Cotswold Archaeology

Whaddon FAS
Cheltenham
Gloucestershire

Post-Excavation Assessment and Updated Project Design

for

CH2M/Jacobs

CA Project: 9251

CA Report: 18012

July 2018

Andover Cirencester Exeter Milton Keynes

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CA Project: 9251
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SUMMARY

Project Name:	Whaddon FAS
Location:	Priors Farm, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire
NGR:	397391 222804
Type:	Excavation
Date:	June – September 2017
Planning Reference:	CBC ref: 17/00135/FUL
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A programme of archaeological investigation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology between June and September 2017 at the request of CH2M (now Jacobs) at the site of Whaddon Flood Alleviation Scheme (FAS), Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, prior to its construction. In compliance with an approved WSI (CA 2017a), an area of 1.11ha was excavated across the development area.

A series of intercutting enclosure and drainage ditches was identified across site, which was dated to the Late Iron Age/Roman period. At the north of the excavated area, the site was the focus for two successive large enclosures, each of which contained a number of intercutting amorphous ditches, possibly relating to enclosures and/or drainage. The site was bisected by a substantial palaeochannel, which was canalised during the Roman period, and many of the ditches may have related to water management. At the south-west of the site two ditch alignments may have been part of a trackway, and some regular ditches possibly related to structures. Residual pottery of late prehistoric date and a small assemblage of residual worked flints, some likely of Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date, suggest prehistoric activity in the general area.

Notable finds included fineware ceramics, many Roman coins, brooches and other metalwork, forming an assemblage of unusually rich character for a typical Roman rural site. This suggests the excavated area may have been associated with a high-status settlement and/or a site with a religious focus.

This document presents a quantification and assessment of the evidence recovered from the excavation. It considers the evidence collectively in its local, regional and national context, and presents an updated project design for a programme of post-excavation analysis to bring the results to appropriate publication.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Between June and September 2017, Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological excavation at the site of Whaddon Flood Alleviation Scheme (FAS), Priors Farm, Whaddon, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire (centred on NGR: 397391 222804; Fig. 1). The work was undertaken at the request of CH2M (now Jacobs), in accordance with a condition for archaeological investigation attached to planning permission for the creation of new Flood Storage Areas (FSAs) and associated ditches and culverts at Priors Farm, Cheltenham, and Noverton Farm, Prestbury, as granted by Cheltenham Borough Council (CBC; ref. 17/00135/FUL, Condition 3). The condition was attached at the request of Charles Parry, Archaeologist, Gloucestershire County Council (GCC), the archaeological advisor to CBC, and with a subsequent detailed WSI produced by CA (2017a) and approved by Charles Parry. The fieldwork also followed *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation* (CIfA 2014), the *Statement of Standards and Practices Appropriate for Archaeological Fieldwork in Gloucestershire* issued by GCC (1996), the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Manager's Guide* (Historic England 2015a) and accompanying *PPN3: Archaeological Excavation* (Historic England 2015b). It was monitored by Charles Parry, including site visits on 12 July 2017 and 09 August 2017.

Location, topography and geology

1.2 The site was located to the east of Whaddon, on the eastern outskirts of Cheltenham, at NGR 397391 222804. It was bounded to the north by Cheltenham Cemetery and Crematorium, to the east by agricultural land, to the south by Wyman's Brook and to the west by a recreation ground. It lay at a height of *c*. 95m AOD at the eastern boundary, with the ground sloping to the west (to *c*. 85m OD at the western boundary). The area comprised 1.11ha of rough pasture and scrub (Fig. 2).

1.3 The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as Charmouth Mudstone Formation – Mudstone of the Jurassic Period (BGS 2018). The natural geological substrate identified across the site consisted of clays, clay-silts and gravels, with evidence of palaeochannel activity identified as pre-dating, or being contemporary with, the recorded archaeological features.

Archaeological background

1.4 The site had previously been the subject of a Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment (DBA; CH2M 2016), geophysical survey (Stratascan 2016) and trial trenching (CA 2017b). The archaeological background to the site is presented in the DBA (CH2M 2016); the salient points are summarised below, along with the results of the geophysical survey and evaluation trenching.

1.5 Located within a greenfield area, little recent development had been undertaken in the immediate vicinity of the site, and few archaeological remains had previously been identified. The earliest evidence for activity in the area comprised a small group of prehistoric flints, found between Darke's Farm Cottage and Noverton Farmhouse, 1km to the north-east, while a small group of Roman finds (including pottery and vessel glass) were found at the southern end of The Burgage, in Prestbury, 1200m to the north-west (CH2M 2016). Prestbury was a small market town during the medieval period and it is thought probable that the proposed FSAs were located within the agricultural hinterland of the medieval and later settlement; extensive areas of ridge-and-furrow cultivation have been identified (CH2M 2016). The geophysical survey undertaken at Priors Farm (Stratascan 2016) identified anomalies (curved ditches, pits, and enclosures), thought to be indicative of an area of Iron Age and/or Roman settlement activity.

1.6 A subsequent archaeological evaluation was undertaken to provide information on the features identified during the geophysical survey (CA 2017b). The evaluation areas were centred on two proposed FSAs, at Noverton Farm and Priors Farm, but also included broader areas to allow for construction activities. Ditches, pits and other features, representing an area of Roman activity, were identified in the southern part of the Priors Farm evaluation area (Fig. 2). The remaining areas were devoid of significant archaeological features.

1.7 In light of these findings, planning permission for the Flood Storage Areas was approved, conditional on a programme of archaeological excavation. This excavation was undertaken by CA following the methodology presented in Section 3.

2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

2.1 The objectives of the excavation laid out in the *Written Scheme of Investigation* produced by CA (2017a) and agreed by Charles Parry were as follows:

- record the nature of the main stratigraphic units encountered;
- assess the overall presence, survival and potential of structural and industrial remains;
- assess the overall presence, survival, condition, and potential of artefactual and ecofactual remains.

2.2 The specific aims of the work were to:

- record any evidence of past settlement or other land use;
- recover artefactual evidence to date any evidence of past settlement that may be identified;
- sample and analyse environmental remains to create a better understanding of past land use and economy.

2.3 The archaeological investigation of the site had the potential to contribute to the following research aims in the South West Archaeological Research Framework (Grove and Croft 2012; Webster 2008):

- SWARF Research Aim 29: Improve our understanding of non-villa Roman Rural Settlement (Grove and Croft 2012, 19; Webster 2008, 286)

- SWARF Research Aim 41: To assess the impact of the Roman Empire on farming (Grove and Croft 2012, 35; Webster 2008, 290)

2.4 In addition, the specific aims of the work were guided by the research undertaken as part of the Roman Rural Settlement Project (Allen *et al*. 2017; Smith *et al*. 2016; Allen *et al*. 2015; Fulford and Holbrook 2014; 2015; Smith *et al.* in press). That project presented proposals on the methodologies which should be considered in the future investigation of Romano-British rural settlements (http://www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk/developer-funded-roman-archaeology-in-britain/methodology-study/), and on the basis of this research the following research aims were adopted during the investigations:

- To seek a good understanding of the chronological development of the site (does it continue from Iron Age origins, for instance, and, if so, what impact did the Roman Conquest have on the character of the site?);

- To seek to establish the economy of the site and how this may have changed over time (particularly if distinct phases of Iron Age and Roman period settlement could be discerned);
- To better understand the environment of the site and its environs, at a series of levels/scales. Can we differentiate between different areas of activity in different parts of the site (e.g. domestic space; agricultural areas; industrial areas; cemeteries; areas of ritual focus?);
- To develop an understanding of the lives of the people who lived at this site. Can the range of artefacts recovered from the site tell us about the social status of the inhabitants, their contacts with others and the ways they chose to express their identity and beliefs through material culture?

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Fieldwork commenced with the removal of topsoil and subsoil from the excavation area by mechanical excavator with a toothless grading bucket, under archaeological supervision.

3.2 The fieldwork methodology involved the initial excavation of the main central area of site, with the later removal of a central service buffer and areas of vegetation to the north, south and west. Following the machine excavation of the initial area, three contingency areas were investigated, to the north, west and south-east. The methodology for the contingency areas allowed for excavation to stop once a 10m-wide buffer zone had been established between the last archaeological feature and the edge of the stripped area; archaeological features were only identified in the south-eastern contingency area.

3.3 The archaeological features thus exposed were hand-excavated to the bottom of archaeological stratigraphy. Examination of identified archaeological features concentrated on recovering the plan and any structural sequences; particular emphasis was placed upon gaining a secure understanding of the stratigraphic and chronological development of the site. All features were planned and recorded in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual* (CA 2014). All deposits associated with funerary/ritual activity and domestic/industrial deposits were 100% excavated. All discrete features (e.g. postholes, pits) were sampled by hand excavation up to 50%, unless their common/repetitious nature suggested they were unlikely to yield significant new information. All linear

features (ditches, pathways, etc.) were sampled to a maximum of 10%. All archaeological features identified during the course of the excavation were photographed and recorded in plan using Leica GPS as appropriate.

3.4 Due care was taken to identify deposits which may have had potential for environmental or industrial analysis, and, where appropriate, a programme of environmental sampling was initiated. Samples were taken, processed and assessed for potential in accordance with Technical Manual 2: *The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites* (CA 2012), based on the guidance of Historic England environmental sampling guidelines outlined in *Environmental Archaeology, A guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation* (English Heritage 2011). Where samples were taken, 40 litres of each deposit was sampled; deposits measuring less than 40 litres in volume were sampled in their entirety. Due care was taken to respect context boundaries and maintain the integrity of samples.

3.5 The unfortunate loss of some of the processed samples during transportation between CA offices by courier meant that not all sampled material was available to be assessed (discussed in more detail below, para 5.29). However, the survival of much of the material meant that the loss of the samples is believed to have had only a minor to moderate impact on delivery of the project research objectives.

3.6 All artefacts recovered from the excavation were retained in accordance with CA Technical Manual 3: Treatment of finds immediately after excavation (CA 1995).

4 RESULTS

Fieldwork summary

4.1 This section provides an overview of the excavation results; summaries of the recorded contexts, finds and environmental samples (biological evidence) are to be found in Appendices 1 to 15.

4.2 Contexts have been assigned to provisional periods based on their stratigraphic location, spatial distribution and form. The broad and overlapping date-ranges assigned to each period reflect the current assessment of dateable material. Based on these criteria, five provisional periods have been identified (Fig. 3):

- Period 1: Natural deposits and features
- Period 2: Late Iron Age/Early Roman (1st century BC to 1st century AD)
- Period 3: Roman (1st to 3rd centuries)
- Period 4: Late Roman (Late 3rd to 4th century)
- Period 5: Activity post-dating the Roman period
- Period 6: Undated

4.3 The provisional periods used in this summary are broad. These may be revised or subdivided further following detailed analysis of the stratigraphy and the artefactual and environmental evidence.

4.4 The archaeological features revealed during the excavation were generally well-preserved and correlated well with the features identified during the preceding geophysical survey. Medieval or post-medieval furrows and modern disturbance of archaeological deposits were identified across site, with varying levels of truncation. However, the stratigraphy was clear for most features, and it was generally possible to determine stratigraphic relationships with a high degree of confidence.

Period 1: Natural deposits and features

4.5 Prior to human activity at the site, the area had been subjected to water erosion by a sequence of palaeochannels.

4.6 Three distinct palaeochannels were identified within the excavated area (Fig. 3), each running sinuously and amorphously on a broadly south-east/north-west alignment, following the natural topography and the slope of the hill. Two channels (Palaeochannel 1415 and Palaeochannel 1931) were observed in the south-western area of the site and one channel, Palaeochannel 1972, which measured up to 15m wide, was recorded in the north-east, in an area that became the focus for intensive activity during the Roman period.

4.7 It is likely that some of the palaeochannels were active during the initial phases of archaeological activity on site. The channel in the north, Palaeochannel 1972, ran downhill towards the north-west and became the focus for a number of successive ditches during Period 3 (Roman), before being subjected to a programme of drainage in Period 4 (Late Roman). This suggests that the palaeochannel was extant during the Roman period. Palaeochannel 1931, in the centre of site, revealed evidence of having been reworked as a large ditch during Period 4 (Ditch

Alignment 5), suggesting that it too was extant during the Roman period and was canalised to aid drainage of the area, and/or to reinforce it as a feature within the landscape. Palaeochannel 1415, to the south, was cut by a number of Period 3 features that appear not to respect it, and it may have been inactive for most of the Roman period.

Period 2: Late Iron Age to Early Roman(1st century BC to 1st century AD)

4.8 The earliest archaeological activity identified on site dated to the Late Iron Age/Early Roman period and was predominantly identified in the south-eastern area of the excavation, with a single feature potentially of this date identified in the north-eastern part of site.

4.9 Two short ditches, Ditches 1 and 2, were identified within the south-eastern area of site. North/south aligned Ditch 1 measured approximately 9.6m in length, 0.6m in width and 0.13m in depth and was broadly linear with moderately sloping sides and concave base. Ditch 2 was aligned roughly north-west/south-east and measured 3m in length, 0.34m in width and 0.2m in depth, with steep sides and a concave base. Ditch 1 contained pottery of late prehistoric date, along with two Roman sherds (see Appendix 3). To the south of Ditches 1 and 2, north/south aligned Ditch 3 measured 4.75m in length, 0.48m in width and 0.22m in depth, with gradual sides and a concave base. These short ditch segments may represent surviving elements of a Late Iron Age or Early Roman enclosure or drainage system, which possibly continued outside the excavated area to the south and east. The limited exposure of features of this date renders interpretation difficult.

4.10 Ditch 3 was cut to the south by Ditch Alignment 1, a series of three north-west/south-east aligned re-cut linear ditches. The most substantial of these ditches measured more than 35m in length, 2.5m in width and 0.7m in depth, and all of the ditches generally exhibited steep sides and concave bases. Pottery dating from the Late Iron Age/Early Roman period was recovered from throughout the ditches and it is likely that this feature represents activity during this phase that extended beyond the limits of excavation. The re-cutting of these ditches indicates curation of the feature, suggesting it had some longevity, and, as discussed in paragraph 4.7, it may have been associated with drainage into palaeochannel 1415.

4.11 Within the north-eastern area of the site (Fig. 4), Ditch 4 curved around from the north-east to the south, cutting into the natural alluvium within Palaeochannel

1972. Measuring approximately 33m in length, 0.8m wide and 0.3m deep, it had moderately sloping sides and a flat base. Pottery dating broadly to the late prehistoric period was recovered from this feature (see Appendix 3) and it may represent an early drainage or boundary ditch within this part of site, preceding more intensive activity in the area later in the Roman period, during Periods 3 and 4.

4.12 Late prehistoric and Iron Age pottery was also recovered as residual finds from later features in other parts of the site, including Ditch Alignment 6 in the south-west of the excavated area.

Period 3: Roman (1st to 3rd centuries)

4.13 A series of early-to-mid Roman enclosure, drainage and boundary ditches was revealed across the site, with material dating from between the 1st and 3rd centuries recovered (Figs 3 and 4). Many of these features appeared to have been re-modelled and extended on several occasions, and several of the ditches had been recut.

4.14 Ditch Alignment 5 bisected the centre of the site and appeared to represent the canalisation of the existing Palaeochannel 1931 as a large ditch, which had been recut at least once. The feature was sinuous in plan, running for *c.* 115m across the site. It had steep sides and a concave base, measured up to 6m wide and 1.3m deep, and followed a broadly north-west/south-east alignment (Figs 3 and 5, Section AA). These ditches contained pottery dating from the Late Iron Age to the late 4th century AD and, while it is likely that some of the earlier material was residual, it is probable that the feature was in use for an extended period of time during the Roman period; this may have begun with an initial canalisation of Palaeochannel 1931 during Period 3, with later reworking and use extending into the late 4th century (Period 4). It is likely that the majority of the activities from Periods 2, 3 and 4 were affected by this substantial landscape feature or the preceding palaeochannel; the feature was likely a major landscape feature and possibly a focus for religious/ritual activity throughout, as some of the finds recovered from it may suggest.

4.15 Finds of particular note from Ditch Alignment 5 include two artefacts, RA 1116 and RA 1131. RA 1116 is a finely made, probably tin-plated copper-alloy ‘Celtic’ variant of a trumpet brooch (see Appendix 6). RA 1131 is a sherd from the neck of a Roman face flagon (Fig. 6). The association that such flagons seem to have had

with sites of ritual significance during the Roman period (Munby 1975, 188; Allen *et al.* 2015) raises the possibility that the activity at this site, or near it, included a religious element.

Enclosure 1

4.16 At the south-east of the site a curving, re-cut series of ditches formed a possible enclosure, Enclosure 1; these ditches cut the earlier Period 2 Ditch Alignment 1 (Fig. 5, Section BB). The latest ditch in the sequence measured up to 1.8m wide and 0.75m deep, with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. The possible enclosure continued beyond the limit of excavation to the south-west and its form is uncertain. Pottery recovered from the fills of these ditches was predominantly of 1st to 2nd-century in date; two sherds of mid-3rd to 4th-century pottery are likely to have been intrusive). The ditches appeared to have silted up gradually, prior to being re-cut and eventually falling out of use.

4.17 Ditch 5 was recorded to the north-east of Enclosure 1; it measured approximately 18m in total length, 0.7m in width and 0.25m in depth; it had steep sides and a concave base. Visible as two separate sections of ditch, Ditch 5 may have represented part of a curvilinear feature dating to the Roman period. It contained sherds of pottery broadly of Roman date.

Enclosure 2

4.18 During the early to middle Roman period the northern half of the site became the focus for what appears to have been a large enclosure, Enclosure 2, which measured approximately 150m wide and extended outside the area of excavation to the north and east (Fig. 3).

4.19 The south-east of this enclosure was represented by curvilinear boundary Ditch 22, which was subsequently re-cut by Ditch 23. This enclosure ditch measured more than 54m long and 1.75m wide, and was aligned broadly north-west/south-east to east/west. The geophysical and evaluation results demonstrate that these enclosure ditches continued to the east, beyond the limit of excavation (Fig. 3), and other features within the enclosure also extended into this area. No traces of the enclosure (or features within it) were identified in the evaluation trenches or geophysical survey in the area to the north however (Fig. 2), although given the trajectory of the ditches it seems likely that activity extended into that area. Pottery dating to the 2nd to 4th centuries was recovered from throughout ditches 22 and 23; notable finds included three 2nd to 3rd-century brooches, one of which was an

enamelled plate brooch with 'petalled' boss (RA 1080; Fig. 7), recovered from Ditch 23 (see Appendix 6).

4.20 In the north-western area of the site, Enclosure 2 was defined by a concentric series of broadly north-west/south-east aligned curvilinear ditches (Ditches 30, 31 and 32), perhaps relating to redefinition of the enclosure over time.

4.21 A probable entrance into the enclosure was represented by a 17m-wide gap between Ditches 30 and 23. Pottery recovered from Ditches 31 and 32 was broadly dateable to the 2nd century, while pottery of 3rd to 4th-century date was recovered from Ditch 30, which may suggest replacement of the enclosure ditches over time. Ditches 30 and 31 were truncated at their northern extents and may have originally extended outside the excavated area.

4.22 Towards the eastern extent of the excavated area, Enclosure 2 contained a substantial part of north-west/south-east aligned Palaeochannel 1972, which occupied a small depression within the landscape. In this area there were a dense network of amorphous intercutting ditches; during excavation the ditches were believed to be a sequence of intercutting enclosures (Fig. 4, Enclosures 4-7), and while some of these ditches may relate to temporary enclosures, quickly replaced, the irregularity of the ditches makes it difficult to make sense of them in plan; it is possible that they instead formed a series of drainage gullies cut to redirect water flowing through Palaeochannel 1972, although the reason for this is uncertain. Pottery dating from the 1st to 4th centuries was recovered from throughout these ditches. Other discrete features, including Pits 1420, 1468, 1634 and 1690, were identified within the area of the intercutting ditches. Further stratigraphic analysis may elucidate the sequence and function of these ditches

Pit 1444

4.23 Pit 1444 was identified to the south of the intercutting ditches within Enclosure 2, and was notable for having a concentration of hobnails within its fill. The pit was elongated and measured approximately 2.1m long, 0.83m wide and survived to 0.06m deep, with shallow sides and a flat base. The pit contained poorly preserved fragments of bone, and was thought during excavation to be a grave, although only animal bone was identified amongst the material recovered. Nevertheless, the presence of hobnails within the fill and the shape of the feature raise the possibility that this was either a grave or a pit with some sort of religious significance, involving the burial of animal remains, along with hobnails.

