

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION REPORT:**  
**LAUNDRY COTTAGE, HORSHAM ROAD, PETWORTH, WEST SUSSEX**

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## Executive Summary

- Allen Archaeology Limited was commissioned by Towerview Property Group Limited to undertake an archaeological excavation on land at Laundry Cottage, Horsham Road, Petworth, West Sussex as final mitigation for a condition of planning consent for a residential development.
- Evidence of prehistoric and Roman activity in the vicinity of the site was until recently absent from the area. During the Saxon period, Petworth was established as an ecclesiastical centre and known as 'Peteorde'. However, no finds or excavated evidence from this period have been found in the vicinity of the site. During the medieval period the site was part of the Percy family's estate and their castle stood near the site of the current Petworth House. By 1779 the southern part of the development area was largely covered by a house and menagerie belonging to Petworth House. The present Horsham Road was constructed in 1830 after the menagerie was closed. By 1875 the southern part of the development site had been converted into a nursery and drying ground.
- An archaeological evaluation of the development site was carried out in November 2016 and revealed remains dating to the Iron Age, Roman and post-medieval periods. The Roman remains were encountered in a single trench in the south of the site and the Iron Age remains were revealed in the east of the site. Both were of high local significance due to the rarity of remains from these periods in the local area.
- A final programme of excavation as mitigation was agreed, comprising an area in the north of the site. This revealed several phases of activity dating to the Iron Age and Roman periods.
- The middle to late Iron Age remains comprised a substantial trackway defined by two flanking ditches that ran across the centre of the site. The trackway ditches had been re-cut, indicating a prolonged period of use. Within the western area of the trackway, a compact dump of stones had been set into the underlying geological layer. These stones appear to have been used to form a crude surface within a waterlogged area of the trackway representing a localised repair.
- Surrounding the trackway, and also dating to the middle to late Iron Age, were a series of discreet features. The density of pottery sherds recovered from features to the north of the trackway suggest that they are in close proximity to a nearby settlement, perhaps expanding towards the north and northwest, beyond the limit of excavation.
- The trackway and surrounding discreet features are indicative of a smaller scale, rural, middle to late Iron Age settlement that witnessed a possible redefinition of land-use during the late Iron Age and early Roman periods, marked by four linear features to the east.
- The presence of Iron Age and Roman archaeology is of high local and regional significance. The excavations at this site, alongside the occurrence of highly localised Iron Age pottery wares, have broadened our knowledge of the physical boundaries of later prehistoric and early Roman activity within this area of the South Downs.

## 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Allen Archaeology Limited was commissioned by Towerview Property Group Limited to undertake an archaeological excavation on land at Laundry Cottage, Horsham Road, Petworth, West Sussex as a final stage of mitigation with regard to a condition of planning consent for a residential development.
- 1.2 The fieldwork, recording and reporting was carried out in a manner consistent with current national guidelines as set out in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 'Standard and guidance for archaeological excavation' (CIfA 2014), the Historic England document 'Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment' (Historic England 2015), the local guidelines outlined by the South East Research Framework (<http://www.kent.gov.uk/leisure-and-community/history-and-heritage/south-east-research-framework>) and a written scheme of investigation for the works prepared by this company (AAL 2017b). All relevant Historic England guidelines on archaeological best practice have also been followed (<https://historicengland.org.uk/advice/latest-guidance>).
- 1.3 The documentary and physical archive generated by the scheme of archaeological works have been assembled accordance with the local and national guidelines (AAF 2011; The Novium 2016). The archive will be submitted to The Novium Museum by September 2017, where it will be stored under the museum accession number CHCDM:2017.4. A copy of the archive listing will also be submitted to the West Sussex Historic Environment Record.

## 2.0 Site Location and Description

- 2.1 The town of Petworth is in the Chichester District of West Sussex, within the South Downs National Park. It is located approximately 9km east of Midhurst and 20km northeast of Chichester. The site occupies approximately 0.9ha of gardens and fields bounded to the south by Horsham Road, to the west by North Street, to the north by the gardens of properties along Northmead and Northend Close and to the east by a disused chapel and cemetery (Figure 1).
- 2.2 The bedrock geology comprises the Weald Clay Formation, with no overlying superficial deposits recorded on the site (<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>).

## 3.0 Planning Background

- 3.1 Planning permission has been granted for 'Erection of 21 residential dwellings (including 1 replacement dwelling and 20 new dwellings) to comprise 13 private residential dwellings and 8 affordable residential dwellings. Associated private amenity space and parking. New access from North Street, public open space and parking and access to cemetery.' (Reference SDNP/12/02721/FUL). The affordable housing element of the proposal was removed on appeal (Reference APP/Y9507/S/15/3139364). Permission was granted subject to conditions, condition 9 stating that:

*'An archaeological investigation of the site shall be carried out in accordance with a specification to be submitted to and agreed by the Local Planning Authority in writing before the commencement of any building works. The specification shall include proposals for an initial trial investigation and for mitigation of damage through development to deposits of importance thus identified. The investigation shall be undertaken by an appropriately qualified archaeologist, and shall include the recording of findings and subsequent publication of results.'*

*Reason: This site is of archaeological significance and it is important that it is recorded by excavation before it is destroyed by development.'*

- 3.2 A non-intrusive heritage statement was undertaken to identify the archaeological potential for the proposed development site and inform the local authority archaeologist of the likely impact of the development on the archaeological resource (Nexus 2012).
- 3.3 Following discussions with James Kenny, the Archaeological Officer at Chichester District Council, it was advised that a programme of trial trenching should be undertaken to further characterise the archaeological resource. After completion of the initial trial trenching in November 2016 (AAL 2017a), an archaeological excavation was advised as a final mitigation for the scheme.
- 3.4 This approach adopted is consistent with the recommendations of the current National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), with the particular chapter of relevance being '*Chapter 12: Conserving and enhancing the historic environment*' (Department for Communities and Local Government 2012) and with the Local Plan (Chichester District Council 1999).

#### **4.0 Archaeological and Historical Background**

- 4.1 The archaeological and historical background of the site has been discussed in a previous Heritage Statement (Nexus 2012), and the information presented below is taken from this document and from other published and online sources.
- 4.2 Evidence of prehistoric and Roman activity in the vicinity of the site is absent from the archaeological record, the nearest significant prehistoric site being a bowl barrow cemetery at Duncton Common (SAM: 20031), approximately 4 km to the south of the site, and the nearest significant Roman site being a settlement at Church Farm, East Lavington, some 6km to the southwest of the site.
- 4.3 In the Saxon period, Petworth was established as an ecclesiastical centre for the Rotherbridge Hundred in the Rape of Arundel and was referred to as '*Peteorde*' meaning 'Peorta's enclosure'. There are no finds or excavated evidence from the period in the vicinity of the development site.
- 4.4 In the medieval period the site was located within the Percy family's estate, whose castle stood near the site of the current Petworth House. There was a settlement at the site of Petworth village and North Street is likely to date to this time, or perhaps earlier, but there is no evidence for medieval activity with the development site itself.
- 4.5 By 1779 the southern part of the development area was largely covered by a house and menagerie belonging to the Earl of Egremont, who held Petworth House. It appears that part of the development site, whilst it lay outside Petworth House Park, was an integral part of the estate.
- 4.6 The present Horsham Road was constructed in 1830 after the menagerie was closed. By 1875 the southern part of the development site had been converted into a nursery and drying ground with clothes lines, and served the Petworth House Estate. A chapel and cemetery occupied land immediately to the east of the development site by this time.
- 4.7 A trial trench evaluation was undertaken at the development site in 2016 comprising six trenches, and revealed remains dating to the Iron Age, Roman and post-medieval periods (AAL

2017a). Those of Iron Age and Roman date are of high local significance due to the rarity of remains from these periods in the local area. Roman remains were encountered in a single trench in the south of the site where the proposed development will have minimal impact however, the Iron Age remains were revealed in the east of the site in an area where they are likely to be damaged or destroyed by construction work associated with the proposed development.

## 5.0 Methodology

- 5.1 The scheme of works comprised the excavation of an irregular shaped area measuring approximately 48m x 27m, within which previous evaluation had revealed Iron Age remains. Removal of topsoil and subsoil was monitored by an experienced field archaeologist, with soil removed in spits by a 360° tracked excavator fitted with a smooth ditching bucket, until the first archaeologically significant or natural horizon was exposed. All further excavation was by hand.
- 5.2 The fieldwork was carried out by a team of experienced archaeologists between 14<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> February 2017, and was supervised by the author.
- 5.3 All archaeological remains that were exposed were mapped using a survey grade Leica GS08 RTK NetRover GPS, with a site plan produced on site within a GIS project.
- 5.4 Subsequently hand excavation of archaeological deposits was undertaken to define the archaeological stratigraphy and to more fully understand the date and function of the remains. The sampling methodology used was based on:
  - 10% sample of all linear features including excavation of appropriate intersections and all terminals
  - 50% sample of all pits and postholes
  - 25% sample of all very large features such as wells or waterholes
  - 100% sample of all structures
  - 100% sample all cremations and inhumations unless required to leave in situ
- 5.5 A full written record of the archaeological deposits was made on standard AAL context recording sheets. Each deposit, layer or cut was allocated a three-digit unique identifier (context number), and accorded a written description. A summary of these are included in Appendix 4. Four digit numbers with square brackets represent cut features (e.g. ditch [1046]).
- 5.6 Archaeological deposits were drawn to scale, in plan and section (at 1:10, 1:20 and 1:50), with Ordnance Datum (OD) heights displayed on each section drawing. Colour photography formed an integral part of the recording strategy, and photographs incorporated scales, an identification board and directional arrow.
- 5.7 All finds of all classes were collected, other than obviously modern finds from overburden contexts. Finds collected during the fieldwork were bagged and labelled with the appropriate deposit context number. All finds were processed (cleaned, marked and labelled as appropriate) at the offices of AAL and were then submitted for specialist analysis.
- 5.8 Environmental samples were taken for environmental analysis from suitable contexts following the guidance for sampling as outlined by Historic England (<https://historicengland.org.uk/advice/technical-advice/archaeological-science/environmental-archaeology/>).

- 5.9 On completion of site operations, the records produced during the scheme of works were checked and ordered and a stratigraphic matrix of all archaeological features and deposits was prepared.

## **6.0 Results**

- 6.1 The earliest deposits encountered during site works was a series of geological layers (1023, 1022, 1021 and 1003), which were exposed between 0.60m and 1.20m below ground level. The archaeological features were cut into deposit 1003. Stratigraphically above the latest geological deposit, 1003, was a layer of colluvium, 1002, of light to mid greyish brown silt. The colluvium was thickest to the east of the site, measuring 0.50m, decreasing to a thickness of 0.20m at the western limit of excavation. This change was a result of the site topography, which varied by a height of 2.50m OD, sloping towards the east.
- 6.2 Overlying the colluvium was a light greyish brown subsoil, 1001, which also varied in thickness between 0.20m and 0.50m and was sealed by a 0.24m thick dark brownish grey sandy silt topsoil, 1000.

### ***Phase 1: Middle to Late Iron Age***

#### **Trackway**

- 6.3 This phase of the site was defined by two fairly substantial ditch groups that were constructed during the middle to late Iron Age. The ditches appear to form the sides of a trackway, represented by ditch cut [1112] and group numbers [1148], [1149], [1150], [1151] and showed evidence for maintenance and recutting on several occasions.
- 6.4 The trackway extended from the west edge of the site on an east - west alignment and then turned towards the northeast. It measured 6m to 8m wide from the outside edges of both ditches with a 4m to 5.50m wide trackway in between.
- 6.5 The earliest cut of the northern trackway ditch was represented by Feature 1150, measuring between 0.80m to 1.60m wide and 0.24m to 0.50m deep. The ditch contained an assortment of naturally accumulated and deliberately dumped deposits and it cut a pit, [1043], on its southern edge. Although the pit is stratigraphically earlier than the ditch, five pottery fragments indicate that it was backfilled during the middle to late Iron Age. A small stakehole, [1053], appears to have been truncated by pit [1043]. No dateable material was recovered from the fill of this feature, however the mid to late Iron Age pottery within pit [1043] confirms that the stakehole is of an earlier date (Plate 1). A soil sample from the pit contained small quantities of charcoal.
- 6.6 The northern trackway ditch was re-cut on its southern edge by feature [1149]. This re-cut measured 0.30 to 1.20m wide by 0.30 to 0.52m deep. The variation in width and depth of ditches [1149] and [1150] is indicative of its function, becoming wider and deeper the further it travelled towards the lower lying land to the east and northeast. Feature [1149] contained a collection of deliberately deposited material and naturally formed deposits from which 63 fragments of middle to late Iron Age pottery were recovered. Towards the northeast end of the site, there were visible tip lines where deliberately dumped material had been deposited into feature [1149] from the northwest edge (Plate 2). The abundance of pottery, partnered with the direction of the deposition occurring within this feature may be indicative of the location of a settlement, perhaps towards the north and northwest of this ditch. Soil samples from the



ditch however were limited in composition, producing small quantities of charcoal and a single charred wheat seed.



*Plate 1: East-northeast-facing section of features 1149, 1150, pit [1043] and stakehole [1053] (in foreground), scales 0.5m and 1m*



*Plate 2: Southwest-facing section of features 1149, 1150 and pit [1062], showing tip lines within the northwest edge, scales 0.5m and 2m*

- 6.7 Feature 1149 also cut a pit, [1062]. This pit was sub-circular in plan and measured 1.38m diameter by 0.24m deep (Plate 2). Although the pit was earlier in the stratigraphic sequence, the dateable pottery that was recovered from its fill indicated that it was also backfilled during the middle to late Iron Age period.
- 6.8 Feature 1151 formed the earliest portion of the southern trackway ditch; measuring between 0.66 to 1.20m in width and 0.28 to 0.60m deep (Plate 3). It contained an assortment of naturally accumulated and deliberately dumped deposits from which 17 later middle Iron Age to late Iron

Age pottery sherds were collected. A soil sample from the ditch produced only a small quantity of charcoal.

