STRETTON ROAD
GREAT GLEN
LEICESTERSHIRE

ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL AND UPDATED PROJECT DESIGN

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Compiled by	Checked by	Approved by
Ben Barker	Mike Luke	Drew Shotliff

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Contents

1. INTRODUCTION 10
- 1.1 Project background 10
- 1.2 Status and purpose of this document 10
- 1.3 Location and topography 10
- 1.4 Geology 11
- 1.5 Previous archaeological investigations 11

2. NATURE OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK 12
- 2.1 Introduction 12
- 2.2 Open area excavation 12
- 2.3 Fieldwork monitoring and area sign offs 12
- 2.4 Post-excavation checking and consolidation of the records 12
- 2.5 Preliminary report 13

3. PROVISONAL CHRONOLOGICAL SUMMARY 14
- 3.1 Introduction 14
- 3.2 Phase 1 (pre-Roman Conquest) 14
- 3.3 Phase 2 (late 1st – early 2nd century AD) 14
- 3.4 Phase 3 (later 2nd – early 3rd century AD) 15
- 3.5 Phase 4 (later 3rd – 4th century AD) 17
- 3.6 Phase 5 (medieval) 19
- 3.7 Phase 6 (modern) 20
- 3.8 Discussion of the results 20

4. DATA-SET SUMMARIES 21
- 4.1 Introduction 21
- 4.2 Contextual 21
- 4.3 Pottery 22
- 4.4 Ceramic building material 28
- 4.5 Other artefacts 30
- 4.6 Animal bone 38
- 4.7 Charred plant remains 43

5. ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL 49
- 5.1 Introduction 49
- 5.2 Analytical potential of the data 49
- 5.3 Summary of potential to address the original research objectives 55

6. RESEARCH OBJECTIVES FOR ANALYSIS 56
- 6.1 Introduction 56
- 6.2 Settlement character and development 56
- 6.3 Economy 58
- 6.4 Society 59
- 6.5 Environment 60

7. UPDATED PROJECT DESIGN 62
- 7.1 Introduction 62
- 7.2 Analysis of contextual data 62
- 7.3 Analysis of pottery 63
- 7.4 Analysis of other artefacts 64
- 7.5 Analysis of animal bone 65
- 7.6 Analysis of plant remains 66
- 7.7 Overall publication, archiving and project management 67
- 7.8 Publication 68
- 7.9 Archiving 69
- 7.10 Summary of all tasks 69

7.11 Timetable 71
7.12 Communication and management 71

APPENDIX 1: PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES.....72

APPENDIX 2: EXPLANATION OF THE CONTEXTUAL HIERARCHY 73
7.13 Phases 74
7.14 Landuse Areas 74
7.15 Groups 74
7.16 Sub-groups 75
7.17 The Provisional Phasing 75

BIBLIOGRAPHY.....76

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1: Pottery quantification by Phase **22**
Table 2: Pottery Type Series **24**
Table 3: Phase 2 Pottery quantification by Landuse Area **25**
Table 4: Phase 3 Pottery quantification by Landuse Area **25**
Table 5: Phase 3 Pottery quantification by fabric group **26**
Table 6: Phase 4 Pottery quantification by Landuse Area **27**
Table 7: Phase 4 Pottery quantification by fabric group **28**
Table 8: CBM quantification by Phase **28**
Table 9: Quantification of building material by form **29**
Table 10: Brick and tile quantification by Landuse Area **29**
Table 11: 'Other artefacts' by material **30**
Table 12 'Other artefact' assemblage by functional category **31**
Table 13 Residual flint **32**
Table 14 'Other Artefacts' Phase 2 ..... **33**
Table 15 'Other artefacts' assemblage from Phase 3 ..... **33**
Table 16 Phase 4 'Other Artefact' assemblage **36**
Table 17 Phase 5 'Other Artefacts' assemblage **37**
Table 18 Phase 6 'Other Artefacts' **37**
Table 19: Temporal distribution of assemblage **39**
Table 20: Fragmentation in the assemblage (as assessed by context) **39**
Table 21: Surface condition of the assemblage (as assessed by context) **39**
Table 22: Assemblage by Phase and Landuse Area (count of all fragments) **40**
Table 23: Number of samples by Phase, Landuse Area and Group **41**
Table 24: Species represented in each Phase **41**
Table 25: Available ageing and metrical data for the main domesticates **42**
Table 26: Modifications observed during the assessment **42**
Table 27: Location of articulated material observed during the assemblage **43**
Table 28: Assessment of flots for charred plant remains **48**
Table 29: Potential of recovered datasets to address the original research objectives **55**
Table 30: Potential of recovered datasets to address the updated research objectives **61**
Table 31: Summary of contextual analysis tasks **63**
Table 32: Summary of pottery analysis tasks **63**
Table 33: Summary of other artefacts tasks **65**
Table 34: Summary of animal bone analysis tasks **65**
Table 35: Summary of plant remains analysis tasks **66**
Table 36: Overall publication, archiving and management tasks **68**
Table 37: Summary of all tasks **70**
Table 38: The Project Team **71**
Table 39: Provisional timetable to complete the project **71**

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1: Location of the development area

Figure 2: Phase 2 (late 1st-early 2nd century AD) - All features plan

Figure 3: L20 – Domestic focus of farmstead

Figure 4: L21 – Southern peripheral fields

Figure 5: L22 – Eastern peripheral fields

Figure 6: Phase 3 (later 2nd – early 3rd century AD) - All features plan

Figure 7: L30 – Domestic focus of farmstead

Figure 8: L31 – Southern peripheral fields

Figure 9: L32 – Eastern ladder enclosure system

Figure 10: Phase 4 (later 3rd – 4th century AD) - All features plan

Figure 11: L40 – Domestic focus of farmstead

Figure 12: L41 – Southern and eastern peripheral fields and enclosures

Figure 13: Phase 5 (medieval) - All features plan

Figure 14: Phase 6 (modern) - All features plan

Figure 15: Number of hand-recovered bones from each phase, showing the number from primary secondary and tertiary fills

All figures area bound to the rear of this report.

Preface

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

Contributors

This document has been written and edited by Mike Luke (Project Manager) and Ben Barker (Project Officer). The majority of the contextual analysis and assignment to final phasing was undertaken by Ben Barker.

The following have contributed to this document by examining data and/or writing individual reports:

- *Contextual- Iain Leslie (Albion Site Supervisor), Ben Barker (Albion Project Officer)*
- *Ceramic artefacts- Jackie Wells (Albion Finds Officer)*
- *Coins- Peter Guest (Cardiff University)*
- *Other artefacts- Holly Duncan (Albion Artefacts Manager)*
- *Animal bone- Jen Browning (ULAS)*
- *Charred plant remains- Angela Monkton (ULAS)*

The figures were produced by:

- *Joan Lightning (Albion)*
- *Ben Barker (Albion)*

Other assistance associated with the post-excavation assessment was provided by:

- *Artefact conservation- Phil Parkes (Conservator, Cardiff University)*
- *Metal artefact X-rays- Rob White (Principal Keeper, Lincolnshire County Council Conservation Department)*
- *Digitisation- Joan Lightning (Albion)*
- *Database creation- Dave Coombes (Albion)*

The open area excavations were undertaken by the following teams:

- *Site excavation was undertaken by Jo Ahmet, Ben Carroll, Cat Godsiffe, Richard Gregson, Iain Leslie, Claire Lockwood, Gary Manning, Jess Stevens, Slawomir Utrata, Adam Williams, Adrian Woolmer and Juha-Matti Vuorinen*
- *Artefact processing was overseen and reported on by Jackie Wells (Finds Officer)*
- *Ecofact processing was undertaken by Slawomir Utrata*
- *Surveying was undertaken by Mercedes Planas*

Mike Luke (Project Manager) was responsible for the overall management of the project. Ben Barker (Project Officer) was responsible for the project on a day-to-day basis. All Albion Archaeology projects are under the overall management of Drew Shotliff (Operations Manager).

Structure of the report

Section 1 introduces the project, detailing the planning and archaeological background. Section 2 summarises the nature and implementation of the archaeological fieldwork. The summary and discussion by chronological period (Section 3) is based on the provisional phasing/contextual hierarchy. Section 4 presents a summary of the data-sets. The potential of the data to address the original and the revised research objectives is discussed in Section 5, and a discussion of the major themes for analysis follows in Section 6. An updated project design is presented in Section 7, detailing the proposed stages for analysis, publication and archiving. Appendix 1 references the professional standards and guidelines that will be adhered to, whilst Appendix 2 provides an explanation of the contextual hierarchy used within this document. The last section is the bibliography. All figures are bound at the end of the report.

Version history

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1.0	*15/12/12*	*n/a*
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Key terms

Albion	Albion Archaeology
Client	CgMs Consulting acting for Miller Homes
Consultant	Simon Mortimer, CgMs Consulting
APO	Archaeological Planning Officer, Leicestershire County Council
IfA	Institute for Archaeologists
LPA	Local Planning Authority (Market Harborough District Council)
OD	Ordnance Datum
Procedures Manual	*Procedures Manual Volume 1 Fieldwork*, 2nd Edition, 2001. Albion Archaeology
UPD	Updated Project Design- detailing the tasks required to undertake the analysis, publication and archiving of this project
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation

Non-Technical Summary

This document represents a summary and assessment of the results of archaeological investigation associated with the Miller Homes (East Midlands) Stretton Road housing development in Great Glen, Leicestershire. It also presents an Updated Project Design and methodologies for analysis and publication of the results.

The development comprised housing, infrastructure and public open space on land to the east of Stretton Road, centred at NGR SP 6630 9856. The open area excavation, undertaken between March and May 2011, straddled the north-south hedged field boundary that divided the eastern and central fields.

The known archaeological evidence prior to the recent investigations has been described in the Specification for Archaeological Investigation *(CgMs 2010). The westernmost field, fronting Stretton Road, was subject to evaluation in 2005 as part of a previous development proposal. No buried archaeological features or deposits were identified within this part of the site and the ridge and furrow was adequately recorded.*

The remainder of the accessible part of the application area was subject to detailed geophysical survey in 2009. This identified a series of what appeared to be multi-phase, settled enclosures, likely to date to the late Iron Age/Romano-British periods, covering an area of c. *2 ha. Trial trenching was carried out by in June 2009, corroborating the geophysical survey results.*

The open area excavation identified a substantial Romano-British farmstead dating to the later 1st to 4th century AD. No evidence for late Iron Age or Saxon settlement was conclusively identified, although cultural material was recovered. The results of the recent investigations are important due to the lack of comparable archaeological investigations of rural Romano-British settlements in the region. Although such settlements are relatively common they 'are very unevenly distributed and poorly understood' *(Taylor 2006, 143). The majority of contemporary farmsteads in Leicestershire are known from field walking and very few have been subject to excavation (Liddle 2000, 3). For the Trent Valley to the north, Knight (*et al. *2004, 137) notes that* 'relatively few Romano-British enclosed settlements within the region have been extensively excavated'. *This is one of the reasons why aspects of Romano-British rural settlements are included in the draft research agenda and strategy for the East Midlands (Knight* et al. *2011). Further analysis of the datasets produced by the investigations is, therefore, proposed in order to assist in addressing local, regional and national research objectives relating to Romano-British settlement, economy, society and environment.*

The methodologies, project team and timescale required to complete this project are presented in the Updated Project Design and in more detail in the appendices. The end product will be the publication of the results and, subject to the landowner's permission with regard to the artefacts, the deposition of the project archive in the appropriate county stores (Accession Number : X.A17.2011).

The role and support of Miller Homes East Midlands and consultant (CgMs Consulting) will be acknowledged in all outputs.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

The background to this project is fully described in the WSI (CgMs 2010) and therefore only a brief summary is provided here. CgMs Consulting was commissioned by Miller Homes (East Midlands) to develop a strategy for mitigating the impact of a mixed-use development on archaeological remains land to the east of Stretton Road, Great Glen, Leicestershire. This development had been granted Outline Planning permission 09/00536/OUT subject to condition 8 that stated:-

'*No development shall take place within the application area until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, which has been submitted and approved in writing by the LPA. Thereafter, the development shall be implemented in accordance with the approved details and retained in perpetuity unless otherwise agreed in writing with the LPA'.*'

1.2 Status and purpose of this document

This report represents an assessment of the results of the open area archaeological investigations occasioned by the mitigation strategy. An updated project design is included listing the tasks that will be required to analyse, publish and archive the results. The completion of these tasks will fulfil the criteria stipulated in the Written Scheme of Investigation (CgMs 2010), as approved by Richard Clark, the Principal Planning Archaeologist for Leicestershire County Council. It aims to comply with the standard set by MoRPHE (English Heritage 2006) and complies with Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment, Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG 2010).

1.3 Location and topography

Great Glen is located 6 miles SE of Leicester on the east side of the A6. The development area is on the northern edge of the village adjacent to Stretton Road. It is effectively divided into three fields. Stretton Road forms the western boundary. Garfield Park and the properties to the north of Coverside Road form the southern boundary. The eastern and northern extents of the site are bounded by agricultural land. The open area excavation straddled the N-S hedged field boundary that divided the eastern and central fields (Figure 1).

The site occupies high ground with the River Sence to the west and a tributary to the north. The highest land to the east is at approximately 125m OD and the site slopes down to *c*. 102 m OD at Stretton Road to the west. Immediately to the south of the site, to the rear of Garfield Park, the land had been heavily reduced by previous construction activity. The original land surface falls away towards the existing housing along Coverside Road, towards Stretton Road, and to the agricultural land to the north, but rises slightly to the east.

1.4 Geology

The site's underlying solid geology is Lower Lias Clay and Limestone overlain by boulder clay and morainic drift.

1.5 Previous archaeological investigations

The following is a summary of the reports produced on the archaeological fieldwork undertaken within the site to date as presented in the WSI (CgMs 2010).

The westernmost field, fronting Stretton Road was subject to geophysical survey and trial trenching in 2005 as part of a previous development proposal. No buried archaeological features or deposits were identified within this part of the site.

Geophysical survey of the two easternmost fields, undertaken by ArchaeoPhysica (2009), revealed what was interpreted as a multi-phase settlement of probable late Iron Age/Romano-British date. Outside of the enclosures there appeared to be little or nothing of archaeological significance with the exception of the ridge and furrow, which it effectively mapped. The trial-trench evaluation, Northamptonshire Archaeology (2009), comprised the excavation of sixteen trenches each 50m long, and two areas, one 20m by 14m and the other 30m by 12m. Archaeological features were concentrated within a group of four trenches in the north-western part of the area. A small quantity of pottery suggested that occupation began in the middle to late Iron Age, perhaps the 1st century BC. Subsequently the site seems to have been in continuous usage through the 1st century AD to the 4th century AD, with a complex of intercutting Roman settlement enclosure ditches and related features. The remains were thought to represent a small rural, agricultural settlement, although finds such as flue, wall and floor tile and a possible fragment of window glass were taken to indicate the presence of a substantial late Roman building in the vicinity but outside the application area where it had not been identified by geophysical survey.

2. NATURE OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK

2.1 Introduction

The methodologies for the investigations were detailed in the Written Scheme of Investigation (CgMs 2010) and are therefore only summarised below.

2.2 Open area excavation

The area designated for open area excavation was focussed on geophysical anomalies which had been tested by trial trenches. The site was stripped of topsoil, subsoil and modern arisings by mechanical excavation in February 2011, and archaeological investigation was undertaken between March and May 2011.

The open area excavation was centred on NGR SP 6618 9857 and was divided into two halves by a hedged field boundary (Figure 1). A stand-off was left adjacent to the latter and the hedged field boundaries to the north due to ecological constraints.

All work was carried out in accordance with the following standards and guidance:

- *Albion Procedures Manual* (Albion 2001)
- *Code of Conduct* (Institute for Archaeology 2000);
- *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation* (Institute of Field Archaeologists 2001);
- *Guidelines and Procedures for Archaeological work in Leicestershire and Rutland* (Leicestershire County Council 1997)

Following an initial stage of site planning and characterisation, detailed excavation strategies were developed on site in consultation with the CgMs consultant (Simon Mortimer), the Principal and Senior Planning Archaeologists for Leicestershire County Council (Richard Clark and Teresa Hawtin) and English Heritage East Midlands archaeological science advisor (Jim Williams), with input from the ecofact specialists (Angela Monkton and Jennifer Brown).

2.3 Fieldwork monitoring and area sign offs

The investigations were monitored on behalf of Miller Homes by Simon Mortimer (consultant from CgMs).

When substantive areas had been fully completed the County Planning Archaeologists inspected the works. This resulted in the areas being verbally "signed off" on-site, with subsequent confirmation in writing.

2.4 Post-excavation checking and consolidation of the records

Immediately following the completion of fieldwork, the final checking and consolidation of the site records was undertaken. In addition, all outstanding artefacts and ecofacts samples were processed. The site archives were consolidated and their internal consistency checked.

2.5 Preliminary report

A preliminary report on the investigations was produced to coincide with the open days held at the end of the investigations (Albion 2011a).

3. PROVISONAL CHRONOLOGICAL SUMMARY

3.1 Introduction

The following summary and discussion of results are based on the provisional phasing/contextual hierarchy. It is presented within traditional chronological periods. Dating information has derived from contextual analysis and quantified pottery. A provisional interpretation of 'domestic' or 'peripheral' agricultural status has been assigned to the various land use areas on the basis of the density of archaeological features, the quantity of artefactual material and the presence of structures.

3.2 Phase 1 (pre-Roman Conquest)

3.2.1 Overview

No archaeological features of this date were identified within the open area excavation. A small amount of residual pottery and worked flint provided the only evidence of activity before the Roman Conquest. The material was not found in any concentrations and occurred in well-dated Roman deposits.

3.3 Phase 2 (late 1st – early 2nd century AD)

3.3.1 **Overview** (Figure 2)

The earliest phase of farmstead appears to be post-Roman Conquest in origin, dating to the late 1st – early 2nd century AD. It comprised a domestic focus and peripheral fields. Evidence for activity was identified across the majority of the excavation area (except for the SW corner), although the features themselves were frequently truncated by later activity. Phase 2 accounts for 17% of the identified contexts within the Stretton Road farmstead.

3.3.2 Domestic focus L20 (Figure 3)

The domestic focus of the farmstead in the late 1st to early 2nd century appears to occupy an area of approximately 0.12ha in the NW corner of the site. It was defined by a rectilinear enclosure G205, aligned on a NW-SE axis, comprising major boundary ditches and traces of ephemeral internal drainage gullies. It also contained traces of a circular drainage gully (recut once) that presumably defined a roundhouse G201/G202. The latter had a diameter of *c.* 14m and was located immediately adjacent to a second, smaller, possible roundhouse G204. This second building was less well defined; only the northern part of the drainage gully survived. It is likely to have had a diameter of *c.* 11m. A small rectilinear sub-enclosure G207, measuring 8m by 8m, was identified immediately to the NE of roundhouse G201/G202.

3.3.3 **Southern peripheral fields L21** (Figure 4)

An area of peripheral activity was located to the south of the domestic focus. It was defined by the ditches of field G206 which was at least 65m by 45m. Within this field, two further possible roundhouses were identified: G203 and G209, although these were far more tentative than those in domestic focus L20. They were *c.* 10m and 14m in diameter respectively, but in each case less than 50% of the gully survived.

Two smaller enclosures were also identified within the field; both had been severely truncated by later re-cuts. G208 was a D-shaped enclosure located towards the SE corner of the domestic focus. It was later re-cut by enclosure G305 in Phase 3, and only traces of the western enclosure ditch survived. The enclosure would have been approximately 25m by 25m in area with a 2m-wide entrance to the west.

G211 was located 20m further to SE. It enclosed a sub-oval area of 250sqm. Again, the enclosure ditch was heavily truncated by a re-cut assigned to Phase 3. No contemporary internal activity was identified in either enclosure.

3.3.4 **Eastern peripheral fields L22** (Figure 5)

The area to the east was largely devoid of evidence for activity. The three ditches assigned to G210 were located immediately to the east of the domestic focus. They were close to one another and may have been subdivisions within a larger enclosure that has been lost to truncation by later activity. G212 was a poorly defined N-S ditch that is likely to have been the eastern boundary ditch for the settlement. It was up to 1.2m wide but generally less than 0.1m deep.

3.4 Phase 3 (later 2nd – early 3rd century AD)

3.4.1 **Overview** (Figure 6)

Later 2nd – early 3rd century AD activity comprised a farmstead with domestic focus (including a rectangular building and a possible roundhouse), a ladder enclosure system and peripheral fields. The rectilinear layout was much more regular and extensive than in the preceding phase and the archaeological features much better preserved. Phase 3 accounts for 36% of identified contexts within the Stretton Road farmstead.

3.4.2 **Domestic focus of Farmstead L30** (Figure 7)

The domestic focus of the farmstead within this period remained in the NW corner of the site; however, it had expanded southwards to encompass an area of over 0.55ha. It comprised a central N-S aligned rectilinear enclosure G301, which measured 30m by 45m. This contained roundhouse G316 and pit cluster G317. The roundhouse was located towards the centre of the enclosure and was defined by a poorly preserved curvilinear gully. It is likely that the roundhouse would have had a maximum diameter of *c*. 8m. Pit cluster G317 was located in the SE corner of enclosure, within 10m of the roundhouse. It comprised four small to medium-sized pits within an area of approximately 9m by 5m.

G305 was the redefinition of the Phase 2 D-shaped enclosure located to the east of domestic enclosure G301. It covered an area of approximately 25m by 25m, but contained no evidence for contemporary activity. A 2m-wide entrance was identified midway along the north-western side of the enclosure. At a later stage this appears to have been blocked off by a short closing ditch. The enclosure ditches were at least 1m wide by 0.5m deep, whilst the blocking ditch was less than 0.25m deep.

A large rectilinear field G306 was located immediately to the south of enclosure G301 and D-shaped enclosure G305. It was on an E-W axis and was approximately 70m long by 20m wide. Internal activity was limited to two

smaller ditches that are likely to have formed a sub-enclosure at the eastern end of the field.

A putative northern enclosure G314 was located to the north of enclosure G301. It extended northwards beyond the limits of excavation and covered an area of at least 30m by 15m. Internal activity was represented by a number of small gullies, all of which were stratigraphically early and have been assigned to this group on the basis of their alignments with other ditches in this phase. An isolated posthole was also identified.

To the east of enclosure G314 was a possible post-built building G318 that was defined by rectangular arrangement of eight postholes of varying sizes. They were distributed in two N-S aligned rows, *c.* 3m apart, with an average gap of 2.5 m between postholes. The building covered an area of 3m by 7.5m and may have extended beyond the northern and eastern limits of excavation. The postholes ranged from 0.2–1m in diameter and 0.05–0.4m deep. Two contained evidence of stone packing and the SW one appears to have been re-dug.

G315 comprised gullies on the western fringes of the settlement that may be part of peripheral fields.

3.4.3 **Southern peripheral fields L31** (Figure 8)

Two fields were identified to the south of the domestic focus.

G302 was a large field located to the SW of domestic enclosure G301. It was defined by ditches to the north and to the east. It was at least 25m by 40m in size and continued beyond the southern limit of excavation. There was no evidence of contemporary internal activity but none of the perimeter ditches were more than 0.2m deep which may suggest an increased level of plough truncation. A possible entrance in the NW corner of the field is likely to be an artificial product of truncation.

G303 was a large field located to the SE of the domestic focus. It was 80m wide by at least 25m wide, defined by ditches to the north and S1017 and to the west (shared with G302). It extended beyond the southern limits of excavation and no eastern field boundary ditch was identified — probably due to truncation by furrows. The ditches were a maximum of 0.9m wide and 0.4m deep. No entrances were identified. Internal activity comprised four small pits and at least three highly truncated broadly E-W aligned ditches that suggest that the field is likely to have been sub-divided.

3.4.4 **Eastern ladder enclosure system L32** (Figure 9)

Ladder enclosure system L32 was located to the E of the domestic focus L30. It was on a NNE-SSW axis and comprised two parts: to the south G308 and to the north G309.

The northern part G308 enclosed an area approximately 40m by 45m. The eastern boundary ditch was particularly poorly defined, but the other ditches were generally 0.9m wide by 0.4m deep. An entrance was likely to have existed in the SW corner of the field where there is a 5m-wide gap and the ditch curves back on itself, presumably to aid stock control. Geophysical evidence suggests

that the southern boundary ditch continues eastwards, beyond the limits of the investigation, and is part of a major landscape boundary.

Contemporary internal activity comprised a number of sub-enclosures assigned to G310. These were defined by a collection of shallow ditches, forming the sub-divisions within the ladder system. The ditches divided G308 into four regular 25m by 10m sub-rectangular enclosures to the south, with a less well defined curvilinear 22m by 12m enclosure to the north. The ditches were generally less than 0.5m wide and 0.3m deep. The high degree of truncation prevents the identification of any entrances with any degree of certainty.

