Northamptonshire County Council

Northamptonshire Archaeology

Archaeological Excavation
on Land to the South of
Cambridge Road, Bedford
November 2004 to June 2005

Assessment Report and Updated Project Design

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(Front cover: Excavation of burial group on west side of henge)

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION
ON LAND TO THE SOUTH OF
CAMBRIDGE ROAD, BEDFORD
OCTOBER 2006

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Abstract

An archaeological excavation, commissioned by John Samuels Archaeological Consultants on behalf of Gazeley Properties Ltd, was carried out by Northamptonshire Archaeology prior to the development of a business/industrial park on land to the south of Cambridge Road, Bedford. The excavation investigated remains dating from the late Neolithic/Bronze Age to the Saxon period. The main components of the site were: a late Neolithic/early Bronze Age henge and barrow; an Iron Age enclosure and annexe; a triple ditch system; part of a Roman strip settlement; and dispersed Saxon settlement comprising a number of sunken feature buildings (SFBs) and associated features. This report presents an assessment of the findings and outlines recommendations for further post-excavation work leading to publication.

1 INTRODUCTION

Northamptonshire Archaeology (NA), acting on behalf of John Samuels Archaeological Consultants (JSAC), carried out an archaeological excavation and watching brief on land to the south of Cambridge Road, Bedford (site centred on NGR TL 0756 4807; Fig 1). The work, which commenced in November 2004 and continued until June 2005, was undertaken prior to and during the construction of a business/industrial park by Gazeley Properties Limited (planning application ref. 98/00975/OUT).

The development site was located within an area of archaeological interest and was known to contain prehistoric and Roman remains. Consequently, Bedfordshire County Council Heritage and Environment Section (BCCHES) advised that a condition be applied to the consent for planning, requiring that a programme of archaeological investigation should be carried out prior to the development of the land. The archaeological background and mitigation strategy was set out in the *Archaeological Management Plan* issued by JSAC (2004). A *Project Design for Archaeological Excavation* was prepared by NA (2004) in accordance with the requirements of the management plan.

The *Archaeological Management Plan* identified four specific areas of archaeological importance affected by the development (Fig 2):

Area 1: Two, possibly three, ring ditches thought to mark the locations of late Neolithic or early Bronze Age burial mounds.

Area 2: An enclosure of possible Iron Age date.

Area 3: An extensive Romano-British strip settlement, partly excavated during the construction of the A421 Bedford Bypass

Area 5: A triple ditch system, traditionally dated to the later prehistoric period, although previous investigations have suggested that this feature may have been established in the Roman period.

During works two further areas were designated: **Area 7**, an extension of **Area 3**; and **Area 8**, the remainder of the site not covered by the other areas and subject to a watching brief.

This Updated Project Design was prepared to meet the requirements of the *Archaeological Management Plan* (JSAC 2004) and has been designed in accordance with *Appendix 5* of *Management of Archaeological Projects* (EH 1991) and appropriate national standards and guidelines, as recommended by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA).

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 Topography and geology

The application area (approximately 20.8 hectares) covered a single, large arable field on the south-eastern outskirts of Bedford. It comprised a triangular block of land bounded to the north by Cambridge Road, to the west by the A600 Hitchin Road, and to the south by the A421 Bedford Southern Bypass.

Situated on the post-Anglian terrace gravels between the River Great Ouse and the Elstow Brook, the ground was generally flat. At the eastern end of the site the ground sloped slightly to the east and north-east then levelled off on to the floodplain of a silt-filled palaeochannel. The site lay at approximately 27m aOD, dropping to *c* 25m at the eastern end.

Very slight rises and dips in the ground surface across the area reflected undulations in the underlying substrate, which comprised gravel, sand and silt overlying Oxford Clay (BGS 1996). The gravels were overlain by alluvial silt at the east end of the site. The soils in this area were mostly well-drained fine loamy soils of the Efford 1 soil association, which are typically associated with river terrace gravel (SSEW 1983).

2.2 Archaeological and historical background

Previous archaeological investigation of the site comprised a geophysical survey (Bartlett 1997) and an aerial photographic assessment (APS 2004). A review of existing archaeological information relevant to the site was prepared by Lisboa (1998) in a statement of the site's archaeological potential. Archaeological features, largely identified from cropmarks shown on aerial photographs, included:

- Two, possibly three ring ditches, interpreted as prehistoric funerary monuments, similar to others in the region that have been dated to the Neolithic and early Bronze Age periods. One of the three was visible as a cropmark on aerial photographs, but it was not located by the geophysical survey.

- A sub-rectangular enclosure of possible Iron Age date, with a large pit or concentration of smaller pits near the centre. The enclosure was situated on the line of the triple ditch system (see below).

- A triple ditch system extending across the site from north to south. A section of the ditches was investigated prior to the construction of the A421 Bedford Southern Bypass (BCCAS 1993), and a Roman date for their construction, or at least continued maintenance, was indicated.

- The northern edge of an extensive Romano-British strip settlement, the greater part of which was excavated prior to the construction of the A421 Bedford Southern Bypass (BCCAS 1993). The settlement, which was occupied throughout the Roman period, comprised a number of buildings and associated pits, ditches and enclosures, a corn-drier, a pottery kiln, a pit containing iron slag and human burials.

3 EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

The location of the archaeological areas (Areas 1, 2, 3, 5 and 7; Fig 1) was surveyed by sub-contractors acting on behalf of the principal contractor. The areas were stripped under archaeological supervision using a 360^{o} tracked mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. The topsoil and subsoil were removed to reveal any significant archaeological remains or, where these were absent, the natural substrate. The topsoil and subsoil was moved to the edge of the site in 30-tonne dumper trucks and stored separately in temporary and permanent bunds.

Once the areas had been opened up and the archaeological surface cleaned sufficiently to enhance the features, a grid was established and related to the Ordnance Survey National Grid. The limits of excavation, the site grid and major features were surveyed using a total station. Plans were hand drawn at a scale of 1:100, and selected features were planned at a scale of 1:20.

Discrete features were sectioned and where they were shown to form part of recognisable structures, contain deposits of particular value or significant artefact or environmental assemblages, they were fully excavated.

Intersections were investigated to establish stratigraphic relationships. Representative sections of linear and curvilinear features were sample excavated away from intersections with other features or deposits, to obtain unmixed samples of material. Sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10 or 1:20, as appropriate. All levels have been related to Ordnance Survey Datum.

On completion of hand excavation and recording and with the consent of BCCHES, the major ditches in Areas 1, 2 and 5 and the pit complex in Area 2 were fully excavated using a JCB-type excavator to maximise finds retrieval and clarify the stratigraphic sequence.

Artefacts and ecofacts were collected by hand and retained, receiving appropriate care prior to removal from site. Unstratified animal bones and modern material were not collected. The excavated area and spoil heaps were scanned with a metal detector to ensure maximum finds retrieval.

All finds were recorded on site, following NA guidelines. The majority of finds were recovered by hand, while smaller numbers were located by a metal detector. Metal detecting was carried out at regular intervals throughout the excavation, by undertaking the systematic coverage of the exposed surface of the site and scanning the spoil heaps. The position of all excavated finds was recorded by three-dimensional co-ordinates, and the metal detected finds were given co-ordinates where possible.

All the individually recorded finds have been entered on to a computerised database (ACCESS). A basic catalogue has been compiled, comprising material type and object identifications, together with stratigraphic information. All finds have been boxed by material type, in numerical small find order.

Samples of a minimum of 20 litres were taken for flotation from dateable contexts with a potential for the recovery of charcoal and carbonised plant remains. Specialist environmental advice was provided by Dr Helen Keeley.

Human remains were excavated following notification of the relevant authorities, and were removed under Home Office licence.

A photographic record of the project was maintained using 35mm black and white negative and colour transparency film, supplemented with digital images. All records were compiled during fieldwork into a comprehensive and fully cross-referenced site archive.

The project was overseen by John Samuels Archaeological Consultants (JSAC), who acted as archaeological consultants to the developers, Gazeley Properties Ltd. JSAC were responsible for liaison with the curatorial authority (BCCHES), who monitored the works, to ensure that all aspects of the project were undertaken to a satisfactory standard. All works were conducted in accordance with the *IFA Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Excavations (1994, revised 1999)* and the *Code of Conduct* of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (1985, revised 2000). In addition, all works complied with the guidelines detailed in *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2002).

4 SUMMARY OF EXCAVATION RESULTS

4.1 Site chronology

The excavation demonstrated human activity on the site from the late Neolithic/early Bronze Age periods through to modern times. Archaeological remains dating to the late Neolithic/early Bronze Age, Iron Age, Roman and Saxon periods were located in discrete areas across the site, the shifting focus of settlement and ritual/funerary activity reflecting not only a response to environmental and economic changes, but also to changes in the cultural interpretation and adaptation of the landscape. The archaeology has been summarized as follows:

- **Phase 1, Late Neolithic/early Bronze Age funerary monuments**
- **Phase 2, Iron Age enclosure and annexe**
- **Phase 3, Triple ditch system**
- **Phase 4, Romano-British settlement**

- **Phase 5, Early Saxon settlement**
- **Phase 6, Medieval ridge and furrow**
- **Phase 7, Post-medieval quarry**

A summary of the archaeology associated with each of the above headings is given below. The provisional phase plan is presented in Figure 2.

4.2 Phase 1, late Neolithic/early Bronze Age funerary monuments

Activity dating to the late Neolithic and early Bronze Age periods was concentrated at the western end of the site, on a low gravel rise adjacent to a palaeochannel. The palaeochannel is unlikely to have been active at the time the monuments were constructed, but the low lying ground is likely to have been seasonally flooded. The three principal features in this area were a henge, a barrow and a substantial linear ditch. There were several pits associated with or in close proximity to the henge.

The henge

The henge, which was roughly circular in plan and had an external diameter of *c* 40m, was constructed in three phases. In the second phase the henge was probably remodelled to form a barrow, and was recut in the third phase to re-instate its original henge form. Due to variations in the width of the ditches associated with each phase, the internal measurements were 34m from east to west and 30m from north to south. The area enclosed by the ring ditch measured approximately 0.08ha.

There was no clear evidence from the excavated ditch sections to indicate whether there was a bank, internal or external, associated with any of the phases of the monument. The absence of slumping and gravel tip lines in the ditch deposits may be explained by there having been a wide berm between the bank and the ditch. However, a spread of dark soil, probably the remains of a low turf mound, across the western half of the interior, suggests that the bank, if there was one, was probably external; had there been an internal gravel bank, traces would have been preserved beneath the mound.

The elements of each phase of the monument are as follows:

Phase 1a: The earliest phase comprised a circular enclosure, *c* 40m in diameter, with a wide opening on the western side. The enclosure was defined by a steep-sided, flat-bottomed ditch with a U-shaped profile, approximately 2m wide and 1.2m deep. Largely truncated by later phases of the monument, only remnants of the base of the Phase 1a ring ditch survived and there was no clear evidence for a bank or mound. The fills were very stony, indicating rapid infilling, most likely as a result of weathering and the collapse of the steep ditch sides. The only artefact from this phase was a fragment of deer antler from the primary fill.

Phase 1b: The monument was extensively remodelled, probably to form a traditional ring ditch, with the entrance on the western side effectively blocked by a narrow ditch which presumably extended around the full perimeter of the monument. It was cut into the top of the Phase 1a ditch, but any traces would have been removed along much of its perimeter by the Phase 1c ditch.

It was probably as part of this phase that a grave containing a triple burial was placed near the former entrance to the monument. The grave contained the remains of two

adults and a child, and sherds of late Bronze Age pottery were recovered from the fill of the grave. A dark soil covering the western half of the interior and comprising the main fill of the Phase 1b ditch may be the remnants of a turf mound placed over the burial. If this is the case, the burial was not placed centrally but off-centre, on the western side of the mound. A number of small pits or postholes, possibly the remains of a small mortuary structure, were found near the centre of the ring ditch, but due to extensive plough damage it was not clear if these pre- or post-dated the construction of the mound. However, a narrow slot, aligned from east to west, was clearly cut into the mound on its northern side. The date of this feature is unknown.

Phase 1c: In the latest phase of the monument the ditch was recut to re-establish its original henge form, with an opening 12m wide on the western side. The new ditch was broad and shallow; the silty fills indicate the gradual accumulation of soil over time, and contained finds ranging in date from the Bronze Age to the early Iron Age. This phase of the monument probably remained a visible part of the landscape until the medieval period, when it was ploughed out.

Immediately to the south of the henge there were a number of small pits and two larger pits, a flint scraper coming from one of the latter.

The proximity of Saxon settlement and the recovery of an early Saxon brooch from the topsoil on the southern side of the henge suggests that the monument may have been the focus of ritual activity in the early Saxon period, although the evidence for this is too slight to assign a further phase.

The barrow

The barrow was sited approximately 55m to the south-west of the henge, again constructed on a very slight rise of the gravel, close to the edge of a palaeochannel. The ring ditch had an external diameter of *c* 10m and the ditch was approximately 1.2m wide. The ring ditch comprised two C-shaped lengths of ditch, with two opposing gaps, less than 0.5m wide, between the terminals. The gaps were situated on the north-east and south-west sides of the ring ditch, and aligned on the henge to the north-east, suggesting that the barrow post-dates the construction of the henge. Slump deposits and tip lines in the ring ditch indicate that there was a central mound over the burial, although ploughing had removed all trace of the mound.

In the centre of the barrow a large, shallow, oval pit was cut by an oval, flat-bottomed shaft 1.6m deep containing a complex sequence of fills, at the bottom of which was a crouched inhumation burial. The monument probably dates to the late Neolithic or early Bronze Age periods.

The ditch

Approximately 40m to the south and south-west of the barrow there was a large linear ditch. It was aligned from east to west and had a rounded terminal at its eastern end; it extended *c* 60m to the west before passing beneath the embankment of the Hitchin Road. A finely worked flint ovate scraper was recovered from the eastern end of the ditch. A large, steep-sided, flat-bottomed pit was located *c* 5m to the north of the terminal.

4.3 Phase 2, Iron Age enclosure and annexe

The Iron Age enclosure and annexe was situated close to the northern edge of the site, *c* 90m to the east of the henge. The northern part lay beneath a permanent bund and was not excavated. However, from aerial photographs the full plan of the enclosure and annexe can be determined; sub-rectangular with an entrance on its south-eastern side; and an adjacent annexe to the west, partly enclosed by a large ditch with an opening to the south. The absence of settlement remains, the presence of a burial in a square mortuary enclosure near the centre of the annexe, and the open eastern side of the annexe suggests that this monument may have been used for ritual and ceremonial functions rather than for settlement or defensive purposes.

The main enclosure measured approximately 55m from north-west to south-east and 41m from north-east to south-west, enclosing an area of *c* 0.23ha. There were no internal divisions or pit groups. The ditch enclosing the western annexe extended south-westwards from the western corner of the main enclosure, turned south-south-east and then turned again to the east. The annexe was open on its eastern side, with a gap of 30m between the south corner of the sub-rectangular enclosure and the squared terminal of the annexe ditch. There was a second opening 7m wide on the southern side, close to the south-west corner of the annexe ditch.

Near the middle of the annexe there was a small, square mortuary enclosure with rounded corners, with a central extended burial, aligned from north-east to south-west. To the north and west of the enclosure there was a shallow arc of postholes, possibly the remains of a structure, for example a screen, possibly associated with the mortuary enclosure. Approximately 4m to the south-west of the central burial and outside of the enclosure was a satellite burial in a small rectangular grave.

The only other significant features associated with the enclosure and annexe was a large well or waterhole, a gully, several small pits and a scatter of postholes in the area around the well.

The well lay to the south of the sub-rectangular enclosure, at a point close to the intersection between the projected lines of the north-eastern side of the enclosure and the southern side of the annexe. It was oval in plan and had steep, almost vertical sides and a roughly flat base. It contained an assemblage of animal bone, including a horse skull, sherds of early Iron Age pottery, and chips and slivers of wood, probably carpentry waste. The well, which had been recut several times, may have had a ritual function and based on the pottery evidence, probably pre-dates the enclosure; charcoal/wood samples from the well and enclosure will be submitted for radiocarbon dating to clarify this.