6.9



*Plate 3: East-facing section of feature 1151 and pit [1067], scale 1m*

- 6.10 The construction of trackway ditch [1151] had resulted in the truncation of a small circular pit, [1067]. This pit had an overall diameter of 1.20m and measured 0.15m in depth. Three sherds of pottery were collected from its backfill 1068, again of middle to late Iron Age.
- 6.11 A segment of feature 1151 was re-cut towards its western end by ditch [1136]. The re-cut measured 5.50m long and 0.50m wide by 0.22m deep. Ditch [1136] was filled by a single deliberately dumped deposit of mid brownish orange clay, 1114, and appears to represent a partial and localised re-cutting or redefining of the southern trackway ditch.
- 6.12 At the western end of the site, a compacted layer of poorly sorted stones, 1080, varying in size between 490mm x 350mm x 250mm and 40mm x 30mm x 30mm was exposed (Plate 4). This layer abutted the inside edge of the northern trackway ditch, demonstrating that they were likely to be contemporary. Layer 1080 had no physical relationship with the trackway ditch located to the south.



*Plate 4: Stone layer 1080, looking northwest, scales 1m and 2m*

- 6.13 This layer of stones appears to have been placed directly on top of, or set into, the underlying geological layer, 1003, with a deposit of redeposited natural, 1078, surrounding the stones. This appears to be a deliberate dump of stones used to form a crude surface within a waterlogged area of the trackway where the ground had been heavily disturbed. Deposit 1078, is likely to be the disturbed, boggy natural soils that have been forced up and around the stones when they were pushed into the ground (Plate 5).



*Plate 5: East-facing section of layers 1077, 1078, 1079 and 1080, scale 2m*

- 6.14 Overlying both layers 1078 and 1080 was a 0.35m thick deposit of mid orange silty sand, 1077, that contained 12 sherds of later middle to late Iron Age pottery fragments. This naturally accumulated deposit also sealed the southern trackway ditch (feature 1151), which suggests that it was accrued after this portion of the ditch had gone out of use or had perhaps been repositioned further to the south, beyond the limit of excavation (Plate 6). Stratigraphically



above 1077 was a further naturally accumulated deposit of mid grey silty sand, 1079. This overlying layer measured 0.21m thick and was also middle to late Iron Age in date. Deposit 1077 also appears to have been truncated by a 0.30m wide by 0.14m deep undated drainage gully, close to the southern extent of the site (Plate 6). Soil samples from 1077 and 1079 both only contained sparse charcoal fragments.



*Plate 6: East-facing section of layers 1077, 1078, 1079, 1080 and ditches [1071] and [1075], scales 0.5m and 2m*

- 6.15 Cutting both layer 1077 and the deposits within northern trackway ditches [1149] and [1150] was recut [1148] (Plate 7). It measured 1.20m to 1.30m wide by 0.20m deep and was filled by both naturally accumulated and deliberately dumped deposits. Twenty-one fragments of pottery recovered from these deposits dated to the middle to late Iron Age.



*Plate 7: East-facing section of layers 1077, 1078, 1080, features 1148, 1149 and 1150, scales 0.3m and 2m*

### Other features

- 6.16 In the northwest corner of the site two linear features and two small pits were exposed, all dating to the Middle to Late Iron Age period. Ditch [1154] was aligned north-northeast to south-southwest and extended 12m from the northern site boundary (Plate 8). The ditch measured 0.24m to 0.55m wide by 0.20m deep and produced a total of 348 pottery sherds. The volume of finds from this feature may suggest settlement activity in the immediate vicinity of this area of the site. A single sherd of imported wine amphora dating between 120-10BC was also recovered. A soil sample from the ditch was extremely limited in composition, producing only small quantities of charcoal.



*Plate 8: South-southwest-facing section of feature [1154] cut by pit [1029], scale 1m*

- 6.17 Ditch [1154] was cut by a small circular pit, [1029], with a diameter of 0.30m and 0.20m in depth (Plate 8), and also producing a small group of middle to late Iron Age pottery.
- 6.18 Approximately 1.20m to the southwest of the terminus of feature [1154], was a small oval pit, [1019] measuring 0.94m long, 0.78m wide and 0.14m deep. This feature had been truncated with only the naturally accumulated basal fill, 1018, surviving. A single sherd of Middle to late Iron Age pottery was recovered.
- 6.19 East of ditch [1154] was a narrow northeast to southwest oriented gully, [1155]. This measured 5m long by 0.14m wide and 0.08 to 0.10m deep. The form of this feature is typical of a beam slot, however there were no corresponding gullies exposed forming the other sides of a putative structure and a definitive function remains unknown. A single small sherd of Iron Age pottery was recovered.
- 6.20 Directly to the south of the trackway was a north to south aligned linear feature, 1152. Roughly 5.30m of this ditch was exposed within the excavation area and the northern terminal had been truncated by southern trackway ditch [1151]. The feature measured 0.36m to 0.46m wide by 0.28m deep and was filled by a naturally accumulated deposit of mid brownish yellow silty clay.

Five pottery fragments, dating to the middle to late Iron Age were recovered from the fill of this ditch.

- 6.21 Directly to the west of feature [1152] was a single 0.20m wide by 0.36m deep stakehole, [1117]. Truncating stakehole [1117] and cutting linear feature [1152] was sub-circular pit [1098], measuring 0.46m in diameter and 0.26m deep. This later pit represents continued use of the area during the middle to late Iron Age after the ditch and stakehole were no longer in use.

### ***Phase 2: Late Iron Age to Early Roman***

- 6.22 Located towards the eastern end of the excavation area was a ditch [1095] and two shallow gullies, [1097] and [1153]. The dateable material recovered from these three linear features reveals that they were constructed during the later Iron Age to early Roman periods. With the majority of the site being dominated by middle to late Iron Age archaeological remains, it appears that settlement of the area has continued into the early Roman period. These later ditches do not respect the alignment of the trackway, possibly indicating a redefinition of space towards the east during this phase of occupation.
- 6.23 Very little of the length of these three features, approximately 6m, was exposed and their full extent remains unknown.
- 6.24 Gully [1097] ran on a north-northeast to south-southwest alignment, measuring 0.46m wide by 0.09m deep (Plate 9). It contained a naturally accumulated deposit, 1096, from which three sherds of late Iron Age to early Roman pottery were recovered.



*Plate 9: South-facing section of ditches [1090], [1095] and gully [1097], scales 0.50m and 1m*

- 6.25 The eastern edge of gully [1097] was truncated by north-northwest to south-southeast aligned ditch [1095]. This ditch measured 1.28m wide by 0.39m deep and was filled by a mixture of both naturally accumulated and deliberately dumped deposits (Plate 9). Basal deposit 1094 appears to have been purposefully tipped into ditch [1095] from its eastern edge and deposit 1092, located within the upper portion of the feature, produced 25 sherds of pottery of later Middle



Iron Age to early Roman pottery, including a number of residual middle Iron Age fragments. A soil sample from this deposit contained small quantities of charcoal.

- 6.26 Approximately 1.50m to the west of ditch [1095] and gully [1097] was north-northeast to south-southwest aligned feature [1153], a shallow gully measuring 0.32m to 0.50m wide by 0.06m to 0.12m deep (Plate 10). It was filled by a series of naturally accumulated fills that contained two small fragments of late Iron Age to early Roman pottery.



*Plate 10: North-northeast-facing section of feature [1153], scales 0.10m and 0.30m*

### ***Phase 3: Early Roman***

- 6.27 In the eastern part of the site, a short length of ditch, [1090] was exposed. This ditch was oriented north to south and appears to have been a re-cut of ditch [1095], representing a redefining of the boundaries during the early Roman period (Plate 9). Approximately 2.50m of this features' length was exposed, measuring 0.62m wide by 0.42m deep. Ditch [1090] was filled by a single deliberately dumped deposit of light grey silty clay, 1089 contained 30 sherds of early Roman pottery. During the evaluation trenching, a sondage was excavated approximately 1.50m to the north of the sondage that was dug during the current scheme of works. Ditch [1090] was not found during the evaluation trenching suggesting it terminated somewhere between the two separately excavated sondages. A soil sample from [1090] contained sparse charcoal.

### ***Undated Archaeological Remains***

- 6.28 Eighteen undated features were also excavated during the site works.
- 6.29 A number of pits or postholes were recorded; [1008], [1102], [1137], [1139], ranging from 0.22m to 0.40m in diameter and 0.05m to 0.20m deep. There were also fourteen, very shallow, pit-like features, which were filled by naturally accumulated material. These deposits were all fairly consistent in composition and appear to have accumulated in waterlogged conditions (Plate 11). It is likely that these pit-like features are in fact natural in origin, characteristic of undulations in the geology that have become silted over time.



*Plate 11: East-northeast-facing section of pit-like feature [1032] cut by a modern drain, scales 0.10m and 1m*

## **7.0 Discussion**

- 7.1 The excavations revealed a sequence of pits and small number of stakeholes, as well as boundary/drainage ditches, which had been recut on several occasions indicating prolonged use of the site ranging in date between the middle Iron Age to early Roman periods.
- 7.2 The site was dominated by a substantial middle to late Iron Age trackway. The trackway was defined on either side by two parallel ditches, each of which had been recut on at least one occasion, reflecting the ongoing maintenance of the trackway as it silted up over time. There was some suggestion of the features becoming wider and deeper towards the east part of the site channelling water into the lower lying land towards the east and northeast.
- 7.3 Within the western area of the site, a compact dump of stones had been set into the underlying geological layer. These stones appear to have been used to form a crude surface within a potentially waterlogged area of the trackway. This appears to be a localised repair, rather than evidence to suggest widespread metalling of the track.
- 7.4 To the north of the trackway, there was a small cluster of discrete features, also dating to the middle to late Iron Age. The density of pottery sherds recovered from features in this area of the site suggest that they are in close proximity to a nearby settlement, perhaps extending towards the north and northwest, beyond the limit of excavation. Furthermore, the sherd of wine amphora found within one of these features demonstrates the use of high-status imported goods.
- 7.5 Located to the south of the trackway was a narrow drainage ditch, pit and stakehole that again dated to the middle to late Iron Age period. The relatively low concentration of finds from the features, compared to the 354 pottery sherds that were recovered from the features towards the north of the trackway, again indicates the likely focus of settlement.



- 7.6 Four linear features, dating between the late Iron Age and early Roman periods were exposed at the east edge of the site, on a slightly different alignment to the existing trackway ditches. The later date may be indicative of a redefinition of boundaries during the Roman transitional period with a middle to later Iron Age settlement replaced by a separate enclosure to the east, or it may merely represent a redefinition of existing boundaries.
- 7.7 A single sherd of imported wine amphora dating between 120-10BC, recovered from feature 1154 reflects the adoption of new continental styles of dining and drinking and has revealed that a trade or exchange network was already in place between this site and the European continent during the Late Iron Age period. Significant changes in settlement practices within the southeast of Britain have been detected within the late Iron Age archaeological record due to a change in political and economic opportunities offered by the exchange network of the Roman Empire (Cunliffe 2005).
- 7.8 The lack of clearly defined structural remains at this site suggests that the excavations are located on the periphery of a settlement. The environmental samples were very limited in composition, but revealed a diverse wood charcoal assemblage along with a range of taxa commonly associated with scrub, underwood and woodland clearings (Simmons, Appendix 3). This assemblage has been interpreted as being a result of the use of offcuts from wood collected for structural purposes and therefore, structural remains are very likely to be located nearby. The exact location, nature and size of this settlement remains unknown however.
- 7.9 Settlement patterns within the Sussex region vary throughout the Iron Age. Although southern Britain has been referred to as the 'hillfort dominated zone' during the middle Iron Age period (Cunliffe 2005), the site is positioned within low lying land that has no tactical significance. Enclosed farmsteads, linked by trackways are a common feature of the Iron Age in Sussex however (Hamilton 2007) and the archaeological features exposed during the excavations are likely to be related to this form of smaller scale rural settlement.
- 7.10 Many thousands of known Iron Age settlements span the British mainland with the south and southeast existing as a densely settled region. Sussex has been described as part of a 'core zone' of south-east Britain (Hamilton 2007), particularly during the later Iron Age. However, within the area of the South Downs, directly surrounding Petworth, there are almost no known prehistoric remains. Consequently, this is a site of high local and regional significance, expanding the known extent of Iron Age settlement.
- 7.11 Based on the lack of archaeological material it has been assumed that this area of the South Downs remained largely unsettled, with settlement concentrated on the Sussex coastal plains (Hamilton 2007). It has been suggested that due to the geological variation within the area, chalk and river gravels were favoured for Iron Age agricultural techniques, which has resulted in a higher settlement density compared to the less hospitable wooded clay lands (Cunliffe 2005). However, this newly excavated site proves that this generalisation is not always the case. The wooded areas of the Sussex South Downs present bigger challenges for archaeological prospection as rural archaeological settlements are hard to identify without visible earthworks or rigorous aerial photography and laser scanning (Bennet and Thorne 2015). These challenges may have distorted the interpretation of settlement distribution during the Iron Age. The wooded South Downs have witnessed less modern development than the coastal areas and as such correspondingly less archaeological investigation has taken place. The lack of development also offers the potential of higher preservation levels. Based on the findings of this excavation at Petworth, it is likely that additional Iron Age, and potentially earlier prehistoric settlement evidence is present within the surrounding area.

## 8.0 Conclusions

- 8.1 The trackway and surrounding discreet features are indicative of a smaller scale, rural, middle to late Iron Age settlement that witnessed a potential redefinition of land use during the late Iron Age and early Roman periods. A low level of cereal cultivation remains and a lack of extensive pottery assemblage from the majority of the site indicates that the excavations were located some distance away from any concentrated domestic activity. Similarly, the early Roman features do not reveal a substantial amount of activity at the site.
- 8.2 However, the presence of Iron Age and Roman archaeology is still of high local and regional significance. The excavations at this site, alongside the occurrence of highly localised Iron Age pottery wares have broadened both our knowledge and the physical boundaries of later prehistoric and early Roman activity within this area of the South Downs.

## 9.0 Effectiveness of Methodology

- 9.1 The excavation methodology was appropriate in mitigating the impacts of the proposed development on archaeological remains revealed during initial trial trench investigation of the site.

