### **ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT:**

## TRIAL TRENCHING ON LAND OFF THE A158, BAUMBER, LINCOLNSHIRE

Planning Reference: Pre-Planning TF 522158 374194 AAL Site Code: BAMA 19 OASIS Reference Number: allenarc1-394837



Report prepared for For-Ward Planning Consultancy Limited

By Allen Archaeology Limited Report Number AAL 2020062

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### **Executive Summary**

- Allen Archaeology Limited was commissioned by For-Ward Planning Consultancy Limited to undertake a programme of archaeological evaluation by trial trenching on land off the A158, Baumber, Lincolnshire, prior to the submission of an outline planning application for a residential development.
- The site lies within an area of archaeological interest with evidence for prehistoric and Roman activity nearby. Extensive earthworks indicating the shrunken medieval village of Baumber are situated immediately to the west and south of the site. An archaeological evaluation at the Red Lion Public house, *c*.50m to the northwest of the site, identified pits and ditches that produced a residual Mesolithic-early Neolithic flint blade and artefacts of Iron Age and Late Saxon date.
- The archaeological evaluation consisted of three evaluation trenches, 10m long and 1.8m wide. At the northeast end of Trench 1 a ditch, gully and two intercutting pits were revealed. One of the pits contained two fragments of late 9<sup>th</sup> century pottery. At the west end of the trench were a further gully and a steep-sided pit that contained one sherd each of late 9<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> century pottery. Environmental samples from features in Trench 1 revealed evidence of possible smithing and crop processing having occurred in the vicinity.
- Trench 2 was located in the centre of the site and revealed a pit containing post-medieval pottery and the terminal of a ditch. The ditch had been recut and contained small quantities of 15<sup>th</sup> century pottery, medieval roof tile and animal bone.
- Trench 3 revealed five undated ditches and a post-medieval pit.
- The results indicate that there is a high archaeological potential for encountering further Saxon, medieval and post-medieval remains within the proposed development area.

## 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Allen Archaeology Limited (AAL) were commissioned by For-Ward Planning Consultancy Limited to undertake a programme of archaeological evaluation by trial trenching prior to the submission of an outline planning application for a residential development on land adjacent to the A158, Baumber, Lincolnshire.
- 1.2 The excavation, recording and reporting conformed to current national guidelines, as set out in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 'Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief' (CIFA 2014), 'Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment' (HE 2015), and a specification for the works (AAL 2019). Local guidance in the 'Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook' (LCC 2016) was also followed.
- 1.3 The documentation and records generated during the project will prepared in accordance with guidelines set out in the *'Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook'* (LCC 2016). The archive will be deposited at the Collection Museum in Lincoln in October 2020 under the accession number LCNCC: 2020.32.

## 2.0 Site Location and Description

- 2.1 The proposed development area is located in Baumber, Lincolnshire, in the administrative district of East Lindsey District Council. It is situated 6km northwest of Horncastle and 9.5 km southeast of Wragby. The site is approximately 0.16 hectares and presently overgrown waste ground. The site is centred at National Grid Reference (NGR) TF 2215 7419 (Figure 1).
- 2.2 The bedrock geology comprises of undifferentiated West Walton Formation, Ampthill Clay Formation and Kimmeridge Clay Formation mudstone, siltstone and sandstone with overlaying superficial deposits of diamicton (glacial till) (http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home .html).

## 3.0 Planning Background

- 3.1 East Lindsey District Council was contacted by For-Ward Planning Consultancy Limited prior to the submission of an outline planning application for a residential development on land off the A158, Baumber, Lincolnshire. Consultation with the advising Historic Environment Officer indicated that an archaeological trial trench evaluation was required to establish the archaeological implications of the development on the below ground archaeological assets, and to allow the determination of the nature and extent of any further archaeological mitigation that may be required, prior to submission of a planning application for development.
- 3.2 The approach adopted is consistent with the recommendations of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), with the particular chapter of relevance being *Section 16. Conserving and enhancing the historic environment* (Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government 2019).

