Cotswold Archaeology

Saxon Rise 2
Northampton Road, Brixworth
Northamptonshire

Archaeological Excavation

for:
Barratt Northampton

CA Project: 669047
CA Report: 669047_1

November 2020

Andover Cirencester Milton Keynes Suffolk

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SUMMARY

Project name: Saxon Rise 2

Location: Northampton Road, Brixworth, Northamptonshire

NGR: 474940 269390

Type: Excavation

Date: 06 June to 28 October 2016

Planning reference: DA/2014/0900; condition 24

Location of Archive: Currently held at CA offices, Milton Keynes. To be deposited with Northamptonshire Archaeological Resource Centre (NARC), Chester Farm, Irchester, North Northamptonshire

Accession Number: ENN109413

Site Code: SAXO16

A programme of archaeological investigation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology between June and October 2016 at the request of Barratt Northampton at Saxon Rise 2, Brixworth, Northamptonshire. An area of 3.44ha was excavated across the development site.

Two Early Neolithic pits and one of Early Bronze Age date were identified, along with ditches and pits more broadly dating from the Bronze Age to Early Iron Age. The most significant remains comprised trapezoidal and sub-circular enclosures, two possible ring ditches and extensive pitting dating to the Middle to Late Iron Age, including one pit of Middle Iron Age date, which contained a male inhumation burial. An extensive assemblage of pottery spanning these periods was recovered from a number of features, along with an unusual and significant iron metalwork hoard from a Late Iron Age pit, likely a ritual deposit.

Activity continued from the Late Iron Age into the Romano-British period, shifting towards the south of the site, and was characterised by the development of an enclosure complex, probably part of a farmstead of complex form. The enclosure system extended outside the excavated area, and the excavated areas may have had a crop-processing function, as suggested by drying ovens. The construction of a large drying oven suggests an expansion of crop-processing activities at the site in the later Roman period and brewing possibly took place in the vicinity. The western ditch delineating the farmstead appears to have marked a

major boundary during the earlier Roman period and was maintained throughout the Roman occupation of the site, eventually being replaced by a stone wall. Pottery spanning the entire Roman period was recovered from a range of features and deposits across the site.

Few post-Roman features were identified, with no evidence of occupation until the establishment of a ridge-and-furrow agricultural system in the medieval or post-medieval periods. There was evidence for a post-medieval boundary wall and possible quarry pits, along with a modern ditch, postholes and dog burials.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Between June and October 2016 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological excavation at Saxon Rise 2, Northampton Road, Brixworth, Northamptonshire (centred on NGR: 474940 269390; Fig. 1). The work was undertaken at the request of Barratt Northampton in order to fulfil a condition attached to planning permission granted by Daventry District Council (DDC), the local planning authority (LPA), for residential development of the site (planning ref. DA/2014/0900; Condition 24).

1.2. The work was carried out in accordance with a brief for archaeological works (NCC 2015) prepared by Lesley-Ann Mather, the Northamptonshire County Council Archaeological Advisor (NCCAA) and advisor to DCC, and with a subsequent detailed Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by CA (2015), which was approved by the LPA acting on the advice of the NCCAA.

1.3. The fieldwork also followed Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation (CIfA 2014a); The Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Manager's Guide (HE 2015a) and accompanying PPN3: Archaeological Excavation (HE 2015b). It was monitored by Lesley-Ann Mather, including site visits on 14 June, 7 July, 10 August, 6 September and 28 September 2016.

The site

1.4. The site encloses an area of approximately 3.5ha and is located immediately south of Brixworth village, approximately 8km north of Northampton town centre. Prior to the archaeological investigations, the site comprised a triangular block of farmland bounded by Northampton Road to the south-west and the A508 Harborough Road to the south-east, with the Saxon Rise 1 residential development and adjacent allotments to the north (Figs 1 and 2).

1.5. The site lies on a spur of high ground at approximately 123m aOD (above Ordnance Datum) in the north-western corner, sloping gradually to *c*. 117m aOD in the south.

1.6. The underlying bedrock geology of the site is mapped as Jurassic ooidal ironstone of the Northampton Sand Formation. No superficial deposits are recorded (BGS 2021). The natural ironstone was exposed in a number of areas of the site following

machine stripping but was largely overlain by variable sandy silt and gravel deposits, upon which a sandy silt subsoil had developed, though in some places recent ploughing had penetrated as far as the natural ironstone. The depositional sequence across the site was capped by up to 0.25m of modern ploughsoil.

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1. Archaeological interest in the site arises from previous archaeological works which have taken place within the area of development. These comprise a heritage desk-based assessment (CA 2012a); geophysical survey at Saxon Rise 1 (Stratascan 2012) and Saxon Rise 2 (Stratascan 2014); field evaluation at Saxon Rise 1 (CA 2012b) and Saxon Rise 2 (CA 2014) and excavation work at Saxon Rise 1 (CA 2017a). The results of these works are included in the following summary of the archaeological background to the site.

2.2. Evidence for activity during the earlier prehistoric period at the site and surrounding study area (500m radius) is limited. Fieldwalking surveys undertaken around Brixworth in the 1970s recorded a number of flint scatters, most of which were located to the west of the village (Martin and Hall 1980). However, three concentrations were recorded within and in the immediate vicinity of Saxon Rise 1; a Mesolithic scatter was identified in the north-east corner of the site, a more broadly dated assemblage was recovered immediately to the north and Early Bronze Age material was identified north of this (ibid.). Further fieldwalking in 1989 and 1990 recovered additional prehistoric flints (CA 2012a). Evaluation and excavation in 1990 and 1994 immediately north of Saxon Rise 1 revealed a scatter of prehistoric worked flints and a Neolithic pit (Ford 1995).

2.3. The archaeological investigations at Saxon Rise 1 (Fig. 3) uncovered two Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age four-post structures, indicating activity associated with probable settlement during this period (CA 2017a). During the archaeological evaluation at Saxon Rise 2 (Fig. 3), a Mesolithic worked flint bladelet was recovered from a pit and six sherds of residual Early to Middle Bronze Age pottery were recovered from a ditch. The flint exhibited some edge damage and was probably redeposited in a later feature (CA 2014).

2.4. Little evidence for Iron Age activity in the vicinity of the site was recorded prior to the investigations at Saxon Rise 1, with just a single Late Iron Age to Roman pit revealed during a watching brief (rescue excavation) undertaken during construction of the A508 Harborough Road (Brixworth Bypass) (CA 2012a).

2.5. Late prehistoric activity at Saxon Rise 1 comprised an Iron Age field system, including a possible trackway, boundary ditches, field divisions and two enclosures (Fig. 3), which had been remodelled and managed over time. Settlement evidence included roundhouses and associated storage/waste pits within one of the enclosures (CA 2017a).

2.6. The geophysical survey at Saxon Rise 2 (Stratascan 2014) recorded linear and pit-like anomalies across the development site, which were investigated as part of the field evaluation (Fig. 2). Upon investigation, a number of these anomalies were found to be Iron Age ditches, containing pottery dating to the Middle Iron Age and Late Iron Age/Early Roman periods (CA 2014). A previous geophysical survey to the east of Harborough Road (Fig. 2; Davies 2014) also recorded a series of anomalies that probably represent an eastern continuation of the feature complexes identified at Saxon Rise 2; subsequent trial-trench evaluation by University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) indicated late prehistoric and Roman dating for a number of the features (Baker 2014; ULAS 2015).

2.7. The desk-based assessment (CA 2012a) did not identify Roman remains within the boundaries of the site. The nearest known extensive Roman settlement was located at Duston (Northampton), which lies approximately 9km to the south-west of the site; the nearest known Roman Road ran between Duston and the Roman town at Norton (Bannaventa) further to the west (Margary 1973, 17). However, the line of a putative Roman road between Northampton and Leicester has also been recorded by the Northamptonshire Historic Environment Record (HER) (MNN13532; MNN14161) and the National Monuments Record (1326461). This respects the alignment of the current Northampton Road, immediately adjacent to the west of the site (CA 2012a). A major Roman villa complex, which underwent extensive investigation in the 1960s (Woods 1970), was located 2.5km to the north of Saxon Rise 2.

2.8. Excavations at Saxon Rise 1 revealed no evidence of Roman activity, with the exception of a few sherds of residual Roman pottery (CA 2017a). However, a

number of the linear and pit-like anomalies identified in the geophysical survey at Saxon Rise 2 (Stratascan 2014) were revealed in the evaluation to have been Early and Middle Roman in date (CA 2014) (Figs 2 and 3).

2.9. No evidence of Anglo-Saxon or medieval settlement was identified within the boundaries of the site (CA 2012a), although an Anglo-Saxon settlement, which included five post-built structures and four sunken-featured buildings dating to the 5th to 6th centuries AD, was excavated immediately to the north (Ford 1995). Two Anglo-Saxon post-built structures were also identified during construction of the A508 Harborough Road (Brixworth Bypass) (NAU 1990). A little further afield, pottery of Early/Middle Anglo-Saxon date was recovered during excavation in the Vicarage Garden at Brixworth, along with evidence of Late Anglo-Saxon and early post-Norman Conquest activity (Everson 1977).

2.10. Anglo-Saxon material has also been identified through fieldwalking at Brixworth (Shaw 1993/4). It has been speculated that Brixworth was the unidentified place known as Clofesho, an important location which hosted Councils of the early English Church between the 7th and early 9th centuries (Davis 1962; Loyn 1984). The suggestion is based partly on the scale and geographical location of All Saints' Church at Brixworth village (Loyn 1984, 57), which is believed to date from the late 8th century (Parsons and Sutherland 2013). There is no firm evidence to indicate that Brixworth was Anglo-Saxon Clofesho, however, and other contenders have been suggested (eg Offer 2002, 4-5).

2.11. Despite the potential for Anglo-Saxon activity, no features or artefacts that could be attributed to this period were identified in either of the Saxon Rise field evaluations, or during the excavation at Saxon Rise 1.

2.12. Domesday Book records Brixworth as Briclesworde, a fair-sized settlement with 20.5 households comprising 14 villagers, 15 smallholders, 11 freemen and one priest, and including extensive plough lands, meadows and two mills (Brown and Woodfield 2005). The development site lay within the complex of open fields that surrounded the main area of medieval settlement. Plough furrows relating to agricultural activity in the medieval/post-medieval period, when the site was used as arable land, were identified in the evaluation and excavation at Saxon Rise 1 (CA 2012b, 2014 and 2017a).

2.13. The site remained in agricultural use throughout the post-medieval and modern periods. Ironstone quarrying took place at the Saxon Rise 1 site in this period, but the geophysical survey and evaluation results suggest that this quarrying did not extend southwards into the Saxon Rise 2 site.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1. The initial aims of the excavation were to establish the character, quality, date, significance and extent of any archaeological remains or deposits surviving within the site.

3.2. The objectives of the excavation were laid out in the WSI (CA 2015) in accordance with specifications set out in the brief for archaeological works (NCC 2015). The archaeological evaluation of the site indicated that it potentially contained the remains of a Late Iron Age/Roman farmstead. As such, the archaeological investigations had the potential to provide information relevant to the following East Midlands archaeological research objective (as defined in Knight *et al*. 2012, 79):

3.3. Research Objective 5H: Investigate the landscape context of [Roman] rural settlements.

3.4. Following the excavation and assessment of archived materials and in the light of the findings from the fieldwork and primary post-excavation analysis (CA 2017b), a revised set of objectives was formulated at the post-excavation assessment phase:

- Objective 1: Refine understanding of the site chronology, from the beginning to the end of occupation.
- Objective 2: Use the updated phasing and stratigraphic analysis to characterise the main morphological changes at the site.
- Objective 3: Establish the function/nature of the site during its different phases of use, by integrating material culture (industry and economy) with the stratigraphic sequence.
- Objective 4: Establish the function/nature of the site during its different phases of use, by integrating the environmental material (economy and diet) with the stratigraphic sequence.

- Objective 5: Consider the potential evidence for 'structured deposits' at the site.
- Objective 6: Consider the evidence for burial traditions and how they relate to broader regional trends in the Iron Age and Roman periods.
- Objective 7: Understand the evidence for medieval/post-medieval open field systems in its local context.

4. METHODOLOGY

4.1. The fieldwork followed the methodology set out within the WSI (CA 2015). A total of 3.44ha was excavated across the development area (Fig. 3); the main body of the site was subject to open area excavation (approximately 3ha), with a smaller area (approximately 0.4ha) of strip, map and sample (SMS) excavation located at the north-western corner of the site. These areas were agreed with Lesley-Ann Mather (NCCAA) and were informed by the results of the preceding desk-based assessment (CA 2012a), geophysical surveys (Stratascan 2012 and 2014), field evaluations (CA 2012b and 2014) and excavation (CA 2017a).

4.2. The excavation area was set out on OS National Grid (NGR) co-ordinates using Leica GPS and surveyed in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 5.1: Survey Manual*. The excavation areas were scanned for live services by trained CA staff using CAT and Genny equipment in accordance with the CA Safe System of Work for avoiding underground services.

4.3. Fieldwork commenced with the removal of topsoil and subsoil from the excavation area by mechanical excavator with a 1.8m-wide toothless grading bucket, under archaeological supervision. Machine excavation ceased when the first archaeological horizon or natural substrate was revealed (whichever was encountered first). Archaeological features/deposits were investigated, planned and recorded in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 1: Fieldwork Recording Manua*l.

4.4. The archaeological features thus exposed were hand-excavated to the bottom of archaeological stratigraphy. Where features exceeded 1.2m in depth, either slots were stepped or the lowest fills were investigated by hand-augering. The following sampling strategy was employed:

- all discrete features were half-sectioned. Where such features were shown to form part of recognisable structures, or contained deposits of particular

value or significant artefact or environmental assemblages, they were fully excavated;

- for all linear features associated with settlement or industrial structures, an initial 25% by length was excavated (away from intersections with other features or deposits, to obtain unmixed samples of material). Excavation slots measured at least 1m in width. Where significant patterns of deposition occurred within linear features, these areas were investigated by excavation of up to a further 25% by length;
- structural remains such as eaves-drip gullies, beam slots and postholes considered likely to be part of a building's construction were subject to a minimum of 50% excavation;
- all industrial features including domestic ovens and hearths were 100% excavated;
- the excavation of linear features (not directly associated with settlement) was sufficient to allow an informed interpretation of their date and function. In this case, excavation slots were at least 1m in width and generally at least 10% of such features was excavated;
- linear features interpreted as field boundaries were excavated to a minimum of 5% by length (away from intersections with other features or deposits, to obtain unmixed samples of material);
- deep features such as wells and pits were excavated to their full depth where possible. As described above, where this generated health and safety issues, excavations were stepped or basal hand-augering was employed;
- Priority was attached to features which yielded assemblages relating to the chronological sequence of the site.

4.5. All features were planned and recorded in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 1: Fieldwork Recording Manual*. Deposits were assessed for their environmental potential in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 2: The taking and processing of environmental and other samples from archaeological sites*, with 64 deposits deemed suitable for environmental sampling. All artefacts recovered from the excavation were retained in accordance with CA Technical Manual 3: Treatment of finds immediately after excavation. Following completion of the fieldwork, all finds and records were archived in line with standard procedures (CIfA 2014b).

4.6. Following the fieldwork, a programme of post-excavation assessment (PXA) was undertaken, which quantified and assessed the stratigraphic evidence from the excavation. All the artefacts and biological material recovered were fully assessed and recorded during the assessment process and full details can be found within the Post-Excavation Assessment and Updated Project Design (CA 2017b). The evidence was considered in its local, regional and national context, and a series of updated aims and objectives were compiled. The updated project design included a second phase of post-excavation analysis, to include stratigraphic analysis and further work on artefacts and ecofacts (biological evidence) of intrinsic interest, with the results combined with those from Saxon Rise 1 (CA 2017a) to be presented in an excavation report (the current document), and a summary account to be published in *Northamptonshire Archaeology*.

4.7. A summary of information from this project, as set out in Appendix O, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

5. RESULTS (FIGS 3 – 26)

5.1. The archaeological potential of the *c.* 3.5ha site was highlighted by earlier geophysical survey (Stratascan 2014) and field evaluation (CA 2014). Archaeological features were concentrated in the central and southern part of the site, with a sparser group of features identified towards the north. Two Early Neolithic pits and one Early Bronze Age pit were identified, along with ditches and pits which were more broadly dated to the Bronze Age to Early Iron Age periods. The most significant remains comprised those relating to occupation during the Middle to Late Iron Age, evidenced by trapezoidal and sub-circular enclosures, two possible ring-ditches and extensive pitting.

5.2. Activity continued from the Late Iron Age into the Romano-British period and was characterised by the development of a sequence of sub-rectangular enclosures, probably located on the periphery of a farmstead of complex form. No clear domestic focus was identified and the enclosures were probably primarily utilised for agricultural purposes, as suggested by the presence of two drying ovens, which had been established by the mid-2nd century AD. While the enclosure system saw some changes over time, primarily in the form of the recutting of ditches due to silting, and the subsequent establishment of a boundary wall, a continuing

agricultural function for the enclosures is suggested by the construction of a further, much larger drying or malting oven.

5.3. Few post-Roman features were identified, with no evidence of site use until the establishment of a ridge-and-furrow agricultural system in the medieval or post-medieval periods. There was evidence for a post-medieval boundary wall, possible quarry pits and a modern ditch, as well as postholes and recent dog burials.

5.4. A large pottery assemblage (6820 sherds, 72.1kg) was recovered from the site including a small quantity of Early Neolithic and Early Bronze Age material (84 sherds/206g). The large Iron Age pottery assemblage (2120 sherds, 12.35kg) comprises a range of jars and bowl forms, most made from fabrics containing calcareous inclusions dating to the Middle and Late Iron Age periods. Roman pottery amounts to 4612 sherds (59.5kg). This assemblage includes 'transitional' pottery types, dating from c. AD 1/25 to c. AD 70/80 through to material dating to the 4th century AD, and possibly beyond. Jars and utilitarian dishes/bowl are dominant, with tableware vessels comprising beakers/cups, flagons and fineware bowls, with 'specialist' forms (mortaria) comparatively uncommon. Four post-medieval sherds weighing 95g were also recovered.

5.5. This section provides an overview of the excavation results; detailed accounts of the contexts, finds, biological remains and radiocarbon dating are to be found in Appendices A–N.

5.6. Features have been assigned to the following periods. Periods have been sub-divided into distinct phases where there is stratigraphic evidence for successive sequences of activity but for which there is limited dating evidence to indicate distinct dating for the activity.

- Geology
- Period 1: Early Neolithic (4000 BC – 3000 BC)
- Period 2: Bronze Age to Early Iron Age (2400 BC – 400 BC)
- Period 3: Middle to Late Iron Age (400 BC – 100 BC)
  - Phase 3.1: Middle to Late Iron Age I
  - Phase 3.2: Middle to Late Iron Age II
- Period 4: Late Pre-Roman Iron Age (LPRIA) to Early Roman (1st century BC – 2nd century AD)

  - Phase 4.1: LPRIA to Early Roman I
  - Phase 4.2: LPRIA to Early Roman II
- Period 5: Late Roman (3rd – 4th century AD)
  - Phase 5.1 Late Roman I
  - Phase 5.2: Late Roman II
- Period 6: post-Roman (5th – 20th century AD)

5.7. Some features could not be definitively assigned to a phase based on stratigraphy or dating evidence.

Geology

5.8. The natural geological substrate was identified at an average depth of 0.35m below ground level. It varied across the site comprising either a light-grey clay, mid-red brown sandy silt or a mid-yellow brown gravel material, though in some places the natural ironstone was exposed. These materials were overlain by an intermittent, mid to dark-grey brown sandy silt subsoil up to 0.08m thick and containing occasional gravel inclusions. This was in turn sealed by a mid to dark-red brown sandy silt topsoil measuring 0.25m in thickness. All identified archaeological features cut the underlying natural unconsolidated materials, whilst some deeper features cut into the ironstone bedrock.

Period 1: Early Neolithic (*c.* 4000 BC – 3000 BC) (Figs 5 and 11)

5.9. Earlier prehistoric struck flint was recovered residually from a number of later contexts across the site, but the earliest *in situ* evidence of activity pre-dating the Bronze Age came from two small pits (1625 and 1680) located 14m east of the western edge of excavation. Pit 1625 (Fig. 11; Section AA), which measured up to 1m across but was only 0.22m deep, was largely filled with a very dark-grey brown, sandy silt (1626) with a smaller secondary deposit of mid red-brown, sandy silt (1627). It produced a number of sherds of Early Neolithic pottery and a small assemblage of worked flint, including a saw, two micro-denticulates and debitage, typical of an Early Neolithic assemblage. Most of the finds were recovered from fill 1626.

5.10. A bulk sediment sample taken from the pit yielded a large assemblage of charred hazelnut fragments and charcoal. A sample of the hazelnut shells submitted for radiocarbon dating yielded an Early Neolithic date (3631–3373 cal. BC at 95.4% probability; SUERC-75696). Pit 1680, which measured up to 0.6m across and just

0.1m deep, contained a single, mid-brown, silty sand fill (1681). This produced no datable artefacts but has been phased as Early Neolithic based on its similar form and location, just 0.62m to the north-west of pit 1625.

Period 2: Bronze Age to Early Iron Age (*c.* 2400 BC – 400 BC) (Fig. 4, 5 and 7)

5.11. Towards the north of the site, a small number of pits and linear features appeared to pre-date the main Middle to Late Iron Age phases of activity on the site. Pit 3500, which measured up to 0.7m across but was just 90mm deep and contained a single, mid-brown grey, sandy silt fill (3501), was located towards the north-western corner of the site, *c.* 10m east of the western edge of excavation. This pit contained sherds from a possible food vessel of likely Early Bronze Age date, along with a single worked flint.

5.12. A number of pit and ditch features (3490, 3199, 2014 and 2021) were recorded in the north-eastern corner of the site. None of these produced any artefactual or biological evidence to signify their date or function. However, as some of these features were cut by ditches interpreted as being of Iron Age date, they have been tentatively assigned to Period 2. Where no stratigraphic relationships were recorded, features have been assigned to this period based upon broad similarities in their form and the consistency of their fills. The lack of dating evidence makes this phasing somewhat conjectural; it is possible that these features relate to activity in Period 1, or that they represent an early episode of activity within Period 3.1.

5.13. Elongated ditches 3199 and 3490 were quite substantial, each measuring at least 12m long and 3m wide. The former measured almost 1.2m deep, with two lower fills of orange-brown silty sand and an upper fill of brown sandy clay. Ditch 3490 was shallower, measuring 0.43m in depth, and contained a single fill (3491) of orange-brown silty sand. Ditches 2014 and 2021 were parallel linear features, both at least 12m in length and situated 2m apart. The former measured 0.82m wide and 0.12m deep, and the latter 0.36m wide and just 0.07m deep. Both features contained single, light-brown grey, silty sand fills. Ditch 2021 was cut at its north-east extent by Phase 3.1 Ditch AD. To the south-east of ditches 2014 and 2021, located between Phase 3.1 Ditches AD and AH, three pits (3467, 3469 and 3488), have also been tentatively dated to this period based on their spatial association with these features. These pits contained no datable artefactual remains however, and it is possible that they were associated with another period of activity at the site.

5.14. Towards the south of the site (Figs 5 and 7), a short section of slightly curving ditch, 1498, was aligned north-west/south-east. The fills of this ditch contained no artefacts, but it had been cut by larger curving ditch 1195, which was on a different orientation and is considered to be part of phase 3.1 activity based on the presence of Middle Iron Age pottery. Ditch 1498 was therefore stratigraphically earlier, and potentially of Bronze Age or Early Iron Age date.

Period 3: Middle to Late Iron Age (*c*. 400 BC – 100 BC) (Figs 4 – 7 and 12 – 18)

5.15. During the Middle to Late Iron Age the site witnessed a significant period of activity; intercutting between features suggests that this may have occurred over a relatively prolonged period of time. Pottery of Middle Iron Age date recovered from some of the features indicates that at least some of this activity occurred within the Middle Iron Age, and this is supported by a small group of Middle Iron Age radiocarbon dates (discussed below). However, many features contained less precisely dated pottery of Middle to Late Iron Age date, raising the possibility that the activity may have occurred over centuries of occupation.

5.16. While it is possible to identify distinct sub-phasing of the Iron Age activity based upon some of the stratigraphic relationships, the relatively imprecise date range of much of the pottery often hinders the recognition of discrete date ranges within this time period. The Iron Age activity is therefore all regarded as having taken place between the Middle and Late Iron Ages. The scarcity of grog-tempered wheel-thrown pottery from Iron Age features suggests that the activity did not continue beyond the later 1st century BC (Appendix C). The activity is divided below into two sub-phases, phases 3.1 and 3.2, based upon a combination of the stratigraphic and spatial relationships between features and the available dating evidence.

Phase 3.1: Middle to Late Iron Age I (Figs 4 – 7 and 12 – 14)

Enclosure A and potentially associated internal and external pits (Figs 4 and 6)

5.17. Enclosure A was located 47m east of the western edge of excavation and was trapezoidal in shape. It comprised western, northern and eastern boundary ditches, enclosing an area measuring at least 43m north/south by 20m east/west at the north and more than 30m east/west at the south. It had a possible 3.4m-wide entrance to the west. There was no southern ditch; it is possible that any such ditch was lost as a result of horizontal truncation in this area, although a southern

boundary may also have been formed by archaeologically unrecognisable features, such as hedging.

5.18. The ditch for Enclosure A was up to 2.2m wide and at the two rounded terminals, north and south of the western entrance, measured up to 1.25m deep. The ditch profile either side of the entrance had in general steeply sloping sides and a flattish base; there was no evidence of recutting. The terminals either side of the entrance contained two fills, the lower of which contained frequent stone fragments, probably relating to excavated bedrock which had fallen back into the ditch. The upper fill was generally composed of finer brown sandy clayey silt, indicating gradual, natural silting (north terminus 3364, Fig. 6 and Fig. 12, Section BB). Small quantities of broadly dated Iron Age pottery were recovered from the ditch fills, alongside a small amount of animal bone and fired/burnt clay. Two samples of the animal bone from the northern terminus (3364) were submitted for radiocarbon dating in order to provide paired dates. These returned date range of 356 – 62 cal. BC and 373 – 203 cal. BC, both at 95.4% probability (SUERC-79204 and SUERC-79205), confirming a date within the Middle Iron Age.

5.19. Enclosure A contained a number of features, predominantly pits. The pits ranged in size from 1m to 2.4m in diameter and while many of these were not dated by artefacts, pottery of Middle Iron Age date was recovered from pits 3376, 3299, 3255 and 3437. More broadly dated Iron Age pottery was recovered from pits 3426 and 3430. This suggests that many of the pits within the enclosure were contemporaneous with its use. The pits ranged in depth from 0.2m to 0.6m; most had concaved, moderately sloping sides and flat bases, typically with one or two fills of brown silty clay and silty sand. Most of the pits contained few finds aside from the small quantity of pottery recovered, although occasional finds of animal bone may suggest some were associated with waste disposal. Environmental samples from pits 3213 (sample 54) and 3367 (sample 63) respectively contained hulled wheat and barley grain fragments, glume bases and spelt wheat chaff, which likely also represent waste from domestic activities, suggesting settlement in the vicinity.

5.20. The largest of the pits was pit 3376 (Figs 13 and 23, Section II), which measured up to 2.4m across and 0.45m deep. This pit also contained the most substantial amount of material, with a moderately-sized pottery assemblage of Middle Iron Age date, a small quantity of animal bone and a fragment of fired/burnt clay with circular impressions recovered from its lower fill. A small number of charred grains and

weeds, indicative of dispersed settlement debris, were recovered from environmental sample 64 taken from the same deposit; however, the presence of grain fragments of free-threshing wheat, which is believed to have become most common in the Saxon period in Southern Britain (Greig 1991), suggests that some of the charred plant remains within this pit were intrusive.

5.21. Pit 3230 was located 6.4m to the south-west of pit 3376. The pit was sub-circular in plan, up to 1.5m wide and 0.63m deep, with near-vertical sides and a flat base. The size and form of the pit, which is comparable with features interpreted as storage pits at other Iron Age sites, suggests that it may originally have performed a storage function. Following its initial use, the pit had been deliberately backfilled, with material including animal bone and Middle Iron Age pottery. Above this lay the skeleton of an adult male human (SK 3226). The skeleton had been placed within the pit on his left side, in a partly crouched position with his head to the west, facing to the south (Fig. 14, photograph). The individual was estimated to be more than 45 years of age at the time of death. The pit had then been deliberately backfilled with further material that included animal bone, charred plant remains from probable dispersed settlement waste (sample 57) and Middle Iron Age pottery. A radiocarbon date from the human skeletal material produced a date of 357 – 91 cal. BC at 95.4% probability (SUERC-75529), suggesting a Middle Iron Age date, comparable with radiocarbon dates from the enclosure ditch.

5.22. Located less than 5m to the south-east of pit 3230, large, sub-circular pit 3227 measured 2m in diameter and 0.73m deep, with steep sides and a flat base. As with Pit 3230, the pit's size and form may suggest that it had originally performed a storage function, although a series of six fills contained material suggesting that it was subsequently filled with domestic settlement waste. Middle Iron Age pottery was recovered from most of the pit's fills, along with a small amount of animal bone. The pit's upper fill (3228) included a fired clay loomweight fragment, indicating textile production at or near the site, along with fragments of clay oven furniture. A sealed secondary deposit 3229, close to the base of the pit, contained a largely intact upper stone from a beehive rotary quern (Ra. 44, Fig. 32, No. 2), indicating the processing of crops nearby. The grinding surface of the quern had been subject to deliberate chipping, which would have rendered it unusable (Appendix I), and this treatment together with its probable deliberate placement within the pit suggests that it represents a structured deposit with potential ritual or religious significance.

Bulk sediment samples from deposit 3229 (sample 56) and upper fill 3228 (sample 55) yielded large quantities of charred plant remains including hulled wheat and barley grain and spelt chaff, possibly representing crop-processing waste. Together, the presence of the quern, the charred crop remains and the identification of probable storage pits indicate that at least part of Enclosure A was dedicated to crop storage and food production. The loomweight fragment and oven furniture suggest that this area was on the periphery of a domestic focus, which was perhaps also within Enclosure A. Such a suggestion is further supported by the presence of a large group of fragmented structural daub from Pit 3434 (Appendix G), suggestive of the presence of a structure in the vicinity.

5.23. While most of the pits were concentrated within Enclosure A, a small group of three pits (3253, 3278 and 3463), were located immediately to the north of Enclosure A. These pits all measured approximately 1m in diameter and between 0.14m and 0.3m deep; one (3278) contained pottery dating to the Middle Iron Age, along with a small amount of animal bone, and the others are regarded as being likely Middle Iron Age in date based upon their proximity to this dated pit. The scarcity of finds makes attributing a function difficult, although it is possible that they represent waste pits, as has been suggested for many of those within Enclosure A. Pit 3334 was situated 15m to the north of the enclosure (Fig. 4). It was oval in shape, measuring 1.5m long and 0.3m deep, with steep sides and an irregular base. No finds were recovered, although its spatial proximity to Enclosure A may suggest broad contemporaneity. Pit 3315, 15m to the east of this, was potentially also related.

Ditches AD, AE, AF and AG (Fig. 4)

5.24. A number of features in the north-east of the excavation area may also have been of Middle to Late Iron Age date. Ditches AE and AG did not contain any datable artefacts. However, on the basis of their appearance in plan, and the characteristics of their profiles and fills, they possibly formed part of another trapezoidal enclosure. This apparent enclosure was on a broadly similar alignment to Enclosure A to the south, with south-west/north-east, east/west and north-west/south-east-orientated arms. For this reason, features associated with it and those found in close proximity to it, have been tentatively assigned to Phase 3.1.

5.25. Ditch AE was similar morphologically to the ditches associated with Phase 3.1 Enclosure A; it had been recut at least once, had steeply sloping sides and a narrow base, and contained up to five fills of sandy clay and brown clayey silt. The ditch measured 1.4m wide and up to 1.2m deep. Ditch AG measured up to 1.8m wide and up to 0.5m deep, with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill was primarily comprised of grey-brown sandy clay.

5.26. Ditch AF, which extended outside the excavated area to the north, was also without dating evidence but possibly formed a field boundary or further enclosure ditch. It had concaved, shallow sides and measured 1.2m wide and up to 0.3m deep. It contained a single fill of light brown clay. A possible access point into the trapezoidal enclosure may have been represented by the terminals of ditches AE, AF and AG.

5.27. Ditch AD was located 14.5m to the east of the possible trapezoidal enclosure and has been assigned to Phase 3.1 on the basis of its spatial proximity to the features discussed above. The ditch measured 2.4m wide and 0.8m deep, with moderately sloping concave sides and a broad flat base. Its fills were of a similar character to those of Ditch AE, with up to four fills of red-brown sand and sandy clay, and this may suggest broad contemporaneity with the features to the west. A bulk soil sample taken from the fill (2041; sample 2) of the north-east terminus of the feature was sterile.

Ditch AC (Fig. 4)

5.28. Located 19m south of Ditch AD at the eastern edge of the site, Ditch AC was a sinuous feature which appeared to have been recut several times. The fills of each recut mainly comprised sterile brown to grey sandy clay. No dating evidence was recovered but this feature and its recuts have been assigned to Phase 3.1 on the basis of its spatial proximity to other potential Phase 3.1 features in this part of the site. It may have been related in some way to the activity in the trapezoidal enclosure represented by ditches AE and AG, although the lack of dating evidence or clear stratigraphic associations mean that this suggestion can only be tentative.

Pit Group AH (Fig. 4)

5.29. To the west of Ditch AC were a group of oval features making up Pit group AH. The five pits measured up to 1.75m long and 1.5m wide and between 0.4 and 0.6m

deep and were typically concave in shape with gradually sloping sides and contained sterile fills of brown silty sand. The presence of similar-sized features with more irregular bases in the same area, which have been interpreted as tree-throw pits, raises the possibility that at least some of these pit-like features also derived from natural processes. Yet it is possible that some of these features were pits related to activity in this northern trapezoidal enclosure.

Other Features (Figs 5 and 7)

5.30. A small amount of evidence of Middle to Late Iron Age activity was identified towards the south of the site. This included curvilinear ditch 1195 (Fig. 7), which measured approximately 1.2m wide and up to 0.9m deep, with a steeply sloping, flat-bottomed profile. A slot excavated at its north-eastern terminus revealed three backfilling deposits, the middle of which produced a small assemblage of Middle Iron Age pottery and a residual piece of worked flint. The ditch had been truncated by Phase 4.2 Ditch N, hindering interpretation of the feature, although it possibly formed part of a small enclosure.

5.31. Three small pits were situated 0.75m to the south of Ditch 1195. One of these pits (1175), also produced Middle Iron Age pottery, along with a small amount of animal bone. A bulk environmental sample (sample 3) taken from the fill of the pit yielded a large quantity of charred cereal remains, including hulled wheat and barley grain fragments and spelt wheat culm nodes; the assemblage is possibly indicative of waste from a late stage of processing such as the processing of stored semi-cleaned grain or spikelets. This might suggest that ditch 1195 represents the truncated remains of an enclosed area dedicated to crop processing, with a group of waste pits outside.

Phase 3.2: Middle to Late Iron Age II (Figs 4 – 7, 10 and 15–18)

Pit Group W (Fig. 6)

5.32. Within the northern part of Phase 3.1 Enclosure A, a group of ten pits (Pit Group W) appear to have formed two parallel south-west/north-east alignments, suggesting a possible association with one another. One of these pits (3459) cut the upper fill of Enclosure A, indicating that this pit at least, and possibly the others, post-dated the establishment and use of the enclosure. The ten pits were generally sub-circular in plan, measuring between 1.25m and 2m in diameter; while some were shallow, at

0.1-0.25m deep, most were deeper, at between 0.6m and 1.1m in depth. The pits were broadly consistent in form, with steep sides and flat bases. However, their backfilling sequences varied, although all features seemingly contained both deliberately deposited and natural silting deposits. The function of the pits is uncertain. The depth and profile of some pits makes them comparable with features often interpreted as storage pits at Iron Age sites, and this may have been their original function. While this group of pits potentially post-dated the use of Enclosure A, the continued use of the area for the digging of pits, possibly associated with grain storage, may be indicative of broad functional continuity in the area.

5.33. Finds recovered from Pit Group W included animal bone and fired clay. Of note, the lower fills of pits 3235, 3244, 3246, 3261 and 3294 also contained a quantity of 'Iron Age Grey' slag, a type of vesicular material of likely non-metallurgical origin, which possibly resulted from the high-temperature burning of daub or plant matter in the base of the pits. If the pits had been lined with clay, it is possible that the fired clay and slag relate to burning during efforts to 'sterilise' the storage pits of pests between periods of use. Environmental samples taken from pits 3261 (samples 59 and 60), 3294 (samples 58 and 61) and 3339 (sample 62) yielded charcoal, charred cereal and weed assemblages indicative of dumped settlement waste. The assemblage from the fills of pit 3261 included charred cereal remains of barley and emmer and spelt wheats (and a probable intrusive grain of free-threshing wheat), suggesting the dumping of waste from the de-husking of hulled grain, which may have been semi-cleaned prior to storage (Appendix L). This further reinforces the interpretation that at least some of the features were storage pits, suggesting a continued focus on crop storage and later-stage processing in this area.

Pit Alignment L (Fig. 5)

5.34. A further group of pits, Pit Alignment L, was located approximately 50m to the south of Pit Group W (Fig. 4), immediately to the south of Phase 3.1 Enclosure A. The group of features comprised eight pits, seemingly positioned along a north-east/south-west alignment similar to that within Pit Group W. The pits measured between 1m and 1.6m in diameter and 0.2 to 0.5m in depth, typically with steep to moderately sloping sides and concave to flat bases. The pits had been variably backfilled by natural silting and deliberate dumping. Several of the pits contained broadly dated Late Prehistoric pottery, while pits 1709 and 1746 produced very

small numbers of sherds of probably intrusive Late Iron Age to Early Roman pottery.

5.35. An environmental sample recovered from pit 1509 (sample 20) contained a moderate assemblage of charred plant remains, which was dominated by barley grains, with some hulled wheat, and likely represented a dump of domestic hearth waste with some crop-processing waste. A sample from pit 1732 (sample 33) contained barley grain fragments, also suggestive of domestic hearth waste. The pits were in general somewhat smaller and shallower than those in Pit Group W to the north. It is unclear whether this is because they had a different function or whether they had been truncated by later activity. The environmental evidence suggests that at least some of the pits were used to deposit domestic settlement waste, regardless of whether they originally had a storage function.

Enclosure B (Figs 4 and 6)

5.36. Enclosure B was located towards the south of earlier Phase 3.1 Enclosure A. It comprised a penannular ditch enclosing a small area measuring up to 8m across with an entrance to the west. The ditch terminus north of the entrance had been recut on two occasions with the final recut effectively widening the entrance.

5.37. The ditch was up to 2.8m wide and 0.93m deep, with a somewhat variable, but generally stepped profile. It appears to have initially started to silt up naturally and was then deliberately backfilled. The enclosure ditch produced small quantities of Iron Age pottery, including some Early to Middle and Middle Iron Age material, alongside a moderate quantity of animal bone including cattle crania and two residual pieces of worked flint. A sample of animal bone was submitted for radiocarbon dating and returned a date of 156 cal. BC to 53 cal. AD at 95.4% probability (SUERC-79206), indicating a Middle to Late Iron Age date. A small number of hulled wheat grains were recovered from an environmental sample taken from the fill of the ditch terminus south of the entrance (fill 3206; sample 53), probably representing dispersed hearth material. The function of the enclosure is uncertain; it is possible that it served as a livestock pen after Enclosure A had been abandoned for domestic purposes.

5.38. The only feature within Enclosure B was sub-circular pit 3202, which measured up to 1.07m across and 0.85m deep, with fairly steeply sloping sides and a concave

base. The pit appeared to have silted up naturally and produced no datable artefactual material; it is considered to be related to Phase 3.2 activity based upon its spatial location within Enclosure B, although given the intensive pitting to the north of Enclosure A it is possible that it belonged to the preceding phase. Other pits in the immediate vicinity of Enclosure B have also been assigned to Phase 3.2, although similarly some may have been related to activity associated with earlier Enclosure A.

Ring Ditch C (Figs 5, 7 and 15)

5.39. Ring Ditch C was located 55m south of Period 3.1 Enclosure A (Fig. 5) and enclosed an area of 9.35m in diameter, with a 4.7m-wide entrance at the east. The ring ditch measured 0.5m to 0.8m wide and no more than 0.14m deep, suggesting that it was a possible drip gully for a roundhouse (Fig. 15, Section CC and photograph). The ring ditch had been truncated at its southern edge by later Phase 6.3 Drying Oven 1555.

5.40. Within the enclosed area were a number of postholes, indicating potential internal structures, and pits of unclear function. The majority of the features identified were located towards the northern half of the enclosed area, raising the possibility that an internal division or screen had sub-divided the structure.

5.41. No datable pottery was recovered from the fills of the ring ditch, although pottery of Middle to Late Iron Age date was recovered from the fills of internal pit 1221. A sample of charred barley from this pit was submitted for radiocarbon dating and returned a date of 191 cal. BC – 40 cal. BC at 95.4% probability (SUERC-79202), almost identical to the date ranges returned from pits 1769 and 1877 (below). Other finds from the ring ditch and pits included a small amount of fired/burnt clay and animal bone. A fragment from a sarsen saddle quern (Ra. 37; not illustrated) and a separate, large, almost complete saddle quern (Ra. 36; Fig. 32.1) were recovered from pit 1221. The placement of the quern within the pit may represent a deliberate 'structured' act for ritual or religious reasons. An environmental sample taken from the pit's fill (fill 1224; sample 4) contained a moderately-sized assemblage of charred grains and weeds including hulled wheat and barley, oat/brome grass and vetch/wild pea, which possibly represents dumped domestic waste.

Pit Group X (Figs 5, 7, 16 and 17)

5.42. Located 2m east of the Ring Ditch C, and possibly associated with it, was Pit Group X. This group comprised eight pits, of which six were large, measuring 1.7–2.05m in diameter and between 0.7 and 1.4m deep, with steep sides and flat bases. The pits contained up to 12 fills, primarily of sandy silt, with occasional sherds of Middle to Late Iron Age pottery. Environmental samples from pits 1419 (samples 17, 16 and 15), 1769 (samples 41, 36 and 55) and 1877 (samples 48, 47 and 46) contained moderately-sized charred plant assemblages including grain and chaff of spelt wheat, barley and emmer wheat, possibly reflecting waste material from the final processing of stored hulled grain. The size and form of the pits, together with the charred plant remains recovered from their fills, suggests that the pits were initially used for grain storage, and were subsequently used for the discard of settlement waste. The presence of the pits indicates a further area of crop processing activity, raising the possibility that the processing of crops took place in Ring Ditch C.

5.43. Sub-circular pit 1769 was of particular note. This pit measured up to 2.4m across and 1.23m deep, having been cut into the natural bedrock. The walls of the excavated pit had been carefully lined (1832) with a circular structure of roughly hewn blocks of locally quarried flat sandstone (Fig. 16, Section DD, plan and photograph). While both the elevation of the area in which the feature was located and its depth suggest that it is unlikely to have been a well, it is possible that it performed a specific water-related function, perhaps as a cistern. The stone lining within the pit had partially collapsed following its abandonment and the feature was subsequently infilled by deposits derived from natural silting and deliberate backfilling.

5.44. A number of deposits within the backfilled pit produced pottery dating to the Middle to Late Iron Age period, alongside a small quantity of intrusive Roman pottery. As described above, environmental sample 41, from the base of the pit, and 35 and 36, from the pit's recut yielded a moderately-sized charred botanical assemblage, which included hulled wheat and barley grain fragments and spelt wheat chaff, consistent with dumped settlement and crop-processing waste. Animal bone and a small amount of fired clay were also recovered. Prunus (cherry species) charcoal recovered from the sample taken from the pit's lowest fill (1825) was submitted for radiocarbon dating and returned a date range of 198 – 47 cal. BC at 95.4% probability (SUERC-75530). This provides likely confirmation of the Middle to Late Iron Age phasing of the feature.

5.45. The upper fills of pit 1769 had been recut by pit 1828, which appears to have represented a deliberate reuse of the feature, although the depth of the recut only extended to around half (0.53m) of the depth of the original pit. Recut 1828 contained four fills of sandy silt, containing Middle to Late Iron Age pottery, along with some probable intrusive Roman sherds. Of particular note, the recut pit's upper fill (1770) contained the upper part and tang of an iron sword blade (Ra. 29; Fig. 30, no. 1), likely dating from between the 3rd and 1st centuries BC (Appendix F). The placement of the sword within the upper fills of the pit may represent a deliberate act of 'structured deposition' within the recut pit.

5.46. Located 10m to the east of pit 1769 was sub-circular pit 1877, which measured up to 1.85m across and 1.25m deep, with near vertical sides and a flat base (Fig. 17, Section EE and photograph). The pit's size, depth and form suggest that it may originally have performed a similar function to the other features interpreted as storage pits. After its initial period of use, the partial collapse of its sides created the primary fill of the pit. Shortly afterwards, a collection of weapon fragments, metalworking tools and other objects were placed within the base of the pit, possibly propped against the pit's northern side (fill 1879). Aside from a fine-grained whetstone (Ra. 34; Fig. 32 no. 3), all of the objects were made of iron and comprised a smith's poker (Ra. 31A1; Fig. 30, no. 2), a possible knife blade (corroded onto the side of poker Ra. 31A1) a hammer (Ra. 31A2; Fig. 30, no. 3), possible file or punch fragments (Ra. 31b; Fig. 30, nos 4-5), a probable bucket fitting (Ra. 33; Fig. 30, no. 6), a binding strip or clamp (Fig. 30, no. 7) and five dagger/sword fragments and scabbard fittings (Ras 32.1-5; Fig. 31, nos 8.1-5). The objects may have been placed individually, or wrapped together in a leather sheet or bag, as is suggested by mineralised organic remains preserved on item Ra. 32.3 (Fig. 31, no. 8.3). The deliberate deposition of this group of objects in the pit may represent further evidence for structured deposition at the site.

5.47. The area of the pit from which the objects were recovered produced evidence for burning in the form of discoloured red/pink sandstone. An environmental sample (sample 48) from fill 1879 did not contain abundant charcoal, and the lack of clear evidence for burning on any of the objects suggests that the burning took place prior to the deposition of the objects. A sample of charred spelt wheat from the environmental sample was submitted for radiocarbon dating and returned a date of

188–44 cal. BC at 95.4% probability (SUERC-79201), suggesting close contemporaneity with Ring Ditch C and pit 1769.

5.48. The deliberately deposited artefacts were sealed by further backfilling deposits resulting from deliberate dumping and continued partial collapse of the sides of the pit. A final backfilling deposit contained a number of large sandstone blocks, possibly laid as a deliberate capping layer to seal the pit. Pottery of Middle to Late Iron Age date provides a likely date for the subsequent backfilling of the feature, while a small amount of residual Late Bronze Age material was also recovered from the capping deposits.