## 10.0 Acknowledgements

- 10.1 Allen Archaeology Limited would like to thank Towerview Property Group Limited for this commission and for providing plant and welfare during the excavation. Thanks also go to James Kenny, the Archaeological Officer at Chichester District Council for his helpful advice throughout the works.

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## **Appendix 1: Prehistoric and Roman Pottery**

*By A Doherty*

### **Introduction**

A moderate-sized assemblage of prehistoric and Roman pottery was recovered during evaluation and excavation at the site, comprising 596 sherds, weighing 5.45kg, and from an estimated 203 vessels. The majority of the assemblage belongs to the transitional middle/late Iron Age period (c.2<sup>nd</sup>-1<sup>st</sup> century BC). A small assemblage of earlier Roman pottery was also recovered in a few individual features.

### **Methodology**

The pottery was examined using a x20 binocular microscope and quantified by sherd count, weight, estimated vessel number (ENV) and estimated vessel equivalent (EVE) on *pro forma* records and in an Excel spreadsheet. Prehistoric fabrics were recorded according to site-specific fabric definitions in accordance with the guidelines of the Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group (PCRG 2010). In the absence of a fully published Roman type-series for Sussex, the Roman pottery was recorded using an adapted version of the Southwark/London typology (Marsh and Tyers 1978) to be published in a forthcoming volume on the archaeology of the West Sussex coastal plain (Doherty *in prep a*). In addition, one amphora fabric code has been taken from the National Roman Fabric Reference Collection (Tomber and Dore 1998).

### **Site-specific fabric definitions**

FLGL1 Sparse to moderate flint of 0.5-2mm with sparse/moderate glauconite of 0.2-0.3mm and sparse quartz of 0.5-0.8mm

FLGR1 Sparse flint of 1-2mm; occurs with sparse rounded grog of 1-2mm

FLIN1 Sparse flint of 1-2mm in a non-sandy matrix with sparse black argillaceous inclusions of 1-2mm

FLIN2 Common flint of 0.5-2mm in a non-sandy matrix

FLQU1 Sparse well-sorted flint of 0.5-1.5mm with moderate quartz of 0.5-0.8mm

GROG1 Moderate to common rounded grog of 1-2mm in a non-sandy matrix

QUAR1 Common coarse quartz of 0.5-0.8mm; very rare flint of up to 1mm may occur

ROCK1 Sparse to moderate, well-sorted, sub-rounded inclusions of white quartz-rich rock (possibly sandstone), ranging from 0.5-2mm; occurs with sparse/moderate quartz of 0.5-0.8mm

ROCK2 Common, moderately- to ill-sorted, sub-rounded inclusions of white quartz-rich rock (possibly sandstone), ranging from 0.5-3mm; occurs with sparse/moderate quartz of 0.5-0.8mm

ROCK3 Sparse, well-sorted, sub-rounded inclusions of white quartz-rich rock (possibly sandstone), ranging from 0.5-2mm; occurs with common quartz of 0.2-0.5mm

ROCK4 Rare/sparse well-sorted, sub-rounded inclusions of white quartz-rich rock (possibly sandstone) of <1mm; occurs with sparse/moderate quartz of 0.5-0.8mm and rare/sparse argillaceous iron-rich inclusions of up to 2mm

ROCK5 Moderate leached argillaceous sedimentary rock inclusions of 0.5-1mm in a non-sandy matrix

## Middle/late Iron Age fabrics

The prehistoric assemblage is dominated by a group of distinctive rock-tempered fabrics (ROCK1-4) containing inclusions of an unidentified white sedimentary quartz-rich rock. As shown in Table 1, these wares account for over two-thirds of the pottery. Very occasional examples of similar fabrics have been noted in middle Iron Age assemblages from slightly further to the north, at Billingshurst and Broadbridge Heath (ASE 2015; Doherty *in prep b*). The fact that this inclusion-type appears much more common at Petworth suggests that it may be of very local origin, possibly representing a sandstone of the Easebourne Member. The most common example of this fabric grouping (fabric ROCK2) contains common and relatively coarse rock inclusions, whilst another very common variant has slightly finer and less common inclusions (ROCK1). Much sparser inclusions of similar type were also noted in fabrics containing common quartz (ROCK3) and argillaceous inclusions (ROCK4) in two other minor fabric variants.

Fabric	Fabric description	Sherds	Weight (g)	ENV
FLGL1	See site specific fabric definition	1	8	1
FLGR1	See site specific fabric definition	6	105	4
FLIN1	See site specific fabric definition	40	125	6
FLIN2	See site specific fabric definition	5	31	5
FLQU1	See site specific fabric definition	8	82	5
ITA AM1	Tomber & Dore (1998) Italian amphora 1	1	37	1
QUAR1	See site specific fabric definition	99	774	18
ROCK1	See site specific fabric definition	110	850	71
ROCK2	See site specific fabric definition	206	2805	54
ROCK3	See site specific fabric definition	29	199	15
ROCK4	See site specific fabric definition	55	333	8
ROCK5	See site specific fabric definition	2	7	1
AVGW	Arun Valley grey ware	22	40	6
AVOX	Arun Valley oxidised ware	2	5	1
GROG1	See site specific fabric definition	5	14	3
RWCG	Rowlands Castle grey ware	1	15	1
RWCGE	Rowlands Castle grey ware (early fabric variants)	4	24	3
<b>Total</b>		<b>596</b>	<b>5454</b>	<b>203</b>

Table 1: Quantification of prehistoric and Roman pottery fabrics

A number of other fabric types were commonly found stratified with the rock-tempered wares. The most common are hand-made quartz-rich fabrics (QUAR1), followed by relatively fine flint-tempered wares (FLIN1, FLIN2, FLQU1), including one sherd in a glauconitic variant (FLGL1). Two conjoining sherds are associated with a fabric (ROCK5), containing a different type of leached argillaceous sedimentary rock, which is typical of middle/late Iron Wealden assemblages, like that from Broadbridge Heath (Doherty *in prep b*).

These probable middle/late Iron Age groups also contained very occasional examples of other fabric types which reflect growing contact with the Gallo-Roman world. The most distinctive of these is a bodysherd of an amphora fabric (ITA AM1), originating in central/southern Italy, in the regions of Campania, Latium and Etruria, and found in the largest pottery group from fill 1028 of ditch [1026]. A related group of Italian amphora fabrics are identified with the pre-Conquest wine amphora, Dressel 1 and this specific variant is generally associated with the earlier form variant Dressel 1A, dated to c.120-50BC.

In addition, two features containing material of middle/late Iron Age type also contained one or two examples of grog-tempered fabrics. These include fill 1070 of ditch [1069], which produced sherds with flint-temper alongside grog inclusions (FLGR1). Evaluation context 621, fill of ditch [619], also contained a fabric with more common grog (GROG1) in a group which otherwise appeared to be of

middle/late Iron Age character. Grog-tempered wares are generally seen as being associated with the arrival of the Aylesford-Swarling burial tradition, which had appeared locally, at Westhampnett, from around 90BC (Fitzpatrick 1997); however, there is growing evidence that this tempering tradition could have appeared slightly earlier in some parts of southern Britain (e.g. Morris 2006, 67-72).

### **Middle/late Iron Age forms and decoration**

As shown in Table 2, a fairly narrow range of forms are represented in the assemblage. These are characterised by handmade jars with well-defined shoulders and bead rims, short everted rims or sinuous necked profiles. A single example of a plain profile jar was recorded; however, because very little of the rim circumference is present, it is difficult to determine its orientation so it is uncertain whether it is of open, neutral or closed profile. Several pedestal bases were also noted and these are also quite typical of transitional middle/late Iron Age assemblages. Given that some grog-tempering is present in the assemblage, it is worth noting that there are no clear-cut examples of 'Belgic' style forms or decoration; however, one partial base fragment in a rock-tempered fabric, found in layer 1077, has a more pronounced pedestal than the others, with a dished foot which is possibly reminiscent of some early Aylesford-Swarling urns (cf Thompson 1982, form A4).

<b>Form</b>	<b>ENV</b>	<b>%ENV</b>	<b>EVE</b>	<b>%EVE</b>
Jar: plain profile	1	7.1	-	-
Jar: bead rim	4	28.6	0.18	26.9
Jar: short everted rim	3	21.4	0.08	11.9
Jar: necked	6	42.9	0.41	61.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>0.67</b>	<b>100.0</b>

*Table 2: Quantification of middle/late Iron Age pottery forms by Estimated Vessel Number (ENV) and Estimated Vessel Equivalent (EVE)*

The prehistoric assemblage is almost entirely undecorated though a single sherd from fill 1058 of ditch [1055] features applied/rusticated decoration, creating surfaces which stand out in strong relief. No direct parallel can be found for this style of decoration in the region but other diagnostic elements in this group suggest that it is of middle to late Iron Age date.

### **Late Iron Age/Roman fabrics and forms**

Only a small quantity of unambiguous Roman pottery was recorded, amounting to 29 sherds, weighing 84g. This material is entirely made up by coarse wares of the Arun Valley and Rowlands Castle industries. The only feature sherds are: a necked jar in Rowlands Castle grey ware and the fragmented base of a beaker in Arun Valley grey ware. Only one small group, from fill 212 of ditch [210] is entirely made up by Roman fabrics. Although this cannot be very closely dated, it is likely to belong broadly to the earlier Roman period (c.AD50-120). Another feature, fill 1089 of ditch [1090], contained some Roman grey wares but almost as many examples of Iron Age-style tempered wares, it is uncertain whether this represents a very early Roman group, in which some pre-Conquest fabric types had survived, or just a Roman group containing residual material of much earlier date. Certainly, two fabric types which were noted in some of the middle/late Iron Age groups, described above, may well have continued in use in the 1<sup>st</sup> century AD. For example, a sherd in grog-tempered fabric, GROG1, was noted with Roman material in fill 1089 of ditch [1090] and other grog-tempered wares occurred without any accompanying material in fill 1096 of gully [1097] and fill 1108 of gully [1109]. In addition, some hand-made sandy wares (QUAR1) from context 1092, fill of ditch [1095], are not dissimilar to fabrics in other middle/late Iron Age contexts but appear somewhat better-fired and could potentially represent very early Roman sandy wares.

## Discussion

### *Overview of the dating evidence*

The distinctive rock-tempered fabrics which make up the majority of the assemblage may have been relatively long-lived. Some evidence from other local sites suggests that they probably occurred from at least the beginning of the middle Iron Age. For example, at Billingshurst, pottery with similar inclusion types was associated with a radiocarbon date of 395-210 cal BC on charcoal from an *in situ* burnt layer (ASE 2015; Beta-378797).

Although it is possible that some of the less diagnostic context groups from the current assemblage are similarly early, the range of forms, with well-defined shoulders and bead rim, everted or necked profiles – and sometimes with slight pedestal bases– are quite typical of the period at the end of the middle Iron Age and the beginning of the late Iron Age: that is, broadly the 2<sup>nd</sup>-1<sup>st</sup> century BC. The occasional presence of grog-tempered sherds, and of a fragment of Dressel 1 amphora, would seem to confirm this broad chronology.

It is less clear whether there was continuous activity through the later part of the late Iron Age. We might expect to see groups with a larger proportion of grog-tempered wares if this was the case, though it is possible that some of the contexts containing very small numbers of bodysherds belong to the early or mid 1<sup>st</sup> century AD. More certain post-Conquest material was limited to just two contexts and, although this material is not particularly closely datable, it appears to belong to the earlier Roman period.

### *Assemblage size and deposition*

Although the middle/late Iron Age assemblage is only moderately large, it comes from a limited number of features within a relatively small excavation area so the c.500 sherds appear to represent a concentration of pottery which is probably indicative of settlement activity in the immediate vicinity. Overall the assemblage is in moderately good condition, though the average sherd weight of c. 9g suggests material which has been subject to some degree of reworking. The vast majority of it was recovered from ditch contexts, which typically produced small groups of c.1-30 sherds; however over half of the assemblage comes from a single ditch, [1026], part of feature 1152. This contained at least one vessel which was fragmented but probably more than half-complete, as well as fairly large numbers of sherds from several other individual vessels: evidence which suggests fairly direct discard of material which had been recently broken nearby.

### *Evidence for high-status consumption*

The occurrence of a sherd of Dressel 1 amphora is notable because consumption of wine in this period reflects the adoption of new continental styles of dining and drinking and also demonstrates some degree of access to high-status trade or exchange networks. Finds of Republican amphorae on the Sussex coastal plain are not uncommon – in fact, the large collection of Dressel 1 amphora from Chichester and Fishbourne is one of the indicators that a territorial *oppidum* was located in this area (Davenport 2003, 103). Pre-Conquest amphora have been found much less frequently on Downland sites; however, a fairly large assemblage of poorly stratified Dressel 1 amphora sherds have been collected in the landscaped grounds of Beedings Castle, near Nutbourne, suggesting that this might have been a hub for the importation and distribution of high-status goods transported inland via the River Arun (Doherty 2012, 81-82).

## Conclusion

Prehistoric pottery has not previously been recorded in the vicinity of Petworth (Harris 2010), so this moderate-sized assemblage contributes to our understanding of pottery chronology and assemblage

composition in the middle to late Iron Age. In particular, the very widespread occurrence of probable sandstone-tempered wares, which are not common on coastal or Wealden sites, demonstrates the highly localised nature of pottery production and consumption in this period, whilst a single sherd of amphora also suggests some limited access to high-status goods from further afield.

