Northamptonshire Archaeology

Archaeological trial trench evaluation at Highflyer Farm, Ely, Cambridgeshire August-September 2011

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Jim Brown

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QUALITY CONTROL

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OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project title	Archaeological trial trench evaluation at Highflyer Farm, Ely, Cambridgeshire, August-September 2011	
Short description	Further trial trench evaluation were conducted at Highflyer Farm, Ely in the autumn of 2011 following on from earlier stages of geophysical survey and trial trench excavation. This stage of fieldwork confirmed five principal groups of archaeological remains; a large isolated middle to late Iron Age pit, a rectangular enclosure, an area of scattered pits, a concentration of late Iron Age and Roman enclosures and a post-medieval brick kiln. Pits and enclosure ditches produced pottery which was predominantly late Iron Age, representative of small localised features created from the 1st century BC, with perhaps some used into the 1st century AD. Up to four small rectangular and sub-rectangular enclosures may have been present, together with scattered groups of pits. Most of this activity was abandoned before the Roman period. A group of enclosures were established in the late Roman period, probably during the 3rd to 4th centuries, but were abandoned by the late 4th century. A possible hoard of late 4th-century coins, was discovered and reported under the terms of the Treasure Act 1992. Other finds of pottery, metal and animal bone all suggested that they originated from domestic debris, but the lack of evidence for building materials or structural features suggested that this was probably midden waste carted from elsewhere.	
Project type	Trial excavations	
Site Status	None	
Previous work	Geophysical survey, Phases 1-3 (Walford 2010; 2011) Trial trench evaluation, Phase 1 (Taylor 2011)	
Current land use	Arable	
Future work	Yes	
Monument type and period	Prehistoric and Roman	
Significant finds	Coin hoard, pottery, animal bone, metal finds, glass, worked flint, building materials, querns and seeds	
PROJECT LOCATION		
County	Cambridgeshire	
Site address	Highflyer Farm, Ely	
Post code	CB7 4RA	
OS co-ordinates	Centred on TL 5540 8240	
Area (sq m/ha)	*c*27ha	
Height	*c*10-15m above Ordnance Datum	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Organisation	Northamptonshire Archaeology	
Project brief originator	Andy Thomas, Cambridgeshire County Council	
Project Design originator	Anthony Maull, Northamptonshire Archaeology	
Director/Supervisor	Jim Brown, Northamptonshire Archaeology	
Project Manager	Mike Dawson, CgMs Consulting Ltd	
Sponsor or funding body	Commissioners of the Church of England	
PROJECT DATE		
Start date	August 2011	
End date	September 2011	
ARCHIVES	**Location (Accession no.)**	**Contents**
Physical	ECB3643 Cambridgeshire County Store	Coin hoard, pottery, animal bone, metal finds, glass, worked flint, building materials, quernstone and seeds
Paper		Context records, registers, plans, sections, 35mm Colour slides and monochrome contact prints and background notes
Digital		Client PDF
BIBLIOGRAPHY	Journal/monograph, published or forthcoming, or unpublished client report (NA report)	
Title	Archaeological trial trench evaluation at Highflyer Farm, Ely, Cambridgeshire, August-September 2011	
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ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH EXCAVATIONS AT HIGHFLYER FARM, ELY CAMBRIDGESHIRE

AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2011

Abstract

Further trial trench evaluation were conducted at Highflyer Farm, Ely in the autumn of 2011 following on from earlier stages of geophysical survey and trial trench excavation. This stage of fieldwork confirmed five principal groups of archaeological remains; a large isolated middle to late Iron Age pit, a rectangular enclosure, an area of scattered pits, a concentration of late Iron Age and Roman enclosures and a post-medieval brick kiln.

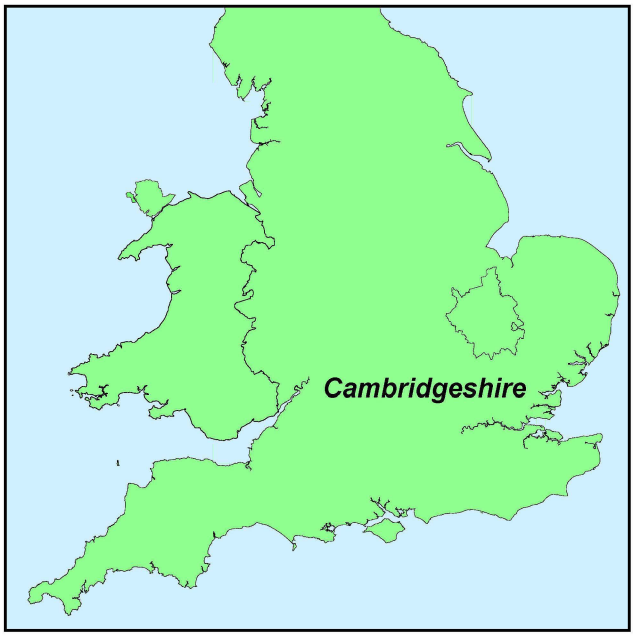
Pits and enclosure ditches produced pottery which was predominantly late Iron Age, representative of small localised features created from the 1st century BC, with perhaps some used into the 1st century AD. Up to four small rectangular and sub-rectangular enclosures may have been present, together with scattered groups of pits. Most of this activity was abandoned before the Roman period.

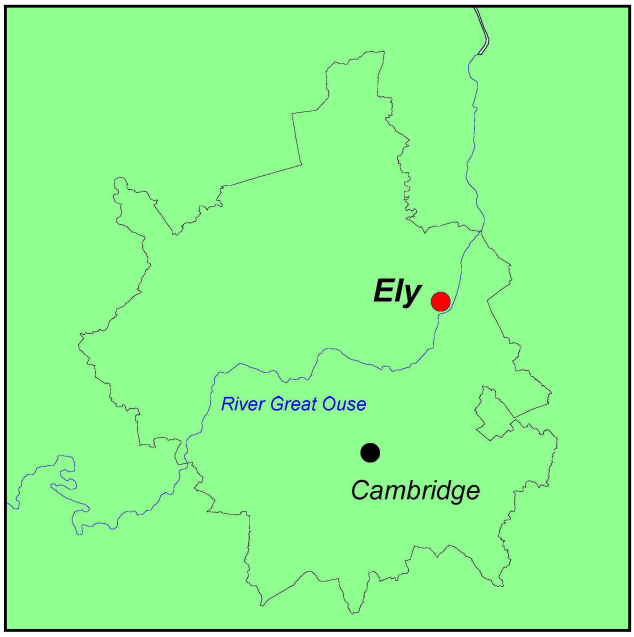
A group of enclosures were established in the late Roman period, probably during the 3rd to 4th centuries, but were abandoned by the late 4th century. A possible hoard of late 4th-century coins, was discovered and reported under the terms of the Treasure Act 1992. Other finds of pottery, metal and animal bone all suggested that they originated from domestic debris, but the lack of evidence for building materials or structural features suggested that this was probably midden waste carted from elsewhere.

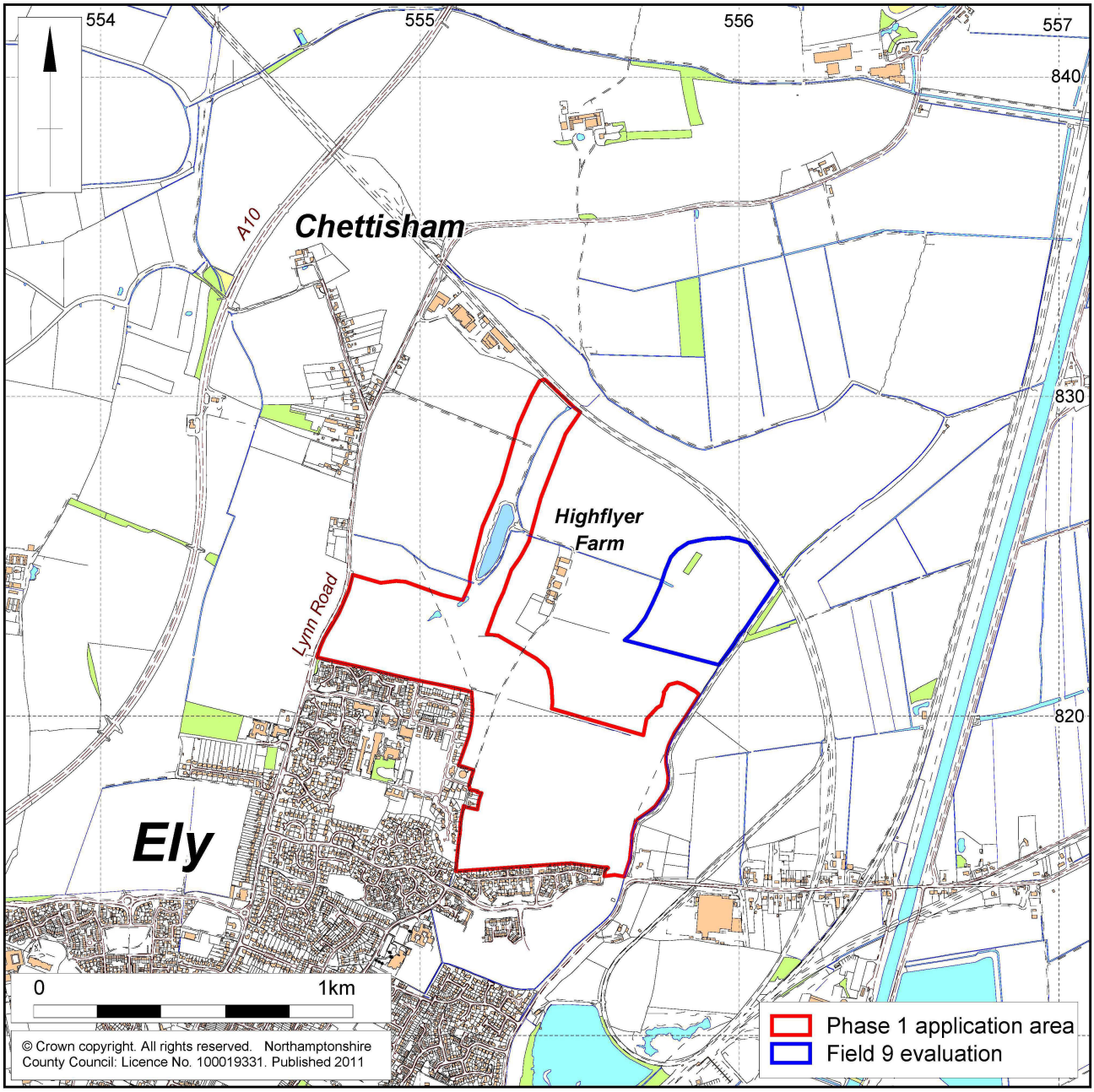
1 INTRODUCTION

An archaeological trial trench evaluation was carried out by Northamptonshire Archaeology which investigated geophysical anomalies identified on land at Highflyer Farm, Ely, Cambridgeshire within the proposed residential development (centred on NGR TL 5540 8240; Fig 1). The work was undertaken for CgMs Consulting Ltd for their clients, the Commissioners of the Church of England. A desk-based assessment was conducted for the proposed development (Dawson 2010). The site encompasses *c*27ha of arable land which was subject to geophysical survey (Walford 2010; 2011). Initial trial trench excavations within the south of the site, earlier in the year, have shown that prehistoric activity was present in the late Neolithic and late Bronze Age, and that small scale scattered settlement activity may have been present in the early to middle Iron Age (Taylor 2011, 33). Major changes occurred in the 2nd-4th centuries, with large areas of land parcelled up into rectangular enclosures. The former Roman Field systems were attractive to the Anglo-Saxon settlers and their occupation and reuse in part was identified from the early to middle Saxon period.

Further archaeological site investigation was required by Cambridgeshire County Council for the land north of the initial works. A Written Scheme of Investigation was produced in advance of the fieldwork and trench positions were agreed with the planning authority to ensure compliance with the brief (Maull 2011). The work was monitored by the authority officer.







Scale 1:20000

Site location Fig 1

Northamptonshire Archaeology is an Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) Registered Organisation (RAO48). All work was undertaken in accordance with current best archaeological practice as defined in the Institute for Archaeologists *Code of Conduct* (IfA 2010), *Standard and Guidance for an archaeological Field evaluation* (IfA 2008), regional guidance (Gurney 2003) and the procedural documents of English Heritage (EH 1991a; b; 2002; 2006).

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 Archaeological background

What is currently known about the archaeology of the immediate area was summarised in the desk-based assessment, as summarised below (Dawson 2011):

The surrounding area has been settled since the Palaeolithic with records showing lithic assemblages suggesting working or chipping floors (NMR3752734). Palaeolithic material has been found in the region at Shippea Hill in the Great River Ouse gravels, such finds are the result of glacial outwash deposition (CCC 2001, 27).

Evidence of Neolithic activity comprises both lithic scatters, probably the remains of working floors, and burials. Generally settlement evidence is rare, often associated with insubstantial remains or lithic assemblages. Overall there appears to be a trend towards activity away from the rivers, focussing on the high ground, perhaps accompanied by clearance for grazing and pasture.

There may have been Bronze Age settlement locally as suggested by inhumation burials discovered in 1914 at Old Pits. Fieldwalking has recorded lithic scatters, and a bronze rapier and a bronze axe head have also been found, but in general Bronze Age activity is limited.

Part of the proposed development contains occupation from the Iron Age and Roman periods, principally the northern part of a settlement seen during excavation undertaken at Prickwillow Road (Atkins and Mudd 2003). The site at Prickwillow Road identified part of a rural settlement occupied from the 5th-3rd centuries BC, with later period activity occupying the site through to the 4th century AD. Iron Age settlement was also found during construction of the Ely-Littleport Bypass and there is a cropmark enclosure beyond the northern edge of the proposed development site. Environmental changes in the Iron Age probably exploited both the agricultural potential of the area and the emerging Fenland in a period of increasingly wet seasonal weather.

Roman period settlement in the region is widespread; Akeman Street, a Roman road runs north from Cambridge through Ely. Many Roman sites were identified during the Fenland Survey (Hall 1996), the construction of the Ely Bypass and during development at High Barns and neighbouring Prickwillow Road. At the latter a Roman period settlement, cemetery and enclosures was excavated (Atkins and Mudd 2003). The Fenland Survey suggests small settlements occupied the higher ground between embayments along the shores of the island.

The Isle of Ely, with its cathedral, was a major regional centre in the medieval period, with causeways across the fens linking it with other settlements. However, much of the recorded Anglo-Saxon and medieval archaeology lies further south, towards the city centre. The medieval period probably saw a significant reduction in settlement density and by the end of the Anglo-Saxon period the fen had reached its maximum extent with Ely left as a large island linked by causeways to other settlements. To the north of

Highflyer Farm the village of Chettisham is first recorded *c*1170, but no significant medieval evidence is recorded for the area, suggesting much of it remained in agricultural use throughout the medieval period.

The site and the surrounding landscape received early enclosure before Act of Parliament, with the study area sub-divided into rectangular and sub-rectangular Fields. Highflyer Farm was known in the early 19th century as Highflyer Hall, it is shown on a series of maps from the 1st edition Ordnance Survey, 1824-1886. Within the study area there are several Listed Buildings of 18th and 19th century date. The majority are dwellings along Lynn Road.

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Highflyer

Also of relevance to this study is the history of Highflyer (1774-18 October 1793), who was an undefeated thoroughbred racehorse in the 18th century. He was bred by Sir Charles Bunbury, the fifth Baronet, and was foaled at Great Barton, in 1774. Highflyer's sire was the important Herod, one of the foundation stallions for the classic thoroughbred. Highflyer was a bay stallion with a sock on a hind pastern. He began his racing career at a time when the trend was shifting from starting thoroughbreds at the track at age five, to instead racing them at a younger age. His maiden race was in October, in a two mile event for three-year-olds at Newmarket, which he won. He returned to Newmarket the following year, beating out the four-year-olds in both the July and October meet, before winning an open stakes, as well as a match against the Matchem son, Dictator.

In 1779, he won an additional two races before Lord Bolingbroke accepted an offer from Richard Tattersall, who bought the colt for 2,500 pounds. Highflyer continued to race, winning with a walkover at Nottingham and in York at the Great Subscription Stakes. He then won the Great Subscription Stakes for a second time, before winning the King's Purse at Lichfield. He finished his racing career undefeated in 14 race starts.

Tattersall's grand plan for Highflyer was to breed the stallion to as many mares as possible, bringing in income from the stud fee. To help accomplish this, he stood Highflyer at his Red Barns farm for the initial fee of 15 guineas, eventually raising the fee to 50 guineas. Estimates have found that Tattersall made at least £15,000 each year off of Highflyer breeding, from which he built a mansion at the aptly named Highflyer Hall.

When Highflyer died on 18 October 1793, he was buried on the stud farm, supposedly in his paddock. Highflyer was the Leading Sire for 15 years (1785–1796, 1798), during which time he sired 469 winners, including three Derby winners, three St. Leger winners, and an Epsom Oaks winner.

2.2 Topography and geology

The proposed development area lies on the eastern periphery of the city of Ely, south of the village of Chettisham surrounding Highflyer Farm, a former stud farm now given over to arable. The site is situated on a broad ridge of land which slopes gradually from 5-20m above Ordnance Datum, north to south. To the north-west of the farm lies a shallow valley in which a small reservoir has been created, before the ground rises towards Chettisham and Lynn Road.

The underlying geology ranges between Lower Cretaceous Woburn Sands, the underlying Ampthill and Kimmeridge Clay and overlying mid-Pleistocene Anglian Till (BGS 2001).

3 FIELDWORK STRATEGY

3.1 Objectives

The overall aim was to investigate the considerable archaeological potential within the site. Prior to intrusive evaluation there was insufficient information to establish the possible impact of development or for the formation of an appropriate mitigation strategy.

The aim of the archaeological evaluation was:

- to determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be affected by the proposed development;
- to provide a comprehensive, illustrated assessment of the regional context within which the archaeological evidence rests and highlight any relevant research issues within a national and regional research framework;
- to provide a predictive model of surviving archaeological remains detailing zones of relative importance against known development proposals;
- to assess the impact of development;
- to assess how the archaeological remains relate to the site to the south.

In addition the work would make reference to the regional research where appropriate (Glazebrook 1997; Brown and Glazebrook 2000; Medleycott and Brown 2008).

Given the close proximity to the Iron Age and Roman occupation at Prickwillow Road the following themes for Iron Age and Roman should be considered:

- add to the knowledge of the development of the agrarian economy in the Iron Age;
- add to the knowledge of settlement chronology and dynamics in the Iron Age with particular reference to the apparent discontinuity of settlement between the early and late Iron Age;
- provide information on the economic status of Romano-British rural settlement which may indicate subsistence or market economy;
- provide information relating to changes of economic status between the late Iron Age and the early Romano-British period to assess the extent to which the conquest effected patterns of production;
- provide information to enable reconstruction of the fen edge environment;
- gain information on the changes in the wider landscape in the late Roman and post-Roman periods.

3.2 Methodology

Forty-nine trenches were excavated, each 50m long by 1.8m wide, located within the proposed housing development (Fig 2). Trenches were set out in the positions agreed by CgMs Consulting with Cambridgeshire County Council using survey grade GPS (Leica System 1200) operating to an accuracy of +/- 0.05m. The WSI presented a table of specific targets for each trench (Maull 2011, 5-7). Topsoil deposits were removed to the surface of the archaeological horizon by a tracked mechanical excavator, fitted with a toothless ditching bucket and operating under archaeological direction. Movement of machinery during site preparation was conducted in such a manner as to avoid impact on the archaeology.