Internal activity within the sub-enclosures comprised two pits, an isolated posthole, and a sub-square area of compacted stones G319, which has been interpreted as a possible threshing floor. The stones covered an area of 2.8m by 2.8m, but had been truncated to the east and west by furrows, and to the south by a later ditch. The floor consisted of a 0.1m-thick layer of large stones placed on a bed of clay. It is likely that some of the upper surface had been lost to ploughing.

The northern part of the ladder system G309 was at least 45m by 45m but extended beyond the northern limit of the excavation area. The discontinuous nature of the southern boundary suggests an entrance may have existed in the SE corner of the enclosure. Internal activity comprised parallel WNW-ESE gullies and sub-enclosures G307, G311, G312 and G313. These four sub-enclosures did not contain any internal activity but were more substantial than those identified within the southern part of the ladder enclosure. They were grouped separately to allow analysis of their potential to have defined house or building plots.

3.5 Phase 4 (later 3rd – 4th century AD)

3.5.1 **Overview** (Figure 10)

Evidence for a later 3rd – 4th century AD farmstead comprised domestic focus L40 (containing a farmyard surface and possible mill setting) and peripheral fields L41. Evidence for activity was identified across the majority of the excavation area and there appears to have been a major reorganisation of the Phase 3 field system. The features were generally well-preserved but still relatively shallow. There is no evidence that the farmstead continued into the early Saxon period within the excavation area. A very small quantity of intrusive Saxon pottery was recovered, but this may relate to settlement activity beyond the limits of the investigation. Phase 4 accounts for 36% of identified contexts within the Stretton Road farmstead.

3.5.2 **Domestic focus of Farmstead L40** (Figure 11)

The farmstead's domestic focus remained in the NW corner of the site and extended over at least 0.5ha. Its largest component was a rectilinear enclosure G405 that was 50m wide and 35m long, aligned along an E-W axis. The southern and eastern ditches averaged nearly 2m wide and over 0.4m deep, whilst the western ditch was of a similar depth but less than 1m wide. A *c.* 7m-wide entrance was identified in the western ditch of the enclosure which suggests a degree of contemporaneity with enclosure G403 to the west. Internal activity

comprised a shallow pit and two isolated postholes. Ring gully G410 and yard surface G414 were also located within this enclosure.

Ring gully G410 was located in the SE corner of enclosure G405. It was slightly ovoid and *c.* 5m N-S by 4m E-W. The gully itself was less than 1m wide and 0.25m deep. It had a U-shaped profile with a concave base that undulated along its length. A large ovoid posthole was located centrally within the ring gully; it was approximately 1.1m in diameter and 0.5m deep. No trace of a post-pipe was visible, but it contained frequent large stones that are likely to have been packing. This feature has tentatively been interpreted as the setting for a post mill.

A large stony spread G414 was located in the NW of enclosure G405. It is likely that this was the truncated remains of farmyard surface. It was generally less than 0.15m thick, but covered an amorphous area approximately 25m N-S by 10m E-W.

A sub-rectangular enclosure G411 was located to the north of enclosure G405. It was 24m wide by at least 12m long and continued beyond the northern limit of the excavation. It was defined by a 38m length of curvilinear ditch which was 1.6m wide and 0.6m deep. No entrances were identified and evidence for internal activity was limited to small two pits.

A second curvilinear enclosure G412 was located 7m to the west of enclosure G411. It was at least 15m wide but only the southern 3m of the enclosure fell within the excavation area. It was defined by a 14.5m length of broadly E-W curvilinear ditch that was 1.45m wide and 0.5m deep. No evidence of an entrance or internal activity was identified.

Large sub-rectangular enclosure G402 was located to the west of enclosure G401. Its long axis was aligned E-W and it covered an area of approximately 60m by 20m. Recutting was evident in the western and southern ditches. The enclosure may have had an entrance in its NE corner. Internal activity was restricted to two gullies that are likely to have acted as internal sub-divisions. Both were less than 0.2m deep and did not produce dating evidence.

Relatively large, sub-rectangular enclosure G403 was located to the north of enclosure G402. It was 60m long by more than 25m wide, and extended beyond the northern limit of the excavation. A likely entrance was identified in its SE corner leading to enclosure G402 and G405. The enclosure had been longitudinally divided by a ditch. To the south of this three ditches subdivided the enclosure into *c*. 15m wide plots, whilst to the north a more irregular pattern of subdivision was apparent.

3.5.3 Southern and eastern peripheral fields and enclosures L41 (Figure 12)

The largest component of the peripheral fields and enclosures within L41 was a large sub-rectangular field G401 located to the south of the domestic focus. It was aligned E-W and covered an area of 80m by 35m. Most of the field ditches had been re-cut on at least one occasion. No entrances were identified. Evidence for internal activity was confined to a short N-S gully, located in the NE corner of the field; it was less than 0.15m deep.

A small possible mortuary enclosure G409 was identified at the eastern end of field G401. It was defined by E-W aligned gullies to the south and north, which enclosed an area of at least 10m by 10m. The gullies were less than 0.15m deep. No N-S gullies were identified, but it is possible that these had been lost to furrow truncation. This interpretation was based on the presence of a deposit of heavily burnt bone, thought to be cremated, at the western end of the putative enclosure, equidistant between the two gullies. Examination of this bone has since indicated that the burnt bone is animal in origin and therefore the mortuary enclosure interpretation will not be progressed for analysis.

To the NE of field G401 a relatively small D-shaped enclosure G404 was identified. It was aligned N-S, with straight sides to the north, west and south, and a slightly curvilinear side to the east. It enclosed an area of approximately 17.5m by 17.5m. No entrance or internal activity was identified.

Two adjacent, similarly sized, sub-rectangular enclosures/fields were located in the SE corner of the farmstead. They were on a N-S axis and were approximately 40m by 20m. The westernmost G406 was poorly defined by ditches that were less than 0.15m deep. Enclosure G407 was better defined, but incorporated elements of the farmstead boundary.

The eastern boundary of the farmstead was identified as G408. It comprised a 62m-long N-S ditch located to the east of the settlement area, joining the boundary of enclosure G407 to the south. It was truncated to the north and south by furrows but is likely to have continued beyond the northern limit of excavation. It was poorly defined in plan and varied from 0.6m wide to the north to up to 3.4m wide to the south; it was only 0.1–0.4m deep.

The southern boundary to farmstead G413 was defined by three discontinuous ditches. It is likely that the southern entrance to the farmstead was provided by a 3.5m-wide gap to the SW. The ditch was 0.5–2m wide and 0.25–0.5m deep. It was most substantial to the SE where it became more sinuous, as it joined the southern boundaries of enclosures G406 and G407. No associated activity was identified.

3.6 Phase 5 (medieval)

3.6.1 **Overview** (Figure 13)

Ridge and furrow survived as earthworks over much of the development area prior to machine stripping and the bases of the parallel furrows were visible within the excavation area. This land was clearly part of the open field system associated with the medieval settlement of Great Glen. Phase 5 accounts for 2% of identified contexts within the Stretton Road excavations.

3.6.2 **Furrows L51**

A total of 26 medieval furrows G501 were identified within the excavation area. They were aligned N-S and were spaced approximately 5m apart. Their width depended on the level of later plough truncation, and it was noted that they became wider (up to 3m) and spaced slightly further apart to the east. This

observation, and some further irregularity to the west, suggests that more than one field, or phase of cultivation, may be represented within the excavation area.

3.7 Phase 6 (modern)

3.7.1 Overview (Figure 14)

Modern disturbance was largely confined to the western part of the excavation area, but also included material recovered from the topsoil and subsoil during machining. Phase 6 accounts for less than 1% of identified contexts within the Stretton Road excavations.

3.7.2 Modern disturbance L60

A large area of disturbance was identified at the SW corner of the site. This appeared to be the product of mechanical disturbance associated with the construction of the Garfield Park housing development. In addition, an isolated posthole, topsoil and subsoil have assigned to G602.

3.7.3 Natural features L61

G601 comprises features of non-human origin. These include tree throw holes, areas of root disturbance and a large circular feature of geological origin located to the west of the excavation area.

3.8 Discussion of the results

The absence of securely dated pre-Roman Conquest features indicates that any prehistoric precursor to the Stretton Road farmstead lay beyond the area of excavation. Late Iron Age farmsteads within Leicestershire are both unenclosed and enclosed, the latter usually showing evidence of having unenclosed origins (Liddle 2000). If the pre-Conquest settlement were unenclosed, its visibility within the archaeological record would be slight when overlain by a Romano-British farmstead, rich in material culture. The Leicestershire and Rutland Resource Assessment of the First Millennium BC suggests that most farmsteads have transitional styles of pottery, some showing evidence of continued occupation into the 2nd century and beyond. Evidence for continuity of Iron Age enclosures was observed at Normanton le Heath, Leicestershire (Thorpe and Sharman 1994, 34) and possibly Seagrave Road, Sileby (Albion 2011b).

Although Romano-British farmsteads in Leicestershire are quite common, very few have been subject to excavation (Liddle 2000, 3). One has been partially excavated at Hamilton North, Humberstone, Leicester (ULAS 2004), but at *c.* 1ha it appears to be considerably smaller than the Stretton Road farmstead. Recent evaluation at Seagrave Road, Sileby (Albion 2011b) indicates that the Stretton Road farmstead is not unique or excessively large. The identification of roundhouses within Phases 2 and 3 should not be considered problematic. Although the "standard" type of building in the Iron Age, they were still common throughout lowland Britain during the 1st and 2nd centuries and at some sites are known to have continued to be built into the 3rd and 4th centuries (Hingley 1989, 31).

4. DATA-SET SUMMARIES

4.1 Introduction

In this section the different datasets recovered during the investigations are summarised. They can be divided into three main classes: contextual, artefactual and ecofactual.

- ***Contextual*** data relate to the identification of individual events such as the digging of a ditch, its primary infilling etc. These have been recorded as context records during excavation. All contexts have a detailed record sheet; many have a plan and section drawing, along with photographs.

- ***Artefactual*** data comprise human-made objects recovered during excavation. These have been divided for ease of discussion into pottery, ceramic building material, flint and other artefacts.

- ***Ecofactual*** data comprise natural materials found within excavated deposits. These are able to yield information on the nature of past human activity, farming regimes and the environment. They include animal bone, human bone, and information obtained from environmental samples (for example charred plant remains, charcoal, insects and molluscs).

The methodological approach taken with each dataset is briefly described in the relevant section, along with quantification, provenance (spatially and chronologically) and also condition.

4.2 Contextual

4.2.1 Types of context

A total of 1362 contexts were identified. Of these, 682 came from 'cut' features; three relate to partial animal skeletons; three were provisionally identified as cremation deposits; and nine were discrete layers. The vast majority of features identified were negative 'cut' features and most of these had only one fill.

Approximately 92% of contexts have provisionally been assigned to phases; the remaining 8% do not contain any ecofactal or artefactual material and were deemed not to have any further analytical value.

4.2.2 Survival and condition of remains encountered

Evidence for activity from the late 1st century AD onwards has been identified, including traces of buildings, enclosures and fields. As expected, the dataset is dominated by features from the Romano-British period relating to the remains of a farmstead.

The settlement components which have survived best are the relatively deep 'cut' features such as ditches, and to a lesser extent, pits. Structural features, such as postholes and drainage gullies, were also present but not in large numbers. Less common were layers, like the possible threshing floor and farmyard surface; this is probably a reflection of the level of plough truncation. No areas of significant vertical stratigraphy survived.

4.2.3 Processes affecting the survival of archaeological remains within the area of investigation

The soils within the development area have been heavily exploited by pastoral and arable agriculture. Within the excavation area there was evidence that modern ploughing had partially flattened the surviving ridge and furrow, especially immediately to the east of the hedge. It is likely that associated truncation to the underlying archaeological deposits has been slight. In contrast, it is likely that medieval ploughing has had the biggest detrimental effect on the survival of earlier archaeological remains. On average the furrows were 1.75m wide and up to 0.45m deep. Therefore, approximately a third of the area had been truncated by medieval furrows. This is likely to have had an impact on the survival of smaller, shallower features, such as postholes, that appear to be under-represented on the site.

Significant modern disturbance was limited to a 30m by 17.5m area in the SW corner of the site where it was evident that the original ground surface had been truncated by previous mechanical excavation. This is likely to have been associated with the dumping of arisings from the adjacent Garfield Park development. Although the level of truncation was severe, it was on the periphery of the Romano-British settlement and is therefore unlikely to have affected significant archaeological deposits.

4.3 Pottery

4.3.1 Methodology

For each context, pottery was recorded by fabric type and quantified by minimum sherd count and weight. This information was entered onto an Access Table in the project database. Pottery was spot dated by individual fabric and / or form type, and the date of the latest sherd was used in the provision of overall context spot dates. The latter were used to assist in the establishment of the provisional phasing structure.

4.3.2 Quantification

The assemblage comprises 1,915 sherds, weighing 30.9kg; the largest assemblages derive from features in later Roman Phases 3 and 4 (Table 1).

Phase	Sherd No.	% Sherd	Wt (g)	% Wt
2	127	6.6	1821	5.9
3	723	37.7	10637	34.4
4	976	51.0	17811	57.6
5	70	3.7	515	1.7
6	19	1.0	119	0.4
Total	**1915**	**100**	**30903**	**100**

Table 1: Pottery quantification by Phase

4.3.3 Pottery Type Series

Fabrics are listed below (Table 2) in chronological order, using common names in accordance with the Ceramic Type Series maintained by Albion Archaeology. Where possible, concordance has been made with the Leicestershire Ceramic Type Series (Marsden 2000; Pollard 1994; Davies and Sawday 1999).

Ware Common Name	Leics. CTS Code	Sherd No	Wt (g)
Early to middle Iron Age			
Flint and quartz	-	1	21
Grog and sand	G1	31	477
Coarse mixed inclusions	RQ1	19	470
Shell	S1	19	157
Grog	G	1	4
Shell and fine sand	S2	2	30
Fine sand	Q1	9	160
Coarse sand	Q1	6	58
Sand and calcareous	Q	3	74
Late Iron Age			
Grog and shell	GT	11	218
Fine grog	GT2	4	12
Medium grog	GT1, GT2	15	194
Coarse grog	GT1	5	57
Shell	CG1A	1	37
Sand and grog	GT	7	126
Roman			
Non-specific Roman ware	-	1	8
Samian ware	Samian	54	416
White ware	WW	2	13
VRW white ware	WW2	1	1
Gritty white ware	WW5	5	71
Smooth white ware	WW3	11	114
Orange sandy	OW3	36	333
Fine orange sandy	OW2	23	151
Micaceous orange sandy	OW7	4	17
White-slipped orange sandy	WS2	5	351
Nene Valley grey ware	GW4	24	360
Coarse grey ware	GW6, GW9	242	3973
Fine grey ware	GW3, GW5	641	10500
Micaceous grey ware	GW8	50	561
Calcareous grey ware	GW	19	447
Grog and sand grey ware	GT5	15	421
Silty grey ware	GW	22	240
White-slipped grey ware	WS8	6	260
Black-slipped grey ware	GW, C5	2	63
Black burnished ware	BB1	8	79
Sandy black ware	GW1	29	345
Gritty black ware	GW1	17	137
Micaceous black ware	GW8	4	111
Brown grogged ware	GT	2	123
Gritty buff ware	OW3	9	154
Fine buff ware	OW2	19	167
Micaceous buff ware	OW7	1	4
Oxford oxidised ware	OW	3	91
Oxford white ware	WW	2	38
Oxford colour coat	C13	6	118
Oxford white mortaria	MO1	3	59
Oxford red mortaria	C13	4	21
Nene Valley mortaria	MO6	2	219
Nene Valley colour coat	C2, C3	131	3044
Shell	CG1B	283	4387
Sand (red-brown harsh)	OW3	44	565
Smooth orange ware	OW2	13	60
Dressel 20 amphorae	AM9A	1	14
Mancetter-Hartshill mortaria	MO4	3	75
Mortaria (unprovenanced)	MO	4	143
Hadham oxidised ware	OW9	1	7

Ware Common Name	Leics. CTS Code	Sherd No	Wt (g)
Fine sand and calcareous	-	5	49
Lumpy white ware	WW1	5	70
Roman grog	GT3	9	279
Colour coat (unprovenanced)	C17	1	90
Saxon			
Non-specific Saxon ware	SX	2	11
Mixed coarse quartz	SX	1	3
Sandstone	SX	5	30
Post-medieval			
Black-glazed earthenware	EA6	1	15

Table 2: Pottery Type Series

4.3.4 Provenance, phasing and date range

The pottery displays a wide date range spanning the early Iron Age to the Saxon periods. A single post-medieval sherd was also identified. Approximately 93% (by weight) is datable to the Roman period; 6% is of Iron Age origin; the remainder is post-Roman.

A total of 176 features (68% of contexts producing pottery) contained less than 100g, and only two features yielded in excess of 1kg. Single sherds were collected from sixty features (23% of contexts yielding pottery). Although the degree of fragmentation is high, indicated by an average sherd weight of 16g, a proportion of vessels from Roman deposits are represented by more than single sherds. This suggests that much of the assemblage occurs in its primary context, close to areas where the pottery was used, and is further attested by the relatively low incidence of residual or intrusive material.

4.3.4.1 Phase 2 (late 1st – early 2nd century AD)

Features assigned to Phase 2 contained 127 sherds weighing 1.7kg (Table 3). The earliest pottery is an early to middle Iron Age assemblage of 25 sherds, weighing 238g, which occurs residually in later features. The hand made sherds are in a range of quartz-sand (Q1), igneous rock (RQ1), fossil shell (S1, S2) and grog tempered fabrics (G1). Diagnostic forms are scarce and comprise thin-walled, round-shouldered vessels with flat rims. Most sherds are undecorated. The primary fill of sub-enclosure G207, L207, yielded 16 sherds (98g) from a scored shell tempered vessel, typical of the East Midlands Scored Ware tradition, and broadly of middle to late Iron Age date.

Late Iron Age pottery in the 'Belgic' tradition totals seven grog tempered sherds weighing 73g, deriving from features which also contain Romanised wares. A cordoned jar is the only diagnostic vessel form. All are highly abraded, suggesting they may be residual. The presence of late Iron Age pottery indicates continuity between the earlier Iron Age and fully Romanised wares. However, the assemblage is too small to provide much useful information.

L	Description	Sherd No.	Wt (g)
20.01	Primary fills of domestic focus L20	16	98
20.02	Secondary and sole fills of domestic focus L20	20	136
20.03	Tertiary fills of domestic focus L20	6	83
21.01	Primary fills of southern peripheral fields L21	5	74
21.02	Secondary and sole fills of peripheral fields L21	76	1317
22.02	Secondary and sole fills of eastern peripheral fields L22	4	13
Total		**127**	**1721**

Table 3: Phase 2 Pottery quantification by Landuse Area

Romanised pottery totals 92 sherds (1.5kg), the majority deriving from the secondary fills of peripheral fields L21. Most of the assemblage comprises reduced, sand-tempered coarse wares (67 sherds: 1.3kg), supplemented by oxidised sandy wares and shell-tempered vessels, all of probable local manufacture. Pottery from more distant sources is represented by nine Black Burnished ware (BB1) sherds (101g), and single sherds of Lower Nene Valley grey ware and coarse white ware, possibly from Northamptonshire. Continental imports comprise five central Gaulish samian sherds (49g), including a form 27 cup of late 1st-early 2nd century date. Other vessel forms are cordoned grey ware jars, indicating continuity from the late 'Belgic' Iron Age, 1st-early 2nd century lid-seated shelly vessels, and BB1 flat-rimmed bowls with burnished lattice decoration, the latter datable to the early 2nd century. The largest single pottery deposit derived from the fill of D-shaped enclosure G208, L21, which yielded eleven sherds (406g) from a rusticated fine grey ware jar.

Three intrusive early Saxon sherds (14g) in quartz-sand tempered fabrics were recovered from enclosure G205, L20, and field G206, L21. A fine-walled, slightly everted rim is the only feature sherd.

4.3.4.2 Phase 3 (later 2nd – early 3rd century AD)

A total of 723 sherds, weighing 10.6kg was collected from features assigned to Phase 3 (Table 4). Residual material comprises 34 mid to late Iron Age sherds (717g) and 32 sherds (510g) of late Iron Age pottery in the 'Belgic' tradition.

Mid to late Iron Age pottery occurs predominantly in quartz-sand and igneous rock fabrics, with a single fossil shell tempered example. No diagnostic forms occur; three scored sherds and three flat rims are the only feature sherds. The majority of the pottery derived from the primary fill of D-shaped enclosure G305, L30, which yielded 525g, including 19 sherds (470g) from a sizeable cooking pot, with sooted exterior surfaces.

The secondary fills of western enclosure G301, L30, and sub-enclosures within ladder system G308, L32, contained the majority of the late 'Belgic' Iron Age assemblage. Grog tempered fabrics are dominant, as in the Phase 2 assemblage; a lid-seated vessel is the sole diagnostic form.

L	Description	Sherd No.	Wt (g)
30.01	Primary fills of domestic focus L30	30	654
30.02	Secondary and sole fills of domestic focus L30	245	4338
30.03	Tertiary fills of domestic focus L30	28	366
31.02	Secondary and sole fills of southern peripheral fields L31	12	138
32.01	Primary fills of eastern 'ladder' enclosure system L32	56	805
32.02	Secondary and sole fills of 'ladder' enclosure system L32	293	3859
32.03	Tertiary fills of 'ladder' enclosure system L32	59	477
Total		**723**	**10637**

Table 4: Phase 3 Pottery quantification by Landuse Area

Domestic focus L30 and 'ladder' enclosure L32 yielded Roman assemblages weighing 5.3kg and 5.1kg respectively, the majority deriving from the secondary fills of cut features. The Roman assemblage of 653 sherds (9.3kg) is dominated by wheel-thrown grey wares in a range of fine to coarse sandy fabrics, which total 61% of the assemblage by sherd count and 60% by weight (Table 5). These

are of uncertain, but probably local sources. The vessel repertoire comprises narrow-necked and neckless jars with simple everted or bead rims, bowls with flanged rims, straight-sided bowls or 'dog dishes', and a probable strainer. Decoration comprises burnishing (overall and lattice), slipping (black and white), and a single pinched/rusticated vessel. Five grey ware sherds from a single vessel (149g) recovered from 'ladder' system sub-enclosure G310 have traces of pitch residue on their broken edges, indicating vessel repair.

Local wares are supplemented by regionally traded wares which total approximately 35% by sherd count and 37% by weight. Calcite gritted wares demonstrate links with the south Midlands shelly ware groups of Northamptonshire, Bedfordshire and south Lincolnshire, and total nearly 17% of the assemblage by sherd count (18% by weight). These mainly comprise lid-seated vessels, large ?storage jars, and everted rim jars many with rilled exteriors and external sooting, the latter indicating their use as cooking pots. Calcite gritted wares range in date from the 2nd to late 3rd centuries. Unprovenanced Midlands oxidised wares in fine and coarse sandy fabrics total 12% by sherd count and weight, and occur in a similar range of forms to the reduced wares. Although not closely datable, they are likely to be of 2nd-century origin. Other traded wares include 2nd-century white ware flagons and jars from the Verulamium region, grey wares and 3rd-century colour coated wares from the Nene Valley, grog tempered ware of uncertain source (possibly Northamptonshire), and a single sherd of 2nd to 3rd-century Dorset Black Burnished ware. Two sherds of late Roman Oxford red colour coated ware may be intrusive. No diagnostic vessel forms are present.

Totalling approximately 3% by sherd count and weight, the proportion of imports may be regarded as typical of a small rural site (*c.f.* Cooper 2000, 80). They comprise 18 undiagnostic sherds of central Gaulish samian and a sherd of Baetican amphora of Dressel 20 form. The latter type is known to occur widely on post-conquest sites and up to the mid 3rd century.

Wares and fabric groups	Sherd No.	% Sherd	Wt (g)	% Wt
Imports				
Amphora	1	0.2	14	0.1
Samian	18	2.7	172	1.8
Local				
Grey wares: fine, medium and coarse sandy	398	61.0	5673	60.4
Regional				
Black burnished ware	1	0.2	13	0.1
Calcite-gritted wares	109	16.9	1755	18.7
Grey ware: Nene Valley	9	1.3	62	0.7
Grog tempered ware	7	1.0	293	3.1
NVCC	15	2.2	133	1.5
OXF CC	2	0.4	12	0.1
Oxidised wares: fine and coarse sandy	79	12.0	1163	12.4
White wares: fine, medium and coarse sandy	14	2.1	99	1.1
Total	**236**	**36.1**	**3530**	**37.7**

Table 5: Phase 3 Pottery quantification by fabric group

Three intrusive early Saxon sherds (19g) in quartz-sand tempered fabrics were recovered from western enclosure G301, L30. A burnished upright rim is the only feature sherd.

4.3.4.3 Phase 4 (later 3rd – 4th century AD)

The Phase 4 assemblage totals 976 sherds weighing 17.8kg, the majority deriving from the secondary and tertiary fills of cut features within domestic focus L40 (Table 6). Residual pottery comprises 34 late Iron Age sherds (530g), including 30 sherds (451g) from a thickly sooted lid-seated jar recovered from enclosure G402, L40.02.