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Context	Sherds	Weight (g)	Spot-date	Comments
212	9	70	Earlier Roman (c.AD50-120)	Small pot group
406	10	77	later MIA/LIA (c.120-1BC)	Small pot group
607	2	18	?MIA/LIA (c.400-1BC)	Two undiagnostic bodysherds; in isolation could be anywhere in the MIA-earlier LIA - though presumably quite likely to be contemporary with other more diagnostic groups which belong later in this range
610	1	3	?MIA/LIA (c.400-1BC)	Single undiagnostic bodysherd; in isolation could be anywhere in the MIA-earlier LIA - though presumably quite likely to be contemporary with other more diagnostic groups which belong later in this range
618	1	4	?MIA/LIA (c.400-1BC)	Small group of undiagnostic bodysherds; in isolation could be anywhere in the MIA-earlier LIA - though presumably quite likely to be contemporary with other more diagnostic groups which belong later in this range
621	9	217	later MIA/LIA (c.120-1BC)	Small pot group
1018	1	9	?MIA/LIA (c.400-1BC)	Single undiagnostic bodysherd; in isolation could be anywhere in the MIA-earlier LIA - though presumably quite likely to be contemporary with other more diagnostic groups which belong later in this range
1023	1	1	?MIA/LIA (c.400-1BC)	Single tiny abraded scrap of pottery; in isolation could be anywhere in the MIA-earlier LIA - though presumably quite likely to be contemporary with other more diagnostic groups which belong later in this range
1025	3	32	?MIA/LIA (c.400-1BC)	Small group of undiagnostic bodysherds ; in isolation could be anywhere in the MIA-earlier LIA - though presumably quite likely to be contemporary with other more diagnostic groups which belong later in this range
1027	30	134	later MIA/LIA (c.200-1BC)	Small pot group with one diagnostic rim
1028	318	3339	later MIA/LIA (c.120-1BC)	Very large pot group; fragmented sherds from a relatively small number of individual vessels, including one is probably more than half complete. Generally the forms are quite typical of the transitional Middle/Late Iron Age and the group also includes a sherd of imported Republican Dressel 1 wine amphora dated c.120-10BC
1030	4	84	?MIA/LIA (c.400-1BC)	Small group of undiagnostic bodysherds; in isolation could be anywhere in the MIA-earlier LIA - though presumably quite likely to be contemporary with other more diagnostic groups which belong later in this range
1044	5	17	?MIA/LIA (c.400-1BC)	Small group of undiagnostic bodysherds; in isolation could be anywhere in the MIA-earlier LIA - though presumably quite likely to be contemporary with other more diagnostic groups which belong later in this range
1052	6	67	?MIA/LIA (c.400-1BC)	Small group of undiagnostic bodysherds; in isolation could be anywhere in the MIA-earlier LIA - though presumably quite likely to be contemporary with other more diagnostic groups which belong later in this range
1058	27	269	later MIA/LIA (C.200-1BC)	Small pot group with one diagnostic rim

Context	Sherds	Weight (g)	Spot-date	Comments
1064	7	23	later MIA/LIA (C.200-1BC)	Small pot group with one diagnostic rim
1066	3	15	?MIA/LIA (c.400-1BC)	Small group of undiagnostic bodysherds; in isolation could be anywhere in the MIA-earlier LIA - though presumably quite likely to be contemporary with other more diagnostic groups which belong later in this range
1068	3	18	Pottery ?MIA/LIA (c.400-1BC) - though one tiny piece of possible Roman CBM present	Small group of undiagnostic pottery bodysherds; in isolation could be anywhere in the MIA-earlier LIA - though presumably quite likely to be contemporary with other more diagnostic groups which belong later in this range - however this group also contained a tiny chip of well-fired oxidised ceramic which I think is probably CBM
1070	16	213	later MIA/LIA (c.120-1BC)	Small pot group with one diagnostic base and some examples of grog-tempering
1073	1	8	later MIA/LIA (C.200-1BC)	Single diagnostic rim
1074	1	5	?MIA/LIA (c.400-1BC)	Single undiagnostic bodysherd; in isolation could be anywhere in the MIA-earlier LIA - though presumably quite likely to be contemporary with other more diagnostic groups which belong later in this range
1077	12	189	later MIA/LIA (c.120-1BC)	Small pot group with one diagnostic base
1078	1	27	?MIA/LIA (c.400-1BC)	Single undiagnostic bodysherd; in isolation could be anywhere in the MIA-earlier LIA - though presumably quite likely to be contemporary with other more diagnostic groups which belong later in this range
1079	16	154	later MIA/LIA (C.200-1BC)	Small pot group with one diagnostic base
1081	15	69	later MIA/LIA (C.200-1BC)	Small pot group with one diagnostic rim; some sherds are possibly of the same vessel in 1083
1083	23	30	?MIA/LIA (c.400-1BC)	Undiagnostic bodysherds of a single vessel - sherds possibly of the same vessel occur in 1081
1089	30	46	Early Roman (AD50-100)	Small group containing some clearly post-conquest material but also quite a large proportion of similar prehistoric fabrics to those in other M/LIA groups
1092	25	263	Later MIA-Early Roman (200BC-AD100)	Small pot group - a few of the sherds are possibly early post-Conquest fabrics but they are quite low-fired so this is a bit uncertain
1096	3	5	Late Iron Age/early Roman (50BC-AD100)	Tiny bodysherds of one vessel
1106	1	1	?Later MIA-Early Roman (200BC-AD100)	Tiny chip of pottery - difficult to date with certainty
1108	1	1	?Later MIA-Early Roman (200BC-AD100)	Tiny chip of pottery - difficult to date with certainty
1127	5	13	?MIA/LIA (c.400-1BC)	Single undiagnostic bodysherd; in isolation could be anywhere in the MIA-earlier LIA - though presumably quite likely to be contemporary with other more diagnostic groups which belong later in this range

Context	Sherds	Weight (g)	Spot-date	Comments
1142	6	33	later MIA/LIA (C.200-1BC)	Small pot group with one diagnostic rim

*Table 3: Quantification of middle/late Iron Age pottery forms by Estimated Vessel Number (ENV) and Estimated Vessel Equivalent (EVE)*

## **Appendix 2: Fired Clay**

*By Paul Blinkhorn*

A single fragment of fired clay weighing 89g occurred in context 1092. It is somewhat abraded, but an area of a curved surface survives, suggesting it may be a fragment of the dome of an oven or similar. The fabric is fairly soft and low-fired, with few visible inclusions. It has a matrix of very fine angular quartz with rare fragments of iron-rich material, all less than 0.1mm. It appears likely to be Romano-British or older, but cannot be confidently dated due to its somewhat undistinctive nature.

## Appendix 3: Environmental Data

By Ellen Simmons

### Introduction

Ten bulk sieving soil samples, comprising a total of three hundred litres of soil, were taken during archaeological excavations on land near Petworth, West Sussex (PEHR16). Pottery from the site dates to the Middle Iron Age, Late Iron Age and Early Roman periods. The samples were processed by flotation for the recovery of charred plant remains and wood charcoal using a water separation machine. Floating material was collected in a 300µm mesh, and the remaining heavy residue retained in a 1mm mesh. The flots and heavy residues were air dried. Less than ten wood charcoal fragments greater than 2mm in size were present in the majority of the sampled contexts, although a moderately rich assemblage of forty charcoal fragments greater than 2mm in size was present in later middle Iron Age/early Roman ditch fill context 1092. A very low density of charred plant remains was present in later middle Iron Age/late Iron Age ditch fill 1064 and undated pit fill 1033. The charred plant remains were identified in full. The moderate assemblage of wood charcoal present in ditch fill context 1092 was identified in full, although it is possible that some taxa which had been utilised as fuel may not have been recorded, due to the relatively small sample size of this assemblage.

### Methods

The samples were fully sorted using a low power binocular reflected light microscope (x10–x 65). Identification of plant material and wood charcoal was carried out using modern reference material in the Department of Archaeology, University of Sheffield and various reference works (eg. Cappers *et al*, 2006; Schweingruber 1990; Hather 2000). Cereal identifications follow Jacomet (2006). Other plant nomenclature follows Stace (2010). The archaeobotanical composition of the samples is recorded in Table 4 and the wood charcoal identifications are summarised in Table 5. Quantification of crop material was based on the presence of embryo ends, glume bases, rachis nodes and the nodes of straw (Jones 1990, 92). The seed, in the broadest sense, of the plant is always referred to in Table 4 unless stated otherwise. The abbreviation *cf.* means ‘compares with’ and denotes that a specimen most closely resembles that particular taxa more than any other.

A minimum charcoal fragment size of 2mm was chosen for identification, as smaller fragments are difficult to fracture in all three planes and therefore difficult to identify. Wood charcoal fragments were fractured manually and the resultant anatomical features observed in transverse, radial and tangential planes using high power binocular reflected light (episcopic) microscopy (x 50, x 100 and x 400). Identification of each fragment was carried out to as high a taxonomic level as possible.

A record was also made, where possible, of the ring curvature of the wood and details of the ligneous structure, in order for the part of the woody plant which had been burnt and the state of wood before charring, to be determined (*cf.* Marguerie and Hunot 2007). Where at least three growth rings were present, the ring curvature of the charcoal fragments was designated as weak, intermediate or strong, indicating larger branches or trunk material, intermediate sized branches and smaller branches or twigs, based on the classification in Marguerie and Hunot (2007, 1421). The presence of narrow rings which may indicate slow grown wood or poor growing conditions was recorded (*ibid*, 1422). The presence of thick walled tyloses in vessel cavities, which indicate the presence of heartwood and therefore mature trunk wood, was recorded. The presence of fungal hyphae, which indicate the use of dead or rotting wood, was recorded (*ibid*, 1419). The presence of radial cracks, which may relate to the dampness of the wood prior to charring as well as to the anatomy of the wood was recorded (*ibid*, 1421).

Charred plant material and wood charcoal was stored in in gelatine capsules, or glass tubes with plastic stoppers, in sealable plastic bags.

## Preservation

Preservation of the charred plant remains that were present was relatively poor with seeds and cereal grain exhibiting puffing and distortion. Preservation of wood charcoal fragments was also somewhat poor. Fourteen out of the forty identified wood charcoal fragments were affected by mineralisation, whereby mineral deposits penetrate into the vessels of the wood charcoal fragments obscuring morphological characteristics.

## Results

Context number	1028	1033	1044	1052	1064	1070	1077	1079	1089	1092
Feature number	1026	1034	1043	1050	1055	1069	-	-	1090	1095
Flotation sample number	9	8	3	2	4	7	10	1	6	5
Feature type	ditch	pit	pit	ditch re-cut	ditch	ditch	levelled area	levelled area	ditch	ditch
Archaeological period	later MIA/LIA	-	?MIA/LIA	?MIA/LIA	later MIA/LIA	later MIA/LIA	later MIA/LIA	later MIA/LIA	Early Roman	later MIA/Early Roman
Sample volume (litres)	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
Flot volume (ml)	30	30	30	30	30	30	40	40	100	150
Cereals and other economic plants										
<i>Triticum nudum</i> (free threshing wheat) rachis node					1					
Wild / weed plant seeds										
<i>Rumex crispus</i> / <i>conglomeratus</i> / <i>obtusifolius</i> (curled / clustered / broad-leaved dock)					1					
<i>Silene dioica</i> (L.) Clairv. (red campion)		1								
Other charred plant material										
> 2mm vitrified charcoal		4	3	10		9	8	4	4	9

Context number	1028	1033	1044	1052	1064	1070	1077	1079	1089	1092
Feature number	1026	1034	1043	1050	1055	1069	-	-	1090	1095
Flotation sample number	9	8	3	2	4	7	10	1	6	5
Feature type	ditch	pit	pit	ditch re-cut	ditch	ditch	levelled area	levelled area	ditch	ditch
Archaeological period	later MIA/LIA	-	?MIA/LIA	?MIA/LIA	later MIA/LIA	later MIA/LIA	later MIA/LIA	later MIA/LIA	Early Roman	later MIA/Early Roman
> 4mm wood charcoal fragments								4		
> 2mm wood charcoal fragments	6		3	5	2	7	1	9	2	40

Table 4: Charred plant macrofossils

Context number	1092	
Sample number	1095	
Feature number	5	
Feature type	ditch	
Archaeological period	later MIA / Early Roman	
Number / weight of fragments	No.	weight (g)
Taxon (common name)		
<i>Prunus</i> cf. <i>spinosa</i> (blackthorn)	1	0.003
Pomoideae (hawthorn, apple, pear, rowan family)	3	0.011
<i>Quercus</i> sp. (oak)	9	0.040
<i>Betula</i> sp. (birch)	2	0.009
<i>Corylus avellana</i> L. (hazel)	14	0.057
<i>Populus</i> / <i>Salix</i> (poplar / willow)	5	0.016
<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> L. (ash)	2	0.004
Indeterminate	4	0.025
Total weight / number of fragments	50	6.9719

Table 5: Wood charcoal

A single poorly preserved rachis node of free threshing wheat (*Triticum nudum*) was present in later middle Iron Age/late Iron Age ditch fill context 1064. A seed of curled/clustered/broad-leaved dock (*Rumex crispus/conglomeratus/obtusifolius*) was also present in context 1064 and a seed of red campion (*Silene dioica*) was present in undated pit fill context 1033.

Taxa present in the wood charcoal assemblage from later middle Iron Age/early Roman ditch fill context 1092 included blackthorn (*Prunus* cf. *spinosa*), hawthorn, apple, pear, rowan family (Pomoideae), oak (*Quercus* sp.), birch (*Betula* sp.), hazel (*Corylus avellana*), poplar/willow (*Populus/Salix*) and ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*). Pomoideae, which cannot be differentiated using morphological characteristics, is a large sub-family of the Rosaceae (rose family) containing many species, although the native woody plant species most likely represented would be wild pear (*Pyrus communis*), crab apple (*Malus sylvestris*), service tree (*Sorbus domestica*), rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*), common whitebeam (*Sorbus aria*), hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) or Midland hawthorn (*Crataegus laevigata*). Oak charcoal cannot be identified to species using morphological characteristics so either

sessile oak (*Quercus petraea*) or pendunculate oak (*Quercus robur*) is represented. Poplar/willow (*Populus/Salix*) charcoal also cannot be differentiated using morphological characteristics.

Growth ring curvatures were observable on one of the charcoal fragments which exhibited strong ring curvature. Closely spaced annual growth rings were not present on any of the charcoal fragments. Tyloses and fungal hyphae were not observed in the vessel cavities of any of the charcoal fragments. Radial cracks were present on one of the charcoal fragments.