Enclosure I (Figs 7 and 18)

5.49. Located 8m east of Pit Group X was a south-west/north-east-aligned ditch 1909. This ditch may have been broadly contemporaneous with the pit group on the basis of the recovery of a single sherd of Middle to Late Iron Age pottery. The ditch had been truncated by the northern arm of Enclosure I, which was on the same alignment, and it is possible that the ditch was associated with an early iteration of this enclosure. An environmental sample (sample 45) from the ditch yielded no charred material. The ditch extended beyond the eastern edge of the excavation area to the north-east. Pit 1978 was located 6m to the north of the ditch. It contained no datable material but is considered to be potentially contemporaneous with ditch 1909 based on its spatial proximity.

5.50. Enclosure I took the form of a small, sub-rectangular, ditched enclosure measuring approximately 17.5m east/west by 15m north/south. Slots excavated across the ditch revealed a broadly 'V'-shaped profile measuring up to 3.3m wide and 1.13m deep (Fig. 18, Section FF and photograph). Two ditch termini indicated a narrow 0.81m wide entrance close to the south-west corner. A small pit (3009) immediately outside the entrance contained a group of sherds of broadly dated Late Prehistoric pottery. Based on its proximity to the enclosure, this pit may be related.

5.51. The function of Enclosure I is uncertain; it may possibly have served as a small animal pen. One of the backfilling deposits on the west side (cut 1631; fill 1632) contained what appeared to have been a deliberately placed, complete iron currency bar (Appendix F; Ra. 23; Fig. 31, no. 9), representing an additional example of structured deposition in this part of the site, and suggesting broad

contemporaneity with Pit Group X to the west, which contained similar deposits. Other finds from this fill included fragments of animal bone and pottery of Middle Iron Age to Late Iron Age date.

Further pits (Figs 5 and 7)

5.52. Two pits, 1860 and 1605, were located around 30m to the north-west of Enclosure I (Fig. 5). Pit 1605 was oval in plan, measuring 3.75m in length, 2m wide and up to 0.63m deep. It had steeply sloping, slightly concave sides and a flattish to slightly concave base. The pit contained a primary fill of silt (1606) and a secondary charcoal-rich deposit (1607). An environmental sample (sample 30) from the latter yielded a moderately-sized assemblage of charred plant remains, likely to represent dumped domestic hearth waste. The fill also contained two joining fragments from a probable currency bar (Ra. 22), which may suggest that the pit had been another focus for structured deposition, as with several of the features to the south. Late Iron Age pottery and two possible iron currency bar fragments (Ra. 23).

5.53. Pit 1860 was sub-circular in plan measuring 2.7m in diameter and 1.9m deep with straight sides and a flat base. Its size and form, comparable with several of the other features with evidence for use as storage pits at the site, suggest that it likely performed a similar function. It had been backfilled with six deposits containing an assemblage of Middle to Late Iron Age pottery and animal bone. A partial lamb skeleton recovered from the pit's lowest fill (1866) is of particular note, representing a further possible example of structured deposition in this part of the site.

5.54. Another group of pits was located approximately 12m to the south-west of pit 1605. Pit 1535 measured 1.3m in diameter and 0.31m deep with vertical sides and a flat to concave base (Fig. 7). The pit contained a small assemblage of Late Prehistoric pottery alongside a small amount of animal bone. Pit 1608 was located 3m west of pit 1535. It measured 1.7m in diameter and 1.25m deep, with vertical sides and a flat base. Its sides had been lined with clay. The pit contained six fills of silt and redeposited material which contained a small quantity of pottery of Late Iron Age date. Three environmental samples (26, 27, 28) recovered from the fills of the pit contained small amounts of charred hulled wheat and barley grain, likely representative of dispersed settlement waste. The form of the pit and its clay lining suggests that it was another storage pit.

5.55. Nearby pit 1960 was oval in shape and measured up to 1.5m in diameter. It had gradually sloping sides and a concave base. Its single fill (1961) of silt contained a small amount of Middle to Late Iron Age pottery, along with part of a probable currency bar fragment, apparently deliberately cut with a hot chisel (Appendix F. This object may represent yet another example of structured deposition in the area. The other pits within this cluster contained no datable finds, but based upon their broadly similar form and spatial proximity to those dated by artefacts, they are likely to be contemporaneous.

Ring Ditch D (Fig. 7)

5.56. Located 17m to the south of Ring Ditch C, Ring Ditch D had been extensively truncated to the west by later Phase 4.2 Ditch N. The surviving elements of the ring ditch suggest a feature measuring at least 4.5m in diameter with a 1.5m-wide entrance to the east. One of the slots excavated across the ditch produced a small assemblage of broadly dated Late Prehistoric pottery. It is considered to be broadly contemporaneous with Ring Ditch C and Pit Group Y (discussed below) based upon its spatial proximity to them, and its stratigraphic relationship with later Ditch N. Curving ditch 1283, immediately to the east, contained broadly dated Late Prehistoric pottery and was potentially broadly contemporaneous. It possibly served a drainage or boundary function in association with the ring ditch.

Pit Group Y (Fig. 7)

5.57. Pit Group Y was located around 6m to the east of Ring Ditch D. This pit group comprised twelve pits, all oval or sub-circular in plan and measuring 0.35–2.4m in diameter. Most of the pits had near vertical sides and flat bases; the shallowest measured 0.35 deep and the deepest 1.6m. Pottery recovered from the pits within Pit Group Y included broadly dated Late Prehistoric pottery and pottery of Early to Middle Iron Age and Middle to Late Iron Age date. The similarities between these pits and those in pit groups W and X to the north suggests at least the larger and deepest of them had initially performed a storage function. A bulk environmental sample from pit 1482 (fill 1483; sample 19) contained a large quantity of charred material, dominated by cereal remains including spelt, emmer and barley, probably waste material from the de-husking of stored hulled grain. This supports the suggestion that crop storage and processing were undertaken in this area.

5.58. The features exhibited varying backfilling sequences; some, such as pits 1374 and 1996, contained single fills, whereas others exhibited more complex sequences of backfilling. Pit 1926, for instance, measured more than 2m wide and at least 1.6m deep, and contained at least nine identifiable backfilling deposits, including natural silting and deliberately dumped redeposited natural material. Pit 1873, located towards the south of the group, contained three different fills which included a secondary deposit of burnt stone and charcoal (not subject to environmental sample), sealed between two sterile deposits. The burnt fill contained a small assemblage of animal bone, which also included a fragment of human femur.

5.59. Other finds recovered from Pit Group Y included fragments of animal bone and fragments of burnt clay.

Other features (Fig. 5)

5.60. Other likely or possible Middle to Late Iron Age features were dispersed across the site and are considered to be part of Phase 3.2 activity on the basis of finds of pottery and/or their stratigraphic and spatial relationships with other features. These features included a small number of isolated pits and linear features. Of note was 20.5m long Ditch T, which was located towards the southern end of the site, close to the eastern edge of excavation. The ditch was aligned approximately north/south, had been recut on at least one occasion and had been truncated to the south and north-east by later features. The ditch exhibited a broadly 'U-shaped' profile and was in excess of 1.6m wide and 0.6m deep, with the initial cut having silted up naturally over a period of time.

5.61. Although no datable finds were recovered from the initial silting of the ditch, animal bone (including an associated bone group comprising a cattle skull, pelvis and lumbar vertebrae) and pottery, predominantly of Middle to Late Iron Age date, were retrieved from the backfilled recut. An environmental sample taken from the upper fill (1243; sample 5) of the recut ditch yielded a moderately large charred plant assemblage, dominated by cereal remains, including spelt wheat and barley. This is likely to represent waste material from the de-husking of stored grain. It may indicate that this part of the site was also a focus for crop-processing activities, and Ditch T was possibly part of an enclosure in which this took place.

5.62. Immediately to the west of Ditch T, a small narrow curving Gully 1715 was on a south-west/north-east alignment. The ditch did not contain any artefacts, although it was cut by Phase 4.1 Pit 1721, and was potentially associated in some way with Ditch T. The function of the gully is uncertain.

5.63. It is possible that north/south aligned Gully J, which was situated 26m to the west of ditch T was related, and possibly formed part of an associated field or enclosure ditch. If related, the two features may have formed part of an enclosure of comparable size to Enclosure A to the north, although no clearly associated northern or southern enclosure ditches were identified. Gully J contained little dating evidence other than a small quantity of broadly dated Late Prehistoric pottery. It was, however, truncated by Phase 4.2 Ditch N, potentially suggesting contemporaneity with Ditch T.

5.64. Few other features of likely Iron Age date were located within this southern part of the site. An exception was large sub-circular pit 1952, which was located 16m to the north-east of Gully J and had been truncated by later Period 4.1 ditch 1771. The pit measured approximately 5.3m east/west by 3.4m north/south and was in excess of 1m deep, with moderately sloping, concave sides and a flattish base. A small assemblage of Late Iron Age pottery and animal bone was recovered from the upper backfill deposit 1954. The function of the pit is uncertain, but it was possibly a waste pit associated with activity that took place in the area between Gully J and Ditch T.

Period 4: Late Pre-Roman Iron Age to Early Roman (1st – 2nd centuries AD) (Figs 8–10 and 19–22)

5.65. While it is unclear whether there was a substantial hiatus in activity between Periods 3 and 4, the area became subject to intensive activity during the Early Roman period, with the construction of a ditched enclosure complex towards the south of the site. It is possible that this enclosure complex had Late Iron Age origins, with initial occupation possibly having taken place prior to the conquest during the 1st century AD. At least some level of continuity at the site is arguably suggested by the orientation of some of the Early Roman linear features, which were for the most part dug along similar alignments to those dating to the Middle to Late Iron Age. Several of the enclosures in use during the Early to Middle Roman period were evidently utilised over relatively long periods of time, as attested by the periodic recutting and modification of ditches. The Late Pre-Roman Iron Age and

Early to Middle Roman period has therefore been divided into sub-phases 4.1 and 4.2, based upon both the stratigraphy and the pottery ranges, in order to present these developments at the site.

Phase 4.1: Late Pre-Roman Iron Age to Early Roman I (Figs 8–10 and 19–20)

Ditches F, G and H (Figs 8, 9 and 19)

5.66. Ditches F, G and H formed part of a group of linked enclosures that likely formed part of an Early Roman farmstead of complex form. The most dominant feature at this time appears to have been extensive ditch (Ditch F), which extended northwards from the south of the site for 165m before turning to the north-east and terminating after 20m. This ditch was almost entirely obscured in plan by later Phase 4.2 Ditch N but was traced in sections along the latter's length. The ditch measured up to 3.6m wide and exhibited a broadly U-shaped profile; in places it measured more than 1.5m deep, although in many of the slots excavated its full form and dimensions were masked by multiple recutting episodes (Fig. 19, Section GG). Truncation by the later recuts prevented recognition of the ditch's total number of fills, but where visible, at least two fills of brown clay and sandy silt were identified. The number of recuts to the ditch suggest that it was subject to relatively rapid silting, requiring fairly frequent maintenance. Ditch F contained a small quantity of Iron Age pottery and worked flint, along with pottery dating to the 1st century AD, animal bone and fired clay. A bulk soil sample taken from the ditch (fill 1320; sample 11) yielded a small number of cereal grain fragments and weeds, potentially indicative of dispersed settlement waste. The scarcity of Roman pottery recovered from the ditches is of note. This may be the result of regular cleaning of ditches that were subject to rapid silting, as indicated by the extensive recutting of the ditches during phase 4.2, although it may also indicate a pre-conquest origin for the enclosure system.

5.67. Two perpendicular east/west aligned ditches (Ditches G and H) extended eastwards off Ditch F to form three sub-rectangular enclosed areas (Enclosures AI, AJ and AK). Ditch G, the northernmost of the two, formed the division between Enclosures AI and AJ, while Ditch H, 50m to the south, formed the division between Enclosures AJ and AK. Ditches G and H again exhibited broadly 'U-shaped' profiles; Ditch H measured up to 2.43m wide and 1.5m deep and Ditch G up to 1.46m wide and 1.05m deep. The fills of these perpendicular ditches were broadly

comparable with those of Ditch F, comprised of firm brown silty clays. As with Ditch F, ditches G and H contained very little pottery, and what little was recovered was of broad Late Prehistoric and Late Iron Age date. As with Ditch F, both ditches had been extensively recut by later Period 4.2 Ditches P and Q.

Enclosures AI, AJ and AK (Figs 8 and 9)

5.68. Sub-rectangular Enclosure AI (Fig. 8) formed the northernmost element of the complex. It potentially measured 52m long by around 48m wide, although the northern arm of the enclosure did not appear to continue beyond the terminus of Ditch F, and no eastern arm was identified during this phase. It is possible that this area was incompletely enclosed at this time, or that the northern and eastern edges of the enclosure were formed by archaeologically invisible features such as hedging. No features dating to phase 4.1 were identified within this putative enclosure other than small circular pit 1837. This pit measured 1m in diameter and contained two fills, which included a small assemblage of 1st century pottery and animal bone.

5.69. Rectangular Enclosure AJ (Figs 8 and 9), the middle of the three, measured 48m long and more than 45m wide. It contained no obvious access points, which were presumably located beyond the eastern edge of the excavation area. A short section of internal ditch 1968 (Fig. 9) measuring 10m in length and containing a single fill of silty clay was recorded in the south-western corner of the enclosure (Fig. 9). It did not contain any datable finds but may potentially be Early Roman date given its orientation, which is similar to Ditch H and its stratigraphic position beneath Phase 4.2 Ditch N. The ditch appears to have been subject to at least one recut, although its function is uncertain. North/south-aligned ditch 1771 was not dated by artefacts but was broadly perpendicular to Ditch H and parallel with Ditch F, potentially suggesting a relationship. The ditch was 2m wide and only 8m of its length survived, having been truncated at both ends by Period 6 plough furrows. It is possible that the ditch formed part of a sub-division within the enclosure.

5.70. Rectangular Enclosure AK (Fig. 9) was located towards the southern end of the complex and measured 55.4m north/south by more than 28m east/west. The enclosure appears to have been further subdivided by east/west-orientated Ditch R. This ditch exhibited a broad ‘U-shaped’ profile but was substantially less shallow and narrow than Ditches G and H, measuring no more than 0.62m wide and up to

0.35m deep. Ditch R contained a small amount of pottery dating to the mid 1st to 2nd centuries AD. As with Enclosure AJ, there were no obvious access points to the enclosure within the excavated area, and an entrance presumably lay to the east.

5.71. A small number of features of potential Early Roman date were identified within Enclosure AK. These included sub-oval pit 1721, which was located adjacent to and cutting earlier Phase 3.2 Ditch T. The pit measured 2.75m long and 1.35m wide and contained two fills containing a small amount of probable post-conquest pottery and animal bone.

5.72. The remainder of features were located between Ditch R and the southern edge of the site (Fig. 9). Short sections of ditch (1083 and 1340) contained Early Roman pottery and/or were cut by later features. These ditches may hint at further subdivision within this area, although as most of these features extended beyond the eastern edge of excavation their full extent and function could not be ascertained. No finds were recovered which might provide an indication as to the use of the enclosure.

5.73. Pits 1249 and 1234 were located 8–10m to the north of the southern edge of Enclosure AK (Fig. 11). Circular pit 1249 measured 1.4m in diameter, and sub-circular pit 1234 measured 2.2m long by 2.1m wide. Both pits contained single fills and neither contained datable finds. They have tentatively been assigned an Early Roman date based upon their presence within Enclosure AK and their stratigraphic relationship with features of potentially later Roman date. However, the lack of dating evidence means that this phasing must be regarded as tentative.

5.74. Pit 1090 was located at the very south of Enclosure AK, cutting Ditch F. While this stratigraphic relationship indicates that the pit was later than the enclosure ditch, the pit contained a small quantity of early to mid 1st-century AD pottery within its single fill (along with animal bone and residual worked flint). The pit had also been cut by the Phase 4.2 recut for Ditch F (Ditch 1017), indicating that it predated this recutting of the enclosure. The pit was large, at 3m long and 2m wide, and it had been cut to a depth of 0.6m, although its function is uncertain.

Ditch AA (Figs 9 and 20)

5.75. Lying 2.5m to the west of, and parallel to, Ditch F, substantial Ditch AA measured up to 1.93m wide and 1.31m deep. The ditch had a slightly stepped profile and in

one slot exhibited a V-shaped profile with a narrowed base, likely to facilitate drainage (Fig. 20, Section HH). The ditch contained a number of fills indicating both natural silting and deliberate backfilling. Finds from the fills of the ditch included late 1st to 2nd century AD pottery and a small amount of animal bone. The feature potentially represents an early iteration of Ditch F, or alternatively it possessed a localised drainage function.

5.76. Aside from Ditch AA, very few Roman period features were recorded to the west of the Roman period enclosure complex, suggesting that Ditch F formed not only a major enclosure boundary, but possibly also a major territorial or land ownership boundary.

Pit 3283 (Fig. 10)

5.77. Few early Roman features were located within the northern half of the site. A possible exception to this is Pit 3283, which was located 14.5m north-west of Period 3.2 Enclosure B (Fig. 10). The pit was sub-oval in shape and measured 1.75m long and up to 0.85m wide; it was shallow at 0.16m deep, with gradually sloping sides and a concave base. Its single fill included a small amount of animal bone and three sherds of pottery dating from the 1st century AD. The function of the pit is uncertain.

Phase 4.2: Late Pre-Roman Iron Age to Early Roman II (Figs 8 – 10 and 19– 22)

Ditches N, P, Q and S (Figs 8–9 and 19)

5.78. Following the silting of the ditches associated with the first phase of the Early Roman enclosure system, use of the complex appears to have continued throughout the 2nd century, with main north/south Ditch F now recut as Ditch N (Fig. 19, Section GG. The ditch contained a greater quantity of pottery than preceding Ditch F, which was principally late 1st to 2nd-century AD in date. Ditch N was broadly comparable with Ditch F in profile, with moderately sloping sides and a rounded base, containing up to six fills of compact sandy silt. The recut of the ditch appears to have been a response to the silting up of the original ditch, and the initial recutting followed broadly the same line as Ditch F. However, at the southern edge of the excavated area (Fig. 9), a complex series of intercutting ditches were seen to merge, suggesting an alteration to the original alignment of Period 4.1 Ditch F. The latter appears to have initially been recut as north-west/south-east aligned ditch 1017 but was subsequently recut as Ditch N, which appeared to continue further

south, and ditch 1008, which turned to the east. The effect of this latter re-cutting was to create a possible fourth enclosure, although this would have been located largely beyond the southern and eastern edges of the site so its full form and extent could not be ascertained.

5.79. At the very south of the site, Ditch N was subject to a further episode of localised recutting (Ditch O). This recut varied in width from 0.8–2.3m and measured approximately 1m deep (Fig. 19, Section GG). The recut ran for approximately 30m, with a short 2.5m-wide gap close to the southern end of the site. The reason for the gap is unclear, but it may have represented an entrance into the enclosure. Pottery recovered from the fills of the recut did not differ substantially from that recovered from Ditch N, being principally 1st to 2nd-century AD in date; a small quantity of late 3rd to 4th century AD sherds was recovered from the upper fills of the recut, although this is considered likely to represent intrusive material. Other finds included animal bone and a small quantity of iron slag. Abundant cereal grains were recovered from the fill of the recut ditch (fill 1548; sample 22). The assemblage was dominated by cereal remains of barley, spelt and emmer wheat, with some free-threshing wheat. The remains may represent waste from a late stage of crop processing, suggesting that a focus for this activity lay nearby. The extensive evidence for the recutting of the western enclosure ditch at the south of the site may reflect its topographical position further down the slope, with the ditch more prone to rapid silting in this area.

5.80. At the north of the enclosure complex, Ditch F was subject to recutting up to its original north-east terminus. Ditch N subsequently replaced this, extending further to the north-east, running for 31m beyond the terminus of Period 4.1 Ditch F (Fig. 8). The ditch then turned and extended to the south-east for at least 39.5m, continuing beyond the edge of excavation, to fully enclose and complete Enclosure AI. There was some evidence for localised recutting of Ditch N at the north of the enclosure.

5.81. Aside from the pottery, other finds recovered from Ditch N included a relatively large assemblage of animal bone. A group of cattle vertebrae and ribs was recovered from the ditch (fill 1796; cut 1794) to the north-west of its junction with Ditch Q. They may indicate primary butchery waste, raising the possibility that butchery took place within Enclosure AJ. However, the recovery of a horse skull from the same deposit could indicate that the ditch was a focus for the deposition of non-butchered animal

remains, possibly during acts of structured deposition. Other finds from the ditch included ceramic building material, residual worked flint and an iron handle, probably for a bucket (Ra. 2). Four environmental samples (samples 12, 13, 14 and 22) were taken from Ditch N and contained charred plant assemblages of varying sizes. Samples 12 and 13 were taken from the ditch to the west of southernmost Enclosure AK and yielded moderately-sized assemblages that were predominantly made up by cereal grains, including spelt wheat, barley and free-threshing wheat grain fragments. These may represent dumped material from a late stage in crop processing. Sample 14, also taken from the ditch to the west of southern Enclosure AK, contained only a small assemblage, likely derived from dispersed material. Sample 22, recovered from the ditch to the west of northernmost Enclosure AI contained a large quantity of charred remains, including spelt wheat and barley grains, suggestive of dumped settlement debris, including crop-processing waste. Together, the samples suggest both crop processing and domestic settlement took place in the area of the enclosures during Phase 4.2, although there was no clear spatial distribution to suggest precisely where these activities took place.

5.82. The major perpendicular east/west boundary ditches were also recut during Phase 4.2, with Ditch G recut as Ditch P and Ditch H recut as Ditch Q. The smaller sub-division within Enclosure AK, Ditch R, was also recut as Ditch S. These ditches contained pottery dating from the late 1st to 2nd century AD, alongside quantities of animal bone and fired clay. There was little within the distribution of the finds assemblage, or its character, to suggest clear foci for particular activities. An environmental sample from Ditch Q contained a small assemblage of charred plant remains including hulled wheat and barley grain fragments, indicative of dispersed domestic hearth waste. This may indicate domestic activity nearby, possibly further east within Enclosure AJ or Enclosure AI, but outside the excavated area.

Drying Ovens 1251 and 1252 (Figs 9, 21 and 22)

5.83. Within Enclosure AK, located to the north of Ditch S, was Drying Oven 1251 (Figs 21 & 22). This feature comprised a ‘T-shaped’ construction cut (1346), which measured 2.7m east/west and a maximum of 1.6m north/south. The cut was 0.2m deep and had been lined with roughly-worked sandstone blocks (1307), with an unlined firing pit at the east end; the stones in the vicinity of the firing pit exhibited signs of scorching.

5.84. A charcoal-rich deposit (1266) lay on the base of the feature, and an environmental sample (sample 6) from this layer yielded a very large assemblage of spelt wheat and barley grains, along with cereal chaff and weed seeds. The high proportion of grain compared with low proportions of chaff and weed seeds suggests that the assemblage may represent the accidental burning of fully processed grain being dried within the oven, possibly to harden it prior to grinding. Deposit 1266 contained pottery dating to the 2nd century or later. A sample from the flue of the oven (fill 1267; sample 7) contained a small number of grain fragments, suggesting that the flue had been regularly cleaned out prior to firing of the oven. Once it had gone out of use, the structure was backfilled with a firm, pink clay that contained residual pottery of Late Iron Age to 1st-century AD date. A sample of charred spelt wheat from deposit 1266 was submitted for radiocarbon dating and returned a date of 85 to 240 cal. AD at 95.4% probability (SUERC-79197).

5.85. Oven 1251 was truncated at its southern edge by subsequent Drying Oven 1251. The replacement oven exhibited similar dimensions, measuring 3.3m north-west/south-east, 2.1m north-east/south-west and cut to a depth of 0.3m (Fig 21, photograph; Fig. 22, plan and photograph). The unlined firing pit was located at the south-east end and, as with Drying Oven 1251, the remainder of the cut was lined with sandstone blocks (1310). The sandstone lining at the south-east end showed evidence of burning.

5.86. A charcoal-rich deposit (1268) lay in the base of the chamber of the drying oven and an environmental sample (sample 8) from the feature yielded a moderately-sized assemblage of charred plant remains. Cereal remains dominated the assemblage, which included barley and spelt wheat and some weed seeds. The assemblage may represent the parching of grain prior to storage, or the drying of fully cleaned grain ahead of milling, along with waste from the later stages of crop processing. A further sample (sample 9) recovered from the flue of the oven produced a similar assemblage. After the oven had gone out of use, it was sealed with a light-yellow brown, fine clay (1269). No artefactual dating evidence was recovered, although the oven's stratigraphic relationship with oven 1251 indicate that it was later; charred barley recovered from the base of the oven was submitted for radiocarbon dating and returned a date of 85 cal. AD to 238 cal. AD at 95.4% probability (SUERC-79196), indicating that oven 1252 was not substantially later

than 1251. It is unclear whether the difference in alignment of the two features represents a deliberate shift in the orientation of the flue for functional reasons.

Quarry Pitting (Fig. 8)

5.87. Located 35m to the north-east of Drying Oven 1252, within Enclosure AJ, an area of extensive ground disturbance extended beyond the eastern edge of the excavation area (pits 1522/1676 and 3020/1756). Large, irregularly shaped pit 1522 measured 10.6m north/south by at least 8m east/west and was cut to a depth of more than 1.7m deep. The pit appears to have been a quarry pit, possibly for ironstone extraction. A number of initial backfilling deposits contained pottery assemblages broadly dating to the 2nd to mid 3rd centuries AD, with some residual material of probable 1st century AD date. Low volumes of charred plant remains including hulled wheat and barley grain fragments were also recovered from environmental samples (samples 21 and 70) taken from the earliest fills of the pit, likely suggestive of dispersed domestic waste.

5.88. Irregular Pit 3020/1756 was located immediately to the south-west of pit 1522/1676 and appears to have been used for the same purpose; pottery recovered from the lower fills indicated a broad 1st to 3rd-century AD date.

Ditches M and K (Fig. 10)

5.89. Ditches M and K represented the only potentially Early to Middle Roman activity at the north of the site. Ditch M truncated the northern part of earlier Period 3.1 Enclosure A and measured 83m north/south, before turning sharply to the west and continuing for 10.5m. The ditch was relatively insubstantial, measuring up to 1m wide and 0.35m deep; slots through the ditch typically revealed a single fill of brown silty sand and clay. The ditch had been truncated by modern agricultural activity at the north and west. Ditch K was not well dated, with two sherds of late 2nd to 3rd century AD pottery recovered from fill 3493 and a single sherd dating from the 3rd to 4th century from fill 3305. The pottery may indicate that the ditch was in use at the same time as the enclosures to the south, possibly during the late 2nd to 3rd century, and it has been included within Phase 4.2 for this reason. An environmental sample (from fill 3483; sample 66) contained no charred plant remains.

5.90. Curving Ditch M was located to the south of Ditch K and may have represented an extension of the same feature. The ditch, which was largely located within the earlier Period 3.1 Enclosure A, measured 46m north/south, before curving at its southern extent (truncating features associated with Period 3.2 Pit Alignment L) and returning north for a further 27m. It then turned sharply to the south-east and continued for 12.3m before terminating. The ditch was similar in size and profile to Ditch K, varying in width from 1.7m to 0.6m. It was typically around 0.3m deep, with moderately sloped sides and a concave base, containing a single fill of brown silty clay and sandy silt. The ditch contained Roman pottery broadly dating from the late 2nd to 4th century AD. The ditch was cut by pit 3183, which contained presumably residual Iron Age pottery. Other finds from the ditch included residual Iron Age and broadly dated Late Prehistoric pottery, along with a small amount of animal bone. The function of Ditches K and M is unclear although they were possibly insubstantial boundary ditches or performed a drainage function.

Period 5: Late Roman (3rd – 4th centuries AD) (Figs 8–9, 19 and 23–26)

5.91. Use of the enclosure system appears to have continued into the Late Roman period. By the late 3rd century, the ditches to the enclosures had largely silted again; at this point, rather than being recut they were replaced by a wall, which followed the line of the main westernmost enclosure ditch, suggesting broad continuity of use. Later, probably during the second half of the 4th century, the wall collapsed or was demolished, although the area of the enclosures appears to have witnessed at least some continued activity, which possibly including iron smithing. Period 5 is subdivided into phases 5.1 and 5.2 to account for these developments.

Phase 5.1: Late Roman I (Figs 8–9, 19 and 23–24 and 26)

Wall 1050 (Figs 8, 9, 19 and 24)

5.92. By the late 3rd century, most of the extensive ditches making up the enclosure complex appear to have been filled and the boundary previously formed by ditch N was replaced by a stone wall (or walls) (Figs 8, 9 and 24), which was constructed along the alignment of the earlier ditch. While some parts of the ditch appear to have silted up naturally, there was evidence, at least in parts of the ditch, that Ditch N had been subject to deliberate infilling; upper fill 1157, for instance, contained a firm clayey silt with occasional rocks and stones, along with residual pottery dating from the 1st to 2nd centuries AD. Pottery from the fill of the construction cut for the

wall included sherds dating from the late 2nd to 4th century AD, along with a small group of more closely dated sherds of late 3rd to 4th century AD date (from fills 1851; 1481), suggesting that it may have been constructed towards the end of the 3rd century AD.

5.93. The level of survival of the wall was variable; its most extant section was identified towards the south-west of Enclosure AK (Wall 1050; Fig. 24), where it measured 13.6m long and up to 1.4m wide. Here, the wall comprised roughly worked, irregular sandstone blocks, measuring up to 0.55m in length, up to 0.4m wide and up to 0.2m in height. Only two to three courses survived. No evidence for bonding material was encountered. The wall's foundation cut measured 0.5m wide and 0.35–0.4m deep, with straight sides and a flat base. The wall survived intermittently, and in some places only its foundations remained (e.g. 1329) (Fig. 9) (Fig. 19, Section GG). Its full extent is therefore uncertain, although a further section, situated 46m to the north of Wall 1050, was visible as wall foundation 1845 (Fig. 8). This section measured 32m north/south, was approximately 0.8m wide and 0.4m deep 5.1 and had straight sides and a flat base. Pottery dating from the late 2nd to 4th century AD was recovered from the fills of these wall foundations. The remnants of walling suggest that at least 92m of the western enclosure to the settlement was provided with walls, which appear to have formed a western boundary for at least the two southernmost enclosures.

5.94. To the west of Enclosure AK, an area of compact metalling (1362; not illustrated) was overlain by a spread of compact silty clay (1359; not illustrated), comprising the upper fill of Ditch N; both were probably related to the backfilling of the ditch in preparation for the construction of the wall. Of note, deposit 1359 was found to contain a partially complete pottery urn of 2nd century AD date (Ra. 14; Fig. 9), containing 99.6g of cremated human bone, predominantly from the lower limbs of an adult individual. No plant macrofossils (samples 67–69) were recovered from the fill of the urn. The recovery of the urn from this deposit suggests that it may have been disturbed from its original place of deposition nearby and redeposited during work prior to the construction of the wall, perhaps having originally been deposited within Ditch N.

5.95. The only masonry structure within the enclosures themselves was a short section of wall (1887) within Enclosure AJ, which survived for just 4m in length. The stretch of wall was aligned on a north-west/south-east alignment and had been truncated by a

plough furrow at its south-eastern extent and later Phase 5.2 pit 1880 at its north-western extent. Truncation had reduced the wall to just one course of sandstone blocks. The function of this wall is uncertain, although it may have formed a sub-division within Enclosure AJ.

Drying Oven 1555 (Figs 8 and 26)

5.96. At the south-west side of Enclosure AI, a third 'T-shaped' Drying Oven (1555) was located (Fig. 26), partly truncating earlier Phase 3.2 Ring Ditch C. This oven was larger than the earlier Phase 4.2 Drying Ovens 1251 and 1252, with the cut (1556) measuring 4.85m north-east/south-west, 2.4m north-west/south-east and 0.55m deep (Fig. 22). The firing pit (cut 1769) was located at the south-west end of the feature and was unlined, while the flue and chamber of the oven were lined with large, roughly-hewn, sandstone blocks (1557), which had been scorched in the vicinity of the firing pit.

5.97. The firing pit contained a charcoal-rich basal fill (1561/1575) which yielded a relatively rich artefact assemblage. This includes pottery dating from the late 3rd to 4th centuries AD, including a sherd from a jar dating to after AD 350, providing a likely *terminus post quem* for the feature. Several worked stone objects include a piece of moulded architectural stone (Ra. 27) and fragments of three millstones (Ras 24, 25 and 26; Fig. 32, no. 4; Fig. 33, nos 5 and 6). Other finds include several iron nails and binding strip fragments (not illustrated), along with a copper-alloy snake's head bracelet of late 3rd to 4th century AD date (Ra. 21; Fig. 31; no.11).

5.98. Environmental samples were taken from basal fills 1561 and 1575 (samples 24 and 25) and from fill 1559 (sample 23) from the base of the chamber, which together yielded an exceptionally large assemblage of charred plant remains. This assemblage is dominated by cereal remains, predominantly grains of barley and spelt, with some emmer and free-threshing wheat. Around 10% of the cereal remains recovered from samples from the oven produced evidence for germination, raising the possibility that it had been used for malting, alternatively it could be that spoiled grain was being utilised as a fuel source.

5.99. A sample of charred spelt wheat from fill 1561 was submitted for radiocarbon dating and returned a date of 263 – 532 cal AD at 95.4% probability (SUERC-79195), broadly confirming the date suggested by the pottery and other datable finds. It is

likely that the objects from this lower fill of the drying oven were deliberately placed there after its final firing, perhaps as a closure deposit to mark the end of use of the oven. The feature contained an upper fill of compact sandy silt (1560), including sandstone blocks from the structure. This appears to represent its deliberate backfilling once it had gone out of use.

5.100. The dating of Drying Oven 1555 suggests that the enclosure system continued to be used in a broadly similar manner to the way it had been during the Early Roman period, with continued crop-processing activity taking place. However, the possible use of the oven for malting grain, at least during its final firing, may suggest a shift from crop drying in advance of grinding grain for flour, to the production of malt for use in brewing.

Other features (Figs 8, 9, 10 and 23)

5.101. Few other features were clearly of phase 5.1, although a small number of pits and linear features were recorded, which possibly represent activity within the enclosures at this time.

5.102. Ditch V was located at the north-east of Enclosure AK and extended outside the excavated area to the east. It may represent part of a late subdivision within the enclosure. The ditch had been recut at least once and the fill of the initial cut included sherds of late 3rd to 4th century AD date, along with a small quantity of animal bone; the fills of the recut ditch also included pottery of late 3rd to 4th century AD date. The ditch measured up to 1.8m wide and up to 0.2m deep, with moderately sloping sides and a flat base, and fills of dark brown silty sand.

5.103. Pit 1380 was located 7m to the north-west of Ditch V, within the south of Enclosure AJ, and was cut by phase 5.2 pit 1378. The pit measured 1.6m in diameter and 0.2m deep. It included a clayey silt fill containing sherds of 3rd to 4th century pottery.

5.104. Only a single feature dating to Phase 5.1 was recorded in the northern part of the site, this being large sub-circular pit 3379 (Fig. 10), which partly truncated earlier Period 3.1 pit 3376. This pit, which had steep sides, along with a distinct step and flat base, measured up to 3m across and 0.88m deep (Fig. 13; Fig. 23, Section II). The function of the pit is unclear. It contained a large assemblage of pottery dating to the late 3rd to 4th century AD, animal bone, two pieces of slag and a piece of

residual worked flint. An environmental sample (sample 65) taken from the pit yielded small amounts of charred cereal grains, including barley and free-threshing wheat, indicative of dispersed settlement waste.

Phase 5.2: Late Roman II (Figs 8–9, 19 and 25)

Rubble spread 1833/1920 and related features (Figs 8, 9 and 25)

5.105. A rubble spread 1833/1920 lay above the remnants of the phase 5.1 walling (Figs 8, 11 and Fig. 25, photograph) and is likely to represent a collapse layer associated with the disuse of the wall. The spread had been disturbed by subsequent ploughing, and the assemblage from the deposit contained a mix of finds, including Roman pottery of a range of dates, along with animal bone and industrial waste. The industrial waste comprised a smithing hearth bottom and some undiagnostic ironworking slag, along with an iron bar/billet or anvil fragment (Fig. 31, no. 10).

5.106. A further deposit of rubble (1349/1450) was encountered 8m to the east, filling an irregular shallow cut or depression (1348), which measured approximately 4m by 4m across, and just 0.12m deep. It is unclear whether this represented the remnants of a further masonry structure or surface or rubble from the wall, which had accumulated or been dumped within a natural depression. Finds from deposit 1349/1450 included a possible stone weight (Ra. 18), a fragment from a large quern or millstone (Ra. 13), three iron rod fragments, interpreted as possible objects intended for further metalworking, along with a further iron bar or billet. The concentration of material associated with likely metalworking in this part of Enclosure AJ, albeit from seemingly disturbed rubble deposits, suggests that a focus for metalworking lay nearby, with the corner of the enclosure perhaps dedicated to iron smithing in the later Roman period. Occasional smaller deposits of rubble, also presumably associated with the wall's collapse, were located to the east and west of the wall remnants, and some (e.g. 1125) contained pottery of late 3rd to 4th century AD date.

Other features containing potential wall rubble (Figs 8 and 9)

5.107. A small number of features contained stone rubble, which may have derived from collapsed wall 1050, suggesting that they post-dated the collapse or demolition of the wall.

5.108. Pit 1099 was located to the east of Wall 1050. The pit measured 1.4m in diameter and 0.23m deep. Its silty clay fill contained dumped rubble seemingly from the wall. Finds included 4th century AD pottery, along with a copper-alloy strip (Ra. 10), which had been folded at least three times along its length, possibly in anticipation of being recycled. This object may have derived from the area of metalworking located within the south-west of Enclosure AJ, approximately 35m to the north.

5.109. Large, irregularly shaped Pit 1153 measured 4m long and nearly 2m wide, and cut the earlier Phase 4.1 Ditch R. The pit was cut to a depth of 0.25m and its fill contained a seemingly deliberate deposit of stone rubble, possibly derived from the enclosure wall. The pit contained animal bone and presumably residual pottery of Late Iron Age to 1st century AD date.

5.110. Pit 1378 cut phase 5.1 pit 1380. It measured 3.78m long, 2.2m wide and 0.34m deep. contained a single fill of clayey silt, which included a large quantity of sandstone blocks, potentially rubble associated with the demolition of wall 1050. Pottery from the fill dates to the 4th century AD; other finds included animal bone, ceramic building material and a fragment of the blade of a possible iron chisel, (Ra. 15). A small assemblage of charred cereal recovered from a sample from the pit (sample 18) was dominated by chaff and included barley, spelt and free-threshing wheat. The assemblage may represent a dump of crop-processing waste from the de-husking of hulled grain stored as semi-cleaned grain or in spikelet form, suggesting that crop processing continued nearby.

Enclosure AB (Fig. 8)

5.111. A group of features located in the north-east corner of Enclosure AJ may represent the construction of an additional small, irregular enclosure, Enclosure AB. At the north-east, this possible enclosure was represented by a narrow and shallow north-west/south/east aligned ditch (9.5m long) with a perpendicular arm (15m long) running along a south-west/north-east alignment, continuing outside the excavated area. To the west of this, a series of recut, broadly right-angled ditches, which culminated in ditches 1858 and 1999, were potentially related, forming a broadly parallel south-western arm measuring 14m north-west/south-east and 7m south-west/north-east. However, the absence of any clear southern arm means that the interpretation of these ditches as parts of an enclosure can only be speculative. The ditches contained 4th century AD pottery. This, together with the alignment of the

ditches associated with this putative enclosure, which do not respect the alignment of the ditches associated with the main enclosure system, potentially suggests a date late in the Roman period, after the enclosure system had fallen out of use and its western wall had collapsed. If this is the case, the function of the enclosure is uncertain. Its small scale may suggest that it functioned as an animal pen.

5.112. A very shallow feature, possible pit 1707, was located to the north-east of ditch 1999. At 0.6m in diameter and just 0.05m deep, the feature potentially represented the remains of a truncated pit. Based on their spatial proximity, it is possible that the pit is associated with the enclosure AB. The only find from the pit was a fragment of adult human cranium, which was submitted for radiocarbon dating and returned a date of 252 – 405 cal. AD at 95.4% probability (SUERC-79203). It is not clear whether the bone represents a deliberate deposit, placed within the pit, or an incidental deposit, perhaps having been disturbed from a nearby grave.

Features at the south of Enclosure AK (Figs 8 and 9)

5.113. Ditch Z was located 25m to the north of the southern edge of the excavation area and cut across earlier ditches N, O and AA. The ditch also appears to have partly truncated wall 1050, suggesting it post-dated the use of the enclosure. It appears to form two sides of an enclosed space measuring at least 24m east/west and at least 7m north/south, continuing outside the excavated area to the south. The ditch contained no datable artefacts and only a small amount of animal bone.

5.114. Parallel ditches 1140, 1142 and 1144 were located around 9m to the north-east of Ditch Z and were parallel with it, suggesting a potential association. Ditch 1142 cut the edge of 1140 and may have been a recut of it. These short sections of ditch measured 4.1m, 4.6m and 3.8m long respectively, and the northern two ditches were spaced 1.5m apart. Ditch 1142 contained pottery dating to the late 3rd to 4th century AD, whereas the pottery from ditches 1140 and 1144 was broadly Roman in date.

5.115. Ditch 1792 was located to the south of ditches 1140, 1142 and 1144 and was broadly perpendicular to them. This feature also contained pottery of 3rd to 4th century in date.

5.116. Potentially also associated with this late phase of activity, Ditch 1276 was located to the south of Ditch Z (Fig. 11) and was also broadly parallel with it; this shared

alignment may suggest contemporaneity and a possible association. Ditch 1276 contained pottery dating from the mid 3rd to 4th centuries AD and truncated a group of earlier features within the enclosure, indicating a Late Roman date.

5.117. Ditch 1784 cut the northern edge of Ditch Z and was located on a broadly perpendicular alignment to it, possibly suggesting a relationship. It contained no finds, although its stratigraphic relationship is suggestive of a Late Roman (or later) date.

5.118. The function of these stratigraphically late linear features at the south of Enclosure AK is not certain. They potentially formed elements of a new enclosure or field system, set out on a slightly different alignment, and established after the earlier Roman enclosure system had gone out of use.

Quarry pit infilling (Fig. 8)

5.119. The final period of Roman activity at the site also saw the final infilling of quarry pits 1522/1676 and 3020/1756 at the east of Enclosure AJ, which saw their first use during phase 4.2. The upper deposits within pit 1522/1676 were dominated by large pieces of sandstone, which appeared to have derived from demolished structures, suggesting this activity was contemporaneous with the demolition/collapse of the stone walling. The upper deposits in both pits contained refuse material including pottery dating to the mid-3rd to 4th centuries AD. The final backfilling deposit in pit 1522 also contained a Hadham greyware bowl sherd featuring indented and rosette-stamped decoration, providing a post-AD 350 date for the activity.

5.120. To the west of Enclosure AJ, 20m to the west of the backfilled quarry pits, large elliptical pit 1880 cut the remnants of phase 5.1 wall 1887. The pit measured up to 2.73m across and was 0.62m deep. Its function is uncertain, although it may have been dug to extract stone from the earlier wall, possibly for material with which to fill the quarry pits. The pit contained five fills of silty clay containing a mixed assemblage of probably redeposited pottery of 1st to 2nd-century and mid 3rd-century AD date.

Period 6: Post-Roman (c. AD 410-modern) (Figs 8 and 10)

5.121. There was no indication anywhere at the site that occupation continued beyond the Roman period and there does not appear to have been any further detectable activity until the establishment of a ridge-and-furrow agricultural system in the

medieval or post-medieval period. There was evidence for a probable post-medieval boundary wall, possible quarry pits, three linear features, dog burials and a group of postholes towards the north-west and north-eastern corner of the site (Figs 8 and 10).

Plough furrows (Figs 2 and 3)

5.122. A number of parallel north-east/south-west-aligned linear features were evident on geophysical survey undertaken prior to the commencement of archaeological fieldwork (Fig. 2) and interpreted as agricultural plough furrows, which was confirmed during the excavation. Those located to the north of the site were not identified once the topsoil had been stripped. However, remnants of 11 plough furrows were recorded towards the south of the site. They generally measured up to 2m wide but most were very shallow (0.1m), having been heavily horizontally truncated by more recent agricultural activity. A number of the plough furrows truncated earlier archaeological features, including the Phase 5.2 Roman walls/wall footings. Although a number of slots were excavated across the furrows, particularly where they truncated earlier features, the only datable finds recovered were residual sherds of Roman pottery and a single abraded clay tobacco pipe stem dating to the late 16th to late 19th centuries. Only a broad medieval to post-medieval period date can be assigned to these features.

Quarry pits 1848, 1703, 1852 and 1854 (Figs 8 and 10)

5.123. Quarry pits 1847, 1703 and 1852 (Fig. 8) were located 38m west of Period 4.2 Ditch K at the western edge of the excavation area. These intercutting pits were irregular in shape measuring between 5 and 13m long, more than 3m wide and up to 1m deep. An additional pit (1854; Fig. 8) measuring 20.3m long and over 9.3m wide was located 50m south of pit 1852. The quarry pits contained no artefactual material, but the backfill material was similar in consistency to the topsoil and subsoil across the site, suggesting a post-medieval date.

Stone wall 1702 (Fig. 10)

5.124. Prior to the excavation, a boundary between the southern and northern halves of the site was demarcated by a stone wall, though this was dismantled before the fieldwork commenced. However, a slot across a small remaining part of the boundary, located at the western edge of the site (cutting quarry pit 1852) exposed

the wall foundation (1702) surviving as a randomly coursed structure comprising roughly hewn sandstone blocks within a vertically-sided, flat-bottomed construction cut. No dating evidence was recovered, although the wall is believed to have been post-medieval in date.

Postholes, ditch and dog burials (Fig. 10)

5.125. Located 49.5m south-west of the north-eastern corner of the excavation area was a small group of five possible postholes. No datable pottery was recovered, but sherds of modern glass were recovered from postholes 2029 and 2031 and a leather strip pierced by six copper-alloy studs was recovered from posthole 2029. The fills of all features also appeared to be of relatively recent origin, similar to the topsoil/subsoil on site.

5.126. Ditch 3498 was located 41m south-east of the north-western corner of the excavation area. It contained no artefactual material, and its fill, similar in consistency to subsoil/topsoil suggested a post-medieval/modern date.

5.127. Two dog burials were also exposed in this area; the backfills resembled topsoil in consistency and upon finding a modern (spent) shotgun cartridge in one of the burial pits, excavation ceased.

6. THE FINDS

6.1. Finds recovered are listed in the table below. Details of materials analysed for publication reporting are to be found in Appendices B to I.