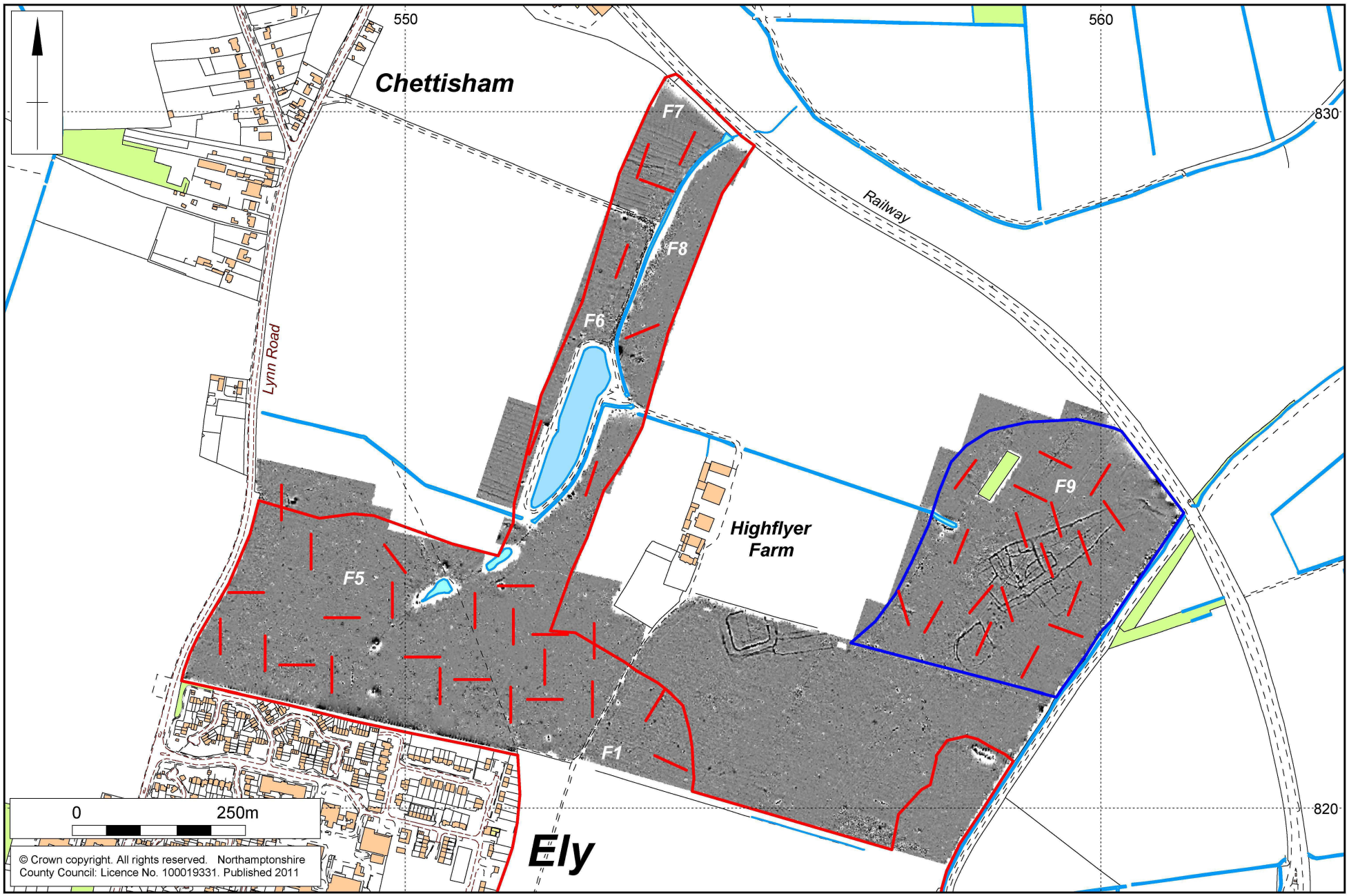
Each excavation area was cleaned sufficiently to enable the identification and definition of archaeological features. All archaeological deposits and artefacts encountered during the course of excavation were fully recorded. The recording followed the standard NA context recording system with trench record sheets using unique context numbers for each feature or deposit, cross-referenced to scale plans, section drawings and photographs; digital, 35mm monochrome film and 35mm colour film (NA 2006). Deposits were described on *pro-forma* record sheets to include measured and descriptive details of the context, its relationships, interpretation and a checklist of associated finds. Archaeological features were drawn on permatrace at scale 1:50, related to the Ordnance Survey. Sections of sampled features were drawn at scale 1:10 or 1:20, as appropriate, and all levels were related to Ordnance Survey datum. Spot heights were measured in each trench. Representative samples of all exposed archaeological features were excavated, using sections of 1.0m width or 50% of whole for pits and posthole features. Artefacts were collected by hand and from sieved samples. Spoil and the surface of archaeological features were scanned with a metal detector to ensure maximum finds retrieval. The Field data has been compiled into a site archive with appropriate cross-referencing (Event number ECB3643).

Environmental samples were collected from dated and sealed contexts comprising a total 780 litres of bulk soil, 40 litres per context where possible, or the entire excavated portion in smaller features such as pits, postholes or hearths. Samples were collected and stored in sealable buckets from securely stratified deposits with minimal risk of contamination (EH 2002). All samples were processed at Northamptonshire Archaeology by specialist staff using the flotation technique to retrieve seed, charcoal and other remains. The resultant residues were hand sorted to retrieve bones and other finds.

4 THE EXCAVATED EVIDENCE

The division of the site by Field numbers is related directly to the geophysical survey, using the same system of numbering (Fig 2; Walford 2011). In addition, context data recorded on the *pro-forma* trial trench log sheets is reproduced as a tabulated inventory in Appendix 1. The following site narrative summarises this information with reference to specific trenches and features where appropriate.

The context numbers used convey the trench number from the initial digits; context 10104 is therefore from trench 101, and context 6810 is from trench 68, and so on.



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Geophysical survey and trench location Fig 2

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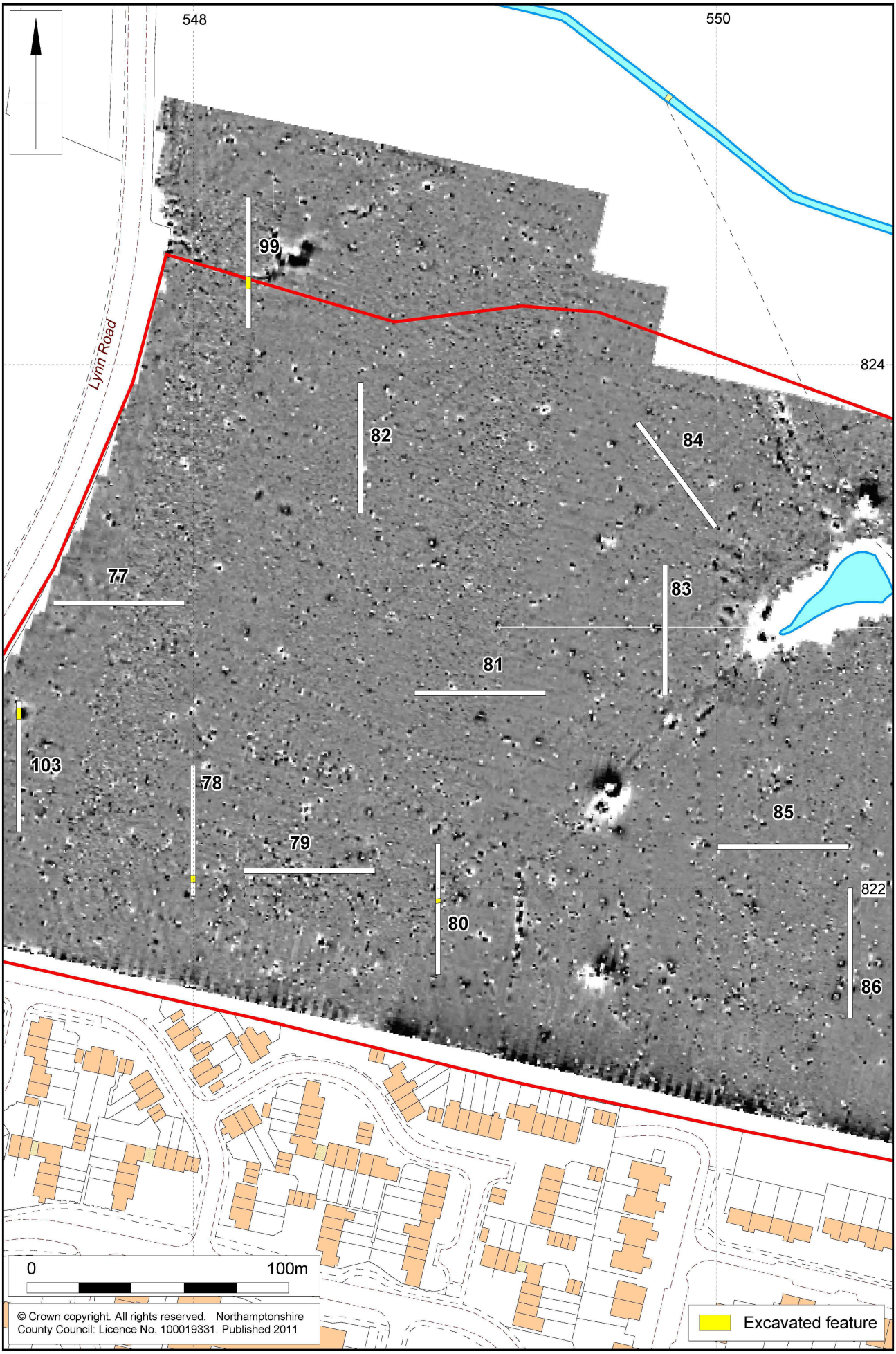
Fields 1 and 5 (east), trenches 87-96, 101 and 102 Fig 3



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Field 5 (west), trenches 77-86, 99 and 103 Fig 4

4.1 Fields 1 and 5

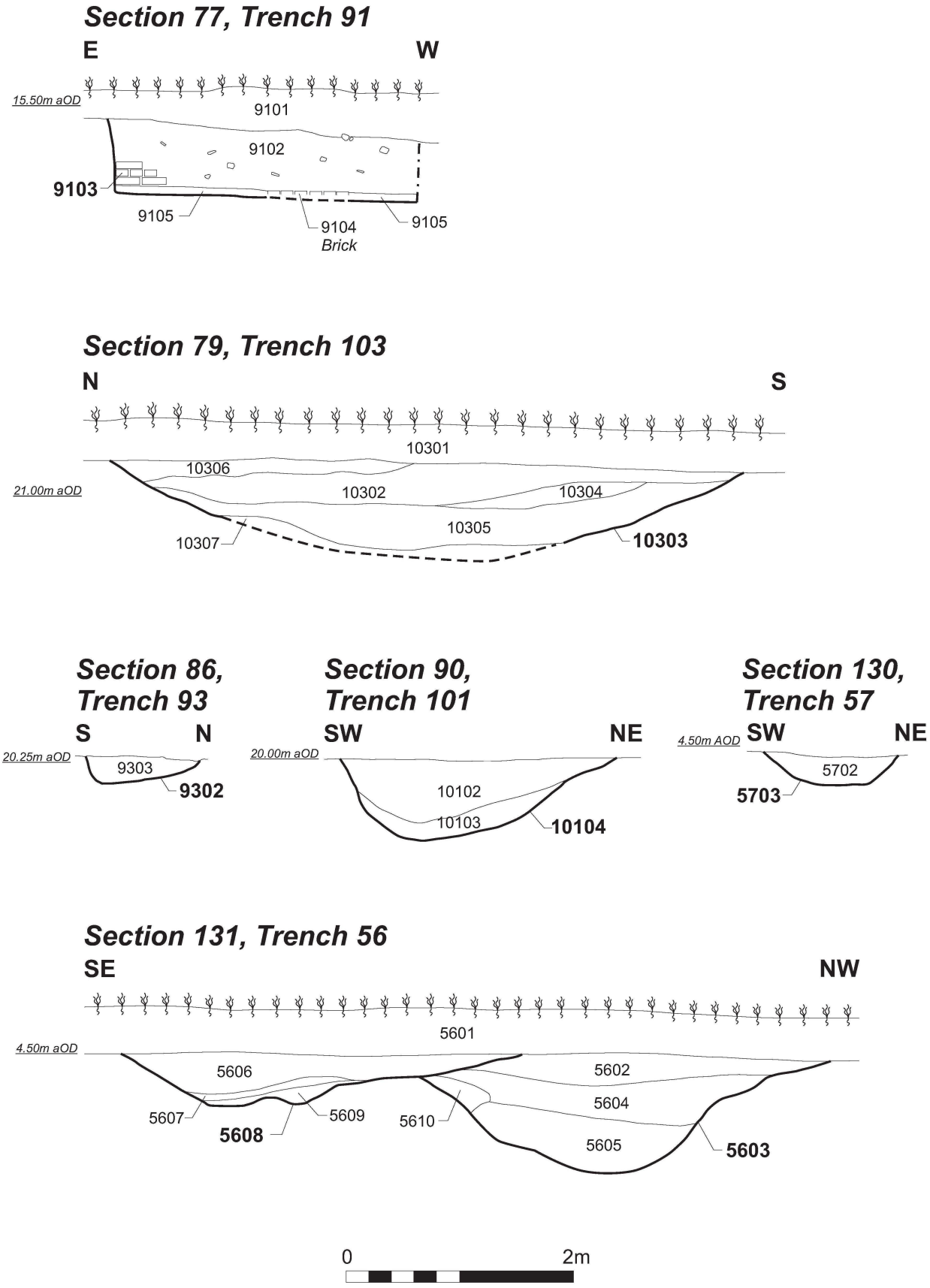
The whole of Field 5, within the survey area, and the western part of Field 1 were subject to trial trench excavation. Archaeological features were identified within eight of the twenty-five trenches across this area, south-west of Highflyer Farm. These features were all discrete from each other and scattered, with no relationship between them.

The features comprised three late Iron Age pits; two undated ditches, three post-medieval ditches and a post-medieval brick kiln.

Iron Age pits

The middle to late Iron Age pits were located in trenches 93, 101 and 103 (Figs 3-4). Although the features were widely distanced apart, they do substantiate the presence of scattered pits as predicted by the geophysical survey (Walford 2011, 4). The features were of differing proportions. The largest of the pits, 10303, was 5.7m wide by over 0.8m deep (Figs 5-6, S79); pit 10104 was smaller at 2.4m wide by 0.7m deep (Fig 6, S90) and the smallest, pit 9302, was only 1.0m wide by 0.24m deep (Fig 6, S86). The fill of each pit differed, usually with multiple deposits, comprising both silty and sandy clays in a variety of light and dark colours indicative of both burnt waste deposits, and buried loam. The Iron Age pottery from each of these features was comparable based on the pottery forms and fabrics. Pit 10303 produced the most substantial assemblage of 207 sherds of middle to late Iron Age pottery.

Pit 10303, Trench 103, looking south-east Fig 5



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Sections of features in Fields 1 and 5 Fig 6

Undated ditches

One of the undated ditches, 9804, was identified in trench 98, aligned roughly west to east, but was not visible on the geophysical survey. The ditch was fairly truncated at 1.16m wide by 0.30m deep, the 50-60° sloping sides met a flat base, with a fill of mid-orangey-brown clay silt with mottled iron and manganese salts.

The other undated ditch lay in trench 99, aligned roughly east to west, it was broad and shallow at 4.6m wide by 0.34m deep. Gently sloping sides indicated a fairly considerable spread deposit to either side of the principal cut, and a slightly sharper drop to a flattish base in the middle indicated the remains of a ditch. The fill comprised firm mid-dark orange-reddish-brown clay silt, largely sterile of other inclusions except small pebbles and manganese salts. The spread produced three undiagnostic worked flints and, combined with the circular form on the geophysical survey (Fig 4), it may indicate a ploughed out barrow where the spread may be the remnant of the mound.

Post-medieval boundaries

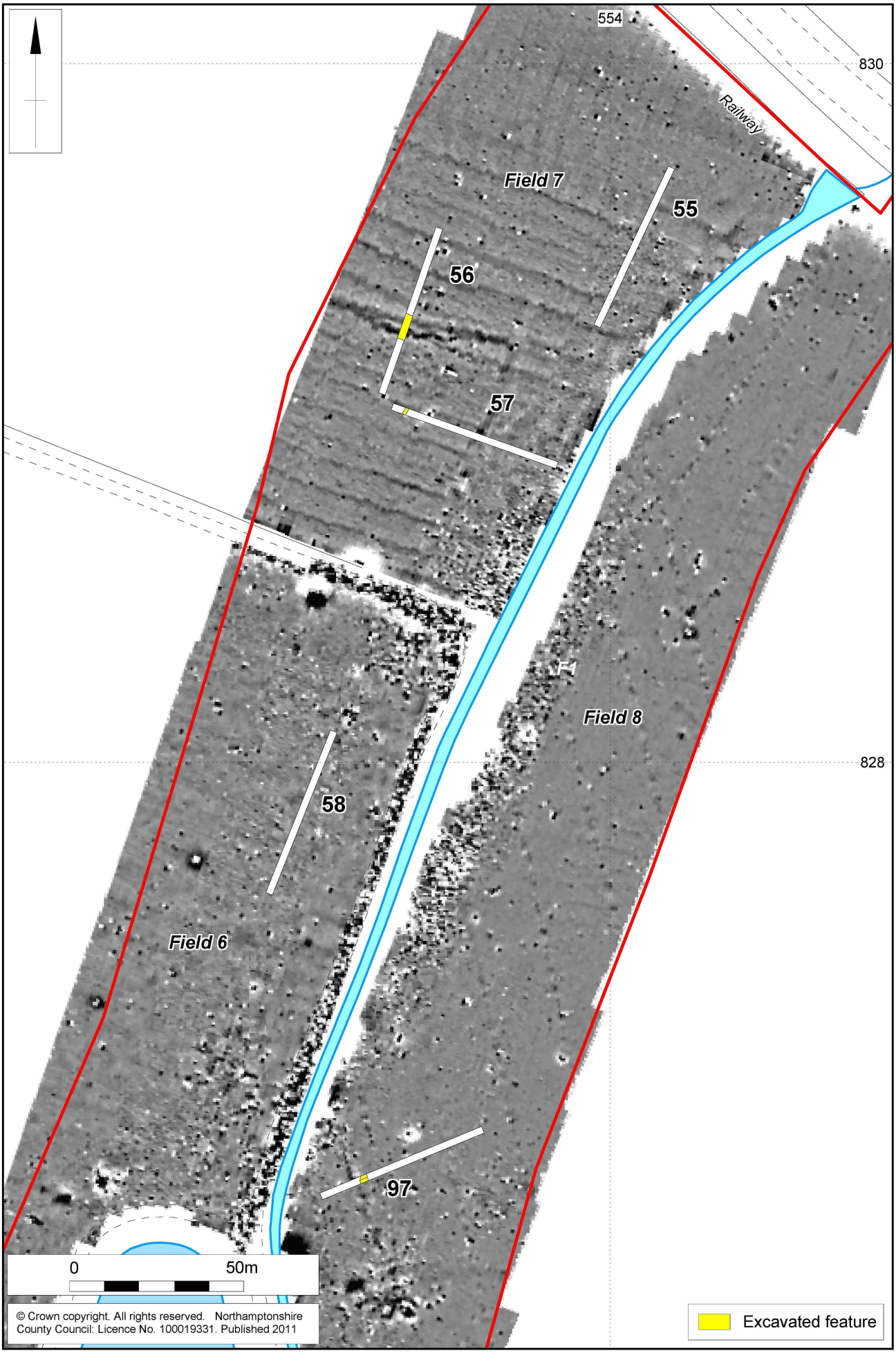
Post-medieval ditches were identified in trenches 78, 80 and 89. The features are not easily visible on the geophysical survey and only one of the ditches is mapped by the 1st edition Ordnance Survey. This is aligned north-east to south-west along the course of a public footpath and was identified in trench 89. All three ditches were fairly well preserved, with less evidence of truncation, except where disturbed by field drains. They were generally 1.38-1.60m wide by 0.40-0.55m deep, with steep V-shaped sloping sides, with fills of dark blackish-brown silty clay loam, with occasional flint and chalk inclusions. The ditches all produced nails, brick and tile of the 18th-20th centuries which may indicate boundaries associated with the former stud farm.

Post-medieval brick kiln

A substantial rectangular feature, which appeared as an anomaly on the geophysical survey, was excavated to expose part of a brick kiln, 9103 (Figs 6-7, S77). The feature is in close proximity to two large ponds, which may be former clay extraction pits.

The kiln was aligned north-west to south-east, 4.5m wide by 0.47m deep, constructed from bricks which had become vitrified on their inner surface from the heat of continued firing. The kiln wall survived on the north-east side, which was 360mm wide by 110mm deep, constructed from two courses of bricks set on their edge. A brick surface lay towards the centre, formed by brick bats laid flat upon natural clay, six bricks wide (685mm) and one course deep (58mm thick). Between the kiln wall and the brick bat floor was the remains of a decayed mortar floor, 40mm thick. The whole feature showed signs of having been demolished, the remains of its structure being used to fill the void. This fill comprised mottled reddish-brown clay with moderate blue clay patches and contained frequent brick and tile. This material, whilst providing clear evidence of late post-medieval brick manufacture on the site, is not closely datable, and it is not clear whether the kiln dates from the 18th-century stud farm, the construction of the 19th-century Highflyer Hall or more recent 20th-century building work.

Brick kiln 9103, Trench 91, looking north-east Fig 7



Scale 1:1500 (A4)

Fields 6 - 8, trenches 55-58 and 97 Fig 8

4.2 Fields 6-8

The portions of Fields 6-8 that are subject to the current planning application were covered by geophysical survey (Fig 8; Walford 2011). Anomalies were identified within Fields 7 and 8, but there were no features visible in Field 6. Trial trench excavations have confirmed that these geophysical anomalies correlate with archaeological features.

The features comprised three late Iron Age ditches, which are part of a probable enclosure; and post-medieval water channel.

Iron Age enclosure ditches

A ditch, 5603, and its recut, 5608, were excavated in trench 56 (Figs 6 and 9, S131); another ditch, 5703, was excavated in trench 57. The first of these had been visible on the geophysical survey, forming one side of a possible rectangular enclosure. Ditches 5603/08 were aligned west to east, down the slope. The principal cut of ditch 5603 was 3.85m wide by 0.84m deep with steep asymmetrical sides that curved towards a flattish base. It was filled with gradually merging layers of greyish clay silt in various mottled hues, the darkest of which lay at the uppermost horizon. The recut, 5608, lay on its south side and was smaller, 2.0m wide by 0.53m deep, with slightly shallower cut sides. Similar greyish clay silt fill to its antecedent suggested that this ditch also gradually filled with wash sediments. Together these ditches produced a fairly sizable quantity, 67 sherds, of Iron Age pottery.

Ditches 5603/08, Trench 56, looking south-west Fig 9

Ditch 5703 was probably part of the same enclosure, perhaps a sub-division (Fig 6, S130). The ditch was aligned roughly north to south, it was 1.19m wide by 0.31m deep, with 45° sloping sides and a flat base. The fill was much the same as the ditches in trench 56. On the geophysical survey the feature was obscured by later ploughing,

and since there was no evidence for ridge and furrow, it likely this is the result of the modern plough alignment.

Post-medieval water channel

Trench 97 contained a single feature, a former water channel, 9704, aligned north to south, following the base of the natural slope. This channel was 1.7m wide by 0.27m deep and had irregular sides in plan, unlike other straight-sided ditches. The profile was steep, although slightly ragged, and there was an uneven flattish base. It had silted up gradually with dark bluish-grey clayey silt from which a piece of clay tobacco-pipe stem was recovered. The channel appeared to be the forerunner of the modern drainage ditch, which follows the natural topography.

4.3 Field 9

The whole of Field 9 was covered by geophysical survey (Fig 10; Walford 2011). An extensive complex of geophysical anomalies was revealed that was considered likely to conform to archaeological remains in the form of settlement and/or agricultural enclosures. Trial trench excavations have confirmed that these geophysical anomalies correlate with archaeological features and, in addition indicate that there are likely to be more than one phase of activity.