## Discussion

The low density of charred plant macrofossils present in the sampled contexts may be due to poor conditions for preservation but may also indicate that cereal processing was not carried out to any great extent at the site. It is also possible, however, that crop processing bi-products were used for other purposes such as fodder and temper rather than being burnt. The only evidence for cereal cultivation was a single rachis node of free threshing wheat (*Triticum nudum*) which was present in later middle Iron Age/late Iron Age ditch fill context 1064. Free threshing wheat is more typically a crop of the Saxon and Medieval periods, although free threshing bread wheat has been shown to have been cultivated as a principle crop in the Late Iron Age at Barton Court Farm in Oxfordshire (Miles 1986). The wild or weed plant seeds may have been harvested as weeds along with the crops and discarded following crop processing. Other sources of wild or weed plant seeds also include fodder, inder, roofing material and flooring material. Curled/clustered/broad-leaved dock (*Rumex crispus/conglomeratus/obtusifolius*) is commonly associated with waste and disturbed ground including arable fields. Red campion (*Silene dioica*) is commonly associated with lightly shaded habitats such as hedgerows and woodland clearings.

Charcoal assemblage composition is likely to be influenced by a number of factors, including differences in availability and anthropogenic fuel wood selection strategies, as well as to taphonomic factors such as differential charcoal preservation and recovery (Asouti and Austin 2005, 8; Théry-Parisot *et al.* 2010). It is therefore unlikely that the composition of the wood charcoal assemblage is directly representative of the nature and extent of woodland and scrub in the local environment. However, the taxa present indicate that open woodland, woodland clearings, woodland margins and scrub habitats are all likely to have been locally available and utilised for the collection of fuel wood.

Oak is one of the most common mixed deciduous woodland trees but can also be present as a component of hedgerows (Rackham 2003, 283). Birch is primarily a woodland or secondary woodland tree (Rackham 2003, 312). Ash is one of the most common woodland understory trees in modern mixed deciduous woodland, along with hazel, but both can also grow as a component of hedgerows and scrub (Rackham 2003, 203). Hawthorn, wild apple, wild pear and members of the rowan family which are represented by Pomoideae, as well as blackthorn, are all hedgerow and scrub taxa as well as being frequently occurring underwood taxa in deciduous woodland (Rackham 2003, 349-358). Hawthorn is also the principle component of *Crataegus-Hedera* scrub (W21), which is the dominant sub-climax woody vegetation community on circumneutral and base rich soils in lowland England (Rodwell 1991, 334).

Oak is an excellent fuel wood, burning hot and slowly. Hawthorn/apple/pear/rowan family taxa, blackthorn and particularly hazel are also good fuel woods, producing good heat and a long lasting fire. Birch produces a good heat but burns fast. Ash is a particularly useful fuel wood, as it does not require seasoning in order to burn well. Poplar/willow are however, not good fuel woods unless previously converted to charcoal (Webster 1919, 44; Porter 1990, 93). It is also likely that at least some of the taxa present in the charcoal assemblage is representative of offcuts from the use of wood for structural purposes. Oak and ash provide excellent structural timbers and hazel has many uses, such as for fencing and roofing (Rackham 2003).



Evidence of fungal hyphae was absent in the wood charcoal assemblage, indicating the use of primarily freshly collected wood which had been well seasoned and not allowed to decay while in storage or not collected as dead wood. Radial cracks were not present with a frequency that would indicate the use of a significant proportion of wet or damp wood.

## Summary

The only evidence for cereal cultivation in the sampled contexts was a single rachis node of free threshing wheat. The low density of charred crop material may indicate that crop processing was not carried out to any great extent at the site, although this may also be due to poor preservation or the use of crop processing bi-products for purposes other than burning. The relatively diverse wood charcoal assemblage included woodland trees such as oak and ash along with a range of taxa commonly associated with scrub, underwood and woodland clearings such as hazel, birch, Pomoideae and blackthorn. It is likely that the presence of taxa in the wood charcoal assemblage is partly related to availability but also to burning properties and the use of offcuts from wood collected for structural purposes.

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#### Appendix 4: Context Summary List

Context	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Thickness/ depth (m)	Interpretation
1000	Layer	Friable, dark brownish grey sandy silt with moderate roots, occasional small to medium sub-angular to sub-rounded stones and occasional small CBM fragments	-	-	0.24	Topsoil
1001	Layer	Friable, light greyish brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks, occasional roots and very occasional small to medium sub-rounded to sub-angular stones	-	-	0.50	Subsoil
1002	Layer	Compact, light greyish brown gravelly silt with moderate manganese flecks	-	-	0.50	Colluvium
1003	Layer	Firm, mid yellowish orange clay with light greyish blue lenses and occasional patches of ironstone and manganese	-	-	0.10 excavated	Natural geology
1004	Cut	Linear shape in plan, N-S oriented with very shallow concave sides and flat base	2.50	0.50	0.10	Cut of gully [1004]
1005	Fill	Friable, light greyish yellow clayey silt with moderate small sub-angular manganese fragments	-	-	0.04	Gradual silting within gully [1004]
1006	Fill	Firm, very light grey clayey silt with occasional manganese flecks	-	-	0.03	Gradual silting within gully [1004]
1007	Fill	Friable, light yellowish grey silty clay with frequent small sub-angular manganese fragments and moderate charcoal flecks	-	-	0.10	Gradual silting within gully [1004]
1008	Cut	Circular shape in plan, with moderately steep stepped sides and concave base	0.50	0.40	0.20	Cut of pit [1008]
1009	Fill	Friable, mid greyish yellow silty clay with frequent small manganese fragments	-	-	0.20	Gradual silting within pit [1008]
1010	Fill	Soft, very light greyish brown silty clay with very occasional small sub-rounded stones and moderate small manganese fragments	-	-	0.18	Natural accumulation within pit [1011]
1011	Cut	Oval shape in plan, NW-SE oriented with moderately shallow concave sides and concave base	0.99	0.75	0.18	Cut of pit [1011]
1012	Fill	Soft, very light yellowish brown silty clay with very occasional small sub-angular stones and frequent small manganese fragments	-	-	0.16	Natural accumulation within pit [1013]

Context	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Thickness/ depth (m)	Interpretation
1013	Cut	Oval shape in plan, NE-SW oriented with shallow concave sides and slightly concave base	1.65	0.90	0.16	Cut of pit [1013]
1014	Cut	Linear shape in plan, NE-SW oriented with shallow concave sides and concave base	5.00	0.20	0.10	Cut of gully terminal [1014]
1015	Fill	Firm, mid orange brown silty clay with moderate manganese flecks and fragments, moderate iron pan and moderate charcoal and CBM flecks	-	-	0.10	Natural accumulation gully terminal [1014]
1016	Cut	Linear shape in plan, N-S oriented with moderately shallow concave sides and concave base	-	0.24	0.06	Cut of ditch terminal [1016]
1017	Fill	Friable, mid brownish orange clay with occasional small sub-rounded stones	-	-	0.06	Natural accumulation within ditch terminal [1016]
1018	Fill	Friable, very light greyish brown silty clay with very occasional small sub-angular stones, occasional charcoal flecks and fragments, occasional CBM flecks and occasional manganese flecks	-	-	0.14	Natural accumulation within pit [1019]
1019	Cut	Oval shape in plan, NE-SW oriented with moderately shallow concave sides and concave base	0.94	0.78	0.14	Cut of pit [1019]
1020	Cut	Linear shape in plan, NE-SW oriented with shallow concave sides and slightly concave base	5.00	0.14	0.10	Cut of gully terminal [1020]
1021	Fill	Firm, mid orange brown silty clay with moderate manganese flecks, moderate iron pan, moderate charcoal flecks and occasional CBM flecks	-	-	0.10	Natural accumulation within gully terminal [1020]
1022	Cut	Linear shape in plan, NE-SW oriented with moderately steep concave sides and concave base	5.00	0.26	0.08	Cut of gully [1022]
1023	Fill	Firm, mid orange brown silty clay with frequent manganese flecks, frequent iron pan, moderate charcoal flecks and occasional CBM flecks	-	-	0.08	Natural accumulation within gully [1022]
1024	Fill	Compact, light greyish orange sandy clay with very light grey silty clay patches, very occasional charcoal flecks, occasional small to large sub-rounded stones and occasional manganese flecks	-	-	0.12	Natural accumulation within pit [1025]
1025	Cut	Sub-oval shape in plan, N-S oriented with shallow concave sides and concave base	1.88	1.10	0.12	Cut of pit [1025]

Context	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Thickness/ depth (m)	Interpretation
1026	Cut	Linear shape in plan, N-S oriented with moderately steep concave sides and concave base	-	0.55	0.16	Cut of ditch [1026]
1027	Fill	Friable, mid brownish orange clay with occasional small to medium sub-rounded stones	-	-	0.10	Deliberate deposition within ditch [1026]
1028	Fill	Friable, dark brownish orange clay with occasional small to medium sub-rounded stones	-	-	0.05	Deliberate deposition within ditch [1026]
1029	Cut	Circular shape in plan, with steep slightly concave sides and concave base	-	0.30	0.20	Cut of pit [1029]
1030	Fill	Friable, mid brownish orange clay with occasional small sub-rounded stones	-	-	0.20	Deliberate deposition within pit [1029]
1031	Fill	Compact, very light greyish brown sandy clay with light orange and very light grey clay lenses, occasional small to medium sub-rounded stones, very occasional charcoal flecks and moderate manganese flecks	-	-	0.16	Natural accumulation within pit [1032]
1032	Cut	Circular shape in plan, with shallow concave sides and a concave base	1.80	1.80	0.16	Cut of pit [1032]
1033	Fill	Soft, light brownish grey silty clay with frequent manganese fragments, very occasional charcoal fragments and occasional small sub-rounded stones,	-	-	0.19	Natural accumulation within pit [1034]
1034	Cut	Oval shape in plan, NE-SW oriented with moderately shallow concave sides and concave base	1.50	1.00	0.19	Cut of pit [1034]
1035	Fill	Soft, very light greyish brown silty clay with very occasional small stones, very occasional charcoal flecks and moderate manganese fragments	-	-	0.12	Natural accumulation within pit [1036]
1036	Cut	Circular shape in plan, with shallow concave sides and concave base	1.25	1.25	0.12	Cut of pit [1036]
1037	Fill	Soft, very light yellowish grey silty clay with very occasional charcoal, occasional manganese flecks and very occasional small angular stones	-	-	0.14	Natural accumulation within pit [1038]
1038	Cut	Oval shape in plan, NW-SE oriented with moderately steep concave sides and concave base	1.50	1.10	0.14	Cut of pit [1038]
1039	Fill	Soft, light grey silty clay with occasional small sub-rounded stones, frequent manganese	-	-	0.10	Natural accumulation within pit [1040]

Context	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Thickness/ depth (m)	Interpretation
		fragments and very occasional charcoal flecks				
1040	Cut	Oval shape in plan, NW-SE oriented with shallow concave sides and slightly concave base	0.70	0.50	0.10	Cut of pit [1040]
1041	Fill	Soft, light greyish brown silty clay with very occasional charcoal, occasional small sub-rounded stones and very occasional manganese fragments	-	-	0.14	Gradual silting within pit [1042]
1042	Cut	Oval shape in plan, NW-SE oriented with shallow concave sides and concave base	1.05	0.70	0.14	Cut of pit [1042]
1043	Cut	Circular shape in plan, with moderately shallow concave sides and concave base	1.00	0.60	0.20	Cut of pit [1042]
1044	Fill	Friable, light greyish brown clay with occasional manganese flecks and small to medium sub-rounded stones	-	-	0.20	Deliberate deposition within pit [1043]
1045	Cut	Linear shape in plan, NE-SW oriented with steep straight sides and flat base	-	1.20	0.45	Cut of trackway ditch [1045]
1046	Fill	Firm, light brownish grey clay with occasional small sub-rounded stones	-	-	0.14	Deliberate backfill within trackway ditch [1045]
1047	Fill	Friable, light orange brown silty clay with occasional small sub-rounded stones and very frequent manganese fragments	-	-	0.24	Gradual silting within trackway ditch [1045]
1048	Fill	Firm, light yellowish brown silty clay with very occasional small sub-rounded stones	-	-	0.10	Gradual silting within trackway ditch [1045]
1049	Fill	Friable, light greyish brown silty clay with occasional small sub-rounded stones and frequent manganese fragments	-	-	0.23	Gradual silting within trackway ditch [1045]
1050	Cut	Linear shape in plan, NE-SW oriented with moderately steep concave sides and concave base	-	1.05	0.44	Re-cut [1050] of trackway ditch [1045]
1051	Fill	Soft, light greyish brown sandy silty clay with occasional small sub-angular and sub-rounded stones, occasional charcoal flecks and frequent manganese fragments	-	-	0.20	Deliberate deposition within trackway ditch re-cut [1050]
1052	Fill	Soft, light brownish grey sandy clay with occasional small sub-angular and sub-rounded stones and moderate iron pan	-	-	0.24	Deliberate deposition within trackway ditch re-cut [1050]
1053	Cut	Circular shape in plan, with steep straight sides and pointed base	0.15	0.15	0.10	Cut of stakehole [1053]

Context	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Thickness/ depth (m)	Interpretation
1054	Fill	Soft, mid grey silt, with very occasional charcoal flecks	-	-	0.10	Natural silting within stakehole [1053]
1055	Cut	Curvilinear shape in plan, NE-SW oriented with moderately shallow concave sides and concave base	-	1.20	0.52	Re-cut [1055] of trackway ditch [1059]
1056	Fill	Compact, light greyish orange silty clay with moderate charcoal and frequent manganese flecks	-	-	0.12	Deliberate deposition within trackway ditch re-cut [1055]
1057	Fill	Soft, light greyish brown silty clay with moderate charcoal, frequent manganese and moderate iron stone	-	-	0.44	Deliberate backfill within trackway ditch re-cut [1055]
1058	Fill	Loose, light greyish orange clayey silt with frequent iron stone, occasional burnt stone and moderate charcoal	-	-	0.42	Deliberate backfill within trackway ditch re-cut [1055]
1059	Cut	Curvilinear shape in plan, NE-SW oriented with moderately shallow concave sides and a slightly concave base	-	1.60	0.50	Cut of trackway ditch [1059]
1060	Fill	Compact, light orange brown silty clay with frequent manganese flecks and occasional charcoal flecks	-	-	0.04	Deliberate deposition within trackway ditch [1059]
1061	Fill	Loose, light brownish grey silty clay with frequent manganese and occasional charcoal flecks	-	-	0.46	Deliberate deposition within trackway ditch [1059]
1062	Cut	Sub-oval shape in plan, NW-SE oriented with moderately shallow concave sides and slightly concave base	1.38	0.38	0.24	Cut of pit [1062]
1063	Fill	Firm, mid greyish orange silty clay with frequent manganese flecks and occasional charcoal flecks	-	-	0.24	Gradual silting within pit [1063]
1064	Fill	Loose, mid brownish grey silty clay with frequent iron stone, charcoal and burnt stones along the SE edge of the feature	-	-	0.38	Deliberate backfill within trackway ditch re-cut [1055]
1065	Cut	Oval shape in plan, NE-SW oriented with moderately shallow concave sides and slightly concave base	1.02	0.78	0.12	Cut of pit [1065]
1066	Fill	Loose, light brownish grey clayey silt with frequent manganese, moderate charcoal and moderate bioturbation	-	-	0.12	Natural accumulation within pit [1065]
1067	Cut	Circular shape in plan with shallow concave sides and slightly concave base	1.20	1.20	0.15	Cut of pit [1067]

