.7 Pit Group L1116

Pit group L1116 was located within field L1105. It comprised four large pits. One was a large sub-square feature, whilst the others were more rounded and only about half the size. Three sherds of late Iron Age/early Romano-British pottery and a sherd of Roman pottery were recovered from the larger pit.

L1116 represents dispersed pitting activity within field L1105.

Groups within L1116

G11031	Three large pits. 1 sub-square pit, 2m long by 1.8m wide and 0.4m deep, and 2 sub-circular pits, c. 1m in diameter and <0.4m deep.
G11033	Isolated pit. 1 sub-circular pit, 1m long by 0.7m wide and 0.1m deep.

11.3.8 Activity Focus L1117 (Figure 88)

Activity foci L1117 was located towards the southeast of field L1106. It comprised of 25 postholes concentrated within a 10m square area. A possible



rectilinear arrangement was identified within the smaller postholes represented by G11034. This would form a structure, approximately 8m by 4m, aligned E-W. It is likely the postholes within L11017 represent more than one episode of activity. Intercutting was evident between elements of the smaller postholes of G11034 and the larger ones of G11056. Plough damage is likely to have merged the two large elongated postholes (G11040) to the north of the main group, but G11038 comprises eight intercutting postholes that attest to repeated activity. Two residual sherds of residual early Iron Age pottery were recovered from G11038 and two sherds of Iron Age or Romano-British pottery from one posthole within G11056.

The relative lack of finds suggests that the postholes within L1117 may have been part of a structure that was agricultural in origin.

Groups within L1117

G11034	Nine small postholes. 0.1m – 0.6m wide and < 0.2m deep.
G11038	Eight intercutting postholes. C. 0.3m in diameter and 0.14m deep
G11040	Two intercutting elongated postholes. 0.3m long, 0.3m wide and 0.15m deep; and 0.9m long, 0.5m wide and 0.3m.
G11056	Six large postholes. 0.3m to 0.6m in diameter and < 0.2m deep

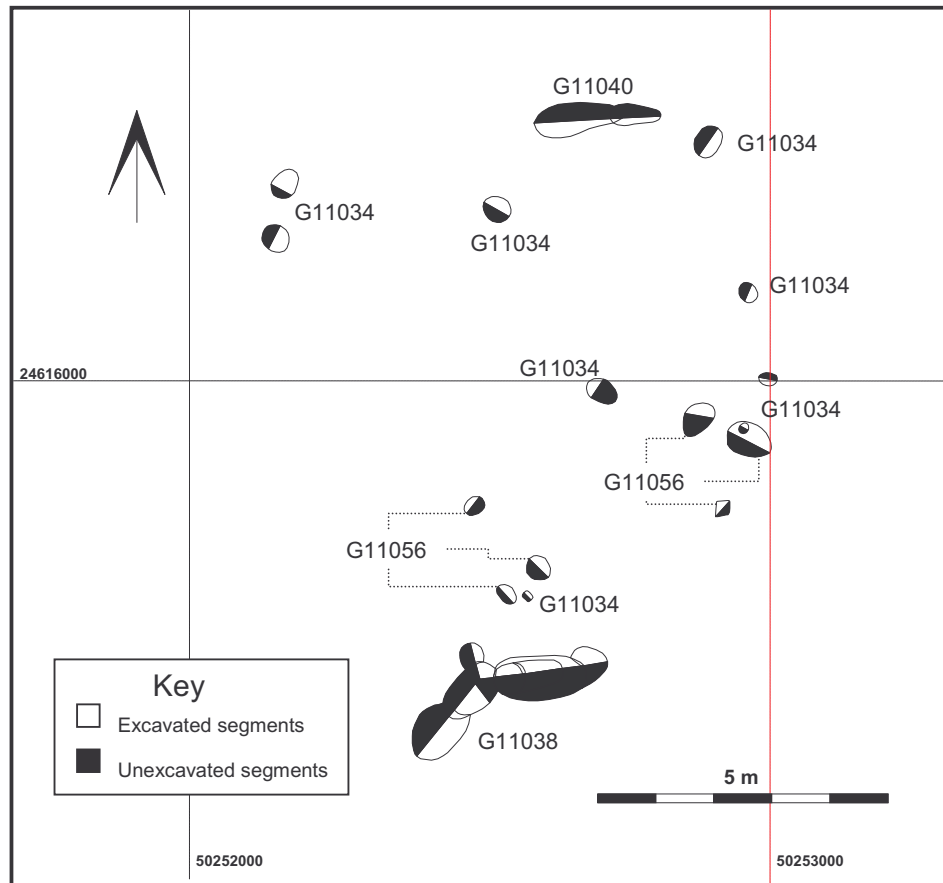


Figure 88: Detailed plan of activity focus L1117

11.3.9 Activity Focus L1118 (Figure 89)

A concentration of 20 postholes located the within a 10m square area towards the southern corner of field L1106. The post holes within G1145 appeared in