### 4.0 Archaeological and Historical Background

- 4.1 The settlement lies within a wider landscape of known archaeological interest with remains dating from the prehistoric period, including evidence for prehistoric earthworks (Lincolnshire Historic Environment Record (LHER) reference 46377). Approximately 185m to the northeast, a late Bronze Age stone axe hammer (LHER reference 40292) was recovered, with Romano-British pottery and coins (LHER reference 40291) found *c*.500m to the northwest.
- 4.2 Medieval activity is well represented in the village, with extensive earthworks indicating the shrunken medieval village of Baumber immediately to the west and south of the site. A number of distinguishable features have been identified including toft and crofts, building platforms, hollow ways, along with ridge and furrow cultivation (LHER reference 46699) and further medieval earthworks (LHER reference 48246).
- 4.3 The place name is first mentioned in the Domesday Survey of 1086 as '*Badeburg'*, taken from the Old English personal name '*Babba*' or the word '*burh*' meaning '*fortified place*' (Cameron 1998). At the time of the Domesday Survey land was held by one main landowner, Gilbert of Ghent. It was populated by 63 villagers and included one mill (Morgan and Thorn 1986).
- 4.4 Post-medieval activity is well represented, including Listed thatched cottages (LHER reference 47852) and Baumber Park situated immediately west of the site (LHER reference 47398).
- 4.5 An archaeological evaluation at the Red Lion Public house, *c*.50m to the northwest of the site, identified a number of archaeological features including pits and ditches which produced artefacts of an Iron Age and Late Saxon date, along with a residual Mesolithic-early Neolithic flint blade (PCA 2016).

## 5.0 Methodology

- 5.1 The archaeological evaluation took place on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> of March 2020 and comprised three trenches, located in the few areas where access was possible (Figure 2). The trenches measured 10m x 1.6m and were excavated using a wheeled excavator with a smooth ditching bucket. The work was monitored at all times by an experienced archaeologist.
- 5.2 A full written record of the archaeological deposits was made on standard AAL context recording sheets, with each deposit and feature allocated a unique three-digit identifier (context number). Cut features are indicated by square brackets e.g. ditch [303].
- 5.3 A comprehensive record of all drawings was maintained, and the location of every section drawing plotted onto the site master plan and correctly referenced. All excavated sections were drawn at an appropriate scale (1:20).
- 5.4 All archaeological deposits and features were recorded by full colour photography, with an identification number board, appropriate metric scales and a north arrow. General site shots were also taken to show the location of the groundworks and the stratigraphic sequence.
- 5.5 Archaeological finds were individually bagged with site code, context number and material written on the finds bag and returned to the office for processing before being sent to appropriate specialists.

## 6.0 Results

6.1 The stratigraphic sequence was consistent across the site, comprising a dark grey silty topsoil, (100, 200 and 300), overlying a natural chalk, predominately white with orange mottling (101, 208 and 314) (Plate 1). The topsoil however varied substantially in depth, between 0.25m and 0.70m, potentially representing deliberate levelling.



Plate 1: Southeast-facing representative section of Trench 1 showing topsoil, 100, sealing the natural chalk geology, 101, scales 1.0m and 0.50m

## Trench 1

6.1 Trench 1 was located in the northeast of the site and aligned north-northeast to south-southwest (Figure 3). Running across the centre of the trench on an east – west alignment was ditch [112]. It had steep sides and was cut into the underlying chalk and was not fully excavated due to ingress of water. The feature was filled by 109, a greyish orange silty sand, and this was cut by a parallel linear gully [102], and pits [107] and [110] (Plate 2).



Plate 2: Trench 1 looking northeast, scales 1.0m



Plate 3: Ditch [112] cut by pit [107], looking northeast, scales 1.0m and 0.50m

6.2 Sub-oval pit [110] was 0.60m long, 0.55m wide and >0.45m deep, with steep, slightly concave sides and was filled by a mid-brownish grey sandy silt, 111. On its north side it was truncated by sub-oval pit [107] which was 1.2m long, 1.1m wide and 0.46m deep with steep slightly concave sides and was filled by 108, from which two sherds of late 9<sup>th</sup> century pottery were recovered (Plate 3, Plate 4). The pits were again not fully excavated due to ingress of water.



Plate 4: Looking southwest, left to right, [102], [110], [107] truncating [112] (centre). Scale 1.0m

6.3 At the west end of the trench gully [102] was cut by [104], a steep-sided pit 1.62m long, 0.42 wide and 0.38m deep, with a concave base. This pit was filled by 105, a light grey silty sand 0.16m thick, from which one sherd of 12<sup>th</sup> century pottery was recovered, and 106, a mid-grey silty sand 0.32m thick that contained one sherd of late 9<sup>th</sup> century pottery (Plate 5).