Two distinctly separate periods were indicated by the pottery, late Iron Age transitional pottery and late 4th-century Roman pottery. Small quantities of pottery from the interim period of the late 1st to 3rd centuries AD were only found as residual finds in late 4th-century contexts. There was a general lack of building materials or structural features to suggest the presence of buildings; domestic, agricultural, ancillary or otherwise. The principal function of this site appears to be the enclosures themselves.

The archaeological evidence comprised three focal areas of late Iron Age features, probably part of early enclosures; a 3rd- to 4th-century Roman enclosure complex, two post-medieval ditches and two large post-medieval pits.

Late Iron Age enclosures

Late Iron Age pottery and transitional type fabrics were identified in features found in trenches 61, 66 and 70 (Fig 10). These three locations provide the focal points for late Iron Age activity, which correspond with anomalies identified in the geophysical survey. In the location of trench 61 and 70 the anomalies depict smaller enclosures that appear separate to the much more widespread north-east to south-west trend of features. In the location of trench 61 there was a smaller discrete sub-rectangular enclosure with two straight ditches on the north-west and north-east sides, and curving ditches towards the south. In the location of trench 70 there were fainter anomalies that depicted a square enclosure, subdivided in the two north-western quarters. Features in the vicinity of trench 66 were not easily visible.

The features in Field 9 which produced late Iron Age pottery were:

Trench 61	Pit 6105, Ditches 6115 (probably residual) and 6120
Trench 63	Ditches 6305 and 6313 (probably both residual)
Trench 66	Pit/hollow 6608
Trench 70	Ditches 7007 and 7011

Scale 1:2000 (A4)

Field 9, trenches 60-76 and 100 Fig 10

Trench 66

In addition to the features that produced pottery, ditch 6606, which is undated, may be a good candidate for a prehistoric ditch (Fig 11). It lay in close proximity to pit 6608 and was of noticeably different character to datable late Roman features. The ditch was 1.20m wide by 0.52m deep with a sharp, slightly concave, V-shaped profile with a fill that was strikingly different to late Roman ditch fills. The basal fill comprised dark orange-brown clay silt with occasional charcoal and burnt stone. The upper fill was gritty blackish-grey sandy loam with frequent charcoal and burnt flint.

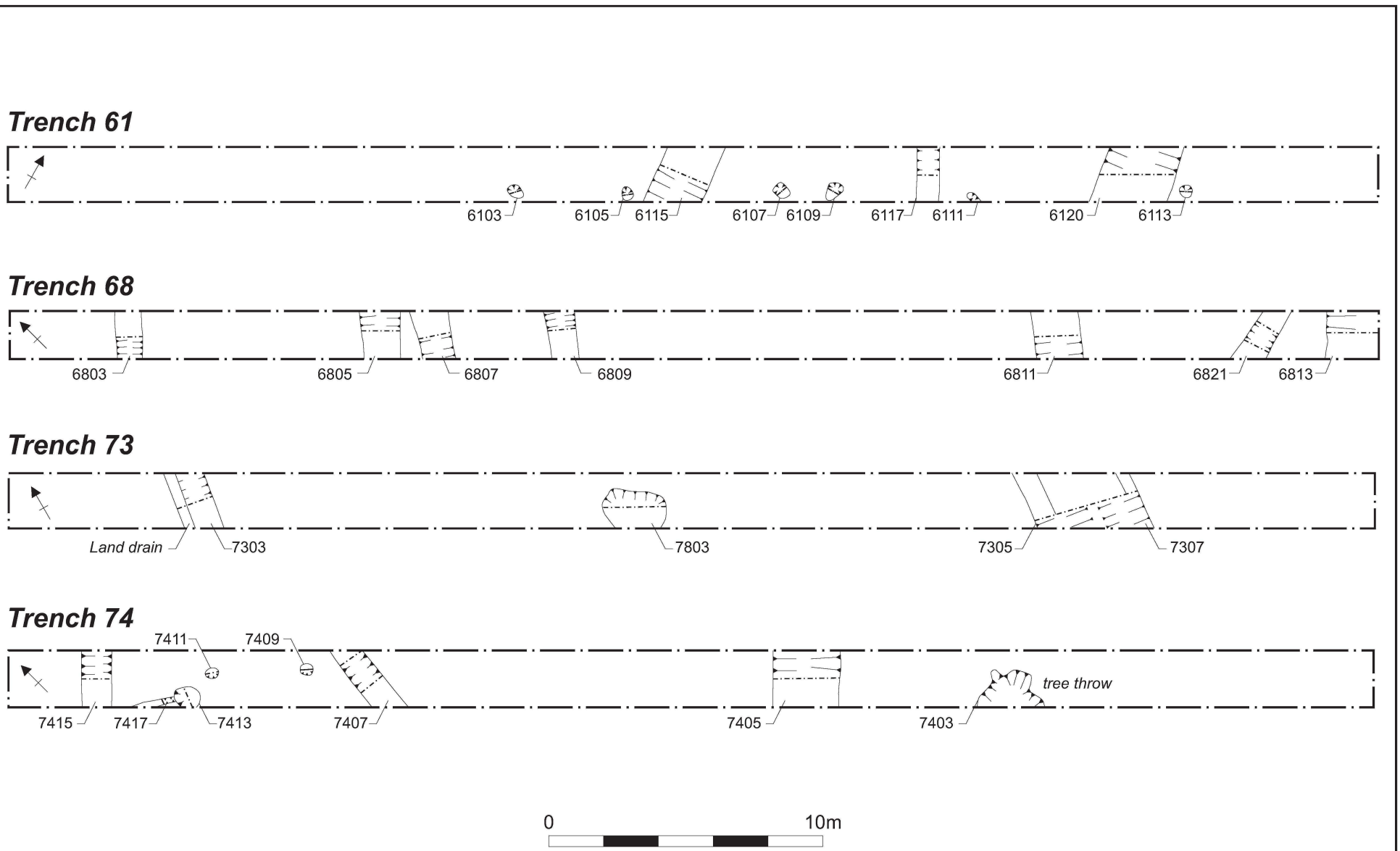
Ditch 6606, Trench 66, looking north-west Fig 11

The nearby pit, 6608, was exposed in the side of the trench. It was 1.42m wide by 0.34m deep, but had an irregular shape that was unlike most typical Iron Age pits. Despite producing sixty sherds of pottery, the feature exhibited every other characteristic of a curving tree root hollow, more akin to a rounded and sharply curving gully than a pit in the true sense, since it had a knoll of solid natural clay rising from the centre. The fill was dark blackish-brown silty clay loam with frequent charcoal patches, giving rise to the possibility that a former tree stump may have been used as the focus for an Iron Age fire pit.

Trench 61

This trench lay north-east to south-west across the north boundary of a small enclosure, with the larger part of the trench examining its interior. Ditch 6120, aligned west to east, was 2.2m wide by 0.34m deep and had shallow sloping sides that gently curved into a rounded base. Mid-orange brown clay silt lay at the edges with moderate pebble flint and was overlain by dark blackish-brown silty clay loam with occasional burnt stone, burnt clay and charcoal flecks.

Scale 1:200 (A4)



Plans of trenches 61, 68, 73 and 74 Fig 12

Scattered along the south-east side of the trench were six small pits, including pit 6105 (Fig 12, Tr61). Only one pit lay north of ditch 6120, which was pit 6113. Each of the pits was slightly different in plan, all being sub-circular with no particular similarities in form; they were distanced randomly apart varying between 2-9m. The pits were mainly 0.40-0.50m wide and most were 0.14-0.18m deep. Pit 6111 was narrower at 0.25m wide and shallower at 0.09mm deep. Each fill was sufficiently different in colour, texture and content for the pits to be individual features rather than part of a single structure.

The enclosure was bisected by ditch 6115, which is the same feature as ditch 6203, and although at this point the ditch contained Iron Age pottery, it is of post-medieval origin.

Trench 70

There were five narrow ditches towards the southern end of the trench where it might have been expected to have crossed the east corner of a square enclosure (Fig 10). The alignment of two of these ditches match well with the geophysical anomalies, but the other small features were not visible prior to excavation.

Ditches 7003/05, Trench 70, looking south-east Fig 13

The close proximity of the ditches to each other tends to suggest that there were two recuts, evidence for the continued maintenance of the enclosure, or that the enclosure was bounded by a small double ditch. Each ditch cut was quite similar in size, profile and content. Ditch 7003 and 7005, aligned north-east to south-west, and appeared to have been a pair of ditches 0.7m apart (Fig 13). They were 0.60-0.65m wide by 0.30 and 0.45m deep. Both ditches were V-shaped, but were undated. Ditches 7007 and 7011 also seem to have been a pair that was aligned west to east, 3.5m apart, they were 0.9m and 1.1m wide respectively, 0.24-0.27m deep, with almost identical 45-50° sloping sides and flat bases. The remaining ditch, 7009, was a later cut on a north-

west to south-east alignment that is undated, but of similar proportions. All of these ditches were filled with dark greyish-brown clay with occasional chalky flecks.

3rd- to 4th-century Roman enclosures

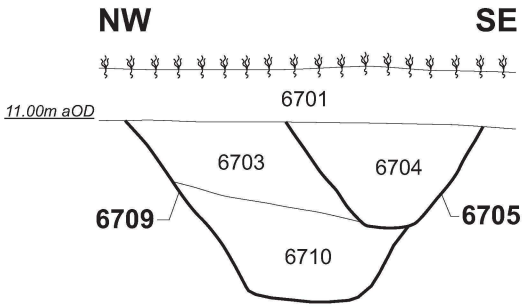
A dense concentration of anomalies was identified by the geophysical survey in the central portion of Field 9 (Fig 10). Whilst trial trenches 61, 66 and 70 have shown that some of the archaeological features belong to smaller, possibly separate, late Iron Age enclosures, the main body of the enclosure complex is much later. Pottery from the principal ditches of the main enclosure complex and its smaller features is mainly of 3rd- to 4th-century manufacture and seems to have been deposited by the late 4th-century when the proverbial hoard was deposited into the uppermost ditch fill of ditch 6811. Significantly smaller quantities of late 1st to 2nd-century material, including imported Central Gaulish samian, was residual and there is no evidence for primary deposition in the earlier Roman period. Other finds of pottery, metal and animal bone all suggested that they originated from domestic debris, but the lack of evidence for building materials or structural features indicates that this may be midden waste carted from elsewhere, perhaps from the more extensive settlement investigated to the south (Atkins and Mudd 2003; Taylor 2011).

The form of the enclosures indicates a possible association with stock-rearing. These boundaries do not have a regular form or encircle larger, well laid out fields extending over a wide area as might be expected for planting. Instead, they appear as a tangle of small paddocks and corrals clustered together within an otherwise open, unenclosed, and perhaps pasture, landscape. The orientation and form of the long axis of the site, north-east to south-west, was *c*120m long. The two principal boundary ditches gradually converged to the north-east as they descended towards the fen edge. The group of small enclosures located within the main perimeter at the south-west end were a maximum of 65m wide. The purpose of this narrow corridor for movement is not immediately clear from the present landscape, but it is possible that the relationship between the enclosure form and the fen edge was integral to the purpose of the enclosures. The possible geological anomaly to the north-east, perhaps a former stream, may also be relevant to this.

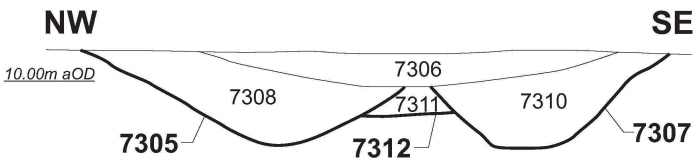
Trenches were positioned to examine the anomalies presented by the geophysical survey. The principal ditch on the north side was examined in trenches 67, 73 and 76 (Fig 14, S111, 93, 82). On the south side the principal ditch was examined in trenches 63, 68, 74 and 76 (Fig 14, S117, 107, 98, 83). Trench 64 investigated the south-west extent of the main enclosure and confirmed that there did appear to be a limit to the late Roman enclosure extent, although not the archaeology, on the south-west side, with no further late Roman features identified beyond this south-west boundary.

The northern boundary indicated an initial cut and two recuts along its length at all three points on intervention. The largest width of the ditch, which appeared to have been its final recut, in trench 67 was 2.36m wide by 1.25m deep (Fig 14, S111). In trench 73 this was 2.30m wide by 0.70m deep (Figs 14-15, S93) and in trench 76 this was 1.66m wide by 0.46m deep (Fig 14, S82). The profile of the ditch varied along its course, although it always maintained fairly steep sides. Fill material generally comprised mid-bluish-grey or brown clay silt mottled with iron salts at the base, with dark blackish-brown silty clay containing occasional burnt stone and charcoal at the surface.

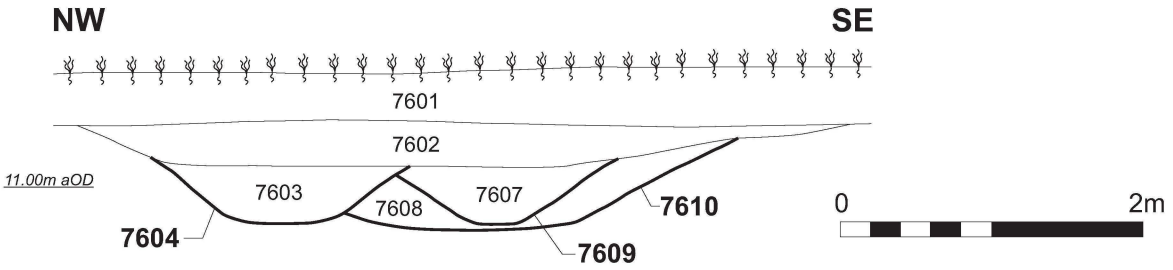
Section 111, Trench 67



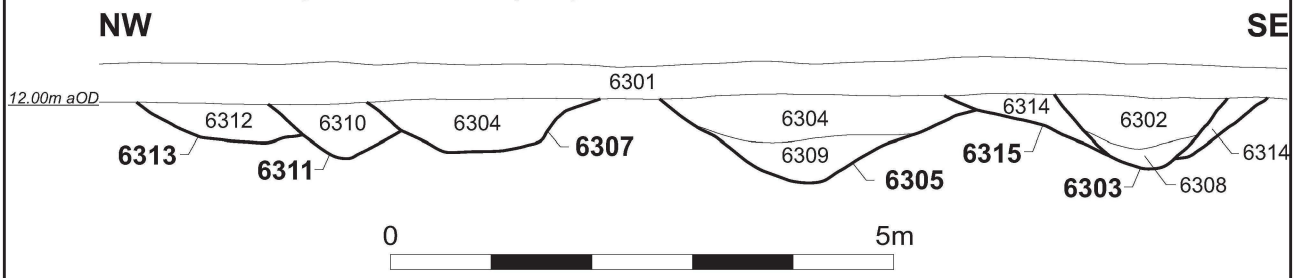
Section 93, Trench 73



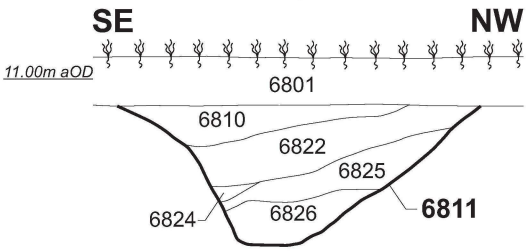
Section 82, Trench 76



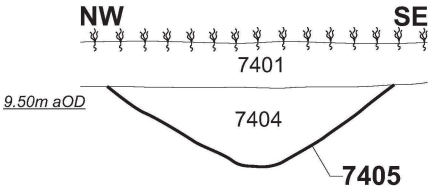
Section 117, Trench 63 (1:75)



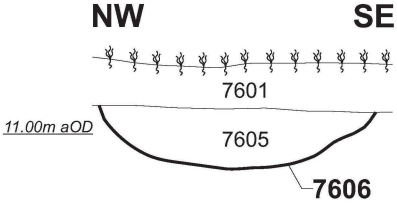
Section 107, Trench 68



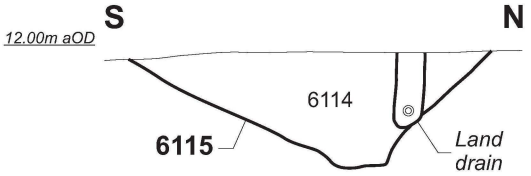
Section 98, Trench 74



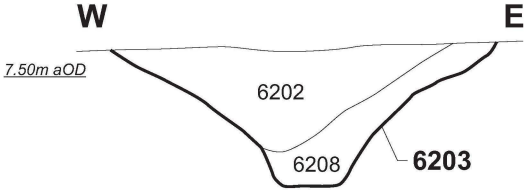
Section 83, Trench 76



Section 124, Trench 61



Section 125, Trench 62

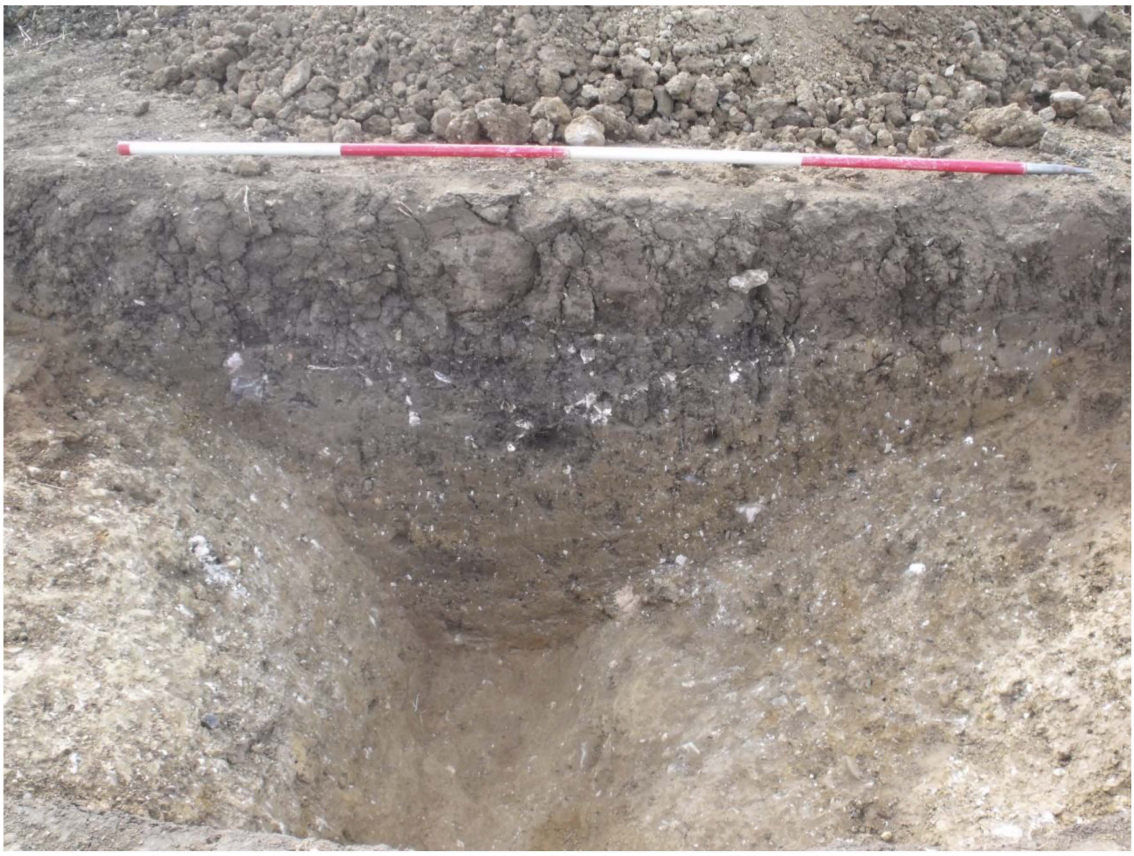


Ditches 7309/07, Trench 73, looking north-west Fig 15

A further ditch, parallel to the northern boundary was identified outside the main enclosure in trenches 65, 67 and 73 (Fig 10). The ditch represented the furthest extent of late Roman evidence to the north. This ditch was much fainter on the geophysical surveys and whilst it was not closely dated, its alignment suggests that it was contemporary to the late Roman enclosures. In trench 65 this ditch was 1.14m wide by 0.28m deep, in trench 67 it was 1.15m wide by 0.41m deep and in trench 73 it was 1.30m wide by 0.50m deep. The profile generally exhibited steep sloping sides and a flat base. The fills were greyish-brown silty clay, on the whole lighter and with fewer finds and less loamy infill material than in ditches where the geophysical anomalies were strongest.

The southern boundary was probably just as substantial, but was perhaps not so heavily maintained, for the evidence of recuts was limited and further confused by rearrangements in the layout of the internal paddocks and corrals. The ditch was probably cut initially, and then recut once at its south-west end, but not quite exactly on the same course. It seemed to lie at the extent of late Roman evidence to the south of the enclosure, although not at the extent of the archaeology. Which of the ditches shown in trench 63 represented the main southern perimeter is uncertain, but the largest of these were ditches 6305 and 6315, at 2.8-3.0m wide by 0.84m and 0.48m deep respectively (Fig 14, S117). These ditches probably continued into trench 68 where they were identified as ditches 6811 and 6813. The first of these was 1.84m wide by 0.90m deep and was where the coin hoard was found (Figs 14 and 16, S107). The latter was only partially exposed at the south-east end of the trench and was therefore over 2.1m wide, with an edge flattening off at the base 0.44m deep. In trenches 74, ditch 7405 was 2.25m wide by 0.41m deep (Fig 14, S98) and in trench 76; ditch 7606 was 1.55m wide by 0.32m deep (Fig 14, S83). The fill deposits were, generally, similar to those on the northern boundary; greyish-brown clay silt mottled

with iron salts or flecked with chalk at the base, and dark blackish-brown silty clay at the surface. However, there were fewer episodes of deposition and the silting appeared to be generally lighter and less mottled, implying a drier ditch line. Overall the comparison of the sections exhibited a southern boundary, also with steep sides, but which was shallower and subject to less intense silting.