pairs or threes, whilst those in G11046 were singular. The fact that a significant number of the postholes (9 out of 20) were found in multiples, some of which were inter-cutting, indicates at least two episodes of activity. There does not appear to be a convincing structural layout within distribution. Many of the postholes contained charcoal but no finds were recovered.

It is likely that L1118 represents an activity foci associated with agricultural activity, such as temporary stock fencing.

Groups within L1118

G11045	Nine multiple postholes in SE corner of site. Sub-circular and < 0.7m in diameter and < 0.2m deep. Some intercutting.
G11046	Eleven single postholes in SE corner of site. Sub-circular and < 0.7m in diameter and < 0.2m deep.

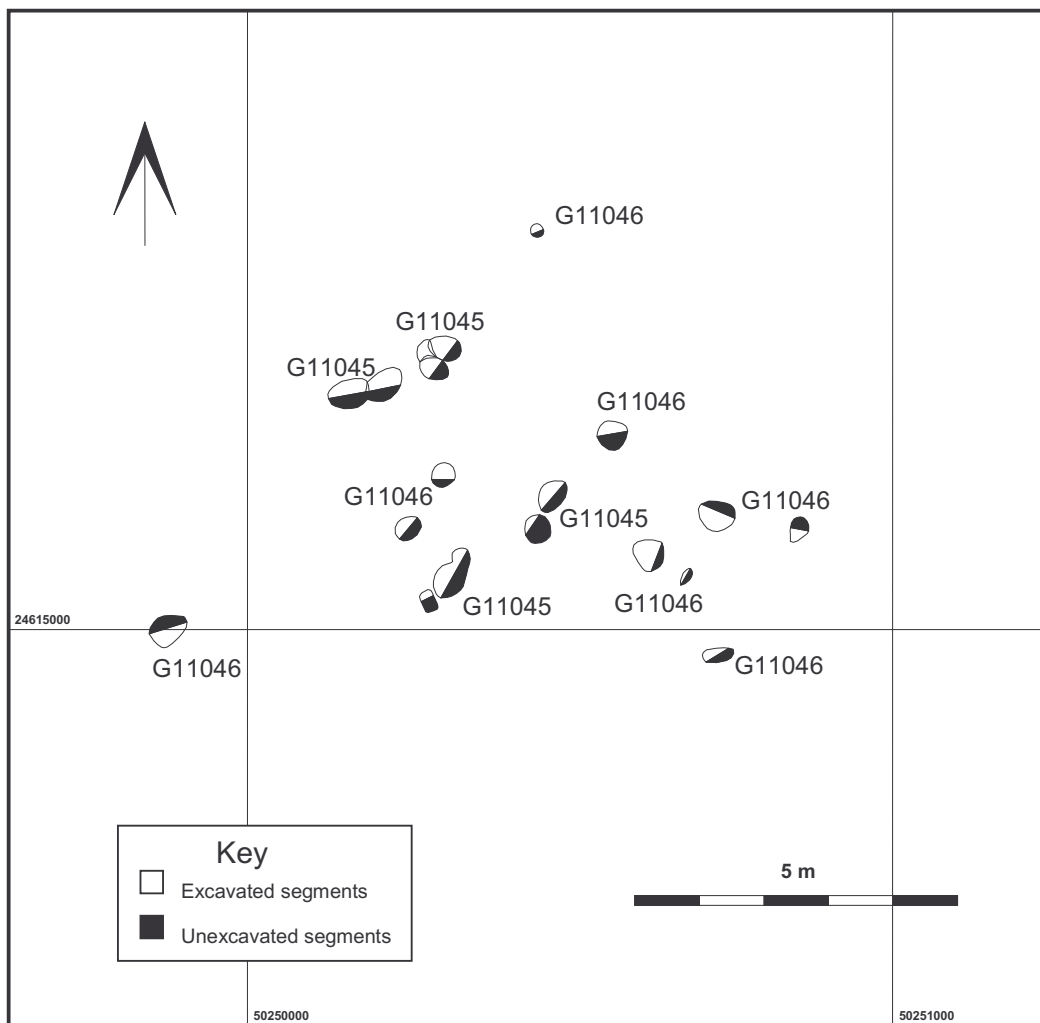


Figure 89: Detailed plan of activity focus L1118



11.3.10 Pit Group L1119

L1119 was situated towards the south-western corner of field L1106 within a 20m square area. It comprised a dispersed group of three large sub-rectangular pits. No finds were recovered from the fills of these features.