Context	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Thickness/ depth (m)	Interpretation
1068	Fill	Friable, light yellowish brown clay with occasional charcoal flecks and occasional small to medium stones and burnt stones	-	-	0.15	Deliberate deposition within pit [1067]
1069	Cut	Linear shape in plan, E-W oriented with steep concave sides and concave base	-	0.90	0.38	Cut of ditch [1069]
1070	Fill	Friable, mid brownish grey silty clay with occasional small to large sub-rounded stones, occasional charcoal flecks	-	-	0.38	Deliberate deposition within trackway ditch [1069]
1071	Cut	Linear shape in plan, E-W oriented with steep concave sides and concave base	-	0.30	0.14	Cut of ditch [1071]
1072	Fill	Firm, mid greyish brown silty clay with small to medium sub-rounded stones	-	-	0.14	Gradual silting within ditch [1071]
1073	Fill	Firm, mid yellowish orange clay	-	-	0.28	Deliberate deposition within trackway ditch [1075]
1074	Fill	Firm, light yellowish blue clayey silt with occasional manganese flecks and occasional flecks of charcoal	-	-	0.38	Gradual silting within trackway ditch [1075]
1075	Cut	Linear shape in plan E-W oriented, with moderately steep concave sides and flat base	-	1.20	0.60	Cut of trackway ditch [1075]
1076	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID
1077	Layer	Friable, mid orange grey silty sand with frequent degraded manganese flecks and frequent small sub-angular ironstone	-	-	0.35	Naturally accumulated layer
1078	Layer	Firm, light yellowish blue clay	-	-	0.15	Redeposited natural surrounding stone layer 1080
1079	Layer	Friable, mid grey silty sand with frequent small degraded manganese fragments, occasional sub-rounded stones and occasional flecks of charcoal	-	-	0.21	Naturally accumulated layer
1080	Layer	Frequent sub-angular small to large sandstone fragments and occasional small to medium quartz sub-angular pebbles	-	-	0.15	Deliberate dump of stones
1081	Fill	Friable, mid greyish red silty sand with frequent small manganese fragments and frequent small to	-	-	0.20	Deliberate deposition within



Context	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Thickness/ depth (m)	Interpretation
		medium sub-angular sandstone fragments				ditch re-cut [1088]
1082	Cut	Linear shape in plan, E-W oriented with steep straight sides and narrow concave base	-	0.30	0.30	Re-cut [1082] of trackway ditch [1084]
1083	Fill	Friable, mid greyish red silty sand with occasional small manganese flecks	-	-	0.30	Natural accumulation within trackway ditch re-cut [1082]
1084	Cut	Linear shape in plan, E-W oriented with a shallow S side, a steep N side and concave base	-	1.20	0.48	Cut of trackway ditch [1084]
1085	Fill	Friable, mid blueish grey silty clay with occasional small manganese and occasional small charcoal flecks	-	-	0.25	Natural accumulation within ditch [1084]
1086	Fill	Firm, light yellowish blue clay	-	-	0.10	Deliberate deposition within trackway ditch [1084]
1087	Fill	Firm, light orange yellow clay	-	-	0.30	Deliberate deposition within trackway ditch [1084]
1088	Cut	Linear shape in plan, E-W oriented with shallow concave sides and flat base	-	1.30	0.20	Re-cut [1088] of trackway ditch [1082]
1089	Fill	Friable, light grey silty clay with moderate charcoal flecks, occasional small-medium stones, occasional iron stone fragments	-	-	0.42	Deliberate deposition within ditch re-cut [1090]
1090	Cut	Linear shape in plan N-S oriented with very steep concave sides and concave base	-	0.62	0.42	Re-cut [1090] of ditch [1095]
1091	Fill	Friable, mid orange brown silty clay with very occasional small sub-angular stones	-	-	0.10	Natural accumulation within ditch [1095]
1092	Fill	Compact, mid brownish grey sandy clay with frequent charcoal flecks and fragments, moderate small to medium sub-rounded stones and very occasional CBM flecks	-	-	0.16	Deliberate deposition within ditch [1095]
1093	Fill	Compact, light orange grey silty clay with moderate mid brownish orange mottles,	-	-	0.18	Natural accumulation

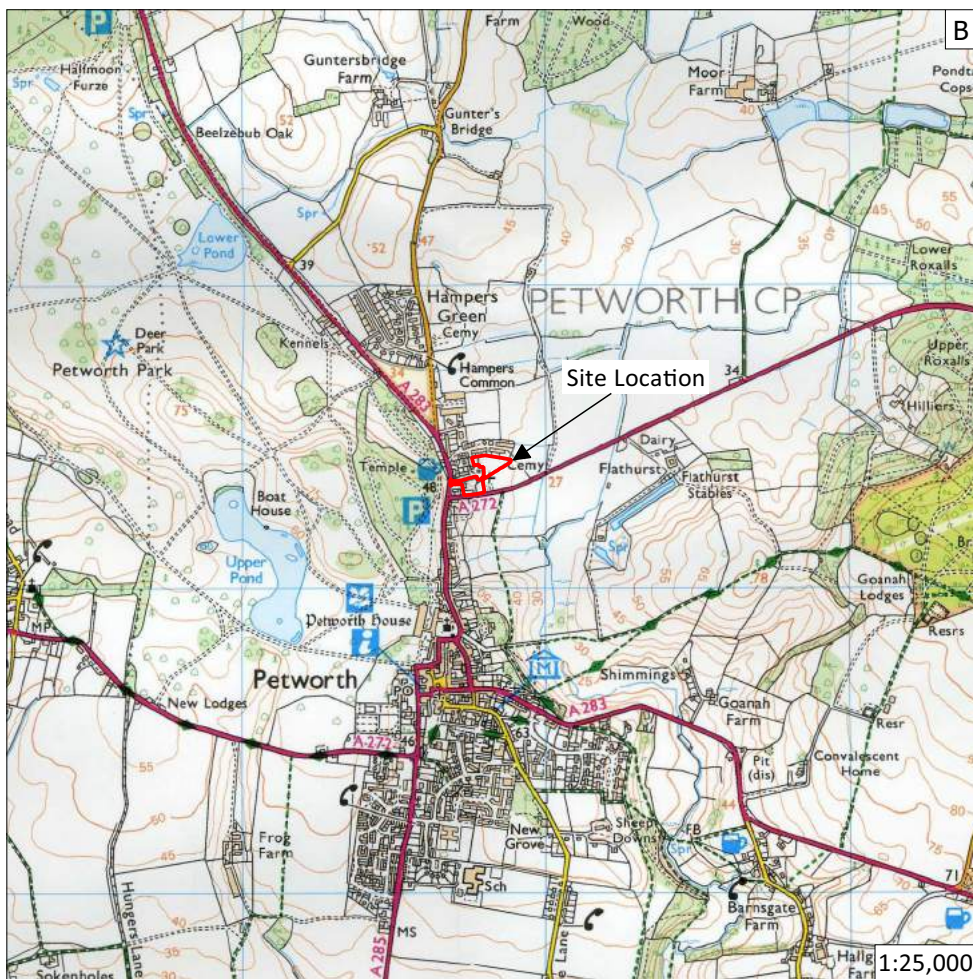
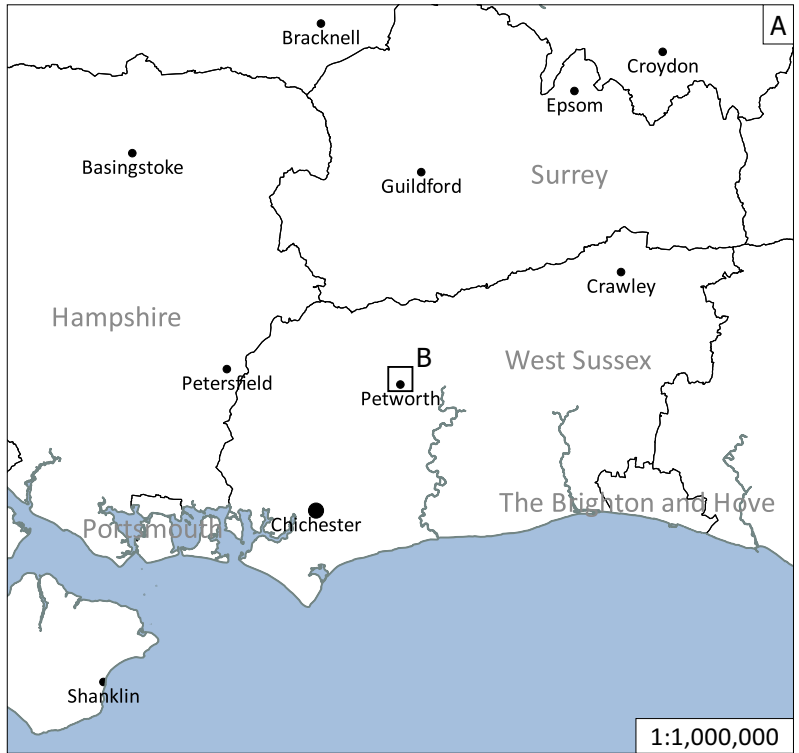
Context	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Thickness/ depth (m)	Interpretation
		occasional small sub-rounded stones and very occasional charcoal flecks				within ditch [1095]
1094	Fill	Compact, light greyish brown silty clay with moderate charcoal and manganese flecks and occasional small sub-angular stones	-	-	0.14	Deliberate backfill within ditch [1095]
1095	Cut	Linear shape in plan, N-S oriented with steep concave sides and concave base	-	1.28	0.39	Cut of ditch [1095]
1096	Fill	Soft, light brownish grey sandy clay with occasional patches of mid brownish orange clay, occasional charcoal flecks and occasional sub-angular to round stones	-	-	0.09	Natural accumulation within gully [1097]
1097	Cut	Linear shape in plan, N-S oriented with moderately shallow concave sides and concave base	-	0.46	0.09	Cut of gully [1097]
1098	Cut	Linear shape in plan, E-W oriented with steep concave sides and concave base	-	0.46	0.26	Cut of gully [1098]
1099	Fill	Friable, dark grey silty clay with occasional charcoal and manganese flecks	-	-	0.26	Natural accumulation within gully [1098]
1100	Cut	Linear shape in plan, N-S oriented with moderate concave sides and flat base	-	1.38	0.28	Cut of gully [1100]
1101	Fill	Friable, mid brownish yellow silty clay with frequent manganese flecks	-	-	0.28	Natural accumulation within gully [1100]
1102	Cut	Sub-circular shape in plan, with shallow concave sides and slightly concave base	-	0.38	0.10	Cut of pit [1102]
1103	Fill	Friable, mid brown grey silty clay with frequent manganese flecks	-	-	0.10	Natural accumulation within pit [1102]
1104	Fill	Friable, mid grey sandy clay with very occasional small sub-angular stones and very occasional charcoal flecks	-	-	0.10	Gradual silting within gully [1105]
1105	Cut	Linear shape in plan, NNE-SSW oriented with shallow concave sides and concave base	-	0.44	0.10	Cut of gully [1105]
1106	Fill	Friable, light brownish grey sandy clay with occasional charcoal flecks, occasional mid	-	-	0.10	Gradual silting within gully [1107]

Context	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Thickness/ depth (m)	Interpretation
		brownish orange mottles and very occasional small sub-angular stones				
1107	Cut	Linear shape in plan NNE-SSW oriented with shallow concave sides and concave base	-	0.50	0.10	Cut of gully [1107]
1108	Fill	Friable, mid brownish grey sandy clay with very occasional charcoal flecks and very occasional small sub-angular stones	-	-	0.06	Natural accumulation within gully [1109]
1109	Cut	Linear shape in plan, NNE-SSW oriented with shallow concave sides and concave base	-	0.35	0.06	Cut of gully [1109]
1110	Fill	Friable, mid grey sandy clay with occasional charcoal flecks, mid brownish orange patches and very occasional small sub-angular stones	-	-	0.12	Natural accumulation within gully [1111]
1111	Cut	Linear shape in plan, NNE-SSW oriented with moderately shallow concave sides and concave base	-	0.32	0.12	Cut of gully [1111]
1112	Cut	Linear shape in plan E-W oriented with steep concave sides and slightly concave base	-	0.30	0.66	Cut of ditch [1112]
1113	Fill	Firm, light yellowish blue silty clay with occasional manganese flecks and occasional small sub-angular stones	-	-	0.26	Gradual silting within ditch [1112]
1114	Fill	Friable, mid brownish orange clay with occasional manganese flecks and occasional small sub-angular stones	-	-	0.14	Deliberate deposition within ditch [1136]
1115	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID
1116	Layer	Friable, mid orange grey clay with moderate medium sub-angular stones and occasional burnt stone	-	-	0.34	Naturally accumulated layer
1117	Cut	Sub-circular shape in plan, with steep straight sides with pointed base	-	0.20	0.36	Cut of stakehole [1117]
1118	Fill	Friable, mid grey silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks	-	-	0.36	Natural accumulation within stakehole [1117]
1119	Fill	Soft, light grey silty clay with occasional small sub-rounded stones and frequent manganese flecks	-	-	0.17	Natural accumulation within pit [1120]