Ditch 6811, Trench 68, looking south-west Fig 16

The smaller corrals and enclosures within the complex were mainly located towards the northern side. The two principal ditches were fairly substantial and the north side was recut on at least two occasions, whilst the south side was recut once, and not all along its length. This indicated not only a relatively high level of importance attached to enclosure maintenance, but also that the activities for which the enclosures were used may have required good drainage of water or effluent. Either way the northern boundary was subject to silting to a much greater degree, and requiring more extensive maintenance within a fairly short period.

The smaller subdivisions within the main enclosure also had fairly substantial ditches. Several of these were examined in trenches 68 and 74 (Fig 12). Ditches 6803/05/07/09 and ditches 7407/15 were examples that demonstrated proportions in the range 1.00-1.74m wide by 0.24-0.61m deep. Most of these examples had fairly steep sloping sides that narrowed towards a flattish base, similar to the principal ditches. Fills also exhibited a consistent trend with lighter mottled clay silt sediments at the base and darker finds rich deposits towards the surface.

The only evidence for upright posts comes from trench 74. Two postholes, 7409/11, were excavated. The postholes were circular in plan, 0.30-0.31m wide by 0.11m and 0.22m deep respectively. The sides were almost vertical, and the bases were flat. They were located between ditch 7407 and the terminal of ditch 7413, suggesting that the timber uprights they held were probably not part of a larger structure.

Some small fires may have been set, perhaps to dispose of waste, perhaps as temporary camp fires. Trench 73 identified pit, 7303, that was 2.09m long by 0.11m deep (Fig 17). The pit was sub-circular, longer than it was wide and was little more than a shallow depression in the natural clay. The dark blackish-brown silty clay fill contained several large burnt stones and a fragment of quern, as well as pottery and animal bone, but was not too dissimilar to the upper fills of most of the nearby ditches. This possible spread of burning may be the remains of a fire pit that was located outside the main enclosure, but within the northernmost extent of late Roman features marked by the line of ditch 6707/7305. There was a general lack of scorching of the natural and it could well have been a surface fire, turned over into the soil when it burned out.

Pit 7303, Trench 73, looking south-west Fig 17

Post-medieval boundaries

Two ditches in Field 9 produced tile or other artefacts of 18th-19th-century date (Figs 10 and 14, S124-125). The ditches form the south and west sides of a former subdivision of the modern open field and may be part of the earlier farm enclosures as depicted by the map of 1824 (Dawson 2010, fig 4).

The ditch which best matches the early map evidence was located in trench 100, ditch 10006, which was aligned south-west to north-east, and was 2.15m wide by 0.85m deep. Although the map does not show its continuation towards the fen edge, ditches 7105/7204 lay upon a similar course showing that it was 0.95m wide by 0.38m deep in trench 71, but was truncated to 0.68m wide by 0.21m deep in trench 72. Steep sloping sides curved into a narrow flattish base, and the ditch was filled with dark greyish-brown clay silt.

The other post-medieval ditch was aligned north-west to south-east, ditch 6005/6115/6203, and contained some residual Iron Age pottery. The ditch was 1.14m wide by 0.28m deep in trench 60, 2.4m wide by 0.66m deep in trench 61 and 2.54m wide by 0.95m deep in trench 62. The ditch had steep 45° sloping sides with a sudden break of slope that dropped vertically into the base to form a 0.4m wide flat channel at the bottom. The fill comprised dark greyish-blue and brown clay silt.

Post-medieval pits

Two large post-medieval pits were identified in trenches 66 and 100. Together they produced various recent objects, including tile, brick, iron objects, post-medieval ceramics, a honestone and an iron belt buckle.

Pit 6611 was 10.8m wide by 0.46m deep. It had a gradually sloping side on the south-west that curved towards a shallow flat-bottomed trough. The fill comprised two layers of sediment formed from orange-brown sandy clay with greyish-blue clay silt spread at the surface. The pit may have been a pond or drinking hollow for horses.

Pit 10009 was 12.0m wide by over 0.97m deep; it had a steep sloping side on the north-east that dropped at a 60° angle. The fill comprised merging greyish-brown and yellowish-grey clay silts with mottling suggestive of changes in water ground water content. The pit may have been a former pond or clay extraction pit.

5 THE FINDS

5.1 Worked flint by Yvonne Wolframm-Murray

A total of fifty-five pieces of worked flint were recovered as residual finds from Iron Age and Romano-British features. The flint comprises two cores, forty-eight flakes, two blades, one scraper, one retouched blade, one implement fragment and 3.4g debitage retrieved during the processing of environmental samples (Table 1).

Table 1: Quantification of worked flint

Description	Whole	Fragment	Burnt	Total
Cores	2	-	-	2
Flake	31	15	2	48
Blade	-	2	-	2
Worked blade	1	-	-	1
Scraper, end	1	-	-	1
implement fragment	1	-	-	1
Total	**36**	**17**	**2**	**55**

The condition of the assemblage was good. The flints showed post-depositional edge damage, displaying small edge spalls to battered and crushed edges. Patination was present on two pieces in the assemblage ranging from a slight to a heavier mottled white discolouration of the surface. Accidental burning of the flint was evident on two flakes in the form of thermal fracturing, crazing, and red discolouration.

The raw material is a vitreous flint of light to dark coloured greys and browns. There is also a small component of a more opaque brown flint. The light to dark grey and brown coloured cortex present on the dorsal surface on half of the assemblage has a generally smooth, rolled and weathered surface. The raw material was likely to have derived from local gravel deposits.

Two cores were recovered; one was a blade core with a joint and opposing striking platform that was also patinated. The second was a single platform flake core.

The majority of flints consisted of waste flakes and blades. The assemblage comprised forty-eight flakes, of which fifteen were broken, two were burnt and there were two broken blades. There were flakes with cortical striking platforms and relatively long and flat striking platforms. There were also squat flakes present in the assemblage.

The retouched tool forms comprised one end scraper, one retouched blade and one tool fragment. The end scraper had retouch on the convex distal end. The blade had invasive retouch on the dorsal surface on one lateral edge near the distal and proximal ends, the medial section displayed edge damage, perhaps through use. Additionally a worked implement fragment was recovered, which was bi-facially worked but not finished.

Technological characteristics of the assemblage suggest a broad mid- to late Neolithic or early Bronze Age date. The partially worked implement and end scraper together with the locally sourced gravel flints, the utilisation of small pebbles and above described technological characteristics is not unusual of later prehistoric worked flint. A late Mesolithic or early Neolithic date may be attributed to the blade core. The assemblage is similar in characteristics to the assemblage of the previous phase of trial trenching (Wolframm-Murray 2011).

5.2 The Iron Age pottery by Andy Chapman

A total of 369 sherds, weighing 3.05kg, of hand-built pottery attributable to the middle to late Iron Age were recovered. The greater part of the assemblage came from two trenches; ditches 5603/08 (67 sherds) and a pit 10303 (207 sherds). The other 95 sherds are small groups of material from ditch 5703 and individual pits in trenches 61, 66, 93 and 101 (Table 2).

The pottery is hard and quite well preserved, with an average sherd weight of 8.2g. The sherds show a wide colour range, with surfaces ranging from buff and pale orange, through brown to light and dark grey.

Fabrics

There is a wide variety of fabrics, including types with mixed characteristics (Table 3). In trenches 56, 57, 61 and 66, by far the most common fabric contains shell, either as thicker-walled vessels containing dense larger shell or thinner-walled vessels containing sparser quantities of finely crushed shell.

In contrast, the large assemblage from the fills of pit 103030 is dominated by thick-walled sherds from vessels containing dense angular flint inclusions, with the larger flints often protruding through the vessel surface.

The material from trenches 56, 57, 66, 93, 101 and 103 also contains occasional sherds in sandy fabrics (45 sherds), making up 12% of the total assemblage. This was quite a mixed group as these sherds on occasions also contained small quantities of shell, flint and small rounded pellets of grog. Trench 56 also produced five sherds with mixed shell and flint inclusions.

Table 2: Quantification of Iron Age pottery by feature

Fill/ Feature (type)	Fabrics					Sherds	Weight (g)
	shell	fine shell	flint	flint & shell	sandy		
5602/5603 Ditch	2	0	1	0	0	3	52
5604/5603 Ditch	1	5	0	5	0	11	71
5605/5603 Ditch	2	4	1	0	0	7	83
5606/5608 Ditch	12	29	0	0	5	46	564
5702/5703 Ditch	0	1	0	0	1	2	18
6102/6103 Pit	2	0	0	0	0	2	11
6607/6608 Pit	25	0	8	0	27	60	387
9303/9302 Pit	0	11	0	0	10	21	152
10102/10104 Pit	0	2	8	0	0	10	64
10103/10104 Pit	0	0	3	0	0	3	21
10302/10303 Pit	1	0	40	0	1	42	215
10304/10303 Pit	0	1	9	0	0	10	75
10305/10303 Pit	1	0	102	0	1	104	864
10306/10303 Pit	1	0	19	0	0	20	130
10307/10303 Pit	9	0	19	0	0	28	344
Totals	**47**	**53**	**219**	**5**	**45**	**369**	**3051**
Percentages by sherds	**15.2**	**14.4**	**56.9**	**1.4**	**12.2**		

Table 3: Iron Age fabric types

Fabric	Description	Quantity
Shell	Containing moderate to dense inclusions of crushed shell, in extreme cases up to 10mm diameter, but typically 1-4mm.	47 sherds (13%)
Fine Shell	Containing sparse finely crushed shell, up to 1mm, typically in thin-walled vessels with smoothed or burnished surfaces.	53 sherds (14%)
Flint	Containing angular pieces of flint, varying 1-6mm, with the larger inclusions protruding through the vessel wall.	219 sherds (59%)
Flint and shell	Containing shell, but also smaller quantities of angular flint.	5 sherds (1%)
Sandy	Sherds with a distinctive harsh surface texture indicating the predominance of sand in the matrix, and containing small rounded quartz grains and sometimes also either shell or flint, and occasionally small rounded pellets of grog.	45 sherds (12%)

The pottery assemblage

Many of the context groups are small and contain little diagnostic material. Only a few slightly larger context groups contain diagnostic features that define the overall chronology. It is suggested that the material from ditch 5608 can be attributed to the late Iron Age, perhaps the 1st century BC into 1st century AD, but the other groups lack specific diagnostic late forms, and can only be broadly dated to the middle to late Iron Age.

Of particular interest is the large group of material, 46 sherds, from the fill 5606 of ditch 5608, which includes a range of vessel types. There is the rim of a crudely finished small jar with an everted, rounded rim, decorated along the top with shallow fingertip impressions and with scored decoration on the body. In contrast, there are also thin-walled body sherds from several different vessels, all containing moderate to sparse finely crushed flint, with smoothed to burnished surfaces, with dark grey to black surfaces. This group of finer fabrics also includes simple upright rounded rims, a flat base and a footring base (Fig 18). The presence of the finer vessels with burnished surfaces, and particularly the footring base, suggest a late Iron Age date, no earlier than the 1st century BC, and perhaps 1st century BC into 1st century AD.

Another large group of sherds from the fill 6607 of pit 6608 comprises mainly body sherds from two vessels. A thick-walled vessel with a grey core and buff surfaces contains voids of leached inclusions, probably shell. The other vessel is thin-walled, in a hard grey sandy fabric. There were also sherds from a footring base and simple upright rounded rims from at least two small thin-walled jars. These vessels can only be broadly attributed to the middle to late Iron Age, as there are no evidently later characteristics, but this might just reflect the presence of a small group largely from only two vessels.

Scored ware jar with fingertip decorated rim and footring base from the fill 5606 of ditch 5608 (Scale 20mm) Fig 18

The fill 9303 of pit 9302 also contains a small group, probably from only two vessels, both with dark brown to grey surfaces. There is a thick-walled jar with smoothed surfaces and a rounded slightly thickened rim, like a poorly-finished bead rim. The other vessel is a small, thin-walled jar, with a simple upright rounded rim. A late Iron Age date would be appropriate for this group.

The lower fill 10307 of pit 10303 contains largely thick-walled sherds from perhaps two larger jars in shell and flint tempered fabrics. The other fills are also dominated by thick-walled sherds, 9-16mm thick, but only in fabrics containing inclusions of angular flint, typically 3-6mm diameter and protruding through both the inner and outer surfaces. They include a single sherd with a scored surface. There are body sherds and two rim sherds from smaller vessels, with simple rounded or flattened rims.

From fill 10305 of pit 10303 there is part of a flat base, 120mm diameter, with a rounded break onto a very upright, almost cylindrical, body (Fig 19). This fill also contains simple rounded and flat-topped rim sherds. The uppermost fill 10302 contains a small group dominated by sherds containing flint, including a rim sherd from a jar with a globular body running directly into an upright rounded rim.

While the assemblage from pit 10303 is large, much of it comprises undiagnostic body sherds from large jars broadly datable to the middle to late Iron Age, but there are no distinctively late forms to enable the date range to be more closely defined.

Base and lower body from the fill 10305 of pit 10303 (Scale 20mm) Fig 19

5.3 Fired clay by Pat Chapman

There are seventeen fragments, weighing 77g (Table 4). Seven, from ditch 6811, have already been noted. Four tiny fragments from ditches 7003 and 7606 are angular, irregularly-shaped pieces made from hard orange clay. The material from ditch 6809 comprises two pieces made from silty pink clay, one flat black fragment, two fragments made from red-brown clay with flint and a hard coarse sandy fragment.

Table 4: Fired clay quantification

Context/feature	No	Wt (g)	Comment
6808 / ditch 6809	6	42	
6810 / ditch 6811	7	24	Possible brick fragments
7002 / ditch 7003	1	4	
7605 / ditch 7606	3	7	
Totals	**17**	**77**	

5.4 Roman pottery by Philip Mills and Jerry Evans

There are 698 pottery sherds, weighing 6.27kg, with sixty-one rims (Minimum Number of Rims, MNR). Seven of these sherds were samian, with twenty-nine of late Iron Age to Roman transitional date.

The earliest material is in a handmade reduced fabric with coarse sand and occasional organic inclusions from ditch 7007, with the same fabric occurring in pits 6105 and 6111, and ditches 6115 and 6305, as well as examples of a handmade jar and a wheelmade jar both occurring in ditch 6120. A shell tempered ware occurs in ditch 7011 and there is also a transitional handmade shell-tempered ware sherd from ditch 6313.

Early Roman material is notably scarce. The lower fill, 6823, of ditch 6813 has an example of Horningsea reduced ware jar R02 J3.1 which has a suggested date range of Flavian to mid-Antonine (Evans *et al* forthcoming). Other material occurs residually. There is a 1st- to mid-2nd-century flint-tempered bowl wall and base fragment from fill 7306 and a residual 2nd-century, almost complete, Nene Valley greyware jar (SF 326) from the uppermost fill of ditch 6811. There is a small quantity of Central Gaulish samian which is residual in ditches 6809, 6709 and 6405.

Table 5: Main Roman pottery wares

Ware	% number of sherds	% of total weight (g)	% of minimum number of rims (MNR)
A - Amphora	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%
F - Fineware	17.6%	18.0%	37.7%
P - Late IA transitional	4.0%	4.5%	3.3%
M - Mortaria	1.7%	4.4%	1.6%
O - Oxidised	1.6%	0.4%	0.0%
R - Reduced	27.2%	32.4%	26.2%
S - Samian	1.0%	0.2%	1.6%
C - Shell	46.7%	40.0%	29.5%
Quantity	**698 sherds**	**6272g**	**61 rims**

Most of the material can be assigned a 3rd to 4th century date, with a large proportion probably dating to the late 4th century. This is suggested by the relative lack of greywares, the high proportion of shelly wares, the abundance of Oxford colour-coated finewares and mortaria, the presence of Hadham redwares, and the presence of colour-coated versions of Nene Valley greyware forms. The Oxford forms are shown in Table 8. The presence of an Oxford colour-coated Young (1977) type C51s and the absence of the usually commonest type C45 also implies a late date (cf Booth *et al* 2002, 289).

Table 5 shows the approximate breakdown of the main fabric classes from the site, with Table 6 showing the breakdown for a wider range of fabric types. The proportions of the fabric groups identified are shown in Table 7.

Table 6: Roman pottery fabrics

Code	Common Name	National Code	No	Weight (g)	MNR
A00	Amphora		1	8	
C00	Shell Tempered		323	2499	18
F01	Nene Valley colour-coated whiteware,	LNV CC	62	684	16
F02	Nene Valley colour-coated oxidised ware	LNV CC	3	82	1
F03	Hadham redware	HAD RS	26	97	1
F06	Oxford colour-coated ware	OXF CC	32	265	7
M03	Nene Valley whiteware mortaria	LNV WH	1	122	1
M09	Oxford whiteware mortaria	OXF WH	2	50	
M11	Oxford red colour-coated mortaria	OXF RS	9	102	
O00	Oxidised wares		8	17	
O04	Oxidised Horningsea ware (?)	HOR OX	3	5	
P00	IA Tradition - Common coarse sand with occasional organics		23	200	2
P10	IA tradition - Sandy with organics and occasional grog		1	7	
P30	IA tradition with flint temper		1	8	
P40	IA tradition with shell temper		3	70	
R00	Other reduced wares		67	461	1
R02	Horningsea greyware	HOR RE	60	822	9
R021	Horningsea handmade greyware	HOR RE	1	4	
R04	Horningsea burnished ware	HOR RE	6	65	2
R05	A reduced ware with a grey core and margins and dark grey surfaces, with common abundant fine sand temper c0.05mm. Lucas (1997) fabric 38		4	22	
R10	Sandy greyware		2	6	1
London ware	London type ware with silver mica and fine sand with occasional coarse shell.		1	59	1
R21	Nene Valley greyware with grey slip	LNV RE	6	61	1
R22	Nene Valley greyware	LNV RE	37	475	3
R33	Wattisfield (?)	WAT RE	6	56	
S00??	Samian	LEZ SA	1	1	
S20	CG Samian		6	11	1
Z20	Later Medieval		2	11	
Z30	Post Medieval		1	2	
		Total	**698**	**6272**	**61**

The quantity of amphora is very small at 0.1%. This would be in the range for a base level rural site away from any military or major economic activity. This also reflects the late date of most of the assemblage.

Shell-tempered wares are at a very high level at 48%, which reflects the late date of the site, post-dating the cessation of Horningsea production in *c*AD370. The overall fineware level (including samian ware) is 19.4% (or 20.7% including the Oxford colour-coated mortaria). This is relatively high for a Roman site, but relatively low for a late 4th century group of this type. Mortaria amount to 1.7%, oxidised wares are present at 1.6%, of which the Horningsea oxidised fabric, O04, comprises 0.4%.

Table 7: Proportions of Roman pottery

Fabric	% number of sherds	% of total weight (g)	% of minimum number of rims (MNR)
A00	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%
C00	48.4%	41.8%	28.6%
F01	9.3%	11.4%	25.4%
F02	0.4%	1.4%	1.6%
F03	3.9%	1.6%	1.6%
F06	4.8%	4.4%	11.1%
M03	0.1%	2.0%	1.6%
M09	0.3%	0.8%	0.0%
M11	1.3%	1.7%	0.0%
O00	1.2%	0.3%	0.0%
O04	0.4%	0.1%	0.0%
R00	10.0%	7.7%	1.6%
R02	9.0%	13.8%	14.3%
R021	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%
R04	0.9%	1.1%	3.2%
R05	0.6%	0.4%	0.0%
R10	0.3%	0.1%	1.6%
London ware	0.1%	1.0%	1.6%
R21	0.9%	1.0%	1.6%
R22	5.5%	8.0%	4.8%
R33	0.9%	0.9%	0.0%
S00??	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
S20	0.9%	0.2%	1.6%
Quantity	**698 sherds**	**6272g**	**61 rims**

Table 8: Oxford pottery products

Context	Fabric	Function	MNR	No	Wt (g)	Part	Form	Date AD
6802	F06			1	1	Body		240-400+
6808	F06	B	1	1	2	Rim	Young (1979) C75 Bowl rim fragment	325-400
6810	F06			1	6	Body	Bowl	240-400+
6810	M11			1	4	Body		240-400
6810	M11			3	47	Body	1 base	240-400
6812	M11			1	9	Body		240-400
6816	F06			1	2	Body		240-400+
6822	F06			1	32	Body	Burnt	240-400+
6822	F06			4	67	Base	Bowl base over cleaned	240-400+
7302	F06	B	1	1	23	Flange	Young (1977) C51 flange	240-400
7304	F06			1	3	Body	Burnt	240-400+
7304	F06	B	1	2	3	Rim	A bowl with a bead rim	240-400
7304	F06	B	1	1	36	Flange	Young (1977) C52 bowl	350-400+
7306	F06			1	10	Body		240-400+
7306	M11			2	32	Base/ Body	A Yong (1977) C97-100 mortaria	240-400
7404	F06	B	1	12	59	Rim	Young (1977) type C51, Dr 38 copy bowl	240-400+
7404	F06	B	1	3	14	Rim	Young (1977) C75 bowl with rouletting	375-400+
7404	F06	F	1	1	4	Rim	A cupped-mouth flagon	240-400+
7404	M11			1	5	Body		240-400
7406	M11			1	5	Body		240-400
7605	F06			1	3	Body		240-400+

Reduced wares are at 28%, with Horningsea greywares present at 10%, and Nene Valley greyware at 6.4%. This is a relatively low figure for greywares, again explained by the late date range of the site, after Horningsea had ceased production, and equally after the cessation of Nene Valley greyware production.