Type	Category	Count	Weight (g)
Pottery	Early prehistoric	84	206
	Later prehistoric	2120	12,347
	Roman	4612	59,500
	Post-medieval	4	95
	Total	*6820*	*72,148*
Lithics		115	364
Metalwork	Cu alloy objects	18	37
	Fe objects	101	2238
Fired/burnt clay/daub		401	6896
Glass	Bead	1	4
	Window/vessel glass fragments	6	29
Worked stone	Querns/millstones	9	-
	Whetstones	2	-
	Weights	1	-

6.2. Early prehistoric pottery was recovered from two features towards the west of the site. The earlier of these produced a number of sherds indicative of an Early Neolithic date, which was confirmed by radiocarbon of hazelnut shell from the same deposit. The second feature included a single vessel of a typologically Early Bronze Age form, though the dating of this was not as secure as for the earlier material.

6.3. A moderate assemblage of later prehistoric pottery comprised material that is stylistically typical of the Middle or Middle to Late Iron Age in the region, dating being confirmed in a small number of cases by radiocarbon dating of material in association with pottery assemblages. The assemblages are dominated by locally-produced material and there is no indication of high status.

6.4. A large assemblage of Roman pottery comprises material ranging from the Late Iron Age/early Roman transition through to the late Roman period, with material of mid to late 2nd- to early 3rd-century date being most abundant. The assemblage is dominated by local, Nene Valley products with the incidence of material from the wider region increasing in the later period. A small amount of imported Samian pottery of 2nd- to mid-3rd-century date was also recovered.

6.5. A small assemblage of lithic material was recovered from the site, more than half of which came from the same feature that produced the Early Neolithic pottery. The assemblage from the feature included tool types typical of Mesolithic or early Neolithic date. The remainder of the lithic assemblage was recovered residually from Iron Age and Roman deposits, and mostly comprises undiagnostic material with the exception of two blades, which are probably Mesolithic or Early Neolithic, and an Early Bronze Age thumbnail scraper.

6.6. The metalwork assemblage from the site was dominated by a group of objects from a single deposit within a Middle to Late Iron Age pit. The objects appear to have been deliberately laid together as a placed deposit, which included weapon fragments alongside metalworking apparatus. Iron Age currency bars deposited in other features may also have been deliberately placed. Other metal objects include part of a zoomorphic copper-alloy bracelet, recovered from the backfill of the later Roman drying oven.

6.7. A small assemblage of fired/burnt clay was recovered from predominantly Iron Age contexts. No complete objects were present, and the assemblage was very fragmentary, comprising fragments of a triangular loomweight, oven furniture/superstructure pieces and burnt daub.

6.8. A small number of glass objects were recovered, most of these being post-medieval vessel or window fragments. However, a single, unstratified, annular glass bead (Ra. 28; Fig. 10) is likely to be of 7th-century AD date and the only artefact of this period recovered from the excavation.

6.9. A number of worked stone objects of both Iron Age and Roman date were recovered from a range of features. The Iron Age material comprised two saddle quern fragments, a complete, rotary beehive quern and a flat, elongate whetstone; the latter being recovered from the same context as the placed group of metal artefacts and probably part of the group. The small Roman assemblage was dominated by a number of rotary quern and millstone fragments, though a single stone weight and a whetstone were also recovered.

7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

7.1. Biological evidence recovered is listed in the table below. Details of materials analysed for publication reporting are to be found in Appendices J to M.

Type	Category	Count
Human bone	Inhumation burial	1
	Cremation burial	1
	Disarticulated bone fragments	2
Animal bone	Fragments (ID to species)	797
Samples	Environmental	70

7.2. A single inhumation burial of an adult male was found in a Middle Iron Age pit within Enclosure A towards the north of the site. Further to the south, a cremation burial within a small pottery vessel had been placed within a ditch at the western edge of the Roman farmstead complex, though only a fraction of the body was represented. Additionally, two fragments of human bone, a femur and part of a skull, were recovered from Iron Age and Roman pits respectively.

7.3. A moderately sized animal bone assemblage was recovered from various features dating from the Middle Iron Age to post-Roman periods. Only the Middle to Late Iron Age, Late Iron Age to Early Roman and Late Roman phases were large enough to analyse in detail. There is little to suggest major change in the underlying animal economy at the site through the different periods, although an abrupt and significant decrease in the number of sheep/goat bones in the Roman period may reflect an increase in arable production or suggest the provision of meat to towns.

7.4. Charred plant remains were recovered from a number of samples taken from features of Early Neolithic to Late Roman date. The sample from the Early Neolithic pit was dominated by charred hazelnut shells, which probably represents food waste, whereas the samples from Iron Age and Roman deposits yielded variable quantities of charred cereal grains and weed seeds, implying that cereal processing was taking place on site while also giving an indication of the plants growing in the local environment. During the Middle and Late Iron Age, the main crop appears to have been spelt wheat with some barley and emmer wheat also present. From the Late Iron Age through to the Late Roman period, the cereals were again those of spelt wheat, barley and emmer wheat. Charred cereal remains recovered from the drying ovens, indicating that these were used for drying grain, though a significant

proportion of the grains from the larger, later structure showed signs of germination, suggesting this feature may have been utilised as a malting oven.

7.5. Charcoal from a number of deposits, predominantly of Middle Iron Age to late Roman date was analysed. It revealed a very distinctive pattern of fuel use whereby the use of fuelwood from hedgerow/scrub type taxa predominated. This suggests that the area was largely cleared, perhaps an arable landscape, criss-crossed with small areas of open woodland and hedgerows, the latter also being useful for stock enclosures. The use of large trees, such as oak and ash, may have been reserved for timber purposes; certainly, they were infrequently used for fuel, perhaps to supplement a sustained fire for specific purposes.

8. DISCUSSION

8.1. The archaeological investigations at Saxon Rise 2 have provided evidence for some fairly ephemeral activity at the site during the Early Neolithic and Bronze Age to Early Iron Age periods, along with evidence for significant activity between the Middle Iron Age and the end of the Roman period, primarily associated with agrarian activity. The results support those from the investigations at Saxon Rise 1, immediately to the north, and are contextualised below with regard to local and regional settlement patterns.

Site location and geology

8.2. The site at Saxon Rise II occupies a position on a spur of high ground sloping gradually to the south and south-east, overlooking the valley now occupied by the Pitsford Water reservoir to the south and east. The site is located at the very south of Brixworth village, bounded by Northampton Road to the east and the Brixworth Bypass (A508) to the west, with arable fields located to the south. The underlying geology of the site is Northampton sand formation Ooidal Ironstone (BGS 2020).

Neolithic

8.3. Archaeological remains dating to the Early Neolithic period included two pits, one of which (pit 1625) contained pottery and an assemblage of worked flint, along with a deposit of charred hazelnut shells, emmer grain fragments and charcoal. Radiocarbon dating of a sample of the hazelnut shells yielded an Early Neolithic date (3631–3373 cal. BC at 95.4% probability; SUERC-75696) corroborating the date of the pottery and flint assemblages. The second pit contained no artefactual

nor biological material but was assigned a date based upon its spatial proximity to pit 1625.

8.4. The charred assemblage from Pit 1625 probably represents food waste and wood fuel from a domestic hearth; emmer was the typical hulled wheat available during this period and hazelnuts represented an important element of the Neolithic diet (Moffett *et al*. 1989; Stevens 2007; Robinson 2000). The wood charcoal was dominated by hazel and oak, with traces of blackthorn/cherry and hawthorn, indicating that a range of species of the mixed deciduous local woodland were used for firewood.

8.5. The previous evaluation of the site (CA 2014) did not detect any Neolithic activity, the only evidence for an earlier prehistoric presence being the recovery of a residual flint bladelet of likely Mesolithic date. A small assemblage of Late Mesolithic/Early Neolithic flint was recovered residually during the earlier excavation to the north at Saxon Rise 1 (CA 2016). Systematic fieldwalking around Brixworth in the 1970s recovered a number of flint assemblages, although those dated as Neolithic were recovered to the north-west of the village (Martin and Hall 1980). A single pit of likely Neolithic date was however identified during investigations north of Saxon Rise 1 in the 1990s (Ford 1995). The evidence clearly demonstrates a Neolithic presence in the Brixworth area but given the largely residual nature of the material recovered, it is difficult to ascertain the exact nature of occupation; the pits from Saxon Rise 2 and north of Saxon Rise 1 suggest potential settlement activity, albeit of a possibly temporary nature.

8.6. A number of monuments of Neolithic date have been recorded in the wider Northamptonshire area, particularly along a broad north-east to south-west swathe either side of the River Nene (e.g., Deegan 2007). These include causewayed enclosures, henges and barrows, as well as a range of other enclosures and mound types, such as those identified during the extensive investigations as part of the Raunds Area Project (Parry 2006) and more recent work in the same area (Chapman 2017). Few such monuments are recorded in the vicinity of Brixworth, although a possible long barrow survives at Longman's Hill, Pitsford, 1.7km to the south-east (Deegan 2007, 50). However, in common with much of the country, the evidence for domestic habitation sites is very limited, mostly comprising isolated pits, and these are generally of later Neolithic date (Chapman 1999, 6). A possible Neolithic house evidenced by a shallow, rectangular hollow measuring

approximately 4.4m by 3.6m, within which were three smaller hollows, was the central feature of a Late Neolithic settlement at Ecton, north of the River Nene and approximately 9.5km south-east of Brixworth (Moore and Williams 1975; Chapman 2004, 36). Other non-monumental sites in the county include those at Wollaston, where a number of Neolithic pits were excavated (Chapman and Jackson 1992), and Gretton, where Beaker pottery was recovered from postholes that may have defined a circular domestic structure (Jackson and Knight 1985).

Bronze Age to Early Iron Age

8.7. A small number of pits and linear features were located in the north-eastern corner of the site. Most of these contained no datable artefactual or biological material and have been tentatively dated to a broad period spanning the Early Bronze Age to Early Iron Age, primarily on the basis of their stratigraphic and spatial relationships with other features. The remaining uncertainty regarding the date of most of these features limits their potential contribution to our understanding of the use of the site during this time period. However, Pit 3500 at the west of the site, contained a small group of sherds from a probable Early Bronze Age food vessel. No further contemporaneous features were identified in this area, and this feature was possibly located at the eastern edge of an area of occupation that extended to the west of the site and the adjacent Northampton Road. A small assemblage of Early to Middle Bronze Age pottery was previously recovered during the evaluation at the site, some distance south-east of pit 3500 and almost certainly as residual material in a later ditch (CA 2014).

8.8. The extensive programme of fieldwalking undertaken around Brixworth identified some concentrations of lithic material exhibiting predominantly Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age technical traits. While these were focused to the west of the village, one concentration (Site 22) was located immediately to the north of Saxon Rise 2 (Martin and Hall 1980). In common with much of Northamptonshire and areas further afield, evidence for Early Bronze Age settlement at Brixworth is somewhat elusive; there was undoubtedly a presence in the vicinity of Saxon Rise during this period, but the nature of any occupation is difficult to ascertain with so little securely dated contextual information.

8.9. North of the site, excavation towards the north of Saxon Rise 1 recorded two apparent four-post structures and a pit of Late Bronze Age date (CA 2016a),

indicative of occupation, although any settlement focus was probably located north and west of the area investigated. No evidence of contemporaneous activity was identified further south and certainly not extending into the area of Saxon Rise 2. Undated features at the north of the site were potentially of Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age date, although a lack of artefactual evidence precludes any firm phasing of much of the activity in this area.

8.10. Evidence for Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age activity in Brixworth and the surrounding area is sparse in general, as it is across all of Northamptonshire. Exceptions to this include a Bronze Age and Early Iron Age landscape exposed during investigations at Harlestone Quarry, north-west of Northampton and around 13km south-west of Brixworth (Chapman *et al*. 2017), and contemporaneous undefended settlements, represented by pits and post-built structures, at Weekley Hall Wood, north of Kettering (Jackson 1976), Great Oakley, near Corby (Jackson 1982) and Gretton (Jackson and Knight 1985). Settlements that developed through the Iron Age at Crick (Hughes and Woodward 2015; Mudd *et al*. 2017) and Wilby Way, Great Doddington, south of Wellingborough (Thomas and Enright 2003) may have had Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age origins. At Ecton and Sywell, 6km to the south-east of Brixworth, investigations at two sites revealed each to have been part of a single cropmark system with Early Iron Age origins, which developed into the Middle Iron Age, running alongside a river valley towards the River Nene (Atkins *et al*. 2001).

Middle to Late Iron Age

8.11. In contrast with earlier periods, the excavation produced extensive evidence for activity at the site during the Middle to Late Iron Age, focused at the north of the site. A relatively large late prehistoric pottery assemblage was recovered with characteristics typical of regional Middle to Late Iron Age assemblages spanning the 4th/3rd to 1st centuries BC. A small group of radiocarbon dates on material from selected features have confirmed dating within this range. The intercutting of some features suggests that the Middle to Late Iron Age activity took place over a relatively prolonged period of time; two sub-phases are suggested on the basis of the stratigraphic and horizontal relationships between features and the date ranges provided by the radiocarbon dates.

8.12. The earliest phase of Middle to Late Iron Age activity potentially began with the establishment of trapezoidal-shaped Enclosure A. A date for the enclosure was provided by pottery of Middle Iron Age date and a pair of radiocarbon dates from material from its ditches, which provided dates of 356 – 62 cal. BC and 373 – 203 cal. BC (SUERC-79204 and SUERC-79205). The enclosure contained a number of pits, although there was little direct evidence for structures associated with domestic habitation. The enclosure may have been associated with the storage and processing of crops. While it is not possible to interpret the function of all of the pits, many appear to be examples of a distinctive type of Iron Age feature characterised by steep sides and flat bases, usually interpreted as grain storage pits. Regardless of their original function, at least some appear subsequently to have been used for the disposal of refuse. Pottery and environmental evidence, including animal bone and charred plant assemblages suggestive of crop processing and domestic waste, had been dumped within some of the pits.

8.13. The stratigraphy suggests that use of the area around Enclosure A continued beyond its initial period of use, as the enclosure ditch was cut by at least one later pit of Middle to Late Iron Age date within Pit Group W. However, the function of the area does not appear to have changed significantly and it continued to be a focus for storage pits. Several of these slightly later pits provided better evidence for a grain storage function, with evidence from environmental samples suggesting that late-stage processing of stored semi-cleaned crops took place in the vicinity. It is possible that the recovery from several of the pits of 'Iron Age Grey' slag, a non-metallurgical waste product, possibly from the burning of daub or plant matter, together with fragments of fired clay, is related to the burning of clay-lined pits for purposes of sterilisation between periods of use (e.g., Monk and Fasham 1980, 335).

8.14. While no clear domestic structures were identified within Enclosure A or its immediate vicinity, there is dispersed evidence for settlement. Waste from pits, pottery sherds, animal bone, fragments of structural daub from Pit 3434 and fragments of quern, oven furniture and a loom weight from Pit 3227, suggest a settlement focus lay very close by. Some of the pits associated with Pit Alignment L, located to the south of Enclosure A, also included charred plant assemblages suggestive of domestic settlement waste, and it is possible that an undetected domestic focus lay within, or just outside, the southern end of the enclosure.

8.15. In addition to the dated evidence from features associated with Enclosure A, three ditches formed a further possible trapezoidal enclosure within the north-eastern corner of the site, along with a scatter of pits and curving linear features that may have been broadly contemporaneous. However, these features provided little in the way of dating evidence and an Iron Age date is far from certain.

8.16. Further evidence for Middle to Late Iron Age activity was identified to the south, where a group of pits and ring ditches were discovered. Radiocarbon dates on material from features within this group (pits 1221, 1769 and 1877) produced closely comparable date ranges suggesting activity between the 3rd to mid-1st centuries BC, which potentially indicates a slight shift in focus towards the south over time.

8.17. Likely structures in this part of the site were represented by Ring Ditches C and D, which potentially represented drip gullies associated with domestic roundhouses, with internal diameters of around 9m and 5m respectively. Pit 1221, within the centre of Ring Ditch C, contained a charred plant assemblage suggestive of dumped domestic waste, and the presence of quern fragments within the pit may also represent evidence for food preparation within a domestic setting. There is little evidence to suggest that either Ring Ditch C or D were surrounded by an enclosure ditch.

8.18. Large groups of pits were located within the vicinity of Ring Ditches C and D, most notably Pit Groups X and Y. Many had similar characteristics to those interpreted as storage pits further to the north, with finds and environmental assemblages suggesting that they were storage pits which had subsequently been used to deposit waste.

8.19. The function of small enclosures B and I are uncertain. Enclosure B was located within the south-east corner of Enclosure A, A sample of animal bone from the enclosure ditch provided a date range of 156 cal. BC to 53 cal. AD, suggesting that the area of Enclosure A continued to be used after its ditches had silted. It is unclear what function Enclosure B performed, but re-cutting of the northern ditch terminus on at least two occasions, suggests continued importance over a period of time. Small, ditched features of this date are commonly interpreted as stock enclosures, although the relatively substantial ditch and small enclosed area (approximately 8m in diameter) in this case suggest this may not have been the

case here. Enclosure I, located to the east of Ring Ditch C was broadly comparable in size to Enclosure B, enclosing an area of approximately 11m by 12m, with a similarly large ditch and west facing entrance.

8.20. The morphological character of the Middle to Late Iron Age settlement at Saxon Rise 2 is somewhat hard to define, being represented by several enclosures of various sizes, along with some groups of seemingly unenclosed pits and roundhouse features. The settlement does not, therefore, fit neatly into any of the three broad non-hillfort settlement types defined for the period in Northamptonshire by Kidd (2004, 54): Open settlements, Enclosed settlements and Agglomerated settlements. On its own, with an enclosure with an internal area of approximately 0.2ha, Enclosure A would seem to conform most closely to Kidd's second type of settlement, which is described as being: "…usually less than 0.5 hectares in extent, containing at least one, more usually several, roundhouses with associated ancillary structures and pits…" (ibid.). This is regarded as the most common Iron Age settlement type in Northamptonshire. As it appears to represent the earliest Iron Age activity at the site, it is possible that Enclosure A represents an initial settlement focus of this form. However, the presence of unenclosed features to the south of Enclosure A, albeit of potentially slightly later date, indicate that it would be an oversimplification to describe the Iron Age settlement here as being of either enclosed or unenclosed form.

8.21. A clue to our understanding of the nature of the settlement possibly lies to the north, in the features identified during the excavation at Saxon Rise 1 (CA 2016a), and to the east of Harborough Road, where geophysical survey and evaluation undertaken by ULAS strongly suggest a continuation to the activity beyond the area of the Saxon Rise 2 investigation (Davies 2014; Fig. 2).

8.22. At Saxon Rise 1, 400m to the north, similarly dated Middle to Late Iron Age activity was identified, including a trackway and a group of long-lived rectangular enclosures, within which were two probable roundhouses (CA 2016a). At the site to the east of Harborough Road, 150m to the east, evaluation indicated that a trapezoidal enclosure and double-ditched enclosure revealed during the geophysical survey were of Iron Age date, and they are likely to be broadly contemporaneous with the Middle to Late Iron Age features identified at Saxon Rise 2. Without further excavation it is difficult to ascertain how the enclosures and other features at Saxon Rise 1 and those to the east of Harborough Road were related to

the Iron Age features identified at Saxon Rise 2, although it is clear that the features at Saxon Rise 2 were not isolated. Rather, they represent components within what appears to have been a densely settled landscape comprising enclosures and linear field systems. It is therefore possible that the features at Saxon Rise 2 are better defined as part of a far more extensive settlement pattern, perhaps forming a peripheral element to an agglomerated settlement, such as those identified elsewhere in Northamptonshire at Crick (Hughes and Woodward 2015) DIRFT (Masefield et al. 2015) and Barby Hill Reservoir (CA 2016b). These types of large settlement are well recognised in Northamptonshire, extending to between 5ha and 12ha, although they have often gone unrecognised or been mis-classified as a result of partial excavation or aerial photography, which are more likely to identify enclosed elements of wider sites (Kidd 2004, 56).

8.23. The environmental material recovered from the Middle to Late Iron Age phases at the site indicate that it had a self-sufficient, mixed farming economy, typical for Iron Age sites of the region. As is common at Iron Age sites (Hambleton 1999), sheep (and/or goat) dominated the animal bone assemblage, closely followed by cattle, while other domesticated animals including pig, horse and dog were also present. Tooth wear evidence has indicated that cattle were both consumed and had secondary uses, potentially being kept for the provision of milk, traction and/or breeding. The presence of some older sheep/goat may indicate that, alongside meat, sheep were kept for wool, milk production and/or breeding. Pigs appear typically to have been culled when young for consumption.

8.24. The recovery of substantial assemblages of charred plant remains allows the familiar regional pattern recognised at the site (Kidd 2004, 58; Greig 1991; Monckton 2012), with an emphasis on spelt wheat as the main cereal crop, along with some barley and emmer. Several of the charred plant assemblages produced evidence for crop processing in the vicinity of the site. This, and the presence of a number of features interpreted as grain storage pits, may indicate that, if the site was part of a possible wider settlement complex as suggested above, this area was dedicated to crop storage and processing.

8.25. The finds from the Middle to Late Iron Age period at the site also contribute substantially to our understanding of the settlement. The Middle to Late Iron Age pottery assemblage is consistent with other groups from the area, being dominated by locally made coarsewares with little to suggest the site was of special status or

unusual function. The remainder of the artefact assemblage was also represented by objects that may in the main be regarded as reasonably typical finds for a site of this date within the region, comprising worked stone quern stones for processing grain, a fired clay loomweight indicating textile production, fragments of fired clay or daub suggestive of buildings within the vicinity. Most notable amongst the finds assemblage, however, is a relatively large group of iron objects, including fragments of currency bars, tools and weapons. While some of these objects have an intrinsic value in terms of the information they provide about the sorts of activity that potentially took place at or near the site (an iron smith's poker for instance, possibly indicating blacksmithing), it is the deliberate placement of these artefacts (and other material) within ditches and pits that is noteworthy.

8.26. The most striking example of this occurred within Pit 1877, which on the basis of its form and depth, may originally have functioned as a storage pit. A collection of weapon fragments, metalworking tools and other objects, including a whetstone, had been placed together in the base of this pit, leaning against its side, some of them possibly wrapped in a leather bag or sheet. The items of weaponry, which included fragments of daggers/swords and scabbard fittings, were broken up and had evidently been curated for some time prior to deposition, whereas the metalworking tools were complete at the time of their deposition. The lack of any other evidence for metalworking at the site during the Iron Age makes it unlikely that this assemblage represents a simple group of objects associated with this activity.

8.27. Other individually placed metal finds include part of a sword blade from the upper fill of Pit 1828 and fragments of currency bars from pits 1605, 1690 and the ditch of Enclosure I, the latter apparently complete when deposited. Other, non-metal objects, are also likely to have been deliberately placed, such as the upper stone from a beehive quern from Pit 3227, which had been deliberately chipped to render it unusable. Querns also formed a focus for deposition at Hunsbury hillfort, where many were deposited within pits (Ingle 1994). A partial lamb skeleton recovered from Pit 1860 probably also represents a placed deposit. The deposition of partial or complete animals within pits and other features is a well-recognised phenomenon within Britain (e.g., Morris 2008; 2011).

8.28. The deliberate placement of a range of material is paralleled at other Iron Age sites, both locally and nationally. Currency bars represent the most commonly deposited types of metal objects, frequently having been deposited within pits and ditches at

settlement sites either individually or in small numbers, with particularly large numbers recovered from some hillforts (Wilkinson 2019, 80; Hingley 1990; 2005). Several such hoards are known from Northamptonshire. More than 40 sword-shaped currency bars associated with an Iron Age pit alignment were recovered during investigations at Park Lodge Quarry, Gretton (Hingley 2006, 229; Jackson 1974), while in excess of 80 bars were found at Burton Latimer (Deegan 2007). A significant assemblage of currency bars was also recovered from Hunsbury hillfort, south-west of Northampton (Jackson 1993-4). The reason for the placement of currency bars in pits and ditches is now generally accepted as representing more than the simple hoarding of wealth for safekeeping and instead reflect a form of ritual expression (Hingley 1990; 2005).

8.29. While currency bars are amongst the most common types of objects deposited within pits and ditches, groups of weapons, tools and other objects have frequently been recovered from wet environments, and the deliberate deposition of such items in watery contexts such as rivers, lakes and bogs during the Iron Age is well attested (e.g., Bradley 1998). Often in such cases the objects appear to have been deliberately broken or ritually 'killed'. A group recovered from Waltham Abbey, Essex, perhaps represents the closest parallel to the material from Saxon Rise 2, where a group of objects included sword fragments, carpentry tools and blacksmith's tools (including a file, tongs, anvils and a poker), which had been deliberately damaged and deposited within a box within the River Lea (Manning 1980). Relatively locally, at Orton Meadows, Cambridgeshire, swords (with evidence for having been bent), currency bars, a ladle and a latch lifter were deposited together within the River Nene (Stead 1984). At Fiskerton, Lincolnshire, weapons, as well as woodworking and ironworking tools, were deposited within the River Witham (Field and Pearson 2003). However, it was not clear at either Orton Meadows or Fiskerton whether these objects had all been deposited at the same time, and they may have represented repeated deposits in the same location.

8.30. Mixed ironwork assemblages from non-riverine locations are perhaps less well-recognised, although a number are nevertheless known. A broadly comparable assemblage to that from Saxon Rise 2 was found at Houghton Down, Hampshire, where a hoard included an incomplete chisel and saw, a knife and a metal rod, was deposited with metalworking waste within a pit (Cunliffe and Poole 2000). However, hoards of ironwork containing tools associated with metalworking are generally

uncommon, and where tools are represented these are more commonly woodworking or agricultural implements (Wilkinson 2019, 260). This marks out the assemblage from Pit 1877 at Saxon Rise 2 as somewhat unusual.

8.31. It has sometimes been suggested that iron represented a highly symbolic medium as a result of the transformative processes required to turn it from ore to objects and that therefore blacksmiths enjoyed a particular status (Hingley 2006; 1997; Aldhouse-Green 2002). Bearing this in mind, it is possible that the group of metalworking tools within the assemblage from Pit 1877 carried a specific meaning. Ascertaining what this meaning was, however, is difficult. While the precise composition of the objects within Pit 1877 may be regarded as unusual, it is fair to say that the pattern for the deliberate placement of objects (of a broad range of types) at Saxon Rise 2 is generally representative of a widely recognised phenomenon for 'structured' deposition at prehistoric and Roman sites, where 'unusually' placed objects are likely to represent a widespread form of ritual expression (e.g., Hill 1995; Hingley 2006; Garrow 2012; Chadwick 2015). The range of material included in the broadly defined practice makes it very difficult to attempt to define or disentangle precise meanings, which in any case are likely to have varied significantly, both geographically and over time.

8.32. While some of the storage pits at the site witnessed secondary use as foci for structured deposits, one of the pits was also used for burial. After its initial use, Pit 3230 appears initially to have been used for the deposition of waste, before being used to inter an adult male, who was approximately 45 years of age. The use of storage pits (and other contexts) for burial purposes during the Middle to Late Iron Age is a well-recognised phenomenon in Britain, and indeed, formal cemeteries are rare within central and southern Britain during this period (Whimster 1981; Cunliffe 2005; Darvill 2010). Examples of the practice are known from Northamptonshire, including from sites at Tywell (Jackson 1975), Wellingborough (Thomas and Enright 1998) and Great Houghton (Chapman 2001).

8.33. The body had been placed in a crouched position facing towards the south with the head orientated to the west. There was no clear evidence that the corpse had been accompanied by any grave goods when it was placed within the pit, although the presence of organic material such as food items and clothing cannot be discounted. A radiocarbon date taken from a sample of bone from the individual returned a

radiocarbon date range of 357–91 cal. BC at 95.4% probability (SUERC-75529), providing a Middle to Late Iron Age date for the burial.

8.34. While the burial of individuals within storage pits is well-recognised in Britain, it, nor indeed inhumation or cremation more generally, can be regarded as being normative burial rites during the Middle to Late Iron Age, and it is clear that a very wide range of funerary practices were practiced (e.g., Whimster 1977; 1981; Bristow 2001; Darvill 2010 O'Brien 2014; Booth and Madgwick 2016). Likely evidence for some of this variation at Saxon Rise 2 is represented by the fragment of human femur recovered from Pit 1873 in Pit Group Y, which again seems to represent the placement of bone rather than the accidental inclusion of dispersed material. Finds of disarticulated human bone within pits and ditches are common at Iron Age sites and may represent diverse practices for the treatment of the dead, including both excarnation and manipulation of body parts following exhumation (Carr and Knüsel 1997; Carr 2007; Booth and Madgwick 2016).

8.35. There was little evidence to suggest that the Middle to Late Iron Age features towards the north of the site continued beyond the late 1st century BC, with the scarcity of grog-tempered wheel-thrown pottery in particular suggesting disuse by this time. This chronology is broadly consistent with other sites of the period, and storage pit features are typically regarded as going out of use by around the 1st century BC (Cunliffe 1992). This is not to say, however, that the site witnessed complete abandonment at this time; the settlement may rather have shifted somewhat slightly further to the south, and it is possible that the enclosure complex occupied during the Roman period, and discussed below, had its origins in the late Iron Age, representing an element of continuity from the Iron Age settlement elements to the north.

Late Pre-Roman Iron Age to Roman

8.36. By the Early Roman Period, activity at the site had shifted further towards the south and a complex of at least three ditched enclosures was constructed, which extended outside the excavated area to the east. A moderately sized Roman (including transitional Iron Age) pottery assemblage was recovered from the site, which provides evidence for activity associated with these enclosures throughout the Roman period, possibly from as early as the 1st century AD, prior to the Roman

conquest of Britain, with broadly continuous activity represented up until at least the end of the 4th century, and possibly beyond.

8.37. The ditches associated with the three conjoined enclosures, AI, AJ and AK, had been subject to multiple recuts and alterations over time, likely as a result of fairly rapid silting. The earliest ditches within the sequence provided relatively little in the way of dating evidence beyond a small number of sherds of Late Iron Age and 1st century AD pottery. The lack of clearly diagnostic Early Roman pottery from the earliest fills of the ditches may reflect fairly meticulous maintenance and desilting of the ditches in the early Roman period, but perhaps more likely reflects a pre-Roman Late Iron Age origin for the initial laying out of the enclosure system. Such dating is compatible with the establishment of other broadly comparable ditched enclosure systems identified in Northamptonshire, such as at Hardwick (Foster *et al*. 1977), Earls Barton (Atkins and Chapman 2005) and Weekley (Jackson and Dix 1986-7), which produced evidence for having origins within the Late Iron Age.

8.38. While some sites provide evidence for continuity between the Late Iron Age and Roman periods, this is by no means the case for all sites occupied during the Late Iron Age. The extensive Iron Age site at Great Houghton to the south-east of Northampton (Chapman 2001) for example, was apparently abandoned in the 1st century AD, and Iron Age farmsteads such as those at Newton Bromswold, (Upson-Smith 2006) and Brick Kiln Road, Raunds (Simmonds 2017), fell out of use in the Early Roman period.

8.39. The enclosure ditches at Saxon Rise 2 continued to be recut and maintained throughout the 2nd and into the 3rd century AD, when at least part of the westernmost ditched boundary to the enclosure system was backfilled and replaced with a sandstone wall. The replacement of earlier ditched boundaries with other forms of enclosure, such as hedges or walling is a pattern witnessed at other rural settlements in Northamptonshire during the later Roman period (Taylor and Flitcroft 2004, 65). The now walled enclosure system appears to have continued into the mid 4th century AD, after which the wall collapsed, and some of its rubble was used to fill some of the pits at the site.

8.40. No evidence was recovered to indicate the presence of domestic structures within any of the enclosures in the system, although it is possible that domestic buildings lay outside the excavated area to the east. Should they have been present within

the excavated area, it is also possible that the remains of any timber buildings were entirely truncated by later ploughing. The likelihood is that the enclosures were associated with nearby domestic activity, as is suggested by the ceramic assemblage from the Roman period features. This largely comprised typical utilitarian domestic products such as coarseware jars, dishes and bowls. Several environmental samples taken from the enclosure ditches and associated pits produced charred plant assemblages consistent with the presence of both crop processing and dispersed domestic hearth waste, and a reasonably large assemblage of animal bone, including some with butchery marks, is also suggestive of dispersed settlement waste.

8.41. While the excavated elements of the enclosure system are likely to have been part of a wider domestic settlement, which probably lay further to the east, parts of the enclosure system appear to have been the focus for crop-processing activities, at least for some of the time they were in use. This is indicated both by the presence of dumps of crop processing waste from the de-husking of semi-cleaned stored grain recovered from several environmental samples (for instance in Pit 1378 and Ditches N and O), and by the presence of three T-shaped corn drying ovens, 1251, 1252 and 1555.

8.42. Two of the corn drying ovens, 1251 and 1252, were located within Enclosure AK. Radiocarbon dates from charred grains recovered from both features indicated that they were likely to have been used during the 2nd to early 3rd centuries AD, although oven 1252 appears to have been a replacement for 1251 as it partly truncated it. Substantial assemblages of charred plant remains, predominantly spelt wheat and barley, were recovered from deposits within the ovens. These indicate that they were likely used to dry grain that had already been processed, possibly to harden it prior to grinding.

8.43. Located within the northernmost enclosure, drying oven 1555 was the largest of the three. It was also quite substantially later than the other two ovens; a radiocarbon date from a charred spelt wheat grain gave a date range for its use between the late 3rd and the early 5th centuries AD, while a sherd from its basal fill provides a terminus post quem of around AD 350. As well as being larger and later, oven 1555 produced potential evidence for having had a slightly different function. As with the other two ovens, environmental samples recovered from the oven 1555 were dominated by grains of barley and spelt, although around 10% of the remains had

evidence for gemination, raising the possibility that the oven was associated with the malting of grains for use during brewing (e.g., Lodwick and Allen 2017).

8.44. Together, the environmental evidence from samples taken from the corn drying ovens and other Roman period features at Saxon Rise 2, along with the evidence from the animal bone assemblage, present a picture of a rural settlement with a mixed economic base, which probably continued to function at a self-sufficient subsistence level. Cultivated cereals were dominated by spelt, barley and emmer wheat, and the evidence from the drying ovens suggests that crops were processed at the site following storage as semi-cleaned grain or in spikelet form. The presence of three drying ovens in the enclosures may indicate that the excavated parts of the enclosures had a focus on crop processing and food production and the environmental evidence from oven 1555 suggests the site may have been involved with brewing during the Late Roman period. The presence of fragments of millstone recovered from this feature also suggest that a mill was located nearby.

8.45. As in the Iron Age at the site, the major domesticates were present, although, as is common at both a national and regional level, there is a shift in emphasis in the Roman period and cattle became the dominant domesticated species, with fewer sheep/goat represented than previously. Pig, horse and dog were present in small numbers, and roe deer may have been hunted. Chicken appears to have become an element of the economy by the Late Roman period. The age ranges of both cattle and sheep suggest that they formed both a food source and were used for secondary products, while bone pathology on some of the cattle indicates that they were used as draught animals.

8.46. The artefact assemblage, particularly the pottery, for the most part supports the picture gleaned from the environmental remains: that the site was broadly self-sufficient, with little evidence for being of unusual function or status. While the economy of the site appears for the most part to have been agrarian, several of the rubble deposits from the collapsed walls associated with the latest phase of Roman activity suggest that some metalworking took place at this time, possibly signalling a change in use of the area of the enclosures.

8.47. As during the Middle to Late Iron Age, there is some evidence for activity during the Roman period at Saxon Rise 2 of a ritual or religious function. Most notably, this comprises a group of objects deposited within the basal fill of drying oven 1555,

which alongside pottery sherds, included a fragment of moulded architectural stone, fragments of three millstones, iron nails and binding strip fragments and part of a copper-alloy snake's head bracelet. This group of objects is unlikely to represent a simple deposit of discarded waste deposited within the oven and is more likely to represent a further form of structured deposition at the site, as witnessed during the Middle to Late Iron Age period. Corn drying ovens, and other structures such as kilns, appear to have increasingly become the focus for meaningful deposits during the later Roman period (Smith 2018, 187). A similar group of material was recovered from a drying oven at Leadenham Quarry, Lincolnshire (WYAS 2001), which also included fragments of millstones, alongside the remains of several puppies. At Campsfield, Kidlington, Oxfordshire, an unusual group of 2nd century zoomorphic brooches was found in the backfill of a 4th century corn drier (Hunter and Kirk 1953). Other deposits at the site may represent further examples of such ritual practice, including the deposition of a horse skull within Ditch N. Where groups of 'odd' material have been interpreted as structured deposits at Roman sites, these have often been interpreted as either 'foundation' or 'closure' deposits, the latter typically linked with the end of use or the decommissioning of a structure. These structures included buildings, wells, and as increasingly is being recognised, structures such as drying ovens. It has been suggested that an apparent periodic increase and decrease in structured deposits may be related to periods of greater stress and upheaval (Smith 2018, 185), and it may be no coincidence that the deposit within the drying oven appears to date from the latter half of the 4th century, at a time when the settlement appears to have begun to have entered decline.

8.48. The recovery of urn Ra. 14, which contained the cremated remains of an adult individual, indicates that cremation formed at least one of the funerary rites practiced at the site, which on the basis of the date of the ceramic vessel is likely to have taken place in the 2nd century. However, the recovery of the incomplete vessel in an upper infilling deposit within Ditch N, likely related to consolidation work for the construction of the settlement's Late Roman boundary wall, suggests that it had been disturbed from its original place of deposition. Whether it was disturbed and discarded unwittingly during work on the construction of the wall, or whether it had been carefully placed with respect as a further 'structured deposit', is unclear. While, as in the Iron Age, funerary rites in Roman Britain were represented by a diverse range of practices, cremation burials are a well-attested part of the burial

pattern within Northamptonshire and the wider area during the Early Roman period (Smith 2018, 216-8).

8.49. While no further burials were identified at Saxon Rise 2, a fragment of frontal bone from an adult human cranium was recovered from Pit 1707, which was radiocarbon dated to between 252 cal. AD – 405 cal. AD at 95.4% probability (SUERC-79203). The origin of this bone is uncertain; it is possible it represents a residual fragment from a disturbed and unidentified grave, although there is also the very real possibility that the bone fragment represents part of a funerary practice which continued from the Iron Age traditions discussed above, that did not result in the full interment of the deceased. Such burial traditions are becoming increasingly recognised at Roman period sites and appear to have been a consistent presence in the range of funerary rites practised in many parts of Roman Britain (Smith 2018, 277).

8.50. The full layout of the Roman period settlement represented by the features investigated at Saxon Rise 2 was not uncovered, with many elements lying outside the excavated area to the east and south. However, it is possible to propose a broad classification for the site based upon its surviving plan and several other aspects of the archaeological evidence. The site bears many of the hallmarks of a complex farmstead, as recently defined by the Roman Rural Settlement Project (Smith *et al*. 2016), a type of settlement that began to emerge within the region in the Late Iron Age and Early Roman period. This type of settlement typically produces evidence for being geared up for surplus production, likely in order to supply the increasing populations of towns and other nucleated sites which began to develop following the Roman conquest.

Post-Roman

8.51. There was little evidence that occupation on site continued beyond the Roman period, although the presence of a 7th century Anglo-Saxon bead, recovered as an unstratified find (Ra. 28; Fig. 10), indicates at least casual activity within the vicinity. However, the earliest post-Roman features were a group of plough furrows associated with ridge-and-furrow cultivation. These are likely to date from the medieval or post-medieval periods. The lack of evidence for Anglo-Saxon activity is perhaps surprising given the known activity at Brixworth during this period. The village is recorded as a fair-sized settlement in Domesday Book and archaeological

evidence from the wider Brixworth area is well-attested (Ford 1995). In addition to the horizontally-truncated remains of furrows, which crossed the site on broadly north-east/south-west alignments, later remains included a probable post-medieval boundary wall, possible quarry pits, linear features, modern dog burials and a group of postholes. These features contained small amounts of post-medieval pottery, glass and clay-tobacco pipe. Other than the wall across the site, which is clearly visible, historic maps give little indication as to previous site layouts, other than showing that the fields occupied by the site were previously far bigger and extended further to the east prior to the construction of Harborough Road.

9. CA PROJECT TEAM

9.1. Fieldwork was undertaken by Peter Boyer, assisted by Jonathan Orellana, Tim Lewis, Danielle Adams, Alice Amabilino, Jerry Austin, Eilidh Barr, Sam Bithell, Nikki Bose, T. Brook, M. Craven, Mark Davies, Kim Devereux-West, Sam Dixon, Szymon Drobiazgiewicz, Esther Escudero, Rob Falvey, Mat Ferron, Hannah Finn, George Gandham, Luis Gomes, John Hardisty, Michael Hughes, Andrew Hurst, Edward Kennaway, Alice Krausova, L. Malric-Smith, Anna Moosbauer, Sian O'Neill, Victoria Parsons, Rebecca Pritchard, Adam Rapiejko, Gary Reid, Zoe Richardson, Dan Riley, Callum Ruse, R. Scurr, Jake Streatfeild-James, Parris Stubbings, Christina Tapply, Susanna Tarvainen, Anne Templeton, Edoardo Vigo, B. J. Ware, Andy Whelan, Liam Wilson, Liam Wolley and Mark Woodley. The report was written by Tom Brindle and Peter Boyer. The pottery reports were written by Ed McSloy, the worked flint report by Jacky Sommerville, the fired and burnt clay/daub and glass reports were written by Ed McSloy and Katie Marsden, the worked stone report was written by Ruth Shaffrey, the metalwork by Jörn Schuster, the faunal remains report was written by Matilda Holmes, the human remains report by Sharon Clough, the plant macrofossils report was written by Sarah Wyles, and the charcoal report was written by Dana Challinor. Radiocarbon dating was carried out by the Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre (SUERC). Metalwork conservation was carried out by Pieta Greaves. The illustrations were prepared by Daniel Bashford, Esther Escudero and Aleksandra Osinska. The archive has been compiled and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The fieldwork was managed for CA by Stuart Joyce and the post-excavation programme was managed by Sarah Cobain and Peter Boyer.