4.4 Phase 3, Triple ditch system

Extending 220m from north-west to south-east across the site and passing through the centre of the Iron Age annexe there were three roughly parallel ditches. From cropmarks visible on aerial photographs and excavation carried out during the construction of the A421 Bypass, they are known to extend southwards to the Elstow Brook. No archaeological record of their extension to the north of Cambridge Road was made prior to the construction of a modern industrial estate in this area, but in likelihood they extended to the River Great Ouse. The triple ditch system would therefore have formed the western boundary demarcating a large, triangular block of land between the confluence of the Elstow Brook and the River Great Ouse.

The western ditch varied in width and profile, and was fairly sinuous. It was composed of several lengths of ditch, probably all roughly contemporaneous. There was a marked kink in the line of the ditch where it passed through the southern entrance in the Iron Age annexe ditch. The reasons for the deviation are unclear, but it may have been to avoid a natural obstacle, such as a cluster of trees; and this is suggested by a number of crescent-shaped tree boles in the area to the west of the ditch. Alternatively, it may have been shifted to avoid the surviving earthwork defining the western edge of the annexe, which might explain why the new ditch passed through its southern opening.

The central ditch was the largest of the three. Unlike the western ditch, it appeared to have been cut in one continuous length. Just to the south of the point where it cut through the annexe ditch there was a worn hollow roughly lined with pebbles, with fence lines on either side of the ditch. This probably denotes a crossing point over the ditch. Roman pottery was recovered from the hollow.

The ditch cut several isolated prehistoric pits along its length and it was cut by a large complex of pits near the centre of the Iron Age annexe (see 4.5 below).

The eastern ditch was similar in size to the western ditch, though it was far less sinuous. At the northern end, inside the Iron Age annexe, there may have been a wide opening that was subsequently blocked by a slightly curved length of ditch.

None of the ditches provided any clear evidence for the position of any banks. The ditches, which were probably lined with hedges, were too slight to be defensive, but probably served as a visible land boundary.

The age and sequence of development of the triple ditch system is problematic and will require closer scrutiny of the field records and fabric analysis of the pottery before it can be correctly phased. The pottery assemblage from the triple ditch system suggests a late Bronze Age/early Iron Age date for its construction, but stratigraphically it clearly post-dates the annexe ditch which has been dated to the early/middle Iron Age. Roman pottery was found in the upper fills of the triple ditch system, suggesting that it was still a landscape feature in the Roman period. The triple ditch system also cut a number of smaller features that contained late Iron Age and possibly Roman pottery. It is therefore likely that the ditch system had a long and complex history, with sections of the ditch being recut as late as the Roman period.

4.5 Phase 4, Romano-British settlement

Extending along the central southern edge of the site was the northern fringe of the Romano-British settlement of Eastcotts, the main part of which was excavated in the mid 1990s prior to the construction of the A421 Bypass (BCCAS 1993), which has yet to be published in full. This had identified a strip settlement, dating from the late Iron Age/early Roman period but predominantly dating to the 2nd and 3rd centuries AD.

The dating and phasing of the northern part of the settlement broadly corresponds to the provisional findings of the main excavation undertaken in the 1990s (BCCAS 1993). The current excavation identified three phases:

Phase 4a Late Iron Age/early Roman

Phase 4b 2nd/mid 3rd century AD

Phase 4c Late 3rd/4th century AD

The part of the settlement investigated by the current excavation revealed a possible droveway or shifting boundary, aligned from north-east to south-west, defining the northern limits of the settlement. It comprised a sequence of discontinuous lengths of ditch.

Perpendicular to and extending to the south-east of this boundary were a number of gullies and ditches, seemingly forming rectangular enclosures or plots within the settlement. Three of the ditches intersected with large, waterlogged pits, finds from which included the remains of a leather shoe, leather scraps, a wooden, double-sided comb and a wooden bobbin. Also within the settlement boundary were a number of smaller pits, one of which contained a residual Neolithic polished stone axe (in association with sherds of Roman pottery); another, a large assemblage of Roman pottery dating to the late 2nd to early 3rd century AD. There was no evidence for any buildings or other structures, indicating that this was a 'backyard' area. A significant number of kiln bars were found within this area, indicative of pottery production in the immediate vicinity. A possible well was located at the southern edge of the site.

Beyond the northern boundary of the settlement there were a number of associated features dating to the Roman period. These included: a stone-lined well; a probable watering hole for livestock; a large pit and a number of smaller pits; and an extended inhumation burial.

The settlement terminated at its eastern end at the edge of the overbank deposits of a palaeochannel, where the ground dipped slightly onto the floodplain to the north-east. This low-lying area was probably unsuitable for habitation and was probably seasonally flooded. The slightly dirty silts on the floodplain of the palaeochannel suggest that there may even have been a stream in this area in the later prehistoric and Roman periods. On the silts immediately to the east of the settlement there was a concentration of amorphous pits which may have been used as waterholes, and/or possible quarry pits. Some of these pits produced Roman pottery dating to the 2nd and early 3rd centuries AD.

Close to the centre of the Iron Age annexe and just to the south of the square mortuary enclosure, there was a complex of inter-cutting pits. Sherds of Roman pottery were recovered from several of the pits in the complex. The pits cut the central ditch of the triple ditch system. The purpose or function behind the pits is unclear, but it is possible that there may have been a prehistoric monument in this location, possibly a barrow, which was deliberately grubbed out. This was suggested by the truncated remnants of two opposing C-shaped lengths of ditch, similar to those forming the barrow to the south-west. However, the evidence for this is very tentative.

4.6 Phase 5, Early Saxon settlement

An area of dispersed Saxon settlement was present, situated mainly between the henge and the Iron Age enclosures, close to the northern edge of the site. It comprised: three sunken feature buildings (SFBs), one of which contained fragments

of a loomweight; a cremation burial; several small pits; three ditches; and an arrangement of postholes, possibly the remains of a small, rectangular building. A fourth SFB lay 160m to the south of the main settlement, adjacent to a linear ditch that extended northwards and terminated just short of the henge. A fifth SFB was located *c* 140m to the south-east, close to the triple ditch system, and an isolated pit lay close to the Roman settlement on the east side of the site. Pottery recovered from the features dates the settlement to the 5th/6th centuries AD.

The ditch terminating just to the south of the henge produced no artefactual dating evidence. However, a similar ditch associated with the main focus of Saxon settlement approached and terminated just to the east of the henge, suggesting that they are of the same period. It is clear that the henge was still visible as an earthwork at this time, and may even have been a focus for ritual activity in the early Saxon period. This is tentatively suggested by the recovery of a 5th/6th century Saxon brooch from the topsoil overlying the henge ditch on its southern side.

4.7 Phase 6, Medieval ridge and furrow

Plough furrows, aligned from north-west to south-east, were recorded at the western end of the site and in an area near the centre, adjacent to Cambridge Road. The furrows ran parallel to hedgerows, long since removed, shown on the 1st edition ordnance Survey map of 1888. The furrows probably date to the later medieval period, but the open field system of ridge and furrow, prevalent in much of the Midland region, could have been maintained into the post-medieval period (Rackham 1986, 167-180).

4.8 Phase 7, Post-medieval quarry

A large post-medieval quarry, probably dating to the 18th/19th century, was located close to Cambridge Road, near to the centre of the site.

4.9 Undated features

The majority of the archaeological features could be dated, either from artefactual evidence, feature type, stratigraphic relationships or by association with other features. Other than a handful of isolated pits and postholes, there are only two significant features that remain undated. The first of these was a large pit, probably a waterhole, *c* 30m to the north of the Roman settlement. This feature was only partly investigated due to contamination by foul water from a drain. The second was an L-shaped field boundary to the north of the Romano-British settlement.

4.10 Quantification; the site archive

Site records
Plans: **49** A2 sheets at 1:50 and 1:100
Sections: **63** A2 sheets at 1:10 and 1:20
Contexts: **2136** on individual *pro-forma* record sheets
Supporting records: **123** on individual *pro-forma* record sheets
Colour slides: **1071**
Black and white: **33** films

Finds
Prehistoric pottery (boxes): **1**
Roman pottery (boxes): **21**
Early Saxon pottery (boxes): **1**
Animal bone (boxes): **8**
Human bone (boxes): **6** (7 skeletons, 1 cremation)
Other finds (boxes): **6**
Small finds (boxes): **2** (small)

Environmental and dating samples
Bulk soil samples (20 litre): **59**
Radiocarbon samples (to be obtained from charcoal in soil samples and bone)

5 FINDS ASSESSMENT

5.1 Worked flint *by Andy Chapman*

A total of 370 flints was recovered from the excavation of all areas of the site. Only 18 of these are from features within Area 1, the focus of Neolithic/Bronze Age ritual/funerary activity. Most of the remainder are therefore residual in features of Iron Age, Roman and Saxon dates. A small proportion derives from isolated pits of probable Neolithic date, although this proportion has not been identified as part of the assessment.

The flint is typically of fresh appearance, comprising grey or brown vitreous flint, with a white to light brown cortex. This material has generally provided a range of flakes and blades up to 50mm long. However, a proportion of larger implements, typically worked on blades 50-85mm long, are in a white to grey granular, opaque flint.

The full assemblage has been quickly scanned to establish its general character, but it has not been fully quantified, and the number of retouched implements and cores is only an initial estimate. The distribution of flint across the excavated areas is shown below:

Site Area	Quantity of flint	Provisional number of implements & cores	Percentage retouched
Area 1: Neolithic/Bronze Age	18	5	28%
Area 2: Iron Age enclosure	175	27	15%
Areas 3 and 7: Roman settlement	112	24	27%
Area 5: Triple ditch system	15	1	7%
Area 8: Watching brief area	50	10	20%
Totals	**370**	**67**	**18%**

The assemblage is dominated by flakes, but this includes a number of elongated blade-like flakes and, in addition there is a good representation of true blades, many of which have been utilised or are either serrated or have been retouched to form knives. Cores are scarce, and those present are irregular, and certainly not the source for the blades, or many of the flakes, which have evidently come from well-prepared cores. The high proportion of blades, including the serrated blades, indicates that the assemblage is predominantly of Neolithic date.

The most common implement type is the scraper, with the majority of these being end and side scrapers, although there are some composite implements comprising an end scraper and a retouched cutting edge. The predominance of end and side scraper provides a further indication that the assemblage is largely of Neolithic date. There is also a broken, finely worked ovate.

Notched implements and awls are present, but scarce. There are only two arrowheads: a fine and large transverse arrowhead of chisel-ended form, with a hook at one end of the cutting edge that would have formed a simple barb; and a barbed-and-tanged arrowhead. Both of these would be considered to be of later Neolithic date, suggesting that there was at least some later activity in the area.

However, it is still suggested that the majority of the material is of Neolithic date, and most probably broadly contemporary with the development and use of the Neolithic monuments. The low level of material within the Neolithic features indicates that the majority of the flint deposition had been onto the ground surface across the area adjacent to the monuments, with a proportion of this material becoming incorporated into cut features of later dates.

5.2 Neolithic stone axe *by Andy Chapman*

A complete, but small, polished Neolithic stone axe was recovered from a Roman pit. It is 83mm long, up to 48mm wide and 23mm thick. Visual examination indicates that it is a fine-grained green-grey stone, which appears to be an epidotised tuff (Group VI), which has it principal source in the central fells of the Lake District, around Langdale, Cumbria.

5.3 Bronze Age and Iron Age pottery *by Andy Chapman*

The nature of the prehistoric pottery assemblage is summarised within the area groups from which it was recovered.

Area 1: The Neolithic/Bronze Age funerary monuments

The features of the Neolithic/Bronze Age funerary monuments produced a total of only 39 sherds of pottery, weighing 187g. A number of small, plain body sherds in fabrics typically containing varying quantities and sizes of angular flint inclusions, are well preserved and are probably of Iron Age date, being the same as the material from Area 2, and come from the upper fills of the major prehistoric ditches.

Material from only three contexts is likely to date to the Bronze Age, or earlier. Context 152, the upper fill of the henge ditch, contained two sherds weighing 31g, from a single vessel; context 170, the deposit immediately below context 152, contained one sherd weighing 21g, from a coil-made vessel; and context 241, the

secondary fill of the group burial within the henge, contained 22 sherds weighing 62g from a single vessel. These vessels are all poorly-preserved, with eroded surfaces and voids from leached calcareous inclusions. The fabrics all have reduced, dark grey cores and the sherd from context 152 has a reduced inner surface and an oxidised, brown outer surface. The pottery from the other two contexts has oxidised, brown inner and outer surfaces. The material from contexts 152 and 170 comprises plain body sherds, while the vessel from context 241 is a carinated or shouldered bowl with a flat base, apparently with a simple foot ring, and a simple out-turned rim. The foot ring would suggest that the earliest probable date for this vessel would be the late Bronze Age/early Iron Age, and therefore much later than the likely construction date for any of the components of the monument complex.

Area 2: The Iron Age enclosure

A total of 358 sherds weighing 2093g was recovered from contexts in Area 2, with a further 66 sherds weighing 1451g coming from the fills of a well (see below). There are three principal fabrics:

Flint tempered: containing from moderate to dense angular flint
Sandy: containing frequent small rounded quartz inclusions
Shelly: a few vessels contain sparse shell (and a single context contains sherds with dense shell inclusions).

The well
The fills of the primary cut of the well and the fills of the later recut produced a good quality pottery assemblage. These contexts have an average sherd weight of 22g, contrasting with the average sherd weight of less than 6g for the material from the rest of the area.

The character of the material and the frequency and the style of the decoration suggest a date in the early Iron Age, with the material belonging to the nationwide shouldered jar tradition of the early Iron Age. It perhaps has with affinities to the Ivinghoe-Sandy group identified by Cunliffe and dated to the 6th century BC (Gibson and Woods 1997, 194-195), and can be directly compared with material from the early Iron Age activity at the Bunyan Centre, Bedford (La Niece and Slowikowski 1999).

Other features in Area 2
The rest of the assemblage from the area comprises 358 sherds weighing 2,093g, with an average sherd weight of less than 6g. The material comes from a total of 47 contexts, an average of less than 50g per context. It comprises largely small body sherds with few rim sherds or other diagnostic features. The paucity of decorated sherds (there is a single rim with fingertip impressions), so common in the group from the well pit, and the presence of a single sherd of scored ware, suggest that a broad early middle to middle Iron Age date can be given to the assemblage, but with little prospect that further analysis could lead to a refinement of that date.

Area 5: The triple ditch system

Contexts in this area produced a total of 128 sherds weighing 723g, with an average sherd weight of 5.6g, indicating that the material is generally similar in its small sherd size to the majority of the assemblage from Area 2. However, there is a distinct difference in the fabrics, with an absence of the flint tempered ware so common in Area 2, with sherds with leached calcareous inclusions being the most common fabric.

Much of this material comes from the fills of the triple ditch system, with further sherds from other nearby features. Three groups from the triple ditch system, out of 14 contexts in the area, produced more than 100g of pottery.

The general balance of the assemblage from the triple ditch system is suggestive of an early date, either early Iron Age, or even late Bronze Age/early Iron Age, and probably pre-dating the material from the well in Area 2.

Area 7: Roman settlement

Three contexts in Area 7 produced small quantities of handmade pottery of probable broad prehistoric date. The total comprises only 11 sherds weighing 47g, and there are no diagnostic features to permit any closer dating. The sherds are probably residual.

Area 8

Nine contexts in Area 8 produced handmade pottery of broad prehistoric date, a total of 74 sherds weighing 817g. Six of these are very small groups, but three contexts produced groups of larger sherds with total weights of between 120g and 405g. Among these groups a fabric with leached calcareous inclusions dominates, and the general character of the assemblage is similar to the material from the triple ditch system, all suggesting a late Bronze Age/early Iron Age date.

5.4 Roman pottery *by Andy Fawcett*

Introduction

The assemblage from each context was given a brief examination and subjected to basic quantification (a sherd count and weight per context). No attempt at detailed fabric description or comparison with material of a similar nature has been undertaken. A date range has been provided for each context and where appropriate, comments are made as to the condition of the pottery.

A total of 8647 sherds with a weight of 135,505g have been recorded from the combined areas of excavation; each is dealt with separately below.

Area 2 *(66 sherds, totalling 298g)*

The data from this area is quite mixed and accurate dating is hampered, firstly by the lack of diagnostic sherds, secondly by the small number of sherds contained in each context and finally the presence of mostly long-lived fabrics. However, the pottery is generally only slightly abraded and on the face of it the ceramics represent periods from the Iron Age to the later Roman era and possibly the early Saxon period (the latter is tentatively suggested by the presence of organic tempered wares). Only a more detailed fabric analysis will determine an accurate date for those with a multi-period range.