Pit 1634

4.24 A notable deposit was recorded within Pit 1634, which cut Ditch 34 (Fig. 4). The pit was sub-oval in plan and measured 0.71m in length, 0.65m in width and 0.1m in depth, with gently sloping sides and a flat base. A number of fragments of fine 2nd-century pottery were recovered from the single fill of the pit, along with a fossilised vertebra from an ichthyosaur (RA 1117) (Appendix 13). The placement of this fossil within the pit may have been a deliberate act, and possibly represents some form of structured deposition. Certainly fossils were included amongst material placed in structured deposits at a number of other sites, including from Late Iron Age ditches at Runfold Farm, Surrey (Lambert 2009), Horsted Keynes, East Sussex (Hardy 1937) and the Roman Temples at Farley Heath (Poulton and Bird 2007), Church Field, Titsey (Graham 1936) and Wanborough (O'Connell and Bird 1994). Indeed, information on the Roman Rural Settlement Project database (Allen *et al.* 2015) indicates that shrines and temples are prevalent amongst the sites where fossils have been found, and this may be of significance for this example. This is perhaps especially relevant given the identification of the specimen as *Ophthalmosaurus icenicus*, which is a Middle Jurassic species currently only known from the Oxford Clay Formation. The nearest Oxford Clay bedrock is some distance from Cheltenham, which may suggest the fossil was curated and brought to the site, although there are other Middle Jurassic rocks nearby from which the specimen could potentially have originated (Andrzej Wolniewicz, pers. comm.; Appendix 13).

4.25 The function and relationship between features within Enclosure 2 is currently unclear, although the area evidently witnessed intensive activity. The intercutting Period 3 ditches inside the larger enclosure lie within an area of palaeochannel activity and likely would have been cut into wet or waterlogged ground. Their function is uncertain but may become clearer through further examination of the available evidence for the nature of some of these features.

4.26 To the north of the main zone of activity in this area, north-west/south-east orientated Ditch 18 measured 23m in length, 0.6m in width and 0.25m in depth, with moderately sloping sides and concave base. Material dating from the 2nd to 4th century was recovered from the silting fill of the ditch; its function is uncertain.

4.27 At the south-west of the site, Ditch Alignment 3 was orientated north-east/south-west, and may have been associated with curving Ditch Alignment 6, to its east, which extended outside the excavated area to the south. These ditch alignments

were separated by a gap of approximately 8.5m and both had been recut several times. They possibly formed part of a trackway which opened up onto the recut palaeochannel (Ditch Alignment 5), opposite the entrance to Enclosure 2. Ditch Alignment 5 may have formed a defensive and/or aesthetic feature between the trackway and the entrance to Enclosure 2; however, no evidence for waterlogging was recovered from samples taken from Ditch Alignment 5, indicating that it may not have been permanently waterlogged (Appendix 15). It is possible that a bridge provided a means of crossing the ditch, although no evidence for such a structure was found. Ditch alignments 3 and 6 produced pottery which was primarily of 2nd to 4th-century date, with a small number of probably residual late prehistoric and 1st-century sherds. Ditch alignments 3 and 6 were subsequently cut by Period 4 sub-rectangular Enclosure 3 (Fig. 5 sections CC and DD). North/south-orientated ditch 15 ran between the possible trackway ditches, and appeared to cut Ditch Alignment 3, yet it was recorded as being cut by Ditch Alignment 6. Further stratigraphic analysis may clarify the relationship that this ditch had with the possible trackway ditches.

4.28 Immediately to the east of Ditch Alignment 6 there were a group of smaller ditches, including ditches 13, 14 and 12. These ditches potentially relate to beam slots or drainage gullies associated with a rectilinear structure or structures. It is possible that ditches 6, 7 and 8, to the east, were also associated with a structure. Further stratigraphic analysis may allow this to be established with greater confidence. No other potential structures were identified during the excavations, although fired clay identified as daub and a small assemblage of ceramic building material, including roofing tile, is suggestive of at least one structure with a tiled roof in the vicinity of the site (Appendices 4 and 5).

4.29 Together with Ditch Alignment 6, Ditch Alignment 2 possibly formed an early enclosure boundary associated with these putative structures, before being cut by the recut palaeochannel, Ditch Alignment 5. Ditch Alignment 2 contained a notable deposit of 2nd-century pottery, suggestive of deliberate backfilling of the ditch with domestic material. Further stratigraphic analysis of the features in this area may enable a better understanding of their chronological development and function.

Period 4: Late Roman (Late 3rd to 4th centuries)

4.30 During the later Roman period the site appears to have undergone a radical redevelopment, with the replacement of Enclosure 2 in the north part of the site with what may have been a new enclosure, Enclosure 9 (Fig. 3). Two ditches,

ditches 26 and 27, which cut earlier Enclosure 2 ditches 22 and 23, appear to have formed a new entrance into this enclosure, measuring approximately 20m wide, situated 30m to the south-east of the entrance to the earlier Enclosure 2 (although an alternative interpretation of these ditches might be that they formed drainage ditches intended to drain water towards Ditch Alignment 5). Ditch 27 may have continued to the east, and appears to be represented by a south-west/north-east-orientated feature revealed during the geophysical survey (Fig. 3). This shift in activity seems to have dated to the late 3rd to 4th centuries, and was associated with an increase in the number of notable artefacts recovered.

4.31 Much of the activity within Enclosure 9 appears to have related to drainage, with a series of successive ditches cutting across the Period 3 ditches described above. South-east/north-west aligned ditches 25, 28 and 29 were cut into and along the area of Palaeochannel 1972, and may have been to facilitate drainage of the area which had been a focus for ditch cutting in Period 3, directing water down slope to the north-west. The function of north/south-orientated Ditch Alignment 4, which had been subject to several recuts, is uncertain, though it perhaps subdivided Enclosure 9. Some of the ditches appear to have been earlier than the ditches associated with the posited entrance into the enclosure, with Ditch 24 being cut by Ditch 25, which in turn was cut by the possible entrance Ditch 26. This may suggest that the new programme of drainage took place prior to the digging of the outer enclosure ditches.

4.32 The Period 4 ditches associated with Enclosure 9 yielded pottery and other finds dateable to the 3rd to 4th centuries, including a number of coins and brooches; these included RA 1100, a *nummus* coin dating to 353-57, recovered from Ditch Alignment 4 (Appendix 8). Other notable finds included worked stone fragments, including an unusual decorated mortar fragment (RA 1136; Fig. 8) and a quern fragment (RA 1138) (Appendix 11), both of which had been placed within the terminus of Ditch 28, as well as a collection of hobnails (RA 1129) and 'votive' object RA 1134, both from Ditch 27 (Appendix 6).

4.33 To the south of the entrance into Enclosure 9, on the opposite side of Ditch Alignment 5 (the canalised Palaeochannel 1931), Enclosure 8 consisted of a pair of narrow ditches forming a part sub-rectangular enclosure measuring 24.5m by 14m in area, with a 12m-wide entrance at the south. The alignment of the ditches appeared to respect the canalised palaeochannel, and, given its position, this feature may have been a further part of an entrance into Enclosure 9; it contained

material dating to the 4th century. Ditch 9 was possibly part of an earlier iteration of this entrance.

4.34 Pit 1109 was identified to the south-west of Enclosure 8 and contained a series of sterile, redeposited natural fills, with the uppermost horizon then consisting of dumped material likely of domestic origin. The material recovered from this deposit included a substantial assemblage of mid to late 4th-century pottery, animal bone, fuel ash slags and two coins, RAs 1086 and 1087 (a 1st to 3rd-century *as* or *dupondius* of unidentifiable emperor, and a radiate of Tetricus II, dating to 272-274). The nature of the backfills of this feature suggest possible deliberate backfilling of a natural hollow or tree-throw pit in order to consolidate the ground in the area.

4.35 At the west of the site a new enclosure, Enclosure 3, measured approximately 21m by 18m, and cut the earlier ditch alignments 3 and 6 (Fig. 5 sections CC and DD). This enclosure included a smaller, sub-circular enclosure, perhaps an animal pen, at its north-eastern corner and likely entrance, measuring *c.* 7m in diameter. A large number of charred plant remains were recovered from this small enclosure, suggesting crop processing took place in the vicinity (Appendix 15). The analysis of what were thought to be possible archaeometallurgical residues from the site revealed that most were fuel ash slags of the type commonly encountered in grain-drying ovens (Appendix 7), which may also indicate crop processing in the wider vicinity of the site. The enclosure contained no internal features and there was no other evidence for their function; it may have been used for agricultural processing or for keeping livestock. The pottery produced pottery which was predominantly of 2nd-century date, although its stratigraphic relationship with Ditch Alignments 3 and 6, which yielded pottery of 3rd-4th century date, suggests it is likely to relate to the latest developments at the site.

4.36 Further to the west, a short linear feature was identified, Ditch 33, which measured 8.3m in length, up to 1.25m in width and 0.6m deep. This ditch contained a remarkable group of objects, including animal bone and pottery dating to the 3rd to 4th centuries, a collection of hobnails (RA 1105), a number of domestic iron objects (including RAs 1106 and 1108), a silver coin (RA 1094; a silver denarius of Septimus Severus from AD 207) and a silver object (RA 1095; a silver denarius of Gordian III from AD 238-44 set within a polygonal silver ring; Fig. 9). The placement of these objects within this isolated feature may represent further evidence of structured deposition on the site, or possibly a hoard.

4.37 The latest Period 4 deposits identified consisted of three buried soil horizons, 1031, 1944 and 1957. These deposits, which were situated at the north-east. north-west and south of the excavated area respectively, consisted of clayey-silts, broadly dateable to the 4th century, sealing all archaeological features within these areas. It is probable that these deposits relate to silting within the areas of previous activity; the depressions left by the earlier cut features were gradually filled with waterborne silts after their abandonment.

Period 5: Activity post-dating the Roman period

4.38 Potential evidence for Post-Roman activity included RA 1052, a finely made copper-alloy buckle (Fig. 10) recovered from the subsoil horizon on site. Dating to between the later 4th to mid-7th centuries, the object is a rare occurrence in the region and is also unusual in that it comes from a non-burial context (Appendix 6).

4.39 Regularly spaced, broadly north/south aligned linear furrows were recorded within the main area of the excavation, with evidence also identified for east/west aligned furrows in the northern contingency area. These furrows correspond with extensive earthworks and geophysical anomalies in the wider area, suggesting that the site and its surroundings were used for agriculture during the medieval and post-medieval periods.

4.40 A total of eight examples of post-medieval lead shot were recovered from the topsoil horizon during the course of the excavation (Appendix 6). Each of the specimens displayed evidence of having yet to be filled down ready for firing, with casting seams and sprues still present on the majority of the shot. It is possible that this assemblage relates to the nearby Battle of Prestbury that took place during the English Civil War in 1643, approximately 1.5km to the north-west. The Royalist army occupied Cleeve Hill and marched down through Prestbury to attack the Parliamentarian stronghold in Cheltenham. Prestbury was the scene of a Parliamentary counter-attack and it is believed that street fighting between the two forces took place in the village (CH2M 2016).

Period 6: Undated

4.41 A small number of undated features were identified across the excavated area, mainly consisting of small discreet features and probable tree-throw pits. The relative dearth of clear evidence for activity from periods other than the Late Iron Age/Roman periods make it likely that these features relate to activity during Periods 2, 3 and 4, although it is not possible to state this with certainty.

5 FACTUAL DATA AND STATEMENTS OF POTENTIAL

Stratigraphic Record: factual data

5.1 Following the completion of the fieldwork an ordered, indexed, and internally consistent site archive was compiled in accordance with specifications presented in the Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Manager's Guide (Historic England 2015a). A database of all contextual and artefactual evidence and a site matrix was also compiled and cross-referenced to spot-dating. The fieldwork comprises the following records:

Context sheets	1514
Plans (1:10, 1:20, 1:100)	1
Sections (1:10, 1:20, 1:50)	401;15; 1
Sample sheets	28
Monochrome Films	0
Digital photographs	1252
Matrices	1

5.2 The survival and intelligibility of the site stratigraphy was good with archaeological remains having survived as negative features; most features have been assigned a preliminary period based on context dates, stratigraphy and/or spatial association.

Stratigraphic record: statement of potential

5.3 A secure stratigraphic sequence is essential to elucidating the form, purpose, date, organisation and development of the various phases of activity represented. This can be achieved through detailed analysis of the sequence and further integration of the artefactual dating evidence. The refined sequence will then serve as the spatial and temporal framework within which other artefactual and biological evidence can be understood.

5.4 While the stratigraphic record forms a complete record of the archaeological features uncovered, the complexity of some of the stratigraphic relationships, especially at the north of the site, where there were many intercutting ditches of irregular form, makes it difficult to ascertain the relationships between some of the features. This necessitates further analysis of selected areas of complex stratigraphy.

Artefactual record: factual data

5.5 All finds collected during the excavation have been cleaned, marked, quantified and catalogued by context, as appropriate. All metalwork has been x-rayed and stabilised where appropriate.

Type	Category	Count	Weight (g)
Pottery	Prehistoric	29	200
	Late Iron Age/Roman	5068	70941
	Total	5097	71141
Flint	Worked/burnt	9	23
Fired Clay	All	396	2256
Brick/tile	ALL	41	1993
Glass	Vessel	3	13
	Window	0	0
	Objects (beads)	1	0.4
Coins	Roman	68	111
	Modern	2	5
Metals	Iron	97	603
	Copper alloy	96	311
	Lead alloy	28	1057
	Residues	24	462
Worked bone	All	3	14
Stone	Objects	13	7640
	Building stone	18	1194
	Burnt	1	39
	Fossil	1	254

5.6 The site produced a rich finds assemblage, which included a number of unusual aspects. The finds assemblage was dominated by pottery, principally Roman, dating from the Late Iron Age/early Roman transitional period to the mid/late 4th-century. Of particular note amongst the pottery assemblage was a sherd from a face flagon, a find with potential religious significance. It is also noteworthy that the pottery assemblage included a reasonable number of samian sherds, and, of these, a small number of sherds were of Southern Gaulish origin; early Southern Gaulish samian has been shown to be exceptionally rare at sites in the countryside (Brindle 2017a; Timby 2017). A possible copper-alloy 'votive' chisel or axe may also suggest a religious focus at the site or nearby. A striking number of Roman coins were recovered, far more than is typical for a low-status rural settlement (Brindle 2017b), and an unusual coin find was a silver denarius within a setting, likely from a finger ring. The number of brooches recovered is also more than is typical for a Roman rural site (Brindle in press), and there were some unusual examples. Other notable finds included a glass bead, a fragment from a possible glass unguent vessel, an unusual worked stone vessel, a shale bracelet

and a lava quernstone. A fossilised vertebra from an ichthyosaur placed within a pit potentially represents evidence for structured deposition. Together, the finds assemblage from the site strongly indicates that the site was not a simple rural settlement, and possibly had religious associations. A small group of residual worked flints suggests limited prehistoric activity in the general area, possibly during the Mesolithic or Early Neolithic.

Worked flint

5.7 A small group of nine residual worked lithics was recovered, some of probable Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date.

Pottery

5.8 Pottery from the site includes 29 late prehistoric in handmade fabrics, almost all residual in Roman contexts. The bulk of the assemblage is of Late Iron Age/Roman date, totalling 5068 sherds, including 557 handmade types that span the Middle to Late Iron Age/Early Roman periods. The Roman pottery covers the whole of the Roman period, up until the mid/late 4th century AD. The assemblage is dominated by Severn Valley Ware, with regional imports dominated by South-east Dorset Black Burnished Ware. Continental imports included a small group of samian. Jars are the most common form, with dishes, bowls and tankards also well represented. A small number of flagons were identified, and one flagon sherd was notable for being from a face flagon.

Fired Clay

5.9 A total of 396 fragments of fired clay were recovered, including a number of fragments with flat sides or wattle impressions indicating that they were daub.

Brick/Tile

5.10 A total of 41 fragments of ceramic building of Roman date was recovered. Most were unidentifiable, although fragments of brick, roof tile and abraded fragments of box flue tile were identified.

Glass

5.11 A small glass assemblage of four objects included a bead of Iron Age or Roman date, a handle from a jug or flask and a possible unguent bottle fragment, both dating from the 1st-3rd centuries AD, along with a small fragment of modern bottle glass.

Coins

5.12 A relatively large assemblage of coins included 68 Roman coins and two of modern date. The Roman coins were predominantly 3rd-century radiates and 4th-century *nummi,* although earlier coins were represented by two *dupondii* struck under Antoninus Pius, AD 138-161, an *as* or *dupondius* of uncertain emperor and a silver *denarius* of Septimius Severus, dated to AD 207. The 3rd-century radiates and 4th-century *nummi* included contemporary copies, and the latest coins in the Roman group were of the House of Valentinian, dateable to AD 364-378. Broadly speaking the group is typical of coin assemblages from the region, with few coins of early date and a greater number of late 3rd and 4th-century issues. The two modern coins comprise a silver sixpence of George III dateable to 1817 and a copper-alloy half penny of Victoria, dateable to 1861.

Metals

5.13 In addition to the coins, a moderately large metalwork assemblage was recorded, totalling 155 items, a sizeable proportion of which were recovered on site by metal detector prospection. Where dating is possible, most items relate to the Roman period, although an early medieval object and a number of post-medieval items were also recorded. The majority of objects of copper alloy comprise small personal objects, in particular brooches (17). The majority of the brooches are types dateable to the late 1st to 2nd centuries AD. Notable finds among the Roman metalwork include brooches of unusual form, a possible votive 'axe' (RA. 1134) and a silver object (Ra. 1095). The latter is part of a coin-set ring incorporating a *denarius* of Gordian III dating to AD 238. It was found close to a second *denarius* of AD 207 and the two may represent part of a structured deposit, or possibly a jeweller's hoard. Other aspects of the metalwork assemblage, the prominence of brooches (and coins) and the possible votive 'axe' hint further at a ritual aspect to the site, possibly relating to its 'wet' setting. Most notable among the few objects possibly dateable to the post-Roman period is a highly ornamented buckle (Ra. 1052), although it is possible that this was also of Late Roman date. In addition, a group of lead shot recovered from topsoil/subsoil deposits provides evidence for activity probably dating to the mid-17th century English Civil wars.

Metallurgical residues

5.14 Of the residues submitted for assessment, only one may have been a metallurgical slag and was derived from the burning of coal, likely during

blacksmithing. Other residues were found to be fuel ash slags relating to domestic fires or possibly fuel used in grain-drying ovens, a fragment of burnt limestone and two concretions of iron.

Worked bone

5.15 Two worked bone items were recovered, a plain handle from a knife or other such implement, and a fragmentary toggle. Both are likely to be of Roman date based upon the contexts within which they were found.

Stone

5.16 A total of 13 fragments of worked stone were recovered, including five rotary quern fragments (including one of lava – unusual at Roman-period rural settlements), a fragment from an unusual bowl or mortar, a whetstone, three probable hones and three fragments of slabs possibly used as roof tiles.

Fossil

5.17 A fossilised vertebra from an ichthyosaur placed within pit 1634 potentially represents evidence for structured deposition at the site.

Artefactual record: statements of potential

Worked flint

5.18 The lithics assemblage is very small and almost entirely redeposited. It demonstrates prehistoric activity on the site, although possibly on a limited scale, including during the Mesolithic or Early Neolithic period.

Pottery

5.19 The Roman pottery from the site is one of few sizeable assemblages excavated in or near to Cheltenham from the period, comparing most closely with that from St. James' Car Park, Cheltenham (Coleman and Watts 2008, 92–3) and West Drive, Cheltenham (Catchpole 2002, 90–2). The pottery assemblage may be used to refine the provisional site phasing and more detailed analysis may aid understanding of the site, its chronology, character and status. Further research should be carried out on the face flagon to establish whether such vessels are typically associated with religious sites, which might reinforce the suggestion of a ritual focus for the site, as indicated by several other elements of the finds assemblage.

Fired clay

5.20 The fired clay cannot be dated and adds little to the understanding or interpretation of the site. The small number of burnt daub fragments provide limited evidence for structures.

Brick/Tile

5.21 Although the excavated area did not uncover any structures, this small assemblage of Roman ceramic building material provides probable evidence for at least one structure roofed with ceramic tile in the vicinity of the site.

Glass

5.22 This very small assemblage has limited potential to add to the understanding of the site and no further analysis is required.