Table 9: Fabric breakdown for fill 6810, ditch 6811

Fabric	% number of sherds	% of total sherd weight (g)	% of minimum number of rims (MNR)
C00	30.7%	28.3%	36.4%
F01	14.7%	17.7%	45.5%
F06	1.3%	0.5%	0.0%
M11	5.3%	4.1%	0.0%
R00	6.7%	3.3%	0.0%
R02	2.7%	13.4%	9.1%
R21	2.7%	4.3%	0.0%
R22	36.0%	28.4%	9.1%
Quantities	**75 sherds**	**1251g**	**11 rims**

Fill 6810, ditch 6811

This context, which was the uppermost fill of ditch 6811, produced the late 4th-century copper alloy coins, which were registered as a hoard. The coins were associated with a 2nd-century almost complete Nene Valley greyware jar and the deposit contained a total of seventy-five sherds, eleven of which are rim sherds. The fabric breakdown is given in Table 9, and an approximate function breakdown is given in Table 10, although this should be treated with caution owing to the low level of rims in the group. Shell fabrics dominate at 31%, with reduced wares at 49%, somewhat exaggerated by the complete R22 vessel, with very little Horningsea (6%) again suggesting a post-AD370 date. Finewares are at 6%, or 21% including the colour-coated Oxford mortaria, are actually on the very low side for a late 4th century group, although again this may be down to the presence of the complete Nene Valley greyware jar, given that by MNR finewares are at 46% of the fabric proportion.

Table 10: Approximate function breakdown for fill 6810, ditch 6811

Constricted neck jar	Jar	Mortaria	Bowl	Lid	MNR
9%	45%	0%	18%	27%	**11**

Table 11 shows an approximate functional analysis of the assemblage. Jars are the most abundant at 53% (or 50% excluding late Iron Age transitional wares). Tablewares are moderately high at 35% (36% excluding late Iron Age transitional wares) and liquid holding vessels are at 7% with mortaria at 2% and lids at 5%. Beakers are notably absent.

Table 11: Approximate functional analysis of the assemblage by MNR

	Flagon	Jug	Constricted neck jar	Jar	Mortaria	Bowl	Dish	Lid	MNR
All Pot	3.3%	1.6%	1.6%	52.5%	1.6%	27.9%	6.6%	4.9%	**61**
Excluding LIA transitional	3.4%	1.7%	1.7%	50.8%	1.7%	28.8%	6.8%	5.1%	**59**

The number of jars in this analysis is at the low end of the typical rural site range for most of the Roman period. Here also they should be read as indicating a low status group, albeit one receiving contemporary ceramics, which many sites do not seem to in this period. Most southern Midlands groups of this date tend to have very high

fineware levels and a very strong emphasis on tablewares, this group is unusual in appearing to represent a basic level rural site, but one with access to contemporary ceramics, of which there seem to be relatively few compared with earlier in the Roman period.

Summary

There is a small quantity of earlier Roman material present, but the focus of early Roman activity is elsewhere. The majority of the material suggests a late 4th-century group focused on an area with little previous Roman activity. The understanding of the end of the Romano-British economy is indicated as an important area in the Roman pottery research framework (Willis 2004, 5.13). This makes assemblages from this site, a high priority for complete study and publication. However, there is little point in publishing the material from this assessment separately if further work is to be done on the site, but if further work is to be done then the material from this assessment should be used as a comparison to the material from the substantive excavations so that it is included in any published work.

Groups of this date, not contaminated by large amounts of earlier material are rare. Comparative groups in the area would include the Great Casterton villa (Corder 1951), and Teversham villa (Evans *et al* forthcoming). This group is of particular interest as it seems to be of much lower status than the parallels cited, where finewares tend to dominate the assemblages. The latter is equally true from similar deposits across the south of England at Bishopstone (Green 1977), Gloucester New Market Hall (Hassall 1974), and Alcester Gas House Lane (Evans 1996).

5.5 Roman building materials by Pat Chapman

There are two sherds from thin bricks. One sherd from ditch 6809 was handmade from fine hard dark red sandy clay. It is 40mm thick and *c*100mm wide (4 x 1⅝ inches). Another sherd from ditch 6811 is 35mm (1⅜ inches) thick and made from hard red-brown silty clay. These are quite thin, but are brick rather than tile. Three small sherds and seven fragments of fired clay ditch 6811 may also be brick fragments.

An unusual sherd, probably brick, comes from ditch 7415. It is made from very hard sandy clay with occasional flint, is reddish to black and was probably overfired. Very fine lines aligned in one direction cover the surface with a sheen as if it had been wiped or rubbed.

5.6 Querns and millstones by Andy Chapman

The fill 6810 of ditch 6811 contained two irregular fragments of Millstone Grit that have probably come from broken-up querns and millstones. The smaller fragment, is 150mm long, up to 87mm wide and 50m thick, has a flat grinding surface, with both surfaces blackened, either as a result of heating as a means of fracturing the stone or through secondary use. This piece is thin enough to have come from a flat rotary quern. The other fragment, is 155mm long by 80mm wide, retains a small part of a grinding surface and comes from a stone 115mm thick, indicating that it was a large thick stone that may have been part of a powered millstone assembly.

There is also a small irregular fragment of Millstone Grit, 40mm by 45mm, from fill 7406 in ditch 7407.

Previous work on adjacent areas has also recovered fragments of querns. The eleven pieces from Prickwillow Road comprised eight pieces of Millstone Grit, including a complete upper stone from a rotary quern, two pieces of lava quern and a possible saddle quern worked on a glacial boulder (Meadows 2003), while the previous phase of trial trenching at Highflyer Farm produced a single fragment of Millstone Grit from a rotary quern (Chapman 2011).

5.7 Worked bone, metal finds, glass and a spindlewhorl by Ian Meadows

Worked bone finds

There are two joining pieces of bone forming a near flat plaque the surface of which bears a series of engraved concentric circles (four circles around a central dot) 18, 12, 8 and 4mm diameter. The piece was sawn to shape, it was possibly originally square, and two corners survive, 63mm long and at least 22mm wide. There was a concentric circle design in both corners and along the broken edge traces of an off-centre positioned further similar element. In one corner a pair of drilled holes 4mm and 2.5mm diameter was present, one of which cut the circular design, in the other corner two conjoined drilled holes of similar size laid beside the decorative element. Pieces like this are generally seen as decorative mounts to boxes or furniture (Crummy 1983, 82-4). SF319 and 1104, fill 6810, ditch 6811.

Joining pieces of a decorated bone plaque, fill 6810, ditch 6811 (Scale in mm) Fig 20

Iron finds (excluding nails)

An adze-hammer, 190mm long, comprises a near circular eye/socket 21mm by 20mm with a collar 38mm long. The hammerhead is of sub-square cross-section, 50mm long and about 20mm across, finishing in what appears to be a slightly domed and burred end. The adze blade lies at a sharp angle and has splayed straight sides, flaring 15-50mm across at the convex cutting edge. This is undoubtedly a carpenter's tool of which many examples are known (Manning 1985 17-18). SF120, fill 6810, ditch 6811.

An adze-hammer, 210mm long, comprises an oval eye/socket 25mm wide and 30mm long with no real collar extending below the 30mm deep eye. The 37mm long hammerhead is of sub-square section, 20mm by 18mm, and finished in a slightly domed and slightly burred end. The 120mm long adze blade is curved outwards. It has straight splayed sides, flaring from 20-67mm at the convex cutting edge. SF301, fill 6810, ditch 6811.

Adze-hammers, SF120 (left) and SF301 (right), fill 6810, ditch 6811 (Scale 200mm) Fig 21

A 90mm long square-sectioned bar tapering to both ends. The piece is about 10mm across at its widest point. The shape of this piece is similar to that of iron files of the Roman period but without an X-ray it is unclear if the faces had been cut (Manning 1985, 11). SF303, fill 6810, ditch 6811.

A large spike, 162mm long, with a tapering square-sectioned shank, thinning from 10mm across to a point. At the opposite end the shank broadens in one plane to a width of 25mm to form a head 15mm in depth, the upper surface of which might be slightly burred from having been struck. SF 327, fill 6810, ditch 6811.

A penannular ring comprising an incomplete circle of iron about 2-3mm in thickness. It is possible this is a penannular brooch but no pin is present and no detail of the terminals can be discerned. SF850, fill 6810, ditch 6811.

Iron nails

There are a total of twenty-four nails, two of these are hobnails from ditch 6809 and pit 7303. The remainder are a variety of tapering square-section shanks with flat rectangular, sub-rectangular and triangular shaped heads, mainly conforming to the recognised Roman Type 1 (Manning 1985). All of the nails are from Roman contexts in Field 9.

Copper alloy finds (excluding coins)

A small copper alloy ingot 42mm long, up to 13mm wide and 2.5mm thick. Pieces like this sometimes occur as 'make weights' in groups of small coins perhaps reflecting that they functioned by weight of metal rather than number of coins. This piece may join to a similar piece which is a 16mm long rectangular section bar 6mm by 4mm. SF38 and 302, fill 6810, ditch 6811.

Two small thin fragments of copper alloy sheet, 0.25mm thick, one measuring 13mm by 13mm and the other 16mm by 7mm. Each piece preserves sections of straight edges but the faces are plain. Thin metal sheets like this are usually interpreted as decorative mounts for either wooden items such as furniture or boxes or attached to textiles, the current pieces have no obvious perforations indicating their means of attachment. SF328, fill 6810, ditch 6811.

Three large fragments of bent and distorted copper alloy sheet, 0.5mm thick. SF302, fill 6810, ditch 6811:

Copper alloy sheet, 100mm by 80mm. The original form of the piece is unclear although there is a strong indication that it preserved a rounded edge, as parallel to the bent edge a shallow groove was present suggesting it was a deliberate feature. If this were the case it is likely the metal was part of a box or furniture cladding. Two burred holes about 3mm across of irregular near sub-square shape were present perhaps where a nail or tack had been driven through and a rivet was still *in situ* in a third perforation.

Copper alloy sheet, 95mm by 80mm and comprising a flat piece of metal to which a second plate had been fixed by means of rove rivets presumably repairing a gash. The patch measured 60mm by 55mm and was held in place by at least ten rivets.

Copper alloy sheet, 65mm by 45mm and bent to form a rounded edge. On one face a sub-square patch of metal has been attached by eleven rivets to patch a small crack in the metal.

In addition to the three larger pieces there are several smaller fragments. That the sheet was repaired by riveting additional sheets to it suggests it was important that it did not leak, it is unclear if this potential leakage was of fluids or items however such repairs would be unlikely were it to serve as a surface embellishment of an item of furniture.

Individual coins (not from the hoard)

A 16mm diameter 4th-century coin with the faint outline of a winged victory on the reverse, none of the legend was visible although the letters OF are present in the Field. Possibly a SECURITAS REPUBLICAE issue of the third quarter of the 4th century. SF1122, fill 6708, ditch 6709.

An 18mm diameter coin of Valens. The partial obverse legend reads]-SPFAVG. The reverse bears the legend SECVRITAS REIPVBLICAE with an advancing victory and OF I in the Field. The mintmark is LVGP indicating Lyons, AD364-378. SF1148, fill 6310, ditch 6311.

Glass finds

There are three splinters of light yellowish-green and clear glass, 0.5-1mm thick, which are possibly pieces of vessel glass but are too small to identify. Ditches 6303, 6405 and pit 7303.

Spindlewhorl

A spindlewhorl made from the base of a Nene Valley colour-coated pot, possibly a flask or beaker. The base is 47mm in diameter and the base of the vessels wall has been crudely nibbled down to just above the inside of the base. The slightly off-centre hole is 6mm diameter, drilled from the outside, as illustrated by the spalling around the edge of the hole of the inside of the base. SF1123, fill 6808, ditch 6809.

Summary

Most of the objects cannot be closely dated. The copper alloy sheet fragments, preserving repairs, suggest a container; perhaps for fluids, but its form could not be determined. The small copper alloy ingot is of note given the context of the site and the

recovery of a large coin hoard, many of which are cast copies, as it is exactly this form in which the metal may have been used to produce the coins.

The glass fragments are too small to identify what sort of vessel they might be derived from and small shards such as these might migrate vertically through the action of worms. The bone plaque is a good example of its kind and the pottery spindlewhorl suggests the occurrence of craft activities on the site.

The two adze hammers are nice examples of this type of tool and would be associated with carpentry, their burial together is unusual and might suggest some symbolic act. The nails are of various sizes but nothing exceptional or unusual in type, most had Type 1 square-sectioned shanks (Manning 1985) and might be used for structural woodwork as well as carts or slighter works. The absence of wood impressions preserved in the majority of corrosion deposits is of interest. The possible file and penannular brooch would benefit from X-ray to elucidate their form; the other pieces would be worth X-ray simply to provide a stable record of them.

5.8 A late 4th-century coin hoard by Ian Meadows

This report is the result of a rapid overview of the coins recovered as a hoard from the uppermost fill 6810 of ditch 6811, into which they had presumably been placed. Full and detailed examination such as outlined in the English Heritage guide has not been carried out at the present time although subsequent full reporting is desirable (Brickstock 2004). The find was made during an archaeological evaluation and the level of analysis has been to a commensurate level to identify potential, as well as provide solid dating evidence for the find.

As the hoard was discovered during machining the coins were not seen to form a concentration indicative of a box or bag, however, examination of the coins showed many had ‘nibs’ of corrosion product such as might be produced between two closely located coins as the metal salts migrate. This and the relative homogeneity of the assemblage would point to a deliberately placed collection of coins, and as a pot was not evident it would suggest perhaps the use of an organic box or bag as a container.

The coins were subjected to a rapid examination under a 5x magnification hand lens and divided into broad categories. The categories were:

- identifiable coins that were identified at Emperor, reverse type or mint;
- coins that whilst probably identifiable at a greater level were not sufficiently distinct that this could be achieved rapidly;
- coins or flans with either no surviving surface detail or which were so heavily corroded that no detail could be discerned;
- and thick cast flans with or without surface detail and in some instances the presence of casting gates.

In addition to the above groups occasional coins with possible air bubbles from casting were identified (SF’s 134, 347, 709 & 1003).

The coins were all copper alloy but one or two individuals had a slight silvery grey colouration which whilst suggestive of base silver might be the product of the differential solution of the copper salts in the soil.

Context 6810

An initial count of 1035 coins had been made for notification, as a requirement of the Treasure Act 1992. Following this assessment, there are a total of 1021 actual coins and coin fragments, whilst the others are tiny fragments of coin-like objects such as bits of fossil shell and other materials found in the soil. It is unclear if any coins were extraneous due to the scattered nature of the assemblage within the context, and owing to limited time it is unclear if any of the fragments join. The context from which they were recovered was an upper ditch fill, possibly a sag infill, which was particularly rich in material culture and at the time of excavation no separate feature could be seen cut into the ditch fills. Aside from pottery and animal bone, it also produced a piece of decorative bone mount (SF319), a copper alloy ingot (SF38), several fragments of copper alloy vessel (SF302), a split spike loop (SF34), two adze hammers (SF's 120 & 301), several nails (SF's 35-37, 304-306, 318, 327 and 1104), a possible iron file (SF303) and a possible iron penannular brooch (SF850). It is uncertain what the relationship between the coin hoard and the other items was, but they seem to have been deposited together.

The context of the hoard

The bulk of the coins in the hoard are examples of the latest bronze coins to reach Britain, small House of Theodosius issues. The VRBS ROMA FELIX issues, produced after *c*AD403 are completely absent and it has been suggested that the payment of official salaries ceased about AD402 resulting in the cessation of importing of new coin (Casey 1984, 48). Frequently the deposition of coins in hoards is used to suggest periods of uncertainty and instability driving people to conceal coins by burial for subsequent recovery, but the non-importation of new coin, in particular gold or silver coin, could have the effect of rendering the small bronzes irrelevant as the economy unravelled. It is unclear if this unravelling was seen as inexorable and inevitable or if the Britons perceived it as a short-term event and hoarded coins awaiting the re-establishment of a monetary economy.

Analysis

The present catalogue of coins is listed in Appendix 2. The hoard was dominated by small bronzes generally described as AE4 with a few AE3, usually of the earlier 4th-century types, and several small irregular fragments. Because of the level of corrosion many of the flans (416) were beyond detailed identification and these were rapidly extracted from the process. This represents nearly 41% of the entire assemblage. It is unlikely that any of these pieces could be more closely identified.

The hoard contained coins from the late 3rd- to the late 4th-century but the vast majority of the issues were of the last 20 years of the 4th century. The mint marks for most coins were not clear but just over 5% of the examples could be read indicating that coins came from a variety of mints; Trier (8), Arles (21), Lyon (15), Aquileia (7) and Rome (3).

A wide range of Imperial busts were represented in the rapidly identifiable coins; Claudius II Gothicus (1), Helena (1), Constantinopolis (2), Constantine II (2), Constantius II (3), Constans (6), Valentinian I (4), Valens (3), Gratian (2), Valentinian II (12), Theodosius I (18), Arcadius (31) Maximus (4) and Honorius (12). This list of coins identifiable down to obverse type is just under 10% of the total although Theodosian type busts could be observed on many more.

The most common of the identified reverse types (74) was VICTORIA AVGGG, which was produced between AD388-402, many more flans were identified as possibly of this type but further review would be desirable.

Many of the coins were obviously cast pieces; several were simply plain or poorly featured flans or buns, as they were noticeably thicker than the general struck coin. Many of these cast flans preserved traces of casting gates (SF773) indicating their method of production and demonstrating how unofficial issues were very much part of the late Roman coinage. Some of the cast examples were also off centre to such an extent it is likely the two moulds had moved during the process (SF's 50 & 128). Many of the actual figured pieces were poorly defined suggesting irregular dies had been employed again reflecting unofficial coin production.

Conclusion

The impression of this group of coins is that many are irregular copies, in most instances, cast copies. The presence of a possible copper alloy ingot (SF38) in the same ditch context might suggest coin forging in the same workshop that the other items derived. That so many pieces are contemporary copies reflects the way in which shortages and irregularities in money supply required the shortfall to be made up by local issues.

This hoard with its predominance of late issues is likely to belong to the latest group of Roman bronze hoards as defined by Guest (1997), but as at present so many coins are not fully legible such an assertion might be premature. It is however undoubted that the hoard was deposited at the end of Roman rule or in the decades immediately following. The reason for this is uncertain, whether they were hidden or disposed of as largely worthless small currency.

Further work, as part of any mitigation scheme, will place the coin hoard in context with the site. This work should also undertake the more time consuming requirements of English Heritage guidance (Brigstock 2004) to include; the weight of each coin, notation of the visible the die axis on the obverse and reverse, better identification of indistinct flans, re-examined of coins with an incomplete identification and cataloguing with reference to LRBC or RIC where possible.

5.9 Post-medieval building materials by Pat Chapman

Roof tile

There are sixteen roof tile sherds, ten from demolition fill 9102 in brick kiln 9103, five from ditch 7204 and one from ditch 6203, all come from plain flat peghole roof tiles (Table 12). They are 15mm (⅝ inches) thick and one sherd is 160mm (6⅜ inches) wide, a standard measurement for roof tiles since the 15th century. The fabric is hard, slightly harsh yellow clay occasionally tinged pinkish-brown. The only measurable peghole is 15mm in diameter.

Table 12: Roof tile quantification

Context/feature	No	Wt (g)	Comment
6202 / ditch 6203	1	12	Yellow flat peg tile
7203 / ditch 7204	5	76	Yellow flat peg tile
9102 / brick kiln 9103	10	735	Yellow flat peg tile
Totals	**16**	**823**	

Post-medieval brick

One complete brick and nine fragments, weighing *c*5kg, were recovered from trenches 72 and 91. A complete unfrogged brick from kiln 9103 is 220mm long by 105mm wide and 60mm thick (8¾ x 4⅛ x 2⅜ inches), and is made from red-brown sandy clay with occasional large chalky lumps. One stretcher and a header had been overfired to grey with a greenish slightly vitrified surface. Of the eight brick fragments from the kiln demolition fill, 9102, all seven come from vitrified bricks with green bloated surfaces and black underneath, caused by prolonged heating, the rest of the fabric being very hard pale red-brown clay, 60mm (2⅜ inches) thick. The remaining fragment was made from fine silty pale brown clay.

A small brick fragment from ditch 7204 is 58mm thick and not less than 90mm wide (2¼ x *c* 3½ inches), it had been handmade from sandy clay and fired to red-brown with a broad black core.

Discussion

The bricks are post-medieval in date, with the material from trench 91 substantiating the feature as a brick kiln. The remaining bricks, together with the roof tile, are also post-medieval, although this type of flat roof tile dates from the 13th to 14th centuries until the onset of machine-made tiles in the 19th century.

5.10 Clay tobacco-pipe by Tora Hylton

A clay tobacco-pipe stem measuring no more than 32mm in length was recovered from the fill of a disused water channel in Trench 97. The stem has a relatively large bore, measuring 7/64th of an inch, the size suggests that the stem may date to the 17th-18th centuries.

6 THE ENVIRONMENTAL REMAINS

6.1 Faunal remains by Karen Deighton

A total of 23.1kg of animal bone was hand recovered from Iron Age and Roman contexts during trial trench excavations and from sieved samples during flotation. This material was scanned to establish the species present, state of preservation, to assess the potential for future work and to inform on further collection strategies during any mitigation works.

Method

Hand collected bones and material from sieved samples were washed and sorted. Identifiable, ageable and measurable bones were catalogued according to von den Driesch (1976). Ageable elements included cheek tooth rows where eruption and wear could be examined were recorded for sheep/goats (Payne 1973), pigs (Bull and Payne 1982), dogs (Silver 1969) and for cattle (Halstead 1985). Bones where the state of epiphyseal fusion could be determined and juvenile bones were also recorded (Silver 1969).

Preservation

Fragmentation was heavy; largely the result of old breaks, although fresh breaks were also quite common. There were no obvious differences in fragmentation between Iron Age and Roman contexts. The condition of bone surfaces was reasonable in most

instances although material from trenches 62, 70, 73 and 76 was heavily abraded. Evidence for butchery consisted of one chop mark and three knife marks, all on cattle bone, and largely from Roman contexts. Canid gnawing was present on thirteen cattle bones, eighteen sheep/goat bones and six pig bones, distributed evenly throughout Iron Age and Roman contexts. Small amounts of burned bone were noted from Iron Age pit 10303 and Roman ditch 6707. The paucity of burned material suggests that this was not a preferred method of disposal for either period. A sheep/goat metatarsal shaft from fill 6309 of ditch 6305 may have been worked, with the dorsal and ventral surfaces having been smoothed and polished.