Area 3 *(4845 sherds, totalling 76,506g)*

The ceramic assemblage from this area may be described as on average only slightly abraded. There are many quality groups with good dates that demonstrate the potential for more accuracy. Equally the diagnostic element is also good with large

numbers of, for instance, reed rim bowls and lid seated jars, an interesting possibility is the presence of cremation sets. Unlike those dining vessels identified in Area 7, here a number of contexts contain 'classic' combinations often associated with funerary sets. Even in a broken state this may consist of jar, beaker/cup, flagon dish/bowl. Naturally, these may represent more kitchen/dining waste therefore the percentage of these occurrences will have to be looked at in more detail to enable a more consistent interpretation.

The overall dating range covers mainly the 2nd to early/mid 3rd century AD; a number of contexts are dated to either side of this span.

The main sources identified demonstrate a diverse pattern of supply with the south and east of the country being favoured, nonetheless it is the locally made shell gritted fabrics that dominate most assemblages.

The continental input consists mainly of central and eastern Gaulish samian wares, with only isolated examples of Gaulish and Baetican *amphorae* fabrics.

Area 5 *(32 sherds, totalling 212g)*

This area is only represented by a small number of contexts. One fill holds organic tempered sherds relating to an urn and may well be Early Saxon.

Area 7 *(3553 sherds, totalling 56,233g)*

The main period of activity is undoubtedly the second and earlier part of the third century AD. There is scant evidence for Roman activity either side of these dates nonetheless, some of the samian fabrics upon a more detailed analysis may reveal more information with regard to the later 1st century AD.

As noted in Area 3 the pottery is drawn from a varied number of sources from within the country, the emphasis being mainly to the east and south, the furthest travelled being Dorset BB1. The largest portion of pottery in most of the contexts is the locally produced shell tempered fabrics.

The continental aspect mainly consists of samian fabrics, which appear to be predominantly central and eastern Gaulish. There is also the possibility of a small number of foreign colour coated wares present; however, *amphorae* fabrics are virtually non-existent.

The pottery seems to indicate a settlement with a fairly prosperous status, although perhaps it is the activity that the ceramics represent that is most interesting. The assemblage contains a high number of dishes, beakers, cups and bowls alongside flagons and jars which all indicate waste from dining and/or kitchen activity. Again, these vessels are drawn from a wide geographical area and they also include several mica-dusted vessels imitating samian forms.

Area 8 *(151 sherds, totalling 2,256g)*

The pottery from this part of the site is largely of poor quality, being mostly undiagnostic, constructed of long-lived coarsewares and with few sherds in each context.

5.5 Anglo-Saxon pottery *by Paul Blinkhorn*

Introduction

The pottery assemblage comprised 225 sherds with a total weight of 2,790g. Some of the Anglo-Saxon material is decorated, thus dating it to the early part of the period, in this case both the 5th and 6th centuries.

Fabrics

Where appropriate, the codings and chronology of the Bedfordshire County Archaeology Service type-series were used.

Early/Middle Saxon

The following fabric types were noted:

F1: Moderate to dense sub-angular quartz < 0.5mm. Rare angular flint up to 3mm. 34 sherds, 354g, EVE = 0.23.

F2: Sandstone. Sparse to moderate sandstone, some iron-rich, up to 2mm, sparse to moderate sub-angular calcareous material up to 2mm. 95 sherds, 1,295g, EVE = 0.42.

F3: Quartz and organic. Sparse to moderate sub-rounded quartz up to 1mm, sparse organic voids up to 5mm. 10 sherds, 125g, EVE = 0.05.

F4: Quartz. Sparse to moderate sub-angular quartz up to 1mm, sparse to moderate calcareous material (oolitic limestone?) leached out. 13 sherds, 104g, EVE = 0.

F5: Few visible inclusions other than sparse quartz < 0.5mm, and a few voids. 21 sherds, 66g, EVE = 0.05.

F6: Moderate sub-angular ironstone and rare to moderate quartz up to 2mm. 1 sherd, 27g, EVE = 0.

The early-middle Saxon pottery is generally undateable other than to within the broad period, except for decorated sherds. This assemblage produced fragments from four such vessels. Two small stamped sherds are likely to be of 6th century date. A number of extremely small fragments showed evidence of rosette or fingertip decoration, and also of a raised slashed collar. Both appear to be from the same vessel, which is highly likely to be of 5th century date. Finally, one sherd was bossed and incised; this is likely to be of later 5th century date.

5.6 Leather objects *by Ian Meadows*

Two leather items were recovered from waterlogged deposits associated with the Roman settlement in Area 3. The first of these comprised four fragments of leather which may originally have been joined. Whilst possibly part of a shoe, the pieces are perhaps more likely to be part of some other item. The second item was most of the right sole of a shoe, comprising two layers of leather plus an insole. The shoe would have been in modern sizes no more than an adult size 4.

5.7 Wooden objects *by Ian Meadows*

Three wooden objects were recovered from features associated with the Roman settlement. These were as follows:

- A decorated wooden object comprising two hemispherical ends (53mm dia. and 29mm long) linked by a circular shaft (23mm long and 21mm dia.), all turned from a single piece of wood. These pieces are frequently described as bobbins (Curle 1911, 311) on the grounds of their shape but the nature of wear is not in accordance with a use in weaving, although thread was found adhering to an example from Bar Hill (Robertson, Scott and Keppie 1975, 54 & 57 no 16).

- Three joining fragments of a plain, double-sided, wooden comb, 100mm long.

- A fragment of round wood, perhaps a leg of a piece of furniture.

At present the waterlogged organic material is immersed in water, double-bagged and being kept at a constant low temperature to reduce deterioration until a decision on conservation has been made.

5.8 Metal objects *by Tora Hylton and Ian Meadows*

Coins

Eight coins were recovered, six from stratified deposits in Area 3 and two from topsoil and subsoil overlying Area 5. The coins range in date from the late 1st through to the mid 4th century AD. The preservation of the coins ranges from poor to good and they are in a stable condition; cleaning and conservation is considered unnecessary.

Copper alloy

The copper alloy objects are in a stable condition, but one Roman brooch may require cleaning to reveal decorative detail.

Roman
With the exception of the coins and an undiagnostic fragment of sheet metal, the only identifiable object is an unstratified brooch recovered by a metal detector. The brooch is a Hod Hill type, dated to AD 43-70 (DF Mackreth pers comm). This piece is heavily corroded, limiting the visible surface detail. The pin is missing and the catch plate severely truncated. The bow preserves traces of a single groove along each edge towards the head. The middle part of the bow is characterised by three transverse grooves defining central mouldings. The foot narrowed with traces surviving of further mouldings.

Saxon
A small-long brooch was recovered; this particular example is incomplete, the upper corners of the head plate are missing, together with the lower section of foot and the pin. Brooches of this type have three distinct zones, head plate, bow and foot. The head plate is plain with a small raised square panel flanked by a flat border; on the rear of the head plate is a ?perforated lug heavily encrusted in corrosion products, to which the pin would have been attached. The bow is plain, convex with a triangular cross-section and the upper section of the foot is ornamented with transverse

mouldings and there is a catch-plate on the underside. Brooches of this type are not uncommon; they are predominant in the Mid-Anglian Region and they were in use in the late 5th and 6th centuries (Lucy 2000, 31-33).

Medieval
There are three copper alloy objects of medieval date. They include: a strap loop with internal projections (cf Egan and Pritchard 1991, fig 149,1258); a "paw" like foot from a copper alloy vessel; and a fragment of a plain and simple one-piece folded buckle plate (cf Egan and Pritchard 1991, fig 73, 519).

In addition a half cut jetton/token was recovered. It is very worn and difficult to identify, therefore it will need to be identified by a specialist.

Iron

In total 46 individual or group recorded iron objects were recovered from Roman deposits; of that number 15 are undiagnostic strap/sheet and rod fragments, which are difficult to identify with any degree of certainty, and 15 are structural nails most probably for use with buildings etc. The remainder include structural fittings: holdfast, a loop-headed spike and a fragment of an angle binding; tools: knife, cleaver and reaping hook; together with a small group of hob nails discovered during soil sieving.

Lead

There are two objects of lead: a perforated conical weight and a rolled fragment of sheet lead. They are probably Roman in date.

5.9 Glass *by Tora Hylton*

There are two small pieces of Roman vessel glass. Both are fragments from the bases of vessels, one an undiagnostic sherd in colourless glass and the other in blue glass and probably from a square bottle. In addition, two undiagnostic slivers of opaque glass were recovered during soil sieving.

5.10 Worked bone *by Tora Hylton*

There is one piece of worked bone, a worn fragment of a circular sectioned shank, most probably from a pin. The object is in a good condition and requires no further work.

5.11 Querns and millstones *by Andy Chapman*

There are ten individual finds from querns or millstones, while a further piece is from a rubbing stone. For the querns and millstones there are two geological types. There are six pieces of coarse sandstone, which has been visually identified as Millstone Grit, and there are four pieces of an unidentified gritstone conglomerate (not Hertfordshire puddingstone).

5.12 Fired clay *by Pat Chapman and Tora Hylton*

Tile

The assemblage comprises 59 fragments of Roman tile, weighing 10.96kg. The majority of the tile was recovered from Areas 3 and 7, the main area of Roman activity

There are 18 pieces of roof tile, of which 13 are *tegulae* and 6 are *imbrices,* with 12 fragments of either brick or *pedalis* type tile from a floor or hypocaust system. One of the tegula is curved in two directions, the flange is bowed side to side while the base curves up from the back forwards. The remaining 28 fragments are body sherds, probably from *tegulae,* and one possible loomweight fragment described below.

The predominant fabric for the roof tile and body sherds is shellyware, whilst that for the brick/*pedalis* type is a hard, coarse, orange or red to dark red fabric with occasional large inclusions of flint.

The brick or tile fragments are probably the *pedalis* type from hypocaust pillars, or alternatively from *lydion* bricks, a large rectangular brick used by the Romans for walls as well as floors (Ward 1999, 43). The thickness of the tile, between 33mm and 38mm, could fit with either interpretation. There was also one grey stone *tessera*, *c* 20mm square.

The tile indicates the presence of a Roman building in the vicinity. However, given the small size of this assemblage and the lack of associated structures, no further analysis is required.

Kiln material

This assemblage comprises 178 fragments, weighing 3.67kg, derived mostly from Area 3. The majority of the pieces are small, hard amorphous lumps, made from a slightly sandy clay. However, there are a few pieces that were used structurally, probably for an oven or kiln as indicated by the colours caused by the high temperatures they were subjected to.

From one context there were over 100 pieces with smoothed outer surfaces and many wattle impressions, *c* 10mm in diameter, often very close together. The fragments are hard fired with pink brown surfaces, some with black cores and are generally flattish and about 20mm thick.

Two further contexts contained the debris from perforated kiln plates. These are made from hard, slightly silty clay laminating from being poorly mixed, and perforations surviving with diameters of up to 30mm.

The structural elements, linked to the recovery of the kiln bars and the small scale and short lived iron smelting, indicate that the fired clay came from industrial rather than domestic structures and their surroundings.

In total there are 44 individual fragments of ceramic kiln bar with a combined weight of 3.86kg.They have been manufactured from sparsely tempered clays and shaped by hand to form “cigar-shaped” elongated rods which taper at the terminals. Although similar in outline and size, the bars have either square (*c* 28-33mm wide) or circular (*c* 29-35mm in diameter) cross-sections; the former predominate, making up 84% by

number. There are no complete examples, but fragments recovered measure up to 175mm in length. Some bars are reduced and others oxidised, a reflection of where they were located within the kiln superstructure during firing. There are no other forms of kiln furniture. All the pieces appear to have been manufactured from a similar fabric.

Loomweights

Iron Age/Roman
One very large piece could be the corner of a loomweight. It is 30mm thick on both sides and the base. There is a longitudinal impression for a perforation (rather than a wattle) 25mm in diameter down one edge, and another similar, but very worn impression at a different angle in the corner. The fabric is very hard, slightly coarse sandy clay, orange to pale brown in colour.

Early/Middle Saxon
There are three incomplete loomweights made from a poorly fired coarse clay fabric; the exterior surfaces are mainly oxidised and the core black. All have circular/sub-circular cross-sections and have been made by forming a ring and smoothing it with fingers. They range in diameter from 110-130mm and stylistically they display similarities to Dunnings Type 1, which are called 'annular', where the central hole is as wide as or wider than the ring of clay around it (Dunning *et al*, 1959, 23-24). Loomweights of this type are generally recovered on Saxon sites of the 5th/6th centuries.

5.13 Metalworking debris *by Andy Chapman*

A small quantity of fuel ash slag and ferrous slag was recovered from features of Roman date.

Three contexts produced a few small pieces (total weight 32g) of light, vesicular fuel ash slag as debris from high temperature burning.

Six contexts produced small quantities of ferrous slag, with a total of 51 pieces weighing 1.44kg. One context contained an oval cake of dense slag, 105mm by 95mm by 35mm thick, weighing 612g. The underside is smoothly convex, while the upper surface is more irregular and either near level or slightly concave. This piece appears to be a smithing hearth bottom, indicating that some secondary smithing was being carried out at some stage in the occupation of the settlement. The other five contexts contained small irregular pieces of vesicular undiagnostic ferrous slag. The small total quantities would suggest that this was a short-lived episode that never formed a significant part of the economy of the settlement.

6 FAUNAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

6.1 Human remains *by Teresa Hawtin*

Seven skeletons and two cremations were the subject of macroscopic osteological assessment.

Four skeletons of late Neolithic/early Bronze Age date were highly fragmented and erosion of the surface of the bone may have masked any pathological conditions that

had been present. Two of the three individuals from a late Neolithic or early Bronze Age burial group within the henge were considered to be young adults (HB1 and 3), one a possible female, and the third individual was a child of 10-12 years (HB2). The single inhumation (HB4) from the late Neolithic or early Bronze Age barrow was a female of 30-50 years of age.

The Roman inhumations were generally in better condition and consisted of a young-mid adult female (HB7), a 25-35 year-old female (HB6) and a male aged over 40 years (HB5). The male displayed extensive joint degeneration, a healed fracture of the right lower leg and strong muscle attachments, suggesting that he was involved in heavy manual labour. He also had extensive *ante-mortem* tooth loss and several other dental pathologies. The 25-35 year-old female had suffered from sinus infections in the area behind the right ear (the mastoid process) and appears to have been subjected to surgical intervention in the form of a trephination hole. The healing at the edges proves that she survived this operation. Unusual defects on her teeth may suggest periods of stress or illness during childhood, when the enamel was being laid down.

One of the two cremations (HB8), thought to date to the Saxon period, was of an individual aged less than 24 years, but no pathological conditions were observed. The second cremation is likely to represent animal bone collected at the bottom of a hearth rather than cremated human bone.

6.2 Animal bone *by Matilda Holmes*

Methodology

Bones were identified using the author's reference collection, and further guidelines from Bass (1995), Cohen and Serjeantson (1996), Hillson (1992) Prummel (1988) and Schmid (1972). Due to anatomical similarities between sheep and goat, bones of this type were assigned to the category 'sheep/goat', unless a definite identification using guidelines from Prummel and Frisch (1986) or Payne (1985) could be made. Bones that could not be identified to species were, where possible, categorised according to the relative size of the animal represented (small: rodent /rabbit sized, medium – sheep/pig/dog-sized; or large: cattle / horse-sized). Ribs were not identified to species.

Tooth wear and eruption were noted using guidelines from Grant (1982) and Silver (1969), as were bone fusion (Amorosi 1989, Silver 1969), metrical data (von den Driesch 1976), anatomy, side, zone (Serjeantson 1996), pathology, butchery, bone working and condition (Lyman 1994) of the bones.

All the animal bones were hand collected, no sieved samples were noted and all fragments were recorded. The bones have been grouped into approximate phases, based on area – Neolithic – Bronze Age, Iron Age, Iron Age – Roman, Roman and Saxon. More precise contextual phasing will be integrated once it becomes available.