Coins

5.23 The Roman coins are of importance primarily as dating evidence to inform understanding/discussion of the chronology of the Roman activity, although they may also aid characterisation of the site. The group has the potential for investigating wider Romano-British patterns of coin use/loss at site/local and regional level.

Metals

5.24 The metalwork assemblage is of interest in a number of respects and has the potential to inform the understanding of this site and of wider settlement and depositional practices in the region. The assemblage merits inclusion in the online report to include an illustrated catalogue of selected objects and a report discussing the character of the group. Reporting should explore further the evidence suggestive of 'structured' deposition.

Metallurgical residues

5.25 The limited assemblage means that there is little research potential in the pyrotechnological residues. X-radiography of the iron concretions might aid with the identification of their iron cores.

Worked Bone

5.26 The worked bone items do not add to the dating or interpretation of the site and no further analysis or recording is required. The online report should include a paragraph describing these objects but no illustration is necessary.

Stone

5.27 The stone assemblage has moderate potential to contribute to our understanding of the site. The assemblage consists of rotary querns and whetstones/hones, as well as a decorated stone bowl. These can all be considered to be representative of general domestic activity, but the decorated bowl is very unusual, almost certainly indicating a higher status site, and the lava quern can also be considered unusual in the area, perhaps suggesting contacts not available to all.

Fossil

5.28 The ichthyosaur fossil from pit 1634 represents possible evidence for structured deposition at the site. Preliminary research suggests that this may be part of a wider pattern within Roman Britain where fossils were viewed as particularly appropriate objects for inclusion in carefully placed deposits, especially at sites with a religious focus. Further research may identify the extent to which fossils were placed in structured deposits at sites in Britain during the Roman period, and whether this phenomenon has a particular association with religious sites. A brief review of the classical literature may provide an insight into the way that fossils were perceived during antiquity, at least by members of the literate elite within the wider Roman Empire.

Biological record: factual data

5.29 All ecofacts recovered from the excavation have been cleaned, marked, quantified and catalogued (as appropriate) by context. A total of 26 bulk samples were taken for the recovery of environmental remains, with a combined volume of 447 litres. However, the unfortunate loss of some of the processed material during transportation between CA offices by courier meant that 11 samples, with a combined volume of 159 litres, were lost in their entirety. The table below lists only the remaining samples. In addition, two monolith samples were taken.

Type	Category	Count
Animal bone	Fragments	308
Samples	Environmental	15

Animal Bone

5.30 A moderate assemblage of animal bone was recovered from various Roman features, totalling 308 fragments. Preservation was poor, although there was minimal evidence for intrusive or residual material. Cattle bones predominated,

with sheep/goat the next most common. Pig, equid (horse or donkey) and canid (dog or fox) remains were recorded less frequently. Few butchery marks were observed. Several pathological bones were recorded, all associated with age-related changes.

Plant macrofossil and charcoal

5.31 The 15 environmental samples (199 litres of soil) were processed from a range of ditches and a buried soil of Roman and Late Roman date. Charred remains were found in varying degrees of preservation. There was no evidence for any waterlogging of the deposits from the environmental remains.

5.32 Small assemblages of charred plant remains were recovered from Period 3 Enclosure 1, Ditch alignment 6, Enclosure 5 and Ditch 15, with species including hulled wheat, emmer or spelt grain and glume base fragments. A few of the chaff elements and glume base fragments were identifiable as being those of spelt wheat. A few fragments of charcoal greater than 2mm were also present. Period 3 (Roman) Ditch Alignment 5 produced a moderate assemblage including barley grain fragments, hulled wheat grain and glume base fragments, seeds of vetch/wild pea and clover/medick, hazelnut shell fragments, and charcoal fragments.

5.33 Period 4 (Late Roman) features with charred plant remains included Enclosure 3; Fill (1180) (sample 8) contained a high number of charred plant remains, especially cereals, including hulled wheat grain, glume base and spikelet fork fragments and barley grain fragments. Some of the chaff elements were identifiable as being those of spelt wheat and a number of the grains showed traces of germination. This assemblage may be indicative of a dump of waste material from a late stage of the crop processing process together with other domestic settlement waste material. Only small assemblages of charred plant remains and charcoal were recovered from other Period 4 features, including ditches 9, 25 and 26 and buried soil 1031. These small assemblages are suggestive of dispersed waste material.

5.34 The two monolith samples were not sent for description and pollen assessment as the plant remains from the site were considered to be too poor.

Biological record: statements of potential

Animal bone

5.35 The inclusion of sieved samples means that there is good potential for small bones, birds, fish and micro-mammals to be recovered, and sample sizes for both Roman phases are large enough to warrant detailed recording and analysis. However, material was highly fragmentary and poorly preserved, and an over-representation of teeth and very dense bones should be expected. If this bias can be accounted for, there is potential for the assemblage to provide an insight into the local economy of the site, and the diet of those living nearby. The likely loss of resolution means that there is limited potential for a consideration of the findings on a regional scale. Analysis therefore has the potential to investigate aspects of diet, trade and economy on a site level only. No obvious associated bone groups were observed and there was limited evidence for butchery. There is nothing to suggest that this is an unusual assemblage, and its significance lies in providing data to better inform the wider picture of rural Roman settlement in Gloucestershire.

Plant macrofossil and charcoal

5.36 There is some small potential for more detailed analysis of a selection of the charred plant assemblages from Periods 3 and 4 to provide some limited information on the nature of the settlement and surrounding landscape, the range of crops and the crop-processing activities taking place on site.

5.37 There is low potential for comparing these results with those from other assemblages of a similar date in the wider area, such as at Mythe to Mitcheldean mains reinforcement (Wyles 2016), as the assemblages are small.

5.38 There is some potential for the analysis of a selection of the charcoal to provide some limited information on the range of species and the exploitation and management of the local woodland resource during the Roman period.

6 SUMMARY STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL

6.1 The archaeological features on site principally relate to the Roman period, with evidence for post-Roman activity limited to a small number of artefacts and plough furrows. Evidence for earlier activity at the site was present in the form of residual Mesolithic or Early Neolithic flints. The Roman features are of principal interest.

Late Iron Age to Early Roman

6.2 The Period 2 features were limited to a small number of ditches, one of which may have been related to an enclosure at the south-east of the site. The limited numbers of features of this period make characterisation of the activity of this period difficult, although further stratigraphic analysis of the ditches may elucidate their function.

Early to mid-Roman

6.3 The Period 3 features comprised a large enclosure occupying the north-east of the site, which contained a complex series of intercutting ditches, likely associated with drainage. Further analysis of these ditches may elucidate their function. A natural palaeochannel which ran through the centre of the site appears to have been canalised, possibly to aid drainage of the area. Assessment of environmental samples does not suggest it was permanently waterlogged; further stratigraphic analysis of this feature may allow for a better understanding of its function. This large ditch would have formed a major landscape feature, and finds recovered from within its fills, including a brooch and a fragment from a face flagon, may suggest it was a focus for deliberate deposition of objects. Further analysis of the finds assemblage from this feature, and comparison of finds assemblages from other sites, may clarify whether the ditch is likely to have been a focus for ritual expression. Closer integration of the pottery with the features of this provisional period may allow more refined dating of the features.

6.4 Pit 1444 was potentially a grave, although only animal bone was identified. Further analysis of this feature may elucidate its function. Pit 1634 was notable for containing a fossil, which appears to have been deliberately placed. There is potential for comparison with other Romano-British sites where fossils have been deliberately deposited.

6.5 At the south-west of the site two ditch alignments may have been part of a trackway leading to the entrance. To the east of the potential trackway a group of features potentially relate to one or more rectilinear structures; further analysis of these features may better establish their function.

Late Roman

6.6 During the late Roman period (late 3rd/4th centuries) the initial enclosure at the north of the site appears to have been replaced by a subsequent large enclosure, with an entrance located to the south-east of the earlier enclosure entrance. This

enclosure was also subject to intensive ditch digging, possibly associated with drainage. Further stratigraphic analysis of the ditches may allow their sequence to be better understood, and their function to be more confidently ascertained. Closer integration of the pottery and coins with the features of this provisional period may allow for more refined dating of the features.

6.7 A number of unusual finds were recovered from the ditches associated with this late Roman enclosure, including a rare stone mortar, along with hobnails, coins and brooches. At the west of the site, Ditch 33 contained a remarkable finds assemblage including a silver coin and a silver coin within a setting, probably from a finger ring. Further analysis of this feature and its finds assemblage may allow its function to be better understood, including whether it is likely to have been a structured deposit associated with possible religious activity at the site, or part of a hoard (the two possibilities are not mutually exclusive).

6.8 At the west of the site a small enclosure was constructed during the Late Roman period, overlying the earlier trackway ditches. Further stratigraphic analysis may refine understanding of the archaeological sequence in this area. A large number of charred plant remains were recovered from this small enclosure, suggesting crop processing took place in the vicinity, and further analysis of the charred plant remains from this feature may clarify the nature of this activity.

Review of original aims and objectives

6.9 The aims and objectives set out in sections 2.1 and 2.2 have been achieved, with the uncovered archaeological features preserved by record and the artefactual and biological material assessed.

6.10 Assessment of the stratigraphy and material remains from the site has demonstrated that the site has the potential to contribute to the broader research aims presented in sections 2.3 and 2.4. Further analysis of the stratigraphy, artefacts and biological material from the site is recommended in order to better understand the chronological development of the site, and to allow the results from the excavation to be characterised and contextualised with regard to local, regional and national patterns of Roman settlement. In particular, the sequence with which some of the complex intercutting ditches within Enclosures 2 and 9 were cut, and the chronological development of the enclosures and their relationship with the canalised paloaeochannel and possible trackway, need to be better established. Further analysis of plant macrofossils from a limited number of

contexts may contribute to our understanding of Romano-British crop husbandry practices. The rich artefact assemblage warrants analysis as it has the potential to contribute to our understanding of the lives, identity and beliefs of the people who occupied this site. It is proposed that following analysis the site is published as an online report on the Cotswold Archaeology website, with a short summary published in the *Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society*.

7 STORAGE AND CURATION

7.1 The archive is currently held at CA offices, Kemble, whilst post-excavation work proceeds. Upon completion of the project and with the agreement of the legal landowners, the site archive and artefactual collection will be deposited with The Wilson: Cheltenham Art Gallery & Museum, which has agreed in principle to accept the complete archive upon completion of the project.

8 UPDATED AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

8.1 The archaeological sequence at this site is primarily of local and regional significance, although the site has the potential to contribute information to our broader understanding of regional distinctions in rural settlement morphology, and, potentially, to our understanding of varying expressions of religious practice in Roman Britain.

8.2 To fulfil the potential of the site data, the following updated objectives have been defined by reference to a recent large-scale study of rural settlement in Roman Britain (RRSP) (Allen et al. 2017; Smith et al. 2016; Allen et al. 2015; Smith et al. in press), along with the South West Archaeological Research Framework (Grove and Croft 2012). The apparent ditched enclosures and trackways present at the site may allow the site to be classified based upon its morphology, and, in particular, this will contribute to Research Aim 29 in the South West Archaeological Framework – to improve understanding of non-villa Roman rural settlement (Grove and Croft 2012, 19). Furthermore, if, as suggested by some unusual aspects of the finds assemblage, the site was a focus for religious activity, it may have the potential to contribute to our understanding of the development of

Roman period ritual sites, in terms of their chronology, morphological development and geographical distribution. This has the potential to contribute to Research Aim 55 in the South West Archaeological Framework – to improve understanding of late-Roman religion (Grove and Croft 2012, 32).

Objective 1: refine understanding of the site chronology, from the beginning to the end of occupation

8.3 This will be achieved through a detailed examination of the stratigraphy and contextual analysis of the dateable finds. Contextual analysis of the dateable finds will seek to define the chronology of the sequence of enclosures and other features at the site, allowing more confident sub-phasing of the respective enclosures, the canalised palaeochannel, the trackway and the potential structures.

8.4 The pottery fabrics and form will be characterised and reported on in detail, and comparisons sought, with emphasis placed on an attempt to refine the dating. Integration of the pottery records with the stratigraphic sequence will allow individual features on the site to be dated more confidently, allowing their relationships and phasing to be better understood. This will enhance our understanding of the dates of the different phases at the site.

Objective 2: use the updated phasing and stratigraphic analysis to characterise the changes to the site overtime

8.5 Once a clearer understanding of the phasing of the individual features has been gained, it will be possible to characterise the different phases of activity. The construction of Ditch Alignment 5 (apparently representing the canalisation of an existing palaeochannel) and the large Enclosure 2, which evidently extended outside the area of excavation to the north and east, as demonstrated by the evidence from geophysical survey, appear to represent a dramatic transformation of the landscape at some point following the Roman Conquest. This may contribute to Research Aim 10 in the South West Archaeological Framework – to address a lack of understanding of key transitional periods (Grove and Croft 2012, 19).

8.6 Topics of investigation will include:

- Is it possible to establish whether there was any continuity between Period 2 (late Iron Age/Early Roman activity) represented by Enclosure 1 at the

South-East of the site, and the construction of large Enclosure 2, the possibly associated trackway and canalised palaeochannel in Period 3?

- To what extent does the construction of new Enclosure 9 in Period 3 represent a continuation of the activity previously represented at the site in Period 2? The two large enclosures were on similar alignments, but the shift towards the south-east is a significant change. The updated phasing and stratigraphic analysis may help determine whether the apparent trackway at the west of the site were planned features associated with Enclosure 2, as appears to have been the case based upon their shared orientation and preliminary dating
- How late did activity continue at the site? One of the principal challenges in the study of Roman rural sites continues to be reliably ascertaining the date of abandonment (and often foundation) for settlements (Smith and Fulford 2016, 414), so to what extent can further stratigraphic analysis and contextual analysis of pottery allow us to establish the end date of the settlement with greater confidence?

Objective 3: establish the function/nature of the site during its different phases, by integrating material culture with the stratigraphic sequence

8.7 A large finds assemblage was recovered from the site, with a number of unusual aspects; contextual analysis of artefacts and other material may elucidate functions for some features/areas. Can any of the finds recovered from the sequence of ditches within Enclosures 2 and 9, or from the canalised palaeochannel Ditch Alignment 5, aid understanding of their purpose or function?

8.8 Integration of the finds records with the stratigraphic sequence is needed in order to better understand how morphological developments at the site (e.g. the initial construction of Ditch Alignment 5, Enclosure 2, the possible trackway and Enclosure 9) may be related to changes in the supply and use of material culture, especially the pottery assemblage, but also the coins, brooches and other artefacts. Along with comparison with assemblages from other local sites, this may contribute towards a better understanding of pottery supply and chronology in the region.

Objective 4: establish the function/nature of the site during its different phases, by integrating environmental material with the stratigraphic sequence

8.9 While the potential for environmental material to contribute to our understanding of the site is generally low, the integration of some evidence with the stratigraphic sequence may provide some information about the nature of the site and its environment during the Roman period; charred plant remains from Enclosure 3, in particular, may provide information on Late Roman crop husbandry practices, while analysis of the animal bone may provide information about animal husbandry.

8.10 The analysis of a limited selection of the charcoal, particularly from Ditch Alignment 5, Enclosure 3 and Buried Soil 1031, has the potential to provide some information on the range of species and the exploitation and management of the local woodland resource during the Roman period.

Objective 5: consider the evidence for potential 'structured deposits' at the site

8.11 Carefully placed ritual deposits are a well-recognised feature of prehistoric and Roman rural sites, especially those with a religious emphasis. The unusual aspects of the finds assemblage, including a relatively large brooch assemblage and some notable individual artefacts, such as the face flagon fragment, the ichthyosaur fossil, the coin within a setting, the decorated mortar, the quernstone of lava the 'votive' chisel or axe, along with hobnails from a number of features represent several instances of the apparent deliberate placement of certain types of object in particular locations. Analysis of the precise contexts in which artefacts from the site were recovered may elucidate the nature of the activity at the site, and whether this changed over time. The placement of the ichthyosaur fossil in Pit 1634 is of particular interest, and comparison with other sites with known placement of fossils (several of which are recorded on the Roman Rural Settlement Project database) may provide further information about the character of the site.

Objective 6: place the site in its national and regional context

8.12 While there is evidence for some activity at the site during the Late Iron Age/Early Roman period, a major development occurred during the Early Roman period, with the construction of Enclosure 2 and the digging of Ditch Alignment 5 through the existing palaeochannel. This may be part of the widespread increase in evidence for large-scale landscape reorganisation during the late 1st and 2nd centuries AD

in parts of Roman Britain; the site is within and towards the west side of the region defined as the 'Central Belt' by the Roman Rural Settlement Project (Smith 2016), within which such changes are manifest.

8.13 Queries include: is the establishment of a new enclosure and a trackway at Priors Farm, apparently during the early Roman period, reflective of changes in land ownership in the decades following the Roman Conquest?

8.14 Does the unusual artefact assemblage and apparent deliberate deposition of some artefacts in pits and ditches hint at a religious focus for the site, and to what extent does the site's morphological development compare with other sites with similar evidence? Further analysis is recommended to place this site in context by comparing it with other regional examples of this settlement type, and with recently excavated Roman settlements, using information available in the Roman Rural Settlement volumes and the associated online database (Allen *et al.* 2015).

8.15 The topographical position of the site, on the slope of the Cotswold escarpment, is worthy of consideration; comparison with the specific topographical locations of other Roman period sites with similarly unusual finds assemblages, using information available in the Roman Rural Settlement volumes and the associated online database (Allen *et al.* 2015), may contribute to our understanding of its character.

Objective 7: consider the evidence for post-Roman land-use

8.16 While relatively little evidence for post-Roman activity was identified, plough furrows were recognised, and these may contribute towards our understanding of land-use in the post-Roman period. The orientation of the plough furrows will be compared with early OS maps and existing field boundaries, which may contribute to our understanding of the date of the furrows, potentially enhancing our understanding of local post-Roman land-use and how these features fit into the historic landscape.

9 PUBLICATION

9.1 The results from the investigations of the site at Priors Farm are of local and regional significance, and merit publication. The presence of the sequence of enclosures and trackway, along with the evidence for structured deposition, are of

considerable importance for our understanding of the development of Roman period rural landscapes, and perhaps of religious practices, in the region.

9.2 It is proposed that a full excavation report is produced and made available to download via the Cotswold Archaeology website, along with a summary account of approximately 8 pages published in the Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society.

Synopsis of Proposed Summary Publication for Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society

Land at Priors Farm, Whaddon
by Tom Brindle and Alex Thomson

Introduction	200
The Late Iron Age/Early Roman activity	200
The Early to Mid Roman enclosure and trackway	600
The Late Roman enclosures and associated ditches	600
The artefactual and ecofactual evidence	800
Discussion	2350
Acknowledgements	50
Total Words	4800
Bibliography	1 page

Illustrations (site location plan; phase plan; selected finds) 4 Figures

Approx. 12 full pages in TBGAS
(approx. 800 words per page)

10 PROJECT TEAM

10.1 The analysis and publication programme will be quality assured by **Martin Watts FSA MCIfA** (Head of Cirencester Office: HCO) and managed by **Dr Tom Brindle MCIfA** (Post-excavation Manager: PXM), who will contribute to the discussion as senior author (SA) and co-ordinate the work of the following personnel:

Neil Holbrook FSA MCIfA (Chief Executive Officer: CEO)
Advice on Roman archaeology and contribution to overall discussion

Alex Thomson (Project Officer: PO):
Post-excavation phasing, draft report preparation, research and archive

Ed McSloy MCIfA (Finds Manager: FM):
Specialist report preparation and liaison, post-excavation phasing.

Jacky Sommerville PCIfA (Finds Officer: FO)
Specialist report preparation

Sharon Clough MCIfA (Environmental Officer (Osteologist): Osteo)
Environmental specialist liaison

Sarah Wyles ACIfA (Senior Environmental Officer: EO)
Specialist report preparation plant macrofossil, molluscs and liason

Aleks Osinska (Illustrator: ILL):
Production of all site plans, sections and artefact drawings

Jon Bennett ACIfA (Principal Geomatics Officer: GO):
GIS applications

10.2 Contributions by the following external consultants will be managed by the Finds Manager:

- **Ruth Shaffrey**: Worked Stone
- **Pieta Greaves**: Metalwork conservation

10.3 Contributions by the following external consultants will be managed by the Environmental Officer:

- **Dana Challinor**: Archaeobotanist (Wood and Charcoal)
- **Dr Matilda Holmes** (Consultant) - Zooarchaeologist

10.4 The final online publication report will be edited and refereed internally by CA senior project management, and externally refereed by Dr Richard Reece.