Plate 5: Gully [102] cut by pit [104], looking north, scales 1.0m and 0.50m

6.4 Environmental samples from features [102], [104], [110] and [112] revealed cereals present throughout, with wheat predominant. Ferrous spherules derived from smithing activities were present in all the samples and may indicate industrial activity in the immediate vicinity.

## Trench 2



Plate 6: Trench 2 looking northeast, scales 1.0m

6.5 Trench 2 was located in the centre of the site and aligned approximately east to west. Toward the east side of the trench was a rectangular steep-sided pit with an irregular, concave base [201]. The pit was 1.70m long 1.0m wide and 0.45m deep and was filled by a light brownish grey chalky silt, 202, that contained eight sherds of 18<sup>th</sup> century pottery (Plate 7).



Plate 7: Pit [201] looking northwest, scales 1.0m and 0.40m

6.6 On the southern edge of the trench, a probable ditch terminal [203] was exposed and a small extension to the trench was excavated in an attempt to fully characterise the feature. The exposed section of ditch [203] was 6.0m long, 0.9m wide and 0.55m deep, with steep sides and a concave base, but the profile of the ditch suggested it was significantly wider. It contained two fills, 204, a lower fill of soft, dark greyish brown sandy silt containing two sherds of 15<sup>th</sup> century pottery; and an upper fill, 205, of firm, mid yellowish grey clayey silt. The ditch had been

recut by [206], filled by mid brownish grey sandy silt 207, from which nine sherds of mid to late 15<sup>th</sup> century pottery, an unglazed roof tile of late medieval date and eight fragments of animal bone and tooth including sheep/goat remains were recovered.

## Trench 3

6.7 Trench 3 was located in the south of the site and aligned north to south (Figure 5, Plate 8). At the north end of the trench was [310], an east to west oriented pit or ditch terminus extending beyond the western edge of the trench. It had moderately shallow sides and was cut into fill 309 of ditch [308]. Ditch [308] was an east to west oriented ditch measuring 1m wide by 0.26m deep, and was filled by 309, a mid-brownish orange silty sand. To the south of [308] and running parallel to it was ditch [312], measuring 0.8m wide by 0.37m deep with steep sides, filled by 313, a mid-brownish orange silty sand. No finds were recovered from these features.



Plate 8: Trench 3, looking south, scales 1m

- 6.8 To the south of [312] was [306], a large steep-sided pit or ditch terminus, 1.35m by 0.7m and 0.7m deep. This pit was filled by 307, a mid-brownish grey silty clay, from which two sherds of 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> century pottery was recovered.
- 6.9 At the south end of the trench were a further two ditches, [303] and [301]. [303] was a large ditch 2.2m wide by over 0.6m deep, with steep stepped sides. It was oriented east to west and was filled by 304, a light-orange brown silty sand, 305, a mid-greyish brown sandy silt. [301] was a smaller ditch, 0.7m wide by 0.14m deep and oriented northeast to southwest. It had shallow concave sides and was filled by 302, a mid-brownish grey silty sand. No finds were recovered from either feature.

## 7.0 Discussion and Conclusions

7.1 The trial trenching has revealed a large number of archaeological features, comprising seven ditches and six pits and/or ditch termini, with dating evidence ranging from the 9<sup>th</sup> century to the early modern period. There was some distribution of material by date, with 9<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>

century pottery recovered from features in Trench 1, and Trench 2 producing 15<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century finds. All features in Trench 3 were undated.

- 7.2 Finds were generally recovered in small quantities, and none of the features were clearly suggestive of structural activity or settlement directly occurring on the site. However, the environmental evidence from Trench 1 indicated that scattered waste was incorporated into the fills of the features, including possible crop processing waste and small ferrous globules indicative of smithing. The composition of the environmental evidence was not typically domestic in nature and may suggest that this area of the site was focussed on industrial processes rather than settlement in the late Saxon to medieval periods.
- 7.3 Overall, the evidence suggests a high archaeological potential for the proposed development area.

### 8.0 Effectiveness of Methodology

8.1 The evaluation methodology employed was suited to the nature and scale of this project. It has identified a high archaeological potential for the proposed development area with features likely to relate to Saxon and medieval settlement and industrial activity.