Context	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Thickness/ depth (m)	Interpretation
1120	Cut	Circular shape in plan, with moderately shallow concave sides and concave base	-	0.84	0.17	Cut of pit [1120]
1121	Layer	Compact, mid orange sandy clay with frequent manganese fragments	-	-	0.12	Superficial geology (1121)
1122	Layer	Compact, light orange silty clay with frequent very light blue lenses	-	-	0.06	Superficial geology (1121)
1123	Layer	Friable, dark brown mineralisation with frequent manganese fragments	-	-	0.12	Superficial geology (1121)
1124	Cut	Linear shape in plan, N-S oriented with concave sides and concave base	-	0.48	0.20	Cut of gully [1124]
1125	Fill	Friable, orange grey clay with occasional manganese flecks and small sub-angular stones	-	-	0.20	Deliberate deposition within gully [1124]
1126	Cut	Linear shape in plan, N-S oriented with moderate concave sides and flat base	-	0.36	0.08	Cut of gully [1126]
1127	Fill	Friable, mid brownish yellow silty clay with frequent manganese flecks	-	-	0.08	Natural accumulation within gully [1126]
1128	Cut	Linear shape in plan, E-W oriented with steep concave sides and concave base	-	0.66	0.28	Cut of ditch [1128]
1129	Fill	Friable, mid grey yellow silty clay with frequent manganese flecks	-	-	0.28	Natural accumulation within ditch [1128]
1130	Fill	Friable, light greyish brown sandy clay with very occasional charcoal flecks, occasional small sub-rounded stones and frequent manganese flecks and fragments	-	-	0.14	Natural accumulation within pit [1131]
1131	Cut	Circular shape in plan, with moderately shallow concave sides and flat base	1.10	1.10	0.14	Cut of pit [1131]
1132	Fill	Friable, very light brown silty clay with very occasional small sub-rounded stones and occasional manganese flecks and fragments	-	-	0.08	Natural accumulation within pit [1133]
1133	Cut	Circular shape in plan with shallow concave sides and concave base	0.68	0.68	0.08	Cut of pit [1133]
1134	Fill	Friable, light greyish brown sandy clay very occasional charcoal flecks, occasional small sub-rounded stones and moderate manganese flecks and fragments	-	-	0.10	Natural accumulation within pit [1135]

Context	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Thickness/ depth (m)	Interpretation
1135	Cut	Oval shape in plan, NW-SE oriented with moderately shallow concave sides and concave base	0.90	0.50	0.10	Cut of pit [1135]
1136	Cut	Linear shape in plan, oriented E-W with moderate shallow concave sides and concave base	-	0.50	0.22	Re-cut [1136] of ditch [1112]
1137	Cut	Circular shape in plan, with shallow concave sides and concave base	0.22	0.12	0.05	Cut of pit [1137]
1138	Fill	Soft, light brownish grey sandy silt	-	-	0.05	Natural accumulation within pit [1137]
1139	Cut	Circular shape in plan, with moderately shallow concave sides and concave base	0.40	0.50	0.10	Cut of pit [1139]
1140	Fill	Soft, light brownish grey sandy silt with moderate charcoal flecks	-	-	0.14	Deliberate deposition within pit [1139]
1141	Cut	Linear shape in plan, E-W oriented with moderately shallow concave sides and concave base	0.80	1.20	0.20	Re-cut [1141] of ditch [1143]
1142	Fill	Soft, light brownish grey sandy silt with occasional small sub-angular stones and moderate manganese	-	-	0.20	Natural accumulation within ditch [1141]
1143	Cut	Linear shape in plan, E-W oriented with concave sides and concave base	0.80	0.56	0.24	Cut of ditch [1143]
1144	Fill	Firm, mid greyish brown clayey silt with frequent manganese flecks	-	0.50	0.24	Natural accumulation within ditch [1143]
1145	Cut	Linear shape in plan, E-W oriented with steep concave sides and base not fully excavated	0.80	0.68	0.38	Re-cut [1145] of ditch [1143]
1146	Fill	Compact, dark grey orange silty clay with moderate small sub-angular stones and occasional large stones	-	-	0.38	Deliberate deposition within ditch [1145]
1147	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID
1148	Feature	[1088] [1141]	11.00 exposed	1.20 - 1.30	0.20	Re-cut of feature 1149
1149	Feature	[1050] [1055] [1082] [1145]	44.50 exposed	0.30 - 1.20	0.30 - 0.52	Re-cut of feature 1150
1150	Feature	[1045] [1059] [1084] [1143]	44.50m exposed	0.80 - 1.60	0.24 - 0.50	Trackway ditch

Context	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Thickness/depth (m)	Interpretation
1151	Feature	[1069] [1075] [1112] [1128]	21.50 exposed	0.66 - 1.20	0.28 - 0.60	Trackway ditch
1152	Feature	[1100] [1126]	5.30 exposed	0.36 - 0.47	0.08 - 0.28	Linear gully
1153	Feature	[1105] [1107] [1109] [1111]	6.50	0.32 - 0.50	0.06 - 0.12	Linear gully
1154	Feature	[1016] [1026] [1124]	12.00 exposed	0.24 - 0.55	0.06 - 0.20	Linear ditch
1155	Feature	[1014] [1020] [1022]	5.00	0.14 - 0.26	0.08 - 0.10	Linear gully

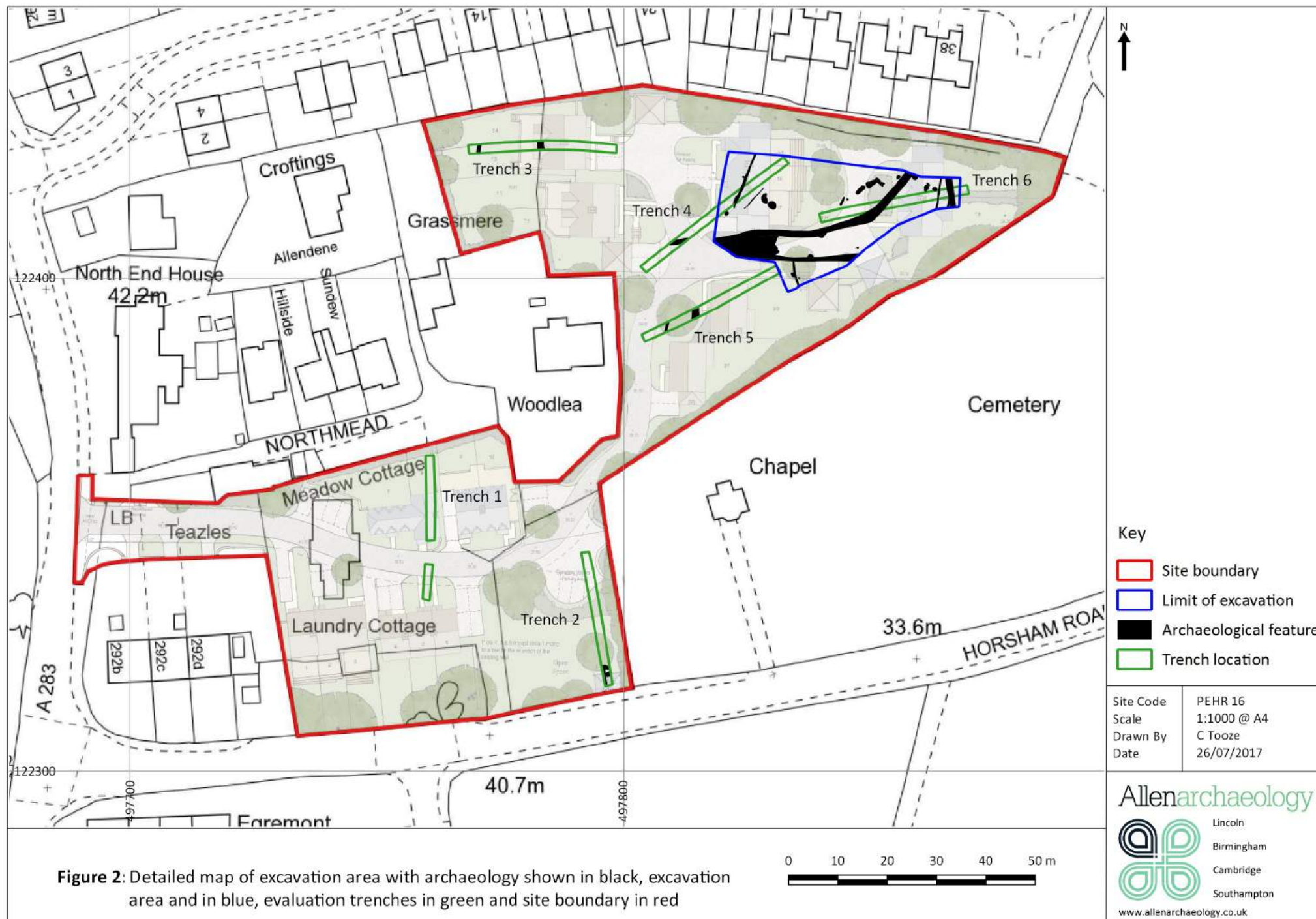


**Figure 1:** Site location outlined in red

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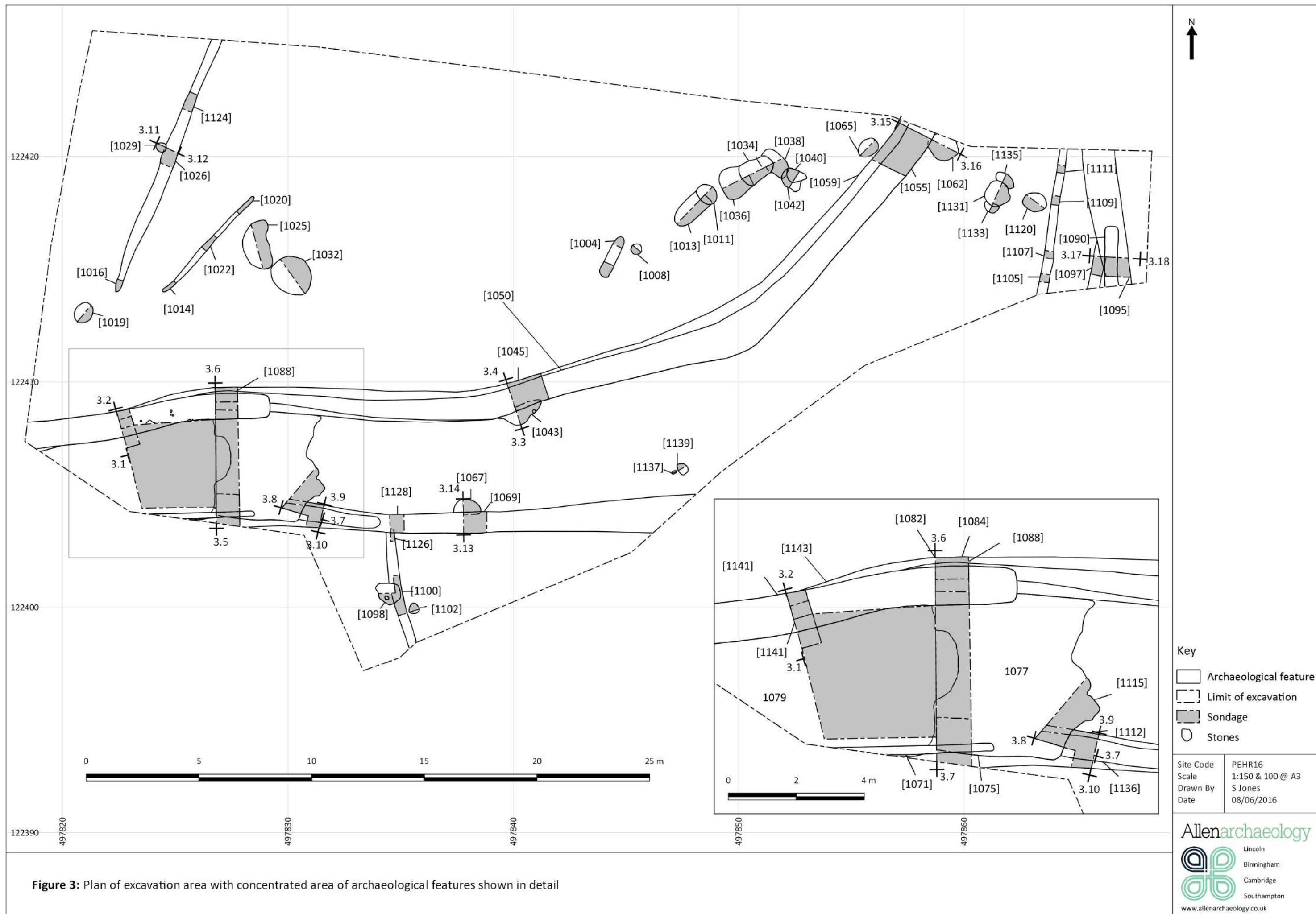
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Drawn by	S Jones
Date	08/06/17