L	Description	Sherd No.	Wt (g)
40	Domestic focus of farmstead	25	591
40.01	Primary fills of domestic focus L40	18	287
40.02	Secondary and sole fills of domestic focus L40	504	9506
40.03	Tertiary fills of domestic focus L40	88	2278
41.01	Primary fills of peripheral fields and enclosures L41	32	780
41.02	Secondary and sole fills of peripheral fields and enclosures L41	254	3449
41.03	Tertiary fills of farmstead peripheral fields and enclosures L41	55	920
Total		**976**	**17811**

Table 6: Phase 4 Pottery quantification by Landuse Area

The Roman assemblage totals 942 sherds, weighing 17.3kg. There inevitably exists a degree of overlap and continuity between the Phase 3 and 4 assemblages, evidenced by their broadly similar composition. One difference, however, is the increase in the numbers of regional wares and reduction of local wares constituting the Phase 4 assemblage.

Like the preceding phase, a range of wheel-thrown grey wares dominate, totalling 57% of the assemblage by sherd count and by weight (Table 7). The vessel repertoire is broadly the same as Phase 3, although more decorative elements are apparent, such as linear and random combed motifs and rouletting.

Traded wares of more specific form and usage from more distant regional production centres total 40% by sherd count and 42% by weight. Calcite gritted wares total 17% of the assemblage by sherd count, and 15% by weight, and occur in a wider range of vessel forms than the preceding phase. Some are products of the Harrold kilns in Bedfordshire, and include rilled jars with everted, triangular and undercut rims, large combed storage jars, and rilled bowls with flanged or rectangular rims, characteristic of the later Roman period (Brown 1994). Unprovenanced Midlands oxidised wares occur in smaller quantities than in phase 3, totalling 7% by sherd count and only 3% by weight, and a proportion may probably be considered residual. Later products of the Lower Nene Valley colour coated ware industry total 10% by sherd count (16% by weight). Forms are flanged bowls with rouletted and barbotine decoration, straight-sided dishes, and a single sherd from a spouted flagon or jug. Oxidised wares from Hertfordshire and Oxfordshire are present in small quantities, and include flanged bowls, and a copy of a samian form 37 hemispherical bowl. Mortaria (3% by weight) comprise the later products of the Mancetter-Hartshill, Oxfordshire and Nene Valley industries. Four sherds from two BB1 dishes also occur.

Totalling approximately 3% by sherd count and 1% by weight, imports comprise 28 undiagnostic sherds of Gaulish samian. All are highly abraded and in some cases have no slip remaining. Miscellaneous rim sherds and a footring are the only diagnostic elements.

Wares and fabric groups	Sherd No.	% Sherd	Wt (g)	% Wt
Imports				
Samian	28	3.0	191	1.1
Local				
Grey wares: fine, medium and coarse sandy	534	56.9	9734	56.3
Regional				
Black burnished ware	4	0.4	30	0.2
Calcite-gritted wares	161	17.1	2498	14.5
CC	1	0.1	90	0.6
Grey ware: Nene Valley	14	1.5	290	1.7
Grog tempered ware	3	0.3	99	0.6
NVCC	95	10.1	2778	16.1
HAD/OX	8	0.8	199	1.1
Mortaria (NV, M-H, OX)	15	1.6	515	3.0
OXF CC	6	0.6	118	0.6
Oxidised wares: fine and coarse sandy	61	6.5	542	3.1
White wares: fine, medium and coarse sandy	10	1.1	186	1.1
Total	**378**	**40.1**	**7345**	**42.6**

Table 7: Phase 4 Pottery quantification by fabric group

4.3.4.4 Phase 5 (Medieval)

The fills of furrows L51 yielded a residual assemblage of 69 late Iron Age and Roman sherds (500g), and black-glazed earthenware jug handle (15g) of post-medieval date. The pottery is fragmented, with an average sherd weight of 7g, and highly abraded, consistent with its recovery from agricultural deposits. The assemblage mainly comprises Roman coarse wares, represented by a range of locally manufactured, reduced sand tempered fabrics. The material is likely to derive from underlying Roman enclosure systems and settlements of the preceding phases.

4.3.4.5 Phase 6 (Modern)

Nineteen sherds (119g) from a 4th-century slit-folded beaker in Nene Valley coated ware derived from the tertiary fills of geological features L61.

4.4 Ceramic building material

4.4.1 Methodology

For each context, ceramic building material (CBM), comprising brick, roof tile and fired clay, was recorded by fabric type, and quantified by minimum fragment count and weight. Where possible, the brick and tile was also spot dated. This information was entered onto an Access Table in the project database.

4.4.2 Quantification

One hundred and thirteen pieces of brick and tile (18.2kg), and 21 fired clay fragments (478g) were collected, the majority deriving from features assigned to later Roman Phase 4 (Table 8).

Phase	Brick and tile		Fired Clay
	Frag No.	*Wt (g)*	*Wt (g)*
2	2	305	-
3	9	754	403
4	99	17108	75
5	3	126	-
Total	**113**	**18293**	**478**

Table 8: CBM quantification by Phase

4.4.3 Brick and tile: Provenance, phasing and date range

4.4.3.1 Roman

One hundred and twelve fragments (18.2kg) are datable to the Roman period (Table 9). Pieces have an average weight of 162g , and occur in oxidised sand and shell tempered fabrics types which respectively total 99% and 1% (by fragment count) of the assemblage. All are moderately abraded.

Form	Fragment	Wt (g)
Flue	4	453
Imbrex	3	370
Tegula	59	7812
Brick	31	8179
Brick or tegula	15	1401
Total	**112**	**18215**

Table 9: Quantification of building material by form

Tegula fragments constitute 53% of the assemblage (by fragment count) and are of standard type, with rectangular or rounded flanges. Tile thickness ranges between 15-30mm. Signatures, in the form of single or concentric rings, occur on a number of tiles, and several are combed. One piece recovered from Phase 4 field G401, L41, has a wear mark and appears to have been reused as a mixing palette.

Bricks total 28% of the assemblage and range in thickness between 30-45mm, while miscellaneous fragments deriving from either bricks or tegulae total 13%. Imbrices range between 16-17mm in thickness and combed flue tiles between 15-20mm.

The largest deposits were recovered from Phase 4 field G401, L41, and enclosure G405, L40, which respectively yielded 5.4kg and 4.3kg of building material (Table 10). None of the buildings found within the excavations could have supported a tiled roof but the presence of roof and hypocaust tile would suggest the existence of such structures in the vicinity.

Phase	L	Description	Sherd No.	Wt (g)
2	21.02	Secondary and sole fills of peripheral fields L21	2	305
3	30.02	Secondary and sole fills of domestic focus L30	5	534
	30.03	Tertiary fills of domestic focus L30	1	55
	32.02	Secondary and sole fills of 'ladder' enclosure system L32	2	135
	32.03	Tertiary fills of 'ladder' enclosure system L32	1	30
4	40	Domestic focus of farmstead	3	454
	40.01	Primary fills of domestic focus L40	1	61
	40.02	Secondary and sole fills of domestic focus L40	32	6340
	40.03	Tertiary fills of domestic focus L40	12	1632
	41.01	Primary fills of peripheral fields and enclosures L41	7	1575
	41.02	Secondary and sole fills of peripheral fields and enclosures L41	42	6142
	41.03	Tertiary fills of farmstead peripheral fields and enclosures L41	2	904
5	51.02	Fills of furrows L51	3	126
Total			**113**	**18293**

Table 10: Brick and tile quantification by Landuse Area

4.4.3.2 Post-Roman

A post-medieval sand tempered flat roof tile fragment (60g) was recovered from the fill of medieval furrows L51.

4.4.4 Fired Clay: Provenance, phasing and date range

The fired clay assemblage comprises 21 daub fragments in a coarse oxidised sand tempered fabric. Pieces have finger-smoothed surfaces and some retain wattle impressions ranging in diameter between 10-15mm. The tertiary fills of post-built building G318 within Phase 3 domestic focus L30 yielded the majority of the assemblage (403g). Single pieces were collected from the fills of enclosures G403 and G405, within Phase 4 domestic focus L40. The fired clay assemblage represents secondary deposition of occupation material and cannot be directly associated with the use of the features from which it was collected. It consequently has little potential for analysis.

4.5 Other artefacts

4.5.1 Methodology

As part of the assessment, each object was assigned a preliminary identification and functional category and was quantified by number and/or weight. This data was entered into the project database. All ironwork and selected non-ferrous objects were x-rayed by Lincolnshire County Council Heritage Service's Conservation Department. An assessment of the condition of the metalwork was carried out at the same time and required stabilisation and repackaging undertaken. The jet/shale item will undergo stabilisation/consolidation treatment during the analysis stage. Preliminary identifications were up-dated in light of the information gained from the x-rays. Petrological identifications of worked stone were carried out by Dr. J Eyers.

4.5.2 Quantification and variety

A total of 97 other artefacts and 3149.2g of fuel ash slag were recovered during the investigations. Equal numbers of finds were recovered from hand excavation and metal detectoring, with only 4% retrieved from processing of environmental samples. The quantity of items by material type is presented in Table 11.

Material	Quantity	Weight
Bone	1	-
Copper Alloy	35	-
Clay	-	3149.2
Iron	37	-
Flint	3	-
Glass	1	-
Lead alloy	13	-
Shale	1	-
Stone	6	-

Table 11: 'Other artefacts' by material

The objects were assigned to one of eighteen categories, the majority of categories relating to the function the objects performed (e.g. Building materials and Services; Crafts and Industry, Dress and Personal Adornment) although there are two categories (Prehistoric Flint and Objects of Uncertain Identity) which are not functionally related (see Table 12). Coins formed 71.4% of the copper alloy artefacts.

Finds Category	Material	Broad Term	Quantity	Weight
Building Materials	ST	Roof tile	1	-
Fasteners & Fittings	FE	Nail	24	-
Fasteners & Fittings	FE	Padlock case?	1	-
Household	CL	Fuel ash slag	-	3149.2
Household	PBA	Vessel repair	3	-
Crafts	SH	Spindle whorl	1	-
Crafts	PBA	Waste	8	-
Blades and sharpeners	FE	Knife	1	-
Blades and Sharpeners	ST	Whetstone	1	-
Commerce	CA	Coin	25	-
Written Communication	FE	Stylus	2	-
Subsistence	FE	Spud	1	-
Subsistence	FE	?Pruning/weeding hook (blade only)	1	-
Subsistence	ST	Millstone	1	-
Subsistence	ST	Quern	3	-
Military	CA	Strap mount	1	-
Dress	CA	Brooch	4	-
Dress	CA	Button	1	-
Dress	FE	Hobnail	3	-
Dress	GL	Bead	1	-
Prehistoric	FL	Combination tool	1	-
Prehistoric	FL	Flake	2	-
Multifunctional	CA	Ring	1	-
Uncertain identification	BO	Pin/needle tip	1	-
Uncertain identification	CA	Decorated ring and dot fragment	1	-
Uncertain identification	CA	Fragment	2	-
Uncertain identification	PBA	Fragment	2	-
Uncertain identification	FE	Fragment	4	-
Total			**97**	3149.2

Table 12 'Other artefact' assemblage by functional category

4.5.3 Date range

There is slight indication of prehistoric activity in the area, with the recovery of three pieces of worked flint (see Phase 1 below). Based on the 'other artefacts' there is an apparent hiatus in activity until the Romano-British period. The majority of the non-coinage assemblage is utilitarian and subsistence related and while items such as hobnails are indicative of Roman activity their date cannot be refined to specific centuries. More closely dated finds are limited but indicate some activity in the later 1st century into the 2nd century as represented by the recovery of a possible dolphin brooch and a Trumpet derived bow and fantail variant brooch, the later possibly dating to *c.* AD75-125.

Later 2nd-century activity is suggested by a strap mount with military associations, thought not to date prior to *c*. AD150 (Oldenstein 1976, 181). The lathe-turned bi-conical shale/jet whorl (RA2003) is unlikely to pre-date the late 2nd century (Allason-Jones 2011, 2) and could well date to the 3rd or 4th centuries (Lawson 1976, 272 and fig14 no. 107). The querns and possible millstone were all of Millstone Grit with a Pennine source. These may date to the second half of the Romano-British period, when the trade Pennine millstone grit querns widened (Wright 1996, 371-2).

Post-medieval activity is attested by a single button, 17th century or later in date.

4.5.4 Provenance

4.5.4.1 Phase 1 (Pre-Roman Conquest)

No features were assigned to this period, but a small quantity of residual flint, comprising two flakes and a combination tool, was encountered in later phases (Table 13). The combination tool, formed on a thin, elongated primary flake, has one serrated lateral edge with a single notch on the opposing lateral edge; this could date to the earlier Neolithic. Both flakes are hard hammer struck, one with an obtuse striking platform which could suggest a date of late Neolithic into the later Bronze Age.

Phase	Landuse	Group	Mat	Narrow Term	No	Wg
2	20.02	201.05	FL	Primary flake	1	4.7
3	30.03	306.03	FL	Tertiary flake	1	36.7
4	41.02	407.05	FL	Combination tool	1	4.2

Table 13 Residual flint

(FL=flint)

4.5.4.2 Phase 2 (late 1st – early 2nd century AD)

Other artefacts from deposits of Phase 2 are restricted to L20 and L21 and are limited in quantity and not closely dated (Table 14). Quantities of fuel ash slag were found in secondary and tertiary enclosure ditch fills of G205 (2295.1g), and adjacent fills of roundhouse gully G201 (321g) in L20. Fuel ash slag is formed when non-combustible materials such as earth, clay or ceramics are exposed to temperatures around 1000 degrees C and flux with ash creating an alkali silicate slag (Bayley 1985, 41). These slags are not indicative of a specific industrial process, but simply indicate a fire at high temperatures. In the instance the fuel ash slag in L20, this could suggest a hearth or hearths within roundhouses G201, G202 or G204 which were periodically cleared. The recovery of a whetstone also from the fills of G205 does suggest the presence of bladed tools. This silty, micaeous limestone whetstone was probably sourced locally (Lias - Lower Jurassic; Eyers 2011).

The finds from L21 were equally sparse. A small amount (165g) of fuel ash slag and a possible brooch foot was recovered from the fill of field ditch G206 in L21. The possible brooch foot has been exposed to high temperatures, distorting the shape and creating bubbly voids in the copper alloy, but it may have had a catch plate with a triangular perforation adjacent to the bow, and a slight thickening at the foot; a date in the 1st century could be tentatively suggested.

Phase	Landuse	Group	Mat	Narrow Term	No	Wg
2	20.02	201.05	FL	Primary flake	1	4.7
2	20.02	205.02	CE	fuel ash	-	1679
2	20.02	205.02	ST	whetstone	1	-
2	20.02	205.05	CE	fuel ash	-	47.1
2	20.03	205.03	CE	fuel ash slag	-	569
2	20.03	201.03	CA	fragment	1	-
2	20.03	201.03	CE	fuel ash	-	321
2	21.02	206.05	CE	fuel ash	-	165
2	21.02	206.05	CA	brooch foot?	1	-

Table 14 'Other Artefacts' Phase 2

(FL=flint; CE = ceramic; ST=stone; CA=copper alloy)

4.5.4.3 Phase 3 (later 2nd – early 3rd century AD)

L30 comprised a rectangular building (G318) and four enclosures (G301, G305, G306 and G314), enclosure G301 also containing a possible roundhouse (G316) and a pit cluster (G317). The non-coinage assemblage was in the main fairly meagre; no other artefacts were found within G318 or in enclosure G314 (Table 15). The fills of enclosure ditches forming G301 yielded little in the way of evidence for any activities carried out; the fuel ash slag and vitrified clay might suggest a hearth or fire, but the quantities were minor. Little can be said about the bone pin or needle tip. The nail is a flat headed variety belonging to Manning's Type 1b 'general purpose' nails (1985, 134). A second nail of the same type, was the only 'other artefact' found within the fills of the pit cluster G317.

Phase	Landuse	Group	Mat	Narrow Term	No	Wg
3	30.02	301.02	FE	Nail	1	-
3	30.02	301.02	CE	Vitrified clay	-	1.6
3	30.02	301.02	BO	Pin/needle tip	1	-
3	30.02	301.05	CE	Fuel ash slag	-	66
3	30.02	317.05	FE	Nail	1	-
3	30.02	305.05	PbA	Lead waste/off-cut	1	-
3	30.02	306.05	FE	Nails	2	-
3	30.02	306.05	CA	Brooch	2	-
3	30.03	306.03	FE	Strap fragment (hinge?)	1	-
3	31.02	302.05	FE	Nail	1	-
3	31.02	303.05	FE	Padlock casing?	1	-
3	32	309	PbA	Vessel patch	1	-
3	32.02	310.05	FE	Nail shank	2	-
3	32.02	310.05	PbA	Sheet	1	-

Table 15 'Other artefacts' assemblage from Phase 3

(BO=bone; CA=copper alloy; CE=ceramic; FE=iron; PbA=lead alloy)

G306, identified as the southern field in L30, did however provide dating evidence. Part of a cylindrical hinge cover from one brooch was found, but this cannot be closely date. The second brooch recovered from G306 is a somewhat unusual Trumpet derived brooch with bow plate and fantail. The short triangular sectioned bow head leads directly to circular disc (external diameter 13.5mm) with raised and rounded edge, the disc's tinned/silvered surface is concave, sloping down to a central perforation of 2mm diameter which perforates the

thickness of the brooch, and presumably originally held a raised boss. The wings slope down on either side of the bow and then rise up to form a prominent ridge. The foot of the brooch forms a relatively wide fantail containing a celtic inspired triangular motif, the base of the triangle sinuous. Within the triangular field is a single ring and dot ornament. Both the triangular outline and the ring and dot ornament would originally have been enamelled. The base of the fantail has a narrow raised ridge. In general form, especially the shape of the wings, central disc and fantail foot, this brooch is best paralleled by an example from Nottinghamshire (Mackreth 2011, pl.86 no.5617). The celtic inspired fantail decoration however can be paralleled by Trumpet derived bow and fantail brooches from East Anglia and Lincolnshire (Mackreth 2011, pl. 86) and on a group of bow and fantail brooches also from the same area (Mackreth 2011, pl. 59 nos. 2866 and 2861; Hattatt 1985, fig.49 no. 461)

The Stretton Road brooch however differs from all the other trumpet derived bow and fantail examples in the form of its pin, having a Langton/Thistle spring mechanism, held in a D-shaped cylindrical spring-cover, as opposed to a hinged pin. It also lacks a chain loop. There are a few examples of early bow and fantail brooches which posses the Langton Down spring mechanism (Hattatt 1985, 117). Hence it would appear that this brooch is a cross between bow and fantail and trumpet derived brooches with bow plate and fantail. Olivier (1996, 257) states that earliest bow and fantail brooches are probably derived from Thistle/Rosette brooches, and like this one have the Langton/Thistle spring mechanism, held in a cylindrical spring-cover. Early examples are probably imports from the Rhineland dating to the mid-1st century. Hinged variants with tubular side-wings and enamelled decoration on the foot continued to the late 2nd century AD (Olivier 1996, 257). Olivier dates trumpet derived brooches with bow plate and fantail dates to the 2nd century - this type of brooch has simple hinged pins (Olivier 1996, 257 and fig. 11.11). This could suggest that the Stretton Road example might date to the later 1st to first half of the 2nd century. However, it should be noted that this brooch was found with five coins that have been provisionally dated to the 4th Century. G306 also produced two examples of Manning type 1b general purpose nails (1985, 134) and a robust strap fragment, which might have formed part of a hinge.

L31, situated adjacent and to the south of G306, in addition to a nail, also produced part of a cylindrical case thought to be from a padlock. This may suggest some occupation of the area, or at least a locked gate.

Considering the extent of the eastern 'ladder' enclosure system L32 the recovered assemblage was meagre; enclosure G309 in the north producing a lead plug form of vessel repair, and sub-enclosure G310 to the south yielding two nail shanks and a fragment of thick, folded and perforated lead sheet. Little can be deduced from this assemblage, beyond suggesting some possible domestic activity in enclosure G309.

4.5.4.4 Phase 4 (later 3rd – 4th century AD)

Although the now familiar elements of small quantities of nails, lead sheet/scrap and fuel ash slag are present within the Phase 4 assemblages from L40 and L41, there are a wider range of objects which enable some insight into the activities undertaken, and perhaps the economy, of the enclosures (Table 16).

Phase 4 sees the first instances of hobnails, albeit in limited quantities, suggesting the inhabitants had adopted Roman footwear; a single occurrence in L40 G412 and two in L41 (G407 and G413). The only other item of dress and adornment is a short cylindrical or drum-shaped bead of opaque green glass with blue tinge from L40 G412. This unfortunately is a long-lived form (Guido 1978, 95).

Only one knife was recovered, G402 L40. Although in several pieces, this appears to conform to Manning's type 23 (1985, 118); the back of the blade curves up from the tang to the point, which is at a higher level than the tang, the blade edge rises in a convex curve to the tip. This is an Iron Age type which continued into the Roman period passing out of use in the late 1st or 2nd century (Manning 1985, 118). An example from Dragonby, Lincs. was found in deposits containing Flavian-Trajanic samian (Manning and McDonald 1996, 303 and fig. 11.39 no. 85).

Remnants of bladed implements were also recovered from G402 and G410, both in L40. The fragment from G402 has two straight sides which abruptly curve before the break; this could have formed part of a reaping hook (e.g. Manning 1985, pl. 23 F40). Too little of the blade fragment from G410 survives to suggest whether it was part of a knife, shears or reaping hook. Definitely agriculturally-related is the spud from L41 G401. These tools could be used for weeding or for cleaning the share and mould board of a plough; Manning suggested that the broader-bladed forms, such as the Stretton Road example, may have been plough spuds and the more pointed ones weeding spuds (Manning 1985, 49). Rees (1979, 330) notes that findspots are scattered widely around Britain, especially in areas of high Romanisation, and have an almost exclusively civil distribution. As a type however they are poorly dated.

Phase	Landuse	Group	Mat	Narrow Term	No	Wg
4	40.02	402	FE	Knife	1	-
4	40.02	402	FE	Blade fragment	1	-
4	40.02	402	CE	Fuel ash slag	-	19
4	40.03	402	CE	Fuel ash slag/vitrified clay	-	226.5
4	40.03	402	PbA	Lead waste/scrap	1	-
4	40.02	403	CE	Fuel ash slag	-	55
4	40.02	403	CA	Decorated strip fragment	1	-
4	40.02	403	ST	Millstone (or large quern)	1	-
4	40.02	405	FE	Nails	6	-
4	40.02	405	ST	Querns	3	-
4	40.02	405	FE	Stylus?	1	-
4	40.02	405	FE	Nailed sheet fragment	1	-
4	40.02	410	FE	Nail	1	-
4	40.02	410	FE	Strip fragment (blade?)	1	-
4	40	414	FE	Nails	2	-
4	40	414	PbA	Vessel repair (clamp)	1	-
4	40.02	412	FE	Nail	1	-
4	40	412	FE	Hobnail	1	-
4	40	412	ST	Roof 'shingle'?	1	-
4	40.03	412	GL	Bead	1	-

Phase	Landuse	Group	Mat	Narrow Term	No	Wg
4	41.02	401	FE	Nails	3	-
4	41.02	401	FE	Stylus?	1	-
4	41.02	401	FE	Spud	1	-
4	41.02	404	SH	Spindle whorl	1	-
4	41.02	404	FE	Strip fragment perforated	1	-
4	41.02	406	FE	Nail	1	-
4	41.02	407	FE	Hobnail	1	-
4	41.02	407	FE	Nail	1	-
4	41.02	407	PbA	Partially melted waste	1	-
4	41.03	413	FE	Hobnail	1	-
4	41.03	413	PbA	Waste	4	-

Table 16 Phase 4 'Other Artefact' assemblage

(BO=bone; CA=copper alloy; CE=ceramic; FE=iron; PbA=lead alloy; SH=shale; ST=stone)

The first instances of querns were encountered in Phase 4 deposits; these were restricted to L40; a small millstone or large quern (estimated diameter 730mm) found in G403 and three fragments of quern in G405. All were of Millstone Grit originating from the Pennines (Eyers 2011).

The only certain evidence of craft activity is represented by a lathe-turned shale spindle whorl found in G404, L41. As noted above (Date Range) this whorl is unlikely to pre-date the late 2nd century (Allason-Jones 2011, 2) and could well date to the 3rd or 4th centuries (Lawson 1976, 272 and fig14 no. 107).

Unusually for what appears, from the 'other artefact' assemblage, to be a subsistence level rural site, two possible styli were tentatively identified, one from L40 G405 and the other L41 G401. Both are of iron and only retain the 'eraser' end and part of the upper shaft, so certain identification as to form is not possible; it is more than likely however that they are of Manning's type 1, the most common form (1985, 85). A number of such styli were identified from Dragonby, only one of which came from a stratified context associated with pottery of up the later 3rd century AD (Manning and McDonald 1996, 297-301 and fig. 11.36 no.51 and fig. 11.37 nos. 52-56).