### 9.0 Acknowledgements

9.1 Allen Archaeology Limited would like to thank For-Ward Planning Consultancy Limited for this commission.

### 10.0 References

AAL 2019, Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Trenching: Land off the A158, Baumber, Lincolnshire, unpublished planning document

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Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA). 2014. 'Standard and Guidance for an archaeological field evaluation'. CIFA: Reading

Historic England, 2015, 'Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment' Historic England

LCC, 2016, Lincolnshire Archaeological Handbook. Lincolnshire County Council

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, 2019, *National Planning Policy Framework*, London: Department for Communities and Local Government

Morgan P and Thorn C., 1986, Domesday Book: Lincolnshire. Phillimore & Co Ltd

PCA, 2016, *The Red Lion Public House, Main Road, Baumber, Lincolnshire: An Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Trench*. Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited

## **Appendix 1: Pottery and Ceramic Building Material**

### Paul Blinkhorn

## Pottery

The pottery assemblage comprised 23 sherds with a total weight of 998g. It was all late Anglo-Saxon or later, and was recorded using the conventions of the City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit type-series (Young and Vince 2005) as follows:

DERBS:	<b>Derby Stoneware</b> , 18 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> century. 2 sherds, 44g
EMLOC:	Local Early Medieval Fabric, early-mid 12 <sup>th</sup> century. 1 sherd, 10g
LERTH:	Early Modern Black-glazed Earthenwares, late 17 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> century. 6 sherds, 779g.
LLSW:	Late Glazed Lincoln Ware, late 14 <sup>th</sup> – 15 <sup>th</sup> century. 7 sherds, 87g.
LKT:	Lincoln Kiln-type Shelly Ware, late 9 <sup>th</sup> – 10 <sup>th</sup> century. 3 sherds, 40g.
MP:	Midland Purple Ware, mid 15 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup> century. 3 sherds, 22g.
RAER:	<b>Raeren Stoneware</b> , mid/late 15 <sup>th</sup> – 16 <sup>th</sup> century. 1 sherd, 16g.

The pottery occurrence by number and weight of sherds per context by fabric type is shown in Table 1. Each date should be regarded as a *terminus post quem*. The fabrics are all fairly common finds in the region. The material is all is fairly good condition, and appears reliably stratified.

	EMLO	С	LKT		LLSW		MP		RAER		LERT	-	DERB	5	
Context	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	Date
105	1	10													12thC
106			1	24											L9thC
108			2	16											L9thC
202											6	779	2	44	18thC
204					1	2	1	7							M15thC
207					6	85	2	15	1	16					M/L15thC
Total	1	10	3	40	7	87	3	22	1	16	6	779	2	44	

Table 1: Pottery occurrence by number and weight (in g) of sherds per context by fabric type

Most of the assemblage consists of undecorated bodysherds, other than a single jar rim in LLSW from context 207 and two rims from large, heavy bowls or pancheons in LERTH. All the other sherds appear to be from jars, bowls or jugs other than the sherd of RAER, which is from a mug, by far the most common vessel form in this fabric. The sherd of LKT from context 106 is somewhat burnt and blackened, with a very thick deposit of soot on the outer surface.

## **Ceramic Building Material**

A single small fragment of unglazed roof-tile weighing 5g occurred in context 207. It is in a hard, red sandy fabric with rare flint and iron, and is 11mm thick. It is most likely of late medieval date, and a Lincoln type (*ibid*. 215)

## References

Young, J, and Vince, A, with Nailor, V, 2005. A Corpus of Anglo-Saxon and Medieval Pottery from Lincoln, Lincoln Archaeological Studies 7

## **Appendix 2: Animal Bone**

By H Russ

## Introduction

A very small assemblage of vertebrate remains comprising mammal bones and teeth (8 fragments weighing 67.4g) were recovered via hand collection during archaeological evaluation at Baumber, Lincolnshire (BAMA19) by Allen Archaeology Ltd in 2020. This assessment includes quantification of the assemblage, identification at species level where possible, an assessment of significance and recommendation(s) for any further work.

## Methodology

This assessment has been undertaken in line with published standards and guidelines (Baker and Worley 2019; CIfA 2014) with reference to the research agenda for the East Midlands (Cooper 2006).