Species present and taxonomic distribution

Table 13: Summary of identifiable bones (Iron Age)

Cattle	Sheep/ Goat	Pig	Horse	Deer	Small ungulate	Large ungulate	Total
46	30	15	1	1	1	7	111

Pits 6105, 6110, 6608, 9302 and fill 10304 from pit 10303 produced indeterminate bone fragments only.

Table 14: Summary of identifiable bones (Roman)

Cattle	Sheep/ Goat	Pig	Horse	Dog	Small mammal	Chicken	Bird	Fish	SU	LU	Total
99	78	21	27	23	3	1	2	6	36	29	325

Ageing and metrical data

Table 15: Number of ageable and measurable bones by taxa (Iron Age)

Taxon	Cattle	Sheep/ Goat	Pig
Epiphyseal fusion	7	2	1
Tooth eruption and wear	5	1	3
Sexing			1
Measurable (number of bones)	8 (3)	2 (2)	

Table 16: Number of ageable and measurable bones by taxa (Roman)

Taxon	Cattle	Sheep/ Goat	Pig	Horse	Dog
Epiphyseal fusion	37	12	15	16	6
Juvenile bone	2				
Tooth eruption and wear	5	3			1
Measurable (number of bones)	23(12)	7(3)	2(2)	7(3)	3(3)

Material from sieved samples

Table 17: Bone from samples by context and sample (Iron Age)

Fill/feature	Weight (g)	Cattle	Sheep/ Goat	Pig	Vole sp	Small mammal	Frog/ Toad
5602 / ditch 5603	10		3		1	10	
5702 / ditch 5703	2			1			
6118 / ditch 6120	22	1	2	1	2	16	1
10305 / pit 10303	20		1	1			
Totals	54	1	6	3	3	26	1

Pit 6608 and fill10302 of pit 10303 produced indeterminate bone fragments only.

Table 18: Bone from samples by context and sample (Roman)

Fill / feature	Weight (g)	Sheep/ Goat	Pig	Dog	Rabbit	Vole	Mouse	Small mammal	Frog/ Toad	Bird	Fish
6002 / subsoil	3							1			
6302 / ditch 6303	1					4	1		2		1
6404 / ditch 6405	10		1		1	2		1	1		
6808 / ditch 6809	16		1	2	1	2	2	1			6
6812 / ditch 6821	6	1						1			
6822 / ditch 6811	4	1				1					22
7302 / pit 7303	10	5					1				
7310 / ditch 7307	3					1			16	1	
Totals	**53**	**7**	**2**	**2**	**2**	**10**	**4**	**4**	**19**	**1**	**29**

Ditches 6707 and 7606 produced indeterminate bone fragments only.

Discussion

The domestic taxa noted from both assemblages are not uncommon for either the Iron Age or Roman periods. Rabbit bones in two of the samples are probably intrusive as the species has a burrowing habit and was not introduced into Britain until the 12th century. Amphibians and small mammals are also burrowers and may also be intrusive.

The mixed nature of the bone, in terms of anatomical unit and taxa, together with its heavy fragmentation, suggests that the origin of both assemblages is likely to be domestic food waste.

The reasonable level of preservation and the range of taxa identified suggests that if further work were undertaken at the site animal bone assemblages from dateable or phased contexts may produce high quality data for interpretation. Bone from previous trial trench work should also be included for base line comparisons. Bone from sieved samples should be collected as it could provide an indicator of the importance of fish in the diet of the local fenland inhabitants. The analysis of further material should provide information on animal husbandry and dietary preferences at the site and a study of temporal change may be possible. It may also be possible to make comparisons with other assemblages from Prickwillow (Deighton 2003). Further work would add to the corpus of existing data and provide useful evidence for any future work in the area.

6.2 Seeds and plant remains by Val Fryer

Samples for the retrieval of the plant macrofossil assemblages were taken from nineteen features. The samples were bulk floated using standard water floatation techniques, and the flots were collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve. The dried flots were scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x16 and the plant

macrofossils and other remains noted are listed in Tables 19-20. Nomenclature within the tables follows Stace (1997). All plant remains were charred. Modern contaminants, including fibrous roots, seeds, arthropod remains, straw and chaff, were present throughout, forming a major component within most assemblages.

Results

Results from the flotation of soil samples are presented in Tables 19-20. The tables make use of the following abbreviations:

x	1-10	specimens	xx	11-50	specimens	xxx	51-100	specimens
xxxx	100+	specimens						
cf		requires comparison						

Table 19: Seed and plant remains from Iron Age features

Sample	**34**	**41**	**29**	**30**	**46**	**47**
Fill	**6607**	**7504**	**10302**	**10305**	**5702**	**5602**
Feature	**6608**	**7505**	**10303**	**10303**	**5703**	**5603**
Type	**Pit or hollow**	**Pit**	**Pit**	**Pit**	**Ditch**	**Ditch**
Date	**Iron Age**	**Undated**	**Iron Age**	**Iron Age**	**Iron Age**	**Iron Age**
Cereals and other food plants						
Hordeum sp. (grains)				xcf	x	
Triticum sp. (grains)			x			x
Cereal indet. (grains)		xcf	x			
Herbs						
Fabaceae indet.		x				
Wetland plants						
Cladium mariscus (L.)Pohl					x	
Other plant macrofossils						
Charcoal <2mm	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	x	xx
Charcoal >2mm	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	x	xx
Charcoal >5mm	xx	x	xx	xx		
Charcoal >10mm	x		x			
Charred root/stem					x	
Sample volume (litres)	**20**	**40**	**40**	**40**	**40**	**40**
Volume of flots (litres)	**<0.1**	**0.1**	**0.3**	**0.3**	**<0.1**	**<0.1**
% flots sorted	**100%**	**100%**	**50%**	**50%**	**100%**	**100%**

Table 20: Seed and plant remains from Roman features (part 1)

Sample	**35**	**36**	**44**	**33**	**43**	**32**
Fill	**6004**	**6302**	**6404**	**6604**	**6706**	**6822**
Feature	**6005**	**6303**	**6405**	**6605**	**6707**	**6811**
Type	**Ditch**	**Ditch**	**Ditch**	**Ditch**	**Ditch**	**Ditch**
Date	**Post-medieval**	**Roman**	**Roman**	**Undated**	**Roman**	**Roman**
Cereals and other food plants						
Avena sp. (grains)						xcf
Hordeum sp. (grains)						
Triticum sp. (grains)		x	x		x	xx
(glume bases)		x				
(spikelet bases)		x	x			x
(rachis internodes)						x
T. dicoccum Schubl (Glume bases)						
T. spelta L. (glume bases)		x	x		x	xx
T.aestivum/compactum type (rachis nodes)					x	
Cereal indet. (grains)		x	x	x	x	xx
(detached sprouts)						
Large Fabaceae indet.						
Herbs						
Anthemis cotula L.						
Arrhenatherum sp. (tuber)						
Bromus sp.		x	x			x
Chenopodium album L.						
Chenopodiaceae indet.						
Fabaceae indet.					x	x
Fallopia convolvulus (L.)A.Love						
Medicago lupulina L.						x
Small Poaceae indet.						x
Large Fabaceae indet.					x	
Polygonum aviculare L.		x				
Rumex sp.		xcf		x		x
Other plant macrofossils						
Charcoal <2mm	xx	xxx	xx	xxxx	xxx	xxxx
Charcoal >2mm	x	x	xx	xxxx	xx	xxx
Charcoal >5mm			x	xx	x	x
Charcoal >10mm				x		
Charred root/stem			x	x	x	x
Indet. Seeds			x			x
Indet. Tuber						
Sample volume (litres)	**40**	**40**	**40**	**40**	**40**	**40**
Volume of flots (litres)	**<0.1**	**<0.1**	**<0.1**	**<0.1**	**<0.1**	**<0.1**
% flots sorted	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**

Table 20: Seed and plant remains from Roman features (part 2)

Sample	**37**	**38**	**31**	**42**	**39**	**40**	**45**
Fill	**6812**	**6808**	**7310**	**7302**	**7406**	**7605**	**6506**
Feature	**6813**	**6809**	**7307**	**7303**	**7407**	**7606**	**6507**
Type	**Ditch**	**Ditch**	**Ditch**	**Pit**	**Ditch**	**Ditch**	**Ditch**
Date	**Roman**	**Roman**	**Roman**	**Roman**	**Roman**	**Roman**	**Undated**
Cereals and other food plants							
Avena sp. (grains)	x						
Hordeum sp. (grains)			x	xcf	x	x	
Triticum sp. (grains)	xx	xx	x	x	xx	x	
(glume bases)	xxxx	xx	x				
(spikelet bases)	xx	x		x	xx	x	
(rachis internodes)	x	x			x		
T. dicoccum Schubl (Glume bases)	xcf	xcf					
T. spelta L. (glume bases)	xxxx	xx	x	xx	xxx	xx	
T.aestivum/compactum type (rachis nodes)					x	x	
Cereal indet. (grains)	xxx	xxx	x	xx	xx	x	x
(detached sprouts)	x	x		x			
Large Fabaceae indet.	x						
Herbs							
Anthemis cotula L.	x	x			x	x	
Arrhenatherum sp. (tuber)			xcf				
Bromus sp.	x	x		x	x	x	
Chenopodium album L.					x		
Chenopodiaceae indet.	x						
Fabaceae indet.	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Fallopia convolvulus (L.)A.Love						x	
Medicago lupulina L.							
Small Poaceae indet.	xx	x		x	x		
Large Fabaceae indet.							
Polygonum aviculare L.							
Rumex sp.	x	x		x	x		
Wetland plants							
Carex sp.				xcf			
Eleocharis sp.	x	x					
Tree/shrub macrofossils							
Prunus spinosa L.		x					
Other plant macrofossils							
Charcoal <2mm	xx	xxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxx	x	xxxx
Charcoal >2mm	x	xx	xxx	xxx	xx	x	xx
Charcoal >5mm	x	x	x	x			
Charcoal >10mm			x				
Charred root/stem		x	x	x			
Indet. Seeds				x			x
Indet. Tuber		x					
Sample volume (litres)	**40**	**40**	**40**	**40**	**40**	**40**	**40**
Volume of flots (litres)	**0.3**	**0.2**	**<0.1**	**0.1**	**0.1**	**<0.1**	**<0.1**
% flots sorted	**50%**	**50%**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**

Cereal grains, chaff elements and seeds of common weeds were present at varying densities within all but two of the assemblages studied. Preservation was variable, with some grains/seeds being extremely well preserved, while others were severely puffed and distorted, probably as a result of combustion at very high temperatures.

Oat, barley and wheat grains were recorded, with wheat being predominant. Most of the wheat grains were of an elongated 'drop' form typical of emmer or spelt, although a small number of more rounded hexaploid type forms were also noted. Possible emmer glume bases were noted within the assemblages from ditches 6813, and 6809. Bread wheat type rachis nodes were recorded from ditches 7407, 7606 and 6707. However, spelt glume bases occurred most frequently, within a total of ten assemblages. A single cotyledon fragment of an indeterminate large legume (Fabaceae), which was noted within the assemblage from ditch 6813, was the only remnant non-cereal food plant.

Weed seeds were recorded within all but seven of the samples, although mostly as single specimens. All were of common segetal weeds or grassland herbs, with taxa noted including stinking mayweed, brome, small legumes, black bindweed, grasses and dock. Single seeds/nutlets of wetland plants such as sedge, spike-rush and saw-sedge, were noted within the assemblages from pit 7303 and ditches 6809, 6813, and 5703. A single sloe fruit stone was recorded from ditch 6809.

Charcoal/charred wood fragments, including a number of pieces >5mm, were present throughout. Other plant macrofossils were scarce, but fragments of charred root/stem were noted along with a small number of indeterminate seeds and tuber fragments. A possible onion-couch type tuber was noted within the assemblage from ditch 7307.

Shells of terrestrial and marsh/freshwater slum molluscs were recorded within all but six of the assemblages (not tabulated). As most specimens were extremely well preserved, it was presumed that most were intrusive within the contexts from which the samples were taken, particularly as many species are taken to burrowing. Similar assemblages were noted within the samples from earlier work (Fryer 2011).

The fragments of black porous and tarry material, which were present within all but six assemblages, were all probable residues of the combustion of organic remains, including cereal grains, at very high temperatures.

Discussion

Iron Age pit 10303 in Field 5 (Table 19)

The samples from pit 10303 are from the periphery of the site, coming from trench 103. The assemblages from two separate fills are both large (0.3 litres), charcoal/charred wood fragments predominate, but the only other plant macrofossils comprise individual grains of barley and wheat and a single indeterminate cereal. A small number of bone fragments, including some burnt pieces, were also present and it is tentatively suggested that both assemblages may be derived from small, discrete deposits of hearth or midden waste.

Iron Age features in Field 7 (Table 19)

The assemblages of late Iron Age from ditch 5703 and ditch 5603 are extremely small and sparse, although individual barley and wheat grains are present. Similar low-density assemblages of Iron Age date were recorded from the earlier excavations to the south of the current area (Fryer *ibid*). The presence of a single saw-sedge nutlet within the assemblage from ditch 5703 is possibly of note, similar remains were noted from the adjacent Prickwillow Road excavations (Carruthers 2003, 47-48). Being a

fenland plant, saw-sedge was almost certainly growing on or near the site, although how or why this particular specimen came to be charred is impossible to tell.

Iron Age features in Field 9 (Table 19)

Two samples were taken from features of probable prehistoric date situated on the periphery of Field 9 in trenches 66 and 75. The sample from pit or hollow, 6607, contained Iron Age pottery, whilst pit 7505 was undated. The assemblages are small (0.1 litres or less) and largely composed of charcoal/charred wood fragments, although pit 7505 included a possible fragmentary cereal grain and a cotyledon of an indeterminate small legume. All the assemblages contain small pellets of burnt or fired clay and splinters of burnt stone. Because of the paucity of data, it is difficult to interpret these, but it is suggested that the presence of the fired clay pellets and burnt stone fragments may be indicative of either *in situ* combustion or burning within the near vicinity of the features.

Roman features in Field 9 (Table 20)

A total of ten samples are from features at the centre of the eastern excavation area. Although the density of material varies, all ten assemblages contain grains and chaff of both emmer and spelt, along with bread wheat chaff, barley and oat grains, and a variety of segetal weed seeds, and it would appear most likely that all are derived from burnt cereal processing waste. As the assemblages are mostly small (0.1 litre in volume or less), it is assumed that some may be indicative of wind-blown material, which accidentally accumulated within the ditch fills. However, the assemblages from ditches 6809 and 6813 are large (0.2-0.3 litres) and it appears likely that these represent a primary deposit. There are notable similarities between these assemblages and those from Prickwillow Road (Carruthers 2003). Eight of the ten assemblages include brome seeds, a common contaminant within batches of grain of both Iron Age and Roman date, and there is also evidence of wetland plant macrofossils and the seeds of stinking mayweed suggesting that cereals were being grown on land which had been relatively recently reclaimed from the local fen.

The assemblage from ditch 6605 is extremely sparse, similarly, an undated assemblage from ditch 6507 contains little other than charcoal/charred wood fragments and a single, fragmentary, cereal grain.

Conclusion

In summary, perhaps not unsurprisingly, the composition of the current assemblages of both Iron Age and Roman date is closely paralleled by the remains recorded from the earlier excavations conducted within the immediate area. Whilst the Iron Age assemblages are sparse, those from the Roman features contain a moderate density of cereal processing waste, suggesting that both the production and consumption of grain were of increasing importance to the local economy during the Roman period. As is typical on many Roman sites, wheat (and particularly spelt) appears to have been of prime importance, with barley probably occurring as a secondary or fodder crop and oats appearing as main crop contaminants. The presence of brome fruits probably indicates that, in this instance, these contaminants were tolerated within the main wheat crop as they neither affected the palatability of the grain nor detracted from its storage potential.

Although six of the current assemblages do contain a sufficient density of material for quantification with 100+ specimens, further analysis at this stage would probably contribute very little additional data to that already contained within this assessment. However, if a future synthesis of all data from the excavations at Highflyer Farm is

planned, it is recommended that quantification of the assemblages from these major groups be undertaken as part of the overall scheme.

7 DISCUSSION

Trial trenches were positioned in accordance with the WSI produced at the beginning of the project, which details the purpose of each trench position (Maull 2011, 5-7).

Field 1

There was no evidence of sub-circular features in trench 101, or of surviving droveway ditches in trench 102 connecting the central double-ditched enclosure near the farm to the main complex to the south. A large late Iron Age pit in trench 101 suggests that scattered pits may survive in the vicinity, as indicated by the geophysical survey (Walford 2011).

Field 5

Trench 93 produced a single, small and truncated, Iron Age pit. Undated ditches were identified in trenches 98 and 99, the latter may have been part of a circular feature. A large Iron Age pit was confirmed in trench 103.

There was no evidence for a circular feature in trench 77 or a ditch in trench 84. A substantial post-medieval brick kiln was located within trench 91, which may be associated with the nearby ponds. Other post-medieval boundaries were identified in trenches 78, 80 and 89, which were expected to be blank.

Fields 6-7

Excavation confirmed the presence of two sides of a late Iron Age enclosure. No evidence of ridge and furrow was visible within the trenches. The alignment of the geophysical anomalies matches with the orientation of the modern plough.

Field 8

A linear anomaly was confirmed in trench 98 as part of a former post-medieval watercourse.

Field 9

Trench 60 confirmed that there were no late Iron Age or Roman features present, however an Iron Age enclosure was identified in trench 61. An undated, probably Iron Age, ditch was confirmed in trench 66, as well as an Iron Age pit. An Iron Age enclosure was confirmed in trench 70.

The south-west extent of late Roman enclosure was confirmed in trenches 63-64. Two undated ditches were present in trench 65, which had been expected to be blank. Late Roman enclosures were confirmed in trenches 67-68 and 73-74, but it is doubtful that they represent domestic settlement. Trench 69 was confirmed as blank. An isolated, undated pit, was found in trench 75, as well as an extremely truncated late Roman ditch. Trench 76 confirmed the presence of two ditches at the edge of the enclosure.

There was no evidence of ridge and furrow in trenches 71-72, a post-medieval ditch was identified instead. Another post-medieval ditch was identified in trenches 60, 61 and 62. There was no evidence for a droveway in trench 62. A post-medieval pond or water hollow was excavated in trench 66.

Chronology

Background levels of worked flint indicated some activity from the late Neolithic to the early Bronze Age, but there was no evidence for primary deposition. Scattered zones of activity indicated some late Iron Age foci; two potential areas of pits and three potential small enclosures. Whilst these seem to have been used from the 1st-century BC to the late 1st century AD they did not exhibit any continuity with later Roman activity. A distinct lack of early Roman material in primary contexts suggests that the northern edge of the Isle of Ely was given over to low impact activities, such as open pasture or rough grazing from the 1st-3rd centuries. In the 3rd or 4th-centuries an enclosure was established on the north-east fen edge, perhaps utilising the fen edge in connection with possible stock management activities. The enclosure contained a large number of sub-divisions and evidence for regular recutting of a heavily silted principal drainage ditch, but there was a general lack of evidence for structures. The enclosures were abandoned and deliberately backfilled by the late 4th-century, when a coin hoard, or collection of worthless small currency coins, was hidden or dumped here.

Conclusion

The site lies in the northern periphery of the site excavated at Prickwillow Road (Atkins and Mudd 2003), it is also the second stage of trial trench evaluation for earlier discoveries in the fields directly to the south (Taylor 2011). The archaeological evidence in the area is almost certainly related to these sites, within a landscape context, and the late Roman activities may even be part of the same estate. However, the lack of 2nd-century activity observed elsewhere suggests that the northern fen edge was used for low impact activities that did not leave archaeological traces throughout much of the Roman period and, despite a brief period of 3rd to 4th-century activity, it has remained so. Unlike the area to the immediate south, there was no evidence of early or middle Saxon activity. Little can be said of the site's economy but most of the enclosures and appear to be features of stock management and environmental remains, together with finds, tend to indicate that they may be residual within midden material.

During all phases of activity, the site appeared to have been on the northern periphery of any occupation as suggested by the lack of structural evidence and the paucity of building remains. Evidence for medieval cultivation on the south-east side of Chettisham was inconclusive. Much of the land probably remained unenclosed until the 18th century, when the stud farm was established.