11 TASK LIST

TASK	PERSONNEL	DURATION/ COST
Project Management		
	HCO	0.5
	PXM	5
Stratigraphic Analysis and fieldwork narrative		
	PO	7
	SA	1
	FM	0.5
Finds and environmental analysis and reporting		
Pottery and other finds	FM	5
	FO	13
Metalwork X-ray and conservation	External	FEE
Worked stone	External	FEE
CPR	SEO	6
Charcoal	External	FEE
Animal bone	External	FEE
Transport		FEE
Selection of Illustrations	PO	1
Production of illustrations	SI	6
Report preparation	SA	1
Preparation of publication report		
Report production, compilation and editing	SA	6
	PO	1
Quality assurance	HCO	1
	CEO	0.5
Submission to external referees		
Revisions and Editing	SA	1
Submission of summary publication text to TBGAS		
Production of summary report for TBGAS	SA	4
Production of illustrations for publication	SI	3
Printing	TBGAS	FEE
Archive		
Research archive completion and deposition	PO	1
	PX supervisor	3.5
Transport		FEE
ADS		FEE
Deposition fee		FEE

12 TIMETABLE

12.1 For this scale of project, CA would normally aim to have completed an excavation report draft within one year of completion of the updated project design. Assuming commencement in September 2018, a draft online report and summary publication text will be produced by September 2019. A detailed programme can be produced if desired.

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APPENDIX 1: STRATIGRAPHIC ASSESSMENT BY ALEX THOMSON

In total, **1592** contexts were recorded during the evaluation and excavation as detailed below:-

Period	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**6**	**Total**
Evaluation	25	0	37	5	77	6	**152**
Excavation	24	80	861	407	30	38	**1440**
Total	**49**	**80**	**898**	**412**	**107**	**44**	**1592**

Although the archaeological features had undoubtedly been disturbed and truncated through alluvial and colluvial action, and especially by medieval ridge-and-furrow and post-medieval ploughing (Period 5), remnants of the boundary/enclosure/drainage ditches had survived well and retained a generally good artefactual assemblage. The pottery assemblage had an average sherd weight of 13.9g, suggesting that most of the pottery became incorporated into archaeological contexts soon after breakage/disposal and were not exposed to prolonged weathering or abrasion from soil movement.

The majority of the features contained datable artefactual material, with a notable quantity of metalwork (155 items) and coins (70) recovered. Precise dating of the features assigned to the Roman period is hindered by a predominance of long-lived fabric types and forms, particularly Severn Valley and Malvernian wares, which made up 65% of the overall pottery assemblage. However, the number of intercutting features, particularly ditches, meant that the majority of features could be assigned to periods of activity on the basis of stratigraphic relationships, morphological and spatial similarity, and recovered dating evidence. A number of pits remain unassigned to provisional periods.

Whilst some examination of the stratigraphic sequence has been undertaken as part of this assessment, further stratigraphic analysis using information from the artefactual assemblages and environmental data may involve changes to the overall phasing and subsequent narrative of the site.

APPENDIX 2:LITHICS BY JACKY SOMMERVILLE

Introduction and methodology

A total of nine worked lithics (23g) was recovered from the hand-excavation and bulk soil sampling of nine separate deposits. Lithics were recorded according to broad artefact/debitage type and catalogued directly onto a Microsoft Access database. A reduced level of recording was carried out due to the very small assemblage size and its residual nature. Attributes recorded included weight, colour, cortex description (the outer surface of a flint nodule or pebble), degree of edge damage (micro-flaking) and breakage.

Raw material and provenance

All of the lithics were made using flint. Seven items were retrieved as redeposited finds in Period 3 or 4 (Roman) features. One chip was recorded from unphased pit 2075 and one from palaeochannel 1972.

Range and variety

The assemblage comprises one flake, three blades, three chips, a spurred piece and a miscellaneous tool. The relatively high proportion of blades suggests that at least some of the material dates to the Mesolithic or Early Neolithic periods. The miscellaneous item is a flake which displays flake scars on both faces and features an area of regular, semi-abrupt retouch along one convex edge. The spurred piece has been made on a heavily recorticated broken flake. The retouch which forms the spur has 'bitten' through the recortication, indicating that the retouch occurred much later than the production of the flake. These tools, along with the flake and chips, cannot be dated more precisely than to the prehistoric period.

Statement of potential

The lithics assemblage is very small and almost entirely redeposited. It demonstrates prehistoric activity on the site, although possibly on a limited scale, including during the Mesolithic or Early Neolithic period. The level of recording undertaken for assessment is sufficient for the archive and no further analysis is necessary. A paragraph on the lithics should be included in the online report.

APPENDIX 3: POTTERY BY JACKY SOMMERVILLE

Introduction and methodology

A total of 5097 sherds (71141g) was recorded from the excavation of 409 separate deposits and as unstratified finds. Of these, 11 sherds were recovered via the bulk soil sampling of six deposits and the remainder are from hand excavation. The pottery has been sorted by fabric (within context), and quantified according to sherd count/weight and rim EVEs. Where identifiable, vessel form/rim morphology was recorded. Recording also included a note of any evidence for use in the form of carbonised/other residues. Pottery fabric codings, given in parenthesis in the text, are defined in summary in Table 3.1. Codes for prehistoric fabrics have been devised for the purpose of this assessment. Where possible, Roman fabrics are matched with the National Roman Fabric Reference Collection (Tomber and Dore 1998). The total EVEs value is 66.57.

Provenance and condition

The majority of the assemblage was recovered from Ditches 1–34 (34%), Ditch Alignments 1–6 (30%) and Enclosures 1–8 (12%). The small late prehistoric component of the assemblage was quite well broken up, as indicated by the rather low average sherd weight of 6.9g. The Late Iron Age/early Roman and Roman material had undergone a lesser degree of fragmentation, with an average sherd weight of 13.7g. Residues were observed on a number of sherds (none of which are prehistoric in date). Internal 'limey' residue was recorded on 67 sherds (37 of which are from a single vessel from Ditch Alignment 3), suggesting use for the heating or storage of water. Cooking is indicated by the presence of external sooty residues on seven sherds and carbonised (burnt food) residues on 53 sherds. Most of the pottery displays slight to moderate degrees of abrasion. Heavy abrasion was noted on 92 sherds (2% of the total) – the features which produced the largest number of very abraded sherds are buried soil deposit 1031, Ditch Alignment 3 and Ditch Alignment 6.

Assemblage composition

Late prehistoric

Fabrics

Pottery belonging to this date range (Late Bronze Age to Iron Age) totals 29 sherds (200g). All present in handmade fabrics, with primary inclusions of limestone (LI), quartz and limestone (QZLI), quartzite (QZT) or shell (SH). Some of the calcitic tempers (limestone and shell) have leached out due to soil conditions, leaving voids. In other cases it is not clear what material has leached out (VES1, VES2).

Fabric descriptions

BRIQ Common angular voids, 0.5–5 mm. Soft fired. Uneven fracture. 1 sherd.

LI Sparse to common angular voids, 1–7mm. Soft to medium fired. Hackly fracture. 9 sherds.

QZLI Sparse quartz, 1–2 mm; sparse angular voids 1–2 mm. Soft fired. Even fracture. 2 sherds.

QZT Abundant quartz, 0.5–1mm; sparse quartzite 1mm. Medium fired. Even fracture. 1 sherd.

SH Common shell or 'plate-like' voids, 1–4mm. Soft fired. Hackly fracture. 14 sherds.

VES1 Sparse elongated voids, 1-3mm. Soft fired. Hackly fracture. 1 sherd.

VES2 Sparse angular voids, 1-2mm; sparse red iron oxides, 1-2mm; common mica. Soft fired. Hackly fracture. 1 sherd.

Forms

The only rimsherd is from a vessel with a simple, upright rim in fabric SH from Period 4 (Later Roman) Ditch 33. The sherd was insufficient to identify the form more closely, however, the rim diameter of the vessel measures 140mm. Two joining bodysherds in fabric VES1 from Period 4 buried soil deposit 1031 feature a row of fingertip impressed decoration below the rim top.

Chronology

Only broad late prehistoric dating can be assigned to the majority of this pottery, in the absence of decoration or narrowly dateable forms. However, the presence of quartzite tempering in one sherd from Period 3 (Early Roman) Ditch Alignment 6 is suggestive of Late Bronze Age dating. The finger-ornamented sherd described above, from buried soil deposit 1031, may be of Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age date. Briquetage vessels were used for the extraction and transport of salt throughout the Iron Age – a possible briquetage sherd was retrieved from Period 4 buried soil deposit 1031. Almost all of the late prehistoric pottery was recovered as residual in features belonging to Periods 3 or 4. The exceptions are a sherd in fabric VES2 from Period 2 (Late Iron Age) Ditch 4 and possibly three sherds in fabric LI from Period 2 Ditch 1. However, the deposit which produced the latter pottery also contained two Roman sherds.

Roman (including Late Iron Age/Early Roman)

The bulk of the assemblage is of Roman date, totalling 5068 sherds (70941g). Of this, 557 sherds (5784g) are handmade types, the use of which spans the Middle to Late Iron Age/early Roman periods. This material consists of Malvernian igneous/metamorphic rock-tempered ware (MAL REA) (Peacock's Group A), Malvernian limestone-tempered ware (MAL REB, Peacock's Group B) (Peacock 1968, 415–21), a coarse grog/argillaceous fabric possibly of Malvernian origin (MAL REC) and grog-tempered fabrics (GR1, GR3) (Table 3.1). Most identifiable forms in these fabrics are jars, including globular and barrel types (in fabric MAL REC), jars with everted rims (in fabrics MAL REA and REB) and large storage jars with hammerhead rims (in fabric MAL REB). Also present in fabric MAL REA are several jars of the tubby cooking pot type (Peacock 1965–67, 16–8). The forms in fabrics MAL REA and MAL REB are all types in use during the 1st to 2nd centuries AD. An additional two sherds present in a handmade fabric tempered with fine grog (GR2), which is typical of the 'Belgic' tradition in this area during the 1st century AD. The Roman pottery has been moderately broken-up, as indicated by the average sherd weight of 14g.

Fabrics (Roman)

Just over half (51% by weight) of the Roman pottery presents as Severn Valley (oxidised) ware (SVW OX2) (Table 3.1). Severn Valley ware variants (SVW OXG, SVW OXO, SVW RE, SVW REG, SVW REO) make up a further 16%. Other oxidised (OX1, OX2) and reduced (GW1–7, LOCBS, LOCBSF) coarseware fabrics are also common, totalling a further 13%. The most popular regional import is Southeast Dorset Black-burnished ware (DOR BB1, 9%). Products of the Oxford potteries (OXF OX, OXF PA, OXF RS, OXF WH) are also represented, along with small amounts of Harrold Shelly ware (HAR SH) from Bedfordshire, Lower Nene Valley colour-coated ware (LNV CC) manufactured in Cambridgeshire, Savernake Grog-tempered ware (SAV GT) produced in north Wiltshire and New Forest Colour-coated ware (NFO CC).

Forms (Roman)

Jars are the most common form, with dishes, bowls and tankards also well represented (Table 3.2). A small number of flagons was recorded in fabrics GW1 and OX1, and beakers (globular, bag-shaped and folded types) are represented in several fabrics. Identifiable forms in the Severn Valley wares are mostly necked or wide-

mouthed jars (in particular those according with Webster's Type A and Type C) or tankards (mostly with straight or slightly flared sides, although 13% are significantly flared). Carinated bowls (Webster Type H) are also present in these fabrics (Webster 1976, 22–34). Mortaria are either in Oxford Red-slipped ware (OXF RS, both Type 97 [wall-sided] and Type 100 [flanged]) or Oxford White ware (OXF WH, Type M10 and M12 wall-sided variants and M18 and M22 flanged types) (Young 1980, 70–7, 173–5). Of note is a sherd from the handle of a face flagon in fabric OXF RS from Period 3 Ditch Alignment 5. Similar images, of a female with an elaborate hairstyle, are known on flagons in OXF RS, but located on the neck of the vessel (*ibid.*, 149–50; Munby 1975). Southeast Dorset Black-burnished ware (DOR BB1) includes several common forms – jars with everted rims (Seager Smith and Davies Types 1, 2 and 3), dishes with plain rims (Type 20) and flat rims (Type 22), and conical flanged bowls (Type 25). There is also one Type 21 fish dish (Seager Smith and Davies 1993, 230–4). Included in several fabrics (GW1, GW2, GW6, LOC BS, MAL GW, MAL REA, OX1) are vessels which are in imitation of DOR BB1 forms, such as jars with everted rims, and dishes with plain and flat rims. Samian forms include an east Gaulish (EGSA) Dr. 45 mortarium and, in central Gaulish samian (LEZ SA), Drag. 31 and 31r dishes, Drag. 38 bowls and two cups (Drag. 27 and 33) (Webster 1996, 32–4, 38, 45, 55–6).

Chronology

The pottery fabrics and forms demonstrate activity on the site throughout the Roman period, from the Late Iron Age/early Roman transitional period to the mid/late 4th century. The pottery from Enclosures 1 to 3 and 5 to 7 and from Ditch Alignments 1 and 2 suggests earlier Roman activity (Period 3) and that from Enclosures 4 and 8, and Ditch Alignments 4 and 5 includes elements which suggest later Roman activity (Period 4). Ditch Alignment 3 contains pottery from throughout the Roman period.

Statement of potential

The Roman pottery from Whaddon FSA is one of few sizeable assemblages excavated in or near to Cheltenham from the period. It compares most closely with that from St. James' Car Park, Cheltenham, (*c*. 2km to the east-south-east) a site which featured ditches, pits, a ditched field system and two graves (Coleman and Watts 2008, 92–3). The 11.8kg of pottery from St. James' dated from the mid 1st to the 4th centuries, with similar fabrics and forms to those from Whaddon, including the predominance of Severn Valley wares and Southeast Dorset Black-burnished wares (McSloy 2008, 94–6). The assemblage from West Drive, Cheltenham (*c*. 2km to the east-north-east) derives from a site with ditches, enclosures, trackways and pits (Catchpole 2002, 90–2). The composition of the large pottery assemblage is also similar to that from Whaddon and indicates activity from the late 1st to 4th centuries AD. Severn Valley ware is also the most common ware type, followed by Southeast Dorset Black-burnished ware and Malvernian wares (Timby 2002, 92–3).

The pottery assemblage may be used to refine the provisional site phasing. A more detailed analysis may also aid the understanding of the site, its chronology, status, etc. Further research should be carried out on the face flagon to establish whether such vessels are typically associated with religious sites, which might suggest ritual aspects at this site. A report on the pottery assemblage should be prepared for inclusion in the online report.

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Table 3.1: Summary of pottery by fabric

Period	**Fabric code (NFRC Code in bold*)**	**Gloucester. type series codes#**	**Description**	**Count**	**Weight (g)**	**EVEs value**
Late prehistoric	BRIQ		Briquetage	1	22	
	LI		Limestone-tempered	9	34	
	QZLI		Quartz-and-limestone tempered	2	71	
	QZT		Quartzite-tempered	1	5	
	SH		Shell-tempered	14	55	0.09
	VES1		Fine vesicular fabric	1	9	
	VES2		Micaceous vesicular fabric	1	4	
Subtotal				***29***	***200***	***0.09***
Late Iron Age/Early Roman	GR1	TF2A	Grog-tempered (black-firing)	42	379	0.46
	GR2	TF2D	Wheelthrown grog-tempered (Belgic)	2	47	0.1
	GR3	TF2C	Grog-tempered (brown-firing)	59	684	0.1
	MAL REA	TF18	Malvernian rock-tempered	130	1649	1.75
	MAL REB	TF34	Malvernian limestone-tempered ware	158	947	0.32
	MAL REC		Malvernian grog/argillaceous tempered variant	168	1125	0.43
Subtotal				***559***	***4831***	***3.16***
Roman: local	GW1	TF20	Sandy greyware (fine/medium)	337	4579	6.72
	GW2	TF20	Sandy greyware (coarse)	27	360	0.15
	GW3	TF20	Grogged greyware with sparse quartz	57	788	0.74
	GW4	TF20	Fine, micaceous greyware	14	130	0.08
	GW5	TF20	Fine greyware with grog/organic inclusions	24	342	0.17
	GW6	TF20	Severn Valley micaceous greyware	30	467	0.95
	GW7	TF20	North Wiltshire greyware	6	92	
	LOC BS	TF20	Black-firing, sand-tempered	62	672	0.69
	LOC BSf	TF20	Fine black-firing, sand-tempered	4	61	

	LOC CC	TF12R	Local colour-coated ware	20	158	0.59
	MAL GW		Malvernian greyware	39	331	2.52
	MAL SLAB		Slab-built Malvernian (ovens)	4	62	0.4
	OX1	TF20	Sandy oxidised ware (fine)	106	989	1.33
	OX2	TF20	Sandy oxidised ware (coarser)	12	122	0.08
	ROB SH		Roman shelly ware	38	315	0.73
	SVW OX2	TF11B	Severn Valley (oxidised) ware	2470	34086	27.57
	SVW OXG	TF11D	Severn Valley (oxidised) ware grogged	208	7838	2.06
	SVW OXO	TF17	Severn Valley (oxidised) ware with charcoal	114	2496	2.18
	SVW RE	TF11B	Severn Valley (reduced) ware	30	287	0.66
	SVW REG	TF11D	Severn Valley (reduced) ware grogged	1	7	
	SVW REO	TF17	Severn Valley (reduced) ware with charcoal	4	420	0.25
	WH	TF20	Whiteware	8	80	0.03
	WHC	TF20	Coarse whiteware	1	17	
	WHF	TF20	Fine whiteware	14	155	
	WS		Sandy oxidised with cream/white slip	1	39	
Regional	**DOR BB1**	TF4	Southeast Dorset Black-burnished ware	645	5749	7.89
	HAR SH	TF22	Harrold Shelly ware	3	10	0.14
	LNV CC	TF12B	Lower Nene Valley colour coated ware	4	14	0.04
	NFO CC	TF12C	New Forest colour-coated ware	2	32	
	PNK GT		Pink grog-tempered ware	21	1836	0.18
	OXF OX	TF20	Oxford oxidised	1	51	0.08
	OXF PA	TF1A	Oxford parchment ware	1	11	0.07
	OXF RS	TF12A	Oxford red-slipped ware	103	1208	4.89
	OXF WH	TF9A	Oxford white ware	23	836	1.14
	SAV GT	TF6	Savernake grog-tempered ware	17	842	0.15
Continental	**BAT AM**	TF10A	Baetican amphora	1	28	
	EG SA	TF8C	East Gaulish samian	5	58	0.13

	LEZ SA	TF8B	Central Gaulish samian (Lezoux)	45	512	0.71
	LGF SA	TF8A	South Gaulish samian	6	24	
	LMV SA	TB8B	Central Gaulish samian (Les Martres-de-Veyre)	1	6	
Subtotal				***4509***	***66110***	***63.32***
Total				**5097**	**71141**	**66.57**

* National Roman Fabric Reference Collection
# http://glospot.potsherd.net/docs/intro

Table 3.2: Roman forms

Type	**Number of vessels**
Beaker	9
Bowl	78
Cup	2
Dish	86
Face pot	1
Flagon	5
Jar	293
Lid	4
Mortarium	26
Platter	1
Strainer	1
Tankard	86

APPENDIX 4: FIRED CLAY BY JACKY SOMMERVILLE

Introduction

A total of 396 fragments (2,256g) of fired/burnt clay was retrieved from the hand excavation and bulk soil sampling of 91 separate deposits.

Description

The majority is buff or orange in colour and many fragments have a dark grey core. Two-thirds are soft-fired, with the other third medium to hard. No inclusions (except for natural iron oxides) are visible in 67% of fragments, 25% are sandy and 8% display voids resulting from the burning out of fine organic material.

Most fragments are amorphous and retain no features, which might suggest an original form or function. Four feature one flat surface and three fragments display wattle impressions, allowing them to be identified as daub. The burnt daub fragments were retrieved from fill 1641 of Period 4 (Late Roman) Ditch 26, ditch fill 1862 from ditch 34 and ditch fill 2506 from Enclosure 1 (the latter two both belonging to Period 3 – Roman 1st to 3rd centuries).

Statement of potential

The level of recording carried out is sufficient for the archive. The fired clay cannot be dated and adds little to the understanding or interpretation of the site. The small number of burnt daub fragments provide limited evidence of structures. A short paragraph on the fired clay should be included in the online report.

APPENDIX 5: CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL BY JACKY SOMMERVILLE

Introduction

Ceramic building material, all of Roman date, totals 41 fragments (1993g), hand-recovered from 20 separate deposits.