The animal remains were identified to element, side and to as low a taxonomic level as possible using the Author's reference collection and published and online identification guides (Hillson 2003; 2005). Quantification for mammal remains used the diagnostic zone method as presented by Dobney and Rielly (1988). A taphonomic assessment of each fragment was undertaken, recording the presence and absence of cut and chop marks, burning and calcination, any evidence for animal activity (canid or rodent gnawing), and surface preservation; any other surface modifications of note were also recorded. At this stage, no attempt was made to sex any of the remains, or to measure any elements. Sheep (*Ovis aries*) and goat (*Capra hircus*) distinctions were also not considered. Fragments of bones that could be identified to element but not any specific species were grouped as far as possible using size and class or order categories. Results were recorded in an electronic proforma in Microsoft Excel.

### Results

Animal bones and teeth (8 fragments weighing 67.4g) were recovered from a single context (207) during archaeological evaluation works at the site, Table 1. The context represents the medieval backfill of a ditch recut (pottery assessment to confirm dating awaited). The assemblage included remains of sheep/goat (*Ovis aries/Capra hircus*), small ungulate (sheep/goat/roe) and large and medium mammal.

	Ovis/	Small	Large	Medium	
Element	Capra	ungulate	mammal	mammal	Total
Scapula		1			1
Radius		1			1
Tibia		1			1
Skull			1		1
Tooth	2				2
Longbone shaft			1	1	2
Total	2	3	2	1	8

Table 2: Summary of animal remains from context 207

### Taphonomic assessment

Bone surface preservation varied throughout the assemblage from 'good' to 'poor' (categories 2-4). There was no evidence for carcass processing in the form of fine cut marks, more substantial chop marks or saw marks. Evidence for carnivore activity was observed on one specimen; a small ungulate right tibia shaft. Gnawing activity provides evidence for the presence of carnivores, likely domestic dogs and/or foxes, at the site and that animal remains/carcasses were accessible to these animals at some point after their deposition. No skeletal abnormalities possibly resulting from disease, injury or

age were recorded. No burnt or calcined bone was recovered. No bones were suitably complete to allow measurement for size estimation. No bone fusion data, mandibles or loose teeth for estimation of age at death were recovered and no animal remains were suitable for establishing sex.

## **Discussion of Potential**

All of the species/animal categories identified in the animal bone assemblage are consistent with those recovered from sites in Britain dating from the Neolithic period onwards (Baker and Worley 2019, 3 and references within), and include one of the main economic domesticates associated with meat production in the medieval period; sheep/goat. Sheep and goats were kept for meat, milk and/or wool.

Due to the small assemblage size it is not possible to comment further on the role of this animal at the site.

The material is of low local significance and there is no further potential for the animal remains from Baumber, Lincolnshire (BAMA19). No further work is recommended.

This report and associated data should be integrated into any site-wide grey literature or publication reporting and retained within the site archive.

## References

Baker, P, and Worley, F, 2019, Animal Bones and Archaeology: Recovery to archive. Historic England Handbooks for Archaeology, Swindon: Historic England

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), 2014, Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials

Cooper, N, J, (Ed.) 2006, *The Archaeology of the East Midlands. An Archaeological Resource Assessment and Research Agenda*, Leicester Archaeology Monographs No. 13. Leicester: University of Leicester Archaeological Services, School of Archaeology and Ancient History, University of Leicester

Dobney, K, and Rielly, K, 1988, 'A method for recording archaeological animal bones: the use of diagnostic zones', *Circaea*, 5: 79–96

Hillson, S, 2003, *Mammal Bones and Teeth. An introductory guide to methods of identification*, London: Institute of Archaeology, University College London

Hillson, S, 2005, *Teeth*, Second Edition, Cambridge Manuals in Archaeology, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

## **Appendix 3: Charred Plant Macrofossils and Other Remains**

## By V Fryer

## Introduction and method statement

Excavations at Baumber, undertaken by Allen Archaeology Ltd (AAL), recorded a number of pits, ditches, gullies and other discrete features, all of which were probably associated with the medieval settlement. Samples for the retrieval of the plant macrofossil assemblages were taken and four were submitted for assessment.

The samples were bulk floated by AAL and the flots were collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve. The dried flots were scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 16 and the plant macrofossils and other remains noted are listed in Table 1. Nomenclature within the table follows Stace. All plant remains were charred. Modern seeds, arthropod remains and fungal sclerotia were also recorded.

## Results

Although all four assemblages are small (i.e. <0.1 litres in volume), cereals and seeds of common segetal weeds are present throughout at a low to moderate density. However, preservation is generally very poor; most cereals and some seeds are severely puffed and distorted, probably suggesting that combustion occurred at very high temperatures.