The large size and lack of finds may suggest that these were quarry pits.

Groups within L1119

G11039	Three large pits. Sub rectangular with steep U-shaped profiles and flat or slightly concave bases. > 1.2m long, c.0.7m wide and <0.2m deep.
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11.3.11 Unenclosed activity L1103

Evidence for unenclosed activity L1103 was located to the west of trackway L1101. It comprised a dispersed scatter of seven pits, spread over an area of c.0.2ha. All of the pits were roughly circular in plan, but two were significantly smaller (G11023). All of the pits were highly truncated. The fills were generally similar to that of the surrounding geology, although four heavily abraded fragments of bone were recovered and charcoal flecks were present.

Groups within L1103

G11022	Five large pits. c.1m in diameter and < 0.55m deep
G11023	Two small pits. c. 0.6m in diameter and < 0.55m deep

11.3.12 Activity focus L1104

A concentration of postholes and pits were located to the within a 15m square area to the west of trackway L1101. This comprised 12 postholes and two pits. Ten of the postholes (G11025) were defined by their high charcoal content, whilst two others (G11026) contained no burnt material. The postholes were associated with two sub-circular pits (G11028). None of the features contained finds.

No structural arrangement could be discerned in their distribution, although the activity focus may have extended beyond the western limit of the excavation.

Groups within L1104

G11025	Ten charcoal rich postholes at S. edge of site. Ovoid or subcircular, less than 0.5m in diameter and 0.3m deep.
G11026	Two sterile postholes at S. edge of site. Ovoid, less than 0.4m in diameter and 0.15m deep.
G11028	Two pits at S. edge of site. Sub-circular features, roughly 0.7m in diameter and 0.3m deep.



11.4 Phase 1104 – Later Romano-British (Figure 90)

Activity during this phase is represented by reorganisation of the phase 1103 field system and quarrying. The phase 1103 field system continued to function but was subject to redefinition. The original large fields were subdivided into smaller strips. It appears that the western trackway went out of use because quarrying took place within it. The dating of this period is based on stratigraphic relationships rather than artefact identification. The artefact assemblage is very small and comprises one sherd of residual pottery and seven residual struck flints.