Taphonomy and Condition

The bones were varied in their condition, although most were good to fair depending on the environmental conditions at the site of deposition. Taphonomic factors affecting the material were recorded including burnt, gnawed, butchered and recently broken bones. Less than 1% of the fragments recorded had been burnt, gnawed, butchered or showed signs of fresh breaks. However, a large number of bones had fragmented post-depositionally, of which 333 fragments were conjoined to make a

total of 34 refitted fragments. Three articulated carcasses were found in Roman contexts, a small dog skeleton from a grave in Area 3, and partial dog and foal skeletons from pits in Area 7.

The absence of sieved samples may lead to a negative bias in the number and variety of small mammals, fish and bird bones recorded in the assemblage.

Basic description of findings

Approximately 45% of the fragment count of animal bones was identified to species. Cattle were the most common animals in all phases, other species being relatively scarce, although fragments of antler were significant in the early prehistoric phases. Sheep/goats were found in significant numbers in the Roman period, when horse remains also became more common.

There was a small but useful group of fusion and tooth wear data from Roman and Iron Age periods, which may be useful for investigating mortality patterns. A small amount of metrical data was also recorded, from which a few shoulder heights may be calculated to compare the morphology of animals found on this site with others from the region.

6.3 Plant macrofossils and snails *by Val Fryer*

Samples for the extraction of the plant macrofossil assemblages were taken from across the excavated area, and forty-two were submitted for assessment.

The samples were bulk floated and the flots were collected in a 500 micron mesh sieve. The dried flots were scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 16, and the plant macrofossils and other remains noted are listed. Nomenclature follows Stace (1997). Whilst the majority of plant remains were charred, waterlogged/de-watered assemblages were noted within samples taken from the Roman settlement. Seventeen samples contained only charcoal fragments and/or other materials and these have been listed separately. Modern contaminants including fibrous roots, seeds and arthropods were present throughout.

Results

Plant macrofossils
Cereal grains/chaff, seeds of common weeds and wetland plants and tree/shrub macrofossils were recorded at low to moderate densities in twenty-two assemblages. Preservation of the charred remains was moderately good, although a high number of the grains were puffed and distorted, probably as a result of combustion at very high temperatures. The waterlogged/de-watered macrofossils were extremely well preserved with, somewhat unusually, good preservation of cereal chaff as well as seeds and root/stem.

Oat (Avena sp.), barley (Hordeum sp.) and wheat (Triticum sp.) grains were recorded, with wheat being predominant throughout. Of the wheat grains recorded, most were of an elongated 'drop-form' shape typical of spelt (*T. spelta*), although a small number of more rounded hexaploid type grains were also present. Chaff was relatively scarce, but spelt glume bases were recorded along with rare specimens of bread wheat (*T. aestivum/compactum*) type rachis nodes.

With the exception of the waterlogged/de-watered assemblages weed seeds were generally rare. Most charred specimens were either of common cereal crop weeds (including knotgrass (*Polygonum aviculare*), wild radish (*Raphanus raphanistrum*) and scentless mayweed (*Tripleurospermum inodorum*) or grassland herbs (namely medick/clover/trefoil (Medicago/Trifolium/Lotus sp.), dock (Rumex sp.), ribwort plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*), vetch/vetchling (Vicia/Lathyrus sp.) and indeterminate grasses (Poaceae). The waterlogged/de-watered assemblages contained a wide range of weed seeds. These included common ruderal species (namely musk thistle (*Carduus nutans*), hemlock (*Conium maculatum*), henbane (*Hyoscyamus niger*) and stinging nettle (*Urtica dioica*), cornfield weeds (orache (Atriplex sp.) and poppy (*Papaver argemone*) and grassland plants (including fumitory (*Fumaria officinalis*) and buttercup (*Ranunculus acris/ repens/ bulbosus*).

Seeds/fruits of wetland/aquatic plants and tree/shrub macrofossils occurred at mostly low densities in only eight samples. Taxa noted included sedge (Carex sp.), gipsy wort (*Lycopus europaeus*), blinks (*Montia fontana*), reedmace (Typha sp.) and elderberry (*Sambucus nigra*). One sample contained a single fragment of charred hazel (*Corylus avellana*) nutshell and a small, immature oak (Quercus sp.) fruit/acorn.

Charcoal fragments were present throughout, but other plant macrofossils, including pieces of charred root/stem and indeterminate tubers, occurred less frequently.

Molluscs
Although specific sieving for molluscan remains was not undertaken, shells were noted at a low density in eight assemblages. Open country or catholic species were predominant (cf Evans 1972), although a small number of marsh/freshwater slum molluscs (mostly Vertigo sp.) were also recorded along with shells of the freshwater obligate species *Anisus leucostoma* and *Lymnaea peregra*.

Other materials
The fragments of black porous and tarry material are probable residues of the combustion of organic remains (including cereal grains) at very high temperatures. Other remains were particularly scarce, but did include bone fragments and small mammal or amphibian bones.

Summary of evidence

The samples from features of Neolithic, Bronze Age, Iron Age and early Saxon date all contain very low densities of material (<0.1 litres in volume) and, with the exception of charcoal fragments, plant macrofossils are entirely absent. As none of the assemblages contain sufficient material to be indicative of primary deposition, it would appear most likely that the few remains recorded are derived from scattered refuse, which accidentally became incorporated within the feature fills.

Samples were taken from two main areas of Roman activity, namely from a group of three parallel ditches within Areas 2, 3 and 5 and from a concentration of features at the eastern end of the excavation within Areas 3 and 7. Although occasional cereal grains and weed seeds are present, the remaining ditch assemblages are primarily composed of small quantities of charcoal, almost certainly indicating small accumulations of scattered or windblown refuse within the ditch fills.

The focus of activity during the Roman period appears to have been towards the eastern end of the current site. Although few, if any of the assemblages are derived from primary deposits of material, the composition of the assemblages indicates that activities such as cereal processing/consumption were focused within this area. Other

assemblages contain concentrations of grassland herbs, charred root/stem and tubers, and may be derived from small quantities of fuel or hearth waste. The moderately large number of flax (*Linum usitatissimum*) seeds noted within one sample could also be indicative of food waste, as the seeds are edible if carefully roasted prior to consumption. The waterlogged/de-watered assemblages are of particular interest as they almost certainly contain both plant material and mollusc shells derived from the local environment. These appear to indicate that the area was largely composed of dry grassland, although some parts may have been slightly overgrown with colonising weeds and shrubs such as elderberry, hemlock, nettles and henbane. Both features may have been sufficiently damp to support a very limited number of wetland plants.

6.4 Charcoal *by Rowena Gale*

Introduction

This report presents the assessment of a small assemblage of charcoal, mostly from Roman contexts but also including late Iron Age and Saxon deposits. The assessment is based on the detailed examination and species identification of three fragments selected from each sample and the overall observation of the character and condition of the remaining fragments to gauge their potential to provide data in the following categories:

- Environmental evidence
- Evidence of woodland management
- The economic use of woodland resources

Methods

Five out of the eight samples included <10 fragments. The samples mostly consisted of firm, well preserved fragments of charcoal. The selected fragments were prepared using standard methods (Gale and Cutler 2000). Anatomical structures were examined using incident light on a Nikon Labophot-2 compound microscope at magnifications of up to x400 and matched to prepared reference slides of modern wood. Where possible, the maturity of the wood was assessed (ie heartwood/ sapwood/roundwood).

Discussion

Late Iron Age
Charcoal was obtained from the upper fill of the enclosure ditch terminal [2008]. The origin of the charcoal is unknown although burning *in situ* could not be ruled out. The species identified included oak (*Quercus* sp.), blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*) and field maple (*Acer campestre*).

Roman
Samples came from pit deposits dating from various phases within the Roman period. Unless artefactual/ contextual evidence suggests otherwise, it is fairly safe to assume that dumps of charcoal in pits probably represent fuel debris and, in this instance, there was no evidence to suggest that this was other than domestic in origin. The taxa identified indicated the use of fuel obtained from a range of trees and shrubs including oak (*Quercus* sp.), blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*), elder (*Sambucus nigra*), ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), willow (*Salix* sp.) or poplar (*Populus* sp.) and *Viburnum.*

Although roundwood was fairly common, there was insufficient evidence to suggest the use of coppiced wood.

A sample 305 from the central ditch of a triple ditch system, may also represent fuel debris. This small sample included the hawthorn/*Sorbus* group (Pomoideae); the remainder was probably similar.

Another small deposit was obtained from under the remains of a human inhumation in Area 3. The purpose/function of this deposit is unknown but may have been of ritual/funerary significance. The charcoal included oak (*Quercus* sp.).

Saxon
Coming from a feature associated with a SFB in Area 2, the charcoal probably represents fuel debris. The charcoal consisted of thin flakes of material, the identified portion of which was named as oak (*Quercus* sp.). Although few growth rings were available for examination, these suggest moderate growth rates. The remainder of the sample appears to be superficially similar.

Environmental evidence
Despite the paucity of charcoal, the samples examined indicate that a relatively diverse range of trees and shrubs was growing in the vicinity of the site during the Roman period including: oak (*Quercus* sp.), ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), field maple (*Acer campestre*), willow (*Salix* sp.) and poplar (*Populus* sp.), elder (*Sambucus nigra*), blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*), hawthorn/ *Sorbus* group (Pomoideae) and *Viburnum.* Although roundwood was comparatively frequent, none of this material was sufficiently intact to indicate whether it originated from coppiced stems/ managed woodland. Oak sapwood from the Roman and Saxon samples indicates moderate growth rates, which could imply origins from trees growing in fairly open or uncompetitive conditions.

7 SUMMARY OF POTENTIAL AND PROPOSALS FOR ANALYSIS

7.1 Review of original research objectives

The main aim of the archaeological excavation, as defined in the *Archaeological Management Plan* (JSAC 2004), was to *'effectively manage the archaeological remains within the areas affected by development both to the satisfaction of the local planning authority and to the standards set by the development team'* (Section 3.3.1). The generic research objectives of the archaeological excavation were defined in the *Archaeological Management Plan* as follows:

- To investigate the origin and development of the agricultural landscape by:
    i. determining the phasing of extant field systems by excavation
    ii. investigate the changes in landscape flora by environmental sampling
    iii. consideration of the wider geological/hydrological landscape as a mechanism for catalyzing settlement
- To investigate the origin and development of domestic occupation by:
    i. analyzing the distribution of material culture
    ii. investigating the form and function of structural features

iii. comparing the assemblages of rubbish disposal deposits by period

- To investigate paleaoeconomy and industry through time by:
    i. examination and comparison of faunal remains
    ii. analysis and comparison of soil samples from industrial contexts
    iii. to identify possible crop regimes and staple food stuffs from environmental sampling
- To consider wider changes within the landscape and what these may infer regarding past effects on political and social structures by:
    i. considering the change from a funerary/ritual to an agrarian landscape
    ii. relationship between native and Romano-British settlement patterns

7.2 Revised research objectives

The assessment has demonstrated that the excavation has produced sufficient evidence to attend to the original research objectives, as outlined in section 7.1 above. This is with the exception of the environmental objectives, where assessment of environmental samples has shown only limited potential, due to the small size of the assemblages and the generally poor state of preservation of ecofacts.

In the light of the excavation and subsequent assessment, it is now possible to revise the original generic research objectives and focus on specific aspects of past social, cultural and economic activity associated with the archaeological remains on the site. With reference to regional research frameworks (Brown and Glazebrook 2000; Gurney 2002; Cooper 2006), these revised research objectives are as follows:

i. With the assistance of stratigraphic analysis and radiocarbon dating techniques, refine the phasing of the late Neolithic/early Bronze Age henge and barrow and establish the relationship, if any, between the two monuments and their setting in the wider funerary landscape.

ii. Investigate the alterations made to the form of the henge in relation to changes in funerary practice.

iii. Examine the evidence for there having been a second barrow to the east of the henge, which was later grubbed out, probably in the Roman period.

iv. Refine the phasing of the Iron Age enclosure and annexe and examine their relationship, if any, with the square mortuary enclosure and the well. Suggestions will be posited as to their possible status and function, assisted by comparisons with other Iron Age sites of this type in the vicinity.

v. With the assistance of radiocarbon dating techniques and stratigraphic and pottery fabric analysis, refine the phasing of the triple ditch system. An attempt will be made to determine the period of its initial construction, to identify subsequent additions and alterations, and to understand its function in the landscape.

vi. If possible, relate the current Romano-British site to the main part of the settlement excavated in the 1990s by BCCAS, and investigate the development of the settlement, its function and its status.

vii. Set the Romano-British settlement in the wider Roman landscape and examine the transition periods from Iron Age to Roman and Roman to Saxon to study changes in the local settlement pattern.

viii. Establish, if possible, the economic base of the Romano-British settlement.

ix. Characterize the Saxon remains and relate them to the pattern of early Saxon settlement in the region. In addition, examine the relationship, if any, of the Saxon settlement with the prehistoric monuments.

7.3 Proposals for further analysis

The analysis of the structural, artefactual, faunal and environmental evidence will encompass the results of the excavation in their entirety.

Structural evidence

Assessment of the structural evidence from the excavation has identified five key periods of human activity associated with the past utilisation of the landscape that demands further analysis. These are as follows:

- Late Neolithic/early Bronze Age funerary monuments
- Iron Age enclosure and annexe
- Triple ditch system and pit complex
- Romano-British settlement
- Saxon settlement

Further analysis will comprise the refinement of phasing and structural groups on the basis of dating evidence, allied to stratigraphic and spatial analysis. Key groups will be described, and these descriptions will form the basis of the site narrative for publication. Period syntheses will comprise an integration of salient finds and relevant environmental evidence with the site narrative and an interpretation and overview.

A wider discussion of the site, with reference to relevant published and unpublished sources, and other county and regional comparisons will also be included.

Worked flint

The flint will be fully quantified to determine the overall balance of the assemblage in terms of the proportions of flakes and blades and the presence of specific implement types. A number of implements will be worthy of illustration, probably some 10-20 items.

As it is suggested that the flint has been deposited on the ground surface around the Neolithic monuments, the distribution of the flint should be analysed to see if the nature of the distribution pattern can be determined.

Stone axe

No further reporting is required, but the axe should be illustrated in the final report.

Bronze Age and Iron Age pottery

The assemblage needs to be fully quantified to fabrics and where applicable the codes of the Bedfordshire County Type Series will be used.

Area 1: the prehistoric monuments
The small quantity of material and its poor state of preservation, with no surviving decoration, means that the pottery can add little to the understanding of the prehistoric monument complex, and is certainly not an aid to the dating of these monuments. The probable late Bronze Age/early Iron Age vessel from context 241, and the probable Iron Age sherds do, however, say something about the state of the monuments at a later date, with this material presumably accumulating in the subsidence hollows of the larger ditches, suggesting that at least the henge ditch was still a visible earthwork into the middle Iron Age.

The vessel from context 241 will be illustrated.

Area 2: The Iron Age enclosure system
In Area 2, the fills of a recut well has produced a fine assemblage from a limited number of vessels of probable early Iron Age date, and the presence of shouldered jars, fingernail and finger tip decorated rims and lugs can be compared with material from the early Iron Age activity at the Bunyan Centre, Bedford (La Niece and Slowikowski 1999), which also included material from a well.

This pit group should be fully illustrated. There is also wood and bone from the fills, and a radiocarbon date for material likely to be contemporary with the pottery assemblage would be useful in helping to define the chronology of the range of vessels present in the assemblage.

The material from the rest of Area 2, presumably related to occupation of the ditched enclosure, comprises largely small, undiagnostic sherds, and only a broad middle Iron Age date has been postulated. It is suggested that radiocarbon dating, despite the problems with the calibration curve at this time, may offer the best opportunity to at least place the enclosure system within its broad context, which would appear to be the 4th to 2nd centuries BC.

Area 5: the triple ditch system
As with Area 2, the pottery assemblage is small and can only be suggestive of a broad date. In this case it indicates either a late Bronze Age/early Iron Age or an early Iron Age date for the triple ditch system, and it is recommended that radiocarbon dating would both provide a date for the ditch system and for the pottery from it, which would also help to refine the chronology of late Bronze Age to early Iron Age ceramics in the area.

The small assemblage of rim sherds should be illustrated, especially if a radiocarbon date is forthcoming.

Roman pottery

It is recommended that all of the fabrics and forms be recorded for the project archive. For publication, a selection of phased assemblages from Areas 3 and 7 will be subject to detailed research. These would be subjected to fabric, form and r.eve (rim measurements) recording and presented where possible in comparable

percentages. The codes from the Bedford type series shall be utilised alongside those from the national system.