Range and variety

Many fragments are insufficiently complete for more detailed identification, however, a small number could be classified. Two joining fragments of brick were recorded from Period 3 Ditch 31 and ten heavily abraded fragments of box flue tile from Period 4 Enclosure 3. Fragments of roofing tile were also recovered – tegula from Period 4 Ditch 19 and imbrex from Period 4 Ditch 27.

Fabric and condition

Most of the ceramic building material presented in fine, sandy fabrics which fired to a bright orange. A reduced, overfired fragment of tile was recorded from Period 3 Ditch 31. The majority of fragments were slightly to moderately abraded.

Statement of potential

Although the excavated area did not uncover any structures, this small assemblage of Roman ceramic building material provides probable evidence of at least one structure roofed with ceramic tile, in the vicinity of the site. No further recording or analysis is required. The online report site should include a paragraph characterising the ceramic building material assemblage.

APPENDIX 6: METAL FINDS BY ED MCSLOY

A total of 155 metal artefacts was recorded (excluding the coins, which are assessed separately). Of the total, there are 97 items were of iron, 29 of copper alloy, 28 are lead and one object is silver. A significant proportion of the metal artefacts including the majority of the non-ferrous objects were recovered using a metal detector. The objects are listed individually by material, and with provisional phasing/context type, in Table 6.1. Objects requiring cleaning and/or illustration are also indicated.

The metal artefacts were examined by a specialist conservator (Pieta Greaves) and assessment has included x-radiography (x 3 plates) to facilitate identification and clarify details of form. The extent of corrosion/fragmentation is variable; although as tends to be the case, the ironwork is in a poor state, with objects brittle and corrosion/soil obscuring the surfaces. The objects of copper alloy and lead/lead alloy exhibit some corrosion, although typically this does not obscure details of form and construction. All metal objects are currently stored in sealable plastic boxes with desiccating silica gel and are currently considered to be stable. For purposes of this assessment objects have been recorded at a basic level (Table 6.1) and direct to an Access database. Objects are discussed

below according to material and where possible chronologically. Where object use is considered, functional categories, are those defined by Crummy (1983).

Provenance

Context and deposit types are shown for the recovered metalwork in Table 6.1. Most objects were recorded from Roman-phased deposits comprising mainly ditch fills. Some 23 items, including most of the brooches, were from an extensive colluvial subsoil deposit (Table 6.1) and a further 9 objects (mainly of the post-medieval period) were from the topsoil. Of the remainder, 88 items were recovered from ditch fills, 10 (hobnails/nails) from possible grave 1444 and 4 from pits.

Summary

The incidence of object by stratigraphic period is shown in Table 6.1. With the exception a small number of objects dating to the early medieval and post-medieval periods (most from the topsoil) the objects dateable by form are all attributable to the Roman period, and seemingly largely to the 2nd/earlier 3rd centuries AD. There are a significant number of brooches (16), a group including some unusual types. Also notable are a silver setting (Ra. 1095) almost certainly for a finger ring and incorporating a silver *denarius* of Gordian III. This find was found in close proximity to a second ('un-set') *denarius* and both are now the subject of a pending treasure case (Treasure no. ***). The incidence of this and other special finds, together with the high number of coins (69) are thought to suggest a ritual significance to the site.

Assemblage range/chronology

Copper alloy

Of the 29 objects in this material, 19 are items that can be categorised (functionally) as relating to personal adornment/dress. From these 17 are brooches or brooch fragments dating to the Roman period and for the most part to the late 1st to the late 2nd/earlier 3rd centuries. Of those reliably identifiable, two are enamelled plate brooches of differing types, the remainder bow brooches, mainly Trumpet forms, Polden Hill/Colchester derivative and a single Knee brooch (Table 6.1). Brooch (Ra. 1116) is of a very unusual form, a variant of the Trumpet series. It is sinuously 'Celtic' in its style, featuring a divided bow and dolphin-like moulding on the back, lobed mouldings to either side of the head and small cup-like settings (probably for enamel) at the bow and foot. Although Trumpet brooches with divided bows are known Ra. 1116 doesn't fit easily with established typologies.

Roman dress items of copper alloy other than brooches are limited to a probable finger ring (Ra. 1083) and a strip fragment (Ra. 1104) which may be a a portion of a bracelet, straightened for some other purpose. The ring (Ra. 1083) is made from a length of strip (again possibly reused from a bracelet) and rolled so that the terminals overlap.

A Late Roman or earlier post-Roman date is suggested for buckle Ra. 1052, from subsoil layer 1001. It corresponds broadly with Marzinzik's Typegroup II.19b – buckles with a rectangular copper alloy plate (Marzinzik 2003, 232), the dating for which spans the later 5th to mid 7th centuries. It shares affinities, particularly in the form of the pin, with buckles of Hawkes and Dunning's Type 1A (1961, 41-43), the dating for which is probably in the late 4th or 5th centuries AD. The frame of Ra. 1052 frame is D-shaped and lozengiform in section, with a very finely cast pin. The rectangular plate is of thin, folded sheet secured with two rivets close to the terminal. The plate front, which is only partially present, is highly decorated with a complex scheme within borders of notches and triangle-pattern stamping and of multiple scribed lines either side of the pin slot. The central decoration is a

pattern of stamped small rings connected with scribed lines forming a geometric design. The buckle frame is also decorated, as a cast-in geometric arrangement of multiple lines and saltire crosses. The cast pin is zoomorphic in form – the terminal in the form of a beast's snout, with eyes, slit-mouth and a head crest with transverse scribed lines.

Copper alloy objects not relating to dress/personal adornment number only nine items, of which four are too fragmentary for attribution of function. There are two fragmentary 'household' objects, both spoons of Roman type: Ras. 1047 and 1069 (each from subsoil 1001). Ra. 1069 is a portion of a round bowled form of an earlier Roman type comparable to examples from Colchester (Crummy 1983, 69: 'Type 1'). Ra. 1047 is the handle from a form with offset bowl which occurs throughout the Roman period. Object Ra. 1134 (from Roman-dated ditch fill 1752) is of unusual form, strip-like but widening to a chisel-shaped edge and terminating in a short, shouldered tang. It may represent a small crafts tool, a chisel or engraving implement although good parallels of this period are not forthcoming. It more likely represents a miniature 'votive' object, perhaps a chisel or axe.

Two items, a carpet tack from subsoil 1001 (Ra. 1004) and a shotgun cartridge casing probably intrusive within ditch fill 1092, are of recent (modern) dating.

Silver

The single silver object, Ra. 1095 consists of a *denarius* coin of Gordian III within a seven-sided setting - almost certainly for a finger ring. The coin dates to 238 AD, its obverse showing the youthful and bare-headed portrait of Gordian III as Caesar, the reverse the priestly (sacrificial) implements. This object was found by metaldetector within ditch fill 1499 (fill of feature 1655) and in close proximity to a *denarius* (without a setting) of Septimius Severus. The second *denarius* (see coins assessment: Ra. 1094) is a little earlier, dating to AD 207, although it seems likely that these items were deposited together, perhaps as part of a jeweller's hoard or a structured (ritual) deposit.

Finger rings set with coins of silver or gold are relatively rare finds from Roman Britain (Johns 1996, 58) and those that are known date mainly to the late 2nd to mid 3rd centuries. A small number of comparable examples in silver and in polygonal settings have recently come to light as metal detector finds recorded on the Portable Antiquities Scheme database. These examples, from Wiltshire (WILT-B0C652), Dorset (DOR-B43092) and Lincolnshire (LIN-A8E677) incorporate coins sharing earlier 3rd century dating (within the range *c*. AD 202-220/222).

Lead/lead alloy

A total of 28 objects were recorded, including a large number as topsoil/subsoil or unstratified finds (Table 6.1). A steelyard weight of pear-shaped form with an iron setting (Ra. 1006) certainly dates to the Roman period. Objects Ras 1005, 1007, 1025, 1046 and 1130 are probably patch repairs for pottery vessels and also date to the Roman period. Excepting a token or button (Ra. 1002) and a number of lead projectiles, all of post-medieval date (below), the remainder of the comprises irregular or fragmentary objects representative of waste or scrap material and of uncertain date.

The numbers of lead shot (eight) and their uniform size is notable. All were recorded from topsoil deposit 1000, for the most part from the north-eastern area of site. Almost all (seven) are similar in typical for the period across the 17th and earlier 19th centuries. The size would however be appropriate for military pistols or carbines of this period or of 'fowling pieces' in civilian use. None exhibits impact damage suggestive of use and they could

represent losses at the time of manufacture or prior to use. Further indications of this are from the examples (Ras. 1026, 1029, 1032 and 1053) with retained casting 'sprue' marks which would have hampered effective use. A possible context for military action in the area is the action in 1643 as part of the English Civil War which resulted from the Royalist Army in occupation at Cleeve Hill skirmishing with Parliamentarians at Prestbury. A previous metaldetector survey has discovered possible evidence for this in the form of musket shot of 17th century type (DBA Report section 5.3.7)

Iron

The iron objects form the largest group of any one material (97 items), although it includes multiples of similar objects (mainly hobnails) recorded under the same registered artefact number (Table 6.1). The hobnails (57 in total) are of conical or dome headed forms are typical of those used for nailed footwear of the Roman period. Larger (carpentry) nails make up the next most common class, numbering 34 items/fragments. Most are incomplete, consisting of shaft or head fragments. Roman dating can be assumed for the majority, which come from Roman-phased deposits. The few more complete examples compare to standard Roman forms (Manning's Type 1) – with square-sectioned shafts and flattened heads (Manning 1985).

Objects other than nails or hobnails number only six items. Most are very fragmentary (sheet, strip or bar-like) and not attributable to a specific function. Hook Ra. 1108 and a double-spiked loop from Roman-dated ditch fill 1499 are likely to be buildings fittings of Roman date.

Statement of potential and recommendations for further analysis

Despite its limited size and range the metalwork assemblage is of interest in a number of respects and has the potential to inform the understanding of this site and of wider settlement and depositional practices in the region. The assemblage merits inclusion in the online report, to include an illustrated catalogue of selected objects and a report discussing the character of the group. Although the number of metal objects is likely inflated by metal detector prospection, the bias towards brooches and coins (appendix *) is significant and appears suggestive of 'structured' deposition. The occurrence of other 'special' items, including silver setting Ra. 1095 (and associated coin Ra. 1094), the possible votive Ra. 1134, and from among the pottery (Ra. 1131) and stone (Ra. 1136), hints further at a ritual aspect to the site, perhaps as the result of its 'wet' setting. The possibility that the ritual aspect may represent a continuation of pre-Roman practices (of deposition within wet environments), should be explored as part of further analysis.

Objects indicative of post-Roman activity are few in number, but nonetheless are significant. Late Roman/early post-Roman Buckle Ra. 1052 merits illustration/description as a rare occurrence from the region, unusual also in being from a non-funerary context (Marzinzik 2003, 46-47). As already noted the lead shot is notable as additional evidence for a documented engagement during the English Civil War. A note recording this material should be included in the online report.

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Manning, W.H. 1985 *Catalogue of the Romano-British Iron Tools, Fittings and Weapons in the British Museum*. London. British Museum Publications Ltd.

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Table 6.1: Metal finds summary

Material	Prov. Perd.	Context	Ctx_Description	Ra.	Basic	Classif.	Date	Ct.	Remarks
Cu al.	-	1291	Taken for RA 1083	1083	object		Roman?	1	Finger ring? – from rolled strip
	-	1293	Taken for RA 1085	1085	brooch	Polden Hill	C2?	1	small PH; catchpl and spring missing. Flaring bow with dec spine, grooves at end of long wings
	1	1623	Palaeochannel deposit	1112	brooch	Polden Hill	LC1-EC2	1	Brooch – PH var (long, dec wings; lobes to head/bow and open catchpl with dogleg bar
	1	1972	Palaeochannel deposit	1132	object			1	strip - bracelet frag?
	3	1190	Second fill of ditch	1072	brooch	trumpet		1	Brooch frag. – Trumpet (Mackreth Type 7 – as ra 1050)

	3	1282	Third fill of ditch	1076	brooch	Polden Hill	C2	1	Brooch – PH var
	3	1288	Taken for RA 1080 - fill of Ditch 23	1080	brooch	plate	C2-eC3	1	Brooch – enamelled disc (petalled) Macreth 6.3
	3	1364	Third fill of ditch	1098	brooch	Polden Hill?	LC1-C2	1	Brooch frag. (foot only) Openwork catchplate – prob PH
	3	1624	ditch fill	1116	brooch	Trumpet	C2	2	Trumpet var. Tinned. Divided bow, upper 'dolphin' moulding with settings for enamel at bow and foot
	4	1031	Alluvial/colluvial deposit	1074	brooch	Trumpet	C2	1	Brooch – Trumpet
	4	1705	Single fill of ditch	1050	brooch	Trumpet	C2	2	Brooch – Trumpet (Mackreth Type 7 – see 5509)
	4	1752	Single fill of ditch	1134	object			1	strip-like with pointed 'tang'
	5	1000	Topsoil	1048	brooch	Polden Hill	MC1-MC2	1	Brooch frag – PH
	5	1001	Subsoil	1000	brooch	plate	C2-eC3	1	Brooch – small enamelled disc (Mac PL2b)
	5	1001	Subsoil	1001	brooch	CD/T-shaped	C2-eC3	1	Brooch – small T-shaped
	5	1001	Subsoil	1004	nail		pmed	1	Nail/tack
	5	1001	Subsoil	1022	brooch	Trumpet?	LC1-C2?	1	Brooch frag - Trumpet?
	5	1001	Subsoil	1023	brooch	Knee	C2-C3	1	Brooch frag - Knee

	5	1001	Subsoil	1024	brooch	Trumpet	LC1-C2	1	Brooch - Trumpet (type 2 – double lug; double flat moulding for knop
	5	1001	Subsoil	1047	spoon handle		Roman	1	Spoon handle
	5	1001	Subsoil	1049	brooch	Polden Hill	MC1-MC2	1	Brooch frag – PH
	5	1001	Subsoil	1052	buckle		LC5-MC7	1	D-shaped Buckle with decorated pin and plate.
	5	1001	Subsoil	1054	object			1	Object
	5	1001	Subsoil	1069	object		Roman	1	Spoon frag
	5	1001	Subsoil	1070	object			1	Object - strip
Cu al.	5	1530	Furrow fill	1104	object			1	Object - strip
Fe		2108	void	0	hobnail			1	
	3	1067	Single fill of ditch	0	nail			1	shaft
	3	1268	Single fill of pit	0	hobnail			1	
	3	1417	Single fill of pit	1090	hobnail			4	
	3	1417	Single fill of pit	1091	hobnail			4	
	3	1417	Single fill of pit	1092	hobnail			1	
	3	1417	Single fill of pit	1093	nail			1	
	3	1616	Second fill of ditch	0	nail			1	shaft
	3	1689	Single fill of ditch	0	object			1	strap/sheet frag
	3	1916	Second fill of ditch	0	hobnail			1	
	3	1928	Third fill of ditch	0	nail			1	
	3	1937	Single fill of ditch	0	nail			1	
	3	1953	Single fill of ditch	0	nail			2	
	3	2006	Single fill of ditch	0	hobnail			1	
	3	2008	Single fill of ditch	0	hobnail			1	
	3	2101	Single fill of ditch	0	object			1	bar/nail shaft

	3	2469	Single fill of ditch	0	nail			1	
	4	1031	Alluvial/colluvial deposit		hobnail			1	
	4	1113	Fifth fill of probable tree throw	0	nail?			2	shafts?
	4	1163	Single fill of ditch	0	hobnail			1	
	4	1386	First fill of ditch	0	hobnail			1	
	4	1499	Second fill of ditch	0	object			1	double-spiked loop?
	4	1499	Second fill of ditch	1108	object			1	bar-like
	4	1499	Second fill of ditch	1109	hobnail			1	Nail fr
	4	1499	Second fill of ditch	1110	nail			1	shaft
	4	1534	Single fill of ditch	0	nail			3	
	4	1597	Single fill of ditch	1105	nail/hobnail			15	nail shaft x 3; hobnails x 12
	4	1599	Single fill of pit	0	hobnail			1	
	4	1599	Single fill of pit	1106	object			1	strap-like with narrowed teminal, turned up at 90 deg
	4	1630	Second fill of ditch	0	nail			11	nails, fragments
	4	1631	First fill of ditch	0	hobnail			1	
	4	1752	Single fill of ditch	1129	hobnail/nail		RB	25	Nail shaft x 1 + hobnails
	4	1870	First fill of ditch	0	nail			1	
	4	1996	First fill of ditch	0	object			1	curving bar frag
	4	2097	Single fill of ditch	0	hobnail			1	
	4	2128	Single fill of ditch	0	nail			2	
Fe	5	1001	Subsoil	1003	nail		Roman?	1	Nail
	6	1367	Single fill of possible pit/ tree throw - void	0	nail?			1	
Pb al.	-	0	Unstrat.	1118	Sheet/waste			1	Sheet/waste
	-	0	Unstrat.	1119	waste			1	waste/spill

	-	1289	Taken for RA 1081	1081	waste/mend			1	Waste or pot mend
	1	1433	Sediment washed down hill	1121	weight			1	discoid, perforated
	4	1020	Single fill of ditch	1122	object			1	lump/weight
	03-Apr	1845	Shallow deposit	1130	Pot mend/obj			1	or waste
	3	1502	Second fill of ditch	1097	sheet			1	sheet frag
	5	1000	Topsoil	1026	Shot		pmed	1	Shot
	5	1000	Topsoil	1027	Shot		pmed	1	Shot
	5	1000	Topsoil	1028	Shot		pmed	1	Shot
	5	1000	Topsoil	1029	Shot		pmed	1	Shot
	5	1000	Topsoil	1031	Shot		pmed	1	Shot
	5	1000	Topsoil	1032	Shot		pmed	1	Shot
	5	1000	Topsoil	1033	Shot		pmed	1	Shot
	5	1000	Topsoil	1053	Shot		pmed	1	Shot
	5	1001	Subsoil	1002	token		pmed	1	Token or button
	5	1001	Subsoil	1005	Pot mend			1	Pot mend
	5	1001	Subsoil	1006	weight		Roman?	1	Steelyard weight
	5	1001	Subsoil	1007	Pot mend			1	Pot mend
	5	1001	Subsoil	1025	Pot mend			1	Pot mend
	5	1001	Subsoil	1046	Pot mend/obj			1	Pot mend/obj
	5	1001	Subsoil	1071	object			1	flat with circ-sect proj at 90 deg
silver	4	1499	Second fill of ditch	1095	object		238	1	*Denarius* in polygonal Ag setting - Gordian III as Caesar (AD 238) - Rev priestly imps. RIC IV 1

APPENDIX 7: METALLURGICAL RESIDUES BY TIM YOUNG

Summary

The submitted materials included two concretions cored on iron (from deposit 1631) and a fragment of burnt limestone (from deposit 1631). The remainder comprised a small collection of pyrotechnological residues (330g; 18 fragments, probably fewer original pieces). Of these technological pieces, one may be a metallurgical slag and certainly involved the burning of coal; the others are examples of fuel ash slags of non-metallurgical origin. The

coal-shale bearing piece, from deposit 1113 is likely, but not certainly, a residue from ironworking (blacksmithing). The use of coal as a fuel for blacksmithing was widespread in the Roman period. The materials from deposits 1104 and 1135 and the remainder of the material from context 1113 are low-density fuel ash slags (FAS). Such slags form as a viscous partial melt of a usually calcareous substrate under the fluxing influence of calcareous wood ash. These residues typically result from long-burning fires in hearths cut into calcareous substrates (such as the lime-rich subsoils of much of the Severn Vale). These fires may simply be domestic (as in the variation of FAS commonly referred to as 'Iron Age grey slag'). In the Roman period the most commonly encountered sources of FAS are probably cereal-drying kilns.

Methods

All materials were examined visually, using a low-powered binocular microscope where required. As an assessment, the materials were not subjected to any high-magnification optical inspection, not to any form of instrumental analysis.

The identifications of materials in this report are therefore necessarily limited and must be regarded as provisional.

Results

General description of the assemblage

The submitted materials included two concretions cored on iron (from deposit 1631) and a fragment of burnt limestone (from deposit 1631). The remainder comprised a small collection of pyrotechnological residues (330g; 18 fragments, probably fewer original pieces).

Pyrotechnological residues

Of the pyrotechnological pieces, one may be a metallurgical slag and certainly involved the burning of coal; the others are examples of fuel ash slags of non-metallurgical origin.