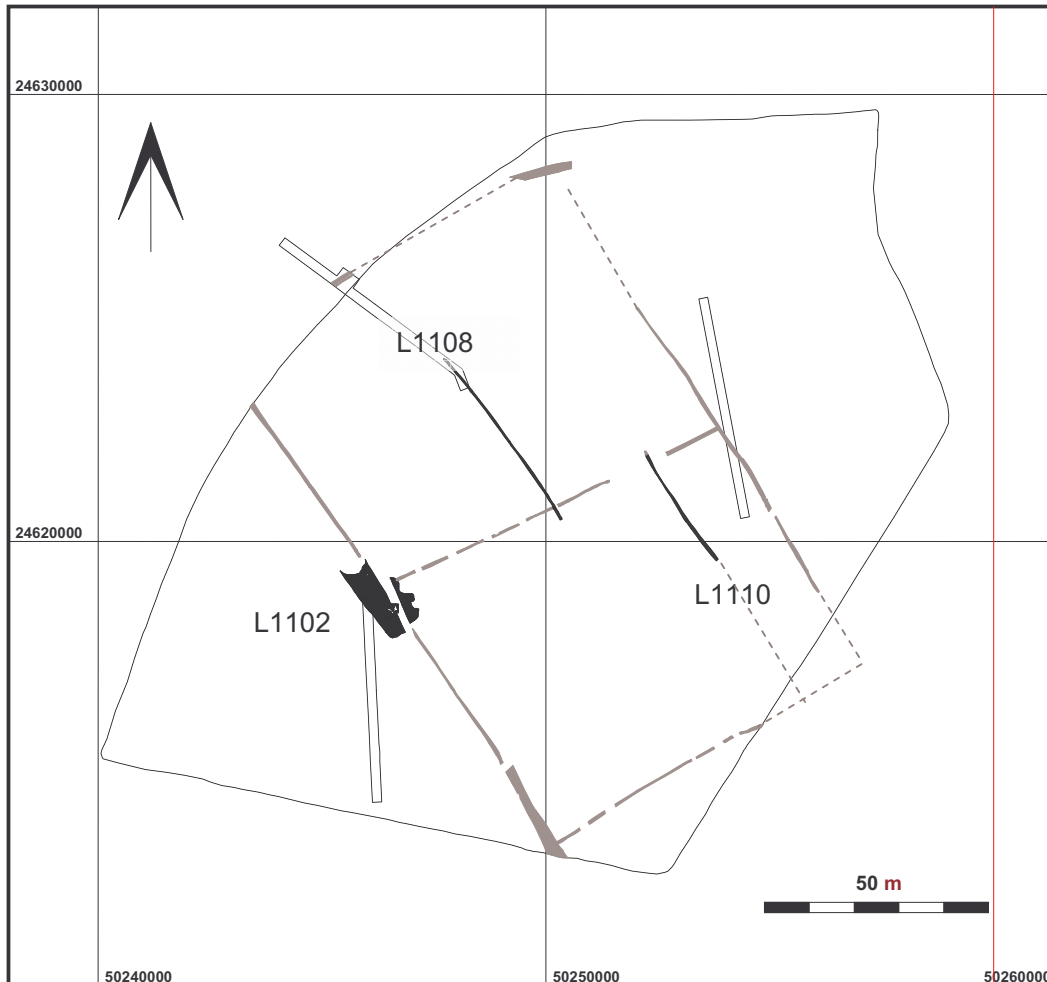


Figure 90: Phase 1104 plan

11.4.1 Field subdivision L1108

Field L1108 was a subdivision of phase 1103 field L1107. It was defined by field ditch G11005 and would have divided field L11007 in half E-W. The ditch terminal at the north-western end of ditch G11005 is likely to have been a product of truncation. No internal activity was identified associated with this subdivision. No finds were present within the fills ditch G11007.



The continuation of ditch G1005 for *c.* 3m south-eastward beyond ditch G11009 may indicate that field L1106 was also subdivided in a similar layout.

Groups within L1108	
G11005	Field ditch.

11.4.2 Field subdivision L1110

Field L1110 was a subdivision of phase 1103 field L1106. It was defined by field ditch G11006 which did not survive beyond the modern sewer to the southeast. It continued for *c.* 2.5m beyond its junction with extrapolated line of ditch G11009. This may suggest a corresponding subdivision of field L1108 to the north; however, the ditch appeared to terminate. No internal activity was identified. No finds were present within the fills of ditch G11006, although charcoal fragments were noted.

Groups within L1109	
G11006	Field ditch.

11.4.3 Quarrying L1102

Quarrying L1102 was located within an 18m by 9m area at the junction of trackway L1101 and the northern boundary ditch of field L1106. It comprised a large but undefined number of small, intercutting, shallow pits. It is likely that these pits were dug for the extraction of gravel as none exceeded the depth of the natural gravel deposit within which they were confined. The area of pitting was investigated by three 2m by 2m test pits. Seven worked flints and one sherd of late Iron Age pottery were recovered. All finds are likely to be residual.

Their small size of the pits and the degree of intercutting suggest that they represent small scale gravel extraction repeated over a number of years.

Groups within L1102	
G11052	Six intercutting quarry pits within SW test pit. 1m in diameter by 0.3m deep.
G11053	Eight intercutting quarry pits within SE test pit. <i>C.</i> 1m in diameter by 0.3m deep.
G11054	Five intercutting quarry pits within N test pit. <i>C.</i> 1m in diameter by 0.3m deep.
G11055	Overall area of disturbance created by intercutting quarry pits



11.5 Phase 1105 – Medieval (Figure 91)

The medieval phase comprised a field system represented by a regular series of NW-SE aligned parallel linear gullies that truncated all but the modern phases of activity. These gullies were interpreted as furrows which are the result of the strip field arable system of the medieval period. Evidence of minor changes to the pattern of furrows was identified in the NE corner of the excavation area. One fragment of ceramic building material was the only artefact from this phase.