The dating procedure will be refined upon further analysis of both fabric and form. The identification of fineware form and fabric will be the principle lead in this strategy followed by *mortaria*, regional imports and thereafter clearly defined forms from across local and unsourced fabrics. An effort shall also be made to match coarseware fabrics to recently published kilns and major sites in the area.

A small number of partial samian stamps have been noted; however, with perhaps the exception of one, they are far too degraded. A single partial stamp on a VER WH *mortaria* has also been recorded and this will be identified if possible. Approximately 30 sherds are considered worthy of illustration.

A number of specific research goals should be sought from the phased groups. These are as follows:

- To present a percentage figure of regional, continental versus local and unsourced fabrics. This is to help interpret the economy of the site and produce data that will be comparable with sites of a similar age. An almost identical task can also be performed with form types, as an example using the pottery from pit 7023.

- To gather data to enable the production of an economic statement, alongside site function/activity and status interpretations in a manner that is easily comparable to other local, regional and national sites.

- Finally an important aspect of this assemblage is where it occurs in the dating scheme for Romano-British ceramics in the region. The change over from the late 2nd to early/mid 3rd century AD is frequently complicated and not often obvious, time and again relying on too few basic forms or fabrics, especially for the mid 3rd century AD. Several of these assemblages occur in this area of dating and a combination of fabric and form may add to our knowledge.

Anglo-Saxon pottery

This is quite an interesting assemblage despite its small size and is worthy of full publication. Fifth century pottery is extremely rare in the county, so a short report illustrating the sherds of interest and placing them in their regional context would of value.

Leather objects

Most of these pieces are typical finds from waterlogged Roman contexts. All need conservation to ensure long-term preservation. No further work is required, although a summary of the leather objects will be included in the final report.

Wooden objects

The wooden comb is of a long-lived type and is unlikely to contribute to the dating of the context. Other examples of wooden combs occur from Bath (Cunliffe 1988 24-6), Castleford (Cool and Philo 1998 340-1) and Bar Hill (Robertson *et al* 1975, 54 & 57). The 'bobbin' is worth further analysis to better identify possible function, as examples have been produced from several more recent excavations.

All need conservation to ensure long-term preservation and before any such treatment the wood species should be identified.

Metal objects

The ironwork is in a good state of preservation and the entire assemblage has been X-radiographed to aid identification and reveal technical details. Some pieces are heavily encrusted in corrosion products, making identification difficult, even with an X-ray, therefore one or two objects may require further cleaning. This will be undertaken by Buckinghamshire County Museum Conservation Service as required.

Glass

No further work required. A short summary of the glass will be included in the final report.

Worked bone

No further work required. A short summary of the worked bone will be included in the final report.

Fired Clay

The ceramic building material and other objects of fired clay, most notably the kiln bars and loomweights, are of a type typically found on Roman and Saxon sites and further analysis would contribute little to the information already gathered from the assessment. However, the corner fragment from the possible Iron Age/Roman loomweight is worthy of illustration as it is of an unusual type, if it is indeed a loomweight. Further research to look for similar examples of this form from other sites is recommended.

Querns and millstones

It would be desirable if a source for the conglomerate could be established.

Given the fragmentary nature of the stones and the general absence of specific features the majority do not need to be drawn for publication. The largest conglomerate fragment from a small rotary quern could be illustrated to characterise this group, while the large fragment from a millstone upper stone could also be drawn to show the raised band on the upper surface and cut grooves on the grinding surface.

Slag

The distribution and dating of these contexts should be checked to see if they define the location of a single focus of short-lived activity, or are more dispersed in time and space and perhaps denote that there was more than one such short-lived episode of on-site smithing.

Human bone

The high levels of fragmentation and degradation of prehistoric skeletons HB1, 2 and 3 mean that further osteological analysis of these individuals would be unlikely to reveal any additional information. Further analyses of the probable Romano-British skeleton HB7 and Saxon cremation HB8 are also unlikely to produce significant

results. However, skeletons HB4, 5 and 6 are complete enough to warrant more careful examination.

The pathologies visible on most of the skeletons examined here are mostly relatively common, such as degenerative changes and common dental disorders, so further investigation would probably not add to our knowledge of them. The exception to this is individual HB6, in which several pathological changes to the skull and teeth were observed. Although the skull is fragmented, a degree of re-fitting would be possible and would allow the full extent of the pathological changes to be investigated.

The vertical enamel defects noted in HB6 are particularly unusual and are worthy of further analysis under a high-powered light microscope or scanning electron microscope (SEM). The mechanism by which this type of defect occurs is not yet understood and it would be interesting to section the teeth and analyse the pattern of ameloblast (the cells that form enamel) deposition (P Nystrom *pers comm*).

Radiocarbon dating of the prehistoric burials by Accelerator Mass Spectrometry (AMS) would clarify the time periods from which the burials date.

Other analytical techniques, such as DNA analysis, are unlikely to reveal enough significant information to justify the allocation of resources.

Animal bone

Due to the relatively small sample sizes of material from Neolithic and Bronze Age contexts, detailed analysis is not considered worthwhile further than an acknowledgement of species present. The same may be said of assemblages from Iron Age and Saxon phases, but these may be more useful when comparing changes in species proportions through time with the more significant Roman assemblage. Remains from the Roman phase are considered worthy of a more detailed analysis into the animal husbandry, diet and economy of the site.

There is also potential to compare the faunal material from Cambridge Road with other local sites, and will provide a useful addition to the body of data already documented from the Bedford area. This is important when considering the economy and diet of the inhabitants of settlements in the area, and the development of consumer and producer relationships between the settlements and the surrounding area.

Plant macrofossils

With rare exceptions, the assemblages are all extremely small and contain insufficient material for quantification. Although sample 314 does contain a higher density of material, analysis of such an assemblage would add little additional data to that contained within this assessment and, as a result, no further work is recommended. However, a full written summary of this assessment should be included within any publication of data from the site.

Charcoal

The data obtained during the assessment stage of the eight samples leaves little scope for further work. Further examination of the three slightly larger samples is unlikely to yield significant results and thus it is recommended that no additional work should be undertaken.

Radiocarbon dating

Samples of bone, wood and charcoal will be submitted for AMS radiocarbon dating to Beta Analytic, Florida, USA. The proposed samples are as follows:

Bone

i. Antler bone from primary fill of Late Neolithic/early Bronze Age henge
ii. Late Neolithic/early Bronze Age group burial HB1, 2 and 3
iii. Late Neolithic/early Bronze burial HB4
iv. Probable Romano-British burial HB5
v. Probable Romano-British burial HB6
vi. Probable Romano-British burial HB7

Wood/charcoal

i. Wood from base of prehistoric well (Area 2)
ii. Triple ditch
iii. Iron Age annexe terminal

8 REPORTING AND ARCHIVE

8.1 The report

The synopsis provided below will form the basis for both the full report and the report digest prepared for final publication.

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

APPENDICES

8.2 Provisional publication proposals

It is proposed to publish the results of the excavations in a future volume of the county journal *Bedfordshire Archaeology*, to be submitted by May 2008.

9 STORAGE AND CURATION

A microfilm copy of the site archive and narrative will be made to RCHME standards and submitted to the National Archaeological Record.

The site archive will comprise all written, drawn and photographic records, and all material finds and processed sample residues recovered from the excavation. The site archive will be accompanied by the research archive, which will comprise the text, tabulated data, the original drawings and all other records generated in the analysis of the site archive. The archive will be fully catalogued and stored to the requirements of BCCHES. It will contain material requiring special curation (leather and wood).

Bedfordshire County Council have agreed to the long-term storage of the site archive within the approved County store (Accession no. BEDFM.2005.326)

10 RESOURCES AND PROGRAMMING

10.1 Work completed

Work completed to-date includes the consolidation of the site archive, finds and environmental sample processing, assessment of structural evidence, finds and ecofacts, and the preparation of the assessment report and updated project design.

10.2 Proposed work and completion dates

Tasks	Personnel	Timetable
Structural site narrative	Simon Carlyle	Aug 2007
Worked flint	Andy Chapman	May 2007
Stone axe	Andy Chapman	Completed
Prehistoric pottery	Andy Chapman	May 2007
Roman pottery	Andy Fawcett	May 2007
Saxon pottery	Paul Blinkhorn	Dec 2006
Other finds	Tora Hylton	May 2007
Human bone	Teresa Hawtin	May 2007
Animal bone	Matilda Holmes	May 2007
Illustrations	NA drawing office	Feb 2008
Integration of specialist reports	Simon Carlyle	Jan 2008
Report digest and discussion	Simon Carlyle	Jan 2008
Editing	Andy Chapman	Mar 2008
Preparation of research archive	Simon Carlyle	Oct 2008

10.3 Key personnel

The key personnel associated with carrying out the tasks detailed in section 10.2 are as follows:

Simon Carlyle	Project Officer, Northamptonshire Archaeology
Andy Chapman	Prehistoric pottery and worked flint specialist Senior Archaeologist, Northamptonshire Archaeology
Andy Fawcett	Specialist consultant, Roman pottery
Paul Blinkhorn	Specialist consultant, Saxon pottery
Tora Hylton	Finds manager, Northamptonshire Archaeology
Teresa Hawtin	Specialist consultant, human bone
Matilda Holmes	Specialist consultant, animal bone

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APPENDIX 1

Summary of features

Abbreviations

F flint; P pottery; T tile; Br brick; FC fired clay; G glass; Sg slag; B bone; S shell

LBA late Bronze Age; EIA/MIA/LIA early/middle/late Iron Age; ER early Roman; >2nd C, Roman 2nd C AD or later; <2nd C, Roman 2nd C AD or earlier; e/m/l, early middle/late; ES early Saxon

r recut; m recovered during machining; u/s unstratified; *222* related sections

Area 1, the prehistoric henge and barrow

Context no.	Feature type	Comments	Finds	Date of pottery	Date of feature
1	Topsoil		F		
2	Subsoil				
3	Natural substrate				
4 [5]	Pit/posthole				Undated
6 [7]	Pit				Undated
8 [9]	Furrow				Medieval
14 [15]	Posthole				Undated
16 [17]	Posthole				Undated
18 19 [20] *255* *256* *[258]* *266* *267* *[268]* *277* *[278]* *281* *[282]* *326* *[327]*	Ditch	Six sections: [20], [257], [268], [278], [282] (terminal) and [327]			Saxon?
27 [28]	Pit				Undated
29 [30]	Posthole				Undated
31 [32]	Posthole				Undated
33 45 46 47 48 49 52 53 54 [34]	Henge ring ditch (Section C)		F		Bronze Age
35 [36]	Posthole				
37 38 39 [40] *148*	Ditch	Two sections: [40] and [150] (terminal)			

Context no.	Feature type	Comments	Finds	Date of pottery	Date of feature
149 *[150]*					
41 42 43 [44]	Posthole				
55 [56]	Posthole				
57 [58]	Posthole				
59 [60]	Posthole				
61 [62]	Posthole				
65 [66]	Pit/posthole				
67 [68]	Pit/posthole				
69 [70]	Pit/posthole				
71 [72]	Pit/posthole				
73 74 75 [76]	Posthole				
77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 [86]	Henge ring ditch (Section E)		P B	(IA)	
87 88 89 [90]	Henge ring ditch (Section H)				
91 [92]	Pit/posthole				
93 [94] *101* *102* *[103]* *104* *[105]* *106* *[107]*	Gully	Four sections: [94] (W terminal), [103], [105] and [107] (E terminal)			
95 [96]	Posthole				
97 [98]	Pit/posthole				
99 [100]	Pit/posthole				
108 109 110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117 118 119 [120]	Henge ring ditch (Section A)		P	(IA)	
338 [339]r	Henge ring ditch (Section J2)				

Context no.	Feature type	Comments	Finds	Date of pottery	Date of feature
121 122 [123]					
124 125 126 127 128 129 130 131 132 133 134 135 [136]	Henge ring ditch (Section F1)		P u/s	(IA)	
140 141 142 143 144 145 146 151 [147]	Henge ring ditch (Section G2)				
152 153 154 155 156 157 158 159 160 170 [161]	Henge ring ditch (Section K)		F P F F P	BA BA	
162 [163]	Pit?				
164 [165]	Posthole				
166 [167]	Posthole				
168 [169]	Posthole				
171 [172]	Pit				
173 [174]	Pit				
175 176 [177]	Ring ditch (Section J1)				
178 [179]	Pit				
340 357 [341]r 180 181 182 [183]	Henge ring ditch (Section J3)				
184 185 186 187 188 335 336 [189]	Barrow ring ditch (E terminal, S side)		F F		
192 [193]	Gully				
194 195	Barrow ring ditch (E terminal, N		F		

Context no.	Feature type	Comments	Finds	Date of pottery	Date of feature
196 197 198 [199]	side)		F		
200 201 202 203 204 205 [206]	Henge ring ditch (Section G1)		F		
207 208 209 210 [211]	Barrow ring ditch (W terminal, N side)				
214 215 216 217 [218]	Barrow ring ditch (W terminal, S side)				
229 230 231 232 233 234 235 236 237 238 [219]	Henge ring ditch (Section B)				
220 221 222 223 224 225 226 227 [228]	Barrow ring ditch (N section)				
212 239 240 241 242 319 **320** 321 **322** 323 **324** 325 [243]	Grave	**320**, **322** and **324** Human burials HB1, 2 and 3 respectively	P	LBA/EIA	
138 248 249 250 251 [252]	Henge ring ditch (Section D)		P P P	(IA) (IA) (IA)	
253 [254]	Pit		F		
255 256 [257]	Ditch				
258 [259]	Pit	Inside barrow ring ditch			
291 292 293 294 295 296	Grave	**317** human burial HB4			

Context no.	Feature type	Comments	Finds	Date of pottery	Date of feature
297 298 299 300 301 302 303 304 305 306 **317** 318 [260]					
283 284 [261]	Pit	Inside barrow ring ditch			
262 263 264 [265]	Ring ditch				
269 270 271 [272]	Barrow ring ditch (NE section)				
273 [274]	Pit?	Inside barrow ring ditch			
277 [278]	Gully				
279 [280]	Gully?	Inside barrow ring ditch, probably animal disturbance			
281 [282]	Gully terminal				
285 286 287 288 [289]	Barrow ring ditch (S section)				
290	Layer	Cut by [289]			
307 [308] *309* *[310]* *311* *[312]*	Ditch	Three sections: [308], [310] and [312]			
315 [316]	Slot			Undated	
326 [327]	Ditch				
328 329 330 331 332 333 [334]	Barrow ring ditch (E section)		F		
337	Mound				
342 343 344 [345]r 346 347 348 [349]	Henge ring ditch (Section F2)				
350 351 352 [353]r 354 355 [356] 357	Henge ring ditch (Section A2)				

Area 2

Context no.	Feature type	Comments	Finds	Date of pottery	Date of feature
2001	Topsoil				
2002	Subsoil				
2003	Natural substrate				
2005 2006 2007 2025 2026 [2008]	Ditch terminal		B P B B P	(EMIA/MIA) (EMIA/MIA)	
2009 2010 [2011]	Ditch		B P	IA to early Saxon	
2012 2013 2014 2015 [2016]	Ditch		P B p	(EMIA/MIA) (EMIA/MIA)	
2017 2018 2019 [2020]	Inner enclosure ditch				
2021 2022 [2023]	Ditch				
2151 2152 2153 2154 2155 [2024]	Ditch		B		
2027 2028 2029 2030 [2031]	Ditch terminal		P B p	(EMIA/MIA) (EMIA/MIA)	
2515 2032 2033 2034 [2035]	Ditch terminal		B		
2036 2037 [2038]	Pit		B		
2039 2040 [2041]	Ditch		P	(EMIA/MIA)	
2136 2137 2138 2139 2140 [2042]	Ditch		B P	3rd to 4th C	
2117 2118 [2043]	Ditch				
2044 2045 2046 2047 [2048]	Pit		P	LIA, ER or ES	
2049 **2050** [2051]	Grave			LIA to ER	
2052 2053	Posthole				