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APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
1000	layer		6	Topsoil	
1001	layer		6	Subsoil	
1002	layer			Natural soil	
1003	cut		5.1	Posthole	
1004	fill	1003	5.1	Posthole	
1005	fill	1003	5.1	Posthole	
1006	cut		5.1	Posthole	
1007	fill	1006	5.1	Posthole	
1008	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1009	fill	1008	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1010	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1011	fill	1010	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1012	fill	1010	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1013	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch O
1014	fill	1013	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch O
1015	cut		5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1016	fill	1015	5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1017	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1018	fill	1017	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1019	cut		4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AA
1020	fill	1019	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AA
1021	fill	1019	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AA
1022	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1023	fill	1022	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1024	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch Q

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
1025	fill	1024	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch Q
1026	cut		6	Ditch/other linear	
1027	fill	1026	6	Ditch/other linear	
1028	fill	1015	5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1029	fill	1015	5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1030	fill	1015	5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1031	cut		5.2	Posthole	
1032	fill	1031	5.2	Posthole	
1033	cut		5.2	Pit	
1034	fill	1033	5.2	Pit	
1035	fill	1033	5.2	Pit	
1036	fill	1033	5.2	Pit	
1037	fill	1033	5.2	Pit	
1038	fill	1015	5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1039	cut		4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AA
1040	fill	1039	4.1	Ditch/other linear	ditch AA
1041	cut		5.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch Z
1042	fill	1041	5.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch Z
1043	cut		5.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch Z
1044	fill	1043	5.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch Z
1045	cut		5.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch Z
1046	fill	1045	5.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch Z
1047	cut		4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch F
1048	fill	1047	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch F
1049	cut		5.2	Structural cut	
1050	masonry	1049	5.1	Wall/pier/postpad/steps etc	

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
1051	fill	1049	5.1	Destruction debris	
1052	layer		5.2	Destruction debris	
1053	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1054	fill	1053	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1055	cut		4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch F
1056	fill	1055	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch F
1057	masonry	1329	5.2	Wall/pier/postpad/steps etc	
1058	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1059	fill	1058	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1060	fill	1058	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1061	fill	1074	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1062	fill	1074	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1063	cut		4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch F
1064	fill	1063	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch F
1065					
1066	cut		5.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch V
1067	fill	1066	5.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch V
1068	cut		5.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch V
1069	fill	1068	5.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch V
1070	cut		5.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch V
1071	fill	1070	5.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch V
1072	cut		5.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch U

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
1073	fill	1072	5.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch U
1074	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1075	cut		5.1	Ditch/other linear	
1076	fill	1075	5.1	Ditch/other linear	
1077	fill	1075	5.1	Ditch/other linear	
1078	cut		3.2	Pit	
1079	fill	1078	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
1080	fill	1063	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch F
1081	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	
1082	fill	1081	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
1083	cut		4.1	Ditch/other linear	
1084	fill	1083	4.1	Ditch/other linear	
1085	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch S
1086	fill	1085	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch S
1087	cut		2	Tree hole/bowl	
1088	fill	1087	2	Tree hole/bowl	
1089	fill	1090	4.1	Pit	
1090	cut		4.1	Pit	
1091	cut		4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch F
1092	fill	1091	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch F
1093	cut		4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch R
1094	fill	1093	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch R
1095	cut		4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch R
1096	fill	1095	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch R

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
1097	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch S
1098	fill	1097	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch S
1099	cut		5.2	Pit	
1100	fill	1099	5.2	Pit	
1101	cut		6	Furrow	
1102	fill	1101	6	Furrow	
1103	cut		5.2	Posthole	
1104	fill	1103	5.2	Posthole	
1105	cut		4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AA
1106	fill	1105	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AA
1107	fill	1105	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AA
1108	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Gully J
1109	fill	1108	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Gully J
1110	cut		3.2	Pit	Gully J
1111	fill	1110	3.2	Pit	Gully J
1112	cut		3.2	Posthole	Gully J
1113	fill	1112	3.2	Posthole	Gully J
1114	cut		3.2	Pit	Gully J
1115	fill	1114	3.2	Pit	Gully J
1116	cut		4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch R
1117	fill	1116	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch R
1118	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch S
1119	fill	1118	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch S
1120	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Gully J
1121	fill	1120	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Gully J
1122	cut		5.2	Structural cut	
1123	masonry	1122	5.2	Wall/pier/postpad/steps etc	
1124	fill	1122	5.2	Destruction debris	

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
1125	layer		5.2	Destruction debris	
1126	cut		6	Furrow	
1127	fill	1126	6	Furrow	
1130	cut		5.2	Structural cut	
1131	masonry	1130	5.2	Wall/pier/postpad/steps etc	
1132	fill	1130	5.2	Destruction debris	
1133	layer		5.2	Destruction debris	
1134	cut		5.1	Unknown/unspecified	
1135	fill	1134	5.1	Unknown/unspecified	
1136	cut		5.1	Ditch/other linear	
1137	fill	1136	5.1	Ditch/other linear	
1138	cut		5.1	Ditch/other linear	
1139	fill	1138	5.1	Ditch/other linear	
1140	cut		5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1141	fill	1140	5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1142	cut		5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1143	fill	1142	5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1144	cut		5.1	Ditch/other linear	
1145	fill	1144	5.1	Ditch/other linear	
1146	cut		5.1	Pit	
1147	fill	1146	5.1	Pit	
1148	cut		4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AA
1149	fill	1148	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AA
1150	fill	1148	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AA

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
1151	fill	1148	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AA
1152	fill	1148	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AA
1153	cut		5.2	Pit	
1154	fill	1153	5.2	Pit	
1155	cut		4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch F
1156	fill	1155	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch F
1157	fill	1366	5.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1158	cut		5.2	Structural cut	
1159	fill	1158	5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1160	masonry	1158	5.2	Wall/pier/postpad/steps etc	
1161	cut		5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1162	fill	1161	5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1163	cut		5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1164	fill	1163	5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1165	cut		5.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch U
1166	fill	1165	5.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch U
1167	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch T
1168	fill	1167	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch T
1169	cut		5.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch V
1170	fill	1169	5.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch V
1171	cut		5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1172	fill	1171	5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1173	cut		5.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch U

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
1174	fill	1173	5.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch U
1175	cut		3.1	Pit	
1176	fill	1175	3.1	Pit	
1177	cut		3.2	Pit	
1178	fill	1177	3.2	Pit	
1179	cut		3.2	Pit	
1180	fill	1179	3.2	Pit	
1181	cut		3.2	Posthole	Ring Ditch C
1182	fill	1181	3.2	Posthole	Ring Ditch C
1183	fill	1181	3.2	Posthole	Ring Ditch C
1184	fill	1181	3.2	Posthole	Ring Ditch C
1185	fill	1181	3.2	Posthole	Ring Ditch C
1186	fill	1181	3.2	Posthole	Ring Ditch C
1187	cut		3.2	Pit	Ring Ditch C
1188	fill	1187	3.2	Pit	Ring Ditch C
1189	cut		3.2	Pit	Ring Ditch C
1190	fill	1189	3.2	Pit	Ring Ditch C
1191	cut		3.2	Pit	Ring Ditch C
1192	fill	1191	3.2	Pit	Ring Ditch C
1193	cut		3.2	Pit	Ring Ditch C
1194	fill	1193	3.2	Pit	Ring Ditch C
1195	cut		3.1	Ditch/other linear	
1196	fill	1195	3.1	Ditch/other linear	
1197	fill	1195	3.1	Ditch/other linear	
1198	fill	1195	3.1	Ditch/other linear	
1199	cut		3.2	Pit	Ring Ditch C
1200	fill	1199	3.2	Pit	Ring Ditch C
1201	cut		3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y
1202	fill	1201	3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y
1203	cut		6	Furrow	
1204	fill	1203	6	Furrow	
1205	cut		3.2	Pit	Ring Ditch C
1206	fill	1205	3.2	Pit	Ring Ditch C
1207	cut		3.2	Posthole	Ring Ditch C
1208	fill	1207	3.2	Posthole	Ring Ditch C
1209	fill	1207	3.2	Posthole	Ring Ditch C
1210	fill	1207	3.2	Posthole	Ring Ditch C
1211	cut		3.2	Unknown/unspecified	

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
1212	fill	1211	3.2	Unknown/unspecified	
1213	cut		5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1214	fill	1213	5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1215	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Gully J
1216	fill	1215	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Gully J
1217	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Gully J
1218	fill	1217	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Gully J
1219	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Gully J
1220	fill	1219	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Gully J
1221	cut		3.2	Pit	Ring Ditch C
1222	fill	1221	3.2	Pit	Ring Ditch C
1223	fill	1221	3.2	Pit	Ring Ditch C
1224	fill	1221	3.2	Pit	Ring Ditch C
1225	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ring Ditch C
1226	fill	1225	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ring Ditch C
1227	cut		2	Ditch/other linear	
1228	fill	1227	2	Ditch/other linear	
1229	cut		3.1	Ditch/other linear	
1230	fill	1229	3.1	Ditch/other linear	
1231	fill	1229	3.1	Ditch/other linear	
1232	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ring Ditch C
1233	fill	1232	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ring Ditch C
1234	cut		4.1	Tree hole/bowl	
1235	fill	1234	4.1	Tree hole/bowl	

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
1236	cut		5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1237	fill	1236	5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1238	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Gully J
1239	fill	1238	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Gully J
1240	fill	1238	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Gully J
1241	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch T
1242	fill	1241	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch T
1243	fill	1241	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch T
1244	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ring Ditch C
1245	fill	1244	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ring Ditch C
1246	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ring Ditch C
1247	fill	1246	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ring Ditch C
1248	fill	1246	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ring Ditch C
1249	cut		4.1	Pit	
1250	fill	1249	4.1	Ditch/other linear	
1251	masonry		4.2	Wall/pier/postpad/steps etc	Drying oven 1251
1252	masonry		4.2	Furnace or other pyrotechnic installation	Drying oven 1252
1253	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	
1254	fill	1253	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
1255	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ring Ditch C
1256	fill	1255	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ring Ditch C

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
1257	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ring Ditch C
1258	fill	1257	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ring Ditch C
1259	cut		3.2	Pit	Gully J
1260	fill	1259	3.2	Pit	Gully J
1261	fill	1259	3.2	Pit	Gully J
1262	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch T
1263	fill	1262	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch T
1264	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch S
1265	fill	1264	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch S
1266	fill	1251	4.2	Furnace or other pyrotechnic installation	Drying oven 1251
1267	fill	1251	4.2	Furnace or other pyrotechnic installation	Drying oven 1251
1268	fill	1252	4.2	Furnace or other pyrotechnic installation	Drying oven 1252
1269	fill	1252	4.2	Furnace or other pyrotechnic installation	Drying oven 1252
1270	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ring Ditch C
1271	fill	1270	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ring Ditch C
1272	cut		5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1273	fill	1272	5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1274	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ring Ditch C
1275	fill	1274	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ring Ditch C
1276	cut		5.2	Ditch/other linear	

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
1277	fill	1276	5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1278	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ring Ditch C
1279	fill	1278	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ring Ditch C
1280	fill	1278	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ring Ditch C
1281	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ring Ditch C
1282	fill	1281	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ring Ditch C
1283	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	
1284	fill	1283	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
1285	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	
1286	fill	1285	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
1287	cut		6	Ditch/other linear	
1288	fill	1287	6	Ditch/other linear	
1289	cut		4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch H/ Enclosure AJ/ Enclosure AK
1290	fill	1289	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch H/ Enclosure AJ/ Enclosure AK
1291	fill	1289	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch H/ Enclosure AJ/ Enclosure AK
1292	fill	1289	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch H/ Enclosure AJ/ Enclosure AK
1293	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch Q
1294	fill	1293	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch Q
1295	fill	1293	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch Q
1296	fill	1293	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch Q

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
1297	fill	1293	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch Q
1298	cut		4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch H/ Enclosure AJ/ Enclosure AK
1299	fill	1298	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch H/ Enclosure AJ/ Enclosure AK
1300	fill	1298	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch H/ Enclosure AJ/ Enclosure AK
1301	masonry	1346	4.2	Wall/pier/postpad/steps etc	Drying oven 1251
1302	masonry	1346	4.2	Wall/pier/postpad/steps etc	Drying oven 1251
1303	masonry	1346	4.2	Wall/pier/postpad/steps etc	Drying oven 1251
1304	masonry	1346	4.2	Wall/pier/postpad/steps etc	Drying oven 1251
1305	masonry	1346	4.2	Wall/pier/postpad/steps etc	Drying oven 1251
1306	masonry	1346	4.2	Wall/pier/postpad/steps etc	Drying oven 1251
1307	masonry	1346	4.2	Wall/pier/postpad/steps etc	Drying oven 1251
1308	masonry	1347	4.2	Wall/pier/postpad/steps etc	Drying oven 1252
1309	masonry	1347	4.2	Wall/pier/postpad/steps etc	Drying oven 1252
1310	masonry	1347	4.2	Wall/pier/postpad/steps etc	Drying oven 1252
1311	masonry	1347	4.2	Wall/pier/postpad/steps etc	Drying oven 1252

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
1312	masonry	1347	4.2	Wall/pier/postpad/steps etc	Drying oven 1252
1313	masonry	1347	4.2	Wall/pier/postpad/steps etc	Drying oven 1252
1314	masonry	1347	4.2	Wall/pier/postpad/steps etc	Drying oven 1252
1315	cut		5.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch Z
1316	fill	1315	5.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch Z
1317	cut		4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch F
1318	fill	1317	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch F
1319	fill	1336	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1320	fill	1317	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch F
1321	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1322	fill	1321	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1323	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1324	fill	1323	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1325	fill	1323	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1326	fill	1323	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1327	fill	1337	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch O
1328	fill	1337	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch O
1329	cut		5.1	Structural cut	
1330	fill	1329	5.2	Wall/pier/postpad/steps etc	
1331	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ring Ditch C
1332	fill	1331	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ring Ditch C

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
1333	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ring Ditch C
1334	fill	1333	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ring Ditch C
1335	fill	1323	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1336	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1337	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch O
1338	cut		3.2	Pit	
1339	fill	1338	3.2	Pit	
1340	cut		4.1	Ditch/other linear	
1341	fill	1340	4.1	Ditch/other linear	
1342	cut		3.1	Ditch/other linear	
1343	fill	1342	3.1	Ditch/other linear	
1344	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	
1345	fill	1344	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
1346	cut		4.2	Structural cut	Drying oven 1251
1347	cut		4.2	Structural cut	Drying oven 1252
1348	cut		5.2	Structural cut	
1349	layer		5.2	Destruction debris	
1350	cut		5.2	Posthole	
1351	fill	1350	5.2	Posthole	
1352	cut		5.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch Z
1353	fill	1352	5.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch Z
1354	cut		3.2	Pit	
1355	fill	1354	3.2	Pit	
1356	cut		3.2	Pit	
1357	fill	1356	3.2	Pit	
1358	deposit		5.1	External dump	
1359	layer		5.1	Unknown/unspecified	

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
1360	fill	1361	5.1	Posthole	
1361	cut		5.1	Posthole	
1362	layer		5.1	External surface	
1363	cut		3.2	Pit	
1364	fill	1363	3.2	Pit	
1365	fill	1155	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch F
1366	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1367	fill	1366	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1368	fill	1366	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1369	fill	1366	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1370	cut		3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y
1371	fill	1370	3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y
1372	cut		3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y
1373	fill	1372	3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y
1374	cut		3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y
1375	fill	1374	3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y
1376	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	
1377	fill	1376	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
1378	cut		5.2	Unknown/unspecified	
1379	fill	1378	5.2	Unknown/unspecified	
1380	cut		5.1	Pit	
1381	fill	1380	5.1	Pit	
1382	cut		3.1	Pit	
1383	fill	1382	3.1	Pit	
1384	cut		5.1	Tree hole/bowl	
1385	fill	1384	5.1	Tree hole/bowl	
1386	cut		5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1387	fill	1386	5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1388	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
1389	fill	1388	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
1390	cut		4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch F
1391	fill	1390	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch F
1392	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch T
1393	fill	1392	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch T
1394	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch T
1395	fill	1394	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch T
1396	fill	1394	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch T
1397	cut		5.2	Pit	
1398	fill	1397	5.2	Pit	
1399	cut		4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch H/ Enclosure AJ/ Enclosure AK
1400	fill	1399	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch H/ Enclosure AJ/ Enclosure AK
1401	cut		5.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch V
1402	fill		5.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch V
1403	cut		5.2	Pit	
1404	fill	1403	5.2	Pit	
1405	fill	1403	5.2	Pit	
1406	cut		5.1	Ditch/other linear	
1407	fill	1406	5.1	Ditch/other linear	
1408	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1409	fill	1408	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1410	cut		5.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch Z
1411	fill	1410	5.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch Z
1412	cut		5.2	Ditch/other linear	

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
1413	fill	1412	5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1414	cut		5.1	Ditch/other linear	
1415	fill	1414	5.1	Ditch/other linear	
1416	cut		5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1417	fill	1416	5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1418	fill	1416	5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1419	cut		3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1420	fill	1419	3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1421	fill	1419	3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1422	fill	1419	3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1423	fill	1419	3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1424	fill	1419	3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1425	fill	1419	3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1426	fill	1419	3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1427	fill	1419	3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1428	fill	1419	3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1429	fill	1419	3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1430	fill	1419	3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1431	fill	1419	3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1432	cut		4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AA
1433	fill	1432	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AA
1434	cut		4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch F
1435	fill	1434	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch F
1436	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	
1437	fill	1436	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
1438	cut		6	Furrow	
1439	fill	1438	6	Furrow	
1440	cut		5.2	Unknown/unspecified	
1441	fill	1440	5.2	Unknown/unspecified	
1442	fill	1440	5.2	Unknown/unspecified	

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
1443	cut		6	Furrow	
1444	fill	1443	6	Furrow	
1445	cut		void	Ditch/other linear	
1446	fill	1445	void	Ditch/other linear	
1447	cut		5.2	Unknown/unspecified	
1448	fill	1447	5.2	Unknown/unspecified	
1449	fill	1447	5.2	Unknown/unspecified	
1450	cut		5.2	Structural cut	
1451	fill	1450	5.2	Destruction debris	
1452	cut		5.2	Posthole	
1453	fill	1452	5.2	Posthole	
1454	cut		5.2	Unknown/unspecified	
1455	fill	1454	5.2	Unknown/unspecified	
1456	cut		5.2	Pit	
1457	fill	1456	5.2	Pit	
1458	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Gully J
1459	fill	1458	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Gully J
1460	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Gully J
1461	fill	1460	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Gully J
1462	cut		2	Pit	
1463	fill	1462	2	Pit	
1464	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Gully J
1465	fill	1464	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Gully J
1466	cut		5.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure AB
1467	fill	1466	5.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure AB
1468	cut		5.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure AB
1469	fill	1468	5.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure AB

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
1470	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Gully J
1471	fill	1470	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Gully J
1472	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Gully J
1473	fill	1472	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Gully J
1474	cut		5.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure AB
1475	fill	1474	5.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure AB
1476	fill	1474	5.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure AB
1477	fill	1474	5.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure AB
1478	fill	1474	5.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure AB
1479	cut		5.2	Structural cut	
1480	masonry	1479	5.2	Wall/pier/postpad/steps etc	
1481	fill	1479	5.1	Destruction debris	
1482	cut		3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y
1483	fill	1482	3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y
1484	cut		4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch H/ Enclosure AJ/ Enclosure AK
1485	fill	1484	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch H/ Enclosure AJ/ Enclosure AK
1486	fill	1484	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch H/ Enclosure AJ/ Enclosure AK
1487	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch Q
1488	fill	1487	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch Q
1489	fill	1487	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch Q
1490	cut		2	Ditch/other linear	
1491	fill	1490	2	Ditch/other linear	

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
1492	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Gully J
1493	fill	1492	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Gully J
1494	cut		5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1495	fill	1494	5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1496	cut		5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1497	fill	1496	5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1498	cut		2	Ditch/other linear	
1499	fill	1498	2	Ditch/other linear	
1500	cut		5.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure AB
1501	fill	1500	5.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure AB
1502	cut		5.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch U
1503	fill	1502	5.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch U
1504	cut		5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1505	fill	1504	5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1506	cut		5.2	Structural cut	
1507	masonry	1506	5.2	Wall/pier/postpad/steps etc	
1508	fill	1506	5.2	Destruction debris	
1509	cut		3.2	Pit	Pit Alignment L
1510	fill	1509	3.2	Pit	Pit Alignment L
1511	fill	1509	3.2	Pit	Pit Alignment L
1512	cut		3.2	Pit	
1513	fill	1512	3.2	Pit	
1514	cut		3.2	Pit	
1515	fill	1514	3.2	Pit	
1516	cut		3.2	Pit	
1517	fill	1516	3.2	Pit	

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
1518	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure I
1519	fill	1518	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure I
1520	fill	1509	3.2	Pit	Pit Alignment L
1521	fill	1509	3.2	Pit	Pit Alignment L
1522	cut		4.2	Pit	
1523	fill	1522	4.2	Pit	
1524	fill	1522	5.2	Pit	
1525	fill	1522	5.2	Pit	
1526	fill	1522	5.2	Pit	
1527	cut		3.2	Pit	
1528	fill	1527	3.2	Pit	
1529	cut		3.2	Pit	
1530	fill	1529	3.2	Pit	
1531	cut		6	Pit	
1532	fill	1531	6	Pit	
1533	cut		3.2	Pit	Pit Alignment L
1534	fill	1533	3.2	Pit	Pit Alignment L
1535	cut		3.2	Pit	
1536	fill	1535	3.2	Pit	
1537	cut		4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch F
1538	fill	1537	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch F
1539	fill	1537	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch F
1540	cut		4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch F
1541	fill	1540	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch F
1542	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1543	fill	1542	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1544	fill	1542	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1545	fill	1542	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1546	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch O
1547	fill	1546	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch O

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
1548	fill	1546	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch O
1549	cut		6	Ditch/other linear	
1550	fill	1549	6	Ditch/other linear	
1551	cut		6	Ditch/other linear	
1552	fill	1551	6	Ditch/other linear	
1553	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	
1554	fill	1553	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
1555	cut		5.1	Structural cut	Drying oven 1555
1556	cut		5.1	Structural cut	Drying oven 1555
1557	masonry		5.1	Wall/pier/postpad/steps etc	Drying oven 1555
1558	masonry		5.1	Wall/pier/postpad/steps etc	Drying oven 1555
1559	fill	1555	5.1	Furnace or other pyrotechnic installation	Drying oven 1555
1560	fill	1555	5.1	Furnace or other pyrotechnic installation	Drying oven 1555
1561	fill	1556	5.1	Furnace or other pyrotechnic installation	Drying oven 1555
1562	fill	1556	5.1	Furnace or other pyrotechnic installation	Drying oven 1555
1563	cut		4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch R
1564	fill	1563	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch R

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
1565	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch S
1566	fill	1565	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch S
1567	cut		6	Furrow	
1568	fill	1567	6	Furrow	
1569	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	
1570	fill	1569	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
1571	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	
1572	fill	1571	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
1573	cut		5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1574	fill	1573	5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1575	fill	1555	5.1	Furnace or other pyrotechnic installation	Drying oven 1555
1576	fill	1555	5.1	Furnace or other pyrotechnic installation	Drying oven 1555
1577	cut		4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch R
1578	fill	1577	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch R
1579	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch S
1580	fill	1579	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch S
1581	cut		5.1	Ditch/other linear	
1582	fill	1581	5.1	Ditch/other linear	
1583	cut		4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AA
1584	fill	1583	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AA
1585	fill	1583	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AA

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
1586	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1587	fill	1586	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1588	cut		5.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch Z
1589	fill	1588	5.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch Z
1590	cut		4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch F
1591	fill	1590	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch F
1592	fill	1590	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch F
1593	fill	1590	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch F
1594	fill	1590	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch F
1595	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1596	fill	1595	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1597	fill	1595	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1598	cut		4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch F
1599	fill	1598	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch F
1600	fill	1598	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch F
1601	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1602	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1603	fill	1601	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1604	fill	1601	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1605	cut		3.2	Pit	
1606	fill	1605	3.2	Pit	
1607	fill	1605	3.2	Pit	
1608	cut		3.2	Pit	
1609	fill	1608	3.2	Pit	
1610	fill	1608	3.2	Pit	
1611	fill	1608	3.2	Pit	

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
1612	fill	1608	3.2	Pit	
1613	fill	1608	3.2	Pit	
1614	fill	1608	3.2	Pit	
1615	fill	1608	3.2	Pit	
1616	fill	1608	3.2	Pit	
1617	fill	1608	3.2	Pit	
1618	cut		3.2	Pit	
1619	fill	1618	3.2	Pit	
1620	masonry		5.2	Wall/pier/postpad/steps etc	
1621	masonry		5.2	Wall/pier/postpad/steps etc	
1622	cut		5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1623	fill	1622	5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1624	masonry		5.2	Wall/pier/postpad/steps etc	
1625	cut		1	Pit	
1626	fill	1625	1	Pit	
1627	fill	1625	1	Pit	
1628	cut		3.2	Pit	
1629	fill	1628	3.2	Pit	
1630	fill	1628	3.2	Pit	
1631	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure I
1632	fill	1631	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure I
1633	fill	1631	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure I
1634	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure I
1635	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure I
1636	cut		3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y
1637	fill	1636	3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y
1638	fill	1636	3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y
1639	deposit		6	Unknown/unspecified	
1640	fill	1522	5.2	Pit	
1641	fill	1522	5.2	Pit	
1642	fill	1522	5.2	Pit	

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
1643	fill	1522	5.2	Pit	
1644	cut		4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch F
1645	fill	1644	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch F
1646	fill	1644	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch F
1647	fill	1644	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch F
1648	fill	1644	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch F
1649	fill	1644	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch F
1650	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1651	fill	1650	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1652	cut		4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch F
1653	fill	1652	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch F
1654	fill	1652	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch F
1655	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1656	fill	1655	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1657	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1658	fill	1657	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1659	fill	1657	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1660	fill	1657	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1661	fill	1657	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1662	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch O
1663	fill	1662	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch O
1664	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1665	fill	1664	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
1666	fill	1664	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1667	cut		6	Pit	
1668	fill	1667	6	Pit	
1669	fill	1667	6	Pit	
1670	cut		5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1671	fill	1670	5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1672	cut		3.1	Ditch/other linear	
1673	fill	1672	3.1	Ditch/other linear	
1674	cut		5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1675	fill	1674	5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1676	cut		4.2	Pit	
1677	fill	1676	4.2	Pit	
1678	fill	1676	4.2	Pit	
1679	fill	1676	4.2	Pit	
1680	cut		1	Pit	
1681	fill	1680	1	Pit	
1682	cut		4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch F
1683	fill	1682	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch F
1684	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1685	fill	1684	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1686	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch T
1687	fill	1686	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch T
1688	fill	1686	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch T
1689	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch T
1690	fill	1689	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch T
1693	cut		3.2	Pit	Ring Ditch C
1694	fill	1693	3.2	Pit	Ring Ditch C
1695	cut		3.2	Pit	Ring Ditch C
1696	fill	1695	3.2	Pit	Ring Ditch C

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
1697	fill	1695	3.2	Pit	Ring Ditch C
1698	cut		3.2	Posthole	Ring Ditch C
1699	fill	1698	3.2	Posthole	Ring Ditch C
1700	fill	1667	6	Pit	
1701	cut		6	Structural cut	
1702	masonry	1701	6	Wall/pier/postpad/steps etc	
1703	cut		6	Pit	
1704	fill	1703	6	Pit	
1705	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch K
1706	fill	1705	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch K
1707	cut		5.2	Pit	
1708	fill	1707	5.2	Pit	
1709	cut		3.2	Pit	Pit Alignment L
1710	fill	1709	3.2	Pit	Pit Alignment L
1711	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch K
1712	fill	1711	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch K
1713	cut		3.1	Ditch/other linear	
1714	fill	1713	3.1	Ditch/other linear	
1715	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	
1716	fill	1715	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
1717	cut		3.1	Ditch/other linear	
1718	fill	1717	3.1	Ditch/other linear	
1719	cut		4.1	Pit	
1720	fill	1719	4.1	Pit	
1721	cut		4.1	Pit	
1722	fill	1721	4.1	Pit	
1723	fill	1721	4.1	Pit	
1724	cut		3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1725	fill	1724	3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1726	fill	1729	3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1729	cut		3.2	Pit	Pit Group X

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
1730	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch K
1731	fill	1730	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch K
1732	cut		3.2	Pit	Pit Alignment L
1733	fill	1732	3.2	Pit	Pit Alignment L
1734	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch K
1735	fill	1734	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch K
1736	cut		4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch G/Enclosure AI/Enclosure AJ
1737	fill	1736	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch G/Enclosure AI/Enclosure AJ
1738	fill	1736	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch G/Enclosure AI/Enclosure AJ
1739	cut		4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch G/Enclosure AI/Enclosure AJ
1740	fill	1739	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch G/Enclosure AI/Enclosure AJ
1741	fill	1739	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch G/Enclosure AI/Enclosure AJ
1742	fill	1739	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch G/Enclosure AI/Enclosure AJ
1743	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch P
1744	fill	1743	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch P
1745	fill	1743	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch P

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
1746	cut		3.2	Pit	Pit Alignment L
1747	fill	1746	3.2	Pit	Pit Alignment L
1748	fill	1746	3.2	Pit	Pit Alignment L
1749	cut		3.2	Pit	Pit Alignment L
1750	fill	1749	3.2	Pit	Pit Alignment L
1751	cut		3.2	Pit	Pit Alignment L
1752	fill	1751	3.2	Pit	Pit Alignment L
1753	cut		5.1	Pit	
1754	fill	1753	5.1	Pit	
1755	fill	1758	5.1	Pit	
1756	cut		4.2	Pit	
1757	fill	1756	4.2	Pit	
1758	cut		5.1	Pit	
1759	cut		3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1760	fill	1759	3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1761	fill	1759	3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1762	fill	1759	3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1763	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch K
1764	fill	1763	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch K
1765	fill	1763	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch K
1766	cut		3.2	Pit	Pit Alignment L
1767	fill	1766	3.2	Pit	Pit Alignment L
1768	fill	1766	3.2	Pit	Pit Alignment L
1769	cut		5.1	Structural cut	Drying oven 1555
1770	fill	1828	3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1771	cut		4.1	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure AJ
1772	fill		4.1	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure AJ
1773	fill	1771	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure AJ
1774	fill	1771	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure AJ
1775	cut		3.2	Pit	
1776	fill	1775	3.2	Pit	
1777	fill	1775	3.2	Pit	

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
1778	cut		5.1	Ditch/other linear	
1779	fill	1778	5.1	Ditch/other linear	
1780	cut		5.1	Posthole	
1781	fill	1780	5.1	Posthole	
1782	cut		5.1	Ditch/other linear	
1783	fill	1782	5.1	Ditch/other linear	
1784	cut		5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1785	fill	1784	5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1788	cut		5.2	Pit	
1789	fill	1788	5.2	Pit	
1790	cut		5.2	Pit	
1791	fill	1790	5.2	Pit	
1792	cut		5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1793	fill	1792	5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1794	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1795	fill	1794	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1796	fill	1794	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1797	fill	1794	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1798	fill	1794	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1799	cut		5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1800	fill	1799	5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1801	fill	1799	5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1802	cut		5.1	Ditch/other linear	
1803	fill	1802	5.1	Ditch/other linear	
1804	cut		5.2	Structural cut	
1805	fill	1804	5.2	Ditch/other linear	

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
1806	cut		6	Furrow	
1807	fill	1806	6	Furrow'	
1808	layer		5.2	External dump	
1809	cut		6	Furrow	
1810	fill	1809	6	Furrow	
1811	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1812	fill	1811	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1813	fill	1811	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1814	fill	1811	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1815	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1816	fill	1815	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1817	fill	1815	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1818	fill	1815	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1819	fill	1815	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1820	fill	1815	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1821	fill	1631	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure I
1822	layer		5.2	External dump	
1823	cut		3.2	Unknown/unspecified	Pit Group X
1824	fill	1823	3.2	Unknown/unspecified	Pit Group X
1825	fill	1769	3.2	Structural cut	Pit Group X
1826	fill	1769	3.2	Structural cut	Pit Group X
1827	fill	1769	3.2	Structural cut	Pit Group X
1828	cut		3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1829	fill	1828	3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1830	fill	1828	3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1831	fill	1828	3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1832	masonry		3.2	Wall/pier/postpad/steps etc	Pit Group X

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
1833	layer		5.2	Destruction debris	
1834	fill	1802	5.1	Ditch/other linear	
1835	cut		3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1836	fill	1835	3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1837	cut		4.1	Pit	Enclosure AI
1838	fill	1837	3.2	Pit	
1839	fill	1837	3.2	Pit	
1840	fill	1841	3.2	Pit	
1841	cut		3.2	Pit	
1842	cut		3.2	Pit	
1843	fill	1842	3.2	Pit	
1844	cut		5.2	Structural cut	
1845	masonry		5.1	Wall/pier/postpad/steps etc	
1846	fill		5.1	Wall/pier/postpad/steps etc	
1847	cut		6	Pit	
1848	fill	1847	6	Pit	
1849	cut		5.2	Structural cut	
1850	masonry	1849	5.1	Wall/pier/postpad/steps etc	
1851	fill	1849	5.1	External dump	
1852	cut		6	Pit	
1853	fill	1852	6	Pit	
1854	cut		6	Pit	
1855	fill	1854	6	Pit	
1858	cut		5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1859	fill	1858	5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1860	cut		3.2	Pit	
1861	fill	1860	3.2	Pit	
1862	fill	1860	3.2	Pit	
1863	fill	1860	3.2	Pit	
1864	fill	1860	3.2	Pit	
1865	fill	1860	3.2	Pit	
1866	fill	1860	3.2	Pit	

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
1867	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure I
1868	fill	1867	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure I
1869	fill	1867	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure I
1870	fill	1867	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure I
1871	fill	1867	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure I
1872	fill	1867	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure I
1873	cut		3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y
1874	fill	1873	3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y
1875	fill	1873	3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y
1876	fill	1873	3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y
1877	cut		3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1878	fill	1877	3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1879	fill	1877	3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1880	cut		5.2	Pit	
1881	fill	1880	5.2	Pit	
1882	fill	1880	5.2	Pit	
1883	fill	1880	5.2	Pit	
1884	fill	1880	5.2	Pit	
1885	fill	1880	5.2	Pit	
1886	cut		5.2	Structural cut	
1887	masonry	1886	5.1	Wall/pier/postpad/steps etc	
1888	fill	1886	5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1889	cut		6	Ditch/other linear	
1890	fill	1889	6	Ditch/other linear	
1891	cut		5.1	Posthole	
1892	fill	1891	5.1	Posthole	
1893	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	
1894	fill	1893	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
1895	fill	1893	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
1896	fill	1893	3.2	Ditch/other linear	

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
1897	cut		6	Furrow	
1898	fill	1897	6	Furrow	
1899	cut		3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1900	fill	1899	3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1901	fill	1899	3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1902	fill	1899	3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1903	fill	1899	3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1904	fill	1899	3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1905	fill	1899	3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1906	fill	1899	3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1907	cut		3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1908	fill	1907	3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1909	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	
1910	fill	1909	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
1911	fill	1909	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
1912	fill	1909	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
1913	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure I
1914	fill	1913	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure I
1915	fill	1913	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure I
1916	fill	1913	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure I
1917	fill	1909	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
1918	cut		5.2	Pit	
1919	fill	1918	5.2	Pit	
1920	layer		5.2	Destruction debris	
1922	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	
1923	fill	1922	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
1924	fill	1922	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
1925	fill	1922	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
1926	cut		3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y
1927	fill	1926	3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y
1928	fill	1926	3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
1929	fill	1926	3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y
1930	fill	1926	3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y
1931	fill	1926	3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y
1932	fill	1926	3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y
1933	fill	1926	3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y
1934	fill	1926	3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y
1935	fill	1926	3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y
1936	layer		6	External cultivation	
1937	fill	1877	3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1938	fill	1877	3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1939	fill	1877	3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1940	fill	1877	3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1941	fill	1877	3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1942	cut		3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1943	fill	1942	3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1944	fill	1942	3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1945	fill	1942	3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1946	fill	1942	3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1947	fill	1942	3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
1948	cut		4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch G/Enclosure AI/Enclosure AJ
1949	fill	1948	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch G/Enclosure AI/Enclosure AJ
1950	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch P
1951	fill	1950	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch P
1952	cut		3.2	Pit	
1953	fill	1952	3.2	Pit	
1954	fill	1952	3.2	Pit	
1955	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	
1956	fill	1955	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
1957	fill	1955	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
1958	cut		3.2	Posthole	
1959	fill	1958	3.2	Posthole	
1960	cut		3.2	Pit	

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
1961	fill	1960	3.2	Pit	
1962	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1963	fill	1962	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1964	fill	1962	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1965	fill	1962	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1966	fill	1962	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1967	fill	1962	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1968	cut		4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch H/ Enclosure AJ/ Enclosure AK
1969	fill	1968	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch H/ Enclosure AJ/ Enclosure AK
1970	fill	1968	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch H/ Enclosure AJ/ Enclosure AK
1971	fill	1962	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
1972	cut		5.1	Ditch/other linear	
1973	fill	1972	5.1	Ditch/other linear	
1974	cut		5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1975	fill	1974	5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1976	cut		5.2	Destruction debris	
1977	fill	1976	5.2	Destruction debris	
1978	cut		3.2	Pit	
1979	fill	1978	3.2	Pit	
1980	fill	1494	5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1981	cut		5.2	Pit	
1982	fill	1981	5.2	Pit	
1983	fill	1981	5.2	Pit	
1984	fill	1981	5.2	Pit	

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
1985	cut		5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1986	fill	1985	5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1987	cut		5.1	Ditch/other linear	
1988	fill	1987	5.1	Ditch/other linear	
1989	cut		3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y
1990	fill	1989	3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y
1991	fill	1989	3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y
1992	fill	1981	3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y
1993	cut		5.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure AB
1994	fill	1993	5.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure AB
1995	layer		5.2	Natural soil	
1996	cut		3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y
1997	fill	1996	3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y
1998	fill	1999	5.2	Ditch/other linear	
1999	cut		5.2	Ditch/other linear	
2000	layer		6	Topsoil	
2001	layer		6	Subsoil	
2002	layer			Natural soil	
2003	cut		6	Grave	
2004	fill	2003	6	Grave	
2005	cut		3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AD
2006	fill	2005	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AD
2007	fill	2005	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AD
2014	cut		2	Ditch/other linear	
2015	fill	2014	2	Ditch/other linear	
2016	cut		2	Ditch/other linear	
2017	fill	2016	2	Ditch/other linear	
2018	cut		3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AD

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
2019	fill	2018	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AD
2020	fill	2018	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AD
2021	cut		2	Ditch/other linear	
2022	fill	2021	2	Ditch/other linear	
2023	cut		2	Ditch/other linear	
2024	fill	2023	2	Ditch/other linear	
2025	cut		3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AD
2026	fill	2025	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AD
2027	cut		2	Ditch/other linear	
2028	fill	2027	2	Ditch/other linear	
2029	cut		6	Posthole	
2030	fill	2029	6	Posthole	
2031	cut		6	Posthole	
2032	fill	2031	6	Posthole	
2033	cut		6	Posthole	
2034	fill	2033	6	Posthole	
2035	cut		6	Posthole	
2036	fill	2035	6	Posthole	
2037	cut		6	Posthole	
2038	fill	2037	6	Posthole	
2039	cut		3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AD
2040	fill	2039	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AD
2041	fill	2039	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AD
2042	fill	2039	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AD
2043	fill	2039	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AD
3000	cut		3.2	Pit	
3001	fill	3000	3.2	Pit	
3002	fill	3000	3.2	Pit	
3003	cut		5.2	Ditch/other linear	

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
3004	fill	3003	5.2	Ditch/other linear	
3005	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure I
3006	fill	3005	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure I
3007	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure I
3008	fill	3007	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure I
3009	cut		3.2	Pit	Enclosure I
3010	fill	3009	3.2	Pit	Enclosure I
3011	cut		5.2	Posthole	
3012	fill	3011	5.2	Posthole	
3013	fill	3011	5.2	Posthole	
3014	fill	3019	3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y
3015	fill	3019	3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y
3016	fill	3019	3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y
3017	fill	3019	3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y
3018	fill	3019	3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y
3019	cut		3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y
3020	cut		4.2	Pit	
3021	fill	3020	4.2	Pit	
3022	fill	3020	4.2	Pit	
3023	fill	3020	4.2	Pit	
3024	cut		3.2	Unknown/unspecified	
3025	fill	3030	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
3026	fill	3024	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
3027	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
3028	fill	3027	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
3029	fill	3027	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch N
3030	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	
3031	fill	3030	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
3032	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	
3033	fill	3032	3.2	Ditch/other linear	

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
3034	fill	3032	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
3035	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	
3036	fill	3035	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
3037	fill	3035	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
3038	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	
3039	fill	3038	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
3040	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	
3041	fill	3040	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
3042	fill	3040	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
3043	cut		3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y
3044	fill	3043	3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y
3045	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ring Ditch D
3046	fill	3045	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ring Ditch D
3047	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ring Ditch D
3048	fill	3047	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ring Ditch D
3049	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ring Ditch D
3050	fill	3049	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Ring Ditch D
3051	cut		4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch G/Enclosure AI/Enclosure AJ
3052	fill	3051	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch G/Enclosure AI/Enclosure AJ
3053	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch P
3054	fill	3053	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch P

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
3055	fill	3053	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch P
3056	cut		3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y
3057	fill	3056	3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y
3058	fill	3056	3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y
3059	fill	3056	3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y
3060	fill	3056	3.2	Pit	Pit Group Y
3061	cut		3.2	Posthole	
3062	fill	3061	3.2	Posthole	
3064	fill	3077	5.1	Posthole	
3065	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	
3066	fill	3065	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
3067	fill	3065	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
3068	fill	3065	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
3069	deposit		5.2	External surface	
3070	layer		5.2	External surface	
3071	layer		5.2	External surface	
3072	fill	3073	3.2	Posthole	
3073	cut		3.2	Posthole	
3074	layer		5.2	External surface	
3075	layer		5.2	External surface	
3076	layer		5.2	External surface	
3077	cut		5.1	Posthole	
3078	fill	3077	4.1	Posthole	
3080	cut		5.1	Posthole	
3081	fill	3080	5.1	Posthole	
3082	layer		5.2	External surface	
3083	layer		5.2	Natural soil	
3084	layer		5.2	External surface	
3085	layer		5.2	External surface	
3086	fill	3089	3.2	Pit	
3087	cut		3.2	Pit	

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
3088	fill	3089	3.2	Pit	
3089	cut		3.2	Pit	
3090	layer		5.2	External surface	
3091	layer		5.2	External surface	
3092	layer		5.2	External surface	
3093	cut		4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch H/ Enclosure AJ/ Enclosure AK
3094	fill	3093	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch H/ Enclosure AJ/ Enclosure AK
3095	fill	3093	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch H/ Enclosure AJ/ Enclosure AK
3096	cut		5.2	Ditch/other linear	
3097	fill	3096	5.2	Ditch/other linear	
3098	layer		5.2	External surface	
3099	layer		5.2	External surface	
3100	layer		5.2	External surface	
3101	layer		5.2	External surface	
3102	layer		5.2	External surface	
3103	layer		5.2	External surface	
3104	layer		5.2	External surface	
3105	cut		3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AF
3106	fill	3105	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AF
3107	cut		3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AF
3108	fill	3107	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AF
3109	cut		3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AG

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
3110	fill	3109	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AG
3111	cut		2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AH
3112	fill	3111	2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AH
3113	fill	3114	3.1	Unknown/unspecified	
3114	cut		3.1	Unknown/unspecified	
3115	fill	3109	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AG
3116	cut		3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AE
3117	fill	3116	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AE
3118	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	
3119	fill	3118	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
3120	fill	3118	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
3121	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	
3122	fill	3121	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
3123	cut		3.1	Tree hole/bowl	
3124	fill	3123	3.1	Tree hole/bowl	
3125	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	
3126	fill	3125	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
3127	cut		3.2	Posthole	
3128	fill	3127	3.2	Posthole	
3129	cut		3.2	Posthole	
3130	fill	3129	3.2	Posthole	
3131	fill	3135	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
3132	fill	3135	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
3133	fill	3135	3.2	Ditch/other linear	

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
3134	fill	3135	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
3135	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	
3136	fill	3137	3.2	Tree hole/bowl	
3137	cut		3.2	Tree hole/bowl	
3138	cut		3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AE
3139	fill	3138	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AE
3140	cut		3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AE
3141	fill	3140	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AE
3142	fill	3140	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AE
3143	fill	3140	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AE
3144	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	
3145	fill	3144	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
3146	fill	3111	2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AH
3147	fill	3111	2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AH
3148	fill	3111	2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AH
3149	fill	3111	2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AH
3150	fill	3111	2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AH
3151	fill	3111	2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AH
3152	fill	3111	2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AH
3153	cut		3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AC
3154	fill	3153	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AC
3155	fill	3153	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AC

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
3156	fill	3153	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AC
3157	fill	3153	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AC
3158	fill	3153	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AC
3159	cut		3.1	Posthole	Ditch AC
3160	fill	3159	3.1	Posthole	Ditch AC
3161	layer		6	External cultivation	
3162	layer		6	Natural soil	
3163	fill	3164	3.2	Pit	
3164	cut		3.2	Pit	
3165	fill	1769	3.2	Pit	Pit Group X
3166	fill	3167	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AC
3167	cut		3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AC
3168	fill	3169	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AC
3169	cut		3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AC
3170	fill	3172	2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AH
3171	fill	3172	2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AH
3172	cut		2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AH
3173	cut		3.1	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure A
3174	fill	3173	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure A
3175	fill	3176	3.2	Pit	
3176	cut		3.2	Pit	
3177	fill	3178	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure A
3178	cut		3.1	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure A
3179	cut		3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AE
3180	fill	3179	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AE
3181	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch K

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
3182	fill	3181	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch K
3183	cut		4.2	Pit	
3184	fill	3183	4.2	Pit	
3185	cut		3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AE
3186	fill	3185	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AE
3187	fill	3185	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AE
3188	fill	3185	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AE
3189	fill	3185	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AE
3190	fill	3185	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AE
3191	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	
3192	fill	3191	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
3193	cut		2	Ditch/other linear	
3194	fill	3193	2	Ditch/other linear	
3195	fill	3193	2	Ditch/other linear	
3196	cut		3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AE
3197	fill	3196	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AE
3198	fill	3196	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AE
3199	cut		2	Ditch/other linear	
3200	fill	3199	2	Ditch/other linear	
3201	fill	3199	2	Ditch/other linear	
3202	cut		3.2	Pit	Enclosure B
3203	fill	3202	3.2	Pit	Enclosure B
3204	layer		5.2	Destruction debris	
3205	fill	1155	4.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch F

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
3206	fill	3207	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure B
3207	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure B
3208	fill	3199	2	Ditch/other linear	
3209	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure B
3210	fill	3209	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure B
3211	fill	3212	3.1	Pit	
3212	cut		3.1	Pit	
3213	cut		3.1	Pit	
3214	fill	3213	3.1	Pit	
3215	cut		3.1	Pit	
3216	fill	3215	3.1	Pit	
3217	cut		3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AG
3218	fill	3217	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AG
3219	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	
3220	fill	3219	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
3221	cut			Tree hole/bowl	
3222	fill			Tree hole/bowl	
3223	layer			Natural soil	
3224	cut			Tree hole/bowl	
3225	fill	3224		Tree hole/bowl	
3226	layer	3230	3.1	Skeleton	
3227	cut		3.1	Pit	
3228	fill	3227	3.1	Pit	
3229	fill	3227	3.1	Pit	
3230	cut		3.1	Pit	
3231	fill	3230	3.1	Pit	
3232	cut		3.1	Pit	
3233	fill	3232	3.2	Pit	
3234	fill	3232	3.2	Pit	
3235	cut		3.2	Pit	Pit Group W
3236	fill	3235	3.2	Pit	Pit Group W
3237	cut		3.2	Pit	Pit Group W

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
3238	fill	3237	3.2	Pit	Pit Group W
3239	cut		3.1	Pit	
3240	fill	3239	3.1	Pit	
3241	cut		3.2	Pit	
3242	fill	3241	3.2	Pit	
3243	fill	3241	3.2	Pit	
3244	cut		3.2	Pit	Pit Group W
3245	fill	3244	3.2	Pit	Pit Group W
3246	cut		3.2	Pit	Pit Group W
3247	fill	3246	3.2	Pit	Pit Group W
3248	fill	3246	3.2	Pit	Pit Group W
3249	fill	3227	3.1	Pit	
3250	fill	3227	3.1	Pit	
3251	fill	3227	3.1	Pit	
3252	fill	3227	3.1	Pit	
3253	cut		3.1	Pit	
3254	fill	3253	3.1	Pit	
3255	cut		3.1	Pit	
3256	fill	3255	3.1	Pit	
3257	cut		3.1	Pit	
3258	fill	3257	3.1	Pit	
3259	fill	3257	3.1	Pit	
3260	fill	3257	3.1	Pit	
3261	cut		3.2	Pit	Pit Group W
3262	fill	3261	3.2	Pit	Pit Group W
3263	fill	3261	3.2	Pit	Pit Group W
3264	fill	3261	3.2	Pit	Pit Group W
3265	cut		3.2	Pit	
3266	fill	3265	3.2	Pit	
3267	cut		3.2	Pit	
3268	fill	3267	3.2	Pit	
3269	cut		3.2	Pit	
3270	fill	3269	3.2	Pit	
3271	cut		3.2	Pit	Pit Group W
3272	fill	3271	3.2	Pit	Pit Group W
3273	fill	3271	3.2	Pit	Pit Group W
3274	fill	3271	3.2	Pit	Pit Group W
3275	cut		3.1	Tree hole/bowl	
3276	fill	3275	3.1	Tree hole/bowl	
3277	fill	3275	3.1	Tree hole/bowl	
3278	cut		3.1	Pit	

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
3279	fill	3278	3.1	Pit	
3280	fill	3278	3.1	Pit	
3281	cut		3.1	Pit	
3282	fill	3281	3.1	Pit	
3283	cut		4.1	Pit	
3284	fill	3283	3.2	Pit	
3285	cut		3.1	Pit	
3286	fill	3285	3.1	Pit	
3287	cut		3.1	Pit	
3288	fill	3287	3.1	Pit	
3289	fill	3287	3.1	Pit	
3290	fill	3291	3.2	Pit	Pit Group W
3291	cut		3.2	Pit	Pit Group W
3292	fill	3294	3.2	Pit	Pit Group W
3293	fill	3294	3.2	Pit	Pit Group W
3294	cut		3.2	Pit	Pit Group W
3295	fill	3297	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure A
3296	fill	3297	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure A
3297	cut		3.1	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure A
3298	fill	3230	3.1	Pit	
3299	cut		3.1	Pit	
3300	fill	3299	3.1	Pit	
3301	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch M
3302	fill	3301	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch M
3303	fill	3301	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch M
3304	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch M
3305	fill	3304	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch M
3306	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	
3307	fill	3306	3.2	Pit	
3308	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch K
3309	fill	3308	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch K
3310	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch K