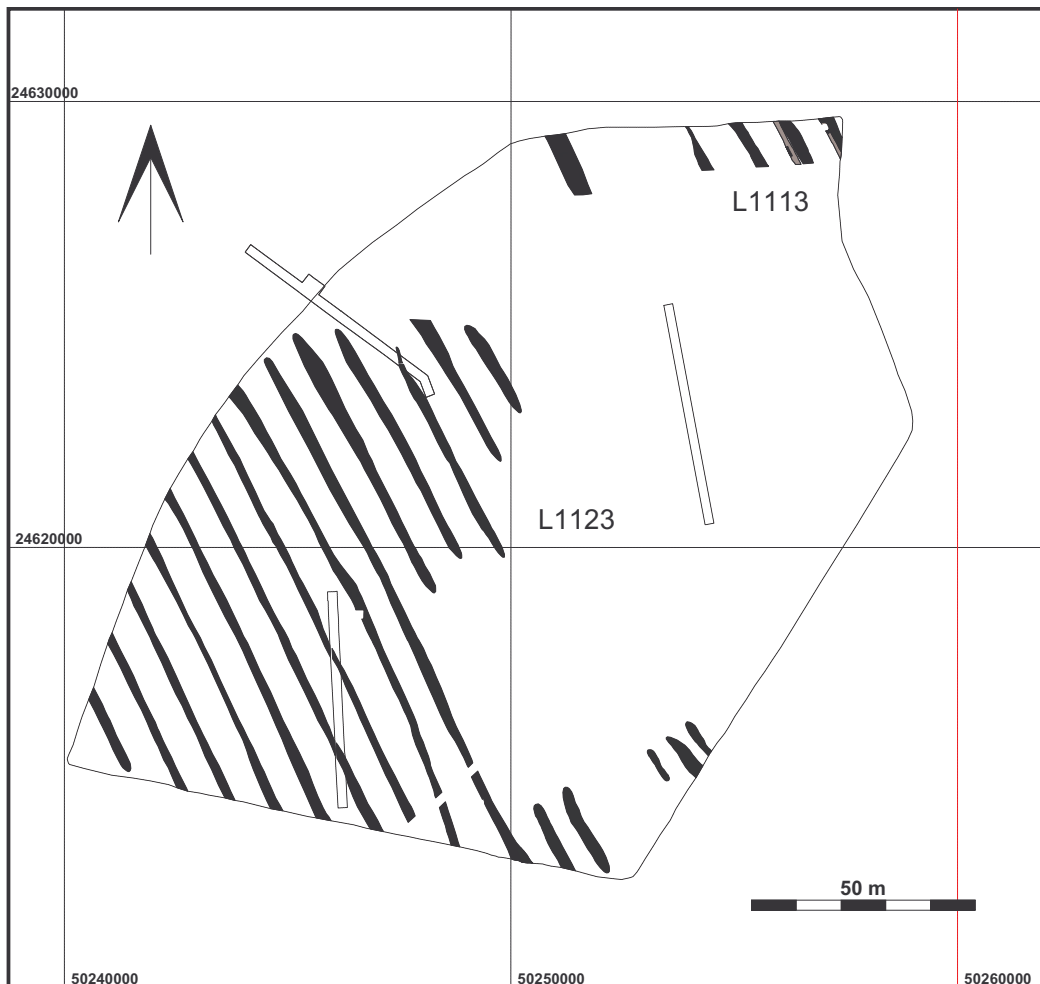


Figure 91: Phase 1105 plan

11.5.1 Furrows L1123

A series of NW-SE aligned medieval furrows was identified, spaced between 6 and 9m apart. There were no visible boundaries or limit to these furrows within the excavation area. They survived to a lesser extent towards the centre and the east of the excavation area, but this is likely to be a result of truncation by ploughing.



Groups within L1123

G11041	Nineteen furrows.
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11.5.2 Furrows L1113

Two furrows were identified in the northeast corner of the excavation area, spaced 9m apart. Although similar in form and alignment to those in L1123, they appeared to truncate the earlier furrows and may represent a small scale re-organisation of the furrow layout in this part of the excavation area.

Groups within L1113

G11017	Furrows.
G11018	Furrows.

11.6 Phase 1106 – Post-medieval (Figure 92)

The post-medieval phase comprised field boundary L1100 and a parallel alignment of pits L1122 in the southwest of the excavation area. There was no dating evidence but they were aligned parallel with the earlier phase of medieval furrows (L1123).