Context no.	Feature type	Comments	Finds	Date of pottery	Date of feature
2054 [2055]					
2056 2057 [2058]	Surface clamp				
2059 2060 2061 [2062]	Inner enclosure ditch (SE corner)		B		
2069 [2070]	Gully terminal				
2071 2072 2073 2074 [2075]	Ditch		B		
2076 [2077]	Posthole				
2080 2081 2082 2083 [2084]	Ditch		B P p	(EMIA/MIA) (EMIA/MIA)	
2085 2086 2087 2088 [2089]			B		
2090 2091 [2092] *2093* *[2094]* *2095* *[2096]* *[2100]* *[2103]*	Burial enclosure gully	Five sections: [2092], [2094], [2096], [2100] and [2103]	B		
2119 2120 2121 2122 [2217]r [2097]	Pit		P P B P	(EMIA/MIA) (EMIA/MIA) Roman (>2nd C)	
2104 2105 2106 2107 2108 [2109]	Inner enclosure ditch				
2110 2111 [2112]	Pit				
2113 [2114]	Gully				
2115 [2116]	Gully				
2124 [2123]	Ditch		B P	Late 3rd to 4th C	
2129 [2126]	Ditch		P	(EMIA/MIA)	
2130 [2131]	Posthole				
2141 [2142]	Furrow				
2145 [2146]	Furrow				
2149 [2150]	Pit		P	Roman	
2156 2157 [2158]	Gully				
2159	Burial enclosure				

Context no.	Feature type	Comments	Finds	Date of pottery	Date of feature
2160 [2161]	gully		P	(EMIA/MIA)	
2162 2163 [2164]	Burial enclosure gully				
2168 [2169]	Ditch				
2170 2171 [2172]	Ditch		P P p	(EMIA/MIA) (EMIA/MIA) (EMIA/MIA)	
2173 [2174]	Ditch				
2175 2176 [2177]	Ditch		P	(EMIA/MIA)	
2178 [2179]	Pit				
2180 2181 2182 2183 2184 [2185]	Enclosure ditch		B P	(EMIA/MIA)	
2186 2187 [2188]	Ditch				
2189 2190 2191 2192 [2193]	Pit		P B P	(EMIA/MIA) (EMIA/MIA)	
2194 2195 2196 2197 [2198]	Enclosure ditch		P B	(EMIA/MIA)	
2199 [2200]	Slot				
2201 [2202]	Pit		B P	Roman	
2203 2204 2205 [2206]	Ditch		B B P	Roman	
2207 2267 2269 2324 2326 [2325]r [2208]r 2270 2271 [2273]r 2274 2268 2322 2333 [2272]	Well		B P B P B P B B	(EMIA/MIA) LBA to E/MIA (EMIA/MIA)	
2209 [2210]	Pit				
2211 [2212]	Pit		P	(EMIA/MIA)	
2213 [2214]	Pit				
2215 [2216]	Pit				
2218 2219 [2220]					
2221 [2222]					

Context no.	Feature type	Comments	Finds	Date of pottery	Date of feature
2223 2224 2225 2226 [2227]			P	(EMIA/MIA)	
2228 2229 2230 [2231]					
2232 2233 2234 2235 2236 2237 [2238]			P	(EMIA/MIA)	
2239 [2240]	Posthole				
2241 [2242]	Posthole				
2243 [2244]	Posthole				
2245 [2246]	Posthole				
2247 [2248]	Posthole				
2249 [2250]	Posthole				
2251 [2252]	Posthole				
2253 [2254]	Posthole				
2255 [2256]	Posthole				
2257 [2258]	Posthole				
2259 [2260]	Posthole				
2261 [2262]	Posthole				
2263 [2264]	Posthole				
2275 [2276]	Posthole				
2277 [2278]	Posthole				
2279 [2280]	Posthole				
2281 [2282]	Posthole				
2283 [2284]	Posthole				
2285 [2286]	Posthole				
2287 [2288]	Posthole				
2289 [2290]	Posthole				
2291 [2292]	Posthole				
2293 [2294]	Posthole				
2295 [2296]	Posthole				
2299 [2300]	Ditch				
2297 2298 [2305]r			B P	(EMIA/MIA)	
2301 2302 2303	Pit				

Context no.	Feature type	Comments	Finds	Date of pottery	Date of feature
[2304]					
2306 2307 2308 2309 2310 2311 2312 [2313]	Pit		 B P B P B P P	 (EMIA/MIA) (EMIA/MIA) (EMIA/MIA) (EMIA/MIA)	
2314 2315 [2316]	Pit		 p	 (EMIA/MIA)	
2317 2318 2319 2320 [2321]	Ditch		 P	 (EMIA/MIA)	
2340 **2341** [2342]	Grave				
2343 2344 2345 [2346]	Pit		B P	 (EMIA/MIA)	
2348 2349 [2350]	Pit		P	Unknown	
2351 2352 [2353]	Pit		P P	(EMIA/MIA) (EMIA/MIA)	
2354 2355 [2356]	Pit				
2360 2361 2362 2363 [2364]	Pit				
2365 2366 2367 [2368]	Pit				
2373 [2374]	Posthole		P	(EMIA/MIA)	
2375 [2376]	Posthole				
2377 2378 [2379]	Posthole				
2380 [2381]	Posthole				
2382 [2383]	Posthole				
2384 [2385]	Posthole				
2386 [2387]	Posthole				
2388 [2389]	Posthole				
2390 [2391]	Posthole				
2392 [2393]	Posthole				
2394 [2395]	Posthole				
2396 [2397]	Posthole				
2398 [2399]	Posthole				
2400 [2401]	Posthole				
2402	Posthole				

Context no.	Feature type	Comments	Finds	Date of pottery	Date of feature
[2403]					
2404 [2405]	Posthole				
2406 [2407]	Posthole				
2408 [2409]	Posthole				
2410 [2411]	Posthole				
2412 [2413]	Posthole				
2414 [2415]	Posthole				
2416 2417 2418 2419 2420 2421 2422 2423 2424 2497 [2425]	Pit		B P P P	(EMIA/MIA) Roman (EMIA/MIA)	
2426 2427 2428 2496 [2429]	Pit				
2430 2431 [2432]	Ditch		B P	Roman	
2433 2434 2435 [2436]	Tree throw		P	Roman	
2437 2438 2439 [2440]	Ditch		 P P	 LIA/ES Roman	
2441 [2442]	Trampling hollow			Roman	
2443 [2444]	Posthole				
2445 [2446]	Posthole				
2447 [2448]	Posthole				
2449 2450 2451 2452 2453 2454 [2456]	Ditch terminal		P P	(EMIA/MIA) (EMIA/MIA)	
2457	Layer				
2462 [2463]	Pit				
2464 [2465]	Pit/posthole		B		
[2475]	Gully				
2476 [2477]	Gully/slot				
2478 2479 2480 2481 2482 2483 2484 2485 [2486]	Inner enclosure ditch				

Context no.	Feature type	Comments	Finds	Date of pottery	Date of feature
2487 2488 2489 2490 [2491]	Pit				
2492 [2493]	Pit				
[2494]	Ditch				
[2495]	Pit				
[2498]	Pit				
2499 2500 2501 2502 2514 [2503]r 2504 2505 2506 2507 2508 [2509]	Well		 B P B P B P B B P B P	 EIA EIA EIA EIA EIA	
2510 [2511]					
2512 [2513]					

Area 3, Roman settlement

Context no.	Feature type	Notes	Finds	Date of pottery	Date of feature
3001	Topsoil				
3002	Subsoil		F, P	e/m to l 2ndC	
3003	Natural substrate				
3006 [3007]	Pit		P	2nd C>	
3008 [3009]	Gully		P, B	e/m to l 2ndC	
3010 3186 3187 [3011] *3236* *[3237]*	Ditch	Two sections: [3011] and [3237]	P, B, SF330, 333	M 3rd to e/m 4th C	
3012 [3013]	Pit		P	l 3rd to 4th C	
3014 [3015]	Ditch		P	Roman	
3016 [3017]	Ditch				
3018 [3019]	Pit		P	Roman	
3020 [3021]	Pit		P, B	Roman	
3024 3374 3375 3376 3377 [3025]	Ditch		P, B F F	e to l 2nd C	
3026 [3027]	Ditch		P	e to m 2nd C	
3031 3032 [3033]	Posthole				
3036 3037 [3038]	Ditch	Four sections: [3015], [3038], [3087] and [3095]			

Context no.	Feature type	Notes	Finds	Date of pottery	Date of feature
3014 *[3015]* *3085* *3086* *[3087]* *3094* *[3095]*			SF332 (coin)		
3039 3040 [3041]	Pit		F		
3042 [3043]	Pit				
3046 3047 [3048] *3044* *[3045]* *3083* *[3084]*	Ditch	Three sections: [3045], [3048] and [3084]	P, B F F, P	Roman Roman	
3049 3050 3051 3052 [3053] *3028* *3029* *[3030]* *3088* *3089* *[3090]*	Ditch	Three sections: [3030], [3053] and [3090]	P, B, SF331 F, P, B P, B	1 3rd to 4th C m 2nd to 4th C 2nd to 4th C	
3054 [3055]	Pit				
3056 [3057]	Pit				
3058 [3059]	Pit				
3060 3061 [3062]	Posthole				
3063 [3064] *3034* *[3035]* *3065* *[3066]*	Gully	Three sections: [3035], [3064] and [3066]			
3067 [3068]	Pit				
3069 [3070]	Pit				
3071 [3072]	Ditch terminal				
3073 3074 [3075]	Posthole		B		
3076 [3077]	Pit		P	3rd to 4th C	
3078 [3079]	Pit				
3080 3081 [3082]	Pit				
3085 3086 [3087]	Gully				
3093 3094 [3095]	Ditch		F, P, B	LR to ES	
3096 3100 [3097]	Pit				
3098 [3099]	Posthole		F, P	LBA to LIA/ER	

Context no.	Feature type	Notes	Finds	Date of pottery	Date of feature
3101 [3102]	Pit				
3103 [3104]	Pit				
3105 [3106]	Pit				
3107 [3108]	Pit		F, P	e to m/l 2nd C	
3109 3110 [3111]	Pit		F, P, B	e to m/l 2nd C	
3112 [3113] *3124* *3125* *[3126]* *3190* *[3191]*	Gully	Three sections: [3113] (terminal), [3126] and [3191] (terminal)	P	LIA to *c* AD 70	
3116 [3117]	Pit		P	Roman	
3118 [3119]	Gully		F, P, B	2nd C	
3120 [3121]	Pit		F, P, B	Roman	
3122 [3123]	Pit		P	l 1st to l 2nd C	
3127 3128 [3129]	Ditch		F, P, B	m to l 1st C	
3130 3131 [3132] *3022* *[3023]* *3175* *[3176]* *3181* *[3182]*	Ditch	Four sections: [3023], [3132], [3176] and [3182]	P, B F, P, B B, P B B	e/m to l 2nd C e to l 2nd C m to l 2nd C	
3133 3134 3135 3136 [3137] *3183* *3184* *[3185]*	Ditch	Two sections: [3137] and [3185]	 P, B P, B P, B B	 e to l 2nd C e to l 2nd C e to l 2nd C	
3138 3139 3140 3141 [3142]	Pit	Pit group [3142]	P, B	e to l 2nd C	
3143 [3144]	Pit	Pit group [3142]			
3145 3146 [3147]	Pit	Pit group [3142]			
3004 3148 3149 [3150]	Pit	Pit group [3142]	F, P, B B	m/l 2nd to e 3rd C	
3151 [3152]	Pit				
3153 3154 3155 3156 [3157]	Pit		P F		

Context no.	Feature type	Notes	Finds	Date of pottery	Date of feature
3158 3159 3160 3161 3162 3163 3164 3165 [3166] *3167* *3168* *3169* *[3170]* *3171* *3172* *3173* *[3174]*	Pit	Three sections: [3166], [3170] and [3174]	P, B P P P, B F, P, B P, B P, B P P, B		
3177 [3178]	Ditch				
3179 [3180]	Ditch		B		
3188 [3189] *3240* *[3241]*	Ditch	Two sections: [3189] and [3241]	P		
3192 3193 3194 [3195]	Pit		P		
3197 3198 3199 [3196]	Ditch		P, B P, B	m 2nd to m 3rd C e/m to l 2nd C	
3200 [3201] *3246* *[3247]* * [*]*	Gully	Three sections: [3201], [3247] and [*]	 F		
3202 [3203]	Ditch		F, P, B	2nd C	
3204 [3205]	Ditch		F, B		
3206 [3207]	Ditch				
3208 [3209]	Ditch				
3210 [3211]	Ditch		P	Roman	
3212 [3213] *3225* *[3226]* *3242* *[3243]*	Ditch terminal	Three sections: [3213], [3226] and [3243]	P, B B, P	e to l 2nd C e to l 2nd C	
3214 3215 [3216]	Ditch		F, P, B P, B	m 2nd C Roman	
3217 3218 3219 3220 3221 [3222]	Ditch		P, B P	e/m to l 2nd C l 1st to e/m 2nd C	
3223 [3224]	Pit		P, B	m to l 2nd C	
3227 [3228]	Ditch				
3231 3232	Ditch		F, P, B	2nd C	

Context no.	Feature type	Notes	Finds	Date of pottery	Date of feature
[3233]r 3229 [3230]			P	Roman	
3234 [3235]	Gully		F, P, B	Roman	
3238 [3239]	Ditch		F, P	2nd C >	
3248 [3249]	Gully				
3250 3251 [3252]	Ditch				
3253 3254 [3255]	Gully		P	Roman	
3256 3257 3258 [3259]	Ditch		P	*	
3260 [3261]			P, B	LIA/Roman	
3262 [3263]					
3264 3265 3266 3267 3268 3269 [3270]	Ditch		P B	Roman	
3271 3272 [3273]	Ditch				
3274 [3275]	Gully		F		
3278 [3279]	Posthole				
3280 [3281]	Pit		F, B		
3282 [3283]	Posthole				
3286 [3287]	Posthole				
3288 [3289]	Posthole		F, P	Roman	
3290 [3291]	Pit				
3292 [3293]	Gully				
3294 [3295]	Gully				
3296 [3297]	Pit		P, B	2nd C >	
3298 [3299]	Gully		F		
3300 3301 [3302] *3305* *3306* *[3307]*	Gully terminal	Two sections: [3302] (terminal) and [3307]	P P P, B	Roman 2nd C e 2nd to 4th C	
3303 [3304]	Pit		P	Roman	
3308 3309 [3310] *3358* *[3359]*	Ditch	Two sections: [3310] (terminal) and [3359]	P, B P F, B	l 1st/e 2nd to m/l 2nd C l 1st to e 2nd C	
3311 3312 [3313] *3360*	Ditch	Two sections: [3313] and [3361]	F, P	Roman	

Context no.	Feature type	Notes	Finds	Date of pottery	Date of feature
[3361]					
3314 **3751** 3350 [3315]	Grave	**3751** human burial HB5	F, P	Roman	
3316 [3317]	Pit/posthole				
3318 [3319] *3320* *[3321]* *3709* *[3710]*	Gully	Three sections: [3319], [3321] and [3710]	F, P	LIA to *c* AD70	
3322 [3323] *3244* *[3245]*	Gully terminal	Two sections: [3323] and [3245]			
3324 [3325]	Pit		P	Roman	
3326 [3327] *3580* *[3581]*	Gully	Two sections: [3327] and [3581]	P	l 1st to 2nd C	
3328 [3329]	Pit/posthole		P	Roman	
3330 [3331]	Gully		F		
3332 [3333]	Gully		P	Early Roman	
3334 [3335]	Ditch		F, P	1st to 3rd C	
3336 [3337]	Pit		P, B	m to l 2nd C	
3338 3339 3340 [3341]	Pit		P, B P P, B	l 1st to 2nd C e to l 2nd C e to l 2nd C	
3342 [3343] *3424* *[3425]*	Ditch	Two sections: [3343] and [3425]			
3344 [3345]	Stakehole				
3346 [3347]	Pit		P	Roman	
3348 [3349]	Pit				
3351 [3352]	Posthole		B		
3353 3354 [3355]	Pit		P	Roman	
3356 [3357]	Pit/posthole				
3362 [3363]	Posthole				
3368 [3369]	Pit/well		P	m 3rd to 4th C	
3370 3371 3372 3373 [*]	?		F, P, B P, B P P	2nd C 2nd C 2nd C 2nd to 4th C	
3378 3379 3380 3381 [3382]	Ditch		F, P P, B	Roman m to l 1st C	
3383	Ditch				