The coal-shale bearing piece, from deposit 1113 is a fragment of a dimpled sheet of lining slag. The slag is formed of a dark glass, binding grains of quartz and small fragments of partially-altered shale, probably coal shale.

The materials from deposits 1104 and 1135 and the remainder of the material from deposit 1113 are low-density fuel ash slags (FAS). These slags are formed of a pale grey glass which binds partially-melted quartz grains, and (in the case of the fragment from deposit 1104) small clots of sediment derived from the hearth substrate. The slags show the development of crudely flow-lobed surfaces, both on the surface of the fragments and as internal divisions.

Interpretation

The presence of coal-fuelled blacksmithing residues is typical of most Roman rural sites in Gloucestershire (e.g. the site at Cleevelands close to the present site; Young 2016a).

FAS form as a viscous partial melt of a usually calcareous substrate under the fluxing influence of calcareous wood ash. These residues typically result from long-burning fires in hearths cut into calcareous substrates (such as the lime-rich subsoils of much of the Severn Vale). These fires may simply be domestic (as in the variation of FAS commonly referred to as 'Iron Age grey slag'; Cowgill 2000, 2008; Cowgill et al. 2001; Swiss and McDonnell

2001; Young 2009, 2012a). In the Roman period, however, the most commonly encountered sources of FAS are probably cereal-drying kilns (the FAS from which are known from examples of various periods; Young 2010a, 2010b, 2015, 2016b).

Further work

The limited assemblage means that there is little research potential the pyrotechnological residues. X-radiography of the concretions might aid with the identification of their iron cores.

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APPENDIX 8: COINS BY KATIE MARSDEN

A total of 70 coins were recovered from 25 deposits, comprising 69 of copper alloy and one of silver. A catalogue has been produced (Tables 7.1 and 7.2) with items recorded directly to an MS Access database. Identifications have been undertaken following investigative conservation and where possible, Reece periods or ranges have been recorded. The coins are currently stored in air-tight plastic containers and with humidity control as appropriate.

The majority of the assemblage (96%) is dateable to the Roman period and, of these 67, coins, 63 are of 3rd to 4th century AD date (*radiates* and *nummii*).Two coins are dateable to the 19th century and a third is a probable coin or possibly a jetton.

Range and variety - Roman (Table 7.1)
The earliest material comprises two *dupondii,* both dateable to the period 138 to 161 AD. One recovered from Period 4 buried soil layer 1031 was issued by Antoninus Pius, whilst the coin from Period 5 topsoil 1001 is also struck by Antoninus Pius but under the name of his daughter, Faustina II (the Younger). A third *as* or *dupondius*, of uncertain emperor was recorded from Period 4 pit 1109 (fill 1113), dateable from the 1st to mid 3rd centuries. The silver coin is a *denarius* of Septimius Severus, recovered from Period 4 ditch 33 (fill 1499) and dateable to 207 AD.

The third century coinage comprises nine radiates and five contemporary copies ('barbarous radiates'), spanning the period AD260-290. One radiate preserves mint details, Ra. 1077 recovered from Period 3 ditch 22 (fill 1285). Referred to as the 'C' mint in reference to the mintmark, the specific mint location within Britain is unknown (PAS 2018). The 4th century group comprises 29 *nummii* and seven contemporary copies. The latest dated coins in the Roman group were issued by the House of Valentinian, broadly dateable to the period AD364-378. Amongst the *nummii,* eleven coins preserve mintmarks representing Trier, Germany (six); Rome, Italy (two); Aquileia, Italy (one); Arles, France (one) and London, Britain (one). A twelfth coin, a *barbarous nummus*, copies the mint mark of either London or Constantinople (Istanbul, Turkey).

Summary
The coin group accords with the expected pattern for most British sites, which typically yield relatively few coins from the period before the late third centuries AD, and proliferation of bronze issues of the late 3rd and 4th centuries.

Range and variety - modern (Table 7.2)

Two coins of modern date were recovered from Period 5 topsoil 1000. The small group comprises a silver sixpence of George III dateable to 1817 and a copper alloy half penny of Victoria, dateable to 1861. Both are likely to be casual losses, commonly found in topsoil deposits.

Statement of Potential and Recommendations for Further Analysis

The Roman coins are of importance primarily as dating evidence to inform understanding/discussion of the chronology of the Roman activity. The group has the potential for investigating wider Romano-British patterns of coin use/loss at site/local and regional level.

The online report should include a coin list and short discussion of the group, informed by comparisons with other groups from the area and using Reece period analysis. Final analysis of the assemblage will benefit from its relation to the finalised site sequence.

Recording of the modern group is considered sufficient for the archive and no further work is required.

References

Portable Antiquities Scheme 2018 'Details for issuing mint located at C Mint (uncertain location, Britain)' https://finds.org.uk/romancoins/mints/mint/id/38 Accessed 12 March 2018

Table 7.1: Roman coins

Context	Material	Ra. No.	Type	Denomination	Ct.	Wt. (g)	Issuer	Reverse	Mint	Date	Reece Period	Ref.
1001	copper alloy	1063	coin or jetton	N/A	1	1	uncertain	illegible	illegible	uncertain	N/A	
1001	copper alloy	1011	coin	barb. Radiate	1	1	illegible	illegible	N/A	260-90	B	
1001	copper alloy	1019	coin	barb. Radiate	1	1	illegible	PAX AVG	N/A	260-90	B	
1001	copper alloy	1056	coin	barbarous radiate	1	1	illegible	illegible	N/A	260-90	B	
1001	copper alloy	1057	coin	dupondius	1	2	Faustina the Younger	CONCORDIA	Rome	138-61	7	RIC Vol. III, 502(a)
1001	copper alloy	1059	coin	nummus	1	1	Constans	FEL TEMP REP. soldier leading barbarian	illegible	348-50	18	
1001	copper alloy	1012	coin	nummus	1	1	Constantine	Altar reverse	illegible	318-24	16	
1001	copper alloy	1062	coin	nummus	1	1	Constantine	SOL INVICTO	Rome	307-318	15	
1001	copper alloy	1058	coin	nummus	1	1	Constantine	SOL INVICTO	London	307-318	15	not listed
1001	copper alloy	1040	coin	nummus	1	2	Constantine I	GLORIA EXERCITVS. Two standards	Trier	333-4	17	RIC Vol. VII, no. 555
1001	copper alloy	1043	coin	nummus	1	1	House of Constantine	CONSTANTINOPOLIS. Victory on prow	illegible	330-5	17	

1001	copper alloy	1061	coin	nummus	1	1	House of Constantine	CONSTANTINOPOLIS. Victory on prow	Trier	330-1	17	RIC Vol. VII, no. 530
1001	copper alloy	1014	coin	nummus	1	1	Constantius II	GLORIA EXERCITVS. Two standards	Trier	330-1	17	RIC Vol. VII, no. 527
1001	copper alloy	1020	coin	nummus	1	2	House of Constantine	GLORIA EXERCITVS. Two standards	illegible	330-35	17	
1001	copper alloy	1035	coin	nummus	1	2	Constantius II	GLORIA EXERCITVS. Two standards	Arles	330-35	17	
1001	copper alloy	1037	coin	nummus	1	1	House of Constantine	BEATA TRANQVILLITAS	illegible	318-24	16	
1001	copper alloy	1039	coin	nummus	1	1	House of Constantine	Gate and star	illegible	324-30	16	
1001	copper alloy	1018	coin	nummus	1	2	illegible	illegible	illegible	C4	D	
1001	copper alloy	1021	coin	nummus	1	6	Magnentius	Chi Rho	illegible	350-53	18	
1001	copper alloy	1067	coin	nummus	1	1	Valens	SECVRITAS REI PVBLICAE	illeg.	364-78	19	
1001	copper alloy	1010	coin	nummus	1	1	Valens	GLORIA ROMANORVM	illeg.	364-378	19	
1001	copper alloy	1036	coin	nummus	1	1	Valentinian	SECVRITAS REI PVBLICAE	illeg.	364-378	19	

1001	copper alloy	1060	coin	nummus	1	1	House of Constantine	VRBS ROMA. Wolf and twins	Trier	333-4	17	RIC Vol. VII no. 561
1001	copper alloy	1038	coin	nummus	1	1	House of Constantine	VRBS ROMA. Wolf and twins	?Rome (RP)	330-5	17	
1001	copper alloy	1065	coin	nummus copy	1	1	illegible	illegible	N/A	Lc3-c4	C-D	
1001	copper alloy	1044	coin	nummus copy	1	1	House of Constantine	FEL TEMP REP.	London or Constantinople copy	348-50	18	
1001	copper alloy	1045	coin	nummus copy	1	1	illegible	illegible	N/A	C4	C-D	
1001	copper alloy	1015	coin	?barb. Radiate	1	1	illegible	illegible	illegible	260-90	B	
1001	copper alloy	1064	coin	Radiate	1	1	Claudius II	CONSECRATIO	illegible	268-70	13	
1001	copper alloy	1013	coin	radiate	1	1	illegible	illegible	illegible	MLC3	B	
1001	copper alloy	1009	coin	radiate	1	1	illegible	standing figure	illegible	LC3-C4	C-D	
1001	copper alloy	1055	coin	radiate	1	1	Victorinus	PIETAS AVG	illegible	269-71	13	
1001	copper alloy	1016	coin	radiate/nummus	1	1	illegible	illegible	illegible	LC3-C4	B-D	
1001	copper alloy	1017	coin	radiate/nummus	1	1	illegible	illegible	illegible	LC3-C4	B-D	
1001	copper alloy	1066	coin	radiate/nummus	1	1	illegible	illegible	illegible	LC3-C4	B-D	
1001	copper alloy	1068	coin	radiate/nummus	1	1	illegible	illegible	illegible	LC3-C4	B-D	

1001	copper alloy	1042	coin	radiate/nummus copy	1	1	illegible	illegible	N/A	LC3-C4	B-D	
1001	copper alloy	1008	coin	radiate/nummus copy	1	1	illegible	illegible	N/A	LC3-C4	B-D	
1001	copper alloy	1041	coin	radiate/nummus copy	1	1	illegible	illegible	N/A	LC3-C4	B-D	
1031	copper alloy	1073	coin	dupondius	1	14	Antoninus Pius	standing figure holding Cornucopia and standard?	Rome	138-161	7	
1031	copper alloy	1096	coin	nummus copy	1	1	Constantine	Wreath	N/A	C4	C-D	
1031	copper alloy	1102	coin	radiate	1	1	Uncertain empress	standing figure	illegible	270-290	B	
1113	copper alloy	1087	coin	as/dupondius	1	7	uncertain	illeg. […]AVG CASE AV[…]	illegible	C1-C3		
1113	copper alloy	1086	coin	radiate	1	3	Tetricus II	PIETAS AVGVSTOR. Sacrificial implements	illegible	272-274	13	
1281	copper alloy	1075	coin	nummus	1	1	illegible	illegible	illegible	C4	C-D	
1285	copper alloy	1077	coin	radiate	1	3	Allectus	LAETITIA AVG	C' Mint	293-6	14	
1286	copper alloy	1078	coin	radiate	1	1	illegible	illegible	illegible	260-296	B	

1287	copper alloy	1079	coin	nummus	1	3	Magnentius	Chi Rho	illeg.	350-53	18	
1290	copper alloy	1082	coin	nummus copy	1	1	illegible	illegible	N/A	C4	C-D	
1292	copper alloy	1084	coin	nummus copy	1	1	illegible	illegible	N/A	C4	C-D	
1294	copper alloy	1088	coin	nummus	1	1	House of Constantine	illegible	illegible	C4	C-D	
1499	silver	1094	coin	Denarius	1	1	Septimus Severus	Africa	N/A	AD 207	10	RIC 207
1528	copper alloy	1100	coin	nummus	1	2	House of Constantine	FEL TEMP REP. fallen horseman	Aquileia	353-57	18	
1528	copper alloy	1101	coin	radiate/nummus	1	1	illegible	illegible	illegible	LC3-C4	B-D	
1530	copper alloy	1103	coin	nummus	1	1	illegible	illegible	illegible	C4	C-D	
1530	copper alloy	1107	coin	radiate/nummus copy	1	1	illegible	illegible	N/A	C4?	B-D	
1550	copper alloy	1099	coin	nummus	1	1	House of Constantine	FEL TEMP REP. pheonix on rock	illegible	348-50	18	
1624	copper alloy	1113	coin	nummus copy	1	1	illegible	illegible	N/A	C4?	C-D	
1624	copper alloy	1114	coin	radiate/nummus	1	3	illegible	illegible	illegible	LC3-C4	B-D	
1625	copper alloy	1115	coin	radiate	1	1	illegible	illegible	illegible	260-296	B	
1721	copper alloy	1126	coin	radiate/nummus copy	1	1	illegible	illegible	N/A	LC3-C4	B-D	

1728	copper alloy	1120	coin	radiate/nummus copy	1	1	illegible	illegible	N/A	LC3-C4	B-D	
1729	copper alloy	1123	coin	nummus	1	1	illegible	illegible	illegible	C4	C-D	
1730	copper alloy	1124	coin	barbarous radiate	1	2	Tetricus I	misspelt VIRTVS	N/A	270-73	13	
1731	copper alloy	1125	coin	nummus	1	2	House of Constantine	CONSTANTINOPOLIS. Victory on prow	illegible	330-35	17	RIC Vol. VII, no. 523
1736	copper alloy	1127	coin	nummus	1	2	House of Constantine	CONSTANTINOPOLIS. Victory on prow	illegible	330-35	17	RIC Vol. VII, no. 523
1737	copper alloy	1128	coin	nummus	1	1	House of Constantine	CONSTANTINOPOLIS. Victory on prow	illegible	330-35	17	
1752	copper alloy	1133	coin	barbarous radiate	1	3	illegible	INVICTVS copy	N/A	270-290	B	

APPENDIX 9: WORKED BONE BY JACKY SOMMERVILLE

Introduction

Two worked bone items (totalling 14g) were recorded from fills of Period 4 (Late Roman) ditch Al.4.

Range and variety

From fill 1639 are two undecorated fragments, which do not join, from a plain handle, approximately circular in section, with a central socket, and suitable for a knife or other small implement. The handle has an external diameter of *c*. 25mm and a thickness of 5mm. The plain and fragmentary nature of this artefact makes it difficult to date – fill 1639 has been assigned a late 2nd to 4th century date on the basis of associated pottery.

The item from fill 1721 is an undecorated, fragmentary toggle with a perforation present (from front to back) and both ends missing. It has been made on the radius of a small mammal (approximately cat-sized). This type of toggle was in use from the Iron Age to the medieval period (MacGregor 1985, 102–3), although Roman dating (2nd to 4th century) is indicated for fill 1721 by associated pottery.

Statement of potential

The worked bone items do not add to the dating or interpretation of the site and no further analysis or recording is required. The online report should include a paragraph describing these objects but no illustration is necessary.

References

MacGregor, A. 1985 *Bone, Antler, Ivory & Horn: The Technology of Skeletal Materials Since the Roman Period*. Beckenham. Croom Helm

APPENDIX 10: GLASS BY JACKY SOMMERVILLE

Introduction

The glass assemblage is small, totalling four items weighing 13g, which were recorded from four separate deposits.

Range and variety

Object

A pale green bead was retrieved via bulk soil sampling of Period 3 (Roman, 1st to 3rd centuries) Enclosure 1. It belongs to Guido's Group 6 iib small, undecorated annular beads (Guido 1978, 66). It is slightly oval in shape, measuring 11 x 10mm across and 2 – 3mm thick. A very small number of this type of bead is known dating to the Iron Age, but in general they are Roman in date and were in use throughout the period (*ibid.*).

Vessels

Period 4 (Late Roman) Ditch 29 produced a fragment from a ribbon handle, deriving from a jug or flask in pale blue/green glass. The fragment is insufficient to allow the vessel type to be identified with greater precision. Glass of this colour was most commonly made during the 1st to 3rd centuries (Price and Cottam 1998, 15).

A concave base from a bottle in green glass was recorded from Period 3 Ditch Al.5. It is most likely from a tubular unguent bottle – a vessel type which dates from the mid 1st to early 3rd centuries (*ibid.* 169–70). Narrower dating is not possible in the absence of the rim.

A tiny fragment (0.1g) of modern, brown bottle glass was retrieved from Period 3 Ditch 23, where it is assumed to be intrusive.

Statement of potential

This very small assemblage has limited potential to add to the understanding of the site and no further analysis is required. A paragraph on the glass artefacts should be included in the online report. The bead is of intrinsic interest and should be photographed for inclusion in the online report.

References

Guido, M. 1978 The Glass Beads of the Prehistoric and Roman Periods in Britain and Ireland. London. Society of Antiquaries

Price, J. and Cottam, S. 1998 Romano-British Glass Vessels: A Handbook. Practical Handbook in Archaeology 14. York. Council for British Archaeology

APPENDIX 11: WORKED STONE BY RUTH SHAFFREY

Introduction

A total of 17 fragments of worked stone was examined by eye for signs of use, recorded with the aid of a x10 magnification hand lens and entered into a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet.

Description

A total of five rotary quern fragments were recovered from Period 3/4 ditches 1068, 1158, 1454, 1967 and 2370 (fills 1069, 1159, 1457, 1968 and 2371 respectively). Most are small fragments and only one is sufficiently complete for its diameter to be determined (36cm from period 3 ditch fill 1968), but none appear to be from mechanically powered millstones. The querns are made from a range of stone types including Old Red Sandstone, Millstone Grit and lava and represent the typical materials in use at the time in the area around Cheltenham (e.g. Rawes 1987, Shaffrey 2002). However, lava appears on only around 10% of sites in Gloucestershire with rotary querns compared to Old Red Sandstone, which appears on around 75% of sites, and its use here can therefore be considered unusual. It is also worth nothing that it contains inclusions that are not typical of Mayen lava, and the possibility that the source lay elsewhere in Europe should be considered.

A single fragment of mortar or bowl was recovered from 4th century-dated ditch fill 2245 (Period 4). The bowl is of simple shallow profile with no evidence for ribs or lugs but this in contrast to the striking chevron decoration on the outer face. Such a pattern is not known to the author on stone vessels, and further work will be required to find a parallel. It is made from a fine-grained micaceous pale brown sandstone of a type that is not distinctive and therefore difficult to provenance.

Other worked stone includes one whetstone and three probable hones. Whetstones can be identified as tools specifically manufactured for the purposes of tool sharpening, and one example from fill of Period 4 ditch 1629 (fill 1630) has a typical rectangular cross section and sharp arrises. It is made from a fine grained micaceous sandstone, now thought to be from the Wealden sandstone (and previously identified as Kentish Rag). Three further stones are examples of sandstone cobbles that have been used as hones for sharpening. One from

Period 4 ditch 1573 (fill 1575) has well-used sharpening grooves running across it. Another from Period 3 ditch 1225 (fill 1226) has smoothed sides that might be natural or possibly result from use. A third has clear scratch marks across the edges but there is also significant percussion damage indicating use as a hammerstone/muller (colluvial deposit 1501).

Three fragments of flat slabby material might be pieces of stone roofing, but they do not retain any diagnostic features (1597, 1752, 1918).

Statement of Potential and Recommendations for further work

The stone assemblage has moderate potential to contribute to our understanding of the site. The assemblage consists of rotary querns and whetstones / hone, as well as a decorated stone bowl. These can all be considered to be representative of general domestic activity, but the decorated bowl is very unusual, almost certainly indicating higher status and the lava quern can be considered unusual in the area, perhaps suggesting contacts not available to all.

A report should be produced that describes and discusses these finds in the light of other evidence from the site. This report should consider in more detail, evidence from other nearby sites so that the significance of the lava quern can be more fully appreciated. Parallels will need to be sought for the stone bowl, which are very unusual finds on Roman sites, whether decorated or not. It would be helpful to produce a survey of the use of bowls in the local area, their materials and any decoration as this will be give a much clearer indication of how rare and therefore valuable the object might have been.

Ideally, a thin section should be made of the unusual lava quern. It may be possible to access comparative thin sections at Southampton University, and if so the quern should be compared to these. However, the most accurate way of determining whether the quern is from Mayen would be to remove a small sample and submit it for XRF analysis. XRF analysis is now capable of identifying the precise lava flow from which a quern came (if it is from Mayen), and this is a very exciting new development, not yet applied to any UK querns (cf Gluhak and Hofmeister 2011).

Five items should be illustrated and/or photographed: the bowl (SF 1136), two rotary querns (deposits 2371 and 1069), one whetstone (1630) and the multi-functional processor (1501).