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
3311	fill	3310	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch K
3312	cut		3.1	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure A
3313	fill	3312	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure A
3314	fill	3312	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure A
3315	cut		3.1	Pit	
3316	fill	3315	3.1	Pit	
3317	cut		3.1	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure A
3318	fill	3317	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure A
3319	cut		2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AH
3320	fill	3319	2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AH
3321	fill	3342	3.1	Pit	Ditch AC
3322	fill	3329	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AC
3323	fill	3342	3.1	Pit	Ditch AC
3324	fill	3329	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AC
3325	cut		3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AC
3326	fill	3325	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AC
3327	cut		3.1	Pit	Ditch AC
3328	fill	3327	3.1	Pit	Ditch AC
3329	cut		3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AC
3330	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch K
3331	fill	3330	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch K
3332	cut		4.2	Pit	Ditch K
3333	fill	3332	4.2	Pit	Ditch K
3334	cut		3.1	Pit	
3335	fill	3334	3.1	Pit	
3336	fill	3334	3.1	Pit	
3337	cut		3.1	Pit	
3338	fill	3337	3.1	Pit	
3339	cut		3.2	Pit	Pit Group W
3340	fill	3339	3.2	Pit	Pit Group W

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
3341	fill	3339	3.2	Pit	Pit Group W
3342	cut		3.1	Pit	Ditch AC
3343	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure B
3344	fill	3343	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure B
3345	fill	3343	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure B
3346	cut		3.1	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure A
3347	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch M
3348	fill	3347	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch M
3349	fill	3346	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure A
3350	fill		3.1	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure A
3354	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch K
3355	fill	3354	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch K
3356	cut		3.1	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure A
3357	fill	3356	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure A
3358	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch K
3359	fill	3358	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch K
3360	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch K
3361	fill	3360	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch K
3362	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch K
3363	fill	3362	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch K
3364	cut		3.1	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure A
3365	fill	3364	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure A
3366	fill	3364	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure A
3367	cut		3.1	Pit	

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
3368	fill	3367	3.1	Pit	
3369	cut		3.1	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure A
3370	fill	3369	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure A
3371	fill	3369	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure A
3372	fill	3374	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure A
3373	fill	3374	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure A
3374	cut		3.1	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure A
3375	fill	3376	3.1	Pit	
3376	cut		3.1	Pit	
3377	fill	3379	5.1	Pit	
3378	fill	3379	5.1	Pit	
3379	cut		5.1	Pit	
3380	fill	3358	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch K
3381	fill	3358	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch K
3382	fill	3358	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch K
3383	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure B
3384	fill	3383	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure B
3385	fill	3383	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure B
3388	fill	3379	5.2	Pit	
3389	fill	3376	3.1	Pit	
3390	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure B
3391	fill	3390	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure B
3392	fill	3390	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure B
3393	fill	3390	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure B
3394	cut		5.1	Ditch/other linear	
3395	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch K

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
3396	fill	3397	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
3397	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	
3398	fill	3401	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
3399	fill	3401	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
3400	fill	3401	3.2	Ditch/other linear	
3401	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	
3402	fill	3404	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure B
3403	fill	3404	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure B
3404	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure B
3405	fill	3408	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure B
3406	fill	3408	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure B
3407	fill	3408	3.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure B
3408	cut		3.2	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure B
3409	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch K
3410	fill	3394	5.1	Ditch/other linear	
3411	fill	3395	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch K
3412	fill	3409	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch K
3413	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch K
3414	fill	3413	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch K
3415	fill	3416	2	Ditch/other linear	
3416	cut		2	Ditch/other linear	
3417	fill	3418	5.2	Pit	
3418	cut		5.2	Pit	
3419	cut		3.2	Pit	

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
3420	fill	3419	3.2	Pit	
3421	fill	3419	3.2	Pit	
3422	fill	3419	3.2	Pit	
3423	fill	3419	3.2	Pit	
3424	fill	3419	3.2	Pit	
3425	cut		3.1	Pit	
3426	fill	3425	3.1	Pit	
3427	fill	3425	3.1	Pit	
3428	fill	3425	3.1	Pit	
3429	fill	3430	3.1	Pit	
3430	cut		3.1	Pit	
3431	fill	3434	3.1	Pit	
3432	fill	3434	3.1	Pit	
3433	fill	3434	3.1	Pit	
3434	cut		3.1	Pit	
3435	cut		2	Posthole	
3436	fill	3435	2	Posthole	
3437	cut		3.1	Pit	
3438	fill	3437	3.1	Pit	
3439	fill	3437	3.1	Pit	
3440	cut		3.2	Pit	
3441	fill	3440	3.2	Pit	
3442	fill	3440	3.2	Pit	
3443	fill	3440	3.2	Pit	
3444	fill	3440	3.2	Pit	
3445	fill	3440	3.2	Pit	
3446	fill	3447	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure A
3447	cut		3.1	Ditch/other linear	Enclosure A
3448	cut		2	Tree hole/bowl	
3449	fill	3448	2	Tree hole/bowl	
3450	cut		2	Tree hole/bowl	
3451	fill	3450	2	Tree hole/bowl	
3452	fill	3453	2	Ditch/other linear	
3453	cut		2	Ditch/other linear	
3454	cut		3.1	Pit	
3455	fill	3454	3.1	Pit	

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
3456	fill	3459	3.2	Pit	Pit Group W
3457	cut		3.2	Pit	Pit Group W
3458	fill	3459	3.2	Pit	Pit Group W
3459	cut		3.2	Pit	Pit Group W
3460	fill	3461	3.1	Pit	Enclosure A
3461	cut		3.1	Pit	Enclosure A
3462	fill	3463	3.1	Pit	
3463	cut		3.1	Pit	
3464	fill	3465	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch M
3465	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch M
3466	fill	3467	2	Tree hole/bowl	
3467	cut		2	Tree hole/bowl	
3468	fill	3469	2	Ditch/other linear	
3469	cut		2	Ditch/other linear	
3470	cut		3.1	Tree hole/bowl	
3471	fill	3470	3.1	Tree hole/bowl	
3472	cut		3.1	Pit	
3473	fill	3472	3.1	Pit	
3474	cut		3.1	Pit	
3475	fill	3474	3.1	Pit	
3476	cut		3.1	Pit	
3477	fill	3476	3.1	Pit	
3478	cut		3.1	Tree hole/bowl	
3479	fill	3478	3.1	Tree hole/bowl	
3480	cut		3.1	Pit	
3481	fill	3480	3.1	Pit	
3482	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch M
3483	fill	3482	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch M
3484	cut		3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AG
3485	fill	3484	3.1	Ditch/other linear	Ditch AG
3486	cut		3.2	Posthole	

Context	Context type	Fill of	Period	Feature type	Feature label
3487	fill	3486	3.2	Posthole	
3488	cut		2	Tree hole/bowl	
3489	fill	3488	2	Tree hole/bowl	
3490	cut		2	Ditch/other linear	
3491	fill	3490	2	Ditch/other linear	
3492	cut		4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch M
3493	fill	3492	4.2	Ditch/other linear	Ditch M
3494	cut		3.1	Tree hole/bowl	
3495	fill	3494	3.1	Tree hole/bowl	
3496	cut		6	Ditch/other linear	
3497	fill	3496	6	Ditch/other linear	
3498	cut		6	Ditch/other linear	
3499	fill	3498	6	Ditch/other linear	
3500	cut		2	Pit	
3501	fill	3500	2	Pit	

APPENDIX B: EARLY PREHISTORIC POTTERY

By E.R. McSloy

Introduction

The two small early prehistoric groups relate to small pits located at the western margin of the site although 100m distant. The largest group of 76 sherds (132g) relates to Period 1 pit 1625, which includes 25 sherds (26g) recovered from bulk soil sample 31. A minimum of two vessels are represented. The second group, from pit 3500 amounts to 8 sherds (74g) from a single vessel.

Fabrics

V1 Grey brown throughout. Soft with smooth/soapy feel and laminated fracture. 'Corky' fabric characterized by abundant coarse plate-like and sub-angular voids (1-3mm). 70 sherds; 103g.

V2 Dark grey throughout. Soft with smooth/soapy feel and laminated fracture. Visibly finer fabric than V1; abundant plate-like voids (1-2mm) some 'ridged' and suggesting use of fossiliferous (fossil shell) material. 6 sherds; 29g; 0.17 EVEs.

G1 Patchy buff/light grey brown surfaces with grey core. Soft with smooth/soapy feel and irregular fracture. Fine silty fabric matrix with sparse angular grog (0.5-1mm) and sparse sub-rounded voids. 8 sherds; 74g.

Early Neolithic: Period 1 Pit 1625

The condition of this material is mixed, with the majority of sherds in coarser vesicular fabric commonly laminating and with poorly preserved 'corky' surfaces. The surfaces of finer type V2 are better preserved and well-smoothed. Coarse type V1 occurs as unfeatured body sherds which are significantly thicker (9-10mm) than vessel P1 (below). Both fabric types are very likely local, utilizing fossil shell derived from Jurassic era geology.

The carinated form and rim decoration to vessel P1 (below) are consistent with the Mildenhall Ware tradition of the Early Neolithic (Whittle 1977). This style is in essence a regional expression of a more widespread tradition of decorated bowls current in the secondary 'post-inception' phase of the Early Neolithic. Locally, comparable material occurs in association with the Briar Hill, causewayed enclosure, Northampton (Bamford 1975). The stylistic dating for P1 is supported by radiocarbon dating for pit 1625, using carbonized hazelnut shell fragments from fill 1626 which calibrates to 3631–3373 cal. BC at 95.4% probability (SUERC-75696).

Early Bronze Age(?): Period 2 pit 3500

The single vessel from pit 3500 (P2) is difficult to ascribe to any one tradition with certainty although an Early Bronze Age date (*c.* 2100-1600 BC) would seem likely, in part based on its fabric. It appears inexpertly made, the approximately bipartite profile slackening at points in its circumference. The decoration, which consists of irregular rows of fingernail impressions extends below the neck – a feature not typically shared in the Early Bronze Age Biconical urn tradition, which is in any case a primarily southern British tradition. Most likely P2 can be placed loosely within the Food Vessel tradition, or less likely a Collared Urn. Against both possibilities is the vessel's thin walls, poorly-defined neck zone and its simple rim. 'Domestic' assemblages of the Early Bronze Age

are very poorly known and it is perhaps the case that P2 is more typical of the utilitarian vessels in use in this period, than are vessels seen from funerary contexts.

Catalogue

P1 Mildenhall Ware. Rim and neck sherds in finer vesicular fabric V2. Probably bowl of carinated/S-profile. Thickened rim with fine incised radial lines. Rim diam. *c*. 200mm; thickness at neck 5.5mm. Period 1 pit 1625 (fill 1626).

P2 Food vessel? Upper portion of a vessel in grogged fabric G1. Irregularly bipartite (or tripartite), with simple rim top. The decoration of irregular rows of lightly-impressed fingernail marks extends to the full depth surviving profile. A detached sherd which is probably part of this vessel (P2a) features longer (dragged?) horizontally-aligned fingernail impressions. Rim diam. c. 170mm; Thickness 6.2-8mm. Period 2 pit 3500 (fill 3501).

References

Bamford, H. 1975 *Briar Hill Excavations 1974-78 Northampton* Northampton Development Corporation Archaeological Monog. **3**

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APPENDIX C: LATER PREHISTORIC POTTERY

By E. R. McSloy

Introduction

A total of 2120 sherds, weighing 12,347g (5.85 EVEs) was recorded from 153 deposits. The large bulk of this material was recovered by hand, with 170 sherds (288g) coming from bulk soil samples.

The pottery assemblage has been fully recorded, the methodology matching the 'detailed record' as set out in Historic England guidelines for prehistoric pottery (Barclay *et al.* 2016). Fabric codes used for recording are defined below, for the most part on the basis of primary inclusion. Quantification was according to sherd count, weight and by rim EVEs (estimated vessel equivalents). Vessel form/profile and rim/base morphology was recorded as was sherd thickness range, rim diameter, the style and location of decoration/surface treatment and surviving evidence for use/modification.

The assemblage is well-fragmented, with only a few vessels reconstructable to below shoulder/girth level. The level of fragmentation is reflected by the mean sherd weight for hand-recovered material which is moderately low at 6.1g. The burial environment has resulted in variable survival of mineral inclusions, with calcareous fillers (limestone or fossil shell) sometimes poorly preserved and present as voids or subject to the mineral (phosphatic) 'replacement' which is evidenced at other sites in the area (Ixer 2015).

Fabrics (all handmade)

Pottery fabrics, all of which are handmade, are described in summary below. The larger part of the assemblage comprises shelly/other calcareous types, or 'vesicular' types where (calcareous) inclusions have leached out. It should be noted that the majority of the grogged and other (types GR1-7) also contained calcareous inclusions. Most or all is likely to be of local origin, utilising using clays and mineral or other fillers readily obtainable from the Jurassic geology which characterises this area. The ferruginous (iron rich) types and presence throughout of ironstone inclusions further support a local origin, the underlying geology for the site mapped as Jurassic ooidal ironstone of the Northampton Sand Formation (BGS 2019).

The dominance of fossiliferous shell-tempered or calcareous fabrics is characteristic of Iron Age assemblages across most of Northamptonshire (Kidd 2004). Grogged/argillaceous, sandy and ferruginous types which occur here also compare with types found in assemblages of this period in the area. The relative abundance of grogged/argillaceous-types is notable, although similarly high (or higher) representation is recorded at other sites including Crick Covert Farm (Hancocks and Woodward 2015) and Silverstone (Timby 2007). It may be significant that the representation of grogged fabrics increases slightly across phasess 3.1-3.2 (29.4% from 17.6% according to NOSH). It seems unlikely however that the handmade grogged fabrics are technologically ancestral to 'Belgic' potting traditions, the latter demonstrably being an 'intrusive' tradition with its origins in southeastern England and the near continent.

In describing the fabrics below a distinction is made among the shelly/calcareous and vesicular types between coarser and finer types (the latter actually describing fabrics where inclusions are typically only sparsely present). The 'finer' types seemingly show slight tendencies which may relate to 'function', the majority of sherds being

relatively thinner-walled (Table C.2) and where form could be defined correspond to 'fineware' vessel classes (V6-8) – those with burnished surfaces or with tooled decoration. Larger/thicker-walled vessels tend to occur among the coarser fabrics (Tables C.2-3); however, there is no tendency either way in respect of the 'scored wares', these occurring in similar proportions among the finer and coarser fabrics (Table C.8). More of a tendency relating to chronology (stratigraphic period) is evident, the finer fabrics twice as prevalent among material relating to Phase 3.1, than in Phase 3.2 (Table C.1: 70.2% compared with 32.4% by NOSH).

Evidence for non-local pottery from Northamptonshire sites is generally rare, largely confined to the Charnwood Forest granodiorite-tempered types known from sites in the north-west of the county. No such material was recorded from within the Brixworth group, and the only possible non-local type recognised is a single sherd in fuel ash tempered fabric FA1 from Phase 3.2 Ditch 3404 Enclosure B. Whilst fuel ash (a vitreous material resulting from high temperature processes) is commonly a feature of Iron Age sites, its use as a pottery filler is uncommon in the area. It is better known from sites in the area of southern Nottinghamshire, including Gamston (Knight 1992) and High Thorpe, Bingham (Morris 2014), approximately 80km to the north.

Shell *(513 sh; 3609g; 1.68 EVEs (24.2% NOSH)*

Coarser

SH1 common poor-sorted fossil shell (0.5-3mm); common or sparse poor-sorted limestone lumps (0.5-3mm). 310 sh; 1903g; 1.29 EVEs.

SH4 abundant mod-sorted coarse shell (2-5mm).18 sh; 96g; 0.08 EVEs.

Finer

SH2 sparse fine shell (<1mm). 178 sh; 1213g; 0.28 EVEs.

SH3 abundant well-sorted fine/medium shell (1-2mm). 7 sh; 397g.

Calcareous *(304 sh; 2092g; 0.70 EVEs (14.3% NOSH))*

Coarser

LI1 common poor-sorted shelly limestone lumps (1-4mm); common shell (0.5-2mm). 39 sh; 573g; 0.15 EVEs.

Finer

LI2 sparse fine limestone (<1mm). 265 sh; 1519g; 0.55 EVEs.

Vesicular *(632 sh; 1723g; 0.61 EVEs (29.8% NOSH))*

Finer

VES1 common plate-like voids (leached shell) and yellowish inclusions (degraded/replaced calcareous inclusions). 603 sh; 1445g; 0.49 EVEs.

Coarser

VES2 common coarse plate-like voids 2-4mm. 29 sh; 278g; 0.12 EVEs.

Grog-tempered *(490 sh; 3353g; 2.14 EVEs (23.1% NOSH))*

GR1 Common self-coloured grog (0.5-2mm). 169 sh; 705g; 0.39 EVEs.

GR2 Common self-coloured medium/coarse grog (1.5-2mm), common shell or leached shell (voids). 209 sh; 1553g; 1.12 EVEs.

GR3 common medium/coarse grog (1.5-3mm), common organic (voids); sparse iron, micaceous. 59 sh; 539g; 0.30 EVEs.

GR4 common medium grog (0.5-1mm), common fine sub-rounded quartz (0.1-0.3mm), sparse fine limestone and sparse iron. 21 sh; 192g.

GR5 fine/medium grog (0.5-1mm) and common fine, sub-rounded quartz (0.1-0.3mm). 11 sh; 232g; 0.15 EVEs.

GR6 common or sparse medium/coarser grog (1-3mm), sparse limestone. 20 sh; 122g; 0.18 EVEs.

GR7 common medium/coarse grog (1-2.5mm), common fine limestone. 1 sh; 10g.

Ferruginous *(61sh; 466g; 0.34 EVEs (2.9% NOSH))*

FE1 Common red-brown rounded iron (0.5-1mm), micaceous. 41 sh; 279g; 0.18 EVEs.

FE2 Common red iron (0.5-1mm), sparse grog. 20 sh; 187g; 0.16 EVEs.

Fuel ash-tempered *(1sh; 45g; (<1% NOSH))*

FA1 Common coarse fuel as inclusions (0.5-3mm); common, sparse quartz, sparse iron.1 sh; 45g.

Organic *(12 sh; 199g; 0.13 EVEs (<1% NOSH))*

O1 sparsely organic, silty matrix. 11 sh; 195g; 0.13 EVEs.

O2 common organics, sparse iron, micaceous.1 sh ;4g.

Sandy *(79 sh; 558g; 0.28 EVEs (3.7% NOSH))*

QZ1 common sub-rounded clear quartz (0.1-0.3mm); grey throughout. 56 sh; 368g; 0.20 EVEs.

QZ2 common rounded/sub-rounded, well-sorted quartz; sparse iron; micaceous.3 sh; 15g.

QZ3 common sub-rounded, well-sorted quartz (0.1-0.3mm), sparse limestone (or voids), sparse iron. 20 sh; 175g; 0.08 EVEs.

Silty *(28 sh; 97g; 0.17 EVEs (1.3% NOSH))*

S1 silty matrix, with sparse fine limestone or shell, sparse iron and usually micaceous. 28sh; 97g.

Vessel forms

A total of 261 rim sherds were recorded in the assemblage, representing a minimum 76 vessels (5.52 EVEs). Determination of vessel form from rim fragments is rarely possible with certainty and classification as jar or bowl forms must be regarded as tentative where the full profile could not be reconstructed. The defined vessel and rim forms are set out below, with illustrated examples listed. Quantities per form are shown as rim EVEs (estimated number of vessels) and the number of vessels based on minimum number (MNV/ sum of sherd families).

Vessel profile: jars

V1: globular with short upright/slightly everted neck: 14 vessels; 0.96 EVEs. Diam. range 100-280mm (av. 173mm).

V2: slack-profiled; short upright/slightly everted neck: 19 vessels; 3.16 EVEs. *Diam. range* 120-260mm (av. 184mm).
V3: convex/barrel-shaped or ovoid (neckless): 6 vessels; 0.42 EVEs. *Diam. range* 140-220mm (av. 180mm).
V4: ovoid (neckless) - in-turning at rim. 7 vessels; 0.36 EVEs. *Diam. range* 100-300mm (av. 181mm).
V5 necked vessels/out-curved or beaded rims (possibly Late IA). 2 vessels; 0.29 EVEs. *Diam. range* 150-160mm (av. 155mm).

Bowls

V6 round-shouldered vessels (probably bowls); short, upright neck: 4 vessels; 0.52 EVEs. *Diam. range* 100-170mm (av. 140mm).
V7 globular vessels (probably bowls), neckless or ill-defined neck: 3 vessels; 0.10 EVEs. *Diam. range* 140-260mm (av. 203mm).
V8 convex profile (bowls), ill-defined necks: 2 vessels; 0.23 EVEs. *Diam. range* 170mm.

Rim morphology

R1: Simple/rounded: 43 vessels (1.87 EVEs).
R2: Simple/squared: 15 vessels (1.19 EVEs).
R3: T-shaped/expanded: 2 vessels (0.25 EVEs).
R4: Externally-expanded: 9 vessel (0.99 EVEs).
R5: Internal bevel: 1 vessel (0.05 EVEs).
R6: Internal bevel: 1 vessel (0.05 EVEs).
R7: Bead/proto-bead: 3 vessel (0.11 EVEs).
R8: Tapered/pointed: 3 vessels (0.30 EVEs)
R9: out-curved (simple): 2 vessels (0.06 EVEs)

Base morphology

B1: simple flat bases, no expansion at angle: 15 vessels.
B2: 'pushed out' type (expansion at angle): 3 vessels.
B3: 'footed' – constriction above base angle: 1 vessel.

Handles

H1: open, vertically-aligned, lug-handle (countersunk or luted-on): 2 vessels

Vessels V1-V5 are typical of the 'coarseware' (probably jar-profiled) forms which characterise Middle Iron Age assemblages across Northamptonshire and in neighbouring counties (Knight 2002). Rims are almost invariably simple and unembellished (Fig. 28, no. 3 is the only decorated example) and bases are commonly simple or slightly expanded/pushed-out. Two handles identified are of small lug-like form and probably come from convex-profile vessels (V1 or V3).

Where diameter is measurable (Table C.3), these for the most part fall outside of the ranges most common in the region: 141-160mm and 261-280mm (Woodward and Blinkhorn 1997). A near absence of large-sized vessels over 280mm hints that pottery was rarely employed for 'bulk' storage and most coarseware vessels probably

used for kitchen tasks, the cooking or storage of foods. There is only limited evidence for this from carbonaceous residues (44 sherds in total), due either to poor survival or, more likely, to 'cleaner' cooking practices such as the use of ovens.

Vessel forms V6-8 compare to bowl-profiled vessels well known from Northamptonshire, for example, a large number from Weekley (Jackson and Dix 1987, fig. 30). All share characteristics of short, upright or slightly-everted necks and simple rims. Vessel rim size (rim diameter) among the bowls demonstrates greater variability (Table C.4) than do the 'jar' classes. Primary use as finewares perhaps as food serving vessels would seem likely, with six from the nine identified examples featuring burnished surfaces or incised decoration (Fig. 28; no. 5).

Surface treatments/decoration

A total of 456 sherds (21.5% of the total assemblage) from a minimum 91 vessels exhibited decoration/surface treatment of all types (Tables C.7-9). By far the most common (404 sherds/75 vessels) is exterior surface scoring. Exterior scoring is a surface treatment commonly seen with Iron Age groups from the region (Elsdon 1992), its purpose probably a means of roughening the surface to aid handling. Where vessel form was determinable, scoring is largely confined to coarseware 'jar' classes V1-V3 and was absent from bowls (Table C.7). Scoring occurs most commonly with grogged/argillaceous and shell/limestone-tempered fabrics, however there is no clear correlation with 'coarser' fabrics where this distinction is made (Table C.8). Incidence appears higher in later Middle Iron Age-phased material (Phase 3.2: 28.5% of NOSH), compared with that from earlier Middle Iron Age (Phase 3.1: 14.5% of NOSH). Its depth, 'spacing' and orientation show some variability, although there are no indications that this relates to chronology.

Some 27 sherds from a minimum 9 vessels exhibit burnished surfaces. Incidence is mainly to 'finer' fabrics, mainly grogged types, and where form was determinable it occurs only to bowl classes (V6-V8).

Incised or scored/grooved 'decoration' is limited to three vessels, two of which occur as body sherds only. The latter both feature curvilinear scored decoration (Fig. 28; no. 11) comparing to that seen on fineware bowls with La Tène style ornament (Cunliffe's (2005) 'Hunsbury-Draughton style'), and common for example at the site at Weekley, *c*. 15km northeast of Brixworth. The fine incised 'geometric' decoration to a vessel from Phase 3.1 (Fig. 28; no. 5) has affinities to vessels allied to those with La Tène ornament, but with more restrained decoration and occurring from central and upper Nene Valley in Northamptonshire (Jackson and Dix 1987, 78, fig. 32).

Drawing catalogue (Fig. 27)

Phase 3.1

1. Fabric QZ1; Form V2/rim R1. Vertical scoring. Pit 3213 (fill 3214).
2. Fabric LI2; Form V7/rim R1. 1 Pit 3227 (fill 3229).
3. Fabric SH2; Form V4/rim R5. Fingertip impressions to rim top. Pit Group W, Pit 3244 (fill 3245).
4. Fabric GR2; Form V6/rim R1. Pit Group W, Pit 3246 (fill 3248).
5. Fabric VES1; Form V8/rim R8. Incised 'geometric' decoration. Pit 3257 (fill 3258).
6. Fabric SH1; Form V1/rim R1. 'Finger-scoring'. Pit 3230 (fill 3298).
7. Fabric LI2; Form V2/rim R1. Vertical scoring. Pit 3376 (fill 3375).

Phase 3.2

8. Fabric GR3; Form V2/rim R1. Vertical scoring. Ring ditch C, Pit 1221 (fill 1223).
9. Fabric LI2; Form V6/rim R2. Burnished. Pit Group X, Pit 1419 (fill 1422).
10. Fabric O1; Form V8/rim R1. Burnished. Pit Group X, Pit 1877 (fill 1941).
11. Fabric GR2; Sherd with curvilinear decoration. Pit Group Y, Pit 1482 (fill 1483).
12. Fabric FE1; Form V6/rim R8. Burnished. Pit Grp. Y, Pit 3019 (fill 3014).
13. Fabric SH1; Form V1/rim R4. Oblique scoring below rim. Pit Grp. Y, Pit 1374 (fill 1375).
14. Fabric SH1; Form V3/rim R1. Vertical scoring. Pit 1860 (fill 1862).
15. Fabric GR2; Form V2/rim R2. Vertical scoring. Ditch T (fill 1396).

Dating/stratigraphy

As has been discussed, stylistically this assemblage is typical of those from Middle or Middle to Late Iron Age sites in the region. The diagnostic elements of form and surface treatment other than those described above are consistent with Knight's 'Earlier La Tène' division, coincident with Middle Iron Age traditions and probably spanning the 4th/3rd to 1st centuries BC (Knight 2002). This division encompasses 'Scored wares', which are a feature of this assemblage and of most Middle Iron Age groups from the wider region (Elsdon 1992).

The Brixworth group is like the majority of Middle Iron Age groups from the area, which only rarely include non-local material. Whilst fineware bowls feature in this group, incidence is not unexpectedly high, and there are no clear indications from this group of elevated 'status' or otherwise for specialised use. Analyses of some of the numerous Middle/Late Iron Age pottery assemblages from the area have met with some success in identifying trends in fabric use, vessel size or surface treatments which relate to chronology at a site level. Kidd's (1999) observation that such differences might relate as much to social or functional distinctions as to chronology however remains valid. Reliably diagnostic types or traits which apply across assemblages of this period remain very few – limited to the La Tène decorated finewares of the 2nd/1st centuries BC and to the wheelthrown 'Belgic' wares introduced no earlier than the late 1st century BC.

The dating which is applied to stratigraphic divisions is supported by a small number of radiocarbon determinations (Appendix O), as well as by the few diagnostic pottery types as described. Table C.1 shows representation of Late Prehistoric pottery fabrics across stratigraphical phases (material from unphased deposits is omitted), with the large bulk of material shown to relate to Phases 3.1 and 3.2. Wheelthrown grog-tempered types (described in the Roman pottery report), considered to date not before the later 1st century BC are fully absent from Phase 3.1 and are a very limited presence in Phase 3.2. The occurrence of greywares and other 'fully Roman' types (Table D.1) among the Phase 3.2 groups hints strongly at contamination from later activity and it seems probable that the Iron Age activity (Phases 3.1-3.2) precedes the widespread use of the wheelthrown types.

As is detailed above there are some differences in the representation of fabric types across Phases 3.1-3.2, which might relate to technological change or 'choice/availability' of clay sources. There is in addition some evidence for increased use of scoring in Phase 3.2 (Table C.9), however there appear to be no clear patterns of morphological variation (Table C.6), or of increasing vessel size (Table C.5).

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Table C.1: Pottery totals by stratigraphic period and according to fabric. Shown as sherd count (NOSH) and weight

		3_1		3_2		4_1		4_2		5_1		5_2		**Total**	
Fabric Group	Fabr.	**Ct.**	**Wt.(g)**	**Ct.**	**Wt.(g)**	**Ct.**	**Wt.(g)**	**Ct.**	**Wt.(g)**	**Ct.**	**Wt.(g)**	**Ct.**	**Wt.(g)**	**Ct.**	**Wt.(g)**
Fuel ash	FA1			1	45									**1**	**45**
Finer Calcareous	LI2	72	301	161	1095	10	28	14	41	8	54			**265**	**1519**
Finer shelly	SH2	23	96	127	1017	22	75	5	23			1	2	**178**	**1213**
	SH3	1	47	3	195							3	155	**7**	**397**
Finer vesicular	VES1	461	1014	102	361	24	45	16	25					**603**	**1445**
Organic	O1			8	184	3	11							**11**	**195**
	O2			1	4									**1**	**4**
Silty	S1	1	2	13	59	14	36							**28**	**97**
Sandy	QZ1	10	58	40	300	2	4	1	5	3	1			**56**	**368**
	QZ2			3	15									3	15
	QZ3	2	66	7	40	7	61	4	8					**20**	**175**
Coarser calcareous	LI1	6	93	30	429			2	39			1	12	**39**	**573**
Coarser shelly	SH1	20	439	251	1243	14	21	1	1	21	138	3	61	**310**	**903**
	SH4	12	23	6	73									**18**	**96**
Coarser vesicular	VES2	5	37	24	241									**29**	**278**
Grog	GR1	43	283	122	409			2	11	2	2			**169**	**705**
	GR2	58	395	148	1126			3	32					**209**	**1553**
	GR3			58	538							1	1	**59**	**539**
	GR4	14	128	3	28	2	23					2	13	**21**	**192**
	GR5	1	54	10	178									**11**	**232**
	GR6	15	101	1	8					4	13			**20**	**122**
	GR7			1	10									**1**	**10**
Iron rich	FE1	1	18	29	227	10	13					1	21	**41**	**279**
	FE2	1	3	17	164			2	20					**20**	**187**
Total		**746**	**3158**	**1166**	**7989**	**108**	**317**	**50**	**205**	**38**	**208**	**12**	**265**	**2120**	**11142**

Table C.2: sherd thickness values (NOSH) shown by grouped fabrics

Fabrics (grouped)	<5mm	5-7mm	8-10mm	11-13mm	14-16mm	>16mm	<>
Fuel ash (FA1)							1
Finer calcareous (LI2)		22	126	19			98
Finer shelly (SH2-3)		40	29	18	1		97
Finer vesicular (VES1)	3	52	100	48			472
Organic (O1-2)		1	7	4			
Silty (S1-2)		29	4	2			1
Sandy (QZ1-3)		11	41	2	2		23
Coarser calcareous (LI1)		1	22	7	3	4	2
Coarser shelly (SH1, SH4)		39	149	45	3		92
Coarser vesicular (VES2)			6	15	1		7
Grog (GR1-7)		56	171	111	27	4	121
Iron rich (FE1-2)		7	16	11	11		16

Figure C.1: sherd thickness values (NOSH) shown by grouped fabrics.

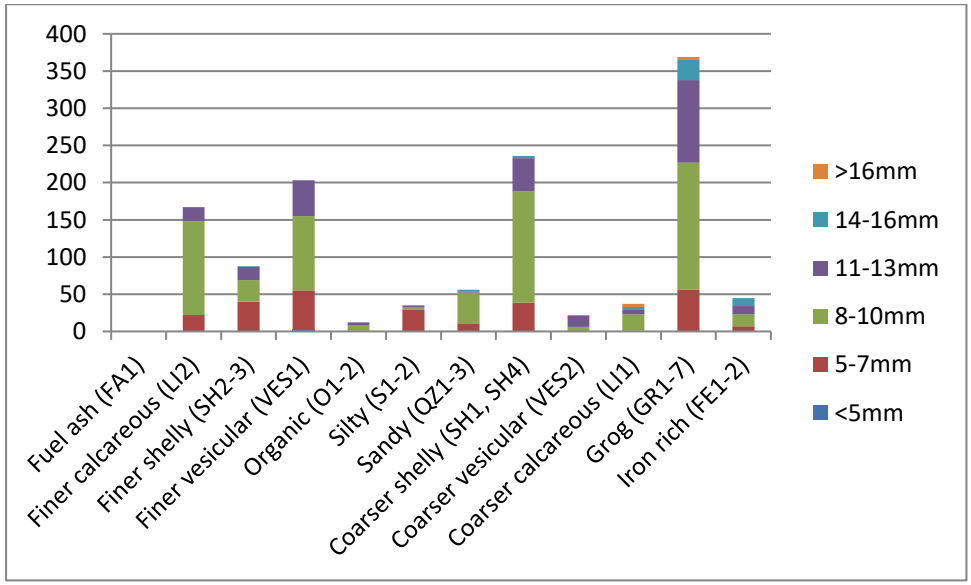

Table C.3: Vessel rim diameter range shown by grouped fabrics. Values as no. vessels (MNV)

Fabrics (grouped)	100-120	121-140	141-160	161-180	181-200	201-220	221-240	241-260	261-280	281-300
Finer calcareous (LI2)	1	1		2	2				1	
Finer shelly (SH2-3)		2	2	1	1					1
Finer vesicular (VES1)		2		4						
Organic (O1-2)				2						
Silty (S1-2)					1					
Sandy (QZ1-3)				1	3					
Coarser shelly (SH1, SH4)	4	1	1	1	3	2	1		1	
Coarser vesicular (VES2)				1			1			
Coarser calcareous (LI1)					2		1			
Grog (GR1-7)	2	1	6	4	3			2		1
Iron rich (FE1-2)		1		2	3				1	

Figure C.2: Vessel Rim diameter range shown by grouped fabrics. Values as no. vessels (MNV)

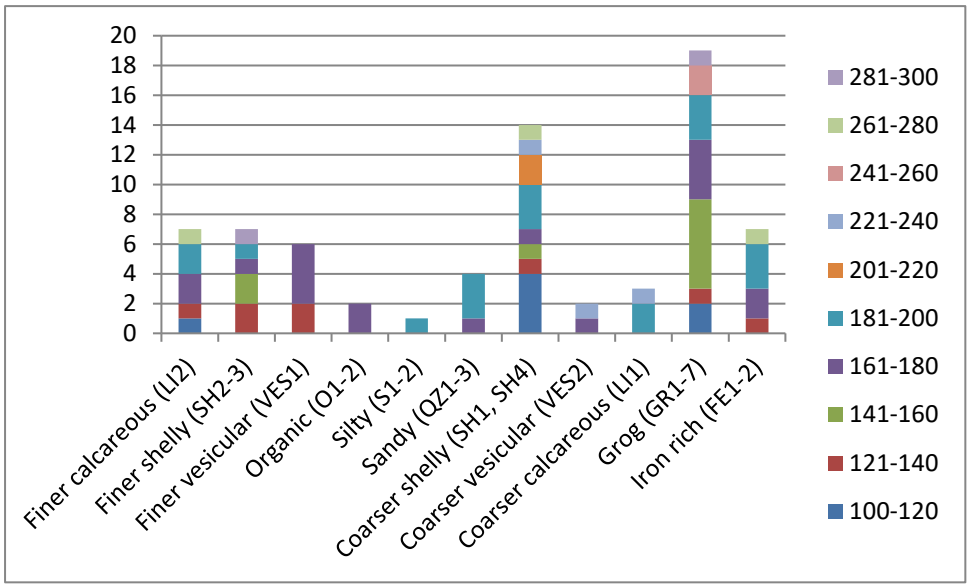

Table C.4: Vessel size (rim-diam.) range shown for vessel forms. Shown as number of vessels (MNV)

Form	100-120	121-140	141-160	161-180	181-200	201-220	221-240	241-260	261-280	281-300
V1	2		1	4	4				1	
V2	2	3	1	3	6		3	1		
V3		1	1	2	1	1				
V4	1		1	1	2					1
V5		1	2							
V6	1	1	1	1						
V7		1				1		1		
V8				2						
Total	**6**	**7**	**7**	**13**	**13**	**2**	**3**	**2**	**1**	**1**

Table C.5: Vessel size (rim-diam.) range shown by stratigraphical period. Phases 3.1 and 3.2 only. Shown as number of vessels (MNV)

Diam. range	3.1	3.2	Total
100-120	1	6	**7**
121-140	1	6	**7**
141-160	3	6	**9**
161-180	7	8	**15**
181-200	5	11	**16**
221-240		3	**3**
241-260		1	**1**
261-280	1	2	**3**
281-300		2	**2**
Totals	**18**	**45**	**63**

Table C.6: Vessel form incidence by stratigraphic period. Shown as no. vessels (MNV)

Form/Period	3.1	3.2	4.1	4.2	5.1
V1	5	7	2		
V2	6	13			
V3	1	3	1		1
V4		6			
V5		3			

V6		4			
V7	1			1	1
V8	1	1			
Totals	**14**	**37**	**3**	**1**	**2**

Table C.7: Surface treatments (including scoring 'orientation') incidence by vessel form. Shown as no. vessels (MNV)

Form	Scored (vert.)	Fingertip	Burnished/ smoothed	incised	Total
V1	3				**3**
V2	5		2		**7**
V3	3				**3**
V4		1			**1**
V5			1		**1**
V6			2		**2**
V7			1		**1**
V8			1	1	**2**

Table C.8: Surface treatments incidence by fabric (grouped). Shown as number of vessels/sherd count (MNV/NOSH)

Decoration Fabric Gp	Scoring	Fingertip	Lin. Tool (curvi.)	Lin. Tool (geom.)	burnish	smoothed/ wiped
Finer calcareous (LI2)	8/69		1/1		1/1	
Finer shelly (SH2-3)	8/19	1/1			1/1	1/3
Finer vesicular (VES1)	5/5			1/7		
Organic (O1-2)					1/4	
Silty (S1-2)	2/5					
Sandy (QZ1-3)	5/29					
Coarser shelly (SH1, SH4)	14/80				2/2	1/1
Coarser vesicular (VES2)	4/14					
Coarser calcareous (LI1)	3/3				1/2	
Grog (GR1-7)	25/179		1/1		2/16	1/11
Iron rich (FE1-2)	1/1				1/1	
Totals	**75/404**	**1/1**	**2/2**	**7**	**9/27**	**3/15**

Table C.9: Surface treatments incidence by Period. Shown as number of vessels/sherd count (MNV/NOSH)

Surf. Tr. Period	Scoring	FT	burnish	Lin. Tool (curvi.)	Lin. Tool (geom.)	smoothed/ wiped	Total
3.1	25/130	1/1	1/2		1/7	2/14	**30/154**
3.2	41/245		7/24	2/2		1/1	**51/272**
4.1	5/17						**5/17**
4.2	2/3						**2/3**
5.1	1/7						**1/7**
5.2	1/2		1/1				**2/3**
Totals	**75/404**	**1/1**	**9/27**	**2/2**	**1/7**	**3/15**	**91/456**

APPENDIX D: ROMAN POTTERY

By E.R. McSloy

Introduction

A total of 4612 sherds (59.5kg) of Roman pottery was recorded, the large majority of which (98% of the total sherd count) was hand-recovered, with 73 sherds (217g) from bulk soil samples. The assemblage incorporates 'transitional' types known to span the period beginning before the conquest and continuing in the early decades of the Roman period *(c*. AD 1/25 to *c*. AD 70/80).

Recording matching or exceeding the basic level, as set out in the standards co-produced by the Study Group for Roman Pottery (Barclay *et al.* 2016, 16-17), has been undertaken prior to analysis. Recording has included quantification sherd count, weight and rim EVEs (estimated vessel equivalents) per fabric. Vessel form, where identifiable, has also been recorded as have evidence for vessel use, in the form of carbonised or other residues. Fabric codes utilised for recording are defined below and match those developed for analysis of central Northamptonshire assemblages including from Ashton (Aird and MacRobert unpub.) and Stanwick (Perrin 2006; McSloy forthcoming). A concordance is also provided (in bold below) matching types to those of the National Roman Fabric Reference Collection (Tomber and Dore 1998).

Condition

The mean sherd weight for hand-recovered material (13.1g) is moderately high for a Roman assemblage, in part reflecting the presence of a number of fully or partially reconstructable vessels from a number of larger context groups. An almost complete greyware jar from Phase 4.2 Ditch N (Fig. 28; C1) was utilised as a cremation urn. Surface preservation is generally good, with burnished, painted or slipped surface treatments surviving. It was possible to record evidence for carbonaceous and other residues, and wear, although incidence is low. Significant abrasion was noted to a small proportion of the hand-recovered group (56 sherds or 1.2%), and this was not restricted to particular deposit types or (provisional) period.

Assemblage composition: Fabrics (Table D.1)

'Transitional' type wheelthrown grog-tempered wares (252 sh; 3021g; 1.99 EVEs (5.5% total NOSH))

A Fine/medium grog-tempered*. 207 sh; 2065g; 1.29 EVEs*

AB Fine/medium grog-tempered with common fossil shell*. 6 sh; 50g.*

A7 Fine/medium grog-tempered with common/sparse limestone*. 9 sh; 456g.*

A8 Fine/medium grog-tempered with common quartz sand*. 30 sh; 441g; 0.70 EVEs.*

Upper Nene Valley 'Developed' grog-tempered ware (754 sh; 14977g; 7.22 EVEs (16.3% total NOSH))

A1 Hard white/cream-coloured grog-tempered*. 308 sh; 6920g; 3.67 EVEs*

A3 Hard yellow/orange-coloured grog-tempered*. 446 sh; 8057g; 3.90 EVEs.*

Shell-tempered (835 sh; 10531g; 5.99 EVEs (18.1% total NOSH))

B Wheelthrown shell-tempered ware. Common fine/medium fossil shell (nb incorporates 'Late Roman shell-tempered wares (Tomber and Dore 1998, 212: **ROB SH**)*. 835 sh; 10531g; 5.99 EVEs.*

Greywares (local/unsourced) (2260 sh; 22386g; 24.79 EVEs (49.0 % total NOSH))

C3 Fine (sparse sand), grey throughout. *26 sh; 436g; 0.66 EVEs.*

C4 Sandy, grey with pale grey core. Upper Nene type. *808 sh; 7996g; 9.87 EVEs.*

C6 Soft, fine greywares with darker surfaces (includes 'London type wares'). *9 sh; 86g; 0.36 EVEs.*

C7 Soft, fine greywares with darker, burnished surfaces. Micaceous. *1 sh; 6g.*

C9 Sandy, grey with common fine limestone inclusions. *5 sh; 158g; 0.12 EVEs.*

C10 Coarse, hard grey throughout. *120 sh; 1296g; 1.37 EVEs.*

C11 Sandy, dark grey surfaces with paler core. Upper Nene type. *199 sh; 1678g; 2.04 EVEs.*

C15 Sandy, grey with reddish-yellow core. Upper Nene type. *82 sh; 817g; 0.43 EVEs.*

C16 Sandy, grey with reddish-yellow/grey margins. Upper Nene type. *34 sh; 572g; 0.47 EVEs.*

C17 Sandy, grey with pale grey margins/dark core. Upper Nene type. *88 sh; 1132g; 0.78 EVEs.*

C19 Sandy, dark grey/black throughout. *334 sh; 2948g; 2.63 EVEs.*

C20 Sandy, grey throughout. *529 sh; 5018g; 5.66 EVEs.*

C21 Coarse, dark grey Black-Burnished ware 'imitations'. *3 sh; 116g; 0.09 EVEs.*

C24 Sandy, grey with 'oxidised' surfaces. *22 sh; 127g; 0.31 EVEs.*

Oxidised (local/unsourced) (50 sh; 489g; 0.33 EVEs (1.1% total NOSH))

D16 Fine, reddish-yellow oxidised (includes clay-roughcasted). Upper Nene type. *44 sh; 398; 0.33 EVEs.*

D23 Fine, reddish-yellow, darker slip/colour coat. Upper Nene type. *2 sh; 43g.*

D25 Oxidised with mica 'gilt' slip. *4 sh; 48g.*

Whitewares (local) (123 sh; 1612g; 2.13 EVEs (2.7% NOSH))

D9 Coarse sandy white-firing (Upper Nene type). *123 sh; 1612g; 2.13 EVEs*

Regional 'imports' (272 sh; 4536g; 4.11 EVEs (5.9% NOSH))

A2 Pink grog-tempered ware (Tomber and Dore 1998, 210: **PNK GT**): 25 sh; 2010g; 0.49 EVEs

C1 Lower Nene Valley greywares (see Howe *et al.* 1980; Perrin 1996, 116-119): 4 sh; 71g; 0.04 EVEs

C8 Southeast Dorset Black-burnished (Tomber and Dore 1998, 127: **DOR BB1**): 55 sh; 383g; 0.26 EVEs

C29 Hadham greywares (Tomber and Dore 1998, 152-153: **HAD RE**): 1 sh; 19g; 0.09 EVEs

C30 East Midlands type burnished greywares (see Todd 1968): 35 sh; 681g; 1.29 EVEs

D1 Lower Nene Valley Colour-Coated ware (Tomber and Dore 1998, 118: **LNV CC**): 79 sh; 840g; 1.12 EVEs

D2 Lower Nene Valley or Midlands-type whitewares/'self-coloured': 39 sh; 223g; 0.16 EVEs.

D21 Lower Nene Valley whitewares/'parchment wares' (Tomber and Dore 1998, 118: **LNV PA**): 1 sh; 24g; 0.07 EVEs.

D4 Oxfordshire red/brown colour-coated wares (Tomber and Dore 1998, 170: **OXF RS**): 32 sh; 281g; 0.59 EVEs.

D5 Hadham oxidised ware (Tomber and Dore 1998, 151: **HAD OX**): 1 sh; 4g.

Mortaria types (regional) (22 sh; 1635g; 1.01 EVEs (<1% NOSH))

M/H Mancetter/Hartshill whiteware mortaria (Tomber and Dore 1998, 189: **MAH WH**): 7 sh; 193g; 0.38 EVEs.

OXF Oxfordshire whiteware mortaria (Tomber and Dore 1998, 174: **OXF WH**): 14 sh; 1436g; 0.59 EVEs.

D4m Oxfordshire red/brown colour-coated wares (Tomber and Dore 1998, 170: **OXF RS**): 1 sh; 6g; 0.04 EVEs.

Imports (continental) (44 sh; 303g; 0.64 EVEs (<1% NOSH))

D41 South Gaulish (La Graufesenque) samian (Tomber and Dore 1998, 28: **LGF SA**): 2 sh; 9g; 0.09 EVEs.