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APPENDIX 1 - SUMMARY OF CONTEXTS AND FEATURES

All trenches measured 50m long by 1.8m wide

Trench 55	**Alignment NE-SW**	**Field 7**		**Height of substrate (m aOD) 0.97-1-72**
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
5501	Topsoil	Dark brownish-orange clay loam	0.32m thick	

Trench 56	**Alignment NE-SW**	**Field 7**		**Height of substrate (m aOD) 4.00-4.88**
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
5601	Topsoil	Dark brownish-orange clay loam	0.32m thick	
5602	Fill of 5603	Dark black-grey clay silt		Pottery, bone, 40 litre sample
5603	Pit	E-W alignment, steep sloping 50° sides, broad flat base	3.85m wide 0.84m deep	
5604	Fill of 5603	Mid orange-grey silty clay		Pottery, bone
5605	Fill of 5603	Dark bluish-grey silty clay		Pottery, bone
5606	Fill of 5608	Dark greyish black silty clay loam		Pottery, bone
5607	Fill of 5608	Greyish-black clay silt		
5608	Ditch	E-W alignment, 60/70 ° sides, flat base	2.00m wide 0.85m deep	
5609	Fill of 5608	Mottled bluish-grey and orange-russet clay		
5610	Fill of 5608	Redeposited orange-blue clay		

Trench 57	**Alignment NW-SE**	**Field 7**		**Height of substrate (m aOD) 2.37-4.67**
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
5701	Topsoil	Dark brownish-orange clay loam	340mm thick	
5702	Fill of 5703	Dark black-grey clay silt		40 litre sample
5703	Ditch	N-S alignment, steep sloping sides 45/50 °, flat base	1.19m wide 0.31m deep	

Trench 58	Alignment SW-NE	Field 6		Height of substrate (m aOD) 4.44-4.66
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
5801	Topsoil	Dark brownish-orange clay loam	330mm thick	

Trench 59	Alignment SW-NE	Field 6		Height of substrate (m aOD) 7.46-7.96
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
5901	Topsoil	Dark brownish-orange clay loam	330mm thick	

Trench 60	Alignment NE-SW	Field 9		Height of substrate (m aOD) 12.61-12.94
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
6001	Topsoil	Dark brownish-orange clay loam	330mm thick	
6002	Subsoil	Mid grey-brown to mid yellow brown mixed silty clay	130mm thick	
6004	Fill of 6005	Geyish brown silty clay		Pottery, 40 litre sample
6005	Ditch	NW-SE alignment, steep 80° sloping sides to uneven flat base	1.14m wide 0.28m deep	

Trench 61	Alignment NE-SW	Field 9		Height of substrate (m aOD) 11.83-12.24
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
6101	Topsoil	Dark brownish-orange clay loam	350mm thick	
6102	Fill of 6103	Reddish-grey sandy clay with red and black flecks		Pottery, flint
6103	Pit	Sub-circular, steep sides and flat base	0.44m wide 0.18m deep	
6104	Fill of 6105	Mottled black and grey silty clay		Pottery, bone
6105	Pit	Sub-circular, slightly oval. Steep sides curving to round base	0.40m wide 0.15m deep	
6106	Fill of 6107	Dark reddish brown clay silt		

6107	Pit	Sub-circular elongated slot, sides are vertical to flat base	0.50m wide 0.18m deep	
6108	Fill of 6109	Dark reddish brown clay silt with burnt stone <60mm		
6109	Pit	Sub-circular, near vertical sides to flat base	0.40m wide 0.14m deep	
6110	Fill of 6111	Black brown silty clay with charcoal flecks and burnt stone <60mm		Bone
6111	Pit	Shallow, narrow scoop with steep sides and uneven base	0.25m wide 0.09m deep	Pottery
6112	Fill of 6113	Greyish brown clay silt with charcoal flecks		
6113	Pit	Sub-circular, sides steep at top going to flatish sloped base	0.48m wide 0.12m deep	
6114	Fill of 6115	greyish brown clay silt, infrequent pebbles <40mm		Pottery, flint, bone
6115	Pit	steep sloping sides at 50/60° towards a narrow flattish base	2.40m wide 0.66m deep	
6116	Fill of 6117	Mid greyish-yellow clay with occaisonal chalky flecks		
6117	Ditch	E-W alignment, 45° sloping sides to narrow V-shaped base	0.82m wide 0.28m deep	
6118	Fill of 6120	Dark blackish brown silty clay loam with occasional burnt stone		Pottery, bone, 40 litre sample
6119	Fill of 6120	Mid orange-brown clay silt. Pebble flint <60mm		
6120	Ditch	E-W alignment,broad shallow 30° slope sides to curved base	2.20m wide 0.34m deep	

Trench 62	**Alignment NE-SW**	**Field 9**		**Height of substrate (m aOD) 7.43-8.62**
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
6201	Topsoil	Dark brownish-orange clay loam with occasional small pebbles <30mm Ø	330mm thick	
6202	Fill of 6203	Dark greyish blue-brown clay. Few chalk flecks		Pottery, flint, fired clay, bone
6203	Ditch	NW-SE aligned. Steep 45° sides with narrow flat base	2.54m wide 0.95m deep	
6206	Fill of 6207	Mid greyish-blue-brown clay, few pebbles <88mm Ø		
6207	Ditch	NW-SE aligned. Shallow, 20° sides, V-shaped base.	0.80m wide 0.10m deep	

Trench 63	Alignment NW-SE	Field 9		Height of substrate (m aOD) 11.58-12.06
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
6301	Topsoil	Dark brownish-orange clay loam	340mm thick	
6302	Fill of 6303	Mid orange greyish-brown clay silt with few chalk flecks and occassional burnt stone <100mm Ø		Glass, bone, 40 litre sample
6303	Ditch	Aligned NE-SW, recut of 6315 steep 50°/60° sides and v shaped base	1.5m wide 0.64m deep	
6304	Fill of 6305	Dark greyish brown mottled with reddish orange, white flecks and burnt stone <120mm Ø		
6305	Ditch	NE-SW aligned wide curvy profile, 45/50° sides curve gradually to be round at base.	2.80m wide 0.84m deep	
6306	Fill of 6307	Dark greyish-brown, similar to 6304 has a lot of pebble flint towards base		Pottery, flint, bone
6307	Ditch	Aligned Ne-Sw sharp 45/50° slopping profile with rapid break to flat base		
6308	Fill of Ditch 6303	Firm dark orange-brown clay silt with moderate pebble flint <120mm Ø chalk flecks, merges with 6302 above		
6309	Fill of Ditch 6305	Light-mid yellowish-brown sandy clay silt with frequent pebble flint <100mm Ø and several large boulders <250mm Ø (flint and limestone)		Pottery, flint, bone
6310	Fill of Ditch 6311	Mid-dark orange-brown clay silt with moderate pebble flint and limestone frags <100mm Ø		Pottery, flint, bone
6311	Ditch	NE-SW aligned, sharp cut at 50/60° to narrow V-shaped base	1.2m wide 0.5m deep	
6312	Fill of Ditch 6313	Light mid greyish orange/brown clay silt with occasional pebble flint <110 mm Ø		Pottery
6313	Ditch	NE-SW broad shallow edge slopes gentley into flat base	1.2m wide 0.32m deep	
6314	Fill of Ditch 6315	Hard light orange- brown clay silt mottled with orange iron salt flecks. Scattered pebble flint and limestone frags <110mm Ø	3.0m wide 0.46m deep	
6315	Ditch	Alignment NE-SW, broad steep sloped cut at 50° swift break of slope towards a broad flat base		

Trench 64	Alignment NE-SW	Field 9		Height of substrate (m aOD) 12.08-12.34
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
6401	Topsoil	Friable loose dark grey-brown clay loam, rare small stones.	340mm thick	
6402	Subsoil	Mixed from mid-dark grey-brown+orangey silty clay, occasional small stone		
6404	Fill of 6405	Upper fill comprises light grayish-orange sandy clay with moderate pebble flint <45mm Ø occasional burnt stone <120mm Ø		Pottery, iron, flint, glass, bone, 40 litre sample
6405	Ditch	Recut of 6407 but curves north. Steep 45/50° sides. Sudden break to flat base		
6406	Fill	Similar to 6404 fewer stones, more orange mottle smears and no flint		
6407	Ditch	Aligned NE-SW curves to north. Steep 50° slopes. Side meets at narrow V-shaped channel	1.70m wide 0.56m deep	

Trench 65	Alignment NE-SW	Field 9		Height of substrate (m aOD) 11.80-12.08
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
6501	Topsoil	Friable loose dark grey-brown clay loam, rare small stones.	350mm thick	
6503	Natural	Firm mid-light yellow orange clay sand, occasional small stones		
6504	Fill of 6505	Pale light hard yellowish brown clay silt with moderate charcoal smears <5mm Ø		
6505	Ditch	Roughly E-W aligned, sides drop sharply at 50/60° angle. Rapid break of slope to broad flat base	1.80m wide 0.18m deep	
6506	Fill of 6507	Similar to 6504 slightly more sand content		40 litre sample
6507	Ditch	NE-SW aligned shallow sides blend with broad flat base	1.57m wide 0.21m deep	

Trench 66	**Alignment NE-SW**	**Field 9**		**Height of substrate (m aOD) 10.49-11.45**
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
6601	Topsoil	Friable loose dark grey-brown clay loam, rare small stones.	350mm thick	
6602	Subsoil	Firm mid yellow-brown silty sandy clay, occasional small stones, charcoal flecks.		
6604	Fill of 6606	Blackish grey sandy loam with frequent charcoal and burnt stone/flint <60mm Ø		40 litre sample
6605	Fill of 6606	Dark orange-brown clay silt with ocassional charcoal and burnt stone <60mm Ø		
6606	Ditch	Aligned E-W steep slightly curved sloppey sides meet in pointed base	1.20m wide 0.52m deep	
6607	Fill of 6608	Dark black-brown silty clay loam with frequent charcoal patches. Moderate burnt flint <40mm Ø		Pottery, flint, bone, 20 litre sample
6608	Pit	Pit is in NW side of trench. Irregular shape reminicent of tree roots with ridges of natural and hollows	1.42m wide 0.34m deep	
6609	Fill of 6611	Mid orange-brown sandy clay with moderate pebble flint <40mm Ø little sign of staining		Pottery
6610	Fill of 6611	Compact greyish-blue clay silt at surface Spread to NE side. No more than 110mm thick		
6611	Pit	Substantial sub-circular post-medieval Pit, gently sloping sides and broad flat base	10.8m wide 0.46m deep	

Trench 67	**Alignment NW-SE**	**Field 9**		**Height of substrate (m aOD) 10.85-10.95**
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
6701	Topsoil	Friable loose dark grey-brown clay loam, rare small stones.	320mm thick	
6702	Subsoil	Firm, mid brown orange silty clay, occasional small stones.		
6704	Fill of 6705	Mid greyish brown silty clay loam with ocassional pebble flint <80mm Ø probable, upper fill		Pottery, bone

6705	Recut	NE-SW aligned, steep sloping 50/60° sides with rapid change of slope to a narrow flattish base	1.28m wide 0.72m deep	
6706	Fill of 6707	Hard pale yellowish orange clay silt with frequent chalky flecks towards middle and base		Pottery, iron, bone, 40 litre sample
6707	Ditch	NE-SW, steep 45° sloping sides that meet in a V-shaped base.	1.15m wide 0.41m deep	
6708	Fill of 6709	Compact mid orange-greyish brown clay silt with moderate chalk and pebble flint <60mm Ø		Pottery, coin, flint, bone
6709	Ditch	NE-SW, steep 50/60° sloping sides, narrow flat base	2.36m wide 1.25m deep	
6710	Fill of 6709	Similar to 6708 above, less chalky nodules		Pottery, bone

Trench 68	**Alignment NW-SE**	**Field 9**		**Height of substrate (m aOD) 10.64-10.79**
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
6801	Topsoil	Dark brownish-orange clay loam	350mm thick	
6802	Fill of 6803	Greyish brown clay silt with chalk and burnt stone <100mm Ø		Pottery, flint, bone
6803	Ditch	NE-SW aligned, linear steep sides 50/60°, flat base		
6804	Fill of 6805	Blackish-brown silty clay loam with moderate chalk and pebble flint <80mm Ø		Pottery, flint
6805	Ditch	NE-SW aligned, shallow edges 20/30°, flat base		
6806	Fill of 6807	Blackish-brown silty clay loam with chalk and burnt clay flecks		Pottery, iron
6807	Ditch	NE-SW aligned, sloping sides 30/45°, rounded base		
6808	Fill of 6809	Blackish-grey silty clay loam with moderate chalk flecks and charcoal		Pottery, iron, flint, spindle whorl, bone, 40 litre sample
6809	Ditch	NE-SW aligned ,steep sides 65/75°, flat base		
6810	Fill of 6811	Blackish-grey silty clay loam with chalk, burnt clay and charcoal flecks		Pottery, bone, fired clay, coins, iron & copper alloy
6811	Ditch	N-S aligned, sides are very steep, 60/70° slightly convex, narrow V-shaped base	1.84m wide 0.9m deep	Iron

6812	Fill of 6813	Dark blackish-grey silty clay loam with moderate burnt stone and charcoal flecks		Pottery, bone, 40 litre sample
6813	Ditch	NE-SW, gradual sloping side with broad flat base	2.10m wide 0.45m deep	
6814	Fill of 6809	Firm-compact mid-dark grey silty clay with occasional small stones, charcoal and chalk flecks		Flint
6815	Fill of 6809	Firm dark grey silty clay. Occasional small stones, charcoal and chalk flecks		
6816	Fill of 6807	Compact yellowish-brown sandy clay containing chalk, ironstone and flint		Pottery, bone
6818	Fill of 6803	Firm compact mid brown-grey silty clay, moderate small-mid size stones (flint and chalk)		
6819	Fill of 6813	Compact greyish brown clay silt		Pottery, bone
6820	Fill of 6821	Light mid grey brown clay silt with frequent chalk <100mm Ø		
6821	Ditch	E-W, shallow concave sides and broad flat base	0.72m wide 90mm deep	
6822	Fill of 6811	Light greyish-orange brown clayey silt with moderate pebbles <80mm Ø few burnt stones <100mm Ø		Pottery, bone, 40 litre sample
6823	Fill of 6813	Mid orange brown clay silt with chalk flecks, pebble flint moderate <60mm Ø		Pottery
6824	Fill of 6811	Bright orange redeposited natural clay with frequent chalk & pebble flint		
6825	Fill of 6811	Mid-dark greyish-brown clay silt with ocassional pebble flint		
6826	Fill of 6811	Mid-orange-brown clay silt with moderate chalky flecks		

Trench 69	**Alignment NW-SE**	**Field 9**		**Height of substrate (m aOD) 6.25-8.91**
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
6901	Topsoil	Dark brownish-orange clay loam	330mm thick	
6902	Colluvium	Dark orange-brown silty clay accumulated downslope towards fen edge	260mm thick	flint

Trench 70	Alignment NE-SW	Field 9		Height of substrate (m aOD) 5.61-6.57
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
7001	Topsoil	Dark brownish-orange clay loam	330mm thick	
7002	Fill of 7003	Dark greyish-brown clay with few chalk flecks		Fired clay
7003	Ditch	S-E aligned, sloping 60° sides into a V-shape base	0.65m wide 0.45m deep	
7004	Fill of 7005	Dark greyish-brown clay with few chalk flecks		Pottery
7005	Ditch	S-E aligned, sloping 60° sides into a rounded U-shaped base	0.60m wide 0.30m deep	
7006	Fill of 7007	Dark greyish-brown soil, charcoal flecks, some iron mottling		Pottery, bone
7007	Ditch	E-W aligned, sloping 70° sides, flat base	0.9m wide 0.24m deep	
7008	Fill of 7009	Light grey-yelly brown clay		
7009	Ditch	N-S aligned, sloping 70° sides rapid change to flat base	0.9m wide 0.28m deep	
7010	Fill of 7011	Dark grey-brown clay soil with chalk flecks and some pebble inclusions <10%		Pottery
7011	Ditch	NE-SW aligned, sloping 80° sides with a rapid change to a flat bottom creating a large U-shape profile	1.10m wide 0.27m deep	

Trench 71	Alignment NW-SE	Field 9		Height of substrate (m aOD) 10.07-10.57
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
7101	Topsoil	Friable loose dark grey-brown clay loam	300mm thick	
7102	Subsoil	Mid greyish brown silty clay loam	90mm thick	
7104	Fill of 7105	Light greyish-brown silty clay loam with infrequent pebble flint <60mm Ø		
7105	Ditch	NE-SW aligned, steep 45/50°sloping sides curve rapidly to flat base	0.95m wide 0.38m deep	

Trench 72	Alignment NW-SE	Field 9		Height of substrate (m aOD) 9.57-9.97
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
7201	Topsoil	Dark brownish-orange clay loam	330mm thick	
7202	Subsoil	Largely absent, light orange brown clayey sand	<80mm thick	
7203	Fill of 7204	Dark greyish-brown clay silt, occasional mixed pebble flint <100mmØ		Brick, tile
7204	Ditch	NE-SW aligned steep 45/50° sloping sides curve rapidly to narrow rounded base	0.68m wide 0.21m deep	

Trench 73	Alignment NW-SE	Field 9		Height of substrate (m aOD) 10.10-10.35
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
7301	Topsoil	Dark brownish-orange clay loam		
7302	Fill	Dark black-brown silty clay with large burnt stones <220mm Ø		Pottery, iron, glass, bone, 40 litre sample
7303	Pit	SW side of trench, subcircular, shallow depression with irregular rounded sides	2.09m long 110mm deep	
7304	Fill	Dark black-brown silty clay with some burnt stone <120mm Ø		Pottery, bone
7305	Ditch	N-S aligned, steep near vertical sides 80° sloping sides, broad uneven flat base	1.3m wide	
7306	Fill	Dark brown silty clay with moderate pebbles <80mm Ø and charcoal flecks		Pottery, iron, bone
7307	Ditch	NE-SW, recut, steep 50/60° sloping sides change rapidly to narrow flat base	1.6m wide 0.64m deep	
7308	Fill of 7309	Black-brown clay silt loam with frequent charcoal smears, burnt stone, chalky flecks		Pottery, bone
7309	Ditch	NE-SW aligned, steep 50/60° sloping sides swift break of slope to slightly rounded base	2.3m wide 0.7m deep	
7310	Fill of 7307	Light brown silty clay with occassional pebble flint <60mm Ø moderate chalky flecks		Pottery, bone, 40 litre sample
7311	Fill of 7312	Similar to 7310, product of silty wash		

7312	Ditch	Relic ditch fill surviving at base between two later recuts	width ? 0.50m deep	

Trench 74	**Alignment NW-SE**	**Field 9**		**Height of substrate (m aOD) 9.21-9.95**
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
7401	Topsoil	Dark brownish-orange clay loam		
7402	Fill	Dark orange-brown silty clay, few chalk flecks		Pottery, flint
7403	Pit	SW side of trench, sub-circular with irregular rootlets at edges <140mm deep. Broad flat base with hollows	1.7m wide 0.14m deep	
7404	Fill	Blackish-brown clay silt moderate chalk, burnt clay flecks. Charcoal stains irregular		Pottery, flint, bone
7405	Ditch	NE-SW aligned, shallow, 30° sloping sides meet in V-shaped base	2.25m wide 0.41m deep	
7406	Fill	Dark greyish-brown clay silt, moderate chalk nodules and flint <80-90mm Ø		Pottery, quern, bone, 40 litre sample
7407	Ditch	N-S aligned, gradual tapering edge curves into steep 45/50° sloping sides, rounded base	1.65m wide 0.38m deep	
7408	Fill of 7409	Blackish brown silty clay gravel with in circular soilmark one packing stone		Iron
7409	Posthole	Vertical sides taper slightly towards base, flat bottom	0.30m wide 0.22m deep	
7410	Fill of 7411	Similar to 7408, one packing stone		
7411	Posthole	Vertical side tapers slightly towards base, flat bottom	0.30mm wide 0.22m deep	
7412	Fill of 7413	Blackish-brown silty clay with frequent charcoal flecks, stained throughout		
7413	Ditch	NE-SW aligned, square butt end, gradual sides, flat bottom	0.40m wide 0.11m deep	
7414	Fill of 7415	Soft blackish-brown clay silt, similar to 7404 and 7406		Pottery, iron, tile, bone
7415	Ditch	NE-SW aligned, eroded west side at upper edge, 45° and 60° assymetrical sides, V-shape base	0.31m wide 0.08m deep	
7416	Fill of 7417	Blackish-brown silty clay with frequent charcoal flecks, some burnt stone		

7417	Pit	Shallow rounded pit at end of ditch 7415, gentle sides, flat base	0.80m wide 0.11m deep	

Trench 75	**Alignment NE-SW**	**Field 9**		**Height of substrate (m aOD) 8.79-8.85**
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
7501	Topsoil	Dark brownish-orange clay loam	340mm thick	
7504	Fill of 7505	Mottled yellowish-brown sandy clay with patches of charcoal and burnt clay		Pottery, 40 litre sample
7505	Pit	Slightly oval, sharp concave sloping sides and rounded base. Bowl shape	1.10m wide 0.27m deep	
7506	Spread	Mid orange-grey/brown sandy clay with moderate chalk and occassional flint <50mmØ		
7510	Fill of 7511	Fill is similar to 7506		Pottery
7511	Ditch	NE-SW alignment, shallow 30/35°sloping sides, gently rounded base	0.73m wide 0.14m deep	

Trench 76	**Alignment NW-SE**	**Field 9**		**Height of substrate (m aOD) 7.95-8.35**
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
7601	Topsoil	Dark brownish-orange clay loam	340mm thick	
7602	Layer	Orange/brown silty clay with frequent manganese flecks fills depression	240-280mm thick	
7603	Fill of 7604	Mottled light blue-grey and orange with white flecks. Chalk and flint gravel <40mm Ø		Pottery, bone
7604	Ditch	NE-SW aligned, steep sides at 50/60° with flat base	1.66m wide 0.46m deep	
7605	Fill of 7606	Dark orange brown clay silt with moderate flint <60mm Ø and chalk flecks		Pottery, fired clay, bone, 40 litre sample
7606	Ditch	NE-SW aligned, gentle curved sloping sides at 40/45° flow gently to a rounded base	1.55m wide 0.32m deep	
7607	Fill of 7609	Orange/brown clay, chalk and flint gravel <60mm		Pottery
7608	Fill of 7610	Yellow sandy clay, high incidence of chalk, poorly sorted, flint pebbles 80-100mm		Pottery

7609	Ditch	NE-SW, steep 60° sloping sides, flat base	1.33m wide 0.38m deep	
7610	Ditch	Relic of earliest ditch cut, shallower sloping side that later recuts, broad flat base	Unknown width 0.40m deep	

Trench 77	**Alignment W-E**	**Field**		**Height of substrate (m aOD) 21.30-21.93**
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
7701	Topsoil	Dark brownish-orange clay loam	310mm thick	

Trench 78	**Alignment N-S**	**Field 5**		**Height of substrate (m aOD) 20.03-20.14**
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
7801	Topsoil	Dark brownish-orange clay loam	330mm thick	
7802	Fill of 7803	Blackish-brown silty clay with frequent root intrusions, white flecks and pebbles		
7803	Ditch	E-W alignment, shallow slope 30/40°, curves to flat base	1.86m wide 0.55m deep	