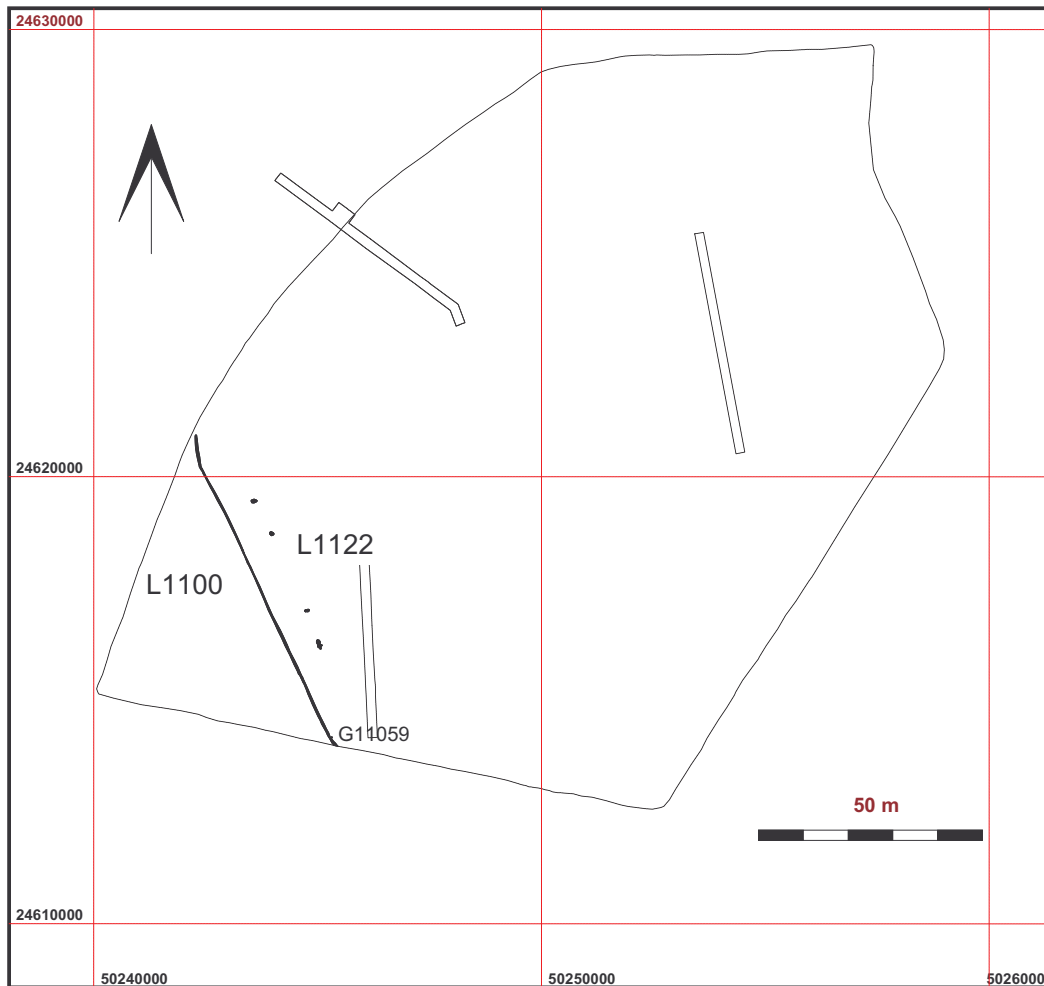


Figure 92: Phase 1106 plan



11.6.1 Field Boundary L1100

Field boundary L1100 was aligned NW-SE and was at least 75m long. It continued beyond the southern limit of excavation. It was generally straight, but the north-western 7m veered N-S, before terminating. The fill of the ditch was sterile but highly truncated. It is likely to have been associated with the sole posthole within G11059, located at the southern end of the ditch.

Groups within L1100

G11000	Boundary ditch.
G11059	Isolated posthole. 0.3m in diameter with charcoal flecks.

11.6.2 Pits L1122

Eight large pits, orientated on a NE-SW axis parallel but *c.* 7m to the east of boundary L1100. Most were in groups of at least two. Evidence of intercutting indicated that they are likely to represent two, or possibly three, episodes of activity. No finds were recovered from any of the fills, although lumps of charcoal were noted.