D42 Central Gaulish (Lezoux) samian (Tomber and Dore 1998, 30: **LEZ SA2**): 38 sh; 271g; 0.59 EVEs.

D43 East Gaulish (Trier/Rheinzabern) samian (Tomber and Dore 1998, 34-41: **TRI SA / RHZ SA**): 4 sh; 23g; 0.05 EVEs.

Compositionally the Roman assemblage is typical for the area, the large bulk from local sources (Upper Nene Valley) with a shift to regional sources detectable in the latest context groups). Earliest groups (below) are made up of reduced-fired grogged types (fabrics A, A/B, A7 and A8) and some shell-tempered (fabric B), which are common from the area and probably locally made. The largest portion of the assemblage comprises Roman sandy reduced and other coarsewares associated with 'local' production. This was centred in the Upper Nene Valley east of modern Northampton, where a wide range of types including greywares, 'developed' grog-tempered wares, whitewares and oxidised wares was produced across the later 1st and 3rd/early 4th centuries (Johnston 1969). Also from relatively local sources (the majority probably from kilns at Harrold, north Bedfordshire) are the shell-tempered wares which are persistently present throughout the assemblage, seeing increased use in the latest periods (below). Regional wares comprise mainly products from the Lower Nene Valley and Oxfordshire supplying mainly fine and 'specialist' wares (mortaria), and some cooking wares contributed by southeast Dorset Black-burnished wares.

Samian (Table D.2)

A total of 44 sherds (303g) of Gaulish samian, equivalent to 0.95% of the total, was recorded. Products from the three Gaulish production areas are represented, with Central Gaulish material much the most numerous. Where identifiable (Table D.2), plain forms dominate and comprise mainly platters/dishes, and with decorated vessels limited to a chip from a (Central Gaulish) form 37 bowl. South Gaulish products consist of a form 18 platter (Phase 5.2 pit 1880), likely of Flavian date and a chip from an unidentified vessel (Phase 5.2 posthole 1350), both of which were re-deposited. The majority of central Gaulish material dates to the 2nd century, with most forms (Drag. 33 cup, Drag. 31 and 31 dishes and Drag. 38 bowl) after *c*. AD 150. A maker's stamp (Fig. 29; no 36; from Phase 4.2 Ditch O fill 1013) is identified as of the Lezoux potter Reburrus ii, who is known to have worked *c.* AD 140-70 (Dickinson 2014, 249). The few East Gaulish sherds are datable after AD 140 and as late as the mid 3rd century.

Vessel forms (Table D.3)

The range of vessel forms according to generic 'class' is set out in Table D3. Jars are very strongly dominant, followed by open forms which comprise mainly utilitarian dishes/bowls. One jar in greyware fabric C17 (Phase 5.2 pit 1880) had been adapted for use as a strainer by the drilling of multiple holes to its base (fig. 28; no. 37). Drinking vessel classes (beakers/cups) and liquid serving vessels (flagons) are poorly represented, as are

mortaria. The latter class is made up of Oxfordshire (OXF; D4m) and Mancetter/Hartshill (M/H) products, the majority from later Roman dated deposits.

Some regional distinctiveness is apparent in the assemblage, most obviously from the jars and the abundance of channel-rimmed forms (9.22 EVEs or 25% of all jars). Channel rim or lid-seated jars are a feature of Roman groups from the region, from as early as the mid 1st century (Friendship Taylor 1999) and continuing as late as the 3rd century among reduced sandy, 'developed grog-tempered and shell-tempered wares. Some jar styles are similarly characteristic of local (Upper Nene valley) traditions; the most obvious being necked jar forms in reduced sandy types (fig. 28; nos. 6, 15, 17, C1) which feature multiple cordons/corrugations to the neck.

Stratigraphy/dating (Table D.1)

Ceramic Phase 1: 'Transitional'/Early Roman (1-70/100 AD)

The wheelthrown grog-tempered types (fabrics A, A7, A8), together with certain forms among the shell-tempered group (fabric B), which define this period are a relatively rare presence at the site. A sizeable proportion is clearly redeposited in deposits assigned to Phases 4.2-5.2. In Phase 3.2 they make up only 2.2% of the total (by NOSH), with handmade Iron Age types included. The presence in greater quantities of 'developed' grog-tempered types (fabric A1) and some greywares in Phase 3.2, makes it likely that all such material is intrusive. The earlier grogged types are a little more common from Phase 4.1 deposits, including 42 sherds from one feature, pit 1721.

Wheelthrown grog-tempered wares comparable with 'Belgic' styles (Thompson 1982) current in southeast England from the 1st century BC is common from Northamptonshire sites, Brixworth being well within the northwestern zone of 'Belgic' style pottery use (Thompson's Area J). It is clear that the *floruit* of the 'Belgic' style in this area continues well into the Roman period, lasting at least into the 60s/70s AD..

Refinement of dating on stylistic grounds is rarely possible for this small group; most identifiable vessel forms consist of necked/high-shouldered or carinated bowls (fig. 28; no. 1), forms which are common throughout the period of production (Friendship Taylor 1999, 25–26). Tall-necked vessels, some in sandy grogged fabrics (fig. 29; nos. 2 and 4) are probably post-conquest, as are hollow-cordoned vessels from Phase 4.1 pit 1721 and Phase 4.1 pit 1090 (fig. 29; no. 3) (*ibid*., 27-28). A jar with channel rim and diagonal slashing below (fig. 28; no. 5) is a local form characteristic of the mid 1st century AD (Friendship-Taylor 1999)

Ceramic Phase 2: Early Roman (c. 70/100-150/80 AD)/Stratigraphic Phase 4.1

The period beginning in the late 1st century is one of expansion in pottery production in the upper Nene Valley, with kilns in the Northampton area including at Ecton (Johnston 1969) becoming established and producing a variety of coarsewares for local markets. This is reflected in the small Phase 4.1 assemblage (Table D.1), which is dominated by grey, 'developed' grog-tempered and other coarseware products from these sources.

Activity in Phase 4.1 is, like that preceding, limited in its scale and probably peripheral to areas of occupation lying away from the excavated area. The single large group, from Ditch AA amounts to 105 sherds (2.07 EVEs), largely composed of grog-tempered type A1 with fewer greywares C3, C4, C19 and C20. Identified vessel forms are almost entirely jars, mostly channel-rimmed vessels among the grogged wares, and with a few necked jars

and moulded rim dishes among the greywares. Finewares are entirely absent although some material occurs in later deposits which is consistent with dating in the indicated range, including a (Flavian) South Gaulish form 18 platter and several sherds in mica-dusted ware Type D25. Also of the period but seemingly residual in late deposits are barbotine dot panel decorated sherds in fabric C4, probably representative of beaker classes typical of the first half of the 2nd century.

Ceramic Phase 3: Middle Roman (c. 150/80-250/70 AD)/Stratigraphic Phase 4.2

A substantial proportion of the assemblage is consistent with dating in this range, and this is reflected in the quantities of material relating to Stratigraphic Phase 4.2. This phase of activity is characterised by a number of major landscape features (Rectilinear Enclosures AI, AJ and AK), large pits/quarries and drying oven features. Larger context groups of 102-182 sherds come from Ditches N and Q, and quarry pits 419-622 sherds from the primary fills of pits 1880 and 1522.

In its overall composition, the Phase 4.2 assemblage shares characteristics with Phase 4.1, reflecting a continuation of the local pattern of coarsewares supply established by the earlier second century. Upper Nene type greywares (fabrics C4, C11, C15-C17) and whiteware type D9 now form a larger proportion overall. 'Developed' grog-tempered types (A1 and A3) continue to be well-represented, although there is a reduction in the white-firing type A1. Some regional types occur in moderate quantities in deposits associated with Phase 4.1, including Southeast Dorset Black-burnished ware (C8), Lower Nene Valley products (D1) and pink grog-tempered ware (A2). Finewares remain a minor presence, primarily consisting of Central and East Gaulish samian and the quantities of Colour-coated wares from the Lower Nene valley. The samian includes typically Antonine forms (a form 33 cup from pit/scoop 1676) and plain dish bowls dating after *c*. AD 150/160 (a form 31R dish from pit/scoop 1447, and a form 38 bowl from pit 1522). The Lower Nene vessels consist of flagon and beakers, the latter including funnel-necked classes suggestive of 3rd century dating (pit/scoop 1447 and pit 1880). A scale-decorated indented beaker from Phase 5.2 demolition layer 1920 (fig. 28; no. 21) also probably dates to the later 2nd or early 3rd centuries (Perrin 1999, 94-95) and is among a large quantity of earlier material incorporated into this deposit.

Jars remain the dominant vessel form, these of the regionally characteristic channel-rimmed (fig. 29; nos. 7-9, 14) and cordoned-neck forms (fig. 28; nos. 7-13). Non-jar forms are a little more prevalent and include including ovoid form beakers (fig. 28; no. 16) and moulded or plain-rim dishes. The latter classes demonstrate the influence of the Southeast Dorset Black-burnished ware potters among local producers in the 2nd and earlier 3rd centuries AD, apparent also in a small number of jars (fig. 28; no. 18). A greyware beaker from pit 1522 (fig. 28; no. 20) shows other influences, copying continental or Lower Nene styles prevalent in the mid 2nd to earlier 3rd centuries. Mortaria are largely absent among Phase 4.2 groups, limited to a single beaded/hooked flange Mancetter/Hartshill vessel from layer 3204.

Ceramic Phase 4: Late Roman (c. 250/70-400/50 AD)/Stratigraphic Phases 5.1-5.2

The activity characterising stratigraphic Phases 5.1-5.2 is different in its nature to that preceding, the main elements consisting of walled boundary features surviving as foundation trenches cut into Enclosures AJ and AK, drying oven feature 1555 and a number of new ditch cuts or recuts. Among the largest and better-dated groups are from the uppermost fills of large pits/quarries (1880 and 1522), features clearly with origins in Phase 4.2. Few other Period 5 deposits have produced large or chronologically discrete pottery groups, most incorporating redeposited earlier elements. The largest group (some 609 sherds, weighing 4.8kg), from Phase 5.2 demolition

deposit 1920, certainly includes a large proportion of 2nd to earlier 3rd century material, albeit mainly well-fragmented. The substantial redeposited components have the effect of obscuring compositional differences resulting from changes in supply across Phases 4.1-5.2, although some aspects such as the increased abundance of shell-tempered ware and of regional finewares are still apparent.

Late Roman assemblages from the area are typified by significant changes in coarseware supply, and the supplanting of *sigillata* and other finewares by regional types supplied from the Lower Nene valley and Oxfordshire. It is unclear whether some pottery production in the Northampton area continues after *c.* AD 270/300, but certainly the more common Upper Nene Valley wares (C4, D6, A1/A3) are uncommon in groups of this period from Stanwick (McSloy forthcoming) and Aston (Aird and MacRobert forthcoming). Such types are seemingly replaced by shell-tempered wares almost certainly produced at Harrold, Beds (Brown 1994), Southeast Dorset Black-burnished ware, greywares of 'East Midlands type' (C30), and by 'coarseware' forms produced in Lower Nene colour-coated ware (D1). Where present, mortaria are mainly, as here, supplied by Oxford and Mancetter/Hartshill products. Groups of the second half of the 4th century AD or a little later from the region commonly consist of a limited range of types, with Harrold shell-tempered products and Lower Nene colour-coated types dominant, and sporadically with late greyware types, pink grog-tempered ware, Oxfordshire or Hadham types also present.

The majority of the more closely datable elements from hases 5.1-5.2 are provided by fineware fabrics. Most abundant (from Ditch O, layer 1052 and quarry pit 1522) are the 'coarseware' jars, dishes and bowls produced by the Lower Nene valley potters in the late 3rd/4th centuries (Howe et al. 1980). Also late (4th century AD) in style among the Lower Nene products are a platter/bowl (fig. 28; no. 34), from Phase 5.2 deposit 1524, and 'castor box' from Phase 5.1 pit 3379. Oxford red/brown slipped ware is also a persistent presence in Phase 5.1-5.2 deposits and some forms provide dating within the mid/late 4th century range: a bowl from pit 1522 (fig. 28; no. 35) is of a type (Young's form C77) datable c. AD 340-400, and similar dating can be suggested for a bowl (Young's C79 or 80) from Period 6 ditch 1287 which features stamped rosette decoration. Other late finewares occur in the form of single sherds in Hadham reduced and oxidised ware. The former is present as a bowl sherd from Phase 4.2 pit 1522 fill 1526 with 'Romano-Saxon' style decoration (fig. 28; no. 32). The oxidised type occurs as a small sherd probably from a face-decorated jar (fig. 28; no. 28) from Phase 6.2 demolition deposit 1125. Both very probably date after c. AD 350

With the re-deposited material excluded, the coarsewares among Phases 5.1–5.2 accord with the pattern of supply outlined above. Late burnished greywares (C30) occur as a mix of medium or wide-mouthed jars and some plain-rim dishes. Conical or round-bodied flanged vessels expected to date after *c*. AD 250 also occur among late Black-burnished ware imitations and other greywares (fig. 28; no. 26). Pink grog-tempered ware occurs as wide-mouth bowls (fig. 28; no. 30) and large storage jars (fig. 28; no. 29); forms common from late assemblages. The shell-tempered wares include jars and bowls (fig. 28; no. 25) corresponding to forms produced at Harrold, Bedfordshire across the later 3rd and 4th centuries. Dating after *c*. AD 350 for Phase 5.1 Drying oven 1555 is suggested by a jar in shell-tempered fabric B with 'undercut' rim, a form common from latest Roman groups from the production site at Harrold (*ibid*.). Dating in this range and extending well into the 5th century is indicated by radiocarbon dating of grain samples from this feature (SUERC 79195: 263-532 cal. AD at 95.4% confidence/ 352-423 cal AD at 68.2% confidence).

Mortaria are largely confined to PPhase 5.1-5.2 groups (Table D.1). A Mancetter/Hartshill hammerhead vessel from Phase 5.2 pit 1099 (fig. 28; no. 24) dates to the 3rd or 4th centuries. Those in Oxfordshire type OXF consist of 'dropped' flange forms; Young's M17 (datable *c*. AD 240-300) from Phase 5.2 layer 1349 and Young's M22 (*c*. AD 240-400) from Phase 5.1 drying oven 1555. The single example in red-slipped type D4m, from Phase 5.1 Ditch V is a wall-sided vessel (Young's C97) and datable in the 240-400 AD range.

Illustration catalogue (Fig. 28)

1. Fabric A. Bowl with 'rippled neck' (*cf.* Thompson 1982; form D2-4). Burnished. Phase 3.2 Pit 1828 (fill 1831).
2. Fabric A. Bowl with tall, multi-cordoned neck (*cf.* Thompson 1982; form D2-1). Phase 4.2 Ditch Q (fill 1488).
3. Fabric A. Bowl with tall neck and multiple 'hollow' cordons and burnished lattice zones (*cf.* Thompson 1982; form E1-2). Phase 4.1 Pit 1090 (fill 1089).
4. Fabric A. Jar with narrow mouth, and tall neck with cordon and shoulder groove (*cf.* Thompson 1982; form B3-8). Phase 4.2 Ditch O (fill 1327).
5. Fabric A. Jar with worn channel rim, slashed fingernail decoration to rim and combing below neck (*cf.* Thompson 1982; form C5-2). Phase 4.2. Drying oven 1251 (fill 1267).
6. Fabric C4. Medium-mouth jar with multiple neck cordons. Phase 5.2 Pit 1880 (fill 1882).
7. Fabric A1. Channel-rim jar. Coarse rilling to body. Phase 4.2. Ditch N (fill 1054).
8. Fabric A3. Channel-rim jar. Rilled body, everted rim. Phase 4.2. Ditch N (fill 1054).
9. Fabric B. Channel-rim jar. Square rim. Phase 4.2. Ditch N (fill 1054).
10. Fabric D9. Medium-mouth jar, Cordon at neck. Phase 4.2. Ditch N (fill 1054).
11. Fabric C4. Medium-mouth jar, Comb-impressed decoration at neck. Phase 4.2. Ditch N (fill 1054).
12. Fabric C4. Medium-mouth jar, burnished wave decoration at neck (cf Woods 1970, 69, fig. 21, nos. 133-5). Phase 4.2. Ditch N (fill 1054).
13. Fabric C4. Medium-mouth jar or bowl, burnished lattice decoration at neck. Phase 4.2. Ditch N (fill 1054).
14. Fabric A3. Channel-rim jar. Rilled body, everted rim. Phase 4.2. Ditch Q (fill 1295).
15. Fabric C20. Necked bowl with multiple cordons. Phase 4.2. Ditch Q (fill 1295).
16. Fabric C4. Ovoid beaker. Roller-stamped decoration to body. Phase 4.2. Ditch Q (fill 1295).
17. Fabric C4. Medium-mouth jar, multiple neck cordons. Phase 5.2. Pit 1880 (fill 1885).
18. Fabric D16. Neckless jar (BB1 copy with scored lattice zone at shoulder. Phase 5.2. Pit 1880 (fill 1884).
19. Fabric B. Channel-rim jar. Rilled body. Phase 4.2. Ditch S (fill 1098).
20. Fabric C24. Bag-shaped beaker; cornice rim and rouletted bands. Phase 4.2. Pit 1522 (fill 1885).
21. Fabric D1. Indented beaker with applied scales (cf. Perrin 1999, nos 158-162); cornice rim and rouletted bands. Phase 5.2 demolition layer 1920.
22. Fabric D9. Jar with everted/bifid rim. Phase 5.2. Demolition layer 1920.
23. Fabric B. Medium-mouth jar. Phase 4.2. Pit 1522 (fill 1523).
24. Fabric M/H. Hammerhead mortarium. Phase 5.2. Pit 1099 (fill 1100).
25. Fabric B. Flanged bowl. Rilled body (cf. Brown 1993, figs. 35 and 39-40). Phase 5.2. Pit 1099 (fill 1100).
26. Fabric C20. Conical flanged bowl. Phase 5.2. Pit/scoop 1378 (fill 1379).
27. Fabric D4. Globular beaker or bowl (cf. Young 1977, C74?); rouletting and painted arc. Phase 4.2 Pit 1676 (fill 1679).

28. Fabric D5. Narrow-mouth jar/bottle (cf. Going 1999, 303, nos. 147-152). Phase 5.2 Demolition layer 1125.
29. Fabric A2. Large storage jar with heavy squared rim (cf Marney 1989,68, fig. 27, nos. 1-2). Phase 5.2 external dump layer 1808.
30. Fabric A2. Wide-mouth necked bowl (*ibid*. nos 6-12). Phase 5.2. Pit 1522, fill 1526.
31. Fabric C21. Conical flanged bowl. Phase 5.2. Pit 1522, fill 1526.
32. Fabric C29. Necked bowl with bossed/impressed 'Romano-Saxon' style decoration (cf. Marney 1999, 122-123, fig. 47, nos 1-2). Phase 5.2. Pit 1522, fill 1526.
33. Fabric D21. Bowl imitating Drag. 36 with painted decoration to rim (cf. Howe et al. 1980, 25-28, no. 98). Phase 5.2 Pit 1522, fill 1524.
34. Fabric D1. Platter/bowl (cf. Howe et al. 1980, 24-25, no. 88). Phase 5.2. Pit 1522, fill 1524.
35. Fabric D4. Necked bowl with white-painted decoration (cf. Young 1977, 166-167, Type C77). Phase 5.2. Pit 1522, fill 1524.
36. Fabric D42. (LEZ SA2). Drag. 18/31R. Stamped REBB[URRIO F.] Early to mid Antonine potter Reburrus ii known from Lezoux (Dickinson 2014, 249). Phase 4.2. Ditch O, fill 1013.
37. Fabric C17. Jar adapted for use as a strainer with holes drilled in base. Phase 5.2. Pit 1880 (fill 1882).

Cremation burial

C1. Fabric C4. Narrow mouth necked jar with multiple neck cordons. Phase 4.2 Ditch N, fill 1359. Ra. 15.

Discussion

The assemblage contains material dating across the Roman period (or a little earlier), although with a focus in mid/later 2nd and earlier 3rd centuries. The later Roman pottery includes types suggesting activity continuing up to the very end of the Roman period in the late 4th or early 5th centuries AD. Overall the assemblage accords with the broad patterns of supply which have been established for the area, defined largely by the developing pottery industry of the Upper Nene valley in the 1st to earlier 3rd centuries, and with greater reliance on regional types after this period. The assemblage shows no indications of specialised use or 'elevated status'. Non-sigillata continental finewares and amphorae types are absent. The samian component is largely composed of 2nd century material and plain forms. Its small size (<1% of the total) and overall character is typical of many small 'lower status' rural sites in this region and beyond. The utilitarian character of the assemblage is also apparent from the dominance of jars and other coarseware forms suited to kitchen or storage usage (Table D.2).

The site lies some way off from the Brixworth villa (Woods 1970), which was located to the north of the village. Full and accurate comparison with large assemblage from Woods' excavations is prevented by difficulties in matching the pottery fabrics and an absence of quantification available for the villa site. The villa site would appear to have been occupied from *c*. AD 70 up to the end of the Roman period, with some periods including the late 1st/earlier 2nd century and late 3rd/4th centuries better represented than is the case with the Saxons Rise group. Significant absences from among the group described here and which may be due to differing chronological emphases, are of London ware type bowls, painted wares and 'local' colour-coated wares (*ibid.* 35-44), types where dating in the early or mid 2nd century is likely.

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Table D1: Roman pottery Periods 4-7. Quantities as sherd count and weight. Iron Age totals are included

.**Period**	**3_2**		**4_1**		**4_2**		**5_1**		**5_2**		**6**		**Total**	
fabric	*Ct.*	*Wt.(g)*	*Ct.*	*Wt.(g)*	*Ct.*	*Wt.(g)*	*Ct.*	*Wt.(g)*	*Ct.*	*Wt.(g)*	*Ct.*	*Wt.(g)*	***Ct.***	***Wt.(g)***
A	18	249	33	163	74	1121	1	5	81	527			**207**	**2065**
A/B	2	15	1	3	1	10			2	22			**6**	**50**
A1	48	663	79	1721	58	1728	2	37	111	2033	10	738	**308**	**6920**
A2					4	210	3	76	18	1724			**25**	**2010**
A3			16	364	211	4005	29	261	167	3207	23	220	**446**	**8057**
A7	1	29			7	41			1	395			**9**	**465**
A8			18	242	11	153	1	46					**30**	**441**
B	6	14	12	150	263	2776	132	2596	417	4967	5	28	**835**	**10531**
C1					2	53			2	18			**4**	**71**
C10			2	21	48	649	1	16	69	610			**120**	**1296**
C11			2	86	30	286			166	1305			**198**	**1677**
C15					14	157	2	37	64	596	2	27	**82**	**817**
C16	4	20			14	288			14	223	2	41	**34**	**572**
C17			2	16	9	113	1	3	74	972	2	28	**88**	**1132**
C19			22	92	135	1598	14	49	147	1160	16	49	**334**	**2948**
C20			2	20	163	2052	25	185	301	2454	38	307	**529**	**5018**
C21									3	116			**3**	**116**
C24					2	16			20	111			**22**	**127**
C29									1	19			**1**	**19**
C3	1	7	2	25	16	239	6	140	1	25			**26**	**436**
C30					6	112	2	33	27	536			**35**	**681**
C4	1	5	6	110	137	1627	36	539	623	5563	5	152	**808**	**7996**
C6					3	42			6	44			**9**	**86**
C7									1	6			**1**	**6**
C8					5	59	5	32	45	292			**55**	**383**
C9					4	146			1	12			**5**	**158**
D1					16	105	9	138	44	491	10	106	**79**	**840**
D16					3	25	1	7	40	366			**44**	**398**
D2			2	10	3	24	17	73	17	116			**39**	**223**
D21									1	24			**1**	**24**
D23			1	42					1	1			**2**	**43**
D25					2	27			2	21			**4**	**48**
D4					5	82	3	17	15	161	9	21	**32**	**281**
D4m							1	6					**1**	**6**
D5									1	4			**1**	**4**
D6/9			1	9	33	748			88	822	1	33	**123**	**1612**
LEZ SA2					1	1			1	1			**2**	**2**

MAHWH							1	10	5	170	1	13	**7**	**193**
OXF							13	1401	1	35			**14**	**1436**
EG SA									4	23			**4**	**23**
LEZ SA2					20	151	3	12	13	106			**36**	**269**
LGF SA									2	9			**2**	**9**
Total	**81**	**1002**	**201**	**3074**	**1300**	**18644**	**308**	**5719**	**2597**	**29287**	**124**	**1763**	**4611**	**59489**

Table D2: Pottery summary (vessel forms). Shows hand-recovered material only

Form (generic)	No. vess.	%No. vess.	EVEs	%EVEs
flagon	2	*<1*	.17	*<1*
beaker	19	*4.3*	1.58	*3.3*
cup	4	*<1*	.19	*<1*
jar	299	*68.3*	36.35	*75.8*
lid	4	*<1*	.32	*<1*
bowl	53	*11.9*	4.74	*9.9*
dish	49	*11.2*	2.71	*5.7*
dish/bowl	2	*<1*	.15	*<1*
platter	2	*<1*	.19	*<1*
mortarium	5	*1.1*	1.01	*2.10*
Indet.	0	*<1*	.55	*1.1*
Total	**439**		**47.96**	

Table D.3: Samian forms summary

Fabric>		41 (LGF SA)		42 (LEZ SA2)		43 (EG SA)	
Generic form	**Classif. (Drag.)**	*No. vess.*	*EVEs*	*No. vess.*	*EVEs*	*No. vess.*	*EVEs*
cup	33	-	-	2	.19	1	0
platter	18	1	.09	-	-	-	-
dish	18/31r	-	-	3	.12	-	-
	31	-	-	3	.07	-	-
	31r	-	-	1	0	1	.05
Bowl (plain)	38	-	-	1	0	-	-
Bowl (dec.)	30	-	-	1	.12	-	-
	37	1	0	1	.05	-	-

APPENDIX E: LITHICS

By Jacky Sommerville

Introduction

A total of 115 worked flints (364g) was recovered from the excavation (Table E.1). Cortex was present on 37 items – it was chalky on 27% and abraded on 73%, indicating a primary reliance on river gravel resources, which is typical in Northamptonshire (Chapman 2015, 17). The artefacts were recorded according to broad artefact/debitage type and catalogued directly onto a Microsoft Access database. Attributes recorded include: raw material; weight; degree of edge damage (microflaking), rolling (abrasion) and recortication (a white or blueish surface discoloration resulting from soil conditions (Shepherd 1972, 109)); colour; cortex description; and the presence of breakage and burning.

Early Neolithic pit 1625

Just over half of the lithics (56%) came from Period 1 pit 1625, which returned an Early Neolithic radiocarbon date (3631–3373 cal BC at 95.4% probability; SUERC-75696). This pit contained 64 flints (including 36 chips), in good condition associated with Early Neolithic pottery. They include a blade and a core rejuvenation flake, which are typical of Early Neolithic debitage. Also present are two microdenticulates (Fig. 29, nos. 1–2), a tool type in use through the Neolithic and into the Bronze Age (Saville 2002, 96), but particularly common in Mesolithic and Early Neolithic assemblages (Pitts and Jacobi 1979, 173). Other tools from this small assemblage are a well-made end scraper (Fig. 29, no. 3) and a saw made on a flake blank.

Illustration catalogue (Fig. 29)

1 Period 1 pit 1625 (fill 1626) – microdenticulate made on a blade blank.

2 Period 1 pit 1625 (fill 1626) – microdenticulate made on a blade blank, with butt end missing.

3 Period 1 pit 1625 (fill 1626) – end scraper made on a flake blank.

Other features

Of the remaining flints the largest portion (27% of the total) came from Period 3 (Middle to Late Iron Age), 4 or 5 (Roman) deposits. With the exception of two blades, which are probably Mesolithic or Early Neolithic, and an Early Bronze Age thumbnail scraper, these are not chronologically diagnostic. Period 2 (Bronze Age to Early Iron Age) pit 3500 produced one discoidal core.

Discussion

Substantial evidence for Early Neolithic activity in Northamptonshire includes Briar Hill causewayed enclosure, *c.* 10km to the south (Bamford 1985), Dallington causewayed enclosure, *c.* 8km to the southwest, and several of the monuments in the Raunds area, *c*. 24km to the east, i.e. the Long Mound, the Avenue, the northern portion of the Turf Mound and the Long Barrow (Harding and Healy 2007). However, settlement sites and even pits are rare (Chapman 1999, 6). The excavation of a single pit near Shotley, Northamptonshire, *c.* 33km northeast of Brixworth, produced 18 flints (14 flakes and four microdenticulates) and 26 sherds of Early Neolithic pottery (Jackson 1978). The assemblage from pit 1625 at Saxon Rise can now be added to the small corpus of Early Neolithic activity in Northamptonshire unrelated to monuments.

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Table E.1: Lithic assemblage

	From pit 1625	**From other features**
Primary technology		
Blade	1	2
Chip	36	18
Core		1
Core rejuvenation flake	1	
Flake	22	23
Shatter		2
Secondary technology		
Fabricator?		1
Knife		1
Microdenticulate	2	
Notched flake		1
Retouched flake		1
Saw	1	
Scraper (end)	1	
Scraper (thumbnail)		1
Total	**64**	**51**

APPENDIX F: METALWORK

By Jörn Schuster

Introduction

The metalwork assemblage comprises 119 metal objects (2275g; 101 iron and 18 copper alloy). Basic recording of these items was undertaken within the post-excavation assessment report (CA 2017). Further identification and reporting forming the basis of this report has been undertaken on 74 of the metal objects recovered from 31 contexts ranging in date from the Middle Iron Age to the Late Roman period.

While the 65 objects made of iron were found in contexts from the entire chronological range under consideration, the nine copper-alloy objects were only recorded from Late Roman contexts (see Table F.1). The objects will be presented by feature and functional categories (after Crummy 1983, 5-6, with addition) in two chronological groups, comprising Middle Iron Age to Early Roman Period finds (Phases 3.1 to 4) and Middle to Late Roman finds (Phases 5.2 to 6.3), respectively.

The condition of the objects was variable, but on the whole the iron objects where all more or less severely affected by corrosion, with few, if any, surfaces remaining, although one nail shank from a Late Roman context was remarkably well preserved. In most cases the condition of the copper-alloy objects was equally poor; only a bracelet fragment was preserved well enough to show details of its surface decoration.

The objects were examined visually and, where required, with hand lenses (x4, x8 magnification). Selected objects had been cleaned prior to analysis, and X-radiographies prepared of all copper-alloy and iron objects by Drakon Heritage Service, Birmingham, aided identification of further details where necessary. The X-radiographies are available as part of the site archive. Object identification, measurements, including weight, and detailed descriptions as well as contextual details were entered into an Excel spreadsheet (available in the archive and from https://independent.academia.edu/JoernSchuster).

Middle Iron Age to Early Roman (Phases 3.1 to 4.2)

One nail shank, found in pit 3367, Phase 3.1, requires no further discussion. The 16 objects belonging to Phase 3.2 were recovered from only three pits: 1605, 1828 and 1877, the latter two being part of Pit Group X. Two joining bar fragments (Ra. 22) from pit 1605 were most likely part of a parallel-sided iron currency bar. As both ends are missing and no metallurgical analysis has been carried out, this identification has to remain tentative, but based on its width ranging between 21.7 and 22.9 mm it would agree with Crew's type H (Malvern type) of spit-shaped currency bars which have very short, pinched sockets (Crew 1994, 1995).

The majority of finds from Phase 3.2 come from Pit Group X. The upper part and tang of a sword blade (Cat. No. 1; Fig. 30, No. 1) had been deposited in the uppermost fill of Pit 1828, which was itself cut into the fills of stone-lined Pit 1769 located near the western end of the pit group. The blade tang has a square top and gently flares to a rectangular cross-section at its campanulate hilt end. The blade is lenticular in section and broken 104.5mm below the hilt end. There is no indication that the break was intentional, and it is therefore considered to be a post-depositional fracture, although there is no indication of the whereabouts of the remainder of the blade. The details of the blade fragment suggest that it represents a Stead sword (blade and tang) type ii or iii, probably from a Group B or C sword (Stead 2006, 8–11). Both groups belong to the southern tradition: Group B swords

comprise medium length swords of types i and ii and are dated from the second half of the 3rd century BC to the second half of the 2nd century BC (ibid., 34); Group C swords include long swords of type iii dating to the second half of the 2nd and the first half of the 1st century BC (ibid., 40–41).

At the other end of Pit Group X, *c.* 10 m to the east, Pit 1877 contained a large number of objects which might have been deposited by leaning them against the northern slope of the pit base (Fill 1879) – either individually or perhaps gathered together in a bag or leather wrapping. A radiocarbon dating of a grain of spelt wheat from that context returned a date of 188–44 cal BC (95.4% probability; SUERC-79201). Apart from a whetstone (Ra. 34, see Shaffrey below) all other objects were made of iron, comprising four tools, two fittings as well as at least four weapons and associated equipment and two objects of uncertain purpose. The objects were recorded as three distinct Ra. numbers and two bulk finds, but subsequent analysis has shown that they comprise at least ten individual items. The tools all appear to be metalworking tools. Cat. No. 2 (Fig.30, No. 2) is a smith's poker with a spatulate blade which has a knife blade or iron strip fragment corroded onto one side of the blade near the junction with the rectangular-sectioned handle. The blade might have been slightly dished or perhaps double concave with a raised rim, but this detail might simply be an artefact of corrosion. While pokers are well known from Iron Age sites throughout Europe, there are three good local comparisons among the at least six pokers from Hunsbury Camp, located 11 km to the south (C. I. Fell 1936, pl. 4, B3 and pl. 13, 11; V. Fell 1990, 382 fig. A2, 13, 14, 17). On account of its rectangular handle section, the Brixworth poker belongs to Rodwell's type B, some of which, e.g. from Mont Beuvray, France, or Pohanská, Czech Republic, feature a thickening for a hand grip, while no such thickening is seen on any of the complete British examples analysed by Vanessa Fell (Rodwell 1976, 46–8, fig. 3, 7-10; V. Fell 1990, 85-92).[1] Considering the small number of complete examples, the range of variants and the lack of apparent geographic trends, she observed that Rodwell's classification might be too narrow.

Two rod fragments measuring 157.5mm and 35.4mm respectively, both now in two joining fragments, had been recovered together with the poker blade and the hammer and had been recorded under the same number; however, subsequent analysis has shown that the hammer (see below) was certainly not part of the poker handle, whereas it is no longer possible to ascertain whether the two rod fragments (Ra. 31A3-4) had originally been part of the handle or were unrelated rods which had been intended as raw material for smithing.

Cat. No. 3 (Fig. 30, No. 3) is a curved cross-pein hand hammer which is widest around its slit-like eye or shaft hole. The elongated shape of hammer eyes has been identified as being based in the La Tène or Iron Age tradition and can be found throughout Europe before and after the Roman period when hammer eyes where predominantly round (Manning 1976, 24; 1985, 5–6; Henning 1991, 73–4; V. Fell 1998, 215–6). Iron Age set hammers and single-faced hammers commonly feature circular eyes (V. Fell 1990, 113). Unfortunately, both panes of the Brixworth hammer are very corroded, making it impossible to see whether its faces had originally been straight or slightly convex; nonetheless, it can best be described as a slender curved hammer (V. Fell 1998, 214 table 3) with close morphological comparisons from Iron Age contexts at Ham Hill, Somerset (V. Fell 1990, 391, fig. A11, 76; 1998, 212, fig. 4, 26) and the Dünsberg Oppidum, Germany (Schlott 1999, 113, Taf. 29, 10). Although Cat. No. 3 is heavily corroded and now weighs just under 70g, its overall dimension suggest that it would have been used for more delicate metal work, for instance sinking or bossing non-ferrous sheet metal (V. Fell 1990, 111; 1998, 219).

[1] Based on Vanessa Fell's examination and illustrations of the Hunsbury pokers it appears that they, too, belong to Rodwell's type B as they have rectangular handle sections, rather than type C as stated by Rodwell himself.

A rectangular-sectioned, 61mm-long rod (Cat. No. 4, Fig. 30, No. 4) with one broken and one possibly obliquely angled end was initially thought to have been a file, but there is no convincing evidence for file teeth visible in the x-radiograph and it may simply be another iron rod retained for use as raw material. The object may have been part of Cat. No. 5 (Fig. 31, No. 5), a 206mm-long rod with rectangular section of similar dimension and possibly one straight end; alternatively Cat. No. 5 might have been a punch with a hardened steel tip, as one of its ends appears to be denser in the x-radiograph (available in the archive and from https://independent.academia.edu/JoernSchuster.

Fill 1879 also contained two items that can be classed as fittings, including a loop attachment and a binding strip. The loop attachment with flattened, everted ends (Cat. No. 6; Fig. 30, No. 6), might have been intended to receive the handle of a bucket. It is unlikely to have been a wooden bucket, since these vessels had attachment loops of different shapes (see e.g., Sueur and Garcia 2015), whereas some forms of Late Iron Age/Early Roman bronze buckets, for instance Eggers types 21 or 22 (Eggers 1951) or Radnóti type 49 (Radnóti 1938), were fitted with iron attachments, although these are usually more omega-shaped than this example. A comparable attachment was found at Danebury, Hampshire, in a ceramic phase 7-context (Cunliffe and Poole 1991, 350 fig. 7.25, 2.355) dating to the Middle/Late Iron Age, but its arms are not everted as much as in the Brixworth example. The exact form of the vessel that had originally been fitted with this attachment cannot be ascertained, but since there was no trace of a substantial copper alloy vessel in the pit, it is clear that the fitting had already been detached from the vessel prior to its eventual deposition.

The above-mentioned binding strip or clamp (Cat. No. 7; Fig. 30, No.7) has concave sides and flares out towards its wider ends. It is flat and does not feature an arched central section. Again, a good comparison comes from a cp-7 context at Danebury (ibid., 349, fig. 7.24, 2.346). Its function is uncertain. Unless it is an unfinished workpiece it is unlikely to have functioned as an attachment loop for a sword scabbard, although its dimensions compare to such fittings from various type L or M scabbards, for instance from Battersea or Hammersmith (Stead 2006, 208, fig. 42, 8 & 10).

Cat. No. 8 (Fig. 31, Nos. 8.1-8.5) comprises five rather corroded and fragmented iron objects which are all parts of weapons and associated fittings, but it was not possible to ascertain whether they all belong to the same object – probably a dagger or sword and its scabbard. Cat. No. 8.1 is a campanulate hilt guard end with remains of a flat, rectangular-sectioned tang visible in a pointed-oval opening in the centre of the end. A fitting fragment of the blade below the hilt end retains a 15.7mm-long rivet shank, probably from the scabbard fitting, but its exact function is not clear. With a length of 57.8mm the hilt end's dimensions are comparable to those of some Stead type ii or iii swords, e.g. from the Thames at London or – in bronze – from Henley on Thames (Stead 2006, 168, 170, Fig. 62, no. 77, and 64, no. 85); a comparable hilt end without any blade was found in a cp-7 context at Danebury (Cunliffe 1984, 362, fig. 7.19, 2.105). The flimsiness of what remains of the tang would suggest that the object should be part of a dagger, but morphologically similar hilt ends for daggers tend to be shorter, corresponding to the smaller size of the blades they fitted, as can for instance be seen on daggers with bronze hilt ends from Camerton and Kingsdown Hill near Mells, both Somerset (Jope 1961, 340–1 fig. 14, 37-38). Based on these comparisons the hilt end can be dated to the Middle to Late Iron Age.

Four blade fragments have been recorded as Cat. No. 8.2 (Fig. 31, No. 8.2), but as only two can now be fitted with some degree of certainty it remains questionable whether they represent one or more blades. The shape of

the largest fragment suggests it belonged to a blade comparable to the above-mentioned daggers from Somerset or some of the examples from Hunsbury (C. I. Fell 1936, pl. 13, 8-9), but it is equally possible that (at least some) of the fragments were part of the tip of a La Tène I or II sword blade, which are characterised by "tapering in the final quarter to a sharp point" rather than the shorter points of the later types (Stead 2006, 8–9, fig. 3i).

The identification of Cat. No. 8.3 (Fig. 31, No. 8.3) is dependent upon the interpretation of the x-radiograph; it could be a chape with remains of an iron scabbard or an intermediate stage in the forging of a blade. If the former interpretation is correct, the object could be compared to an iron sword scabbard from the River Thames at Newbridge, Oxfordshire, and an iron chape from Hunsbury which was attached to the upper part of a dagger plate (Stead 2006,166; 224, fig. 58, 63). The Brixworth example is smaller and might have belonged to a dagger rather than a sword scabbard. The Newbridge sword and the Hunsbury chape belong to Piggot's Group II, which he dates to the second half of the 2nd century BC to at least the late 1st century BC, with an indication that iron scabbards in England might be earlier than their bronze counterparts (Piggott 1950, 7, fig. 2, 2; 10; 26). Stead, who examined the Newbridge sword after it had been conserved – whereas Piggott appears to illustrate its pre-conservation condition – includes it in his group B, dating from the second half of the 3rd to the second half of the 2nd century BC; type b chapes like the Hunsbury example are combined with group B swords (Stead 2006, 16, table 3; 34; 164; 222, fig. 56, 54). The mineralised organic remains, probably from leather, observed on part of the surface of Cat. No. 8.3 were probably not part of the object itself, but might instead derive from a piece of leather laid over or wrapped around the object – or perhaps the entire group of objects recorded under Cat. No. 8.

As with the previous object, the original function of Cat. Nos 8.4 and 8.5 (Fig. 31, Nos 8.4 and 8.5) is open to several interpretations, including whether or not they are fragments of the same scabbard. If the latter, the narrower end of Cat. No. 8.4 might have joined at the wider, flat end of Cat. No. 8.5, and the eventual break might have occurred across an originally existing hole, although this hole might well be an artefact of corrosion. If this interpretation is correct, the object could have been the iron back plate of a scabbard, probably with twin loop suspension, but the existence of the loops is dependent upon the interpretation of the two sub-circular areas at the straight end of Cat. No. 8.4 as being the remains of the bent rods which had been inserted into the back plate and fixed by expanding their ends. The x-radiograph shows that there might be a corresponding rod end fitted into the scabbard 20mm below the right-hand rod end, but this area is badly affected by a corrosion bubble; no hint of the lower rod end is visible on the left. There is no indication of any copper alloy washers into which the ends might have been inserted, a detail occasionally observed with this suspension system peculiar to British scabbards of Hallstatt-D and La Tène-I types, which according to Jope ended towards 300 BC (Jope 1961, 307, 326–7, fig. 11a). If the interpretation of Cat. No. 8.4 as a scabbard back plate is correct, and Cat. No. 8.5 was its chape, the whole scabbard would present a unique object as no comparison with a stepped, oval terminal has yet been found. Alternative interpretations for Cat. No. 8.5 include that it was part of a sword's grip with an oval, discoid washer which would have been positioned at the upper end of the grip and below the pommel, similar – but less ornate – than the grip of the Grimsthorpe sword which has two enamelled washers that formed top and base of an intricately constructed grip cage (Stead 2006 ,116–8, fig 32, 177; 259, fig. 93, 177). However, there are no remains of a square tang or enamel in the Brixworth object, which makes this explanation less likely. Another possibility would be that it was the upper part of a smoothing chisel, similar to examples like one from Gadebridge Park Roman villa (Manning in Neal 1974, 158, fig. 69, 347).

Other iron objects from Phase 3.2 contexts include a strip or bar fragment from Pit 1960. This parallel-sided strip,

measuring 51x34x10mm, has one straight end with right-angled corners and a circular perforation, while its other end is also straight but slightly bent or curved, suggesting that it had probably been cut with a (hot) chisel from a currency bar.

A complete sword-shaped currency bar, Cat. No. 9 (Fig. 31, No. 9), also from Phase 3.2, was deposited in the ditch of Enclosure I, about 6m to the east of, and in line with Pit Group X. Although the object is now in at least 23 fragments, it was possible to re-join most of these to establish its dimensions; any fragmentation is likely to be due to post-depositional processes as there is no indication of bending along any of the breaks, which would be expected if fragmentation had been caused deliberately. The 782mm-long bar has a parallel-sided, 40mm-wide blade, a 108mm-long socket and now weighs just under 654g. Initially (Schuster 2019) considered to belong to Crew's type A (Danebury/Hod Hill type) of sword-shaped currency bars which comprises about 500 examples from several large hoards in southern and central Britain (Crew 1994, 1995), it now appears to be an example of a possible new type of currency bar. Together with a bar from Lodge Farm, Long Lawford, Warwickshire (Harvard *et al*. 2007) it is closely comparable to the type D Bearwood bars—as yet only known from Dorset—but may be a local variation of the sword-shaped currency bars (Crew and Quinnell forthcoming).

Middle to Late Roman (Phases 4.2 to 5.2)

The 13 objects from Phase 4.2 to 5.2 were recovered from only three contexts; all can be categorised as fixtures or fittings. Only one object comes from a Phase 4.2 context. A handle (Ra. 2), probably for a bucket, was found in the fill (1018) of ditch 1017, one of the ditches that are part of the southern end of Ditch N which defines the western boundary of the ladder enclosure. The handle, now in three joining fragments, is flat-rectangular in section and has one end bent into a U-shaped open hook curving to one side (rather than curving up in the same plane as the curvature of the handle). Its other end is obscured by corrosion but appears to have been bent into a tight loop, facing the opposite side from the hook. The handle is slightly unusual in the orientation of its loop and hook, but a good comparison comes from the – probably early – Roman Period Blackburn Mill hoard, Cockburnspath, Scottish Borders (Curle 1932, 315, fig. 22, 28; Piggott 1955, 48, fig. 11, B10). It would require a mount with loop or hook like those discussed by Manning (1985, 103–4, pl. 49, P28), which he suggests were fitted to wooden tubs and equipped with rings wide enough not to slip through the gap at the base of the mount loop. Simple bucket handles are not chronologically distinctive, and even for handles with this slightly unusual hook or loop orientation there are comparisons from various periods, see for instance medieval examples from Criccieth Castle Gwynedd, and Winchester, Hampshire (Goodall 2011, 325, fig. 11.12, J158 and J160) or a more substantial example, probably for a tripod cauldron, from London (Egan 2010, 163, fig. 131, 446).

With the exception of some iron nails and nails shanks from pit 1380, the majority of objects assigned to Phase 5.1 come from Drying Oven 1555, located in the centre of the site. It contained a fragment of a snake's head bracelet (Cat. No. 11; Fig. 31, No. 11) of which one terminal with a zoomorphic head and about a quarter of the hoop are preserved. Based on the orientation of the head to the hoop, the object belongs to Cool's bracelet group XI of "vertical snakes' head bracelets", found predominantly in southern England and ranging in date between the late 3rd and 4th centuries. A very close comparison for Cat. No. 11, in both the treatment of the head as well as the hoop, comes from Chesterton, Oxfordshire (Cool 1983, vol 3, 777–8, vol 5, fig. 50, 1). Other objects from the drying oven, the majority from Context 1561 (SUERC-79195; 263–275 cal AD (1.3%) 330–433 cal AD (86.2%), 489–532 cal AD (7.9%)), comprise nine nails and several binding strip fragments, including one more substantial, 105mm-long fragment with two circular holes. Of the nails, at least three belong to Manning's type 3 with T-shaped head, while the remainder, where identifiable, are the ubiquitous type 1b with flat, sub-

circular heads. One nail shank (L 69.2mm; W 7.7x8.4mm; Th 9x4.4mm) is noteworthy for its very good, uncorroded condition, which suggests that it had been made of a well-homogenised low-carbon iron (D. Dungworth, *pers. comm*.).