Trench 79	**Alignment W-E**	**Field 5**		**Height of substrate (m aOD) 19.59-19.99**
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
7901	Topsoil	Dark brownish-orange clay loam	320mm thick	

Trench 80	**Alignment N-S**	**Field 5**		**Height of substrate (m aOD) 19.43-19.50**
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
8001	Topsoil	Dark brownish-orange clay loam	330mm thick	
8002	Fill of 8003	Dark brown silty clay loam, few small flint and chalk pebbles <80mmØ and iron salt smears		
8003	Ditch	NE-SW, V-shaped profile, sharp breaks in slope at top and bottom	1.38m wide 0.4m deep	
8004	Fill of 8003	Yellowish-grey silty clay sediment at base		

Trench 81	**Alignment W-E**	**Field 5**		**Height of substrate (m aOD) 19.11-19.48**
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
8101	Topsoil	Dark brownish-orange clay loam ploughsoil. Few mixed stones <10mm Ø	350mm thick	

Trench 82	**Alignment N-S**	**Field 5**		**Height of substrate (m aOD) 20.25-20.47**
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
8201	Topsoil	Dark brownish-orange clay loam ploughsoil. Few mixed stones <10mm Ø	330mm thick	

Trench 83	**Alignment N-S**	**Field 5**		**Height of substrate (m aOD) 18.06-18.50**
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
8301	Topsoil	Dark brownish-orange clay loam ploughsoil. Few mixed stones <10mm Ø	320mm thick	

Trench 84	**Alignment NW-SE**	**Field 5**		**Height of substrate (m aOD) 18.26-18.67**
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
8401	Topsoil	Dark brownish-orange clay loam ploughsoil. Few mixed stones <10mm Ø	340mm thick	

Trench 85	**Alignment W-E**	**Field 5**		**Height of substrate (m aOD) 18.98-19.08**
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
8501	Topsoil	Dark brownish-orange clay loam ploughsoil. Few mixed stones <10mm Ø	330mm thick	

Trench 86	**Alignment N-S**	**Field 5**		**Height of substrate (m aOD) 19.29-19.73**
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
8601	Topsoil	Dark brownish-orange clay loam ploughsoil. Few mixed stones <10mm Ø	320mm thick	

Trench 87	**Alignment W-E**	**Field 5**		**Height of substrate (m aOD) 19.31-19.53**
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
8701	Topsoil	Dark brownish-orange clay loam ploughsoil. Few mixed stones <10mm Ø	340mm thick	

Trench 88	**Alignment N-S**	**Field 5**		**Height of substrate (m aOD) 16.06-17.87**
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
8801	Topsoil	Mid-greyish-brown sandy clay with 2% poorly sorted sub angular stone	350mm thick	

Trench 89	**Alignment N-S**	**Field 5**		**Height of substrate (m aOD) 19.82-20.61**
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
8901	Topsoil	Dark brownish-orange clay loam ploughsoil. Few mixed stones <10mm Ø	330mm thick	
8902	Fill of 8903	Dark black brown silty clay loam with white flecks and occasional stones <120mmØ		
8903	Ditch	NW-SE aligned, steep sloping sides, slightly eroded, narrow flat base	1.65m wide 0.85m deep	

Trench 90	**Alignment N-S**	**Field 5**		**Height of substrate (m aOD) 16.72-18.25**
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
9001	Topsoil	Dark brownish-orange clay loam ploughsoil. Few mixed stones <10mm Ø	340mm thick	

Trench 91	**Alignment W-E**	**Field 5**		**Height of substrate (m aOD) 15.32-15.41**
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
9101	Topsoil	Dark brownish-orange clay loam ploughsoil. Few mixed stones <10mm Ø	330mm thick	
9102	Fill of 9103	Mottled reddish brown clay with moderate blue clay patches		Brick, tile
9103	Brick kiln wall	NW-SE alignment, wall foundation exposed on east side, heat scorched brick	4.50m wide 0.47m deep	Brick
9104	Brick base	Brick bat floor surface laid one course thick and six bricks wide	0.68m wide 0.06m deep	Brick
9105	Mortar base	Light grey coarse sandy mortar, uneven surface laid directly upon sandy clay natural	50mm thick	

Trench 92	**Alignment W-E**	**Field 5**		**Height of substrate (m aOD) 18.03-18.46**
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
9201	Topsoil	Dark brownish-orange clay loam ploughsoil. Few mixed stones <10mm Ø	330mm thick	

Trench 93	**Alignment N-S**	**Field 5**		**Height of substrate (m aOD) 18.81-20.13**
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
9301	Topsoil	Dark brownish-orange clay loam ploughsoil. Few mixed stones <10mm Ø		
9302	Pit	Oval, shallow sloping sides with flat base	1.00m wide 0.24m deep	
9303	Fill of 9302	Dark yellowish grey silty clay, occasional flint and charcoal		Pottery, flint, bone

Trench 94	**Alignment W-E**	**Field 5**		**Height of substrate (m aOD) 20.25-20.35**
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
9401	Topsoil	Dark brownish-orange clay loam ploughsoil. Few mixed stones <10mm Ø	330mm thick	

Trench 95	**Alignment N-S**	**Field 5**		**Height of substrate (m aOD) 21.34-21.39**
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
9501	Topsoil	Mid grey brown with sandy clay <2% poorly sorted angular stones	300mm thick	

Trench 96	**Alignment N-S**	**Field 5**		**Height of substrate (m aOD) 20.07-21.09**
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
9601	Topsoil	Dark brownish-orange clay loam ploughsoil	330mm thick	

Trench 97	**Alignment NE-SW**	**Field 8**		**Height of substrate (m aOD) 9.36-9.98**
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
9701	Topsoil	Dark brownish-orange clay loam ploughsoil. Few mixed stones <10mm Ø	340mm thick	
9702	Subsoil	Mid orange-brown, slightly pinkish tint, clay loam	130mm thick	
9703	Fill of 9704	Compact dark greyish blue clayey silt with occassional dark blue clay patches and manganese smears		clay tobacco-pipe
9704	Ditch	N-S alignment, irregular sides in plan, slightly ragged, steep slope 50/60°, broad flat bottom	1.70m wide 0.27m deep	

Trench 98	**Alignment NE-SW**	**Field 5**		**Height of substrate (m aOD) 11.61-12.12**
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
9801	Topsoil	Dark brownish-orange clay loam ploughsoil. Few mixed stones <10mm Ø	300mm thick	Pottery
9802	Subsoil	Mid orange-brown, slightly pinkish, clay loam	120mm thick	
9803	Fill of 9804	Mid orange-brown clay silt with iron salts and manganese smears and mottle effect		
9804	Ditch	E-W alignment, steep slope 56-60°, narrow flat base	1.16m wide 0.3m deep	

Trench 99	Alignment N-S	Field 5		Height of substrate (m aOD) 20.93-21.01
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
9901	Topsoil	Dark brownish-orange clay loam ploughsoil. Few mixed stones <10mm Ø	340mm thick	
9902	Fill of 9903	Firm mid-dark orange to reddish brown clay silt, largely sterile, slight mottling with manganese		
9903	Ditch	Gently sloping sides with sharp break to channel, with steep sides and an uneven flattish base	4.60m wide 0.34m deep	

Trench 100	Alignment NW-SE	Field 9		Height of substrate (m aOD) 13.18-13.20
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
10001	Topsoil	Friable loose dark greyish-brown clay loam	340mm thick	
10004	Fill of 10006	Light orange-grey sandy clay with moderate pebble flint <45mmØ		
10005	Fill of 10006	Mid brownish-orange clay silt with pebble flint <30mmØ		
10006	Ditch	N-S aligned, steep sloping sides at 50°, sudden break to a flat base	2.15m wide 0.85 deep	
10007	Fill of 10009	Light yellowish grey silty clay with frequent chalky flecks, moderate pebble flint <35mmØ		
10008	Fill of 10009	As above, slightly darker with more greyish brown line, more clayey		
10009	Pit	Steep 50/60° sides drop rapidly beyond excavated extent, tip lines visible	12m wide, over 0.97m deep	

Trench 101	Alignment NE-SW	Field 1		Height of substrate (m aOD) 19.44-19.98
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
10101	Topsoil	Dark brown sandy silt loam, few other inclustions	330mm thick	

10102	Fill of 10104	Mid-greyish-brown sandy silt, occasional pabbles <60mmØ few burnt stones <100mmØ		Pottery, bone
10103	Fill of 10104	Yellowish-brown silty clay with flints <40mm Ø, occasional chalk peices		Pottery, bone
10104	Pit	SW side of trench, pit with steep sloping sides, slightly concave and gradually rounded base	2.40m wide 0.70m deep	

Trench 102	**Alignment NW-SE**	**Field 1**		**Height of substrate (m aOD) 18.98-19.74**
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
10201	Topsoil	dark brown sandy silt loam, few other inclustions	320mm thick	
10202	Subsoil	Orange brown weathered horizon of natural sand	110mm thick	

Trench 103	**Alignment N-S**	**Field 5**		**Height of substrate (m aOD) 20.47-21.43**
Context	***Type***	***Description***	***Dimensions***	***Artefacts and samples***
10301	Topsoil	Dark brownish-orange clay loam ploughsoil. Few mixed stones <10mm Ø	330mm thick	
10302	Fill of 10303	Greyish brown soft silty loam with occasional flint <50mmØ charcoal flacks, possible burning		Pottery, flint, bone, 40 litre sample
10303	Pit	Large sub-circular pit lies across whole of trench, fairly gentle sloping sides curve gradually towards base	5.7m wide, over 0.80m deep	
10304	Fill of 10303	Dark reddish-brown burning and scorched silty clay with occasional burnt stone <80mmØ		Pottery, bone
10305	Fill of 10303	Dark grey silty layer, rich pottery, bone, worked flint and charcoal		Pottery, flint, bone, 40 litre sample
10306	Fill of 10303	Light brownish-yellow layer, top fill on the north side		Flint, bone
10307	Fill of 10303	Yellowish-brown sandy clay, occasional silt, rich charcoal		Bone

APPENDIX 2: THE COIN HOARD

Small find	Obverse	Mint	Reverse	MM	Illegible	Featured (possibly Identifiable)	Flat cast flat	Notes	Date (AD)
39	Valentinian I	Arles	VICTORIA AVGG	PCON					388-92
40			VICTORIA AVGGG						
41	Arcadius	Rome	SALVS REIPVBLICAE						
42						*			
43							*	Thick cast flan	
44					*				
45					*				
46						*			
47	Constantine II		GLORIA EXCERCITVS (2 stds)						330-35
48						*			
49					*				
50	Arcadius		VICTORIA AVGGG					Off centre	
51						*			
52						*			
53									
54			VICTORIA AVGGG						
55						*			
56					*				
57			VICTORIA AVGGG						
58	Theodosius I								
59			VICTORIA AVGGG						
60					*				
61					*				
62	Valentinian I		SECVRITAS REIPVBLICAE						364-75
63					*				
64			VICTORIA AVGGG						
65			VICTORIA AVGGG						
66	Arcadius								388-402
67					*				
68					*				

Small find	Obverse	Mint	Reverse	MM	Illegible	Featured (possibly Identifiable)	Flat cast flat	Notes	Date (AD)
69	Constantius		VICTORIAEDDAVGQNN						341-46
70	CONSTANTINOPOLIS	Trier		TR.S					330-5
71	Arcadius	Arles	VICTORIA AVGGG	TCON					
72					*				
73						*			
74							*		
75							*		
76							*		
77						*			
78			VICTORIA AVGGG						
79						*			
80	Arcadius								
81						*			
82	Arcadius								
83						*			
84	Arcadius								
85					*				
86			VICTORIA AVGGG						
87			VICTORIA AVGGG						
88						*			
89					*				
90							*		
91					*				
92							*		
93						*			
94							*		
95							*		
96						*			
97					*				
98					*				
99			VICTORIA AVGGG						
100						*			
101					*				
102						*			

Small find	Obverse	Mint	Reverse	MM	Illegible	Featured (possibly Identifiable)	Flat cast flat	Notes	Date (AD)
103			VOT XX MVLT ??						
104						*			
105						*			
106					*				
107						*			
108					*				
109					*				
110			VICTORIA AVGGG						
111						*			
112			VICTORIA AVGGG						
113						*			
114			SALVS REIPVBLICAE						
115						*			
116					*				
117					*				
118					*				
119					*				
121			SALVS REIPVBLICAE						388-92
122	Honorius	Arles	VICTORIA AVGGG	-CON					394-402
123	Arcadius								
124	Arcadius								
125	Arcadius								
126	Valentinian II		VICTORIA AVGGG						378-83 388-92
127	Theodosius I	Aquliei	GLORIA ROMANORUM	AQP					383-7
128		Arles		PC[				Off centre reverse	
129	Valentinian II	Aquilei	VOT XX MVLT XX	SMAQP					
130	Theodosius I		VICTORIA AVGGG						388-95
131	Honorius	Lyon	VICTORIA AVGGG	LVP					394-402
132	Valens		GLORIA ROMANORUM						365-75
133	Theodosius I								379-95
134								Partial flan with ?air voids	
135	Arcadius		VICTORIA AVGGG						388-402
136			VICTORIA AVGGG						388-402

Small find	Obverse	Mint	Reverse	MM	Illegible	Featured (possibly Identifiable)	Flat cast flat	Notes	Date (AD)
137	Honorius		VICTORIA AVGGG						395-402
138	Maximus	Lyon	SPES ROMANORUM	]P					387-8
139	Constans		GLORIA EXCERCITVS (1 std)					Obv legend does not appear correct with G E type rev	
140	Valentinian II	?Rome	VICTORIA AVGGG						383-7
141			SALVS REIPVBLICAE						388-408
142	Theodosius I	Arles	VICTORIA AVGGG	PCON					388-95
143			GLORIA EXCERCITVS (1 std)						
144			GLORIA EXCERCITVS (1 std)						
145	Theodosius I or II								
146	Magnus Maximus	Lyon	SPES ROMANORVM (camp gate)	LVGS					387-8
147	Helena	Trier	PAX PVBLICA	.TRP.					337-41
148	Arcadius		VICTORIA AVGGG						388-402
149	Valentinian II	Aquilei	VICTORIA AVGGG	SMAQP					383-7
150	Arcadius		VICTORIA AVGGG						
151	Magnus Maximus	Trier	SPES ROMANORVM	SMTR					387-88
152	Gratian	Lyon?	GLORIA ROMANORVM	OF II					367-78
153-180					*				
181-199							*		
200-248						*			
249	Honorius								
250			GLORIA EXCERCITVS (1 std)						335-41
251			SECVRITAS REIPVBLICAE	OF II					364-78
252	Theodosius I		VICTORIA AVGGG						378-92
253	CONSTANTIN-OPOLIS								330-5
254-263							*		
264-277						*			
278-300					*				
329	Hororius	Arles	VICTORIA AVGGG	TCON					394-5
330	Theodosius I		GLORIA ROMANORUM						388-92

Small find	Obverse	Mint	Reverse	MM	Illegible	Featured (possibly Identifiable)	Flat cast flat	Notes	Date (AD)
331	Arcadius		VICTORIA AVGGG						
332			VICTORIA AVGGG						388-402
333	Arcadius		VICTORIA AVGGG					Poor copy	388-402
334	Valentinian II		VICTORIA AVGGG						388-92
335	Honorius								394-
336	Arcadius	Trier	VICTORIA AVGGG	TR-					388-402
337			VICTORIA AVGGG						388-402
338	Theodosius I	Arles	VICTORIA AVGGG	-SCON					388-95
339	Arcadius								388-402
340		Trier	VICTORIA AVGGG	?TR					388-402
341	Valentinian II	Arles	VICTORIA AVGGG	CON					388-92
342	Arcadius/ Honorius		VICTORIA AVGGG						388-402
343			VICTORIA AVGGG					Off centre	
344	Theodosius		VICTORIA AVGGG						378-83
345	Valentinian II		VICTORIA AVGGG						388-92
346			SALVS REIPVBLICAE						388-402
347								Possible air bubble	
348	Arcadius		VICTORIA AVGGG						388-402
349	Constans		VICTORIAEDDAVGGQNN						341-46
350	Constans								
351	Valens	Arles	SECVRITAS REIPVBLICAE	PCON					364-78
352		Lyon	VICTORIA AVGGG	LGVP					
353			VICTORIA AVGGG						
354			VICTORIA AVGGG						
355	Theodosius I	Aquilie	VICTORIA AVGGG						383-7
356	Valentinian II								375-92
357			VICTORIA AVGGG						
358	Arcadius	Lyon		LVGP					394-402
359			VICTORIA AVGGG					? Barbarous copy	
360	Theodosius I	Lyon	VICTORIA AVGGG	LVGP					388-92
361	Honorius		VICTORIA AVGGG						394-
362	Valentinian I	Arles	GLORIA ROMANORVM	TCON					364-75
363		Arles	VICTORIA AVGGG	SCON					388-402
364	Arcadius		VICTORIA AVGGG						388-402

Small find	Obverse	Mint	Reverse	MM	Illegible	Featured (possibly Identifiable)	Flat cast flat	Notes	Date (AD)
365		Arles	VICTORIA AVGGG	]ON					388-402
366	Constantius II	Trier	VICTORIAEDDAVGGQNN	]RP.					341-46
367	Valentinian I	Trier	GLORIA ROMANORVM (camp gate)	SMTR					367-75
368	Constans	Lyon	GLORIA EXCERCITVS (1 std)	.PLG.					335-41
369	Arcadius								
370	Theodosius I		VICTORIA AVGGG						388-95
371	Valentinian II	Lyon	VICTORIA AVGGG	LVGP					388-92
372	Arcadius								
373-409			VICTORIA AVGGG / SALVS REIPVBLICAE						
410-468							*		
469-632					*				
633-701						*			
702								Bone not coin	
703								Fossil Shell	
704	MISSING/ Miscounted								
705	Valens	Lyon	SECVRITAS REIPVBLICAE	LVG					364-78
706			FEL TEMP REPARATIO (fallin h'man type)					Barbarous copy	
707			GLORIA ROMANORVM (kneeling captive type)						365-75
708	Constantius II	Trier	VICTORIAEDDAVGGQNN	D/TRP					341-46
709								Possible casting bubbl in flan	
710		Arles	VICTORIA AVGGG	PC[				Possible barbarous copy	388+
711		Arles	VICTORIA AVGGG	PCON					383-402
712	Honorius/ Arcadius		VICTORIA AVGGG						394-402
713	?Constans		VICTORIAEDDAVGGQNN (2 victories)						341-46
714-718			VICTORIA AVGGG /						

Small find	Obverse	Mint	Reverse	MM	Illegible	Featured (possibly Identifiable)	Flat cast flat	Notes	Date (AD)
			SALVS REIPVBLICAE						
719-726							*		
727-745					*				
746-760						*			
761	Arcadius		VICTORIA AVGGG						
762	Honorius								394-402
763	Constans/ Constantius	Arles	VICTORIAEDDAVGQNN	P in field					341-46
764	Theodosius I	Arles	VICTORIA AVGGG	SCON					388-95
765		Lyon	VICTORIA AVGGG	LVGP					388-95
766	Theodosius I		VICTORIA AVGGG						
767	Gratian	Lyon	VOT XV MVLT XX	LVGP					378-83
768	Valentinian II	Arles	VICTORIA AVGGG	PCON					388-92
769	Theodosius I								388-95
770	Arcadius		? VICTORIA AVGGG						388-402
771	Theodosius I	Aquilei	SALVS REIPVBLICAE	AQP (Chi-Rho in field					394-5
772	Constantine II	Lyon	GLORIA EXCERCITVS (1 std)	PLG					335-7
773							*	Classic casting gate	
774-780			VICTORIA AVGGG / SALVS REIPVBLICAE						
781-85						*			
785-800							*		
801-845					*				
846	Missing								
847	Missing								
848	Missing								
849	Missing								
852	Theodosius I		VICTORIA AVGGG						388-95
853		Arles	VICTORIA AVGGG	SCON					388-402
854	Arcadius		? VICTORIA AVGGG						388-402
855		Lyon	VICTORIA AVGGG	LVGP					388-92

Small find	Obverse	Mint	Reverse	MM	Illegible	Featured (possibly Identifiable)	Flat cast flat	Notes	Date (AD)
856	Valentinian II	Arles	VICTORIA AVGG	PCON					
857	Arcadius							Poor cast copy	
858	Honorius/ Arcadius								
859	Arcadius								
860			VICTORIA AVGGG						
861	Honorius	Arles	VICTORIA AVGGG	CON					394-402
862	Magnus Maximus	Lyon	SPES ROMANORVM (camp gate)	LVGP					387-8
863			GLORIA EXCERCITVS (1 std)						335-41
864		Aquilei	SALVS REIPVBLICAE	AQP					388-92 394-402
865	Honorius		VICTORIA AVGGG						
866	Valentinian II	?Rome	?SALVS REIPVBLICAE	?RP					388-92
867	Honorius	Aquilei	SALVS REIPVBLICAE	AQP					394-402
868	Honorius/ Arcadius	Arles	VICTORIA AVGGG	PCON					388-92
869	Claudius Gothicus								268-70
870	Honorius								
871			VICTORIA AVGGG/SALVS REIPVBLICAE					Poor casting	
872								Miss struck/cast	
873-886							*	Assorted cast flans including some casting gates	
887-935						*			
936-100					*				
1001	Missing								
1002	Missing								
1003								Air bubble in casting or perforation	
1004-1006							*	Good casting gates	
1007-							*	Featured thick flans	

Small find	Obverse	Mint	Reverse	MM	Illegible	Featured (possibly Identifiable)	Flat cast flat	Notes	Date (AD)
1009									
1010-1017							*		
1018-1057						*			
1058-1103					*				

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