Oat (*Avena* sp.), barley (*Hordeum* sp.), rye (*Secale cereale*) and wheat (*Triticum* sp.) grains are all recorded along with a number of cereals which are too poorly preserved for close identification. Wheat is predominant throughout. Chaff is all but absent, although a single bread wheat (*T. aestivum/compactum*) type rachis node, with characteristic crescentic glume inserts, is recorded from pit [110] (sample 5).

Seeds are generally scarce, with most being present as single specimens within an assemblage. All are of common segetal species, with taxa noted including stinking mayweed (*Anthemis cotula*), cornflower (*Centaurea* sp.), small legumes (Fabaceae), hemp nettle (*Galeopsis* sp.), henbane (*Hyoscyamus niger*), medick/clover/trefoil (*Medicago/Trifolium/Lotus* sp.) and dock (*Rumex* sp.). Two wetland plant remains are noted (namely individual nutlets of sedge (*Carex* sp.) and bulrush (*Typha* sp.)) along with a single elderberry (*Sambucus nigra*) seed. Comminuted charcoal/charred wood fragments are present throughout, although rarely at a high density. Small pieces of charred root/stem are also recorded within all four assemblages.

Other remains are relatively scarce. The black porous/tarry residues and vitreous globules are all thought to be derived from the high temperature combustion of organic materials (probably including cereal grains). Small ferrous spherules and minute fragments of coal (coal 'dust') are also present at a low to moderate density within all four assemblages.

Occasional shells of terrestrial and freshwater slum molluscs are also recorded. However, most are moderately well preserved and it is currently unclear whether these may be contemporary with the contexts from which the samples were taken, or later contaminants.

### Conclusions and recommendations for further work

In summary, although the recovered assemblages are small and somewhat limited in composition, the following points may be of importance to the overall interpretation of the site and its component features:

Although there is a slightly higher density of material within the two pit assemblages (samples 2 and 5), there is little to suggest that refuse was being disposed of in any systematic fashion. It is, perhaps, more likely that detritus from a number of activities was dispersed across a wide area and then accidentally incorporated within all features which were open at the time.

Cereals are present throughout, and as wheat is predominant, it is supposed that the oats, barley and rye are probably present as contaminants of the main wheat crop. Wheat would have been particularly well suited to production on the lime rich clay loam soils to the east and west of Baumber, and the seeds of stinking mayweed certainly suggest that this land was being used for agricultural purposes.

Because of the poor preservation of the cereals and the limited overall assemblage, it is difficult to ascertain which (if any) agricultural activity/activities may be represented. As chaff is so scarce, it is possible that the cereals are derived from small batches of semi-cleaned or prime grain, which were awaiting a final clean by hand prior to consumption or storage. Such assemblages often do contain weed seeds, particularly those of a similar size to the grains, which would not necessarily have been removed during processing. However, it is clear that the material has been burnt at a very high temperature, which could have destroyed the more delicate chaff elements and smaller seeds and seriously skewed the overall composition of the assemblages. It is, therefore, equally likely that the remains could be derived from processing/storage waste which was either burnt at the point of origin or subsequently used as kindling/fuel within either a domestic or industrial context.

Although only one seed of henbane is recorded from sample 5, it is possibly of note that it is a plant which thrives in phosphate rich conditions, particularly on dung heaps or in other places where ordure was being disposed of.

Within the overall assemblage, materials which may normally be considered to be domestic in origin (for example bone fragments, other dietary detritus, hearth refuse or the remains of burnt bedding/flooring) are largely absent. However, ferrous spherules derived from smithing activities are present throughout, albeit at a low density. Is it, therefore, possible that this area of the settlement was largely industrial in nature, with domestic activity being kept at a distance because of the risk of accidental fires?

As none of the current assemblages contain a sufficient density of material for quantification (i.e. 100+ specimens), no further analysis is recommended. However, a summary of this assessment should be included within any synthesis of data from the site.