The remainder of the objects were assigned to Phase 5.2. Pit 1447 contained five nails, including two with a flat head and square shanks (Manning type 1b), on with a T-shaped head (type 3) as well as two shank fragments. The seven iron fragments from Pit 1885 comprise one type 1b-nail, three rod or shank fragments, one bar- and two sheet fragments. In addition, fragments of a bundle of two 6.7mm-wide copper-alloy strips, placed one on top of the other, were recovered from ditch 1142, while the remainder of the objects are all iron nails or nail shanks from pit 1753. A stud or tack with a flat discoidal head and a subsquare-sectioned stem (Manning type 7) was recovered from external dump 1358. Their large heads suggest that such tacks were intended for some decorative purpose (Manning 1985, 135).

A fragment of a tanged blade (Ra. 15) was found in pit 1378. Its rectangular-sectioned tang (tip 6.9x7.8mm) widens towards the wedge-shaped blade (14.2x4.1mm) which is broken at an oblique angle. This angle could be an artefact of deliberate breaking of the blade, but its poor condition precludes any certainty about this assumption. If this object is not a simple blade – and its wedge-shaped longitudinal section would suggest not – it might have been a plane iron of Hanemann type 6 (Hanemann 2014, Abb. 323; Humphreys 2018, 531-2, fig. 275) or, perhaps more likely, a paring chisel comparable to an example from Housesteads (Manning 1976, 48, fig. 15, 59).

Fixtures and fittings comprise nine objects, predominantly nails or nail shanks, found in various surface or destruction layers, including a nail with a T-shaped head (Manning type 3) from layer 1822 and a curved strip or hook from a layer of destruction debris (1125).

Six objects have been attributed to metalworking, although this categorisation is by no means certain for all objects, for instance in the case of the three iron rod fragments with a combined weight of 101g from destruction layer 1349, for which it is unclear whether or not they were intended for further smithing. A slightly more likely candidate is a parallel-sided copper-alloy strip (Ra. 10, Pit 1099), which had been folded at least three times along its length of more than 75mm, possibly in preparation for storage with the intention to remelt at a later stage. With a weight of 548g, Cat. No 10 (Fig. 32, No. 10) was either an iron bar or billet, or an anvil fragment, recovered from Destruction debris 1920. The fragmented, L-shaped bar has relatively even external surfaces, which might support the latter interpretation. If this is correct, it could be compared to two anvil fragments, together weighing 938g, from a Middle- to Late Iron Age context at Danebury (Cunliffe and Poole 1991, 351, 342 fig. 7.17, 2.275-6). Another bar or billet, weighing only 24g, was found in destruction layer 1450. It has a rectangular cross section and one end that appears slightly bashed from working.

An unidentifiable copper-alloy coin (Ra. 43) was collected from external surface 3082. Other objects of uncertain purpose include a copper-alloy ring (Ra. 9) with a circular-sectioned open hoop and a subcircular-sectioned wire (Ra.19) folded out of flat strip with seam along most of one side. Both could have been simple ear-rings of Allason-Jones type 1, a form which is evenly distributed throughout England. The type is not chronologically distinctive as such forms also occur before and after the Roman period (Allason-Jones 1989, 2, map 1). A flat iron strip bent into a rectangular collar was recovered from ploughsoil layer 1995.

A small iron bar fragment with parallel sides, one straight end and a slightly C-shaped cross-section, weighing 11g, could have been the remains of a billet for iron working. It was recovered from the ploughsoil, as were two small copper-alloy wire fragments of unknown function.

Discussion

In order to understand the nature of the obviously deliberate depositions of iron objects placed in a number of the features of Middle Iron Age to Early Roman date at Saxon Rise, it is instructive to consider their level of completeness and their state of preservation at the point of deposition in the contexts from which they were recovered.

The concept of the 'structured' or 'placed' deposit has long been discussed in archaeological and anthropological research. Attempts have been made to characterise the deposition of artefacts and ecofacts, to explore the difference between ritual (or even magical) actions and mundane everyday ones, as well as assessing whether this dichotomy is even appropriate (see e.g., Brück 1999; Hingley 2006; Chadwick 2015). Examples of criteria established to characterise assemblages as resulting from 'structured' deposition have, for instance, been proposed by Hill (1995) and Ellis and Powell (2008, 12–13, table 2.1). During the analysis of the metalwork assemblage from Saxon Rise, it became apparent that differences in the level of preservation of individual objects potentially offered clues as to the reasons for their deposition.

It has been possible to distinguish three different states of iron preservation within the assemblage, termed Preservation Categories (PC) 1 to 3: the first comprises objects that had been deposited complete. The fact that some of them now appear broken into several fragments is merely due to post-depositional corrosion which eventually led to the material becoming so brittle that subsequent movement, caused by soil consolidation, resulted in cracks and breaks to occur; the individual object, although broken, is still complete, and it can be assumed that the objects happened to, or were even meant to be deposited in a complete state. This state of preservation is, for instance, represented by currency bar Cat. No. 9.

A second state of preservation is represented by objects that had either been deliberately put beyond use by bending them (PC2a), or portions of them had been taken off for further treatment/processing or had been the waste left over from such processes by breaking and/or cutting them (PC2b). The bar fragment from Pit 1960, which shows evidence for having been cut with a hot chisel, is an example for the latter state of preservation (see also the forge waste from Houghton Down, Hampshire: Crew 2008), whereas a double-bent sword found in a grave from Coleford (High Nash), Gloucestershire (Stead 2006, 248, fig. 82, 128), provides an example for deliberately putting an object beyond use, probably in an act of ritual destruction in order to take it beyond human reach and use it as a votive offering (see e.g. Green 1998, 170; Müller 2002, 31).

The third preservation state is made up of objects that had been allowed to corrode long enough to become so brittle that breaking them would not show the signs of deliberate manipulation which would be visible had the object been interfered with in an uncorroded state. An important aspect for the argument to be developed in the following is that the depositional context shows evidence for a deliberate act of placement which can be distinguished from haphazard inclusion of objects that were lost or casually thrown away into the fills of features as part of everyday settlement activity. An example for this is represented by sword fragment Cat. No. 1 (see below).

There is, however, one caveat in that the level of completeness is dependent upon the archaeological visibility, i.e. what can be observed in any given context. This is demonstrated by hammer head Cat. No. 3, which appears to have been deposited complete and is therefore included in Preservation Category (PC) 1; but since a hammer is a composite object, usually consisting of an iron head and a wooden handle, it is impossible to say whether the hammer had been deposited as an object ready to be used, whether its handle broke during use or had deliberately been broken, or whether only its head had been deposited, requiring a handle to be fitted before using it (again) as a tool.

Table F.2 provides an overview of the preservation categories of metal objects recovered from the Middle Iron Age to Early Roman contexts; it excludes small, amorphous fragments that are too corroded and/or too fragmented to allow any meaningful attribution to any of the proposed preservation categories.

It is interesting to note that the category showing deliberate interference is least represented, but this does not necessarily mean that the character of the deposition of most of the objects is not ritual or votive. In fact, a closer examination of these contexts suggests that it is. The clearest case is the placement of the objects from context 1879 in Pit 1877. This fill is sloping towards the northern edge of the pit, and it would appear to be commensurate with the evidence that the long objects listed under PC 1 could have been leant against the northern pit edge and their subsequent breakage occurred as a result of post-depositional corrosion and soil consolidation. Even more intriguing, however, are the objects listed under PC 3, as none of these represent complete objects; instead they must have been stored long enough to reach a state of corrosion that would no longer permit to see any evidence of their breakage – whether intentional or haphazard. The fact that the objects are incomplete furthermore suggests that the location where they reached this advanced state of corrosion lies elsewhere, whether at the site itself or further away cannot be decided. Additionally, there is the possibility that some (perhaps only those of PC 3) or all of the objects from fill 1879 had been placed in a leather bag or wrapped in a leather sheet, although mineral preserved leather remains have only been positively identified on the possible chape fragment Cat. No. 8.3. While leather is not unknown in the construction of British Iron Age sword scabbards, it so far has only been identified in three scabbards from Rudston, East Yorkshire, whose construction involved the use of wooden rather than iron plates and which belong to swords of the northern tradition (Stead 2006, 58, fig. 12) whereas the site lies within the extent of the southern tradition. On balance it thus seems more likely that the leather remains on the chape fragment had not been a structural part of the object.

The treatment of the PC 3 objects can be described as curation and subsequent redeposition. The objects from pit 1879 treated in this way are all weapons or weapon equipment, whereas those of PC 1 – complete at the point of deposition – are probably all metalworking tools. The significance of this dichotomy, whether intentional or haphazard, remains unclear, but the small amount of metalworking waste recovered from the site suggests that this activity did neither play an important nor frequently performed role during the life of the settlement. Based on the excavated sample of features, it is highly questionable whether any such activity took place during the Middle Iron Age to Early Roman phases, since the only item indicative of on-site iron working was one flake of hammerscale from Phase 3.2 fill 3264 within pit 3261 (Pit Group W), while the evidence for iron smithing is more convincing for the Late Roman Period, with a smithing hearth bottom recovered from Rubble Spread 1833, Phase 5.2 (Starley 2017) and several iron objects that could have served as raw material.

Another weapon for which a structured deposition appears to be the most likely explanation is sword blade fragment Cat. No. 1, constituting the sealing deposit in Pit 1828, which had been cut into the upper fills of stone

lined Pit 1769. A similar situation was observed at Gretton, located *c*. 28km northeast of Brixworth, where a small pit containing a hoard of 48 currency bars had apparently been cut into an earlier and largely silted-up pit that formed part of a pit alignment (Hingley 2006, 229; Jackson 1974).

The significance of the alignment of features in Pit Group X in Phase 3.2 is reinforced by the placement of the complete currency bar Cat. No. 9 in the secondary fill of Ditch 1631, Enclosure I, on exactly the same alignment as the pit group. The only two objects not found in features forming part of this alignment are the two probable currency bar fragments from Pits 1605 and 1960, located c. 25m and 13m, respectively, to the north. The small number of only two, possibly three currency bars, of which only one is certainly complete, fits in well with the evidence from other settlements in England and Wales collated by Hingley, whereas depositions in other types of sites like hillforts or rock shelters can at times contain hundreds of bars (Hingley 1990, 112–3 Appendix).

The variety of activities for which the objects from the later Roman features had been used is marginally wider as it includes objects of personal adornment (bracelet fragment Cat. No. 11) and a coin, but no weapons (see Table F.1). It is interesting to note, however, that the finds now include many more fittings, predominantly nails and similar fixtures, which were frequently collected from destruction and surface layers. The same also applies to the metalworking objects, all of which might be nothing more than material for further processing or recycling. The largest assemblage of finds from the later Roman phases comes from Drying Oven 1555, Phase 5.1, comprising eleven objects, most of which are nails and other fittings probably associated with the functional structure of the installation. However, this assemblage also includes the fragment of a snake's head bracelet, which would have been selected by its erstwhile wearer for its healing and regenerative attributes (Bird 2011, 290). Its inclusion in the drying oven would have made an apposite closing deposit.

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Catalogue of illustrated finds (Figs. 30 and 31)

If not stated otherwise at the end of the description, the objects are made of iron.

1. Sword blade with 111mm-long tang, square at top (7.2x7.9mm) flaring to rectangular at campanulate hilt end (7.7x14.1mm). Blade lenticular in section, irregular break after 104,5mm from hilt end. Weight 78.2g. Ra. No. 29. Context 1770; Pit 1828; Pit Group X. Phase 3.2.

2. Poker. Spatulate-ended poker with plain, rectangular-sectioned handle, tapering in width from the junction with the blade. Blade widest (41mm) *c*. 19mm below junction to handle; blade appears slightly dished, or rather double concave, with raised rim (artefact of corrosion?). Knife blade or strip fragment corroded onto one side of blade near junction. Handle fragmented, old break. Weight 148.2g. Ra. No. 31A1. Context 1879; Pit.1877; Pit Group X. Phase 3.2.

3. Hammer head. Curved hand-hammer with narrow, slit-like eye with rounded ends. Head widest around the eye. Rectangular, almost square faced straight pane (W 9.2mm, H 10.9mm) and flat rectangular faced cross pane (W 11.4mm, H 5.9mm); both panes very corroded, thus uncertain whether faces were completely flat or slightly convex. Weight 69.5g. Ra. No. 31A2. Context 1879; Pit.1877; Pit Group X. Phase 3.2.

4. Rod/?File. Rectangular-sectioned rod with one broken end and on possible broken or obliquely angled end. May have been part of Cat. No. 5, but no join possible now. May have been file, but teeth do not show clearly/convincingly on x-radiograph. Weight 8.8g. Context 1879; Pit.1877; Pit Group X. Phase 3.2.

5. Rod/?punch. Rectangular-sectioned rod of approximately equal width and thickness with possibly one straight end (at smaller fragment), other end appears broken but might once have joined fragment from Cat. No. 4. Definitely not a single-cut file (further x-radiographs showed no hint of file cuts). One end with broken corner appears denser in x-radiograph, possibly hardened steel tip of punch. Weight 35.9g. Ra. No.31b. Context 1879; Pit.1877; Pit Group X. Phase 3.2.

6. Loop attachment (probably for bucket). U-shaped, open, subcircular-sectioned loop with flattened everted ends. One possible rivet hole in large end. Two detached fragments are part of surfaces separated from ends through corrosion. Weight 30.1g. Ra. No. 33. Context 1879; Pit.1877; Pit Group X. Phase 3.2.

7. Binding strip with concave sides flaring out towards wider ends.; narrower (W 15.3mm), complete, slightly convex end might have a rivet hole *c*. 6mm from outer edge; wider (W 21.3mm) end appears broken across a square/rectangular hole/opening; remains of 4.3mm-wide rivet in centre line of binding 10mm from base of opening. A detached corrosion bubble is included in total weight. Weight 11.3g. Context 1879; Pit.1877; Pit Group X. Phase 3.2.

8.1. Campanulate hilt end. Remains of 14.3mm-wide blade tang in pointed-oval opening; a fitting fragment of the blade below the hilt end retains a 15.7mm-long rivet shank from the scabbard fitting. Weight 25.1g. Ra. No. 32.1. Context 1879; Pit.1877; Pit Group X. Phase 3.2.

8.2. Dagger blade or sword tip. Two fragments (combined L 48.7mm) of the blade probably belong to the same object (a third fragment, most of the tip, was present in the x-radiograph but is now missing). Weight 5.8g. Ra. No. 32.2. Context 1879; Pit.1877; Pit Group X. Phase 3.2.

8.3. Chape, probably with remains of scabbard, or – less likely – possibly intermediate stage of blade forging. Fragment of parallel-sided scabbard plate with both edges tapering to tip in long, concave curves. Ridges along upper parts of edges and possibly a bridge joining the two parts of the frame across the top of the waisted area, partially visible in x-radiograph. Mineralised organic remains, probably leather, over part of the surface; might not have been part of the object but laid over it (P. Greaves, pers. comm.). Weight 10.4g. Ra. No. 32.3. Context 1879; Pit.1877; Pit Group X. Phase 3.2.

8.4. ?Chape with discoid terminal and possibly triangular frame. The probably slightly stepped terminal has a sub-oval circumference with the wider part orthogonal to the plane of the chape. Might fit Cat. No. 8.5 at narrowest end. Weight 23.0g. Ra. No. 32.4. Context 1879; Pit.1877; Pit Group X. Phase 3.2.

8.5. ?Scabbard plate with two rivets either side near the mouth, and possibly one additional rivet below the right; the corresponding area on the left shows what might be an amorphous hole (or a corrosion bubble). Plate tapering to width of 18.2mm near break; might fit Cat. No. 8.4. Weight 26.6g. Ra. No. 32.5. Context 1879; Pit.1877; Pit Group X. Phase 3.2.

9. Currency bar with blade tapering from widest point at slack shoulder (W 40.3mm; Th 7.2mm) to straight tip (W 27.20mm; Th 5.6mm). Socket (L 108mm; W/Th pinch: 12x22.4mm, tip: 20.7x14.8mm) splayed at tip and towards shoulder, just above shoulder it is pinched tighter, continuing more tubular towards tip. Weight 653.7g. Ra. No. 23. Context 1632; Ditch 1631; Enclosure I. Phase 3.2.

10. Bar/billet or anvil fragment. L-shaped fragment of bar with relatively straight external faces, possibly also two bars of differing lengths welded together (no weld line visible in x-radiograph: no penetration). Weight 545.4g. Destruction debris 1920. Phase 5.2.

11. Snake's head bracelet. Terminal with narrow zoomorphic head (L 16.6mm; W 2.6-6.1mm) orthogonal to the plane of the hoop; pinched snout and ears formed during casting; seen from the top the area between the ears appears like a saltire. Only *c*. one quarter of plano-convex sectioned hoop remains, widening from the head towards the break; hoop decorated with lateral triangular grooves slanted towards head and leaving a groove longitudinally along the centreline; three transverse grooves 11mm before the break, followed by a 7.8mm-wide undecorated area. Copper alloy. Weight 5.3g. Ra. No. 21. Context 1561; Structural Cut 1556; Drying Oven 1555. Phase 5.1.

Table F.1: Quantification of objects by functional categories per period.

Period Category (material)	**3.1**	**3.2**	**4.1**	**4.2**	**5.1**	**5.2**	**Total**
Personal						**1**	**1**
Copper alloy						1	1
Tools		**4**				**1**	**5**
Iron		4				1	5
Fittings	**1**	**2**		**13**	**5**	**20**	**41**
Iron	1	2		13	5	20	41
Weapon		**6**					**6**
Iron		6					6
Metalworking		**2**	**1**			**7**	**10**
Copper alloy						1	1
Iron		2	1			6	9
Commerce						**1**	**1**
Copper alloy						1	1
Uncertain		**3**			**1**	**6**	**10**
Copper alloy					1	5	6
Iron		3				1	4
Grand Total	**1**	**17**	**1**	**13**	**6**	**36**	**74**

Table F.2: Preservation categories of objects from features of Middle Iron Age to Early Roman date. If not indicated otherwise, the objects come from Context 1879, Pit 1877 in Pit Group X.

Preservation Category 1 Complete at point of deposition	**Preservation Category 2** Deliberately a) bent or b) fragmented/broken prior to deposition	**Preservation Category 3** Post-corrosion break and subsequent deliberate redeposition
? Cat. No. 2 Poker (if rod fragments Ra. Nos 31A3&4 were part of its handle) Cat. No. 3 Hammer head Cat. No. 4 Rod/?file Cat. No. 5 Rod/punch Cat. No. 9 Currency bar; Ditch 1631, Enclosure I	Context 1961 probable currency bar; Pit 1960	Cat. No. 1 Sword blade fragment; Pit 1828 Ra. No. 22 probable currency bar; Pit 1605 ? Cat. No. 6 Loop attachment Cat. No. 7 Binding strip Cat. No. 8.1 Hilt end Cat. No. 8.2 Dagger blade fragments Cat. No. 8.3 ?Chape Cat. No. 8.4 ?Chape Cat. No. 8.5 ? Scabbard plate

APPENDIX G: FIRED AND BURNT CLAY/DAUB

By E.R. McSloy and Katie Marsden

Introduction

Material of this category amounted to 401 fragments (6896g) and was recorded from 43 separate deposits primarily of Iron Age Phases 3.1-3.3 (5213g or 76.6%). Two groups, from Phase 3.2 pit fill 1777 (fill of feature 1775) and Phase 3.1 pit fill 3432 (fill of feature 3434) produced the largest quantities, together accounting for over half of the total by weight.

The bulk of the recovered material is heavily fragmented and few pieces preserve features suggestive of original function. 'Fabrics' show few major variations, the majority soft and buff-firing. Inclusions are sparse, consisting of small stones, unhomogenised clay lumps and some fine decayed or burnt-out organics. Little or none of this material is likely to have been deliberately added.

Objects

A fragment from Phase 3.1 pit fill 3228 (fill of feature 3227) preserved a single smoothed surface and a part of a circular perforation (9mm in diam.) and at angle to the surface consistent with clay loomweights of triangular form, in common use throughout the Iron Age period.

Oven furniture/superstructure

The greater part of material from larger groups from Phase 3.1 pit fill 3228, Phase 3.2 pit fill 1777 and Phase 3.2 pit fill 1748 probably derives from ovens of characteristic Iron Age type. Such features consist of a domed superstructure, open at the apex and with an integral shelf incorporating multiple circular perforations. The majority of fragments have a smoothed, external surface, the larger pieces with a detectable curvature – and this likely to be from the superstructure. A few pieces exhibit wattle impressions indicative of this form of internal framework. Two large non-joining fragments (584g) from pit fill 1777 come from a shelf of this form seemingly with smaller perforations of *c*. 40mm diam. arranged around a larger central perforation of *c.* 100mm. Ovens of this form are widely known (Thomas 2005, 179-181; McSloy 2015, 208) although typically only from fragmentary remains such as those described.

Structural (burnt) daub

The large (2279g) and well-fragmented group from Phase 3.1 pit fill 3432 almost certainly was of this category. The 'fabric' is notably soft and friable and surviving features limited to pieces with narrow diameter (8-10mm) round-sectioned 'wattles'.

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APPENDIX H: GLASS

By Ed McSloy and Katie Marsden

A single glass object, bead (Ra. 28) is described and illustrated (Fig. 29, no. 4; Fig. 10). Further material, amounting to six fragments (29g), of vessel or window glass of post-medieval or modern type, is recorded within the PXA, but is not further discussed.

Bead (Ra. 28) was recovered as an unstratified find. Its design is unlike that of Iron Age annular beads. The rich colouring is most reminiscent of later Roman or post-Roman dating and the best analogue is an example from an earlier Anglo-Saxon burial context from Kingston Down, Kent (cf. Guido 1999; Plate 5 and schedule 6xiv).

1. Annular glass bead of rich cobalt blue with evenly-spaced, but quite irregularly-shaped spots of opaque pale yellow. Probably 7th century (cf. Guido 1999; Plate 5 and schedule 6xiv). Ext. diam. 22.5mm; int. diam. 11.5mm; thickness 7mm (Fig. 29, no. 4; Fig. 10).

Reference

Guido, M., 1999 *The glass beads of Anglo-Saxon England, c.AD 400-700: A preliminary visual classification of the more definitive and diagnostic types* London, Reports of the of the Society of Antiquaries of London

APPENDIX I: WORKED STONE

By Ruth Shaffrey

Iron Age

Description

A total of three querns and one whetstone were recovered from features of Middle to Late Iron Age date. A fragment of sarsen saddle quern was found in Phase 3.2 pit 1221 (fill 1222; Ring Ditch C) and an almost complete and large sandstone saddle quern was recovered from the same pit (fill 1224; Ra. 36: Fig. 32, No. 1). This quern is very unusual because it is perforated in the centre; both faces are pecked and worn through use, but one is more dished suggesting it was the more heavily utilised. There are two explanations for the perforation. One is that it results from subsequent use, perhaps as a socket stone. Alternatively, it could be contemporary with the quern's original use. If so, it is likely that there was a plug in the centre that could be removed. Since flour would naturally move towards the edge of the quern when the grain was being ground, there is no need for a perforation in the centre suggesting that, if the perforation is contemporary, the stone was used to process something other than grain.

A complete upper beehive quern, Ra. 44, was found in Phase 3.1 pit 3227 (fill 3229: Fig. 32, No. 2) and has a perforated handle socket in the side that is cut through into the vertical-sided hopper with rim around the top. Almost the entire edge of the grinding surface has been chipped away around the circumference.

A good example of a very fine whetstone was found in Phase 3.2 pit 1877, Pit Group X (Ra. 34: Fig. 32, No. 3) where it had been deliberately placed with other metalworking tools. This whetstone is relatively small and very well used across all of its surfaces so that the ends and sides are all bevelled. Such wear is consistent with the sharpening of narrower blades and the extent of its use suggests it was a well-loved tool, probably part of a personal toolkit. It is made from a very fine-grained micaceous siltstone. It is complete and has not been analysed further.

Catalogue of Iron Age stone objects

1. Grinding stone/saddle quern with hole. **(**Fig. 32, No. 1). Fine-grained and well-sorted quartz cemented sandstone with very minor muscovite mica and untwinned feldspars visible in thin section. Possibly Old Red Sandstone. Large rectangular stone. Edges are straight and vertical and roughly finished. Upper face is concave along its length and width and worn smooth although with traces of pecking apparent. In the centre of the grinding surface is a perforation - oval in shape and measuring 70 x 50mm at the face and conical so that by the other face it measures only 17mm diameter. The base has been pecked all over but is very well used so that it is worn smooth and is slightly concave in both directions. The working face of the base covers the whole surface. The working face of the upper side has a slight rim so that it measures 330 x 245mm and 20mm deep in the centre. Overall, the quern measures 350 x 305 x 125mm max thickness. Weighs 18.2kg. Ra. 36. Fill 1224 of pit 1221, Ring ditch C. Phase 3.2. Middle to Late Iron Age II (400 BC – 100 BC)

2. Saddle quern/grinding stone. *Not illustrated*. Sarsen. No original edges. One face is flat, other face is curved and concave in two directions. Evidence that these faces were pecked but now worn very smooth. Measures >200 x >90 x 75. Ra. 37. Fill 1222 of pit 1221. Ring ditch C. Phase 3.2. Middle to

Late Iron Age II (400 BC – 100 BC)

3. Complete beehive rotary quern **(**Fig. 32, No. 2). Medium to coarse grained poorly-sorted feldspathic sandstone with quartz and clay cement visible in thin section. Millstone Grit. Largely complete upper stone with 90% of circumference of grinding surface deliberately removed. The grinding surface is flat and pecked. The feed pipe is cylindrical and measures 21mm diameter inside and 36mm at the grinding surface, but this is where a second feed pipe has been drilled from underneath alongside the final one. Possibly to support a rynd. The side handle perforates the hopper and is rectangular and measures 48 x 28mm on the side. There is a rim of 20mm around the top of the quern/hopper. The hopper has straight vertical sides, scooped base and measures 96mm deep to base of vertical sides and 130mm deep in centre, 120mm diameter. Moderate to high levels of wear on the grinding surface. Measures 285-300mm diameter x 155-210mm thick. Weighs 16.9kg. Ra. 44. Fill 3229 of pit 3227. Phase 3.1. Middle to late Iron Age I (400 BC – 100 BC)

4. Flat elongate whetstone **(**Fig. 32, No. 3). Very fine-grained micaceous siltstone (the whetstone is complete so difficult to see the mineralogy). The faces are all worn, the ends are bevelled and the sides are a mixture of bevelled and flat. Its small overall size suggests it was used actively to work or sharpen small tools. Measures 83 x 36 x 8mm. Weighs 49g. Ra.34. Fill 1879 of pit 1877, Pit Group X. Phase 3.2. Middle to Late Iron Age II (400 BC – AD 43)

Discussion

This small group of Iron Age objects is intriguing and informative for such a small assemblage. None of the querns were manufactured in the immediate vicinity of the site. The beehive quern is of Millstone Grit, presumably from Derbyshire and the fragmentary saddle quern is of sarsen, of which many sources were available. The perforated saddle quern may have been imported some distance, given its unusual form, and although it is most similar to rocks of Devonian age, such as the Old Red Sandstone, it is not very distinctive petrographically, and a precise source has not been determined.

The perforated saddle quern and the beehive rotary quern were largely complete when deposited. The saddle quern has a corner missing, damage that seems unlikely to have been accidental while the edge of the grinding surface of the rotary quern has been chipped away in an approach coined 'detachment' by David Heslop (fill 2008, 71). Such behaviour seems rooted in the culture of the midlands and the north of England where beehive querns were in use; detachment appears to have been much less common in the south where shallower bun-shaped querns were favoured (personal observation).

Normal behaviour was to break querns up into multiple pieces when they were being put out of use, probably because they were perfectly suited to recycling. The deposition of complete or nearly complete querns is therefore sufficiently unusual as to be noteworthy when it occurs. It is occasionally possible that querns were being stored with the intention of returning for them at a later date, but here, although detachment of the edge would not have rendered the quern unusable, it would have symbolically marked the quern out as having been finished with.

Placed deposits of querns during the middle and late Iron Age are typically found in pits (as with the beehive quern) and Susan Watts found 17 complete examples in her study (Watts 2014, 116). A survey of querns in the

south-west of England found that querns were only rarely placed in ditches and in that region, never complete (Watts 2014, 116-117). The fact that two almost complete querns were in placed deposits at Saxon Rise suggests a pattern of behaviour. This behaviour should be seen in the light of the deliberate placement of other artefact types at the site, such as the metalworking tools including the complete whetstone, as something that was not specific to querns, but part of a more general practice.

Roman

Description

A total of six items of worked stone were recovered from Roman features and a further two from post-Roman features that are almost certainly residual and Roman in origin. These comprise one rotary quern (Phase 5.1), three rotary querns or millstones (Phase 5.2 and Phase 6), two millstones (Phase 5.1), one weight and one whetstone (Period 7).

Two fragments are from millstones that are large enough to suggest mechanical power – that is, they would have required more than a single person and pair of hands to operate (Shaffrey 2015). One of these is a small millstone of 55cm diameter (Ra.24: Fig. 32, No. 4), the other (Ra. 26: Fig. 33, No. 5) is over 58cm diameter and perhaps as much as 86cm diameter, based on the position of an inner distribution ring (John Cruse pers. Comm.). Such rings are occasionally found on millstones and are thought to have aided the movement of grain away from the eye (Cruse 2017). A third example is of borderline diameter (Ra. 25: Fig. 33, No. 6). At 51cm it could be from either a rotary quern or small millstone. All three fragments were recovered from a charcoal-rich backfill (fill 1561) of drying oven 1555 (Phase 5.1).

Two fragments from Phase 5.2 deposits (External dump layer 1808 and Destruction debris layer 1349) are not sufficiently complete for their diameters to be ascertained and could therefore be from either rotary querns or millstones (Ra. 13 and Ra. 30). Both are of Millstone Grit, though their dressing suggests they are not from the same stone. One further fragment measures 43cm diameter and is definitely from a lower rotary quern. It is from the subsoil 1001 but is of Roman form.

Two other objects from Roman features comprise a piece of perforated shelly limestone, possibly from a weight (Ra.18) and a whetstone (fill 1936: Fig. 33, No. 7), which can only have been used to sharpen relatively small blades.

Catalogue of Roman stone objects

5. Large upper rotary quern or small millstone. Figure 32, No. 4. Fine-grained micaceous poorly-sorted grey-orange quartz sandstone with occasional feldspar and rock fragments including quartzite visible in thin section. Possibly from the Old Red Sandstone. The eye measures 72mm diameter and is cylindrical and circular. The grinding surface is finely pecked and but the outer half is worn completely smooth. The grinding face slopes slightly up towards the eye. The circumference is pecked and slightly rounded/convex. The base is flat and roughly dressed with hammer marks. Measures 550mm diameter x 65mm thick on the edge and 82mm maximum thickness at the centre. Weighs 13.7kg. Ra. 24. Fill 1561 of furnace/ pyrotechnic installation 1556. Phase 5.1 (Late Roman I).

6. Upper millstone. Figure 33, No. 5. Medium-grained well-sorted feldspathic sandstone with clay and quartz cement and with microcline, perthite, orthoclase and anorthoclase all visible in thin section.

Millstone Grit. No edges survive, but the surviving fragment can be measured from the centre of the eye to the broken edge and this is 58cm. There is an inner distribution ring at 26cm suggesting a diameter of between 604 and 866mm (John Cruse pers comm). The grinding surface is dressed and not especially worn. The upper surface is worn and the fragment has therefore been reused. The eye is circular and 90mm diameter, cylindrical. There is a slot separate from the eye right through the stone and 15mm diameter, part of the rynd chase. Measures >580mm diameter x 62-90mm thick. Weighs 5.9kg. Ra. 26. Fill 1561 of furnace/pyrotechnic installation 1556. Phase 5.1 (Late Roman I).

7. Upper rotary quern fragment or small millstone. Figure 33, No. 6. Coarse-grained greyish-red feldspathic sandstone with clay and quartz cement and with almost 10% perthite visible in thin section. Millstone Grit. Flat-topped type and quite thin. The grinding surface is pecked and quite rough still except on the outermost 2cm where it is worn smooth. On the upper surface, which is flat but very gently rounded, there is a channel carved around the circumference, 10mm wide and the centre of which is 10mm from the edge. The sides are pecked and slope inwards. The top of the stone is burnt and blackened. The centre does not survive. Measures 21mm -31mm thick x 510mm diameter. Ra. 25. Fill 1561 of furnace/pyrotechnic installation 1556. Phase 5.1 (Late Roman I).

8. Fragment of flat large rotary quern or millstone. *Not illustrated*. Medium to coarse-grained poorly sorted feldspathic sandstone with occasional muscovite observed in thin section. Millstone Grit. Smoothed straight vertical edges. Tiny part of one face survives and this is flat and smooth. The other face (presumed to be the grinding face) is flat and pecked with deep spaced pock marks. Measures 74mm thick x indeterminate diameter although it looks large. Weighs 803g. Ra. 13. Destruction debris layer 1349. Phase 5.2 (Late Roman II).

9. Rotary quern or millstone fragment. *Not illustrated*. Medium to coarse-grained well-sorted slightly feldspathic sandstone with zircon observed in thin section. Millstone Grit. Fragment of grinding surface only. No edges or other face survive. The grinding surface is flat and pecked with deep spaced pock marks. Measurements are indeterminate. Weighs 213g. Ra. 30. External dump layer 1808. Phase 5.2 (Late Roman II).

10. Lower rotary quern fragment. *Not illustrated*. Old Red Sandstone. Sloped grinding surface, pecked but now worn smooth. Edges vertical, pecked and straight but quite narrow. Base flat and roughly worked. The eye is narrow, 35mm at grinding surface and conical so narrower at base (but does not survive sufficiently well to measure it). Measures 430mm diameter x 31-73mm max thickness at centre. Subsoil 1001. Period 6. Post-Roman

11. Weight. *Not illustrated*. Shelly limestone. Flat stone with perforation of 58mm diameter, circular and cylindrical. One face is worn and the other is not. No edges survive. It is possible it is a weight or maybe even a socket stone or similar. Measures 230 x 190 x 60mm. Ra. 18. Destruction debris layer 1349. Phase 5.2 (late 3rd – late 4th century AD)

12. Whetstone. Figure 33, No. 7. Medium-grained micaceous pale brown sandstone with occasional black flecks. Complete, with square cross section and rounded arrises. Flat ends. Measures 54 x 20 x 17mm. Weighs 35g. Layer 1936. Period 6. Post-Roman

Discussion

The Roman querns and millstones at Saxon Rise are made from Old Red Sandstone and Millstone Grit, the two largest producers of querns in England at that time. Querns were produced in these rock types at more than one locale, but in the case of Millstone Grit, most manufacture seems to have been in Derbyshire and south Yorkshire (Wright 1988; Newman 2016; Palfreyman and Ebbins 2007) whilst the majority of Old Red Sandstone querns were produced in the Forest of Dean and Wye Valley (Shaffrey 2006). The general lack of variability in the petrography of the Millstone Grit indicates that a single source is likely. If so, use of querns and millstones from only the two major producers in the midlands and south suggests some careful planning to the obtaining of these tools, rather than an ad-hoc attitude to sourcing them.

When interpreting an assemblage of querns and millstones, it is, however, always important to consider whether they are likely to represent activity at or near to the actual site that was excavated or whether they could have been brought there during a reuse phase, for example for use as sharpening stones or for construction. In the case of Saxon Rise, it seems likely that they do reflect actual use nearby because of the generally large size of the surviving fragments and because only one of them shows evidence of reuse as a hone but also because of other evidence from the site that crop processing was part of the site's economy – for example drying ovens from both middle and later Roman phases of activity.

The querns and millstones imply an emphasis on cereal processing during the middle and/or later Roman period. The millstones suggest that a greater level of processing was required than could be met by individual households alone, thus leading to a centralisation of some of the process. Whether this was because there were bakeries on site that needed larger quantities of flour than were easily produced by hand querns, or because a surplus was required for export, or to free up some people for other tasks, is difficult to extrapolate from the evidence. But it is increasingly clear that intensification of cereal processing was commonplace in the rural economy. Little work has been done on the organisation of grain processing in the Northampton region, but a mill certainly existed at Stanwick (Neal 1989) and millstones were also found at Higham Ferrers, both approximately 20km east of Brixworth (Shaffrey 2009). It is not certain how the millstones were powered, but they could have been powered by animals or perhaps by the tributary of the River Nene that runs nearby, and which was certainly capable of powering mills further downstream at a later date. The millstones themselves do not indicate what might have powered them.

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Appendix of thin sections

A total of seven querns from Saxon Rise were thin-sectioned. Full details of these can be found in the project archive, but summary descriptions of each are included here.

Ra. 13

Medium to coarse-grained poorly-sorted feldspathic sandstone containing mostly monocrystalline quartz with less polycrystalline quartz. There is frequent perthite as well as orthoclase, anorthoclase and other unidentified degraded feldspars. The quartz is irregular in shape with mostly long contacts and some evidence of pressure solution but with plenty of obvious porosity. The rock is cemented with clay and quartz cements and the occasional rock fragment and muscovite mica were observed. Millstone Grit.

Ra. 24

Poorly-sorted slightly micaceous medium-grained sandstone containing mostly monocrystalline quartz with less polycrystalline quartz and with quartz and clay cements. The quartz grains demonstrate grain solution and the grains have long or blurred contacts. Rock fragments are frequent and both biotite and muscovite mica were recorded. Old Red Sandstone.

Ra. 25

Coarse-grained moderately well-sorted sandstone containing mostly monocrystalline quartz with less polycrystalline quartz and with mostly long contacts between grains. There are low levels of compaction with plenty of visible porosity although some areas are better cemented. Grains are mostly sub-rounded and most of

the quartz has straight extinction. There are high proportions of perthite feldspar with microcline, orthoclase and degraded feldspar in smaller quantities. Quartz and clay cements are presence and there are haematite rims around many of the grains. Millstone Grit.

Ra. 26

Medium-grained, moderately well-sorted feldspathic sandstone containing both monocrystalline and polycrystalline quartz. Grains are mostly rounded with a mixture of contacts. Some areas are better cemented than others but there is plenty of porosity. This rock is not as feldspathic as some of other querns on site, but it contains microcline, perthite, orthoclase and anorthoclase in small numbers as well as some tourmaline. The rock is cemented with quartz and clay cement and there are haematite rims around many grains. Millstone Grit.

Ra. 30

Medium to coarse-grained well-sorted feldspathic sandstone with mostly sub-angular grains and mainly monocrystalline quartz (with straight extinction). It has fairly high porosity and a mixture of short, medium and long contacts between grains. The rock is cemented with quartz and clay cements. Perthite, microcline and occasional orthoclase felspar are present and zircon was observed. Millstone Grit.

Ra. 36

Fine-grained well-sorted and well-compacted sandstone with long and sutured contacts between grains and very little porosity. Almost 95% of the rock is quartz (82% monocrystalline quartz grains) and the few other minor components consist of muscovite, un-twinned feldspars and haematite. Most of the quartz has straight extinction but occasionally it is undulose. There is definitely some quartz cement although there are no rims to the quartz so it is difficult to determine the original grain shape. Old Red Sandstone

Ra. 44

Medium to coarse-grained poorly-sorted feldspathic sandstone with high levels of both monocrystalline and polycrystalline quartz. There are particularly high quantities of perthite feldspar, although microcline, orthoclase and anorthoclase are also present. Quartz grains are sub-angular to rounded with eroded edges. Contacts between grains are sub-angular to rounded with eroded edges. Contacts between grains are mostly long but there is plenty of obvious porosity. There are patches of iron cementation and other clay cements as well as some minor quartz cement. Quartz grains have a mixture of straight and undulose extinction. Millstone Grit.

APPENDIX J: HUMAN BONE

By Sharon Clough

Summary

One inhumation was recovered from pit 3230 which was dated to the Middle Iron Age (Phase 3.1). The individual was estimated to be a male aged over 45 years at death and suffered from osteoarthritis to the right ankle and left knee. Pit 1873 (Phase 3.2) contained a single human femur fragment. A single cremation burial was recovered from within ceramic urn 1359 (Ra. 14). This was assigned to Phase 5.1. There was nearly 100g of cremated bone from an adult individual predominantly from the lower limbs. The fragments were nearly all over 10mm in size. The bone was not completely white, incomplete combustion, which is typical for the Roman period. A piece of adult frontal bone was recovered from pit 1707 (Phase 5.2).

Methodology

All skeletal material was examined and recorded in accordance with national guidelines (Hillson 1996; Brickley and McKinley 2004; Mays *et al*. 2004).

Biological Age Assessment

Aging is a highly variable process whose causative factors and biological mechanics are not fully understood (Cox 2000). In addition, 'biological age' does not always equate to 'chronological age' or 'social age' (Lewis 2007), of which adulthood is primarily a culturally defined concept (Cox 2000; Lewis 2007). With this in mind, a multi-method approach was taken (Table J.1) to provide a range of estimates, then each indicator was weighted on reliability. Where only one (less reliable) method was available, the individual was determined to be only Adult or Subadult.

Table J.1*:* Macroscopic techniques used

Pubic symphysis	Brooks and Suchey 1990
Auricular surface	Lovejoy *et al.* 1985; Buckberry and Chamberlain 2002 (used for older adults)
Dental attrition	Miles 1962
Cranial suture closure	Meindl and Lovejoy 1985
Sternal Rib ends	Işcan and Loth 1984; 1985
Epiphyseal fusion	McKern and Stewart 1957; Webb and Suchey 1985
Dental eruption	Moorees *et al.* 1963; AlQahtani 2009

Sex Estimation

The biological sex of all adult skeletons was based on examination of standard characteristics of the skull and pelvis (Ferembach *et al*. 1980; Schwartz 1995), with greater emphasis on features of the latter as they are known to be more reliable (Cox and Mays 2000). Measurements of the femoral and humeral heads were employed as secondary indicators (Giles 1970). Adult skeletons were recorded as male, female, probable male (male?), probable female (female?), or indeterminate, depending on the degree of sexual dimorphism of features. No attempt was made to sex subadults, defined as individuals below 20 years of age for whom there are no accepted methods (Cox 2000), with the exception of adolescent skeletons whose innominate bones had fused and where preservation was adequate.

Skeletal condition and completeness

The completeness of each skeleton was classified as a percentage of the whole and divided into four groups: 0-25%, 25-50%, 50-75% and 75+%. The condition of the bone surface of each skeleton was recorded in detail with reference to different anatomical areas (skull, arms, hands, legs and feet) after McKinley (2004, 16) and given an overall summary score.

Metrics

Measurements of long bones were used to estimate stature in adults (Trotter 1970). Measurements of other long bones and skulls were taken (where appropriate) and used in the calculation of indices to explore variation in the physical attributes of the population.

Non-metrics

The presence or absence of frequently recorded non-metrical cranial and post-cranial traits was scored (Berry and Berry 1967; Schwartz 1995; Hillson 1996).

Dental

Dentition was recorded using the Palmer notation. Caries were graded into small (<1mm), medium (2-4 mm) and large (>4 mm). Abscesses were recorded with reference to Dias and Tayles (1997). Periodontal disease and dental enamel hypoplasia were graded using Ogden 2008. Calculus was graded per tooth (flecks, slight, medium, heavy, after Brothwell 1981) and recorded as sub- and supra-gingival.

Pathology

Skeletal pathology and/or bony abnormality was described and differential diagnoses explored with reference to standard texts (Ortner and Putschar 1981; Resnick 1995; Aufderheide and Rodriguez-Martin 1998).

Results

Phase 3.1

Skeleton 3226

This skeleton was recovered from circular pit 3230, above fill 3998 and below fill 3231 (Fig. 14). Both the fills have been dated to the Middle Iron Age. The individual was in a slightly crouched position. Supine upper half, with legs tightly flexed to right side at waist height, left arm straight and right arm bent tightly at elbow hand on bent below the shoulder, as if clutching something. Cranium was on the right side.

The skeleton was estimated to be male, the skull and pelvic morphology concurred. This individual was estimated to be over 45 years of age at the time of death the range was 40-60 years. There was more than 75% of the skeleton available for observation and the bone surface was grade two. The skull was fragmented as were the ribs and vertebrae and some long bones.

There were 29 teeth present and one lost ante-mortem where the alveolar had completely resorbed. Calculus was present on 27 of the teeth and particularly excessive on the left maxillary canine, where it extended superiorly and covered the crown. This tooth had a bent root (as did the adjacent pre-molar). The maxilla alveolar were not present, but it is surmised that there may have been crowding or misalignment involving these two teeth, perhaps leading to the canine not in occlusion. There were chips in the enamel on the left first molars (maxilla and mandible) and the right maxilla canine. This may indicate extra-masticatory wear, due to the use of

the teeth as a tool. As such, tooth wear was not considered reliable when estimating age at death. Dental enamel hypoplasia was present as a single line on three teeth. Periodontal disease was at an early stage (Ogden stage 1-2) on 10 alveolar.

Lambdoid ossicles (supernumerary bones within the cranial suture) were present, but due to fragmentation it was not possible to determine the exact numbers for left and right sides. Mandibular and maxillary tori were present these have an unknown aetiology and appear as bone deposition adjacent to the teeth.

Spinal Joint disease was present in the form of osteophytosis (extra bone growth) and was present on thoracic vertebrae 9-10. Further, intervertebral disc disease, Schmorl's nodes (indentations on the vertebral body caused by the compression of the intervertebral disc) were present on seven thoracic and two lumbar vertebrae. The fifth lumbar vertebra and first sacral body had possible spondylolithesis (vertebral body slips forward out of position) with secondary osteophytosis (extending 8mm) and intervertebral disc disease. The right thoracic vertebrae, 11-12, had osteophytic growth on the articular surface for the rib, in addition there was also one rib with the growth.

Non-spinal joint disease was present as osteoarthritis on the left superior tibia and left inferior femoral condyle. There was eburnation which covered an area of 20 x 36mm. In addition, the femoral lateral condyle had osteophytic growth extending 6mm. Further osteoarthritis was present on the right distal tibia and talus. This was in the form of eburnation on the talus 11 x 6mm, 8 x 4mm and tibia 8 x 7mm. There was 3mm of osteophytic growth around the joint surface and the talus was reduced in body height. The height reduction may possibly be due to fracture or trauma with the osteoarthritis as secondary to the trauma.

Cribra orbitalia was present in the left and right orbits grade 2 (after Stuart-Macadam 1991). The porosity in the eye orbit was formerly considered to be indicative of anaemia (ibid). It is now thought to be a more general indicator of metabolic distress (Walker *et al.* 2009).