References

Gluhak T L and Hofmeister W 2011 Geochemical provenance analyses of Roman lava millstones north of the Alps: a study of their distribution and implications for the beginning of Roman lava quarryng in the Eifel region (Germany), Journal of Archaeological Science 38, 1603-20

Rawes, B. 1987 The Romano-British settlement at Haymes, Cleeve Hill, near Cheltenham, Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society 104, 61–93

Shaffrey, R. 2002 Worked Stone in Catchpole, T Excavations at West Drive, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire 1997-9, Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society 120, 89–101

Table 11.1: Catalogue of worked stone

Ctx.	Prov. Perd.	Function	Notes	Size	Wt (g)	Lithology
1069	**3**	Quern fragment, probably rotary	Has one flat pecked surface - the pecking looks slightly worn into a rotational pattern, but not entirely clear. Sides curve down towards other surface and are only crudely shaped suggesting a) that it is a lower stone and b) that it might be from a saddle quern	Measures 67mm thick	1010	pale pinkish grey quartzitic sandstone
1159	**3**	Upper rotary quern fragment	Small circumference fragment. Edge is straight and vertical and very neatly pecked as is grinding surface which appears to show that the quern was strongly tapered to centre although the other face does not survive	Measures >71mm thick x indeterminate diameter (not enough survives)	367	Old Red Sandstone Quartz Conglomerate
1457	**3**	Rotary quern fragment, possibly upper stone	Part of eye survives and this is quite wide and biconical, approx 50mm diameter at narrowest point, suggesting it is an upper stone. No circumference survives and grinding face is damaged. Upper face appears to curve up and away from the eye to form a very slight hopper	Measures 85mm thick x uncertain diameter	2051	probably Millstone Grit
1968	**3**	Rotary quern fragment, probably from upper stone	Edge fragment of flat disc type with straight vertical edges getting slightly thicker towards the centre (missing). Finely pecked grinding surface with some rotational wear and a very slight lip around the circumference. Spaced pock marks on upper face	Measures 360mm diameter x 42mm thick	1005	Millstone Grit. Medium - coarse grained poorly sorted, gritty in places with frequent white feldspar
2371	**4**	Upper rotary quern fragment	Kerbed upper stone - kerb measures 55mm wide and 5mm high. Fragment is a little bit worn/degraded. Some diagonal grooving across top, unclear how	Measures 62mm thick on kerb x 390mnm diameter	1685	Lava but unusual with black glassy inclusions and some red grit

			grinding surface was dressed as worn. Tapered to centre			
2245	**4**	Mortar / bowl fragment	Bowl with steep almost vertical external sides and curved inside which slopes down from rim all the way to the base. This is smooth all over but slightly more so on the sides than on the base. The external base is flat and also slightly worn smooth. The external walls are decorated with a steep chevron pattern, which runs from top to bottom	Measures 79mm high externally x 250mm diameter. The base is 20mm thick	887	Fine grained well sorted pale brown micaceous sandstone
1226	**3**	Possible hone	Naturally flat laminated pebble with rounded smooth sides - these could be natural or smoothed through use. One rounded end, one broken	Measures >60mm long x 24-29mm wide x >20mm thick (broken along laminations)	61	Fine-medium grained well sorted highly micaceous pink grey sandstone
1501	**4**	Cobble hone and processor	Wide flat cobble with now approximately circular shape. Edges have percussion damage all round with this especially evident on one side - opposing side is broken and might have been the 'handle' end. Numerous scratch marks across the edges indicate use as a whetstone but it has clearly also been used as a pounder/hammerstone/muller	Measures 65 x 67mm x 27mm thick	219	Fine grained dark grey highly micaceous sandstone (not Wealden), slightly laminated
1575	**4**	Pebble hone	Cobble with well used sharpening grooves across the stone	Measures >90mm long x 35-37mm wide x 25-28mm thick	167	Fine grained dark grey highly micaceous sandstone (not Wealden)

1630	**4**	Whetstone	Rectangular cross section, broken at both ends. All faces show some wear, arrises are squarish and faces are flat/slightly concave	Measures >45mm long x 21-23 x 20mm	42	probable Wealden sandstone
1597	**4**	Possible stone roofing	No obvious signs of working, but flat slabby material	Measures 15mm thick	138	Fine grained pale brown sandstone
1752	**4**	Possible stone roofing	No obvious signs of working, but flat slabby material	Measures 15mm thick	255	Fine grained pale brown sandstone
1918	**3**	Possible stone roofing	No obvious signs of working, but flat slabby material. Some of it waterworn. Burnt and blackened	Measures 14mm thick	199	Fine grained micaceous grey sandstone

APPENDIX 12: SHALE BY JACKY SOMMERVILLE

A fragment from an undecorated shale bracelet (Ra. 1111) was recovered from fill 1626 of Period 4 (Late Roman) Ditch Alignment 4. No other artefactual material was recorded from this deposit. The bracelet is roughly oval in cross-section and with slightly flattened surfaces at the top and bottom. It has an external diameter of 70mm, and measures 7mm in thickness and 8mm in height. Bracelets of this type were in use during the Iron Age and throughout the Roman period (Johns 1996, 120). Similar examples have been recovered from sites in Gloucestershire such as Uley Shrine (Woodward and Leach 1993, 166–8) and Frocester (Price 2000, 185–6).

Statement of potential

Plain shale bracelets are not uncommon finds on Roman sites and this example does not add to the understanding or dating of the site. A short report should be included in the online report. No further research or illustration is required.

References

Johns, C. 1996 *The Jewellery of Roman Britain: Celtic and Classical Traditions*. London. UCL Press Ltd

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APPENDIX 13: FOSSIL BY ED MCSLOY AND TOM BRINDLE

Registered artefact 1117, which was recorded from Period 3 pit fill 1635 (fill of feature 1634), has been identified as a fossil vertebra of an ichthyosaur. Ichthyosaurs lived throughout the Mesozoic, but were most prolific and diverse in the Triassic and Jurassic eras (*c.* 250-145 million years BP). Although in Britain most commonly associated with exposed cliff deposits on the southern British coastline, specimens have been recorded locally from Jurassic era rocks. More specifically, the fossil has been identified as a proximal caudal centrum from an Ophthalmosaurus icenicus (Andrzej Wolniewicz pers. comm.), a Middle Jurrasic species that is currently only known from the Oxford Clay Formation (Andrzej Wolniewicz pers. comm.). The nearest Oxford Clay bedrock is some distance from Cheltenham, which may suggest that the fossil was brought to the site, although a local derivation is possible. The fossil consists of a fine bluish grey rock.

There are no indications for human 'use' of Ra. 1117, although its regular and slightly dished surfaces might have made it suitable for use as a cosmetics palette or similar. It is also feasible that its size and clear resemblance to contemporary animal or fish vertebrae may have made it of interest as an object of curiosity or of 'spiritual' interest. Given the evidence from the site for 'structured' deposition, it cannot be discounted that this item relates to similar activity related to religious practices. The Roman Rural Settlement Project has recorded several other examples of fossils from Roman period sites, which appear in many cases to have been deliberately deposited as structured deposits (Allen *et al.* 2015),

Statement of potential and recommendations for further analysis

In isolation Ra. 1117 is of relatively limited archaeological or palaeontological significance, although it is of interest that no examples have previously been recorded from outside the Oxford Clay Formation.. Its significance relative to the (Roman) site will remain ambiguous, although further research may determine the extent to which comparable fossil or natural items are known from religious sites of the period. Following such research a short descriptive report including discussion of possible comparanda should be produced for the online report, to be accompanied by a (photographic) illustration.

APPENDIX 14: ANIMAL BONE BY MATILDA HOLMES

Summary

A moderate assemblage of animal bone was recovered from various Roman features. Preservation was poor, although there was minimal evidence for intrusive or residual material. Full analysis is recommended, to provide a picture of local diet and economy.

Methods

All bones and teeth were recorded, although for some elements a restricted count was employed to reduce fragmentation bias: vertebrae were recorded when the vertebral body was present, and maxilla, zygomatic arch and occipital areas of the skull were identified from skull fragments. A basic recording method was employed to assess the potential of the animal bone assemblage. The number of bones and teeth that could be identified to taxa were noted, as well as those used to age the major domesticates (tooth wear and bone fusion). The quantity of bones likely to be useful for metrical data were also recorded. Other information included condition and the incidence of burning, gnawing and butchery marks. All fragments were recorded by context including those that could not be identified to taxa. Recording methods and analysis are based on guidelines from Baker and Worley (2014).

Summary of Findings

Bones were in fair condition, though highly fragmentary (Table 14.1), with a high number of unidentified fragments. A single context from ditch 1495 had bones that ranged from good to poor condition, suggesting that either some were re-deposited, or the feature was open to the elements, and some bones became weathered, while others were protected away from the surface. There was a considerable amount of canid gnawing, affecting over half the contexts recorded (Table 14.1). This suggests that bones were not always disposed of immediately following discard, but were available for dogs to chew. Relatively few butchery marks were observed, but the prevalence of canid gnawing may have obliterated any signs of butchery. Evidence for burning was occasionally recorded.

Cattle bones predominated (Table 14.2), with sheep/ goat the next most common. Pig, equid (horse or donkey) and canid (dog or fox) remains were recorded less frequently. Despite the presence of a sieving programme, fish, birds and small mammals were not recovered. No obvious associated bone groups were observed, although a group of sheep/ goat vertebrae and hind limb bones were recovered from a phase 4 tree throw (1109) that could have come from the same individual. There were no obvious deposits of primary butchery, bone working or skin-processing waste, although a large red deer antler fragment also from tree throw 1109, bore heavy butchery marks to the frontal bone of the skull and pedicle of the antler, and the main beam had been removed, possibly for working. Other notable isolated finds include: the remains of a neonatal sheep/ goat from unphased ditch 1753 and the radius of a very small dog with bandy legs from phase 3 ditch 1305. Several pathological bones

were recorded, all associated with age-related changes: two cattle metapodials from phase 3; a cattle phalanx from an unphased context; an equid femur from phase 4 and an impressive equid hock joint with massive exostosis also unphased.

Potential and Significance

The inclusion of sieved samples means that there is good potential for small bones, birds, fish and micro-mammals to be recovered, and sample sizes for both Roman phases are large enough to warrant detailed recording and analysis. However, material was highly fragmentary and poorly preserved, and an over-representation of teeth and very dense bones should be expected. This is reflected by the high number of loose teeth recorded (n=163), compared to the number of mandibles with teeth (n=29).If this bias can be accounted for, there is potential for the assemblage to provide an insight into the local economy of the site, and the diet of those living nearby. The likely loss of resolution means that there is limited potential for a consideration of the findings on a regional scale. Analysis therefore has the potential to investigate the following areas on a site level only:

Diet – quantification of domestic and wild species

Trade and food ways – evidence for butchery, redistribution of carcass parts and bone/ antler working

Economy – primary uses of animals for food or secondary products from mortality profiles

There is nothing to suggest that this is an unusual assemblage, and its significance lies in providing data to better inform the wider picture of rural Roman settlement in Gloucestershire.

Recommendations

Full recording of the assemblage is recommended and analysis based on criteria defined above. Preservation bias reduces the potential of the site to inform on questions beyond this, or to make inter-site comparisons worthwhile.

References

Baker, P and Worley, F. 2014. *Animal Bones and Archaeology: Guidelines for Best Practice.* Portsmouth: English Heritage

Table 14.1: Preservation and bone modifications observed on the bones for each context

	Preservation						Bone Modification		
Phase	Good	Good-fair	Fair	Poor	Fair-poor	Good-poor	Gnawed	Butchered	Burnt
3 - Roman (1st - 3rd C)	5	1	40	14	3	1	13	4	3
4 - Roman (3rd - 4th C)		2	16	8	2		7	2	5
Unphased	18	3	92	24	10		35	10	7
Total N contexts	23	6	148	46	15	1	55	16	15
Proportion (%) of all contexts	10	3	62	19	6	-	23	7	6

Table 14.2: Number of fragments recorded for the major domesticates, birds and other taxa

Phase		Cattle		Sheep		Pig		Bird	Fish	Other	Total	Other taxa
	Unid.	Bones	Teeth	Bones	Teeth	Bones	Teeth				identified	
3 - Roman (1st - 3rd C)	378	54	11	32	25		4			17	143	Canis, equus, red deer
4 - Roman (3rd - 4th C)	336	36	11	33	15	2	3			5	105	Canis, equus
Unphased	964	150	70	57	44	8	9			50	388	Canis, equus, red deer
Total	**1678**	**240**	**92**	**122**	**84**	**10**	**16**	**0**	**0**	**72**	**636**	

APPENDIX 15: PALAEOENVIRONEMTAL EVIDENCE BY SARAH WYLES

A series of 15 environmental samples (199 litres of soil) was processed from a range of ditches and a buried soil of Roman and Late Roman date across the site, with the intention of recovering environmental evidence of industrial or domestic activity on the site. The samples were processed by standard flotation procedures (CA Technical Manual No. 2).

Preliminary identifications of plant macrofossils are noted in Table 15.1, following nomenclature of Stace (1997) for wild plants, and traditional nomenclature, as provided by Zohary *et al* (2012) for cereals.

The flots varied in size with generally moderate to high numbers of rooty material and modern seeds. The charred remains comprised varying degrees of preservation. There was no evidence for any waterlogging of the deposits from the environmental remains.

Period 3 – Roman (1st-3rd Century AD)

Enclosure 1

A moderately small number of charred plant remains were recovered from fill 2506 (sample 29) of ditch section 2507 of Enclosure 1. The cereal remains included hulled wheat, emmer or spelt (*Triticum dicoccum/spelta*), grain and glume base fragments. A few of the chaff elements were identifiable as being those of spelt wheat (*Triticum spelta*). Spelt wheat was the predominant wheat in Southern Britain during the Romano-British period (Greig 1991). The other remains included seeds of oat (*Avena* sp.), brome grass (*Bromus* sp.) and mallow (*Malva* sp.) and a Rosaceae thorn. There were also a few fragments of charcoal greater than 2mm. The assemblage may be representative of dumped crop processing and settlement waste material.

Ditch alignment 6

Fill 1358 (sample 12) of ditch section 1357 of Ditch alignment 6contained a small number of indeterminate grain fragments, glume fragments (including some identifiable as those of spelt wheat) and charcoal fragments. This assemblage may be reflective of dispersed settlement waste material.

Enclosure 5

A sparse quantity of charred material, including a seed of brome grass and charcoal fragments, was noted from fill 1296 (sample 13) of ditch section 1295 of Enclosure 5. This assemblage may be reflective of dispersed material.

Ditch 15

A few charcoal fragments but no charred plant remains were recorded from fill 1053 (sample 5) of section 1052 of Ditch 15. This is likely to be dispersed material.

Ditch Alignment 5

Assemblages were recovered from two fills, 1952 (sample 21) and 2188 (sample 22), of section 2173 of Ditch Alignment 5. A moderate charred assemblage was noted from lower fill 2188 and this included barley grain fragments, hulled wheat grain and glume base fragments, seeds of vetch/wild pea and clover/medick (*Trifolium/Medicago* sp.), hazelnut (*Corylus avellana*) shell fragments, and charcoal fragments. Whereas only a moderately small quantity of charcoal fragments and no charred plant remains were observed in the assemblage from the upper fill 1952. The assemblage from the lower fill may be representative of a dump of domestic settlement waste material, whilst that from the upper fill may be dispersed material.

Period 4 – Late Roman (Late 3rd-4th Century AD)

Enclosure 3

Four samples were examined from different ditch sections of Enclosure 3. Low levels of charred remains were recovered from fills 1020 (sample 1), 1038 (sample 6) and 1035 (sample 4) of ditch sections 1019, 1032 and 1034 respectively. These assemblages include indeterminate grain fragments, spelt glume and spikelet fork fragments, seeds of rye-grass/fescue (*Lolium/Festuca* sp.), docks (*Rumex* sp.) and vetch/wild pea (*Vicia/Lathyrus* sp.), and charcoal fragments. These assemblages may be representative of dispersed domestic settlement waste material.

Fill 1180 (sample 8) of ditch section 1179 contained a high number of charred plant remains, particularly those of cereal, and a small amount of charcoal. The cereal remains included hulled wheat grain, glume base and spikelet fork fragments and barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) grain fragments. Some of the chaff elements were identifiable as being those of spelt wheat and a number of the grains showed traces of germination. The weed seeds included those of docks and vetch/wild pea. This assemblage may be indicative of a dump of waste material from a late stage of the crop processing process together with other domestic settlement waste material. It may be possible that some small scale crop processing took place in the vicinity. The weed seed assemblages noted from this Enclosure are generally those of species typical of grassland, field margins and arable environments.

Ditch 9

The small assemblage of charred material recovered from fill 1163 (sample 7) of section 1162 of Ditch 9 included glume base fragments, seeds of docks and vetch/wild pea and charcoal fragments. This assemblage may be reflective of dispersed material.

Ditch 25

A sparse quantity of charred material, including indeterminate grain fragments, glume base fragments, seeds of vetch/wild pea and goosefoot (*Chenopodium* sp.), and charcoal fragments, was noted from fill 2091 (sample 17) of section 2090 of Ditch 25. This assemblage may be representative of dispersed waste material.

Ditch 26

Fill 1029 (sample 2) of section 1030 of Ditch 26 contained a few charred remains including spelt glume base fragments and charcoal fragments. This is likely to be scattered material.

Buried soil

A small charred assemblage was recorded from sample 3 and a moderately small assemblage from sample 9 from buried soil deposit 1031. The remains included hulled wheat grain and glume base fragments, barley grains and seeds of vetch/wild pea, oat/brome grass, rye-grass/fescue, brassica (*Brassica* sp.) and buttercup (*Ranunculus* sp.). These assemblages may be reflective of dispersed settlement material.

Potential

Plant remains

There is some small potential for more detailed analysis of a selection of the charred plant assemblages from Periods 3 and 4 to provide some limited information on the nature of the settlement and surrounding landscape, the range of crops and the crop processing activities taking place on site.

There is low potential for comparing these results with those from other assemblages of a similar date in the wider area, such as at Mythe to Mitcheldean mains reinforcement (Wyles 2016), as the assemblages are small.

Charcoal

There is some potential for the analysis of a selection of the charcoal to provide some limited information on the range of species and the exploitation and management of the local woodland resource during the Roman period.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the charred plant remains from Period 3 Enclosure 1 ditch 2507 (sample 29), and Ditch Alignment 5 ditch 2173 (sample 22), and Period 4 Enclosure 3 ditch 1179 (sample 8) and buried soil 1031 (sample 9) should be analysed.

It is recommended that the wood charcoal from Period 3 Ditch Alignment 5 ditch 2173 (sample 22), and Period 4 Enclosure 3 ditch 1179 (sample 8) and buried soil 1031 (sample 9) should be analysed.