Enclosure G412 L40, on the edge of the excavation, produced part of a flat, relatively thin (18.9mm) slab of dark grey, slate-like stone, retaining one cut and slightly bevelled edge has been identified as a possible roofing slate. The stone is micaceous sandstone of the Tarporley Siltstone Formation in Leicestershire (Eyers 2011). Whether this did form a roofing slate is debatable and it is perhaps noteworthy that roofing slates from the Roman villa near Drayton and the Romano-British settlement at Hamilton, North Humberstone, both within c.10 miles of Stretton Road, produced roofing material of Swithland Slate (Cooper *et al.* 1989, 14-15; Cooper 2004, 14).

4.5.4.5 Phase 5 (Medieval)

The small assemblage of other artefacts from plough furrows on the whole is not closely dated nor does it contribute to a greater understanding of the settlement (Table 17). The finds could all have originated from disturbed Roman deposits, the nails being either incomplete or of the flat-headed general purpose type, the annular ring commonly found in both Roman and medieval contexts. The one exception to this is the strap mount.

The strap mount comprises a rounded disc with four integral rivets along the sides and two arms of a hinge mechanism situated near one edge of the reverse surface. The disc has a rounded perforation in the upper half; its base is a 'trefoil', having two pelta 'cut outs' creating rounded crescents and a central, longer oak leaf with incised veins. The outer edge of the disc is notched. Oldenstein illustrates four examples of mounts which bear similarities to the Stretton Road mount in shape, the presence of rivets and in two cases notching of the outer edge (1976, tafel 53 nos. 636 and 639; tafel 54 nos. 645 and 651). Oldenstein comments in respect of examples with two rivets, that they are a widespread form on both the continent and in Britain and are thought not to date prior to c. AD150 (Oldenstein 1976, 181).

This in itself does not indicate a military presence at Stretton Road. Occasional finds of military-related items on rural sites are not uncommon, e.g. the mid-1st-century button and loop fastener from the Iron Age and Roman site in Gaddesby Parish (Site 4) along the Ashby Folville to Thurcaston pipeline (Major 2007, 22).

Phase	Landuse	Group	Mat	Narrow Term	No	Wg
5	51	501	FE	Nails	3	-
	51	501	CA	Annular ring	1	-
	51	501	CA	Strip fragment	1	-
	51	501	PbA	Fragment rolled into a ball	1	-
	51	501	CA	Strap mount	1	-

Table 17 Phase 5 'Other Artefacts' assemblage

(CA=copper alloy; FE=iron; PbA=lead alloy)

4.5.4.6 Phase 6 (Modern)

Ploughsoil deposits produced a small assemblage of mixed date (Table 18). The cast disc button with petalled motif and integral perforated tab loop is 17th century or later in date.

The lead alloy waste/scrap sheet fragment and the vessel patch are not closely dated, but as similar items have featured in contexts of Phases 3 and 4, it is likely they derived from underlying Roman deposits. The brooch is incomplete, lacking the spring/hinge mechanism, and damaged making certain assignment to form difficult. It is a small brooch, length 33.3mm, with open semi-cylindrical wings, crest on the upper bow (apex of crest broken off), and a distinct foot knob. The crest appears from the x-ray to have transverse nicking and there may be further decoration either side of the crest. The wings are battered and possibly incomplete, but appear to be plain. This is perhaps a dolphin brooch dating to the later 1st century AD.

Phase	Landuse	Group	Mat	Narrow Term	No	Wg
6	60	602	CA	Brooch	1	-
6	60	602	CA	Button	1	-
6	60	602	PbA	Vessel patch	1	-
6	60	602	PbA	Waste/scrap	2	-

Table 18 Phase 6 'Other Artefacts'

(CA=copper alloy; PbA=lead alloy)

4.6 Animal bone

4.6.1 Introduction

A total of 23 boxes containing hand-collected animal bone fragments weighing 62.3kg was assessed. A further 0.58kg of bone fragments were retrieved through sieving of environmental samples. Excluding these, the assemblage comprised 3577 specimens of which 26% (919 fragments) were identifiable to taxon.

4.6.2 Methodology

The aims of the assessment were to provide a basic quantification and to assess the quality of the assemblage, providing sufficient data to help characterise its potential and to focus future work, in line with the appropriate project objectives.

The bones have been assessed by context, quantifying the material by weight and fragment number onto a *pro forma* spreadsheet. Context numbers were subsequently related to the appropriate Group, Landuse Area and Phase numbers, provided by Albion Archaeology. The brief appraisal of the material includes notes on preservation, species, the presence of butchery marks, burning, gnawing and pathological conditions; however, no details were recorded at this stage. Surface preservation was assessed for each bag on a 4-point scale, while fragmentation was similarly scored on a 3-point scale. Species representation has been assessed using a simple count of identified fragments, with no allowance for articulated material. The potential of the assemblage to provide ageing and biometrical information has been assessed by reference to the numbers of measurable, fused and unfused bones and age-able mandibles. Efforts were made to identify the presence of articulated bones and any concentrations of particular bone elements or species.

Notes were made of the number of whole measurable bones, mandibles, loose third molars or deciduous fourth molars and, fused and un-fused bones, in order to assess the ageing and biometrical potential of the assemblage.

Material from the samples was scanned and weighed and a note was made of the presence of mammal (cattle/horse and sheep/pig size), small mammal (rodents), bird and fish bones. Unlike the hand-recovered bones, this material was not quantified.

4.6.3 Results

Bones were recovered from Phases 2 (late 1st - early 2nd century AD), 3 (later 2nd – early 3rd century AD), 4 (later 3rd – 4th century AD) and 5 (medieval). No bones were associated with pre-Conquest activity (Phase 1). Phases 2, 3 and 4 represent successive phases of a farmstead with associated activity. Phase 4 produced the greatest number of bones, accounting for 63% of the total assemblage (Table 19). Plots of the animal bone distribution indicate that bones were widely recovered from features across the site.

Phase	Provisional Dates	Archaeology	Total	%
2	Late 1st – early 2nd century AD	Farmstead (with roundhouses) and peripheral fields	298	8
3	Later 2nd – early 3rd century AD	Farmstead (with roundhouse), ladder enclosure and peripheral fields	995	28
4	Later 3rd – 4th century AD	Farmstead (with rectangular building and yard) and peripheral fields, including 2 partial animal burials.	2252	63
5	medieval	Open field system	32	1
Total			**3577**	**100**

Table 19: Temporal distribution of assemblage

4.6.3.1 Condition

The preservation of the assemblage varied slightly between contexts but the majority of specimens (over 80% in all phases) were brittle and highly fragmented (Table 20). There were a large number of fresh breaks, which could have occurred either in the ground or during excavation and processing, probably a consequence of the difficulties of excavating a heavy clay matrix, as well as the brittleness of the bones. Although root etching occurred on a small number of specimens, surface condition was good in more than half of Phase 3 and 4 bones. Bones were generally more abraded in Phases 2 and 5 (Table 21).

Phase	Fairly complete		Fragmented		Highly fragmented		Total count
	count	%	count	%	count	%	
2	0	*0*	58	*19*	240	*81*	298
3	1	*0*	201	*20*	793	*80*	995
4	58	*3*	338	*15*	1856	*82*	2252
5	0	*0*	0	*0*	32	*100*	32
Total	**59**	***2%***	**597**	***17%***	**2921**	***81%***	**3577**

Table 20: Fragmentation in the assemblage (as assessed by context)

Phase	Very good		Good		Abraded		Poor		Total count
	count	%	count	%	count	%	count	%	
2	0	*0*	94	*32*	183	*61*	21	*7*	298
3	0	*0*	662	*67*	267	*27*	266	*7*	995
4	12	*1*	1450	*64*	743	*33*	47	*2*	2252
5	0	*0*	5	*16*	27	*84*	0	*0*	32
Total	**12**	***0%***	**2211**	***62%***	**1220**	***34%***	**134**	***4%***	**3577**

Table 21: Surface condition of the assemblage (as assessed by context)

4.6.3.2 Quantity

The numbers of bones arranged by Phase and Landuse Area and indicates the number of bones that were deemed identifiable, as well as the total number of fragments recovered (Table 22). In all phases the percentage of identifiable fragments was low at around 25%. This primarily reflects the high levels of fragmentation in the assemblage.

Phase	Landuse Area	Weight (g)	Total fragments	Identified	% Identified
2	20.01	107	19	4	21.1
	20.02	3515	167	46	27.5
	20.03	300	2	2	100.0
	21.01	148	13	1	7.7
	21.02	1328	97	23	23.7
Phase 2 Total		***5398***	***298***	***76***	***25.5***
3	30.01	100	10	5	50.0
	30.02	6441	442	121	27.4
	30.03	2467	138	44	31.9
	31.01	112	22	2	9.1
	31.02	511	51	12	23.5
	32.02	3264	298	63	21.1
	32.03	257	33	4	12.1
Phase 3 Total		***13152***	***994***	***251***	***25.3***
4	40	688	63	8	12.7
	40.01	2250	87	15	17.2
	40.02	11009	563	144	25.6
	40.03	5765	178	74	41.6
	41.01	967	70	21	30.0
	41.02	20767	1107	289	26.1
	41.03	2137	184	28	15.2
Phase 4 Total		***43583***	***2252***	***579***	***25.7***
5	51.02	343	32	13	40.6
Phase 5 Total		***343***	***32***	***13***	***40.6***
Total		**62481**	**3577**	**919**	**25.7**

Table 22: Assemblage by Phase and Landuse Area (count of all fragments)

The distribution of bones between Phases 2-4 is shown in Figure 15, which indicates that the bulk of the assemblage, in all phases, was recovered from secondary or sole fills of features. Bones from Phase 2 were recovered predominantly from enclosure ditches, with a small amount from roundhouses. Phase 3 produced a sizeable quantity of bones, particularly from L30.02 (Secondary and sole fills of domestic focus). However, as previously noted, Phase 4 contained the largest quantity of material, particularly from L40.02 (Secondary and sole fills of domestic focus) and L41.03 (Tertiary fills of farmstead peripheral fields and enclosures).

All Phase 5 bones were recovered from L51.02 (sole fills of furrows).

Phase	Landuse Area	Group	No of samples
2	20.02	201.02	2
2	20.02	202.05	1
2	20.02	205.02	1
2	20.02	205.05	1
2	21.02	206.05	1
Phase 2 Total			***6***
3	30.02	301.02	2
3	30.02	305.02	1
3	30.02	305.05	1
3	30.02	317.02	1
3	30.03	318.03	1

Phase	Landuse Area	Group	No of samples
3	32.02	308.05	1
3	32.02	310.05	1
3	32.02	313.02	1
3	32.02	313.05	1
Phase 3 Total			***10***
4	40.02	402.02	1
4	40.02	404.05	1
4	40.02	405.05	1
4	40.02	412.02	1
4	40.03	402.03	1
4	40.03	411.03	1
4	41.02	401.05	2
4	41.02	407.02	2
4	41.02	409.05	3
4	41.03	413.05	5
Phase 4 Total			***18***
Total			**34**

Table 23: Number of samples by Phase, Landuse Area and Group

The material from the samples (Table 23) typically consisted of small indeterminate fragments of mammalian bone of domestic stock size. Identifiable fragments were few and no bones from birds, fish or small mammals were observed. Fourteen of the 34 samples which produced bones did not have any associated hand-recovered material.

4.6.3.3 Species Represented

Domestic species, particularly cattle and sheep/goat, dominated the assemblage (Table 24). In all phases, cattle were the most common taxa, with sheep/goat considerably less frequent. Only a small number of wild species were identified and human bones were encountered sporadically in Phases 2, 3 and 4. Bird bones (predominantly domestic fowl) were scarce and no fish bones were recovered.

	Phase							
Taxa	**2**	*%*	**3**	*%*	**4**	*%*	**5**	**Total**
Cattle	40	*52.6*	154	*61.4*	352	*60.8*	3	549
Sheep/goat	24	*31.6*	63	*25.1*	93	*16.1*	9	189
Pig	5	*6.6*	14	*5.6*	22	*3.8*	0	41
Horse	6	*7.9*	13	*5.2*	94	*16.2*	1	114
Dog	0	*0.0*	2	*0.8*	9	*1.6*	0	11
Human	1	*1.3*	1	*0.4*	1	*0.2*	0	3
Deer	0	*0.0*	1	*0.4*	6	*1.0*	0	7
Bird	0	*0.0*	3	*1.2*	2	*0.3*	0	5
Total	**76**	***100%***	**251**	***100%***	**579**	***100%***	**13**	**919**

Table 24: Species represented in each Phase

4.6.3.4 Ageing and Biometrical data

Information on numbers of mandibles and ageable teeth, fused and unfused and measureable bones (Table 25) suggest that exploration of herd structures and husbandry might be limited, especially for pigs, although the presence of both adult and juvenile animals has been identified. High fragmentation is likely to

have resulted in an under-representation of juvenile animals. However, it is expected that the available information will permit a basic consideration of age structure at the site, particularly for Phase 4 cattle, although perhaps without any fine detail.

Low numbers of measureable bones may similarly inhibit a full consideration of size; however, despite the rarity of whole bones it will be possible to measure teeth and further articular ends, which will allow comparison with other assemblages.

	Phase				Total
	2	3	4	5	
Cattle					
Toothwear	1	6	19	-	26
Fused epiphyses	19	29	87	1	136
Unfused epiphyses	-	21	13	1	35
Measurable bones	3	5	21	-	29
Sheep/goat					
Toothwear	2	3	7	2	14
Fused epiphyses	1	15	15	-	31
Unfused epiphyses	-	3	9	-	12
Measurable bones	1	5	3	-	9
Pig					
Toothwear	-	2	2	-	4
Fused epiphyses	-	1	2	-	3
Unfused epiphyses	-	1	4	-	5
Measurable bones	-	-	-	-	-

Table 25: Available ageing and metrical data for the main domesticates

4.6.3.5 Butchery

The occurrence of obvious butchery marks was fairly low in all phases (Table 26). It is likely that some cut marks will have been obscured by later taphonomic damage, such as the exfoliation of the cortical surface and extensive fragmentation. In addition, the rapid nature of the scan be taken into account; closer examination of individual fragments may well reveal further cut marks.

Burnt bones and pathologies were rare. Gnawed bones were more common, however only in Phase 5 (a small assemblage) was a significant proportion of the assemblage affected.

	Phase								
Modification	**2**	%	**3**	%	**4**	%	**5**	%	**Total**
Butchery	1	0.3	13	1.3	21	0.9	0	0	35
Burnt bones	1	0.3	5	0.5	4	0.2	0	0	10
Gnawed bones	7	2.3	13	1.3	26	1.2	3	9.4	49
Pathologies	0	0.0	1	0.1	6	0.3	0	0	7

Table 26: Modifications observed during the assessment

4.6.3.6 Articulated Bones

During the assessment articulated bones were noted in a small number of groups (Table 27). These observations have not yet been cross-referenced with information from the excavator and it will be interesting to know which associated groups of bones were observed during excavation.

Phase	Landuse Area	Group
3	**30.02**	301.02
4	**40.02**	402.02
4	**40.03**	402.03
4	**41.02**	401.05
4	**41.02**	406.05

Table 27: Location of articulated material observed during the assemblage

An incomplete calf skeleton was recovered from Phase 3, Group, 301.02, which was a fill from the western enclosure.

In Phase 4, two contexts in G406.05 (sole fill of field) contained articulated bones; one was a horse limb and the other a cattle skull with horns. Articulating cattle limb bones were noted from G401.05 (sole fill of field), while G402.02 (fill of domestic enclosure) contained articulating vertebrae. Bones from a piglet and articulated vertebrae were recovered from G402.03 (fill from domestic enclosure).

4.7 Charred plant remains

4.7.1 Introduction

During the investigation environmental 'whole earth' baulk samples were taken from datable features with the potential to contain charred plant remains in order to investigate for evidence of occupation, agriculture or other activities on the site. The samples were sorted and plant remains counted so that the data would be available to examine the distribution of remains on the site to contribute to the interpretation of activities in different areas over the phases of occupation.

4.7.2 Methods

Samples from 40 contexts were wet-sieved in 43 parts in a York tank using a 0.5mm mesh with flotation into a 0.3mm mesh sieve. The flotation fractions (flots) were transferred into trays and air dried and then packed carefully in self-seal polythene bags and scanned for remains. The residues were also air dried and the fraction over 5.6mm sorted for all finds which are included in the relevant sections of the report. The fractions of the residue below 5.6mm were scanned by Albion Archaeology and remains were recorded on sample forms.

The flots were sorted for plant and animal remains using a x10-30 stereo microscope and the remains were removed to glass specimen tubes. The plant remains were identified by comparison with modern reference material at ULAS, counted, and summarised (Table 28). The samples with the most remains are marked # in Table 28. Both botanical and common plant names follow Stace (1991). For samples with over 50 items the proportions and ratios of the different types of remains, i.e. cereal grains, chaff and weed seeds were considered to help interpret the samples (van der Veen 1992)..

4.7.3 Results

Most of the 38 Roman samples contained some charred plant remains, with only four being negative, and ten of the samples were moderately rich in plant remains, which is an unusually large proportion of the samples for a farmstead or rural site of the period in this area. This was despite the fact that the samples were all full of root material, including some large roots. While it is well known that roots grow into archaeological features, and although some earthworm eggcases were noted, modern seeds were generally few in number. Similarly modern snails were scarce, and the charred material recovered was consistent with Roman material.

4.7.3.1 Cereals

Cereal grains were recovered from most contexts although some of the grains were broken and abraded. The identifiable cereal grains were mainly of glume wheat (*Triticum dicoccum* or *spelta*), while barley grains (*Hordeum vulgare*) of a hulled form, including some twisted grains indicating six-row barley, was also present. Wheat chaff fragments (glumes) were found to be quite numerous in some samples and most were identifiable as glumes of spelt (*Triticum spelta*) having prominent minor veins, one prominent wide angled keel and wide bases. Glumes which were too fragmentary to distinguish these features or were of intermediate type were identified only as either emmer or spelt (*Triticum dicoccum/spelta*).

4.7.3.2 Other crops and food plants

Additional food plants were sparse, occasional legume fragments may have been of beans or smaller legumes. Hazel nutshell was present in only one sample, representing food collected from the wild, probably hedgerows.

4.7.3.3 Wild plants

Weed seeds were mainly of plants of arable or disturbed ground. Weeds of spring sown crops or disturbed ground included docks (*Rumex* sp.), while other arable weeds are represented by stinking mayweed (*Anthemis cotula*) which is typical of poorly drained soils and more common in the medieval period, and a seed of scentless mayweed (*Tripleurospermum* sp.) being more typical of better drained soils. Of the other weeds a few seeds of sedges (*Carex* sp.) suggest the presence of wetter areas of the fields or ditches. The most numerous of the arable weeds are the large grasses (Poaceae) including brome grass (*Bromus hordeaceus* or *secalinus*) which is found on many Iron Age and Roman sites. Grass root fragments, tiller bases and a tuber of onion couch grass (*Arrhenatherum elatius*) were also present perhaps from nearby vegetation as burnt fodder or kindling. A few other weeds were present which remain to be identified.

4.7.4 Interpretation of samples

Charred cereal grains, chaff and weed seeds were found to be quite numerous in some of the Roman samples and the relative proportions of these remains can indicate activities carried out on the site by consideration of what is known about the cereals themselves. The ears of glume wheat (spelt) only break into segments called spikelets when they are threshed. The straw fragments would be raked away and the spikelets could be stored in this form because the chaff protects the grain from insect and fungal attack (Hillman 1981). In the spikelet the grain is

still held in the chaff and requires parching and pounding to free the grain, and then the chaff and small weed seeds can be removed by a sieve which retains the grains. The spikelet of spelt consists of two glumes and two grains, therefore samples with more chaff than grains indicate the presence of cereal cleaning waste. Samples with abundant weed seeds may also represent some of this cereal cleaning waste. Samples rich in grain are likely to represent cleaned grain if they have little chaff and few weeds, perhaps originating from accidental burning of the cereal product during storage or food preparation. Samples with low densities of grain and seeds may represent waste from hand-sorting of cereals before consumption. Such remains, which can include grains spilled during food preparation and cooking, may represent domestic waste burnt in the hearth. This waste, represented here, may be raked from hearths and dumped in pits or other features and it can accumulate as a scatter on occupation sites. Plant materials for other purposes such as fodder, thatch and kindling may be represented by the remains of grassy vegetation. The distribution of remains can assist in defining areas where domestic or agricultural activities were carried out.

4.7.5 Phase 2 (late 1st – early 2nd century AD)

4.7.5.1 L20: Domestic focus of farmstead (samples 2, 13, 17, 18 and 22)

Of the three samples from the roundhouses, sample 2, from a post-hole within G201 contained the most remains. These consisted of cereal grains of barley and wheat with weed seeds suggesting that this was waste from food preparation of sorting cereals before cooking. No chaff was present in the roundhouse samples and grass tubers present may be from grass used as kindling. This suggests that this material could be domestic waste from food preparation that was burnt in a hearth and dumped or accumulated in the features nearby, including ditch sample 13 from enclosure G206. Sample 18 from a ditch within enclosure G205 differed in being rich in spelt wheat chaff indicating that this was dehusking waste, which included weed seeds of the crops. The remains were at a density of 12 items per litre of soil processed and may be from dehusking spelt for consumption on the site.

4.7.5.2 L21: Southern peripheral fields (samples 8 and 11)

These samples contained few remains, sample 8 from roundhouse G203 containing only charcoal fragments and a possible slag fragment, while sample 11 from field G208 contained a few plant remains possibly as part of a scatter of domestic waste.

4.7.6 Phase 3 (later 2nd – early 3rd century AD)

4.7.6.1 L30: Domestic focus of farmstead (samples 3, 6, 16 and 19)

The samples from L30 contained only single numbers of plant remains, as did the sample 20 from the rectangular building G318, probably all as a scatter of domestic waste. Samples 19 from roundhouse G316 and 46 from the ditch within enclosure G304 were negative. Sample 49 from the D-shaped enclosure ditch G305 differed in containing a sample dominated by grains of wheat with fragments of hazel nutshell with few seeds. This suggests that this is food waste burnt in the hearth and dumped in the ditch perhaps indicating nearby domestic activity of food preparation and consumption.

4.7.6.2 L31: Southern peripheral fields (samples 14)

Ditch sample 14 from field G302 contained only a fragmentary cereal grain.

4.7.6.3 L32: Eastern 'ladder' enclosure system (samples 42, 43, 45, 55 and 57)

Of the five samples from the ladder system of enclosures three were rich in remains. Sample 43 from enclosure G308 contains a little more chaff than grains, sample 55 from enclosure G313 is dominated by cereal grains and sample 42, also from G313, contains abundant weed seeds with grains and chaff (Table 28). These samples all require more detailed analysis as they may indicate agricultural activity.

4.7.7 Phase 4 (later 3rd – 4th century AD)

4.7.7.1 L40: Domestic focus of farmstead (samples 5, 15, 41 and 50)

Samples 5, 15 and 41 from the ditches G402 and G411contain few charred plant remains, probably as part of the scatter of remains on the site. Sample 50 from enclosure G405 contained a moderate number of remains, dominated by grains, mainly of barley. Further work is required to interpret the sample.

4.7.7.2 L41: Southern and eastern peripheral fields and enclosures (samples 10, 12, 21, 44, 51, 52, 54, 56, 58) +40, 47, 48

The two richest samples from this area are samples 10 and 21 from the southern boundary ditch G413. Both are dominated by chaff and contain arable weeds and are thought to represent cereal processing waste from parching spelt for dehusking somewhere nearby. While no ovens or kilns were found this waste suggests that this was an activity on this part of the site as the deposit in the ditch was quite extensive with up to 12 items per litre of soil processed in several samples. Sample 51 from enclosure G407 may be similar and also suggests agricultural activity. Sample 44 from the small D-shaped enclosures G404 contained a moderate number of remains, dominated by spelt chaff, probably as evidence of small scale dehusking of spelt. Further analysis is required of these samples. Other ditch samples from this enclosure system contained fewer remains probably as a scatter of domestic waste. The three samples from the cremation deposits of G409 remain to be examined.

Samp No.	Cont G No.	L No. Type	Samp Vol. litres	Flot Vol. Mls	Chc	Gr Ch	Cf ch	Se Ch	Oth Ch	Se Un	Tot	Charred plant remains and comments.
Phase 2												
2	1098 G201	L20 RH	20	30	Fl	14	-	18	4 tu	+	36	Barley and wheat grains, weed seeds, grass tubers.#
13	1239 G206	L20 Enc	20	15	Fl	1	-	3	-	+	3	Seeds of vetch and sedges, cereal frags. Slag/ash. A modern snail.
17	1367 G201	L20 RH	10	15	+	1	-	2	-	+	3	A cereal grain, a large grass seeds, a medium legume seed. Lg roots.
22	1434 G202	L20 RH	10	15	+	2	-	8	-	+	10	A wheat grain, seeds of large grass, docks, ribwort plantain. Lg roots ++.
18	1419 G205	L20 Enc	10	15	+	23	77	24	-	-	124	Wheat and spelt glumes, barley grains. Seeds of both mayweeds and grassy areas. # Part 2 sieved N/S.