### References

Stace, C., 2010 New Flora of the British Isles. 3<sup>rd</sup> edition. Cambridge University Press

Key to Table: x = 1 - 10 specimens xx = 11 - 50 specimens xxx = 51 - 100 specimens xxxx = 100+ specimens cf = compare

Sample No.	1	2	4	5
Context No.	103	106	109	111
Feature No.	102	104	112	110
Feature type	Gully	Pit	Ditch	Pit
Cereals				
Avena sp. (grains)	xcf	x		x
Hordeum sp. (grains)	Х	x	x	x
Secale cereale L. (grains)		x		xcf
Triticum sp. (grains)	xx	xx	xx	xxx
<i>T. aestivum/compactum</i> type (rachis node)				x
Cereal indet, grains)	XX	xx	x	XX
Dry land herbs				
Anthemis cotula L.	Х			x
Atriplex sp.				X
Bromus sp.				xcf
Centaurea sp.				x
Chenopodiaceae indet				x
Small Fabaceae indet		x	x	
Galeonsis sp		~	~	x
Hyoscyamus niger l				X
Lansana communis l				xcf
Medicago/Trifolium/Lotus sp		v		v
Small Roaceae indet		xcf		×
Polygonum gyiculare I		x		^
Rumey sp		×		v
Wotland plants		^		^
				v
Tunha sp.		vcf		^
Troo/shrub macrofossils		XCI		
Cambucus piara l				~
Other plant macrofossils				X
Charcoal >2mm	XXX	XX	XXX	XXXX
		XX	×	X
Charred rest/stem	V	X		
		X	X	X
Other remains		X		X
Other remains	V			
Black porous/tarry material	X	X	XX	XX
Bone	X			
Ferrous spherules	X	XX	x	X
Small coal frags.	X	x	XX	X
Small mammal/amphibian bones		x		
Vitreous material	X	x	x	X
Mollusc shells				
Woodland/shade loving species				
Aegopinella sp.				X
Ena sp.			x	
Oxychilus sp.				xcf
Open country species				
Helicella itala	Х		x	
Pupilla muscorum		x	x	
Vallonia sp.	X	х	х	х

Sample No.	1	2	4	5
Context No.	103	106	109	111
Feature No.	102	104	112	110
V. costata		х	х	х
Catholic species				
Cochlicopa sp.		х	х	х
Trichia hispida group	Х	х	х	х
Freshwater slum species				
Anisus leucostoma			х	
Sample volume (litres)	27	27	28	18
Volume of flot (litres)	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1
% flot sorted	100%	100%	100%	100%

Table 3: Plant macrofossils and other remains

# Appendix 4: Context Summary List

## Trench 1

Context	Туре	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Thickness/ Depth(m)	Interpretation
100	Layer	Soft, dark greyish brown sandy silt, with occasional small angular flint fragments.	-	-	0.4	Topsoil
101	Layer	Firm, light brownish grey sandy clay, with frequent small to medium sub-rounded chalk and small to medium angular flint fragments.	-	-	>0.24	Natural geology
102	Cut	Linear gully cut, orientated East- West, with gradual break of slope, moderately angled concave sides, and concave base.	>4.0	0.3	0.14	Gully
103	Fill	Firm, dark brownish grey sandy silt, with very occasional small angular flint fragments.	-	-	0.14	Fill of gully [102]
104	Cut	Sub-circular possible pit cut, with gradual break of slope, moderately steep concave sides, and concave base.	1.62	>0.42	0.38	Cut of Pit
105	Fill	Firm, light brownish grey silty sand, with no perceptible inclusions.	-	-	0.16	Lower fill of pit [104]
106	Fill	Firm, mid brownish grey silty sand, with very occasional sub- rounded pebbles and small angular flint fragments.	-	-	0.32	Upper fill of pit [104]
107	Cut	Sub-oval pit cut, orientated Northeast-Southwest, with sharp break of slope, steep concave sides, and imperceptible base.	1.2	>1.1	>0.46	Cut of Pit
108	Fill	Friable, mid brownish grey sandy silt, with occasional small angular flint and small sub-rounded chalk fragments.	-	-	>0.46	Fill of Pit [107]
109	Fill	Loose, mid greyish orange silty sand, with very occasional small rounded chalk fragments.	-	-	>0.46	Fill of Ditch [112]
110	Cut	Sub-oval pit cut, orientated Northeast-Southwest, with sharp break of slope, steep slightly concave sides, and imperceptible base.	0.6	>0.55	>0.44	Cut of Pit
111	Fill	Friable, mid brownish grey sandy silt, occasional small rounded chalk fragments.	-	-	>0.44	Fill of Pit [110]
112	Cut	Linear ditch cut, orientated Northeast-Southwest, with gradual break of slope, very steep irregular sides, and imperceptible base.	>5.0	>1.0	>0.46	Cut of Ditch