Groups within L1122

G11024	Eight sub-circular pits, <i>c.</i> 0.75m in diameter and < 0.3m deep, with a U-shaped profile. Some intercutting.
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11.7 Phase 1107 – Modern (Figure 93)

Modern activity is indicated by the presence of a series of land drains and two service trenches. One of the latter was associated with a large area of disturbed ground.

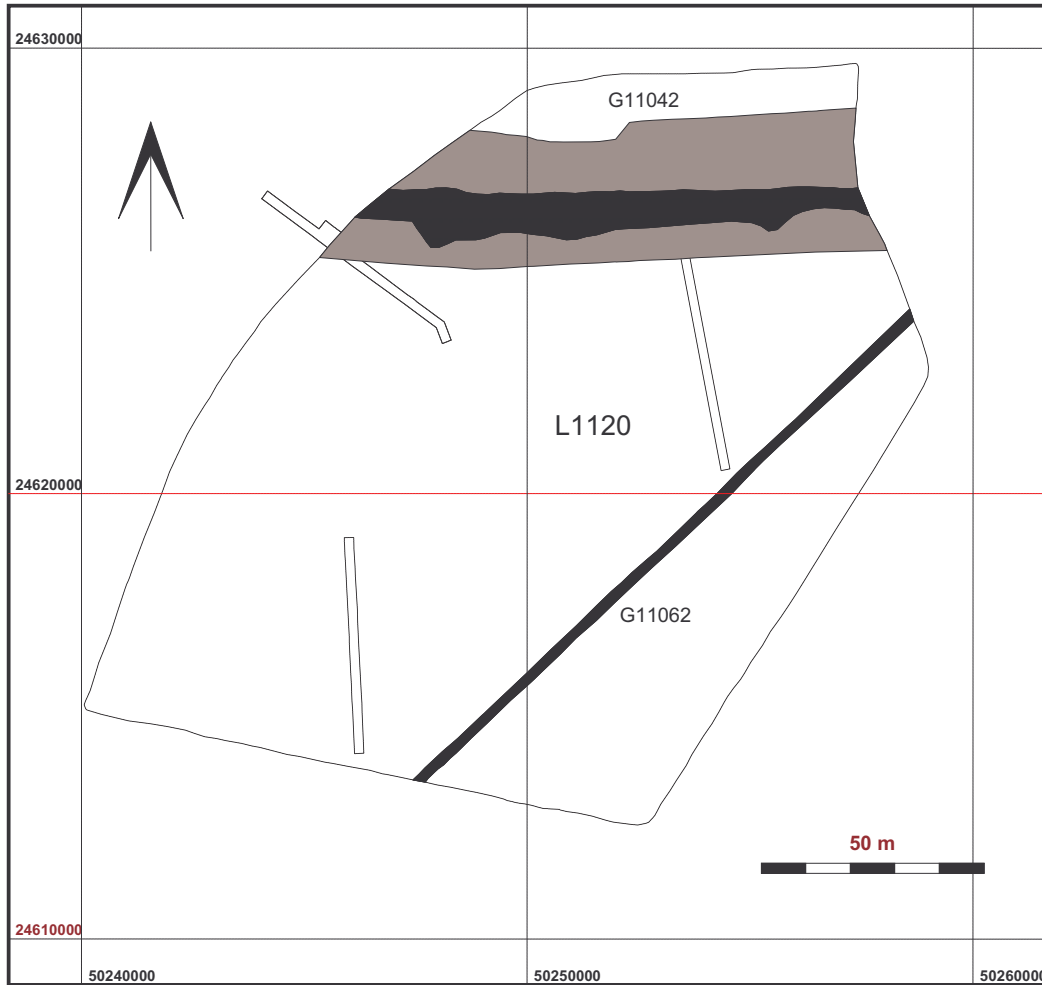


Figure 93: Phase 1107 plan

11.7.1 Modern Disturbance L1120

Two modern sewer trenches truncated the excavation area: G11042 and G11062. G11042 represented the disturbance created by the Bedford Southern Orbital Sewer. This was located at the northern end of the site, on an E-W alignment and included two layers of disturbance directly to the north and south of the service trench, reflecting the easement for the pipe work. The total area of disturbance was 110m long by 32m wide. G11062 was the cut for the sewer pipe which was aligned NE-SW. It truncated the eastern part of the excavation area. It was approximately 2m wide by 150m long.

Groups within L1120

G11042	Southern Orbital Sewer trench and associated disturbance.
G11062	NE-SW sewer trench.