Samp No.	Cont G No.	L No. Type	Samp Vol. litres	Flot Vol. Mls	Chc	Gr Ch	Cf ch	Se Ch	Oth Ch	Se Un	Tot	Charred plant remains and comments.
8	1159 G203	L21 RH	16	25	++	-	-	-	-	+	0	All charcoal and roots. ?slag frag.
11	1234 G208	L21 Field	7	10	+	1	-	1	1s	-	3	A wheat grain, 2 large grass seeds.
Phase 3												
3	1109 G317	L30 Pit	20	20	+	1	1	4	1tu 1s	+	8	A barley grain, a glume frag, dock and clover seeds, a grass tuber.
6	1148 G301	L30 Enc	10	7	Fl	1	1	2	-	-	4	A wheat grain and spelt chaff. A snail Carychium.
16	1305 G301	L30 Enc	10	15	Fl	2	-	1	-	+	3	2 barley grains, a large grass seed.
19	1477 G316	L30 RH	10	10	+	-	-	-	-	-	0	Large roots, coal frags, few charcoal frags.
20	1040 G318	L30 Bld	10	10	+	1	-	8	-	-	9	A cereal, seeds of large grass, docks and self-heal.
46	2274 G304	L30 Enc	20	5	+	-	-	-	-	+	0	-
49	2331 G05	L30 Enc	20	15	+	53	1	8	2tu 1s 10N	+	75	Mainly grains of wheat ans hazel nutshell, domestic waste. Burnt roots. # A Vallonia sp. snail.
14	1249 G302	L31 Field	10	15	-	1	-	-	-	+	1	Cereal grain frags.
43	2179 G308	L32 Enc	18	10	-	50	2	73	10s	++	135	Seeds most numerous of docks and grassy areas. Wheat and barley. # A modern snail.
45	2218 G311	L32 Enc	17	7	Fl	5	-	4	2tu	-	11	Wheat and barley grains, grass tubers.
57	2544 G308	L32 Enc	10	10	Fl	3	-	1	1s	-	5	Wheat grain and cereals.
55	2487 G313	L32 Enc	16	20	+	56	19	9	-	+	84	Grains of wheat, few barley, spelt glumes, seeds of grassy types. #
42	2135 G313	L32 Enc	12	30	+	++	++	+++	-	+	100 +	Wheat grains and chaff abundant, grass seeds++. A.cotula present.# Part 2 sieved N/S.
Phase 4												
5	1143 G402	L40 Dch	18	20	Fl	3	-	1	-	+	4	A wheat grain and cereal grains. 2 snails Anisus leucostoma.
15	1227 G402	L40 Dch	10	15	+	1	-	1	-	-	2	A cereal grain frag, a dock seed.
41	2036 G411	L40 Dch	15	15	++	5	1	-	-	+	6	Wheat grain and spelt chaff. Lg roots.
44	2190 G404	L40 Enc	19	10	Fl	14	62	11	2s 1tu	+	91	Chaff of spelt, wheat grains, a tuber of onion couch grass. #
50	2371 G405	L40 Enc	16	15	++	40	21	24	4s	-	89	Barley and wheat grains, spelt chaff, seeds include A.cotula. #
4	1137 G401	L41 Field	10	10	fl	2	-	-	-	+	2	2 wheat grains, a snail Anisus leucostoma.
9	1202 G413	L41 Dch	19	12	fl	1	1	1	-	-	3	A cereal, a chaff frag, a brome grass seed.
12	1236 G413	L41 Dch	8	10	+	2	-	1	-	-	3	2 cereal grains, a large grass seed. Large roots and a few coal frags.
10	1206 G413	L41 Dch	12	15	+	43	67	35	-	+	145	Wheat grains and spelt chaff, few barley grains, seeds include A. cotula.# Part 2 sieved N/S.

Samp No.	Cont G No.	L No. Type	Samp Vol. litres	Flot Vol. Mls	Chc	Gr Ch	Cf ch	Se Ch	Oth Ch	Se Un	Tot	Charred plant remains and comments.
21	1534 G413	L41 Dch	20	25	+	84	93	12	-	+	189	Wheat grains and spelt glumes ++, few barley grains, seeds of large grasses, A.cotula, docks, sedge etc. #
51	2413 G407	L41 Enc	20	10	+	67	89	59	1s	++	216	Spelt chaff, wheat grains, few barley, large grass seeds and A.cotula. #
52	2568 G407	L41 Enc	20	3	Fl	2	-	-	-	+	2	A barley and cereal grains.
54	2460 G412	L40 Enc	20	10	Fl	4	7	2	1s	++	14	Wheat and barley grains, spelt chaff, large grass seed, a culm node. A Vallonia sp. snail.
56	2536 G413	L41 Dch	19	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	Large roots and modern straw.
58	2514 G401	L41 Enc	10	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-
40	2008 G409	L41	22	++								N/S = not sorted
47	2323 G409	L41	12	+								N/S
48	2324 G409	L41	11	+								N/S

Key: Gr = cereal grain, Cf = chaff, Se = seed, ch = charred, un = uncharred, Chc = charcoal, Oth = other charred item, tu = tuber, s = stem fragments, rts = small root fragments, fl = flecks, frag = fragments, Lg = large, sm = small, + = present, ++ = moderate amount, +++ = abundant.
Dch = ditch, RH = roundhouse, Bld = rectangular building, Enc = enclosure. # = Analysis suggested.

Table 28: Assessment of flots for charred plant remains

5. ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL

5.1 Introduction

The original generic aims and objectives and research themes for analysis were presented in the WSI (CgMs 2010). The primary objectives of the investigation were to ensure that the presence, extent and degree of preservation of surviving buried archaeological remains within the development site were reliably established, and to mitigate adequately the impact of the new development by archaeological investigation and recording measures.

It was hoped that the results of the investigation could help to answer specific research objectives highlighted by the Draft Regional Research Strategy (Knight *et al.* 2010):-

i. Refinement of ceramic chronology for the Later Bronze Age and Iron Age
ii. Assessment of the evidence for evolution of late Iron Age settlement
iii. Study of the production and distribution of artefacts of all periods
iv. Identification and appropriate sampling of placed deposits and evidence of ritual structures/activity
v. Identification of appropriate archaeological dating techniques to allow specific questions to be answered concerning commencement of phases of use/disuse within settlements
vi. To seek evidence to characterise the economic basis of Late Iron Age and Roman settlements, how they relate to their hinterlands and to see if there is a change in the site's economy through time. It may also be possible to see how this affected the population's diet by acquiring, where possible, closed groups of dating evidence and other artefactual and ecofactual assemblages, including industrial/craft and/or processing residues it may be possible to determine more closely the nature of the activities occurring within the site and to establish periods of use/disuse.

Clearly, the results of the Stretton Road excavation will only be able to address a selection of these research objectives. The potential of the individual data-sets to answer these, and a number of new ones suggested by the assessment, are discussed and then summarised below. A discussion and summary of the suggested major research themes for the analysis follows in the subsequent chapter.

5.2 Analytical potential of the data

5.2.1 Contextual

The site was covered by extensive traces of furrows left by medieval ridge and furrow cultivation. Plough cultivation from the medieval to the modern period has resulted in truncation of the archaeological deposits. It is likely that the excavated features represent the lower parts of features which were originally deeper. The majority of the features on the site comprised domestic enclosure and field ditches dating to the Romano-British period, with limited survival of truncated building foundations and working surfaces likely to be associated with agricultural activity.

The farmstead and landscape boundaries have some potential to address two of the original research objectives v-vi (above), which relate to the chronological development of the settlement and the nature of the activities occurring within the site.

Full analysis of the contextual data set will provide a framework for the study of the artefactual and ecofactual data-sets.

5.2.2 Pottery

An assemblage of 1,915 sherds, weighing 30.9kg was recovered from Phases 2-6. This material has moderate to good potential to address a number of research objectives in the Draft Regional Research Strategy (Knight *et al.* 2010). Assessment of the pottery has allowed the establishment of a chronological framework for the site extending from the early Iron Age to the Saxon period, highlighting ceramic continuity between chronological periods. The composition of the assemblage suggests that many features, particularly in the Roman period, have remained relatively undisturbed.

5.2.2.1 Pre-Roman

An Iron Age assemblage, weighing 1.4kg, is essentially too small to provide detailed information at a site level. It is also unlikely to be able to greatly assist in the clarification and/or refinement of the dating for Iron Age pottery types in the region. Study of the range of pottery fabrics may, however, yield limited information relating to the sources, movement and distribution of wares.

The real value of the assemblage lies in the information it can provide as 'supporting evidence' at regional level. As sites of pre-Roman date are comparatively rare in the archaeological record, the assemblage represents a new find spot for pottery of this period, thus augmenting the current state of knowledge of Iron Age activity in the locality. The assemblage can also be usefully compared with the known contemporary sites in the region.

The small quantity of late Iron Age pottery in the 'Belgic' tradition indicates a degree of continuity between the native and Romanised assemblages.

5.2.2.2 Roman

The majority of the assemblage (28.7kg) is Roman, reflecting occupation from the mid-late 1st century to the mid 4th century. It comprises a range of local and regionally traded wares, suggesting a utilitarian and domestic settlement. Study of this material may yield information relating to the sources, movement and distribution of wares, and the development of the regional economy. The Roman pottery is important, as it affords a rare opportunity to examine a rural assemblage of this date. Such assemblages are currently poorly attested, and where they exist, are often small and poorly preserved. The Roman assemblage can also be usefully compared with pottery recovered from Roman Leicester, to help elucidate the relationship between the town and the countryside, which is currently poorly understood.

5.2.2.3 Post-Roman

The presence of three early Saxon sherds suggests possible continuity into the Anglo-Saxon period.

In view of the archaeological importance of the material, as outlined above, full analysis is recommended for all phases except Phase 5, in order to elicit as much information as possible on the chronological development of the settlement, its economy and trading networks, and to place the assemblage in the context of the regional landscape.

5.2.3 Ceramic building material and fired clay

Overall, the ceramic building material and fired clay assemblage represents secondary deposition of occupation material and cannot be directly associated with the use of the features from which it was collected. It consequently has little potential for analysis.

5.2.4 Other artefacts

Overall, the assemblage from Stretton Road has moderate potential to address aspects of the Draft Regional Research Strategy (Knight *et al.* 2010). It has to be said that the Phase 2 assemblage provides little help in understanding the economy and 'function' of the site, only the partially melted brooch foot can suggest a general 1st-century date, and this identification would need to be confirmed by a specialist. The absence of any finds specifically dated to the Romano-British period may be of note.

The find of trumpet derived bow and fantail brooch from Phase 3 deposits is of interest. Further research on the brooch, its development, date and possible regional links in liaison with brooch specialists has good potential to contribute to 5.1.4 and perhaps 5.6.1 of the Draft Regional Research Strategy (Knight *et al.* 2010) for the Roman Period

The assemblage from Phase 4 has good potential to provide support for agricultural activities and grain processing with the finds of a spud and millstone/ querns of Millstone Grit sourced from the Pennines and these have moderate potential to contribute to 5.4 .6 of the Draft Regional Research Strategy (Knight *et al.* 2010) for the Roman Period; the presence of millstone grit imports also adding to a knowledge of potential trade links. The presence of styli, hobnails and the lathe-turned shale spindle whorl suggests a greater degree of 'Romanisation' than seen in preceding phases, and might also indicate an improvement in the fortunes of the occupants. It is noteworthy, however, that no glass vessels were recovered — even the humblest of rural settlements usually produces a few sherds, for example from prismatic bottles. This absence could relate to the prime function of the site, as opposed to wealth or lack of it. The distinctive military associated fitting, although from the fill of a medieval plough furrow, is likely to have originated from Phase 3 or 4 deposits. Whether this represents accidental loss by a visitor or perhaps a retired military resident is unclear.

Despite the fact that overall the 'other artefacts' assemblage is sparse, there are few excavated rural Roman-British settlements in the area and hence the Stretton

Road assemblage provides another point of comparison and data to assist in strengthening knowledge of local rural settlement patterns.

5.2.5 Animal bone

A substantial assemblage of animal bone was recovered from the excavations at Stretton Road, numbering 3577 hand-recovered specimens, which can provide information on the range and variety of species at the site. Unfortunately, the analytical potential may be inhibited by fragmentation, which is likely to have obscured some evidence for butchery and pathologies, reduced the available biometrical data and resulted in under-representation of fragile juvenile bones and small species. Despite these factors, many features have evidently remained relatively undisturbed by later activity, as indicated by groups of articulated bones. The site has produced more than 900 identified bones which compares very favourably with many other sites in the region. A minimum of 300 identified specimens has been recommended for reliable comparison between sites (Hambleton 1999, 95).

Bones were recovered from Phases 2, 3, 4 and 5. Phase 2 (early Roman) produced a relatively small assemblage, which will be more likely to provide supporting evidence than allow detailed analysis. Even small assemblages are not without value, particularly when evidence is scarce; they can contribute to wider studies even when they cannot provide detailed evidence on a site level. Phases 3 and 4 have the greatest potential to elucidate the nature of husbandry, diet and the role of animals at the site and analysis may also aid in the interpretation of individual features. It is noticeable that the final period of occupational activity (Phase 4) has produced the largest quantity of bone. Similar observations have been made at other sites; for example at the Iron Age settlement at Manor Farm, Humberstone, Leicester, the features which produced the most finds were those at the end of the stratigraphic sequence, which were therefore less likely to have been re-worked (Browning 2011, 118). While identifications and subsequent quantification are only provisional at this point, the assemblage hints tantalisingly at a decline in sheep during the Roman phases. Similar trends have been observed in Leicester in this period. Pig numbers also appear to decline, contrasting with evidence from Leicester, which shows a rise (Browning 2009b). Horse bones are surprisingly common, particularly in Phase 4.

The Phase 5 assemblage was recovered from furrows associated with the medieval open field system. In view both of the small size and the archaeological context, further analysis is unlikely to produce useful information in this case.

On a site level, study of the assemblage will therefore help address research objectives iv and vi (above) listed in the WSI (CgMs 2010)

- *To seek evidence to characterise the economic basis of the Roman settlement, how they relate to their hinterlands and to see if there is a change in the site's economy through time. It may also be possible to see how this affected the population's diet.*
- *By acquiring, where possible, closed groups of dating evidence and other artefactual and ecofactual assemblages, including industrial/craft and/or processing residues it may be possible to determine more closely the nature of the activities occurring within the site and to establish periods of use/disuse.*

The first objective can be addressed by looking at similarities and differences in the phase assemblages and the second by considering variations in individual groups of material.

The assemblage also has potential to shed light on archaeological issues of regional importance. The Draft Regional Research Strategy (Knight *et al.* 2010), includes several questions for the Roman period to which the assemblage is relevant:

> ***5.4.3.*** *How did rural settlements relate to each other and to towns and military sites, and how may this have varied regionally and over time?*
>
> ***5.4.6.*** *Can we elucidate further the daily life of rural settlements and their role in the processing and marketing of agricultural products?*
>
> ***5.6.3.*** *What is the evidence for the diet of people of high and low status in urban and rural settlements, especially those close to military sites?*

The Stretton Road assemblage is an obvious candidate to compare with remains found in Roman Leicester, as the economic relationship between the town and the countryside is currently poorly understood. The supply of meat to the town has been highlighted as a potential research topic in regional frameworks (Knight *et al*. 2010; Monckton 2006, 277) and the current assemblage could contribute useful evidence. Roman period sites in Leicester have produced considerable material and comparison could be sought with assemblages including Causeway Lane (Gidney 1999), Bonner's Lane (Baxter 2004) and recent work carried out in Leicester at the Highcross shopping centre (Browning 2009a; Wooding 2009).

The importance of rural Roman assemblages from the region should be emphasised, as these are currently rare and when they exist, are often small and poorly preserved. Study of the rural economy has been identified as a particular gap in current knowledge (Monckton 2006, 277), which the Stretton Road bones will help address. In the wider rural landscape, Roman settlement at Whitwell produced an assemblage with 65 identified specimens (Harman 1981). Excavations at Rutland Water (Morrison 2000) will provide further comparative material. In Northamptonshire a larger assemblage was recovered from excavations at Overstone, (Harman 1976) and excavations at Stanwick (Davis 1997) and Wakerley (Jones 1978) have also produced animal bone assemblages. A more recent excavation at Higham Ferrers produced a large faunal assemblage from Roman roadside settlement (Strid 2009), which will prove to be a very useful comparator, particularly as few of the other assemblages were excavated under modern conditions.

In view of the archaeological importance of the material, as outlined above, full analysis is recommended for all phases except Phase 5, in order to elicit as much information as possible on diet, economy, animal husbandry and disposal practices and place the assemblage in the context of the regional landscape.

5.2.6 Charred plant remains

In common with many other Roman and Iron Age sites locally and nationally, spelt was the most numerous cereal, together with barley, throughout the Roman phases. As with other sites outside the town of Leicester, there is a lack of

evidence for other foods, such as the fruit and fish, represented in the town. This may be because these finds from the town are mainly from cesspits, which are not so necessary in the countryside, but is more likely to be the result of a difference in status or wealth of the inhabitants. Other crops such as flax and beans which are usually found as charred remains were not found here either.

All three Roman phases produced some good samples with sufficient remains for analysis. Although the same cereals were found over time, there was some difference in the composition of the samples ranging from those of a more domestic nature in Phase 2, to more agricultural type activity in Phase 4. This needs further analysis in order to attempt to interpret the samples (marked # in *Table 28*) which have good potential for analysis. In addition, the samples have the potential to reveal different activities in different areas of the site in Phase 3 and 4.

The quantity of charred plant remains is sufficient to enable the assemblage to be compared to other contemporary sites in the region. Some contrasts with the Roman city of Leicester have been noted above.

5.3 Summary of potential to address the original research objectives

The potential of the recovered data-sets to address the original research objectives is set out in Table 29 below:

Objective		Contextual	Pottery	CBM & Fired Clay	Other Artefacts	Animal Bone	CPR
i.	Refinement of ceramic chronology for the Later Bronze Age and Iron Age	Low	Low	-	-	-	-
ii.	Assessment of the evidence for evolution of late Iron Age settlement	Low	Low	-	Low	-	-
iii.	Study of the production and distribution of artefacts of all periods	Medium	High	Low	High	-	-
iv.	Identification and appropriate sampling of placed deposits and evidence of ritual structures/activity	Medium	Low	-	-	Medium	Medium
v.	Identification of appropriate archaeological dating techniques to allow specific questions to be answered concerning commencement of phases of use/disuse within settlements	Medium	Medium	-	-	-	-
vi.	To seek evidence to characterise the economic basis of Late Iron Age and Roman settlements, how they relate to their hinterlands and to see if there is a change in the site's economy through time. It may also be possible to see how this affected the population's diet by acquiring, where possible, closed groups of dating evidence and other artefactual and ecofactual assemblages, including industrial/craft and/or processing residues it may be possible to determine more closely the nature of the activities occurring within the site and to establish periods of use/disuse.	High	High	-	High	High	High

Table 29: Potential of recovered datasets to address the original research objectives

Key	
High	Data-set contains high quality, significant material, which can expand knowledge in this area.
Medium	Data-set contains moderately significant data, which is relatively standard for this chronological period and region.
Low	Data-set is of only minor relevance to the research objective or may help to add to a database of 'less significant evidence' which, when combined, is useful in recognising patterns, *e.g.* pottery assemblages, settlement types *etc*.
-	Data-set has no potential to provide useful information on this subject.

6. RESEARCH OBJECTIVES FOR ANALYSIS

6.1 Introduction

Following the assessment of potential of the data-sets, it has been possible to devise a new set of research objectives for analysis (Table 30). These have been rearranged into broad categories such as Settlement Character and Development, Economy, Society and Environment. These categories incorporate most of the original objectives with the exception of those that relate to the Bronze Age, for which no evidence was found, and include new objectives arising from the assessment.

National priorities for the Iron Age and Roman periods were formalised over 10 years ago by Hingley (1989), Millet (1990), English Heritage (1991a), James and Millet (2001), Haselgrove *et al.* (2001), and, specifically for ceramics, by the Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group (PCRG 1991) and the Study Group for Roman Pottery (Willis 1997).

The Roman period in Leicestershire and Rutland was assessed in 2000 (Liddle 2000) and an archaeological resource assessment and research agenda for the East Midlands (Taylor 2006) was published (Cooper 2006). The latter is currently being updated and is available in draft form (Knight *et al.* 2010).

Based on these it is clear that the results of the recent investigations are significant due to the lack of comparable archaeological investigations of rural Romano-British settlements in the region. Although such settlements are relatively common they 'are very unevenly distributed and poorly understood' (Taylor 2006, 143). The majority of contemporary farmsteads in Leicestershire are only known from field walking and very few have been subject to excavation (Liddle 2000, 3). For the Trent Valley to the north Knight (*et al*. 2004, 137) notes that 'relatively few Romano-British enclosed settlements within the region have been extensively excavated'. This is one of the reasons why aspects of Romano-British rural settlements are included in the draft research agenda and strategy for the East Midlands (Knight *et al*. 2011).

6.2 Settlement character and development

6.2.1 Chronological framework

This document demonstrates that it has been possible to establish a provisional chronological framework for the development of the Stretton Road farmstead. All significant features/deposits have been assigned to chronological periods. This was achieved primarily through the examination of artefact typology and stratigraphic sequence. Revision and refinement of this framework incorporating the results of the assessment of all data-sets is fundamental to the successful conclusion of the project and will underpin the future analysis of all data-sets.

6.2.1.1 Statement of potential

Due to the size and quality of the artefactual assemblage, and stratigraphical evidence, there is excellent potential to address this issue. Refinement by radiocarbon dating has been ruled out on the grounds of the lack of precision of

results that this technique would offer within the lifespan of the farmstead (Pete Marshall pers comm.).

6.2.2 Layout and function

Objective 5.4.2 of the Updated Regional Research Agenda for the Roman period (Knight *et al*. 2010) asks "How and why did settlement forms and building traditions vary within the region and over time?" The characterisation of any settlement is essential to facilitate comparison with other sites. Within Leicestershire, the lack of contemporary Romano-British farmsteads that have been subject to archaeological excavation makes the analysis of the Great Glen settlement significant for future reference and for highlighting local, regional and national variation. This analysis will involve study of the artefactual and ecofactual evidence in relation to the settlement layout.

6.2.2.1 Statement of potential

Due to the size and quality of the artefactual, ecofactual assemblage, and contextual evidence, there is excellent potential to address this issue.

6.2.3 Continuity and discontinuity in the landscape

The transition from one chronological period to the next is a common theme in both national (English Heritage 1997, 43-45) and regional (Knight *et al.* 2010) research agendas. Continuity, discontinuity and transition from one period to the next are, therefore, a major research theme and are discussed briefly below.

- **Iron Age to Romano-British** - the Stretton Road farmstead appears to have originated in the late Iron Age/early Romano-British period. There was no evidence that it directly overlay a middle Iron Age settlement, although the presence of middle Iron Age pottery suggests activity of this date in the vicinity. This may be evidence for localised settlement shift and/or part of a wider landscape reorganisation.

- **Roman into Saxon** - the transition from Roman Empire to Saxon kingdoms has frequently been highlighted as of particular importance (English Heritage 1991a, 1997). In Leicestershire "a large proportion of sites occupied in the 4th century also produce Anglo-Saxon material – although structures are not always found in excavation." (Liddle 2000, 4). No features within the Stretton Road farmstead could be dated to the Saxon period, although a small quantity of artefacts of this period were present and may suggest limited continuity. It has been suggested that the impression of an abrupt change was more associated with the cessation of coin and pottery production in the late 4th century.

6.2.3.1 Statement of potential

There is limited potential to elucidate the issues of continuity in the development of the landscape. However, the presence of early/middle Iron Age, late Iron Age and early Saxon material within the artefact assemblages necessitates the consideration of this research objective. It is unlikely that a simple statement of discontinuity is sufficient and further consideration will be given to artefacts provisionally identified as intrusive or residual.

6.3 Economy

6.3.1 Economic basis

Regional Research Agenda 5.4.6 (Knight *et al*. 2010) poses the question: "Can we elucidate further the daily life of rural settlements and their role in the processing and marketing of agricultural products?" On rural sites within Leicestershire further work is required to characterise crop processing and storage activities with a view to investigating the scale and type of production (Monkton 2004a).

The charred plant remains provide evidence for the agricultural economy of the settlements and changes over time. They will allow comparisons to be made on the range of crops grown. The richer samples will enable the crop husbandry and processing practices within their associated settlements to be studied. Wild species will indicate what food resources were "natural", *i.e*. from woodland, hedgerows *etc*. Suitable material was recovered from most phases.

The supply of meat to Roman Leicester has also been highlighted as a potential research topic in regional frameworks (Knight *et al*. 2010; Monckton 2006, 277). Animal bone species will also provide a valuable indicator of the pastoral economy. The age data from the faunal assemblage will provide evidence regarding local breeding, plus the priority given to the production of meat, as opposed to secondary products.