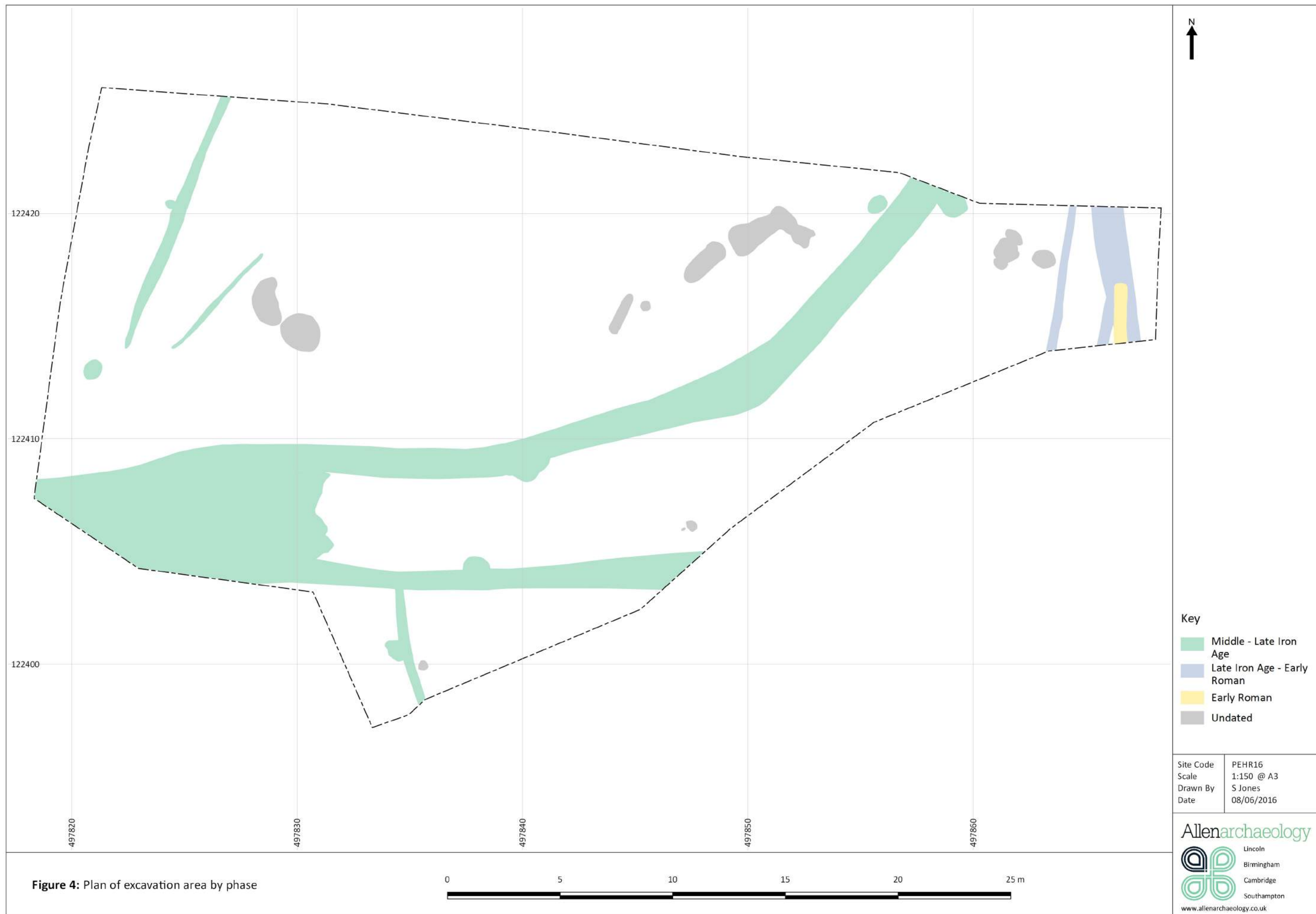




**Figure 2:** Detailed map of excavation area with archaeology shown in black, excavation area and in blue, evaluation trenches in green and site boundary in red







**Figure 4:** Plan of excavation area by phase

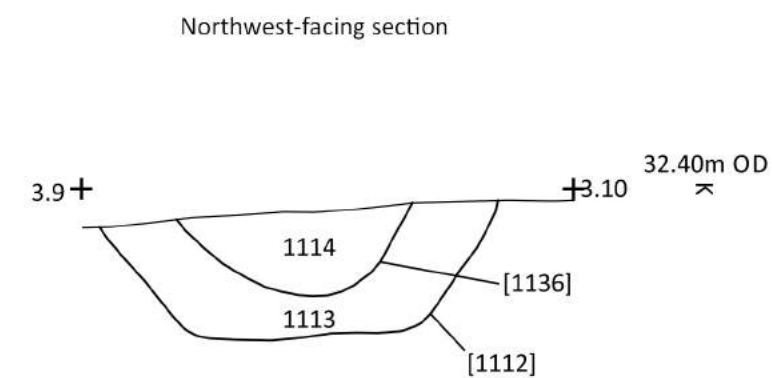
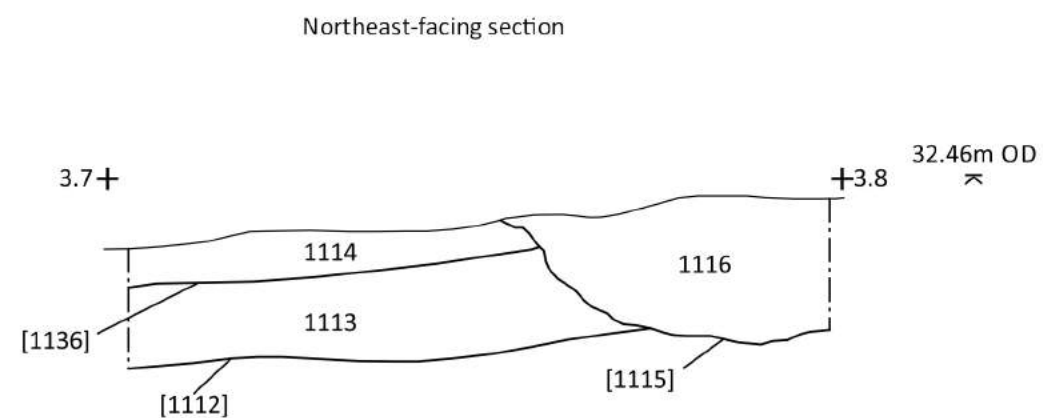
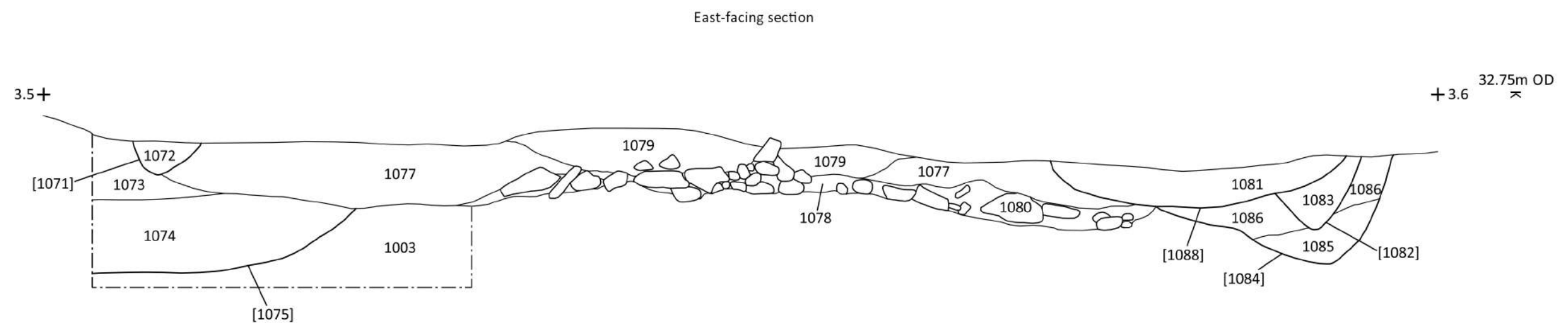
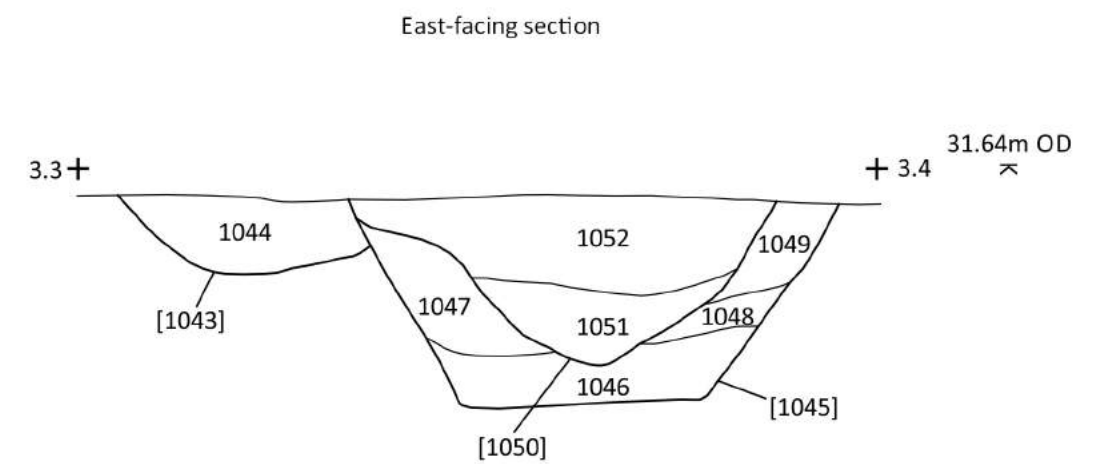
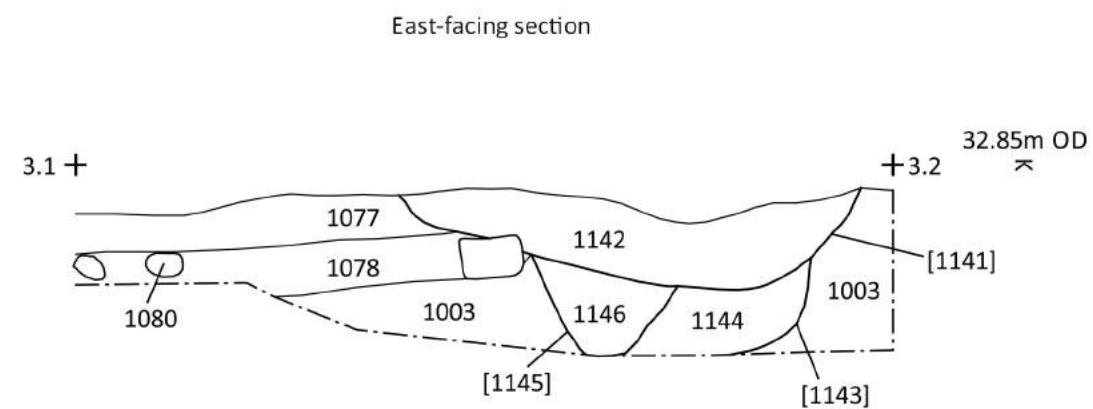
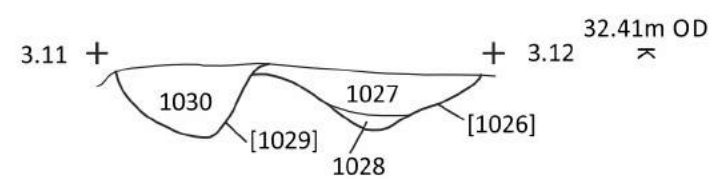


Figure 5: Sections of selected features in southwewst area of site

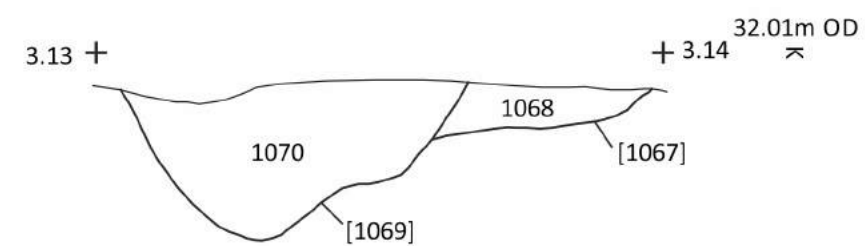


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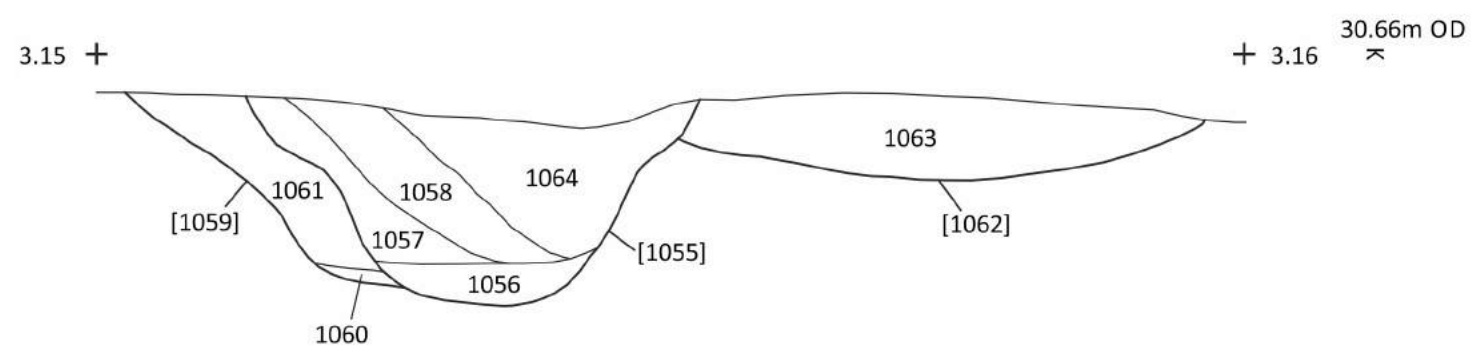
Southwest-facing section



East-facing section



Southwest-facing section



South-facing section

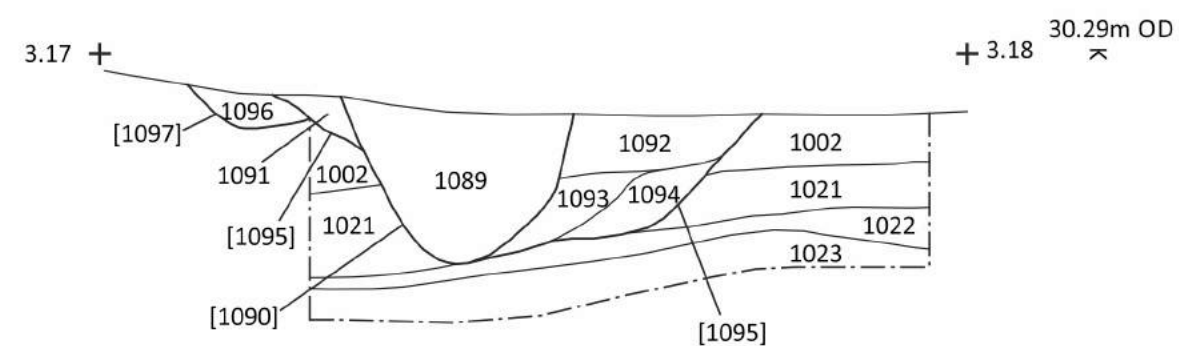


Figure 6 Sections of selected features



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