Context no.	Feature type	Notes	Finds	Date of pottery	Date of feature
[3384]					
3387 [3388]	Pit		F		
3389 [3390]	Pit				
3391 [3392]	Pit				
3393 [3394]	Pit				
3395 [3396]	Pit				
3397 [3398]	Ditch				
3399 3400 [3401]	Ditch		P	Roman	
3402 3403 [3404] *3741* *3742* *[3743]*	Ditch terminal	Two sections: [3404] and [3743]	P, B	e to l 2nd C	
3405 [3406]	Pit	Polished stone axe	SF367, P	e to m/l 2nd C	
3407 [3408]	Pit		P, B	e/m 2nd C	
3409 [3410] *3615* *[3616]*	Gully	Two sections: [3410] (terminal) and [3616]			
3411 [3412]	Gully terminal				
3413 3414 [3415] *3426* *[3427]*	Ditch terminal	Two sections: [3415] and [3427]	P	l 1st to m/l 2nd C	
3416 [3417]	Gully				
3418 [3419]	Pit				
3420 [3421]	Gully				
3422 [3423] *3440* *[3441]*	Gully	Two sections: [3423] and [3441]			
3428 3429 3430 3637 [3431]	Ditch terminal		P	Roman	
3432 [3433]	Ditch		P, B	l 1st to e/m 2nd C	
3434 [3435]	Pit		P, B	l 1st to 2nd C	
3436 [3437]	Posthole?				
3438 [3439]	Pit				
3442 [3443]	Pit		P, B	e to l 2nd C	
3444 [3445]	Pit		P, B	e to l 2nd C	
3446 [3447]	Pit		P	e to m/l 2nd C	
3448 [3449]	Pit		P	l 2nd to 4th C	
3450 3451 [3452]	Hollow		P, B	Roman	
3453	Gully terminal				

Context no.	Feature type	Notes	Finds	Date of pottery	Date of feature
[3454]					
3491 3492 3510 3511 3512 [3455] 3478 3479 3480 3481 [3482]	Pit		B, P F F B, P	m 2nd to 3rd C Roman	
3456 [3457]	Pit				
3458 3459 3460 3461 [3462]	Pit				
3463 3464 3465 [3466]	Ditch		P, B B P, B	m to l 2nd/e 3rd C m to l 2nd/e 3rd C	
3467 3504 [3468]	Ditch		P, B	l 1st to 2nd C	
3469 [3470]	Pit		P, B	e to l 2nd C	
3471 3472 3473 3474 3475 3476 [3477]	Ditch		P, B P, B	l 1st to 2nd C Roman	
3493 3494 3495 3496 [3483]	Ditch		F, P	Roman	
3497 [3484]	Ditch				
3501 3502 3503 [3485]	Pit		P, B P, B	m to l 2nd/e 3rd C e to l 2nd C	
3486 3487 3488 3489 3508 3509 [3490]	Ditch		F, P P P, B P F, P, B	e to l 2nd C Roman e to l 2nd C m/l 2nd C e 2nd to 3rd/4th C	
3498 3499					
3505 3506 [3507]	Gully				
3513 [3514]	Ditch terminal		F, P	e/m to l 2nd C	
3515 3516 [3517]	Pit		P, B	Roman	
3518 [3519]	Pit				
3520 [3521]	Pit				
3522 [3523]	Pit				
3524 3525 3526	Ditch		P P, B P, B	e to l 2nd C m/l 2nd to e 3rd C m/l 2nd to e 3rd C	

Context no.	Feature type	Notes	Finds	Date of pottery	Date of feature
[3527]					
3528 3529 3535 [3530]	Gully terminal				
3531 3532 3533 [3534]	Pit		P, B	l 2nd to m 3rd C	
3536 [3537]	Ditch		P	Roman	
3538 [3539]	Pit/posthole		P	Roman	
3540 [3541]	Pit/posthole		P	Prehistoric	
3542 3543 [3544]	Ditch		P P	e/m to l 2nd C m/l 2nd C	
3545 [3546] *3364* *3365* *3366* *[3367]* *3574* *[3575]* *3599* *[3600]*	Ditch	Four sections: [3367], [3546] (terminal), [3575] and [3600]	F, P F	l 2nd to 4th C	
3550 [3551]	Pit/hearth				
3552 3553 3554 3555 [3556]	Pit/ditch		P, B B	2nd C	
3559 3560 3561 3562 3563 [3564]	Pit		P, B P P, B P, B	m/l 2nd C m/l 2nd to e 3rd C m/l 2nd to e 3rd C l 2nd to e/m 3rd C	
[3565]	Gully				
3566 [3567]	Pit/hearth				
3568 [3569]	Ditch				
3570 [3571]	Pit				
3572 [3573]	Pit				
3576 [3577]	Pit				
3578 [3579]	Ditch				
3580 [3581]	Gully		P, B	l 1st to 2nd C	
3582 [3583]	Gully		P	2nd C >	
3584 [3585]	Ditch		P	Roman	
3586 [3587]	Gully		P	3rd to 4th C	
3588 [3589]	Gully		P	3rd to 4th C	
3590	Layer				
3591 [3592]	Pit		P, B	m 2nd to 4th C	
3593 3594 3595 3596 3597	Pit		P P, B P P, B	e 2nd to 4th C 3rd to 4th C Roman Roman	

Context no.	Feature type	Notes	Finds	Date of pottery	Date of feature
[3598]					
3601 3602 [3603]	Pit		P P	Roman	
3604 [3605]	Pit		P, B	LIA to *c* AD70	
3606 [3607]	Gully		P	Roman	
3608 [3609]	Ditch terminal		P	l 1st to 2nd C	
3610 3611 [3612]	Ditch				
3613 [3614]	Gully				
3617 [3618]	Pit				
3619 3620 3621 3622 [3623]	Pit				
3624 [3625]	Posthole				
3626 [3627]	Posthole				
3628 [3629]	Pit				
3630 [3631]	Pit		P, B	Roman	
3632 [3633] *3641* *[3642]*	Gully terminal	Two sections: [3633] and [3642]	P	2nd C >	
3634 3635 [3636] *3638* *3639* *[3640]*	Ditch	Two sections: [3636] and [3640]	P	Roman	
3643 3644 [3645]	Ditch				
3646 [3647]	Gully				
3648 [3649]	Slot				
3650 [3651]	Pit/posthole				
3652 [3653]	Pit		P	l 1st to 2nd C	
3654 [3655]	Gully		P	Roman	
3656 3658 3659 [3686]r [3657]	Ditch		P P	Roman 2nd C>	
3660 3661 3662 3663 [3664]	Ditch		P, B	l 2nd to m 4th C	
3665 3666 3667 3668 [3669]	Ditch		P	m 2nd to 4th C	
3670 3671 3672 [3673]	Ditch		P B	LIA to *c* AD 70	

Context no.	Feature type	Notes	Finds	Date of pottery	Date of feature
3674 3675 3676 [3677]	Ditch		B P	l 1st to 2nd C	
3678 [3679]	Ditch				
3680 [3681]	Pit?		P	Roman	
3684 [3685]	Pit		P, B	m 2nd to e/m 3rd C	
3687 3688 [3689]	Gully		P, B	l 1st to m/l 2nd C	
3690 3691 [3692]	Gully				
3693 3694 [3695]	Pit		P, B	m to l 2nd C	
3696 [3697]	Pit	Pit group [3697]	P	3rd to 4th C	
3698 [3699]	Pit	Pit group [3697]			
3700 [3701]	Pit	Pit group [3697]			
3702 3703 3704 [3705]	Pit		P, B P, B	2nd C m 2nd to 4th C	
3706 3707 [3708] *3682* *[3683]*	Ditch terminal	Two sections: [3683] and [3708]			
3711 [3712]	Hollow		P, B	l 1st to 2nd C	
3713 [3714]	Posthole		F		
3715 [3716]	Pit				
3717 3718 3719 3720 3721 [3722]	Pit		P, B P F, P	2nd C > Roman LBA to MIA	
3723 [3724]	Gully				
3725 [3726]	Pit?				
3727 [3728]	Pit?				
3729 [3730]	Pit?				
3733 [3734]	Ditch				
3735 [3736]	Pit?				
3737 3738 3739 [3740]	Ditch				
[3744]	Ditch				
3745 [3746]	Gully				
3747 [3748]	Gully				
3749 [3750]	Gully				

Area 5, the triple ditches

Context no.	Feature type	Notes	Finds	Date of pottery	Date of feature
5001	Topsoil				
5002	Subsoil				
5003	Natural substrate				
5004 5005 5006 [5007]	Ditch I		P	LIA to *c* AD70 or (LBA/EIA)	
5008 5009 [5010]	Ditch II		B		
5011 [5012]	Pit				
5013 5014 5015 5016 [5017]	Ditch III				
5018 5019 [5020]	Pit				
5021 [5022]	Pit				
5026 [5027]	Pit				
5030 5031 [5032]	Pit		P	m 1st to e 2nd C	
5033 5034 5035 [5036]	Ditch III		p	(LBA/EIA)	
5037 [5038]	Gully	Cut by [5043]			
5039 5040 5041 5042 [5043]	Ditch II	Same as [5108]	P, B	(LBA/EIA)	
5044 [5045]	Pit				
5046 5047 5048 [5049]	Pit		P	Roman or (LBA/EIA)	
5052 5053 5054 5055 [5056]	Ditch I		P p	(LBA/EIA) (LBA/EIA)	
5062 5063 [5064]	Pit				
5065 [5066]	Posthole	Associated with possible SFB [5068]	P	(LBA/EIA)	
5067 [5068]	SFB?		P	ES	
5074 [5075]	Ditch I		P	(LBA/EIA)	
5076 [5077]	Pit	Cuts 5078	F		
5078 [5079]	Gully terminal		F, P	(LBA/EIA)	
5080 5081 [5082]	Ditch III				
5083 [5084]	Pit/posthole		F		

Context no.	Feature type	Notes	Finds	Date of pottery	Date of feature
5085 5086 5087 5088 [5089]r 5090 5091 5092 5093 5094 [5095]	Ditch II		F, P, B f, p	(LBA/EIA) (LBA/EIA)	
5096 5097 5098 [5099]r 5102 5103 5104 5100 [5101] =[5105]	Ditch II	Opposing section to [5095]			
5109 5110 5111 5112 5113 [5114]	Pit		P F, P F, P	Roman (LBA/EIA) (LBA/EIA)	
5115 5116 [5117]	Ditch I		P	(LBA/EIA)	

Area 7, extension to north of Area 3

Context no.	Feature type	Comments	Finds	Date of pottery	Date of feature
7001	Topsoil				
7002	Subsoil				
7003	Natural substrate				
7004 7005 7006 [7007]	Ditch	Two sections: [7007] (terminal) and [7049] Cut by [7009]	P P	l 1st to 2nd C Roman	
7008 [7009]	Pit	Cuts 7004			
7010 [7011]	Pit		F, P	e/m 2nd to 4th C	
7012 7013 [7014] *7120* *7121* *7122* *[7123]*	Ditch	Two sections: [7014] (terminal) and [7123] Cuts 7004	F, P, B P, B F, B, P P	l 1st to 2nd C Roman 3rd C e/m to l 2nd/e 3rd C	
7015 7016 7017 7018 [7019] *7024* *7063* *[7066]*	Ditch	Two sections: [7019] (terminal) and [7066] Cut by [7025]	P P B, P	e/m 2nd to m 3rd C m/l 1st to e/m 2nd C e/m to l 2nd/e 3rd C	
7020 7021	Posthole		 P	 Roman	

Context no.	Feature type	Comments	Finds	Date of pottery	Date of feature
[7022]					
7023 [7025]	Pit	Cuts 7024	P, B	l 2nd to e 3rd C	
7026 [7027] *7257* *[7258]*	Pit	Two sections: [7027] (SW) and [7258] (NE)	P F, P, B	l 1st to l 2nd/e 3rd C l 1st to l 2nd C	
7028 [7029]	Posthole				
7030 [7031]	Pit	Cuts 7034	P, B	e to l 2nd C	
7032 [7033]	Posthole	Cuts 7034	P	Roman	
7034 [7035]	Pit	Cut by [7031] and [7033]	P	e/m 3rd to 4th C	
7036 7037 7038 [7039]	Pit		P P, B F, P	l 1st to 2nd C Roman	
7040 [7041]	Pit/posthole		P	l 1st to l 2nd C	
7042 [7043]	Pit		P	e 2nd to 3rd C	
7044 [7045]	Pit				
7046 [7047]	Pit				
7048 [7049]	Ditch		P	e to l 2nd/e 3rd C	
7050 [7051]	Pit				
7052 7053 [7054] *7165* *[7166]*	Ditch terminal	Two sections: [7054] (W terminal) and [7166] (E terminal)	F, P P	l 1st to 2nd C Roman	
7055 7056 7057 [7058]	Pit		P, B F, P	m 3rd to 4th C Roman	
7059 [7060]	Slot	Cuts 7061	P	Roman	
7061 [7062] *7111* *7112* *7113* *[7114]* *7199* *[7200]*	Ditch	Cut by [7060] Three sections: [7062] (E terminal), [7200] and [7114] (W terminal)	 P, B P	 e to l 2nd C l 1st to 2nd C	
7064 [7065]	Gully				
7067 [7068]	Hollow				
7069 [7070] *7109* *[7110]*	Ditch	Two sections: [7070] and [7110] (terminal)	P	Roman	
7071 [7072] *7197* *[7198]* *7249* *[7250]*	Gully	Three sections: [7072], [7198] (N terminal) and [7250]	 F		
7073 7074 [7075] *7078* *7079* *[7080]* *7081*	Ditch	Six sections: [7075], [7080], [7082], [7093], [7097] and [7106] (NE terminal)	P F, P, B	Roman LBA to MIA/LIA	

Context no.	Feature type	Comments	Finds	Date of pottery	Date of feature
[7082] *7092* *[7093]* *7096* *[7097]* *7105* *[7106]*			P	LIA/Roman	
7076 [7077]	Ditch terminal				
7083 7084 [7085]	Gully		P, B P	Roman l 1st to 2nd C	
7086 7087 [7088]	Ditch		F, P P	l 1st to 2nd C Roman	
7090 [7091]	Pit	Cut by [7256]			
7094 [7095]	Gully	Same as [3129]	P	Roman	
7098 7099 7100 [7101] *7128* *7129* *7130* *[7131]*	Ditch terminal	Two sections: [7101] (E terminal) and [7131] (W terminal) Cut by [7127]	P F P P	Roman Roman l 1st to 2nd C	
7102 7103 [7104] *7126* *[7127]*	Ditch	Two sections: [7104] (E terminal) and [7127] (W terminal) Cuts 7128	P	Prehistoric	
7107 [7108]	Gully terminal				
7115 7116 7117 7118 7148 [7119]	Well		P, B P P	m 2nd to m 4th C e 2nd to m 3rd C e/m 2nd to e 3rd C	
7124 [7125] *7132* *[7133]*	Ditch	Two sections: [7125] and [7133] (W terminal)	P P	l 1st to 2nd C 2nd C	
7134 7135 [7136] *7137* *7138* *[7139]* *7140* *7141* *[7142]* *7143* *7144* *[7145]*	Ditch	Four sections: [7136] (S terminal), [7139], [7142] and [7145] (N terminal)		Undated	
7146 [7147]	Pit		P	6th century AD	
7149 [7150]	Ditch				
7151 7152 7153 7154 [7155]	Ditch terminal	Cuts 7156	P P	e/m to l 2nd C e to l 2nd C	
7156 7157 7158 [7159]	Ditch	Cut by [7155]	P P	l 1st to 2nd C l 1st to e/m 2nd C	
7160	Gully				