6.3.1.1 Statement of potential

The animal bone and charred plant remains from the investigations have good potential to contribute to this issue. Their analysis will provide more details on animal husbandry and the arable regime of the farmstead.

6.3.2 Similarities and differences with nearby urban centres

The Stretton Road assemblage is an obvious candidate for comparison with remains found in Roman Leicester. At the moment the economic relationship between the town and the countryside is currently poorly understood. This will help address Regional Research Agenda 5.4.3: "How did rural settlements relate to each other and to towns and military sites, and how may this have varied regionally and over time?"

The Roman pottery assemblage can also be usefully compared with pottery recovered from Roman Leicester, to elucidate the relationship between the town and the countryside. Further analysis of the distinctive military associated fitting may reveal information regarding military connections.

Comparisons will be made with other rural settlements within Leicestershire as far as they exist, such as Hamilton (ULAS 2004), and contemporary settlements within the wider region, such as Stanwick (Davis 1997).

6.3.2.1 Statement of potential

The artefact and ecofact evidence from the investigations has good potential to contribute to this issue.

6.3.3 Regional trade and exchange

Updated Regional Research Agenda 5.6.1 asks "What resources moved in and out of the region during this period?" Study of the pottery assemblage from Stretton Road may yield information relating to the sources, movement and distribution of wares, and the development of the regional economy. The Roman pottery is important, as it affords a rare opportunity to examine a rural assemblage of this date. Such assemblages are currently poorly attested, and where they exist, are often small and poorly preserved. The study of millstone grit imports and other 'exotic' artefacts will add to the knowledge of potential trade links.

6.3.4 Statement of potential

The artefactual evidence from the investigations has excellent potential to contribute to this issue.

6.4 Society

6.4.1 Status

The evidence from the all phases of activity within the investigation area is consistent with that of a farming community. Further analysis will help to determine the status and cultural associations of the occupants. To some extent, the evidence for 'status' of the Romano-British settlements is inextricably linked to the occupants' adoption of Roman culture and this may not necessarily be directly linked to their 'status'.

The recovery of a stylus, hobnails and the lathe-turned shale spindle whorl suggests a greater degree of 'Romanisation' in the last Romano-British phases at Stretton Road, which might indicate an improvement in the fortunes of the occupants. Further analysis of the artefactual assemblages will provide a useful comparison with the more Romanised, and presumably higher status, urban neighbours. The presence of roundhouses suggests the continuity of pre-Roman architectural building traditions in Phases 2 and 3, although a rectangular building was also present in Phase 3.

6.4.1.1 Statement of potential

The overall evidence from the investigations has good potential to contribute to this issue.

6.4.2 Diet

Updated Regional Research Agenda 5.3.3 asks "What is the evidence for the diet of people of high and low status in urban and rural settlements, especially those close to military sites?" As stated above, the age of the faunal assemblage will provide evidence regarding the production of meat, whether for trade, or domestic consumption. The charred plant remains will provide information on the vegetation, foraging and crops within the different phases.

6.4.2.1 Statement of potential

The ecofact evidence from the investigations has good potential to contribute to this issue.

6.4.3 Ritual

The identification of the cremated bone from possible mortuary enclosure G409 as domestic waste negates the need for analysis of funerary practices within the Stretton Road farmstead. However consideration should be given to the analysis of the five deposits of articulated animal bones from Phases 3 and 4. These may contribute in a small way to the Updated Research Agenda 5.8.1 relating to the continued preferential deposition of animal bones in boundary features in the Roman period.

6.4.3.1 Statement of potential

The animal bone evidence from the investigations has a low potential to contribute to this issue.

6.5 Environment

6.5.1 Reconstruct of the site and its immediate environment

In addition to providing information on the vegetation, foraging and crops within the different phases, the charred plant remains and charcoal will provide an indication of wider environmental conditions. The charcoal will provide complementary information on woodland resources and their exploitation during various periods.

6.5.1.1 Statement of potential

The charred plant and wood from the investigations has medium potential to contribute to this issue.

6.5.2 Investigate the wider environment

The wild animal species present may also give an impression of the wider environment, although the assemblage is not large.

6.5.2.1 Statement of potential

The animal bone evidence from the investigations has low potential to contribute to this issue.

	Category		Objective	Contextual	Pottery	Other Artefacts	Animal Bone	Plant remains	Charcoal
1	Character and development	a	Establish a chronological framework	High	High	Low	-	-	-
		b	Determine farmstead layout and function	High	High	Moderate	Low	Moderate	-
		c	Review evidence for continuity and discontinuity in the landscape	Low	Low	Low	-	-	-
2	Economy	a	Determine the economic basis during Romano British period	Medium	Medium	Medium	High	Medium	-
		b	Review similarities and differences with nearby urban centres	Medium	High	High	High	Medium	-
		c	Examine evidence for wider trade and exchange	Low	High	High	-	-	-
3	Society	a	Establish the relative status of the settlement through time.	Low	High	High	-	-	-
		b	Review evidence of diet	-	-	-	High	Medium	-
		c	Investigate evidence for ritual activity	Low	-	-	Low	-	-
4	Environment	a	Reconstruct of the site and its immediate environment	-	-	-	-	Medium	Low
		b	Investigate the wider environment	-			Low		Low

Table 30: Potential of recovered datasets to address the updated research objectives

Key

High	Data-set contains high quality, significant material, which can expand knowledge in this area.
Medium	Data-set contains moderately significant data, which is relatively standard for this chronological period and region.
Low	Data-set is of only minor relevance to the research objective or may help to add to a database of 'less significant evidence' which, when combined, is useful in recognising patterns, e.g. pottery assemblages, settlement types etc.
-	Data-set has no potential to provide useful information on this subject.

7. UPDATED PROJECT DESIGN

7.1 Introduction

As established in Section 6, the data sets from the Stretton Road investigation have very good potential to contribute to a number of regional and national research objectives. On this basis analysis and publication of the results is recommended.

This section provides a task list for the analysis, publication and archiving programme. Table 31–Table 35 provide a summary of the tasks associated with analysing each dataset, while Table 36 summarises the tasks associated with publication, archiving and overall project management. Table 37 provides a combined summary of all tasks. Table 38 describes the project team, and Table 39 details the proposed timescale for completion of each key stage in the project.

7.1.1 Key Stages

Five key stages can be identified within the analysis and publication programme (Table 36). These are highlighted within the following task list. Completion of these principal stages of the project will each provide a natural review point (English Heritage 2006). At each of these stages a progress summary will be produced and circulated.

7.2 Analysis of contextual data

7.2.1 Final phasing and contextual hierarchy

The underlying framework for the analysis and publication of artefactual and ecofactual data will be the phasing hierarchy. The provisional phasing, for the purpose of this assessment, was based on provisional artefact dating. The provisional phasing will be reviewed in light of subsequent quantification and analysis.

Further details the phasing hierarchy used are provided in Appendix 2.

7.2.2 Final phasing and publication liaison

Once the final phasing has been established, the artefact and ecofacts specialists will be informed. They will receive detailed phasing information, the required format of their publication text, and other data-set specific information that is useful.

♦KEY STAGE 1

7.2.3 Site narrative text

The site narrative will form the basis of the descriptive section of the publication text. It will be organised by Phase and, where appropriate, Landscape and Group.

7.2.4 Structural illustration

The digitised plan and section data will be interrogated via the relational database tables to produce mock-up publication illustrations. Plans will be produced to show all features in each Phase with Landscapes and Groups identifiable.

♦KEY STAGE 2

Task	Staff
Final phasing and contextual hierarchy and liaison	PO

Task	Staff
♦ **KEY STAGE 1**	
Site narrative	PO/PO
Structural illustrations	ILL
♦ **KEY STAGE 2**	

Table 31: Summary of contextual analysis tasks

7.3 Analysis of pottery

7.3.1 Quantification and recording of pottery

Pottery will be laid out in context order and will be quantified by minimum vessel and sherd count, and weight. Fabric identifications will be in accordance with the Leicestershire Ceramic Type Series (Marsden 2000; Pollard 1994; Davies and Sawday 1999). All attributes such as decoration, evidence of function (sooting, wear marks etc.), and manufacturing techniques (firing characteristics *etc*.) will be recorded. All quantified data will be entered on to the relevant table within the site database.

7.3.2 Production of technical text for pottery

A detailed description will be produced of the pottery recovered, including fabric and form definitions.

♦KEY STAGE 1

7.3.3 Final phasing and publication liaison

See section 7.2.3 (above)

7.3.4 Pottery publication text

A specialist text will be produced summarising the pottery assemblage within appropriate chronological periods by fabric type, forms, decoration and attribute. The text will refer to comparative assemblages (published or unpublished). In addition, where appropriate, the pottery assemblage from individual elements of the structural hierarchy, *e.g.* Landscapes and Groups, will be discussed.

♦KEY STAGE 2

7.3.5 Pottery archiving

Upon completion of the report, subject to the landowner's consent, the written and material archives will be prepared for museum accessioning.

Task	Staff
Pottery liaison/meetings	FO/PO
Pottery quantification and recording	FO
Pottery technical text (type series)	FO
◆ **KEY STAGE 1**	
Pottery phasing/publication liaison	FO/PO
Pottery publication text	FO
◆ **KEY STAGE 2**	
Archive preparation (pottery)	FO

Table 32: Summary of pottery analysis tasks

7.4 Analysis of other artefacts

7.4.1 Stabilisation/X-radiography of other artefacts

The shale spindle whorl will need to be sent for consolidation, all other finds have been stabilized prior to analysis. All iron artefacts, except for slag, will be sent for X-ray analysis. This task includes packaging of artefacts and transportation costs to lab, actual x-radiography costs and conservator's initial report, liaison with conservator, and up dating of the site database following return of the objects from the lab.

7.4.2 Quantification and recording of other artefacts (Narrow Term Identification)

Each object will be assigned a narrow term, and where applicable, a date range. Liaison with external specialists regarding the significant brooches (dolphin and trumpet derived bow and fantail) will be needed (Don Mackreth; Hilary Cool, Adrian Olivier). It is anticipated that a day of an external specialist's time will be needed to write an appropriate report on these objects. Coins and slag will be examined by external specialists (Pete Guest, Cardiff University).

Narrow term information will be established by an examination of each object, noting:

- form
- method of manufacture
- material and source
- presence of diagnostic features
- condition
- selected parallels from comparable sites
- comparison with ceramic data from the site

7.4.3 Production of technical catalogue of other artefacts

A selection of registered artefacts will be made for inclusion in the publication catalogue and a draft catalogue prepared. Selection of artefacts for publication-standard illustration will be made at this juncture. Illustration of approximately 16 objects is anticipated.

Upon completion of the report, subject to the landowner's consent, the written and material archives will be prepared for museum accessioning.

♦KEY STAGE 1

7.4.4 Final phasing and publication liaison

See section 7.2.3 (above)

7.4.5 Other artefacts publication text

A specialist text will be produced summarising the other artefact assemblage within appropriate chronological periods by material type and forms. The text will refer to comparative artefacts (published or unpublished).

♦KEY STAGE 2

7.4.6 Other artefacts archiving

Upon completion of the report, subject to the landowner's consent, the written and material archives will be prepared for museum accessioning.

Task	Staff
Other artefacts liaison/meetings	AM/PO
Stabilisation/X-radiography of other artefacts	AM/Ext
Other artefacts quantification and recording	AM/ext
Other artefacts technical text	AM
◆ **KEY STAGE 1**	
Other artefacts phasing/publication liaison	AM/PO
Other artefacts publication text	AM
◆ **KEY STAGE 2**	
Archive preparation (other artefacts)	AO

Table 33: Summary of other artefacts tasks

7.5 Analysis of animal bone

7.5.1 Quantification and recording of animal bone

The animal bone from Phases 2 to 4 will be laid out in context order. It will be examined for the frequencies of species, skeleton representation, age at death, pathology, butchery and bone change, and individual measurements of bones and teeth. All quantified data will be entered onto the relevant table within the site database.

7.5.2 Production of technical text for animal bone

A detailed description will be produced of the animal bone assemblage.

♦KEY STAGE 1

7.5.3 Final phasing and publication liaison

See section 7.2.3 (above)

7.5.4 Animal bone publication text

The final publication text will only be prepared on receipt of the final phasing structure. It will discuss the species present within each phase, along with other significant aspects such as mortality rates, metrical data, butchery etc. If significant assemblages of animal bone are recovered from individual Landscape or Groups, be they a "special" deposit or not, they will be discussed individually. The text will refer to comparative assemblages (published or unpublished).

7.5.5 Animal bone archiving

Upon completion of the report, subject to the landowner's consent, the written and material archives will be prepared for museum accessioning.

♦KEY STAGE 2

Task	Staff
Animal bone liaison/meetings	AB/PO
Animal bone quantification and recording	AB
Animal bone technical text	AB
◆ **KEY STAGE 1**	
Animal bone phasing/publication liaison	AB/PO
Animal bone publication text	AB
◆ **KEY STAGE 2**	
Archive preparation (Animal bone)	AO

Table 34: Summary of animal bone analysis tasks

7.6 Analysis of plant remains

7.6.1 Quantification and recording of the charred plant remains

All three Roman phases produced some good samples with sufficient remains for analysis. Eleven samples have been identified for detailed analysis in order to interpret the samples. Four flots remain to be sorted from a deposit originally identified as a cremation, but found only to contain burnt animal bone. The full analysis will involve sorting the residues (including refloating the residues by bucket flotation) of the 11 selected samples to ensure that all the chaff and seeds are recovered.

Assessment has revealed the presence of significant quantities of charcoal in 12 samples from the Romano British period. This material will be subject to basic quantification and species identification and will be incorporated into the charred plant remains discussion.

7.6.2 Production of technical text for the charred plant remains

A detailed description will be produced of the charred plant remains incorporating the charcoal identification.

♦KEY STAGE 1

7.6.3 Final phasing and publication liaison

See section 7.2.3 (above)

7.6.4 Charred plant remains publication text

The final publication text will only be prepared on receipt of the final phasing structure. It will discuss the type of species present within each phase. The type of material recovered will be considered on spatial grounds in an attempt to identify discrete areas of activity. The text will refer to comparative material (published or unpublished).

7.6.5 Charred plant remains archiving

Upon completion of the report, subject to the landowner's consent, the written and material archives will be prepared for museum accessioning.

♦KEY STAGE 2

Task	Staff
Charred plant remains liaison/meetings	CP/PO
Charred plant remains quantification and recording	CP
Charcoal quantification and recording	ULAS
Animal bone technical text	CP
◆ KEY STAGE 1	
Charred plant remains phasing/publication liaison	CP/PO
Charred plant remains publication text	CP
◆ KEY STAGE 2	
Archive preparation (charred plant remains)	AO

Table 35: Summary of plant remains analysis tasks

7.7 Overall publication, archiving and project management

7.7.1 Integration of all specialist reports and production of synthesis

All the specialist reports will be read and edited to ensure a consistency in approach. The key conclusions of the reports will be fully integrated into the synthetic publication text.

♦KEY STAGE 3

7.7.2 Albion refereeing process

It is Albion policy to circulate the first draft of articles intended for publication to the client, consultant, archaeological planning officer, and any other interested parties. This task includes time for addressing any resultant queries or issues.

♦KEY STAGE 4

7.7.3 Submission of article and amendments

The article will be submitted to the editor of the *Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society.*

7.7.4 Printing and proof reading

The printing of the article will be arranged by the editor of *Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society.* This task includes time for addressing any resultant queries or issues

7.7.5 Archiving and accessioning

Upon completion of the report, subject to the landowner's consent, the written and material archives will be prepared for museum accessioning.

7.7.6 Project management

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

Regular liaison within the project team and between the Project Manager and Consultant will be by email and phone.

♦KEY STAGE 5

Description	Title/ Organisation initials
Keystage 2: completion of all specialist text	
Amendments to structural illustration	PO/Ill
Site narrative	PO
Integration of all specialist publication reports	PO
Production of synthesis	PO
Editing publication text	PO/PM/OM
Keystage 3: completion of 1st Draft	
Albion's refereeing process	PO
Keystage 4: Submission to *TLAHS*	
Amendments resulting from editor's comments	PO

Printing	External
Proof reading	PO
Archive preparation (contextual)	PO
Archive preparation (artefacts/ecofacts)	FO/AM
Archive preparation and liaison with Museum	AM/AO
Archive microfiching	External
Archive transfer (storage costs)	External
Archive transfer	PO
Project management	OM
Keystage 5: end of project	

Table 36: Overall publication, archiving and management tasks

7.8 Publication

The publication report will be submitted to the editor of *Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society*. Only a summary of the contextual hierarchy will be presented in the publication with the majority of the article focussing on the "significant" highlights from the investigations.

The assessment indicates that discussion will concentrate on the form and function of the Romano-British farmstead, related to the research objectives identified in Section 6. Remains from the other represented periods will form a smaller part of the discussion only where they address specific research objectives.

The following publication synopsis sets out indicative page and figure counts.

Section 1: Introduction

Summary
Introduction

- Project background
- Topographical context
- Archaeological context
- Investigation methodology
- Layout of report

Approx. 1 page and 2 figures

Section 2: Chronological summary

Only a summary of the chronological development of the farmstead will be presented focussing on the aspects that are relevant to the discussion of significant aspects

- **Phase 1**- pre Roman Conquest residual pottery and worked flint.
- **Phase 2**- late 1st – early 2nd Century AD. Farmstead with domestic focus (enclosures containing roundhouses) and peripheral fields
- **Phase 3**- later 2nd – early 3rd Century AD. Farmstead with domestic focus (possible roundhouse), ladder enclosure system and peripheral fields.
- **Phase 4**- later 3rd – 4th Century AD. Farmstead comprising domestic focus (rectangular building, yard etc) and peripheral fields. Discussion of evidence for continuity into early Saxon period.

Approx. 4 pages, 4 figures and 4 plates

Section 3: Specialist reports

Only a summary of the specialist reports will be presented but "significant" highlights will be described in more detail.
Approx. 4 pages and 2 figures

Section 4: Discussion of significant aspects of site

The discussion will centre on the research themes identified in Table 30.
Approx. 5 pages and 4 figures

Section 5: Bibliography

Approx. 1 page

7.9 Archiving

On publication of the final report the archive of materials (subject to the landowner's permission) and accompanying records will be deposited in the appropriate county stores (Accession Number X.A17.2011).

7.10 Summary of all tasks

Table 37 on the following page presents all tasks required to complete the analysis, publication and archiving of this project.

Task Description	Title/Organisation
Final phasing and contextual analysis	PO
Pottery liaison/meetings	FO/PO
Pottery quantification and recording	FO
Pottery technical text (type series)	FO
Other artefacts liaison/meetings	AM/PO
Other artefacts quantification and recording	AM
Other artefacts technical text	AM
Animal bone liaison/meetings	AB/PO
Animal bone quantification and recording	AB
Animal bone technical text	AB
Charred plant remains liaison/meetings	CP/PO
Charred plant remains quantification and recording	CP
Charred plant remains technical text	CP
Keystage 1: completion of analysis	
Site narrative	PM/PO
Structural illustration	CAD
Pottery phasing/publication liaison	FO/PO
Pottery publication text	FO
Other artefacts phasing/publication liaison	AM/PO
Other artefacts publication text	AM
Animal bone phasing/publication liaison	AB/PO
Animal bone publication text	AB
Charred plant remains phasing/publication liaison	CP/PO
Charred plant remains publication text	CP
Keystage 2: completion of all specialist text	
Amendments to structural illustration	PO/ILL
Integration of all specialist publication reports	PO
Production of synthesis	PO
Editing publication text	PO/PM/OM
Keystage 3: completion of 1st Draft	
Albion's refereeing process	PM
Keystage 4: Submission to *Trans. Leicestershire Archaeol. and Hist. Soc*	
Amendments resulting from editor's comments	PO
Printing	External
Proof reading	PO
Archive preparation (contextual)	PO
Archive preparation (artefacts/ecofacts)	FO/AM
Archive preparation and liaison with Museum	AM/AO
Archive microfiching	External
Archive transfer	PO
Project management	OM
Keystage 5: end of project	

Table 37: Summary of all tasks

7.10.1 The Project Team

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

The majority of the external specialists will be the same individuals who have worked on the earlier stages of the project and where possible, sites in the vicinity.

Task	Organisation, Title and Name	Initials
Overall management	Albion, Operations Manager, Drew Shotliff	OM
Project management	Albion, Project Officer, Mike Luke	PM
Contextual analysis	Albion, Project Officer, Ben Barker	PO
Other artefact analysis	Albion, Artefacts Manager, Holly Duncan	AM
Pottery analysis	Albion, Finds Officer, Jackie Wells	FO
Animal bone analysis	ULAS, Jennifer Browning	AB
Charred plant analysis	ULAS, Angela Monckton	CP
Structural Illustration	Albion, Joan Lightning	Ills
Archiving	Albion, Archives Officer, Helen Parslow	AO

Table 38: The Project Team

7.11 Timetable

Following acceptance by the client and county planning archaeologist of the assessment and Updated Project Design, Albion would like to proceed rapidly with analysis and publication of the results. Table 39 summarises the five key stages within the analysis and publication programme.

Task	Anticipated date of completion
Finalisation of phasing/contextual hierarchy and subsequent liaison	April 2012
Quantification and recording by specialists	June 2012
Completion of KEY STAGE 1	
Site narrative and specialist texts	December 2012
Completion of KEY STAGE 2	
Compilation of 1st draft	March 2013
Completion of KEY STAGE 3	
Refereeing	April-June 2013
Completion of KEY STAGE 4	
Submission to *TLAHS**	September 2013
Deposition of archive*	tbc*
Completion of KEY STAGE 5	

Table 39: Provisional timetable to complete the project

*Publication, and therefore deposition of the archive, will be dependent on the publication timetable of *Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society.*

7.12 Communication and management

7.12.1 General communication

As the aim of the project is to produce a fully integrated report, liaison between the team members will be important. This will particularly be the case during analysis and preparation of text sections for the publication. Close interaction between the principal author and the specialist contributors will ensure that the most important aspects of each data-set are brought to the fore.

7.12.2 Acknowledgement

The role of the client (Miller Homes East Midlands) and consultant (CgMs Consulting) will be acknowledged in all outputs.

APPENDIX 1: PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES

In addition to MoRPHE and associated guidelines, the project will follow all relevant guidance issued by English Heritage, much of which is available on the Historic Environment Local Management (HELM) website (http://www.helm.org.uk). The following are particularly relevant to this project:

- Centre for Archaeology Guidelines: Environmental Archaeology, a guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation, 2002
- English Heritage Research Agenda: an Introduction to English Heritage's Research Themes and Programmes, 2005
- Discovering the Past Shaping the Future: Research Strategy 2005-2010, 2005

Throughout the project, all other appropriate standards and guidelines will be followed, particularly those issued by the following organisations:

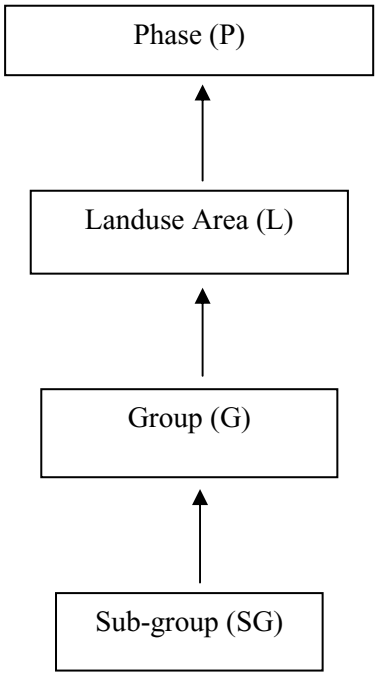
- Archaeology Data Service (ADS) – such as Digital Archives from Excavation and Fieldwork: Guide to Good Practice, Second Edition, 2000 and Archaeology Data Service CAD: A Guide to Good Practice, 2000.
- Leicestershire County Council - Guidelines and Procedures for Archaeological work in Leicestershire and Rutland, 1997
- Association of County Archaeological Officers – notably Standards for Field Archaeology in East Anglia (East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper, 14), by D Gurney (2003).
- Society of Museum Archaeologists – Archaeological Archives - a Guide to Best Practice in Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Curation (Brown 2007) and Preparation of Archaeological Archives: Selection, Retention and Dispersal of Archaeological Collections (SMA 1993).
- Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) – especially the Codes of Conduct and any standard and guidance documents which are relevant to the project (such as Standard and Guidance for the Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research of Archaeological Materials, 2001).

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

APPENDIX 2: EXPLANATION OF THE CONTEXTUAL HIERARCHY

Albion has a standard approach to detailed contextual assessment and analysis which requires the assignment of contexts to a hierarchy. Each hierarchical level/element gradually becomes more interpretative and less detailed in nature.

The actual names given to these entities e.g. Landuse area, Group, Subgroup *etc*, are less important than their hierarchical position.



During contextual assessment/analysis, work was undertaken from the bottom (context) upwards; first assigning significant contexts to sub-groups, then assigning significant sub-groups to groups, then significant groups to Landuse Area, then significant Landuse Areas to Phases.