## Trench 2

Context	Туре	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Thickness/ Depth(m)	Interpretation
200	Layer	Soft, dark greyish brown sandy silt, with occasional small angular flint fragments.	-	-	0.4	Topsoil
201	Cut	Sub-rectangular pit cut, orientated Northeast-Southwest, with gradual break of slope, steep concave sides, and concave base.	1.7	>1	>0.45	Cut of Pit
202	Fill	Firm, light brownish grey clayey silt, with frequent small angular flint and small sub-rounded chalk fragments.	-	-	>0.45	Fill of Pit [201]
203	Cut	Linear ditch cut, orientated Northeast-Southwest, with gradual break of slope, steep concave side, and concave base.	>6.0	>0.9	0.55	Cut of Ditch
204	Fill	Soft, dark greyish brown sandy silt, with occasional small sub- angular charcoal flecks.	-	-	0.3	Lower Fill of Ditch [203]
205	Fill	Firm, mid yellowish grey clayey silt, with frequent medium angular chalk fragments.	-	-	0.32	Upper Fill of Ditch [203]
206	Cut	Linear ditch recut, orientated Northeast-Southwest, with gradual break of slope, moderately angled convex side, and irregular to flat base.	>2.0	>1.2	0.54	Recut of Ditch [203]
207	Fill	Friable, mid brownish grey sandy silt, with frequent medium angular flint fragments.	-	-	0.54	Fill of Recut [206]
208	Layer	Firm, light brownish grey sandy clay, with frequent small to medium sub-rounded chalk and small to medium angular flint fragments.	-	-	>0.24	Natural geology

## Trench 3

Context	Туре	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Thickness/ Depth(m)	Interpretation
300	Layer	Friable, dark brownish grey silty clay, with occasional small sub- angular stone and flint fragments.	-	-	0.7	Top Soil
301	Cut	Linear gully cut, orientated North-South, with gradual break of slope, with shallow concave sides, and base flat to the West and concave to the East.	>1.5	0.6	0.14	Cut of Gully

Context	Туре	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Thickness/ Depth(m)	Interpretation
302	Fill	Firm, mid brownish grey silt sand, with frequent small sub-angular stone fragments.	-	-	0.14	Fill of Gully [301]
303	Cut	Linear ditch cut, orientated Northeast-Southwest, with sharp break of slope, steep stepped sides, and imperceptible base.	>2.1	>1.5	>0.6	Cut of Ditch
304	Fill	Compact, light orangey brown silty sand, with occasional small to medium angular flint fragments.	-	-	>0.6	Lower Fill of Ditch [303]
305	Fill	Hard, mid greyish brown sandy silt, with very frequent small to medium angular chalk fragments (concentrated to East).	-	-	0.38	Upper Fill of Ditch [303]
306	Cut	Circular pit cut with sharp break of slope, very steep slightly concave sides, and concave base.	1.2	1.2	0.7	Cut of Pit
307	Fill	Compact, mid brownish grey silty clay, with occasional small sub- angular stone and small angular flint fragments.	-	-	0.7	Fill of Pit [306]
308	Cut	Linear ditch cut, orientated Northeast-Southwest, with gradual break of slope, moderately angled concave side to the north and steep irregular side to the south, and concave base.	>0.6	0.58	0.26	Cut of Ditch
309	Fill	Loose, mid brownish orange silty sand, with occasional small sub- angular chalk fragments.	-	-	0.26	Fill of Ditch [308]
310	Cut	Sub-rectangular pit cut, orientated Northwest-Southeast, with gradual break of slope, moderately angled concave side, and concave base.	1.2	>0.61	0.24	Cut of Pit
311	Fill	Soft, mid greyish brown sandy silt, with very occasional small rounded chalk fragments.	-	-	0.24	Fill of Pit [310]
312	Cut	Linear ditch cut, orientated Northeast-Southwest, with sharp break of slope, steep concave side to the south and moderately angled concave side to the North, and concave base.	>0.6	0.88	0.37	Cut of Ditch
313	Fill	Loose, mid brownish orange silty sand, with frequent small rounded chalk flecks.	-	-	0.37	Fill of Ditch [312]
314	Layer	Firm, light brownish grey sandy clay, with frequent small to medium sub-rounded chalk and small to medium angular flint fragments.	-	-	>0.24	Natural geology







![](_page_25_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_26_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_27_Picture_0.jpeg)

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