Context no.	Feature type	Comments	Finds	Date of pottery	Date of feature
[7161]					
7162 [7163]	Gully				
7167 [7168] *7169* *[7170]* *7201* *[7202]*	Gully	Three sections: [7168] (W terminal), [7170] and [7202] (E terminal)	F P	 LBA to MIA/LIA	
7171 7172 [7173]	Ditch		P	m/l 1st to e/m 2nd C	
7174 [7175]	Gully		P	?Roman	
7176 7177 [7178]	Ditch terminal		F, P F, P	l 1st to e/m 2nd C Roman	
7179 [7180]	Ditch terminal				
7181 [7182] *7186* *7187* *[7188]*	Gully/slot	Two sections: [7182] (S terminal) and [7188] (N terminal)	P	l 1st to l 2nd C	
7183 7184 [7185]	Ditch		P	Roman	
7189 7190 [7191]	Gully		P	IA/ES	
7192 7193 [7194]	Ditch		P	?Roman	
7195 [7196]	Pit/tree bowl				
7203 7205 [7204]	Pit		F		
7206 [7207] *7227* *7228* *[7229]*	Gully	Two sections: [7207] and [7229] (W terminal)	 P	 Roman	
7208 7209 [7210]	Pit				
7211 [7212]	Pit				
7213 [7214] *7215* *[7216]* *7219* *[7220]*	Gully	Truncated remnants	F, P, B	3rd to 4th C	
7217 [7218]	Pit				
7221 7222 7223 [7224]	Waterhole				
7225 [7226]					
7231 7232 7233 [7234]	terminal		F		
7235 [7236]	Pit				
7237 7238 7239	Pit		P P	l 1st to l 2nd C l 1st to 2nd C	

Context no.	Feature type	Comments	Finds	Date of pottery	Date of feature
7240 7241 [7242]					
7243 [7244]	Ditch		P	Roman	
7245 [7246]	Gully		P	Prehistoric	
7247 [7248]	Gully				
7251 [7252]	Gully terminal	Cuts 7071, cut by [7106]			
7253 [7254]	Ditch W terminal				
7255 [7256]	Pit	Cuts 7090			
7259 [7260]	Pit		P	Roman	
7261 [7262]	Pit				
7263 [7264]	Pit		F, P, B	l 1st to 2nd C	
7265 [7266]	Pit		F, P	2nd to 4th C	
7267 [7268]	Pit				
7269 [7270]	Gully		F		
7271 [7272]	Pit		F		
7273 [7274]	Pit		F		
7275 [7276]	Posthole				
7277 [7278]	Pit				
7279 7280 [7281]	Pit		F, P	l 1st to 2nd C	
7282 [7283]	Posthole				
7284 [7285]	Posthole				
7286 7287 [7288]	Gully terminal		P, B	Roman (<2nd C)	
7289 [7290]	Gully terminal				
7291 7292 7293 7294 7295 7296 [7297]	Pit		P P, B P, B P, B P	l 1st to e 3rd C m 2nd to e 3rd C 2nd to 4th C l 1st to m 3rd C m 2nd to m 3rd C	
7298 7299 7300 [7301]					
7302 7303 [7304]					
7305 7306 7307 [7308]			P P	Prehistoric e to l 2nd C	

Area 8, watching brief

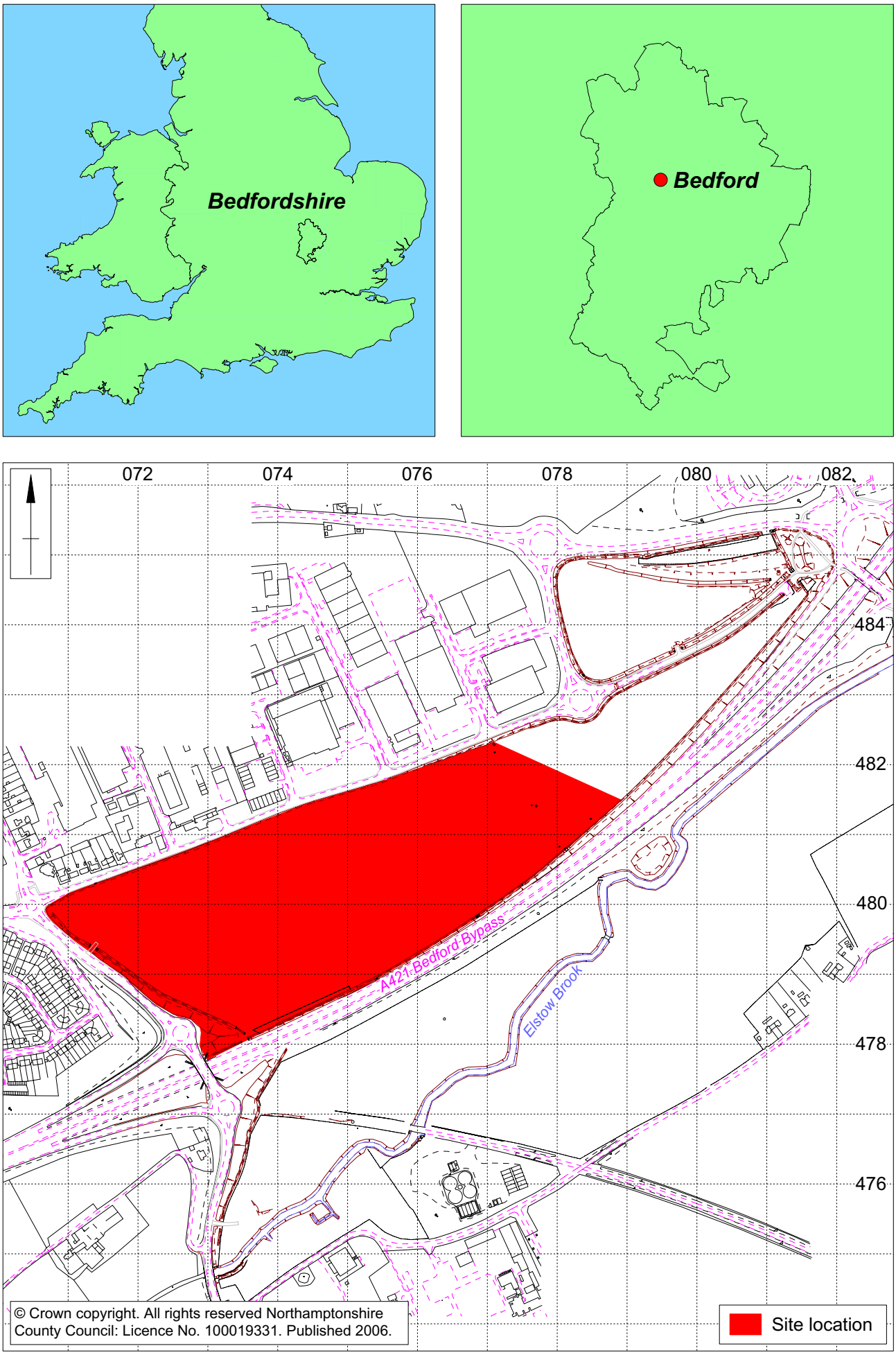
Context no.	Feature type	Comments	Finds	Date of pottery	Date of feature
8000	Topsoil				
8001	Subsoil		F		
8003 8004 8016 8017 8018 8019 [8002]	Ditch		F, P	Prehistoric?	
8008 8009	Natural substrate				
8011 8012 [8010]	SFB1		P F, P	E/M Saxon E/M Saxon	
8013 8014 8057 8058 8059 [8015]	Ditch		P f, p	Prehistoric	
8021 [8022]	Posthole	Assoc. with SFB [8010]			
8023 8086 [8024]	Posthole	Assoc. with SFB [8010]	P	Prehistoric	
8025 8026 [8027]	Pit				
8028 [8029]	Posthole				
8030 [8031]	Pit				
8034 8035 [8036]	Posthole		F, P	Prehistoric	
8037 8038 8039 [8040]	Pit	[8077]			
8044 8056 [8045]	Posthole				
8046 8047 [8048]	Posthole		F		
8049 8050 [8051]	Posthole				
8052 [8053]	Posthole				
8054 [8055]	Posthole				
8060 8061 8062 8063 8064 8065 8066 8067 8068 [8070]	Pit				
8071 8072 8073 8074 [8075]	Ditch terminal				
8080	Ditch				

Context no.	Feature type	Comments	Finds	Date of pottery	Date of feature
8081 8082 8083 8084 [8085]					
8087 [8088	Pit		P	E/M Saxon	
8089 [8090]	Pit				
8093 [8094]	Posthole		P	E/M Saxon	
8095 [8096	Posthole				
8097 [8098]	Posthole				
8099 [8100]	Posthole		F		
8101 [8102]	Posthole				
8103 8104 [8105]	Pit				
8106 8107 [8108]	Ditch				
8109 [8110]	Pit				
8111 [8112]	Posthole				
8113 8114 8116 [8115]	Cremation				
8117 [8118]	Posthole				
8119 8120 [8121]	Cremation				
8122 [8123]	Pit		P	LBA/EIA	
8124 [8125]	Posthole				
8126 [8127]	Posthole				
8128 8129 [8130]	Ditch terminal				
8131 [8132]	Posthole				
8133 [8134]	Posthole				
8135 [8136]	SFB2		P	E/M Saxon	
8137 8138 8140 [8139]	Ditch terminal		F, P	E/M Saxon	
8141 [8142]	Posthole		P	LBA/EIA	
8143 [8144]	Posthole				
8145 [8146]	Posthole				
8147 [8148]	Pit				
8149 [8150]	Pit				
8151 [8152]	SFB3				
8153	Posthole	Assoc. with SFB [8152]	P	E/M Saxon	

Context no.	Feature type	Comments	Finds	Date of pottery	Date of feature
[8154]					
8155 8157 8158 [8156]					
8159 8167 [8160]	SFB		P	E/M Saxon	
8161 8162 [8163]	Pit	Pottery (8161) includes sherd of Roman AD100-125	P P	6th century AD E/M Saxon	
8197 [8164]	Pit				
8165 [8166]	Posthole	Assoc. with SFB [8136]			
8168 [8169]	Posthole	Assoc. with SFB			
8170 [8171]	Ditch				
8172 [8173]	Posthole				
8174 8175 [8176]	Ditch				
8177 [8178]	Posthole	Assoc. with SFB			
8179 [8180]	Pit		F, P	E/M Saxon	
8181 8182 [8183]	Ditch				
8184 8185 8186 [8187]	Pit				
8188 8189 8190 8191 8192 [8193]	Pit		P P	Roman Roman	
8194 8195 [8196]r	Pit		F, P F, P	5th century AD? L 5th century AD?	
8198 [8199]	Pit				
8201 8202 [8203]	Pit			Modern	
8204 8205 [8206]	Pit			Modern	
8207 [8208]	Ditch		F		
8209 [8210]	Pit		P	Prehistoric	
8211 [8212]	Ditch		P	Iron age??	
8213 [8214]	Pit				
8215 [8216]	Pit				
8217 [8218]	Pit				
8219 [8220]	Pit				
8221 [8222]	Pit				
8223 [8224]	Pit				

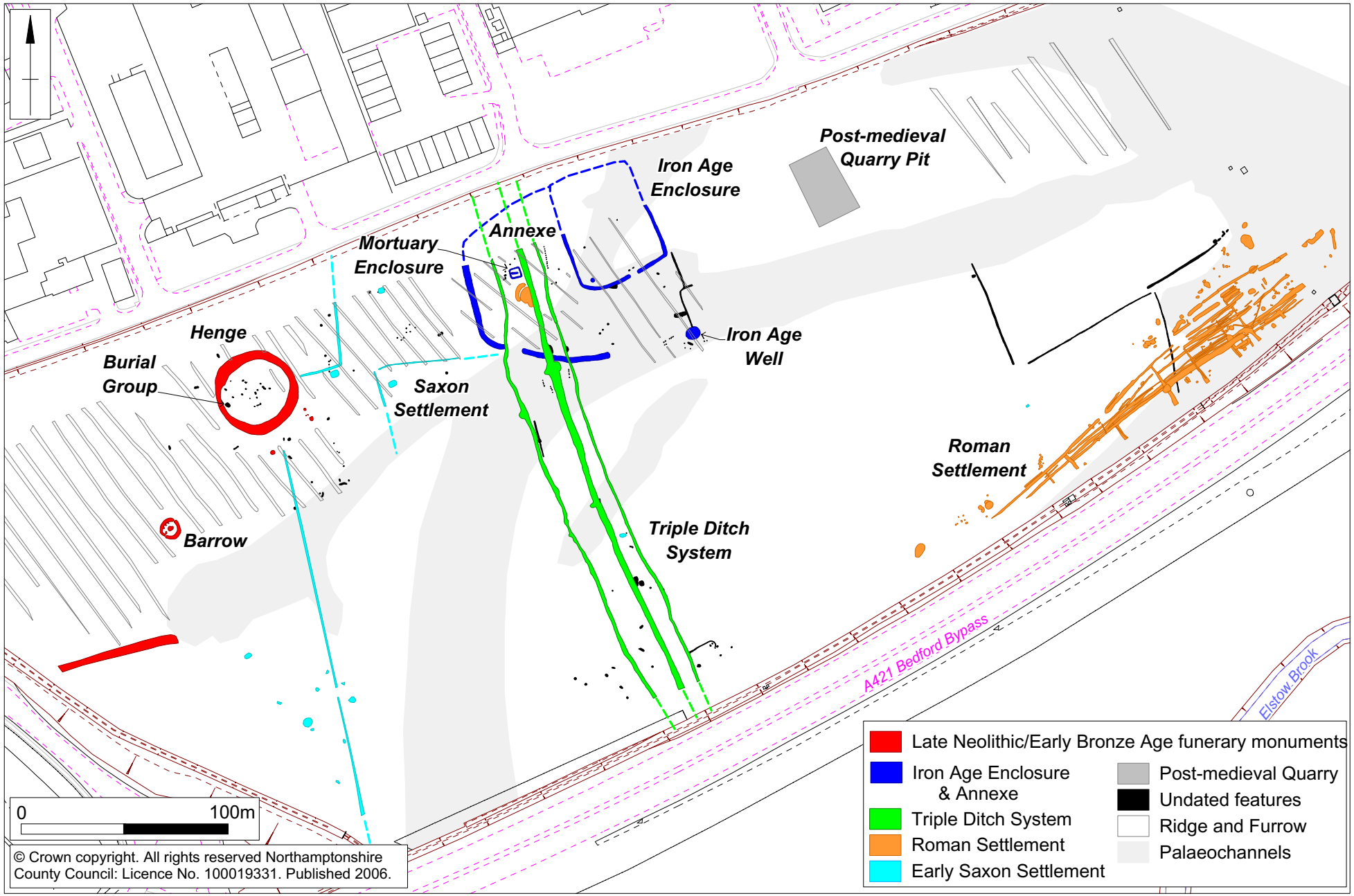
Context no.	Feature type	Comments	Finds	Date of pottery	Date of feature
8225 [8226]	Pit				
8227 [8228]	Pit				
8229 [8230]	Ditch		F		
8231 8232 8233 [8234]	Pit		F		
8235 8236 [8237]	Pit				
8238 8239 8240 [8241]	Pit		F, P	?Roman	
8242 [8243]	Pit		P	Modern	
8244 [8245]	Posthole/pit		F, P	Iron age??	
8246 [8247]	Ditch		F		
8248 8249 8250 8251 8252 8253 8254 8255 [8256]	Pit		F, P	Roman	
8257 [8258]	Pit		P	Roman	
8259 [8260]	Pit				
8261 [8262]	Pit				
8263 [8264]	Pit		F		
8265 [8266]	Gully				
8271 [8272]	Pit		F		
8273 [8274]	Pit				
8275 [8276]	Pit				
8277 [8278]	Pit		F		
8279 [8280]	Pit				
8303 8304 8305 8306 8307 [8281]	Pit		P P P	2nd to 4th C 2nd to 4th C 2nd to m 3rd C (Roman)	
8282 8283 8317 [8284]	Pit		P P	Roman ?Roman	
8285 [8286]	Pit		P	Roman	
8287 [8288]	Pit		F, P	Roman	
8289 8290 8302 [8291]	Pit				

Context no.	Feature type	Comments	Finds	Date of pottery	Date of feature
8292 [8293]	Pit				
8296 [8297]	Slot				
8298 [8299]	Slot				
8308 8309 [8310]	Pit		F		
8311	Layer		F		
8312 [8313]	Pit				
8314 8315 [8316]	Pit				
8318 8319 8320 8321 8322 [8323]	Pit				
8324 [8325]	Pit				
8326 8327 8328 8329 [8330]	Pit				
8331 [8332]	Pit				
8333 8334 8335 [8336]	Pit		F, P	m 2nd to m 3rd C	
8337 8338 8339 [8340]	Pit		F, P	Roman	
8341 8342 [8343]	Pit		F		
8344	Natural substrate				
8345 [8346]	Ditch				



Scale 1:7500

Site location Fig 1



Site phase plan Fig 2