References

Burgess, A., Wyles, S.F., Egging Dinwiddy, K. and Barclay, A.J. 2016 Iron Age and Romano-British Settlement near Churchdown Hill *Trans, Bristol & Gloucestershire Archaeological Society* **134** 39-76

Greig, J. 1991 'The British Isles' in van Zeist, W., Wasylikowa, K. and Behre, K-E. (eds) 229-334

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Wyles, S.F. 2016 Charred Plant Remains in Burgess *et al,* 66-67

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Table 15.1:Palaeoenvironmental remains

Feature	Context	Sample	Vol (L)	Flot size (ml)	Roots %	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Notes for Table	Charcoal > 4/2mm	Other	Analysis
Period 3 - Roman (1st-3rd C AD)													
Enclosure 1 - Ditch													
2507	2506	29	20	10	50	**	**	Hulled wheat grain + glume base frags inc. spelt	**	*Avena, Bromus, Malva*, Rosaceae thorn	-/*	-	P
–Ditch Alignment 6													
1357	1358	12	18	60	60	*	*	Indet. grain frag, glume base frags inc. spelt	-	-	*/**	-	
–													
Enclosure 5 - Ditch													
1295	1296	13	8	40	60	-	-	-	*	*Bromus*	*/*	-	
Ditch 15													
1052	1053	5	10	30	75	-	-	-	-	-	-/*	-	
Ditch AL 5													
2173	1952	21	20	50	75	-	-	-	-	-	**/**	-	

	2188	22	20	35	30	**	*	Barley + hulled wheat grain frags, glume base frags	*	*Corylus avellana* shell frag, *Vicia /Lathyrus, Trifolium/Medicago,*	**/***	-	P C
Period 4 – Late Roman (Late 3rd -4th C AD)													
Enclosure 3 - Ditches													
1019	1020	1	8	60	60	*	**	Indet. grain frag, glume base frags inc. spelt	*	*Lolium/Festuca*	*/*	-	
1032	1038	6	8	60	60	-	**	Glume base + spikelet fork frags inc. spelt	*	*Rumex*	*/*	-	
1034	1035	4	10	60	60	*	*	Indet. grain frag, glume base frags inc. spelt	*	*Lolium/Festuca, Vicia/Lathyrus*	*/*	-	
1179	1180	8	8	100	40	*****	***	Hulled wheat + barley grain frags, glume base + spikelet fork frags inc. spelt. Some germination	**	*Rumex, Vicia/Lathyrus*	*/**	-	P C
Ditch 9													
1162	1163	7	20	60	60	-	*	Glume base frags	*	*Rumex, Vicia/Lathyrus*	*/**	-	
Ditch 25													

2090	2091	17	10	10	50	*	*	Indet grain frags, glume base frags	*	*Vicia/Lathyrus, Chenopodium*	-/*	-	
Ditch 26													
1030	1029	2	10	40	50	-	*	Glume base frags inc. spelt	-	-	*/*	-	
Buried Soil													
	1031	3	9	50	60	-	-	-	*	*Vicia/Lathyrus, Avena/Bromus, Brassica*	*/*	-	
	1031	9	20	80	60	**	**	Hulled wheat + barley grain frags, glume base frags inc. spelt.	**	*Vicia/Lathyrus, Lolium/Festuca, Ranunculus*	*/**	-	P C

Key: * = 1–4 items; ** = 5–19 items; ***= 20–49 items; ****= 50–99 items; *****= >100 items, P = plants, C = charcoal

APPENDIX 16: OASIS REPORT FORM

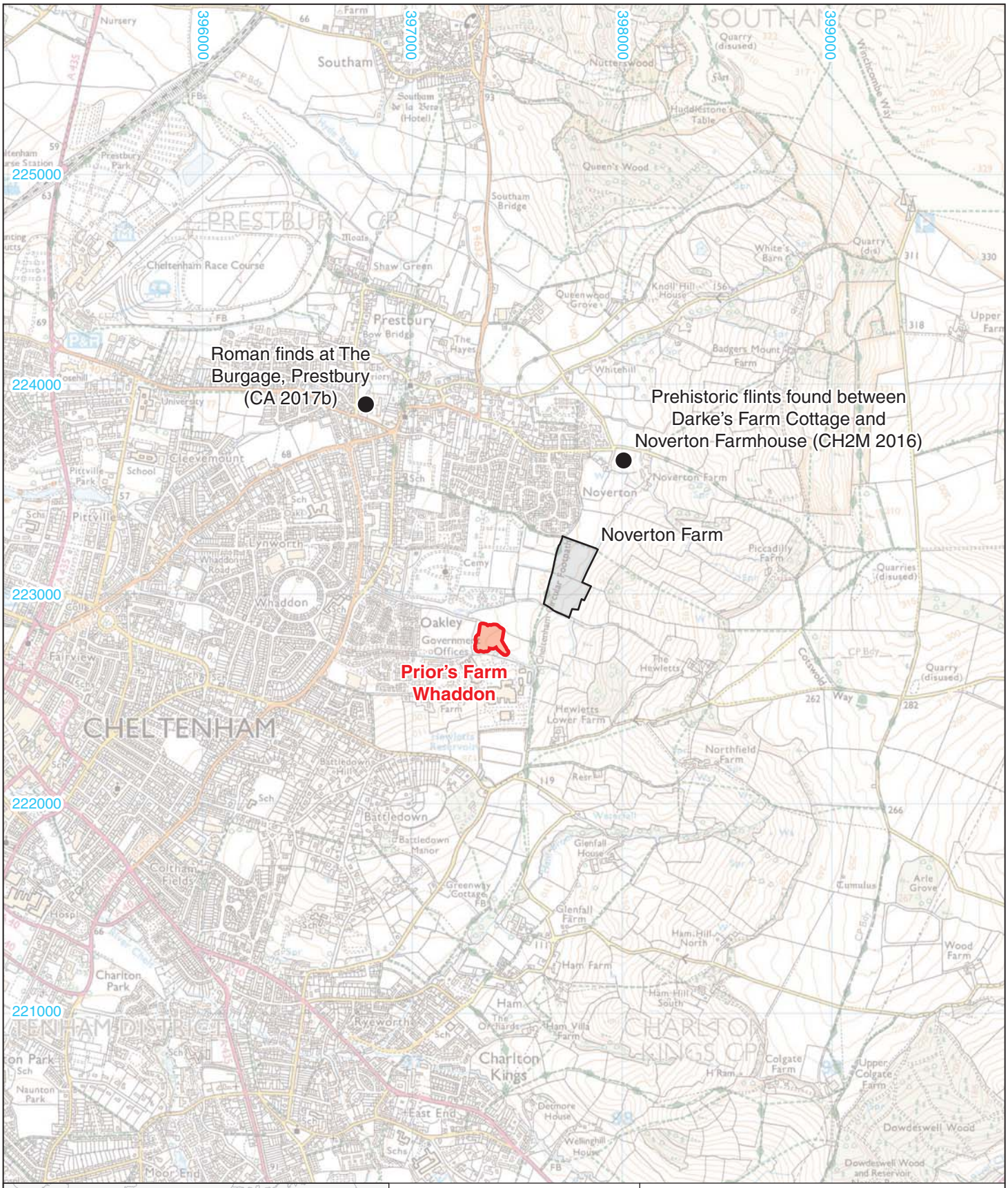
PROJECT DETAILS	
Project Name	Whaddon FAS, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire
Short description	A programme of archaeological investigation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology between June and September 2017 at the request of CH2M (now Jacobs) at Whaddon FAS, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire. In compliance with an approved WSI (CA 2017a), an area of 1.11ha was excavated across the development area. A series of intercutting enclosure and drainage ditches were identified across site, which were dated to the Late Iron Age and Roman period. At the north of the excavated area, the site was the focus for two successive large enclosures, each of which contained a number of intercutting amorphous ditches, possibly relating to enclosures and/or drainage. The site was bisected by a substantial palaeochannel, which was canalised during the Roman period, and many of the ditches may have related to water management. At the south-west of the site two ditch alignments may have been part of a trackway, and some regular ditches possibly related to structures. Residual pottery of late prehistoric date and a small assemblage of residual worked flints, some likely of Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date, suggest prehistoric activity in the general area. Notable finds included fineware ceramics, many Roman coins, brooches and other metalwork, forming an assemblage of unusually rich character for a typical Roman rural site. This suggests the excavated area may have been associated with a high status settlement and/or a site with a religious focus.
Project dates	23 June – 15 September 2017
Project type	Excavation
Previous work	Desk-Based Assessment (CH2M 2016) Geophysical survey (Stratascan 2016) Field evaluation (CA 2017)
Future work	Unknown
PROJECT LOCATION	
Site Location	Priors Farm, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire
Study area (M^2/ha)	1.11ha
Site co-ordinates	397391 222804
PROJECT CREATORS	
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology
Project Brief originator	Charles Parry, Archaeologist, Gloucesterhire County Council
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology
Project Manager	Laurent Coleman, Cotswold Archaeology
Project Supervisor	Alex Thomson, Cotswold Archaeology

MONUMENT TYPE	Romano-British enclosures, Romano-British trackway	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	Roman pottery, coins, metal artefacts, stone artefacts, fossil, charred plant remains,	
PROJECT ARCHIVES	The Wilson: Cheltenham Art Gallery & Museum	Content
Physical		Pottery, metalwork, worked stone, bunt clay/daub, CBM, glass, worked bone, flints, fossil, animal bone, charred botanical remains
Paper		Context sheets, drawings, registers
Digital		Survey, photos, database, matrices, specialist reports and spreadsheets
BIBLIOGRAPHY		

CH2M 2016 *Whaddon Flood Alleviation Scheme, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire: Historic Desk-Based Assessment*

Stratascan 2016 *Whaddon, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire – Phase 2 (November 2016); Geophysical Survey Report J10318*

CA2017 *Whaddon Flood Alleviation Scheme, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire: Archaeological Evaluation*. CA typescript report 17001



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PROJECT TITLE
Whaddon FAS, Priors Farm, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire

FIGURE TITLE
Site location plan

DRAWN BY	AO	PROJECT NO.	9251	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	14/05/2018	1
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Excavation Area

Archaeological feature

Evaluation trench (CA 2017b)

Archaeological feature in evaluation trench

Palaeochannel

Layer/deposit

Furrow

Treethrow

Geophysical Survey (Stratascan 2016)

Survey boundary

Probable archaeology

Possible archaeology

Ridge and furrow/ agricultural

Ferrous

0 1:1000 50m

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PROJECT TITLE

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FIGURE TITLE

Site plan showing area of excavation, locations of evaluation trenches and geophysical survey results

DRAWN BY	**AO**	*PROJECT NO.*	**9251**	*FIGURE NO.*
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397300
397350
397400
397450
222850
222800
222750

Enclosure 2
Enclosure 9
Enclosure 3
Enclosure 8
Enclosure 1

buried soil 1031
buried soil 1944
buried soil 1957
palaeochannel 1931
palaeochannel 1415
palaeochannel 1972
pit 1109
pit 1444

ditch 28
ditch 29
ditch 25
ditch 18
ditch 4
ditch 24
ditch alignment 4
ditch 31
ditch 32
ditch 30
ditch 17
ditch alignment 5
ditch 33
ditch 15
ditch 26
ditch 22
ditch 27
ditch 23
ditch 11
ditch 9
ditch 8
ditch 7
ditch 6
ditch alignment 2
ditch 16
ditch alignment 3
ditch 13
ditch 14
ditch alignment 6
ditch 12
ditch 5
ditch 1
ditch 2
ditch 3
ditch alignment 1

Ra1094 & Ra1095
Ra1080
Ra1129 & Ra1134
Ra1116

A
B
C
D

Fig. 4

Wyman's Brook

N

Excavation Area

excavated/unexcavated

- Period 1 Natural
- Period 2 Late Iron Age/ Early Roman
- Period 3 Roman
- Period 4 Late Roman
- Period 4 buried soil
- Undated
- Treethrow

Geophysical Survey (Stratascan 2016)

- Survey boundary
- Probable archaeology
- Possible archaeology
- Ferrous

0 1:500 25m

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PROJECT TITLE

Whaddon FAS, Priors Farm, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire

FIGURE TITLE

Phased site plan

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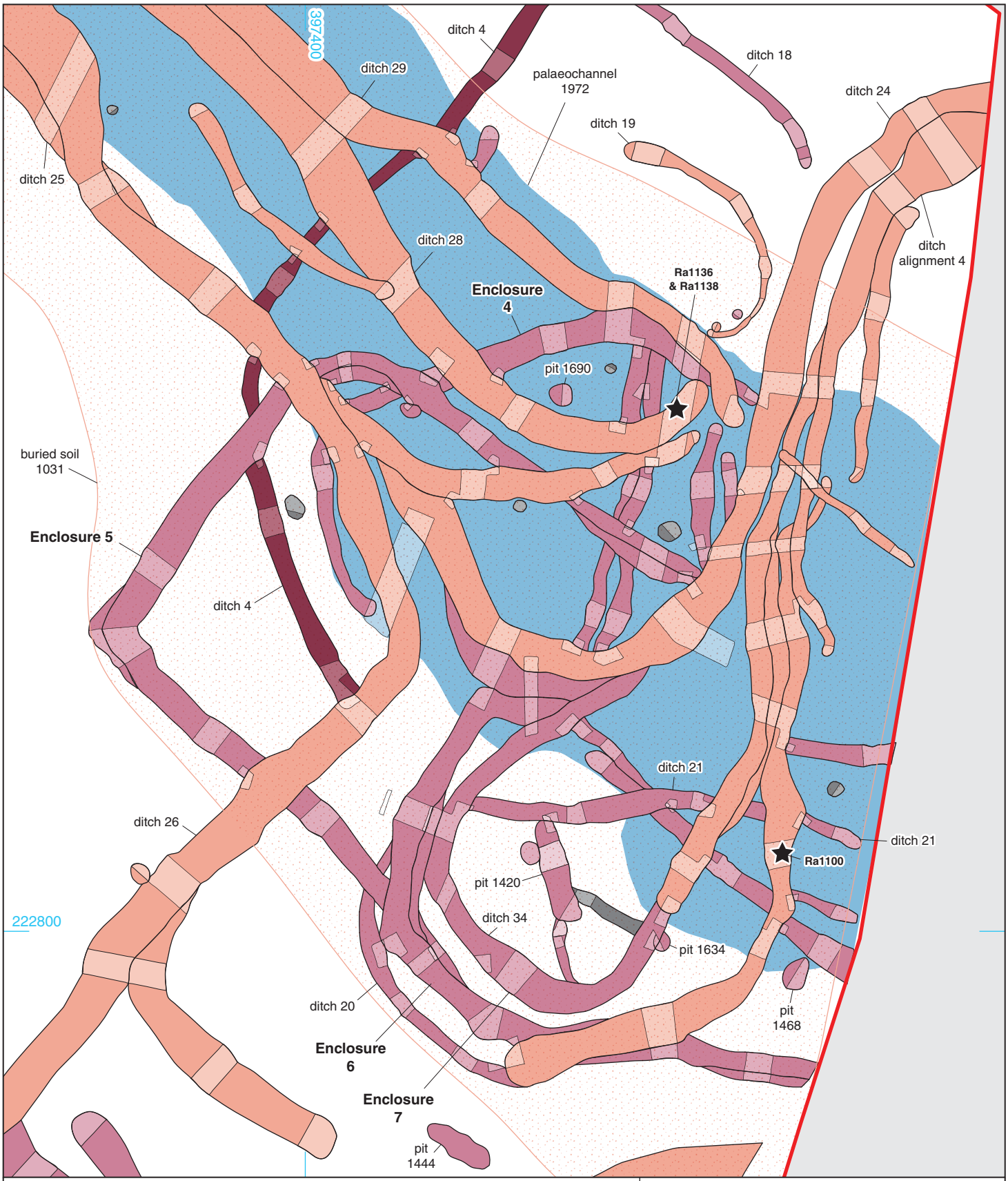

Excavation Area

excavated/unexcavated

- Period 1 Natural
- Period 2 Late Iron Age/Early Roman
- Period 3 Roman
- Period 4 Late Roman
- Period 4 buried soil
- Undated

N

0 1:250 10m

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PROJECT TITLE

Whaddon FAS, Priors Farm, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire

FIGURE TITLE

Phased site plan, showing detail of the north-east part of the site

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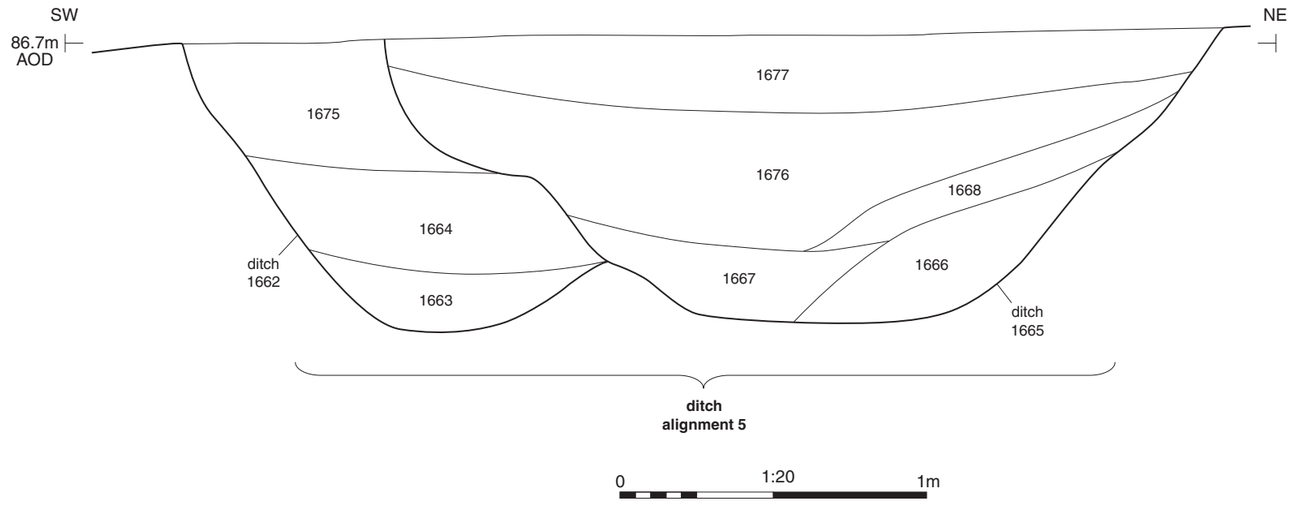
Section AA



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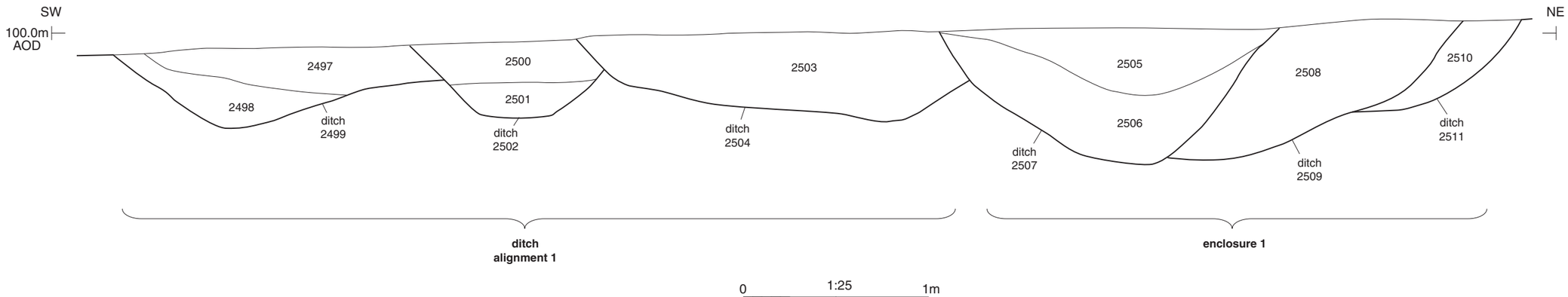

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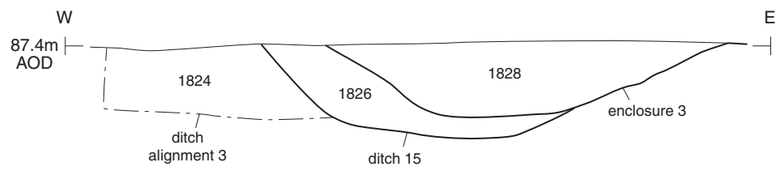

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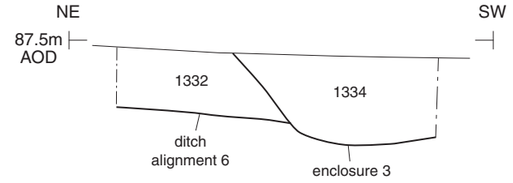

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FIGURE TITLE

Section drawings

DRAWN BY	**AO**	*PROJECT NO.*	**9251**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**15/05/2018**	**5**
APPROVED BY	**TB**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:20 & 1:25**	

0 1:1 50mm

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PROJECT TITLE

Whaddon FAS, Priors Farm, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire

FIGURE TITLE

Sherd from an Oxford Red-slipped ware face flagon, RA 1131

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APPROVED BY	**TB**	*SCALE@A4*	**1:1**	

0 2:1 20mm

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PROJECT TITLE

Whaddon FAS, Priors Farm, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire

FIGURE TITLE

Enamelled plate brooch, RA 1080

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APPROVED BY	**TB**	*SCALE@A4*	**2:1**	

0 1:2 100mm

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PROJECT TITLE

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FIGURE TITLE

Decorated stone mortar, RA 1136

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APPROVED BY	**TB**	*SCALE@A4*	**1:2**	

0 2:1 20mm

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PROJECT TITLE

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FIGURE TITLE

Silver denarius within a polygonal silver setting, RA 1095

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APPROVED BY	**TB**	*SCALE@A4*	**2:1**	

0 2:1 20mm

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PROJECT TITLE

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FIGURE TITLE

Late Roman or early post-Roman copper-alloy buckle, RA 1052

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APPROVED BY	**TB**	*SCALE@A4*	**2:1**	

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