As an example, the typical phasing hierarchical assignments for a "cut" are set out below:

1. The "cut" of a ditch (as revealed in single or multiple excavated segments) is assigned to a **Group**. This group represents an enclosure boundary.
2. The **Group** is assigned to a **Landuse Area,** which includes other groups (*e.g.* buildings, pit groups *etc*.). This Landuse Area represents an enclosure within a settlement.
3. The **Landuse Area** is assigned to a **Phase**. This Phase is assigned in a sequence established by stratigraphic relationships and finds.
4. The **Phase** represents a chronological period.

7.13 Phases

7.13.1 Definition

A **Phase** is a collection of contemporary Landuse Areas.

Example:
Phase 2: Early Roman

The earliest identifiable activity within the investigation area related to the creation of a late first/early second century Romano British farmstead. It was aligned on a NW-SE axis and covered an area of at least 0.9 hectares. It was poorly preserved and heavily truncated by later activity. The farmstead comprised three main areas of activity: L20 was the northern occupation area which contained the majority of the evidence of activity; L21 was the southern, less densely packed, occupation area; and L22 comprised the peripheral eastern fields. The majority of the features identified were enclosure ditches, but the northern occupation area L20 enclosed three roundhouses and the southern areaL21 a further two. Not all of the activity was contemporary as one of the northern roundhouses (G201) had been rebuilt.

7.13.2 Numbering

Based on the contextual assessment and spotdating the phases were defined as follows:

1. *Prehistoric*
2. *Early Roman*
3. *Early-mid Roman*
4. *Mid-late Roman*
5. *Medieval*
6. *Modern*

7.14 Landuse Areas

7.14.1 Definition

A **Landuse Area or 'L number',** represents a meaningful spatial element, typically comprising spatially and/or functionally associated Groups, *e.g*. an enclosure system (both the boundaries and internal activity),

7.14.2 Numbering

- Integer, *e.g*. **L20**, is used to designate "constructional" elements only, *i.e*. the "cuts".
- Decimal point 1, *e.g*. L20.1, represents the use (primary) fills.
- Decimal point 2, *e.g*. L20.2, represents the use/disuse (secondary and single) fills.
- Decimal point 3, *e.g*. L20.3, represents the disuse (either tertiary or sole) fills.

7.15 Groups

7.15.1 Definition

A **Group** represents a functionally or spatially distinct element within a Landuse Area. Groups are an aggregation of related Sub-groups, *e.g*. a roundhouse (drainage gully and contemporary internal features), rectangular building, or a group of pits.

7.15.2 Numbering

- An integer, *e.g*. G201, is used to designate "constructional" elements only, *i.e*. the "cuts".
- Decimal point 1, *e.g*. G201.1 represents the use (primary) fills.
- Decimal point 2, *e.g*. G201.2 represents the use/disuse (secondary) fills.
- Decimal point 3, *e.g*. G201.3 represents the disuse (tertiary) fills.
- Decimal point 5, *e.g*. G201.5 represents a group with a single fill.

7.16 Sub-groups

7.16.1 Definition

A Sub-group is typically an aggregation of contexts, which are closely related both stratigraphically and processually, although sometimes it is a single context. Sub-groups represent the archaeological evidence for a distinct event or activity. It is a basic, indivisible unit of interpretation.

7.16.2 Numbering

Integer, e.g. *SG1094: Roundhouse gully*

7.17 The Provisional Phasing

The contextual assessment was completed resulting in a provisional phasing hierarchy. Assignment was based on contextual assessment, stratigraphy and pottery & other artefacts other artefacts spotdates.

7.17.1 Summary

See figures for plans of each phase and for L and G labels.

- **Phase 1**- pre Roman Conquest residual pottery and worked flint. These were not concentrated and occurred in Roman deposits. No features of this date were identified.
- **Phase 2**- late 1st – early 2nd Century AD. Farmstead with domestic focus (enclosures containing roundhouses) and peripheral fields
- **Phase 3**- later 2nd – early 3rd Century AD. Farmstead with domestic focus (possible roundhouse), ladder enclosure system and peripheral fields.
- **Phase 4**- later 3rd – 4th Century AD. Farmstead comprising domestic focus (rectangular building, yard etc) and peripheral fields. Single cremation burial and two partial animal burials. No evidence that the farmstead continued into the early Saxon period
- **Phase 5**- medieval. Open field system.
- **Phase 6** – modern. Modern disturbance

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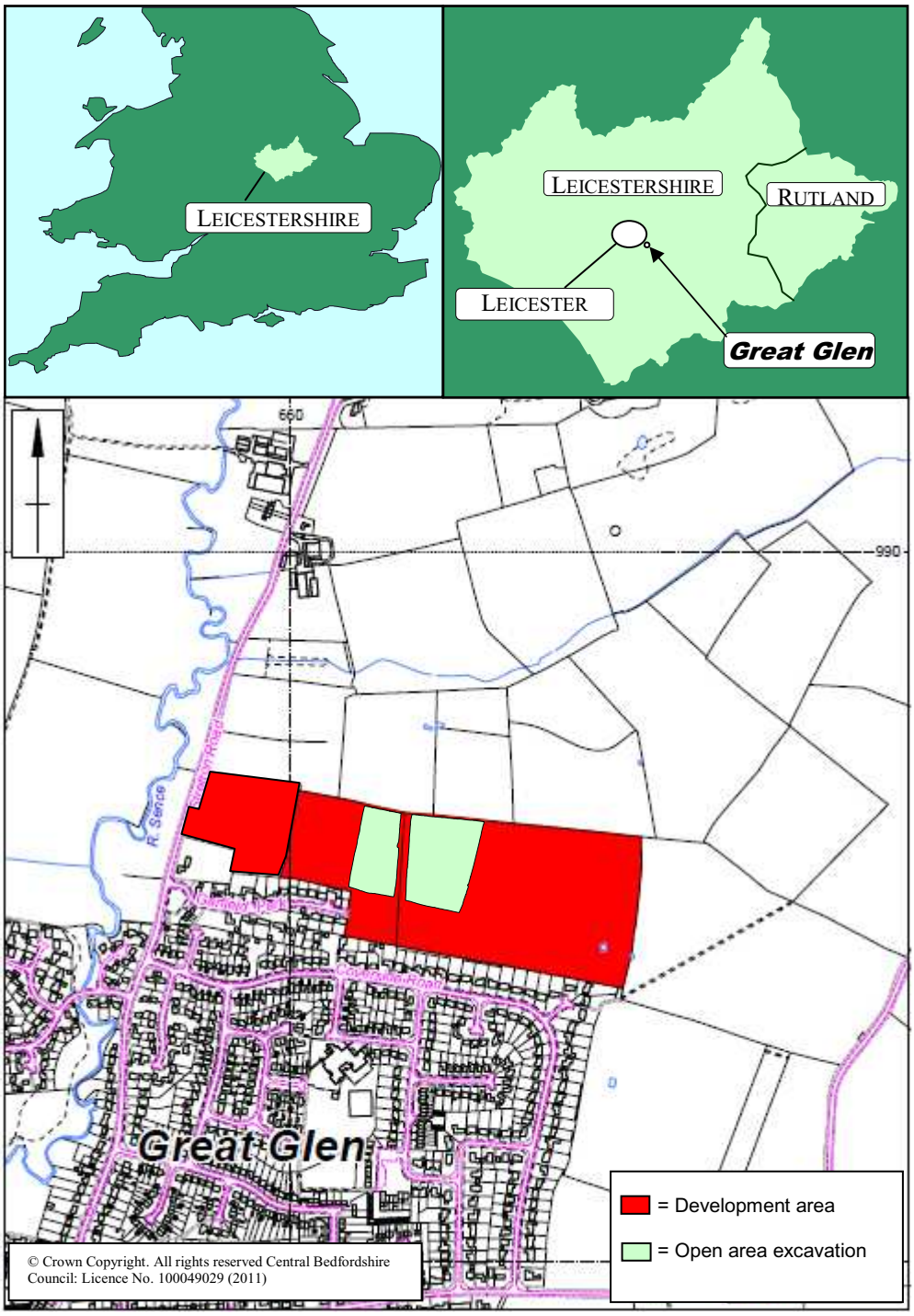

Figure 1: Location of the development area

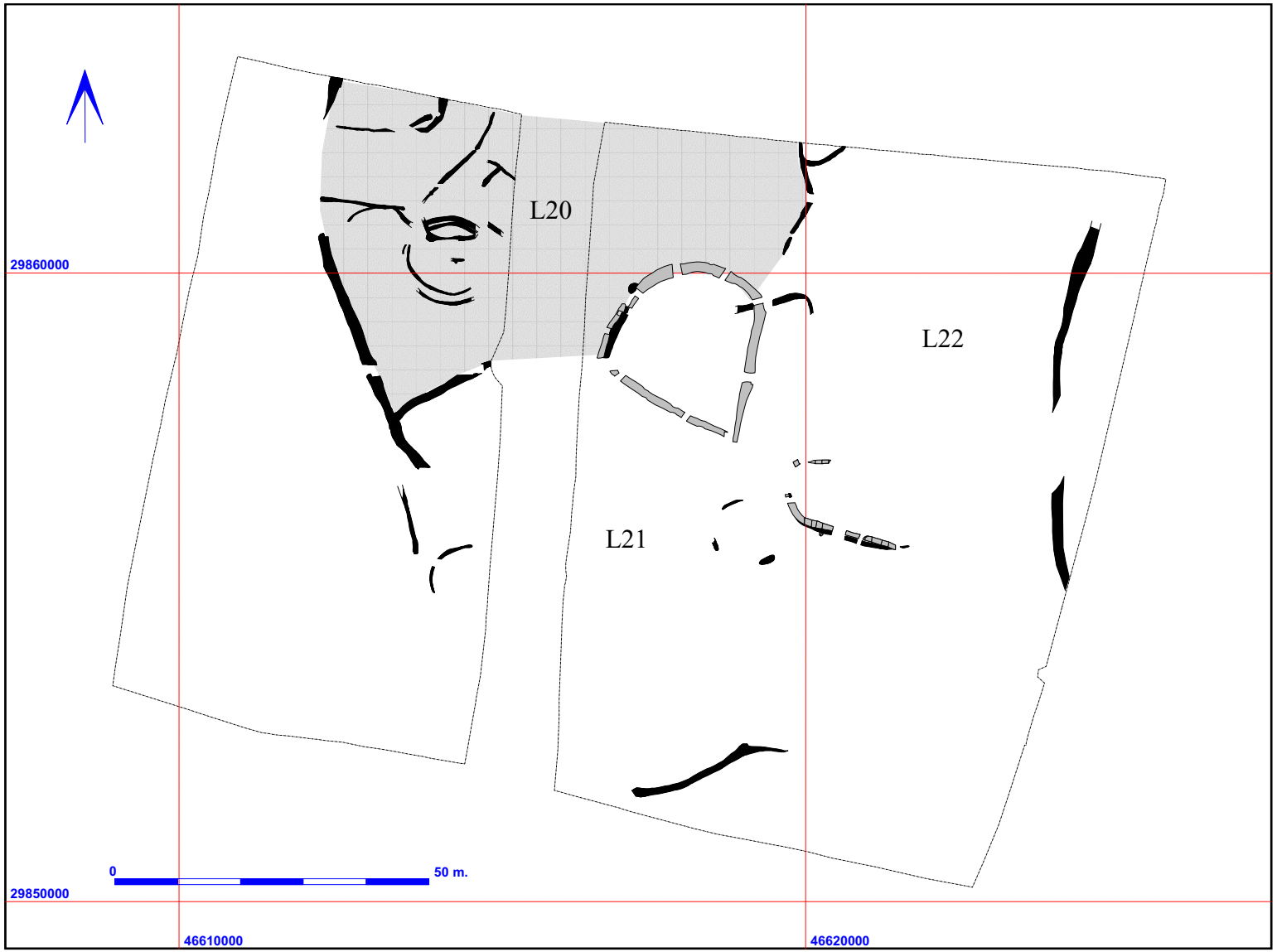

Figure 2: Phase 2 (late 1st – early 2nd century AD) - All features plan

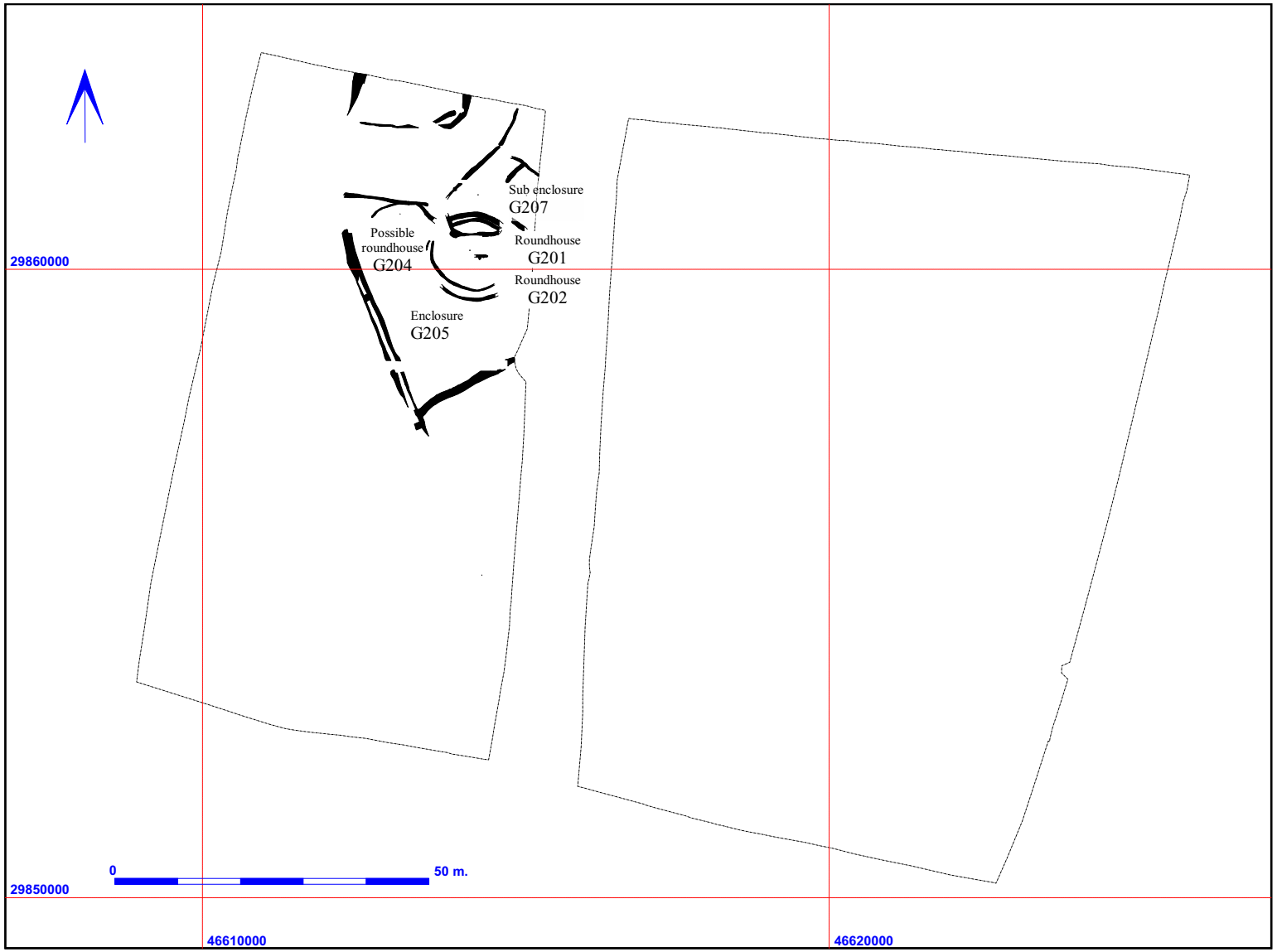

Figure 3: L20 – Domestic focus of farmstead

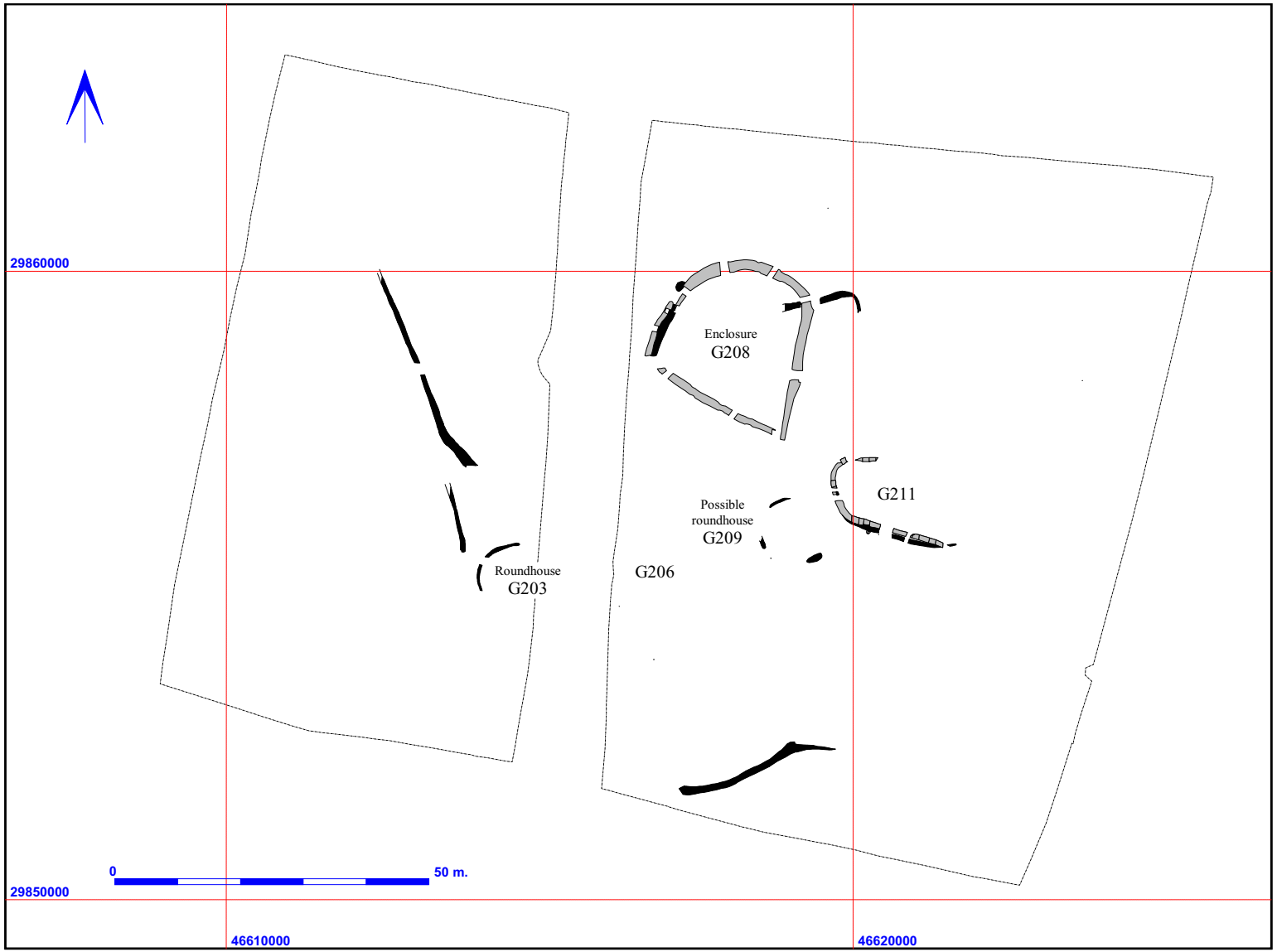

Figure 4: L21 – Southern peripheral fields

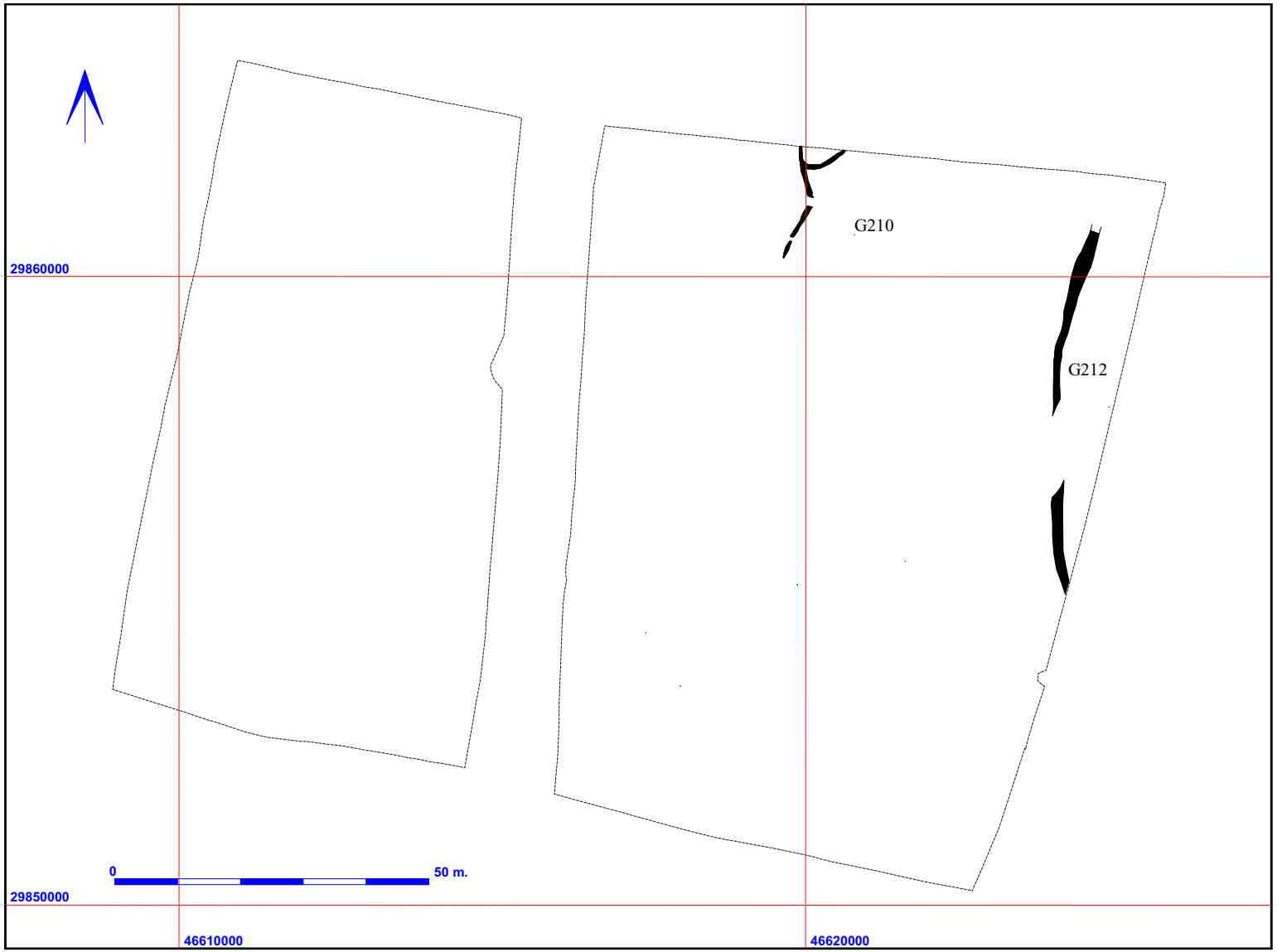

Figure 5: L22 – Eastern peripheral fields

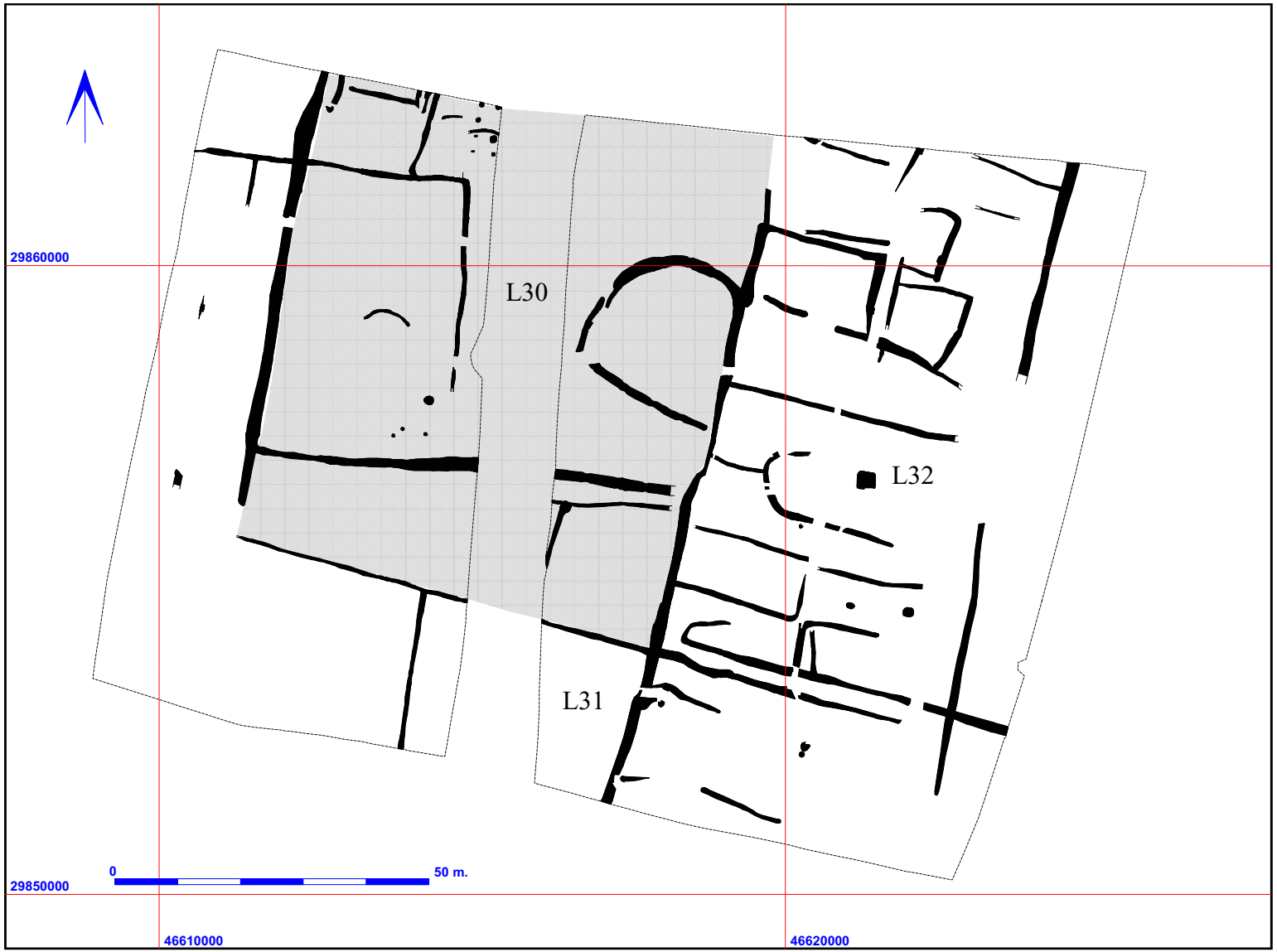

Figure 6: Phase 3 (later 2nd – early 3rd century AD) - All features plan

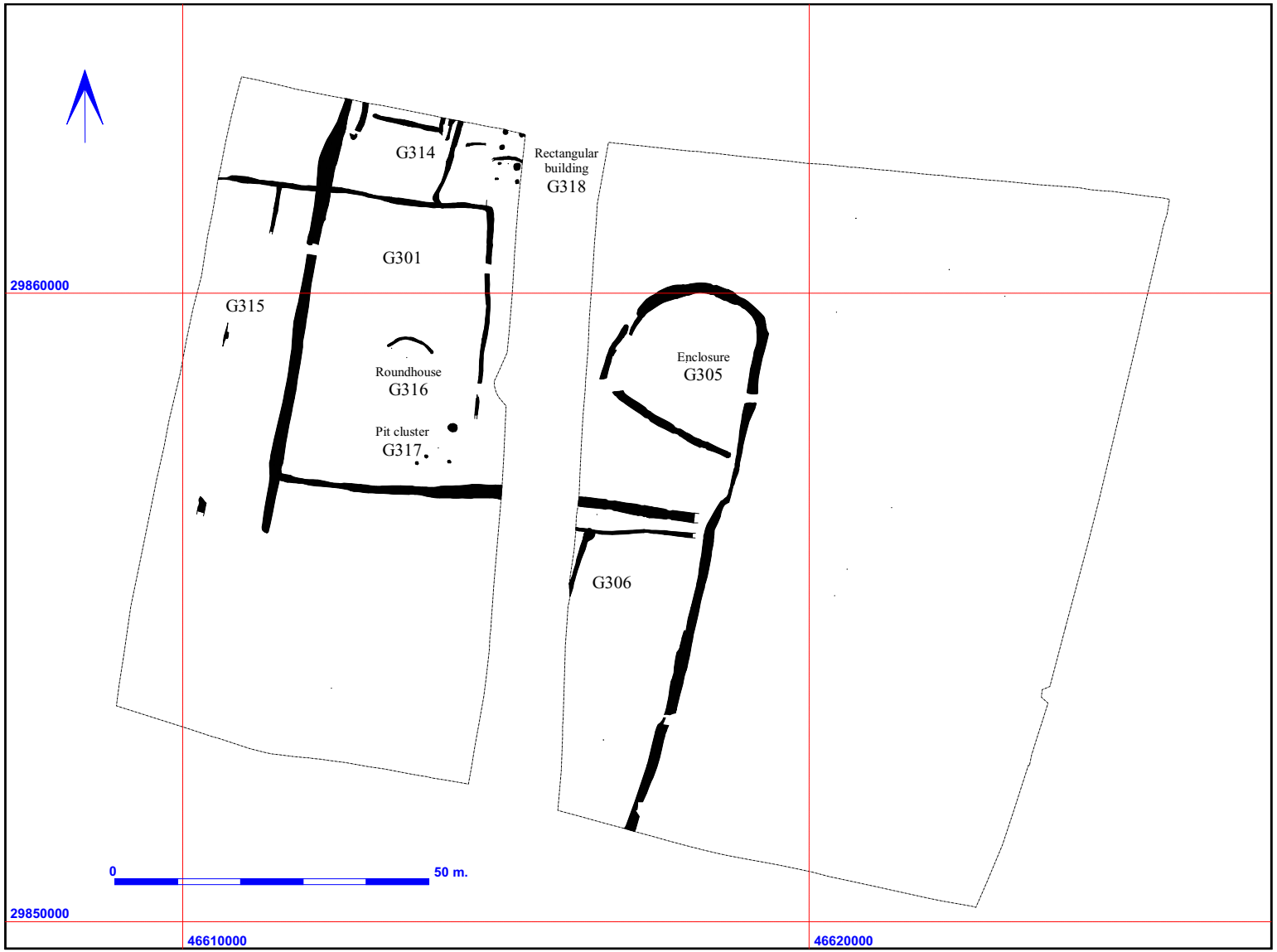

Figure 7: L30 – Domestic focus of farmstead

Figure 8: L31 – Southern peripheral fields

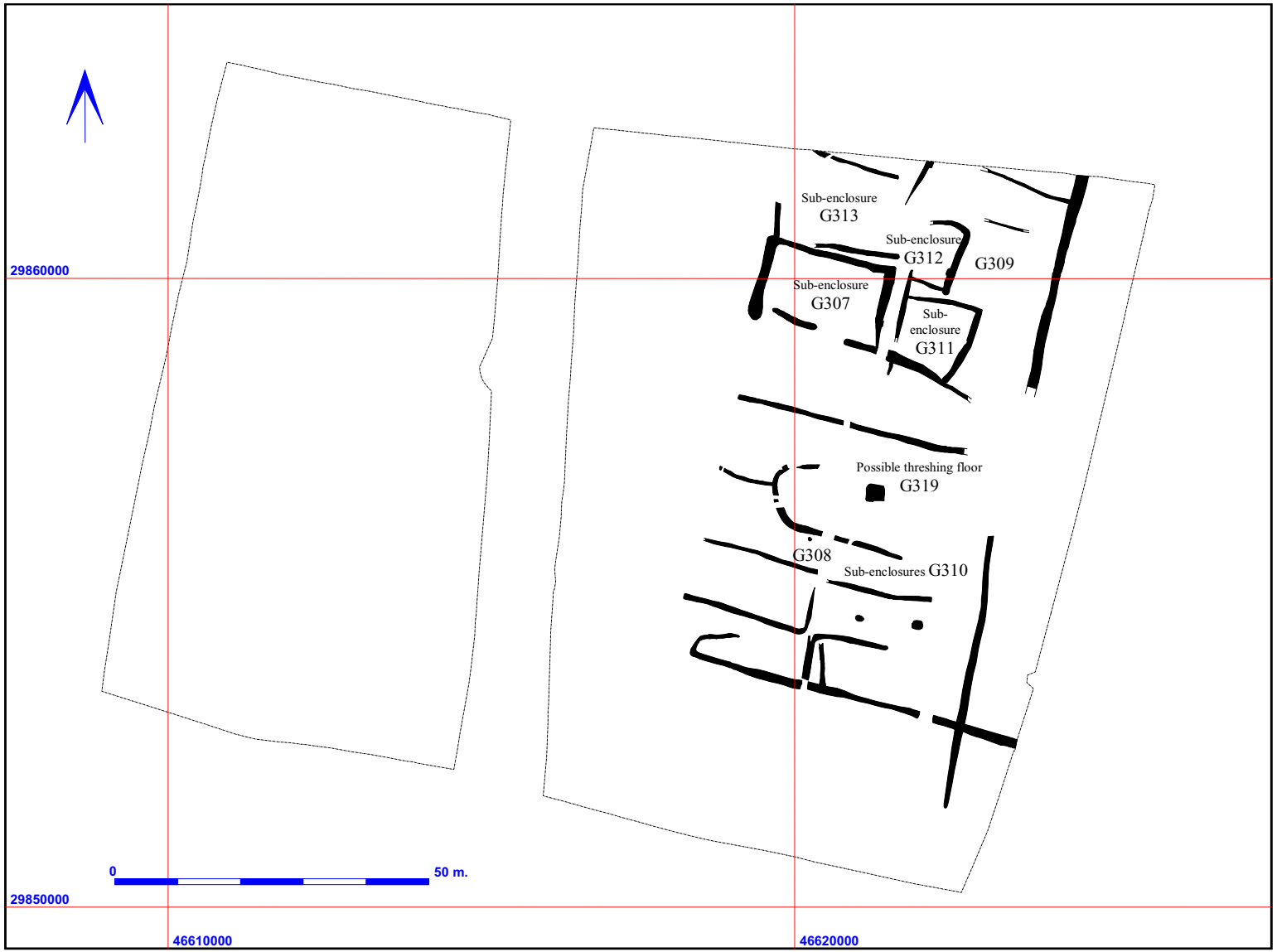

Figure 9: L32 – Eastern ladder enclosure system

Figure 10: Phase 4 (later 3rd – 4th century AD) - All features plan

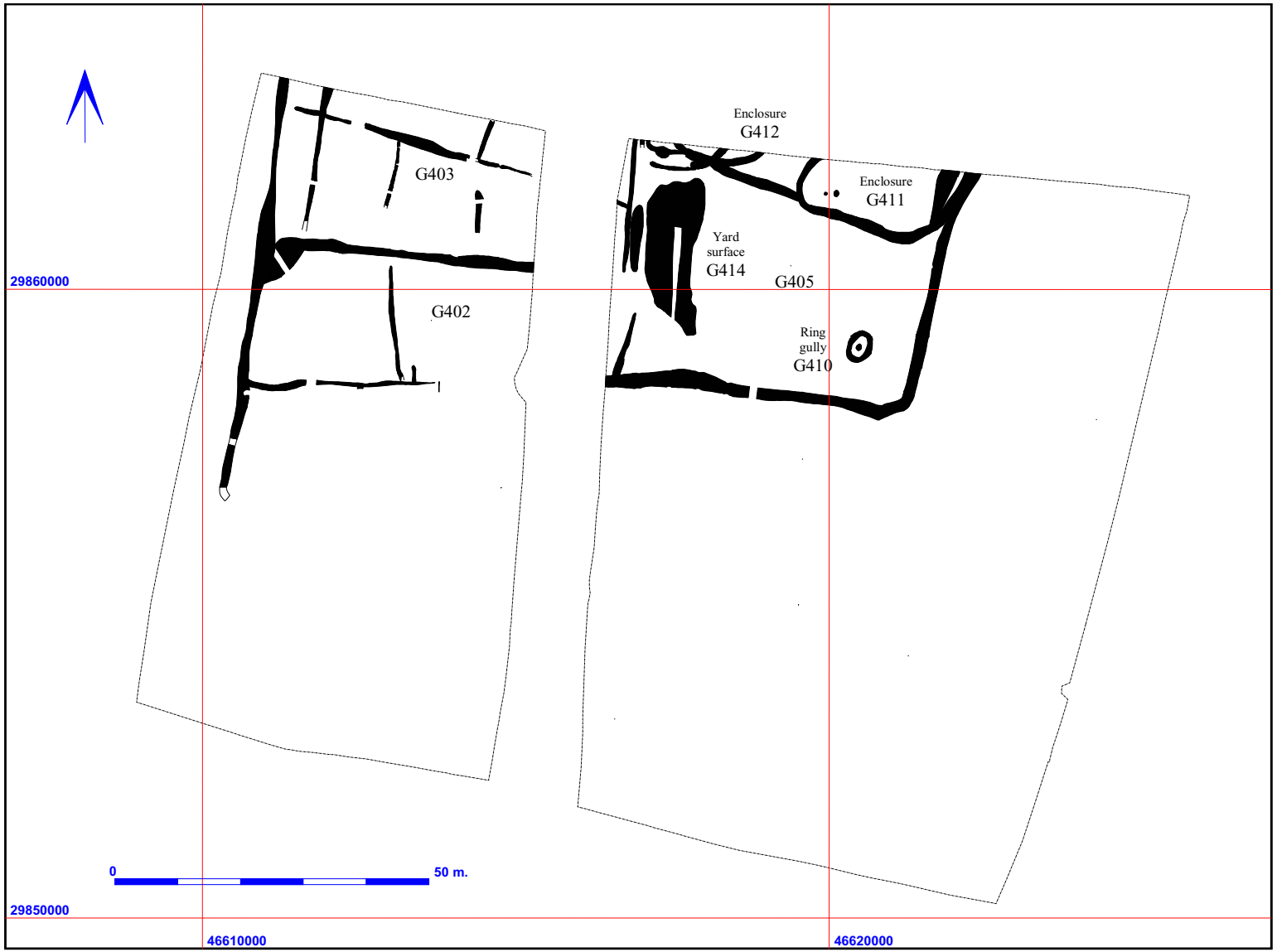

Figure 11: L40 – Domestic focus of farmstead

Figure 12: L41 – Southern and eastern peripheral fields and enclosures

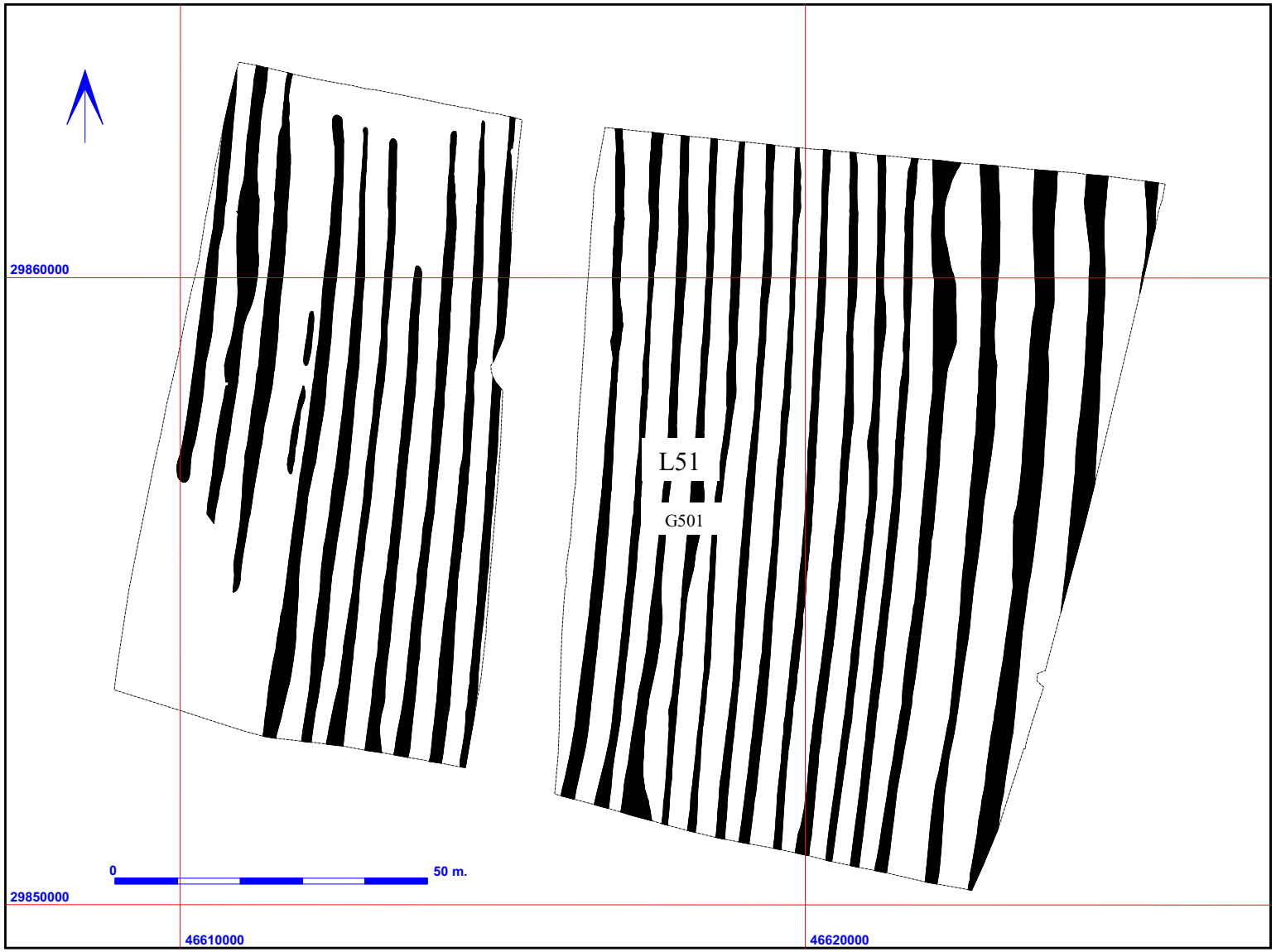

Figure 13: Phase 5 (medieval) - All features plan

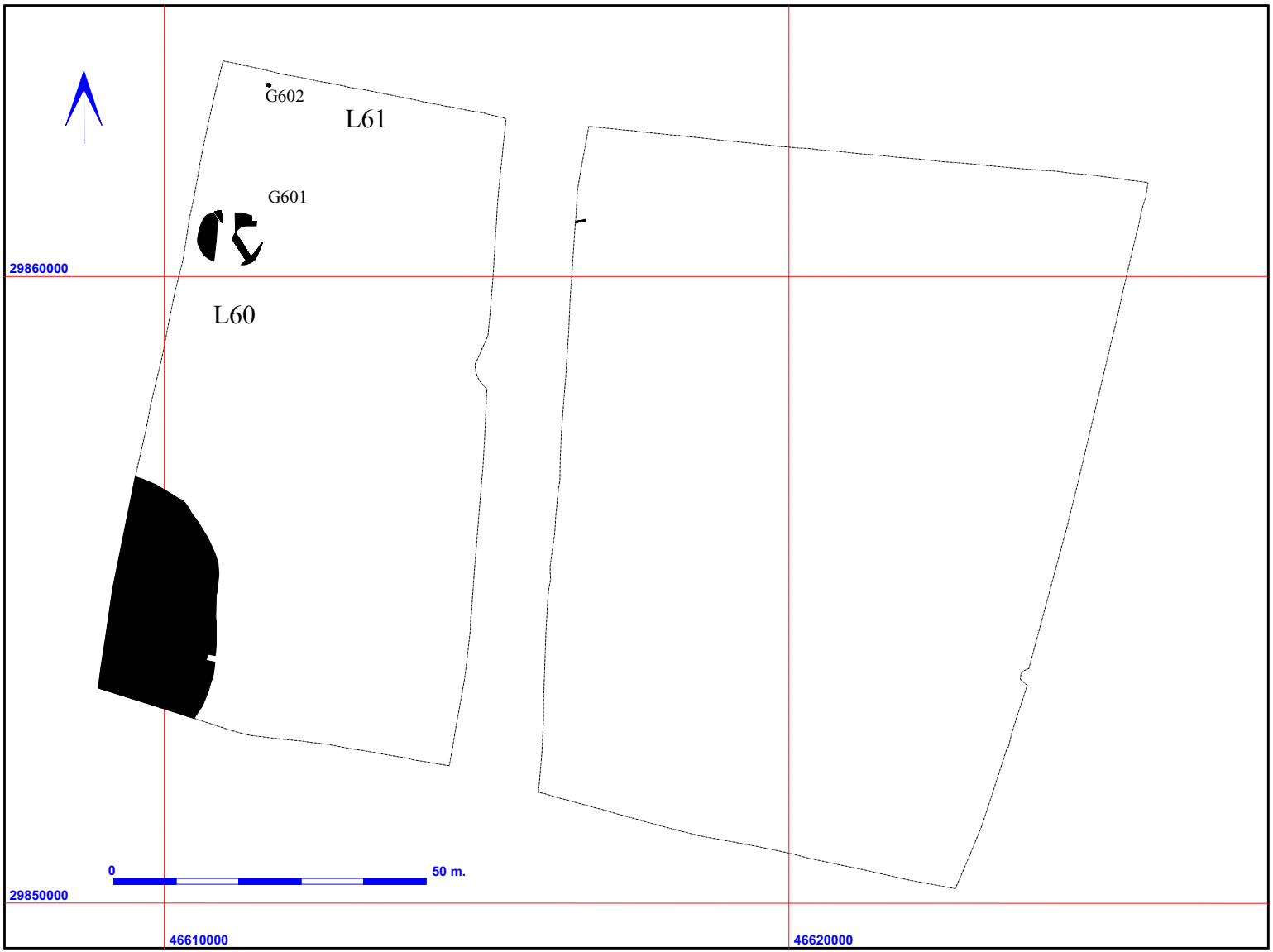

Figure 14: Phase 6 (modern) - All features plan

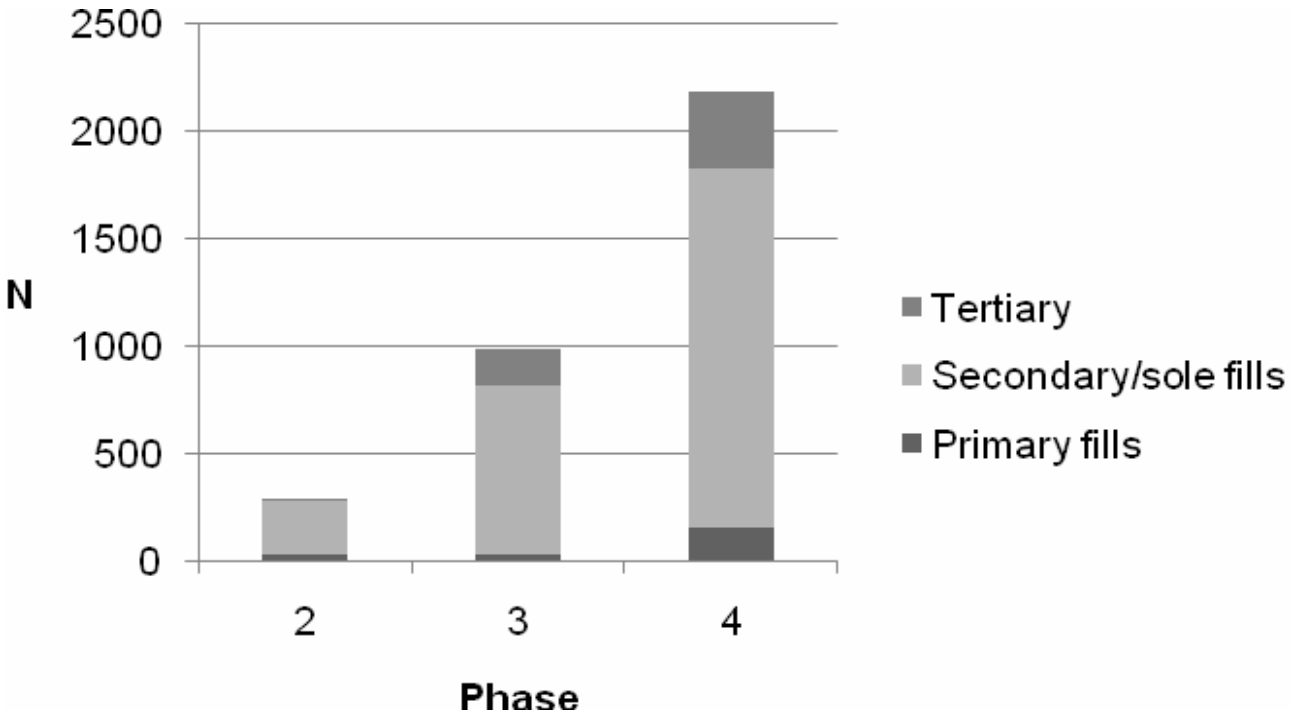

Figure 15: Number of hand-recovered bones from each phase, showing the number from primary secondary and tertiary fills