Left first metatarsal proximal phalanx had a cortical defect on the central area of the proximal joint surface. Two phalanges were fused, intermediate and distal from the foot (side unknown). These are both common findings and possibly related to over-use of the foot and/or ill-fitting footwear.

The stature was estimated to be 162.56 cm (+-3.27) using the right femur (Trotter 1970). The average for the Iron Age was found to be 168 cm (Roberts and Cox 2003) for males. Therefore this individual was below average for the period.

- Platymeric index right Femur – 62 = <74.9 hypermeria (very flattened)
- Platycnemic index Tibia – 67.56 = 63-69.9 mesocnemnic (flat)

These indices demonstrate the flattening of both the femur and tibia anterior-posteriorly. The shape of the lower long bones varies according to limb use.

Pit burials have been known from the Iron Age since the earliest excavations (Harding 2015). An isolated burial in a group of pits indicates that the pit is unlikely to have been specially cut, but re-used once the primary purpose has ceased. Pit burial is one of a variety of ways of disposing of the dead in the Iron Age. It is thought that division between the secular and religious/ritual did not necessarily exist in the Iron Age, which may explain the presence of human burials in former food storage or rubbish pits.

Phase 3.2

Disarticulated human bone

A human femur shaft fragment was identified from amongst the animal bone (Holmes this report) recovered from Pit 1873 (context 1875; Pit Group Y) dated to the Middle to Late Iron Age.

Phase 5.2

Cremated human bone

The ceramic vessel 1359 (Ra. 14) was recovered from ditch N and contained cremated human bone. The vessel is dated to the 2nd century AD and presented as incomplete with one side removed. Upon micro-excavation it was evident that cremated bone remained in situ and the loss of part of the vessel may have only resulted in the loss of a small quantity of bone. The narrow neck and small size of the vessel would have limited the quantity and size of cremated bone which could be inserted.

Methodology

Standard methodology and reporting were followed (Brickley and McKinley 2004; Mays, Brickley and Dodwell 2004).

The urn was micro-excavated in the lab in spits. These were then processed as environmental samples, which involved wet sieving using flotation and 1mm residue mesh. The dry bone was then removed from the sample and sieved through 10.5 and 2mm mesh size. The weight of the bone retained in each fraction and spit was recorded and its percentage of the total weight of the cremation was calculated. This enabled the degree of fragmentation to be quantified in each cremation.

The bones retained from each sieve size were examined in detail and sorted into the following identifiable bone groups: skull (including mandible and dentition); axial (clavicle, scapula, ribs, vertebra and pelvic elements); upper limb and lower limb. The separation of the bone into these groups helps illuminate any deliberate bias in the skeletal elements collected for burial. Each sample was weighed on digital scales and details of colour and largest fragment were recorded. Where possible, the presence of individual bones within the defined bone groups was noted. Any unidentifiable fragments of long bone shafts or cancellous bone, which are often the majority recovered from cremations, were weighed and incorporated into any subsequent quantitative analysis. The prevalence of unidentifiable bone is largely dependent on the degree of fragmentation, whereby larger fragments are easier to identify than smaller ones.

It must also be taken into consideration that some skeletal elements are more diagnostic and more easily identifiable than others and, therefore, more often recorded. This may create bias in calculations of the relative quantities of skeletal elements collected for burial.

Fragments below a certain size are not distinguishable as to whether they are human or animal except microscopically or chemically.

Age estimations from cremated remains are dependent on the survival of particular age diagnostic elements. In adult cremations, the most useful age indicators are degenerative changes to the auricular surface (Lovejoy et al. 1985) and pubic symphysis (Suchey and Brooks 1990) and cranial suture closure (Meindl and Lovejoy 1985). For

subadults unerupted teeth, cranial thickness and size of bones help to identify age.

Sex estimation of adult burnt bone relies on the preservation of specific elements and is uncommon in cremated material. The quantity of warping and shrinkage of the bone during the cremation process must also been taken into consideration when estimating sex using the standard analytical techniques used on dry bone.

Results

The total weight of bone was 99.6g (Table J.2). This is a very small quantity and well below the expected value for a complete body (1000-3000g, after McKinley 2000). Although some will have been lost after the vessel was damaged, it is unlikely to be enough to increase the quantity to a full individual. The distribution of bone by area demonstrated a bias towards the lower limb bones (femur and tibia). It is therefore considered that a token amount of the cremated bone was deposited in the vessel which predominantly comprised the largest and most easily collected bones of the lower limb.

Table J.2: Weight of cremated bone by skeletal area

Context	Total Weight (g)	Cranial (g)	Cranial %	Axial (g)	Axial %	Upper Limb Bone (g)	Upper limb %	Lower Limb (g)	Lower limb %	Un-identified (g)	Un-identified %
1359	99.6	10.8	10.84	0	0	15.8	15.86	57.9	58.12	15.1	15.16

The colour of the cremated bone varied from white through grey and black. White was usually on the exterior and grey or black the interior. This demonstrates that the pyre was only kept hot until just enough of the bone had turned white (over 800°C is needed to turn bone white). Complete oxidation was not desired or necessary.

Nearly all the fragments were over 10mm in size (96.5g). Some were more complete before excavation as seen in the photographs taken during micro-excavation, but have fragmented along the fissure lines on removal. The large size of the fragments is partly due the incomplete combustion, which has not removed all the organic content and partly due to the protection of the narrow-necked urn. The implication from the large fragment size is that post-pyre fragmentation did not occur and that only the large fragments were selected for inclusion in the urn.

The cremated bone from within the urn is fairly typical for the Roman period. McKinley (2008) has found that variation in colour (and therefore pyre temperature) is typical for Roman period cremation burials. In the sample she examined whether body mass may account for the variation and found that males (with a larger body mass) showed the greatest frequency of range and extent in colour. This suggests that perhaps the quantity of wood or size of pyre was not adjusted for body mass. There is a slight difference between town and rural practice, incomplete oxidation of bone is more frequently observed from town sites. Although in towns there was potentially access to a professional undertaker (*ustores*), in rural areas it may have been the family who undertook the process. Both these factors would have influenced the quantity of wood and the quality of the pyre.

Phase 6.2

Disarticulated bone

Fill 1708

A right cranial frontal bone fragment was recovered from the fill of the pit 1707 (period 5.2). It was adult in size. No further information can be determined from this small fragment.

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Skeleton Catalogue -

Skeleton Number: **3226**
Sex: Male
Age: 45+ older adult
Height: 162.56 (right femur)
Metrics (mm): Ulna R 259mm. Femur R 425mm. Fibula L 333mm.
Completeness: 75% +
Condition: (McKinley 2004) grade 2
Pathologies: Osteoarthritis right ankle and left knee. Spinal joint degeneration especially LV5-S1. *Cribra orbitalia*.
Dental: 29/31, calculus 27, DEH 2, periodontal 11.

Cremated bone 1359

Context Number & urn number	1359, urn 1359 RA14.
Total Weight	99.6g
Bone identified	Cranial fragments, 1 mandibular fragment. Humerus, radius, ulna, scapula. Femur, tibia.
Largest Fragment size	54 x 22 mm
Age	Adult
Sex	Unknown
Pathology	None observed – but well defined linea aspera on posterior femur
Colour	White exterior, grey and black internal.

APPENDIX K: ANIMAL BONE

By Matilda Holmes

Introduction

A moderate assemblage of 797 animal bones identified to taxa was recovered from various features dating between the Middle Iron Age to post-Roman periods. Only the Middle to Late Iron Age, Late Iron Age to Early Roman and Late Roman phases were large enough to analyse in detail. There is little to suggest major change in the underlying animal economy at the site, although a sudden and considerable decrease in the number of sheep/goat in the Roman period may reflect an increase in arable production, or the provision of meat to towns.

Methodology

Bones were identified using the author's reference collection. Due to anatomical similarities between sheep and goat, bones of this type were assigned to the category 'sheep/ goat', unless a definite identification (Zeder and Lapham 2010; Zeder and Pilaar 2010) could be made. Dogs and foxes were separated using metapodial measurements (Ratjen and Heinrich 1978) and corvids using long bone measurements (Tomek and Zbigniew 2000). A method for rapidly recording animal bones was adopted based on Davis (1992) where only 'countable' fragments were recorded. 'Countable' fragments are those that contained at least half the epiphysis or metaphysis (the ends) of any long bone, scapula, phalanx, and vertebra; the acetabulum of the pelvis; tuber calcis of the calcaneus; trochlear notch and coronoid process of the ulna; zygomatic arch and occipital areas of the skull; mandibles and maxillae with teeth and all loose teeth. All other fragments were, where possible, categorised according to the relative size of the animal represented (micro – rat/ vole size; small – cat/ rabbit size; medium – sheep/ pig/ dog size; or large – cattle/ horse size). Due to problems with the identification of post cranial bones of micro-mammals, only their mandibles and maxillae were identified to taxa. The tibiotarsals and humeri of amphibians were recorded in detail and frogs and toads were separated following criteria in Ratnikov (2001).

Tooth wear and eruption were recorded using guidelines from Grant (1982) and Payne (1973), as were bone fusion, metrical data (von den Driesch 1976), anatomy, side, zone (Serjeantson 1996) and any evidence of pathological changes, butchery (Lauwerier 1988) and working. The condition of bones was noted on a scale of 0-5, where 0 is fresh bone and 5, the bone is falling apart (Lyman 1994, 355). Other taphonomic factors were also recorded, including the incidence of burning, gnawing, recent breakage and refitted fragments. Articulated or associated fragments were entered as a count of 1, so they did not bias the relative frequency of species present. Details of associated bone groups were recorded in a separate table. Where bones from both sides of the body of a single individual could be identified from an ABG (Associated Bone Group), only one set of bones were measured. Several sieved samples were collected but because of the highly fragmentary nature of such samples a selective process was undertaken, whereby fragments were recorded only if they could be identified to species and/ or element or showed signs of taphonomic processes. Bones were only included in analysis if they came from features that could be securely dated. Quantification of taxa used a count of all fragments (NISP – number of identified specimens), and that of anatomical elements was done using a restricted count of epiphyses only, based on Grant (1975), unless otherwise stated. Mortality profiles were constructed based on tooth eruption, wear of mandibles and loose third molars (Hambleton 1999) and bone fusion (O'Connor 2003).

Taphonomy and Condition

Bone was in good to fair condition, although highly fragmentary and friable, reflected in the number of fresh breaks and refitted fragments (Table K.1). The number of loose teeth to those remaining in the mandible is roughly similar, implying that not all bones were in primary deposits, and either some were not buried immediately or were disturbed post-depositionally. Similarly, the number of gnawed fragments suggests that bones were accessible for dogs to chew, and not always buried immediately. The low incidence of butchery marks observed may be due to the effect of canid gnawing on the assemblage, and there were no significant deposits of burnt bone to imply they were subject to burning either as a means of cooking or disposal.

The presence of a horse metacarpal with both lateral metapodials from Phase 3.2 (pit 3176, context 3175) and the associated finds of loose epiphyses with their unfused metaphysis from Periods 4.2 (pit 1676, context 1678) and 5.2 (ditch 1142, context 1143) suggest these were primary deposits with little post-depositional movement. Cross-context conjoins were also observed as equid (horse or donkey) radius and femur fragments from Phase 4.2 Ditch Q contexts 1488 and 1489 indicating that these originally represented a single depositional event.

Several possible deliberate depositions were observed. From the Middle to Late Iron Age phase (Phase 3.2) the partial skeleton of a lamb was recovered from the lowest fill of Pit 1860 (context 1866), which is comparable to Associated Bone Groups (ABGs) commonly recovered from the primary deposits of disused pits at Danebury (Grant 1984). These have been variously interpreted, but their role as ritualised activity has been well established (Morris 2008). A cattle skull was also recorded from this phase, in Enclosure B (context 3403). Other possibly symbolic deposits came from both the Late Iron Age to early Roman phase (Phase 4.2) and the Late Roman phase (Phase 5.1). They included a horse skull and group of nine cattle thoracic vertebrae from Ditch N (context 1796) and a cattle skull from Ditch 1138 (context 1139). On their own, these deposits can be described in purely functional terms, as the opportune disposal of butchery waste, particularly when the nature of other finds from the ditch are taken into consideration as dumps of general refuse. However, the disposal of the horse skull and cattle vertebrae in a major ditch of the ladder enclosure, in association with other finds such as a human cremation and a bucket handle may suggest that they were used as part of a ritual to define the boundary.

Carcass Representation and Butchery

In all phases the most common elements were loose teeth (Table K.2), reflecting the friability of the assemblage as maxillae and mandibles were poorly preserved. Cattle were well represented in all phases, as were sheep/ goat in the mid to late Iron Age and for these larger samples all parts of the carcass were represented. There was a notable under-representation of vertebrae and phalanges, and all taxa in all phases were best represented by head and upper and lower limb bones (Table K.2). This implies that the assemblage was largely composed of food waste, as these are meat-bearing elements.

Butchery marks were overwhelmingly observed on cattle bones, which is not surprising as the size of these animals would have required greater processing. There were no dumps of specialised butchery waste that are sometimes found on Roman urban sites, which is in line with the rural nature of the settlement. Rather, the butchery marks are consistent with the disarticulation and jointing of the carcass, particularly through the hock joint of the back leg and upper limb bones. Filleting marks are also commonly found, again reflecting the origin of the bones as food waste. The removal of marrow was implied by the fragmentation of two fragments of radius from the Roman phases.

There were no isolated deposits of skin-processing, bone- or antler-working waste, although a few worked bones were evident:

- A fragment of antler beam from Phase 3.2 Pit 1605 (context 1607) had been chopped through;
- A Phase 4.1 sheep/ goat metatarsal from Pit 1721 (context 1723) had a polished surface all over the shaft, and a red deer antler comprising the burr, beam and part of the brow tine had been sawn to roughly shape the beam and coronet, and the beam had been stippled (Photo K1).
- A sheep/ goat metatarsal from Phase 5.2 Pit 1880 (context 1885) had a polished shaft like that observed in the previous phase, and this example had been carefully cut at one end – the other end was broken and may have been the reason it was discarded.
- The antler of a red deer from Phase 5.2 layer 1995 had been sawn through at the beam.

The Assemblage

Sample sizes from the late Iron Age-early Roman transition period (Phases 4.1 and 4.2) and post-Roman period (Phase 6) were too small to investigate in detail, although species represented are given in Tables K.3.i to K.3.iii. The remaining phases will be considered in more detail below.

Period 3: Middle to Late Iron Age

A few bones were from features identified as dating to the Middle to Late Iron Age (Phase 3.1 and 3.2), with the majority from the later of the two periods (Phase 3.2). The phase will be considered as this broad date only (Table K.3.i). Sample sizes were not large enough to investigate depositions between features.

Sheep/ goat remains were most commonly recorded in this phase (Table K.4), closely followed by cattle. Other domesticates (pig, horse and dog) were occasionally found, along with a fragment of antler. A large number of micro-mammals were recovered from the sieved samples including field voles, shrews and wood mice as well as frogs and toads (Table K.4). In combination these indicate an environment incorporating wet areas for the amphibians, and non-specific areas that might include woodland, fields, hedgerows, meadows and more open landscapes for the mammals.

The use of cattle for both meat and secondary products can be observed in the tooth wear (Table K.5) and fusion data (Table K.6). The cull of animals at tooth wear stages D to E and from the intermediate fusion stage implies that they died prior to maturity, most likely for meat. Those that died at wear stages H and I and survived into the final fusion stage would have been elderly at death, kept for milk, traction and/ or breeding. The mortality data for sheep/ goats was not as straightforward; tooth wear indicates that animals were culled at all ages, from a few months of age to old adults (Table K.5) while the fusion data implies a cull of younger animals, the largest of which occurred at the intermediate stage, with no adult animals surviving (Table K.6). Overall, the data indicate that sheep/ goats were largely culled for meat, with some alive longer for breeding, wool or milk production. Pig mortality data was less abundant and indicates that they were culled as juveniles and subadults for meat.

A cattle metatarsal showed considerable signs of osteoarthritis, in the form of exostosis and grooving to the distal epiphysis and broadening of the condyles. This is consistent with the presence of older animals, and may simply reflect age-related change, although it is also possibly related to the increased wear and tear caused by the use of animals for traction (Bartosiewicz *et al.* 1997).

A human femur shaft fragment was recovered from Pit 1873 (context 1875).

Period 4: Late Iron Age to early Roman (Phases 4.1-4.2)

A quarter of the bones were recovered from Phase 4.1 features, but the majority came from Phase 4.2 contexts. Sample sizes are too small, and cattle too dominant in this period to provide more detailed investigations into spatially discrete groupings (Table K.3.ii).

Cattle become dominant in this phase, with relatively few sheep/ goat bones recovered (Table K.4). Equid remains are the next most common, followed by pig and canid (dog or fox) of which a dog was positively identified rather than fox. A single fragment of roe deer pelvis was found, suggesting that this animal was hunted. A rook/ crow bone was identified, and frog/ toad and a few micro-mammal bones were also recovered from samples.

Cattle were culled at a range of ages, reflected in the tooth wear and fusion data (Table K.5 and K.6), implying a cull of animals for meat as they neared full size. A few lived into old age, presumably being used for breeding, dairying and traction. Two cattle metatarsals exhibit age-related changes, one with moderate exostosis at the proximal articulation and the second with extensive exostosis and grooving to the distal articulation alongside considerable broadening of the condyles. It is possible such pathologies were exacerbated by the use of animals for traction or draught purposes.

Period 5: Late Roman (Phases 5.1-5.2)

As with preceding phases, both sub-phases were represented, with the late 3rd to late 4th centuries (Period 5.2) providing the largest sample (Table K.3.iii). Cattle continue to be the most commonly recorded taxon (Table K.4), followed by sheep/ goat, then pig, equid, canid and a fragment of deer antler. This phase also provides the first example of domestic fowl (chicken) bones, as well as a rook or crow bone. While corvids have been shown to have been symbolically potent in the Roman tradition (Serjeantson and Morris 2011) the presence of two isolated bones in features with no other unusual remains suggests they were not significant in this instance. A large number of micro-animal bones were recovered from environmental samples, including field and bank vole, common shrew, wood and harvest mice, frogs and toads. While these could inhabit a variety of landscapes, the bank vole and harvest mouse need cover, and imply habitats containing tall grass or cereals.

Mortality data (Tables K.5 and K.6) suggest that cattle were culled primarily for meat, with some alive into old age to be used for traction, dairy production or breeding. The presence of older animals is again corroborated by finds of bones exhibiting considerable pathologies, all of which could be age-related changes, or caused by the animal's use for draught. These included a cattle first phalanx with lipping to the proximal articulation, and a cattle metacarpal with one carpal fused to the proximal end alongside massive exostosis and lesions on the articular surface. Sheep/ goats were also culled at a range of ages, indicating their use for meat and secondary products. An equid metatarsal also had a massive exostosis at the proximal articulation, again most likely caused by age and/ or work.

The Nature of the Site

The proportion of the major domesticates in the Iron Age is consistent with contemporary sites in the area, and indeed much of the rest of the country (Hambleton 1999, figure 28e), where sheep/ goats and cattle were both important to the economy, for wool and traction as well as milk and manure. In such a scenario, cattle would provide the most meat, but both animals would have been common sights and kept on most farms. Horses and dogs were less common and were all mature, suggesting they were important for guarding, herding and transport. There is evidence for the very porous bones of perinatal sheep in this phase, suggesting that they were bred in the area, and it is highly likely that animals were bred, raised, worked and culled, processed and consumed on site. While all parts of the carcass were present, the under-representation of vertebrae and feet is interesting and might have resulted from differential deposition of butchery waste in other areas of the site, or the retention of these parts of the carcass for symbolic deposits elsewhere in the settlement, as noted with the group of cattle vertebrae described above.

This picture of the animal economy reflects a largely self-sufficient farming settlement that did not alter much throughout subsequent phases, suggesting that there was some continuity in the underlying use of animals by those living at the site. There was no obvious change to more typically Roman styles of butchery or provisioning. The relative absence of wild mammals, fish and birds from all phases indicates that hunting was rarely undertaken. Even the newly imported chicken does not appear until the late Roman phase. Furthermore, the micro-fauna that appears in the sieved samples changes little, implying that the environment around the site remained relatively stable. There are some changes that did take place, however, which will be discussed below.

The Early Roman change in settlement pattern is reflected in an apparent move in agricultural focus, with an increased emphasis on cattle husbandry. Figure K1 shows a halving of sheep/ goat numbers from the Late Iron Age assemblage, alongside a sharp increase in cattle and a smaller rise in pig. This decline in sheep may reflect a move towards arable production, necessitating the increased use of cattle for ploughing, and less grassland to use for grazing sheep. At the same time, a slight increase in the ages of cattle, and related pathologies, can be observed (Figure K.2), which is also consistent with the increasing importance of these animals for working the fields. It is also possible that sheep were deliberately removed from the site, or cattle were increasingly kept, to be sold to provide for the new military and urban populations.

Although dogs and horses continue to be largely adult at death, implying their importance around the settlement, two juvenile horses were evident from both major Roman phases that would have been less than two years of age. This suggests that young horses were brought on at the site, if they were not bred there.

When compared with other sites in the region, the proportions of livestock kept in the Iron Age form a tight grouping consistent with the pattern observed at Saxon Rise (Figure K.3, Table K.7). The early to mid-Roman sites in the region are more varied, but tend to group towards a greater number of sheep than observed at Saxon Rise, the very large number of cattle providing an outlier to the other contemporary sites. By the late Roman period, however, the high number of cattle observed is mirrored at other sites in the area, as the need to supply grain to urban sites becomes a greater concern (Allen 2013). It is possible that this indicates a settlement that was quicker to supply the new Roman market with the meat and grain that was increasingly demanded and was fully integrated with the new regime.

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Table K.1: Condition and taphonomic factors affecting the hand-collected assemblage identified to taxa and/ or element. Teeth included where stated

Condition	M-L Iron Age	LIA-E Roman	Late Roman	Post-Roman
Fresh				
Very good	26	35	34	1
Good	34	55	41	1
Fair	32	46	27	1
Poor	11	7	3	
Very poor		2		
Total	103	145	105	3
Refit	169=27	413=41	118=33	
Fresh break	50	70	52	1
Gnawed	22	35	16	
Loose mandibular teeth*	40	32	23	1
Teeth in mandibles*	47	27	43	
Butchery	7	10	8	
Burning**	32	21	15	2

*deciduous 4th premolar and molars ** burnt fragments included from unidentified material

Table K.2: Species representation by anatomical element (fragment count). Hand collected bones. C= cattle; S/g= sheep/ goat; P= pig; E= equid; D= canid

		Mid- late IA					Early-mid Roman					Late Roman				
	Element	C	S/G	P	E	D	C	S/G	P	E	D	C	S/G	P	E	D
	ABG		1				1									
Head	Horn core + frontal	1	1									2				
	Skull	1					1			1						
	Zygomatic							1				4	1			
	Occipital						1					1				
	Maxilla*		3				2			1		4		1		
	Mandible*	7	13	2			4	7	1		2	7	9	2	1	
	Loose tooth	45	38	2		1	51	27	4	5		33	25	12	5	1
Vertebrae	1st cervical vertebra		1				1					1				
	2nd cervical vertebra	2					1			1		1				
	Cervical vertebra	1					2				1	1				
	Thoracic vertebra						1					6				

	Lumber vertebra	1	2				2			1	1	4				1
	Sacrum						1			1						
Upper fore	Scapula	3	3				6		1			4				1
	Humerus	3	4			1	3	1				6	2	1		1
	Radius	3	10	1			12	1		4	1	5			1	
	Ulna	4	2				4	3	1	2		1	1			1
Upper hind	Pelvis	2	1		3		5			2		1				
	Femur	2	1				6	1	1	3	1	3		1	2	
	Tibia	5	5	1			3	2	2	1	1	6	1		1	
	Astragalus	2					4			1		5				
	Calcaneus	3					4					1		1		
Lower	Metacarpal*	6	2		2		11	1		2		6				1
	Metatarsal*	4	6				9	2			1	9	2		2	1
	Metapodial				1		1			1		1				
Foot	1st phalange**	1	2				1	1				1	1	1		
	2nd phalange**						1									
	3rd phalange**	1										1		1		
	Total	97	95	6	6	2	138	47	10	26	8	114	42	20	12	7

*mandibles and maxillae with teeth, pig and dog 3rd and 4th metapodials ** adjusted for frequency bias

Table K.3.i: Taxa recorded by subphase and feature group. Enc= enclosure, PG= pit group, D= ditch, RD= ring ditch, PA= pit alignment, DO= drying oven

Phase/ feature	MIA (Phase 3.1)			M-LIA (Phase 3.2)							Iron Age totals
Taxa	N/A	Enc A	PG W	N/A	D T	Enc B	PG X	PG Y	RD C	N/A	
Cattle	18		4	35	1	11	10	12		6	97
Sheep/ goat	8	3	2	31		4	40	10	1	1	100
Sheep					1						1
Pig	1			2		1	1			1	6
Equid				2		1		3			6
Canid	1						1				2
Deer				1							1
Red deer											
Roe deer											
Domestic fowl											
Rook/ crow											
Total	28	3	6	71	2	17	52	25	1	8	213

Table K.3.ii: Taxa recorded by subphase and feature group for Phase 4.1 and Phase 4.2. D= ditch

Phase/ feature	LIA to Early Roman I (Phase 4.1)					LIA to Early Roman I totals	LIA to Early Roman II (Phase 4.2)						LIA to Early Roman II totals	LIA to Early Roman totals
Taxa	N/A	D AA	D F	D G	D H		D K	D O	D R	D N	D Q	D S		
Cattle	67	6	4	1		78	1	16	1	16	35	10	79	157
Sheep/ goat	25		1			26		5		7	11	5	28	54
Sheep								1					1	
Pig	8				1	9					2		2	11
Equid	4	2	2			8		3		9	8	1	21	29
Canid	4					4		2		3	1		6	10
Deer														
Red deer														
Roe deer	1					1								1
Domestic fowl														
Rook/ crow	1					1				1			1	4
Total	35	8	7	1	1	52	1	27	1	36	57	16	138	266

Table K.3.iii: Taxa recorded by subphase and feature group for Phase 5.1 and Phase 5.2. D= ditch, Enc = Enclosure, DO = Drying oven

Phase/ feature	Late Roman I (Phase 5.1)			Late Roman I totals	Late Roman II (Phase 5.2)	Late Roman totals
Taxa	N/A	D V	DO 1555		Enc AB	
Cattle	101	1		102	1	103
Sheep/ goat	34	1		35	1	36
Sheep						
Pig	19	1		20	1	21
Equid	9		1	10		10
Canid	5			5		5
Deer	1			1		1
Red deer						
Roe deer						
Domestic fowl	2			2		2
Rook/ crow	1			1		1
Total	172	3	1	176	3	179

Table K.4: Species representation (NISP) of hand collected assemblage. H= hand collected; S= sieved samples

	M-LIA		LIA-ER		LR		PR
Taxa	H	S	H	S	H	S	H
Cattle	97	1	156*	2	119		3
Sheep/ goat	100	15*	61	4	41		2
Sheep	1		1		1		
Pig	6	1	12	1	21		
Equid	6		28		13		1
Canid	2		8		7		
Deer	1				1		
Red deer			1				
Roe deer			1				
Mole						1	
Field vole		11				4	
Bank vole						1	
Common shrew		3		1		4	
Mouse						1	
Wood mouse		2				3	
Harvest mouse						1	
Micro mammal		16		3		11	
Frog/ toad		3		4		4	
Frog		1				1	
Toad		1				1	
Domestic fowl					2		
Rook/ crow			1		1		
Small passerine				1			
Total identified	213	54	260	16	206	32	6
Unidentified mammal	822		319		220		2
Large mammal	403		697		451	1	7
Medium mammal	407		252		210		9
Bird			1		1	1	
Fish		1					
Total	1845	55	1538	16	1088	34	24

* Associated bone groups included as a count of 1

Table K.5: Tooth wear data for the main domesticates

Wear	Cattle			Sheep/ goat			Pig	
Stage	M-LIA	LIA-ER	LR	M-LIA	LIA-ER	LR	M-LIA	LIA-ER
A								
B								
C				1	1			
CD				2		1		
D	2		4	2	1	1	1	
DE		1						1
E	1	1	1	1		1		1
F				1	4		1	2
G		2				1		
GH				1		1		
H	1			3		1		
I	2	1			1			
Total	6	5	5	11	7	6	2	4

Table K.6: Fusion data for the main domesticates. U= unfused elements, F= fused or fusing elements

	Cattle						Sheep/ goat						Pig					
	M-LIA		LIA-ER		LR		M-LIA		LIA-ER		LR		M-LIA		LIA-ER		LR	
Fusion stage	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F
Neonatal		6		17		14	1	5		1		1						
Early		14		28		19	3	15		4		2	1			1		3
Intermediate	2	7	2	6	4	6	5	3	1	2		2		1		2	1	
Late	2	3	2	7	1	4	5	5	3		1				1		1	
Final	3	2	5	6	18	1	4		1									
Total	7	32	9	64	23	44	18	28	5	7	1	5	1	1	1	3	2	3
Porous					4		3				1							

Table K.7: Comparison of the relative proportions of cattle, sheep/ goat and pig from other rural sites in Northamptonshire (Data from Allen et al 2015, Holmes 2016, 2017, 2018)

Middle to Late Iron Age	Total N	% cattle	% sheep/ goat	% pig
Blackthorn	148	46	50	4
Grange Park, Courteenhall	138	57	39	4
Hardingstone	1229	40	49	11
Irchester, Victoria Park	131	50	40	9
Moulton Park	550	66	19	14
Saxon Rise 2	204	48	50	3
Silverstone 2	223	48	46	6
Silverstone 3	271	56	38	6
Wakerley	468	42	47	11
Weekley	2090	13	63	23
Late Iron Age to mid-Roman	**Total N**	**% cattle**	**% sheep/ goat**	**% pig**
Hardingstone	992	38	48	14
Irchester, Chester Farm	340	23	70	7
Mawseley New Village	353	40	52	8
Piddington	1190	41	37	22
Saxon Rise 2	201	70	24	5
Weekley	984	49	37	14
Pineham Barn Area 2	490	50	40	10
Pineham Barn Area 2	557	50	42	8
Late Roman	**Total N**	**% cattle**	**% sheep/ goat**	**% pig**
Glapthorn Rd, Oundle	220	41	55	4
Piddington	2830	45	24	31
Saxon Rise 2	182	65	23	12
Pineham North (exc. Well 111)	626	68	28	4
Pineham North	847	60	25	15
Other Roman sites	**Total N**	**% cattle**	**% sheep/ goat**	**% pig**
Milton Ham	98	50	45	5
Glapthorn Rd, Oundle	383	35	57	8
Overstone	824	58	37	4
Piddington	1984	57	29	14

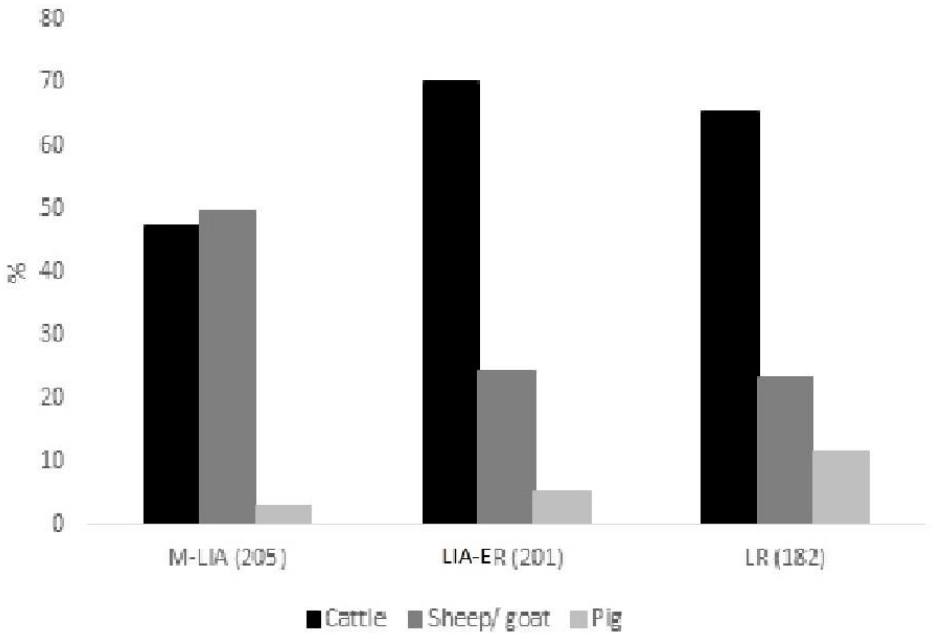


Figure K.1: Relative proportions of cattle, sheep/ goat and pig for the major phases. Hand collected bones only (n)= sample size

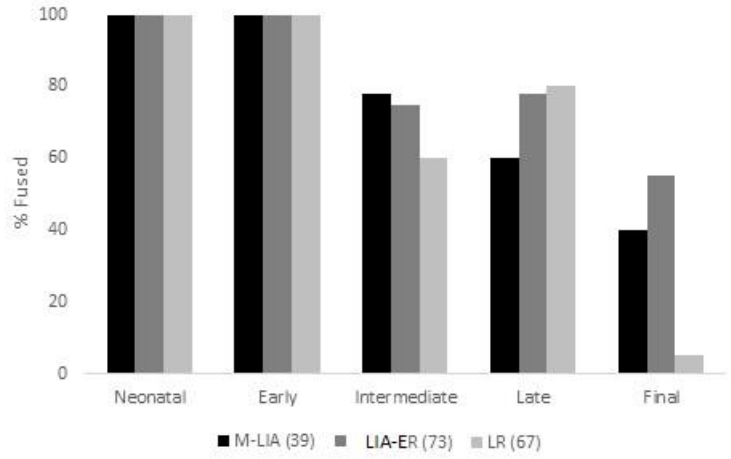


Figure K.2: Cattle mortality profiles for the major phases. (n) = sample size

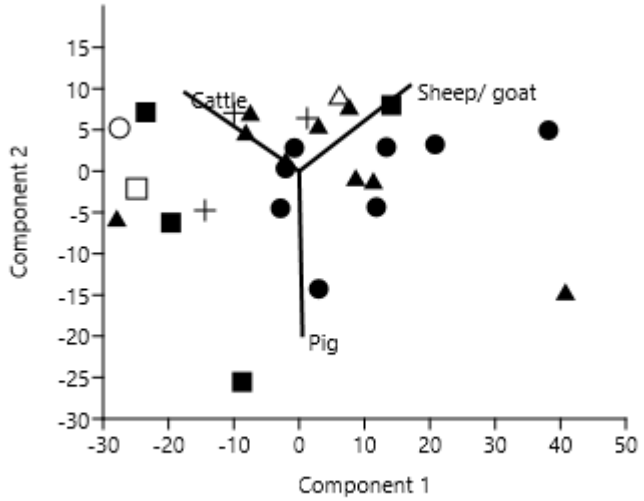
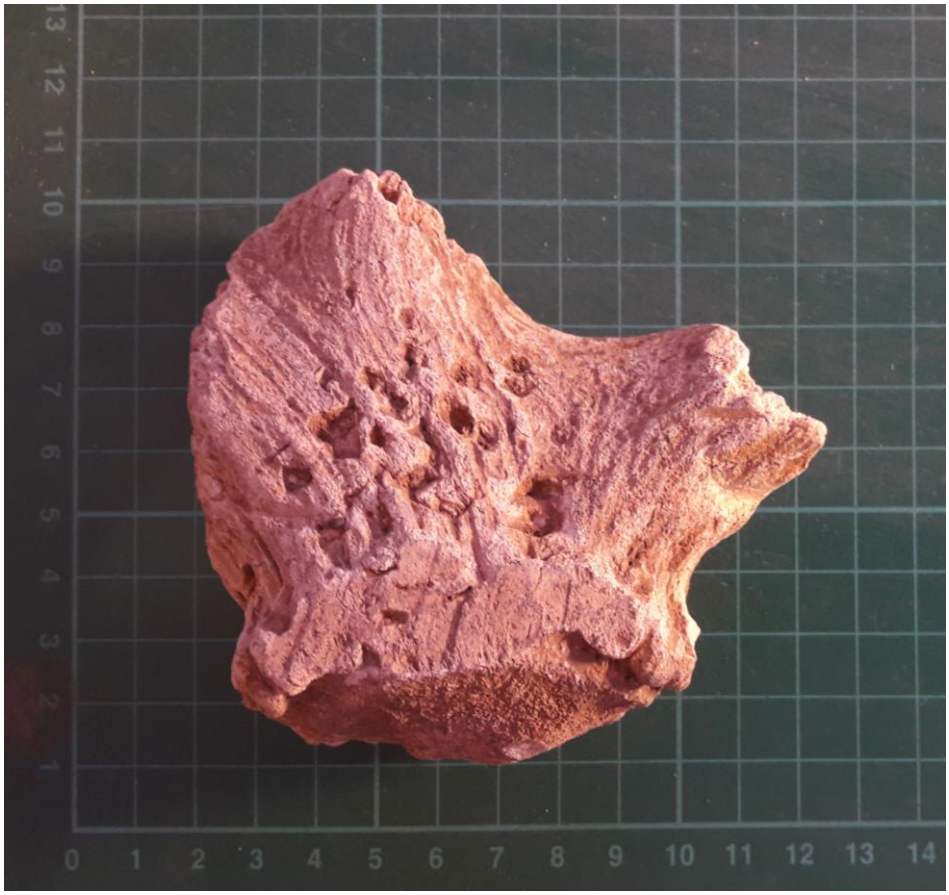


Figure K.3: Principal Component Analysis of species proportions of cattle, sheep/ goat and pigs from various sites in Northamptonshire. Mid-late Iron Age= triangle; Early Roman to mid Roman= circle; Late Roman= square; other Roman= +. Saxon Rise 2 sites are unfilled



Photograph K.1: Red deer antler showing 'stippled' area, context 1723

APPENDIX L: PLANT MACROFOSSILS

By Sarah F. Wyles

Introduction

The charred plant remains from a total of 19 bulk soil samples were analysed from a range of features of Early Neolithic, Middle Iron Age, Middle-Late Iron Age, Late Iron Age-Early Roman, Middle Roman and Late Roman date across the site. One sample was from Period 1 (pit 1625), ten samples from Phase 3.2 (pit group W cut 3261 and pits 1175 and 3227, ditch T section 1241, Pit group X cuts 1419 and 1877, pit group Y cut 1482 and pit 1628, ditch 1893 and pit alignment L cut 1509), four samples from Phase 4.2 (ditch N section 1323 and drying oven 1251 and 1252, ditch O section 1546), two samples from Phase 5.1 (drying oven 1555 cuts 1555 and 1556) and one sample from Phase 5.2 (pit 1378).

Methodology

The samples were processed following standard flotation methods, using a 250µm sieve for the recovery of the flot and a 1mm sieve for the collection of the residue. All identifiable charred plant remains from these samples were identified with the exception of those from sample 25 from Phase 5.1 drying oven 1555. The assemblage recovered from sample 25 was exceptionally rich and in this instance only the plant remains from 10% of the 2 – 0.25mm flot fractions were identified together with 100% of the remains from the residues and larger flot fraction. These results were multiplied up appropriately and recorded as estimated values marked by est. in the table. The identifications follow the nomenclature of Stace (1997) for wild plants, and traditional nomenclature, as provided by Zohary *et al* (2012) for cereals. The results are recorded in Tables 1 and 2.

Results

Period 1: Early Neolithic

Pit

A radiocarbon date of 3631-3373 cal. BC (SUERC-75696; 95.4% probability) was obtained on hazelnut (*Corylus avellana*) shell fragments from fill 1626 (sample 31) of pit 1625. The large assemblage of plant remains recorded from this deposit was dominated by hazelnut fragments, which represented 97% of the assemblage. The small number of cereal remains included a grain of probable emmer wheat (*Triticum dicoccum*), which would be the typical hulled wheat for this period in this area (Greig 1991). This assemblage may well be representative of food remains. The predominance of hazelnut shell fragments has been recorded from other Neolithic deposits in southern Britain and this dominance of hazelnut fragments and other wild food remains may be indicative of the exploitation and general reliance on these wild food resources as a significant part of the diet during this period (Moffett *et al* 1989; Stevens 2007; Robinson 2000).

Phase 3.1: Middle to Late Iron Age I

Pits

The large assemblage recovered from pit 1175 (sample 3) was dominated by cereal remains, with chaff elements greatly outnumbering grains. Spelt was predominant, with some remains of barley and emmer wheat also present within the assemblage. The weed seeds included those of curled dock (*Rumex crispus*), knotgrass (*Polygonum aviculare*), vetch/wild pea, cleavers, red bartsia, brome grass and oats (*Avena* sp.). This assemblage is indicative of waste material from the dehusking of hulled grain stored as semi-cleaned grain or in spikelet form.

A very high number of plant remains were recorded from pit 3227 (sample 56) but in this instance there were almost equal numbers of cereal remains and weed seeds. Grain fragments were more numerous than those of chaff and the cereal remains included those of spelt wheat, barley and emmer wheat. The weed seeds included those of prickly poppy (*Papaver* cf. *argemone*), blinks (*Montia fontana* subsp. *chondrosperma*), vetch/wild pea, clover/medick, brome grass, oats, sheep's sorrel (*Rumex acetosella*), curled docks, scentless mayweed (*Tripleurospermum inodorum*), common spike-rush (*Eleocharis* cf. *palustris*) and meadow grass/cat's-tails (*Poa/Phleum* sp.). Again, these weed seeds are generally those of species typical of grassland, field margins and arable environments. Although this assemblage contained a number of smaller weed seeds, some of these such as those of prickly poppy and scentless mayweed may have been incorporated into the assemblage as seed heads. The assemblage may be representative of material from the later stages of crop processing.

Phase 3.2: Middle to Late Iron Age II

Pit Group W

Fill 3263 (sample 59) of pit 3261, part of pit group W, produced a moderate number of charred plant remains, with cereal remains predominant. The cereal remains included those of barley (*Hordeum vulgare*), emmer wheat and spelt wheat (*Triticum spelta*). There was also a single grain of free-threshing wheat (*Triticum turgidum/aestivum* type), which is likely to be an intrusive element within the assemblage. Around half of the flot was represented by rooty material and uncharred plant remains. The charred weed seeds included seeds of vetch/wild pea (*Vicia/Lathyrus* sp.), clover/medick (*Trifolium/Medicago* sp.), cleavers (*Galium aparine*), red bartsia (*Odontites vernus*) and brome grass (*Bromus* sp.). The weed seeds are generally those typical of grassland, field margin and arable environments. This assemblage may represent the dumping of waste from the de-husking of hulled grain stored as semi-cleaned grain, or in spikelet form. It does however contain more weeds than would be expected, which suggests the semi-cleaned grain/spikelets had not been properly cleaned prior to storage (Hillman 1981; 1984).

Ditch T

Fill 1243 (sample 5) of section 1241 of ditch T produced a moderately large assemblage dominated by cereal remains. These included those of spelt wheat and barley, with the chaff elements outnumbering those of grain. The weed seeds included seeds of brome grass and vetch/wild pea. This assemblage may again be representative of waste material from the de-husking of hulled grain stored as semi-cleaned grain or in spikelet form.

Pit Group X

A radiocarbon date of 198-47 cal. BC (SUERC-75530; 95.4% probability) was obtained on *Prunus* twig wood from fill 1825 of pit 1769 and another of 188-44 cal. BC (SUERC-79201; 95.4% probability) on spelt wheat grains from context 1879 of pit 1877. High numbers of charred plant remains were recovered from pits 1419 (context 1429, sample 15), 1769 (context 1825, sample 41) and 1877 (context 1937, sample 46). All three of these assemblages were dominated by cereal remains, with chaff elements outnumbering those of grain. The cereal remains included those of spelt wheat, barley and emmer wheat. The weed seeds included those of brome grass, vetch/wild pea, sheep's sorrel, curled dock, clover/medick and scentless mayweed. Again, these assemblages may be reflective of waste material from the final processing of stored hulled grain.

Pit Group Y

Fill 1483 (sample 19) from pit 1482 contained a large quantity of charred plant remains. Cereal remains represented over 75% of the assemblage and included those of spelt wheat, barley and emmer wheat. The chaff remains outnumbered those of grain and the assemblage is indicative of waste material from the de-husking of hulled grain stored as semi-cleaned grain or in spikelet form. The weed seeds included those of brome grass, oats, vetch/wild pea and sheep's sorrel.

Pit

The large quantity of charred plant remains recovered from fill 1630 (sample 29) of pit 1628 included a high number of hazelnut shell fragments and also remains of sloe (*Prunus spinosa*). The cereal remains included those of emmer wheat, spelt wheat and barley, while the weed seeds included those of sheep's sorrel, vetch/wild pea, cleavers and brome grass. This assemblage may be representative of a mixture of food remains and crop processing waste.

Ditch

Fill 1896 (sample 43) of ditch 1893 contained a moderate assemblage of charred plant remains, with cereal remains representing 55% of the assemblage. These included those of barley, spelt wheat and emmer wheat. There was a trace of germination on one of the hulled wheat grains and the chaff elements were outnumbered by those of grain in this assemblage. The weed seeds included those of vetch/wild pea and brome grass. There were also sloe/hawthorn type (*Prunus spinosa/Crataegus monogyna*) thorn fragments noted. This assemblage may be reflective of a dump of crop processing waste and domestic hearth material.

Pit Alignment L

A moderate assemblage dominated by cereal remains, in particular those of grain (which represented 71% of the remains), was recorded from fill 1510 (sample 20) of pit 1509. The cereal remains were predominantly those of barley with a small number of those of hulled wheat. The weed seeds included those of vetch/wild pea, meadow grass/cat's-tails, blinks and sheep's sorrel. This assemblage may be representative of a dump of domestic hearth material and crop processing waste.

Phase 4.2: Late pre-Roman Iron Age to Early Roman II

Ditch N

Sample 12 from fill 1324 of ditch section 1323 produced a moderately high number of charred plant remains. There were almost equal quantities of cereal remains and weed seeds represented within this assemblage. The cereal remains, predominantly grains, included those of barley, spelt wheat and a small quantity of free-threshing wheat. The weed seeds included those of prickly poppy, fat-hen (*Chenopodium album*), stitchworts (*Stellaria* sp.), oats, brome grass, docks and vetch/wild pea. This assemblage may be reflective of dumped material from a late stage of crop processing. A number of the smaller weed seeds within the assemblage such as those of prickly poppy may have been incorporated within the assemblage as seed heads.

Drying Oven 1251

A radiocarbon date of 85-240 cal. AD; SUERC-79197 was obtained on charred spelt wheat grain from fill 1266 (sample 6) of drying oven 1251. Fill 1266 was located in the chamber area of the structure and a very high number of charred plant remains were recovered from this fill. These remains were dominated by those of grain, which represented 89% of the assemblage. The cereal remains were mainly those of barley and spelt wheat with a few of free-threshing wheat. A small number of the barley grains showed traces of germination and a

coleoptile fragment was also recovered. The weed seeds included those of vetch/wild pea, oats, clover/medick and fat-hen. There was also a runch (*Raphanus raphanistrum*) capsule noted. The low level of chaff elements and the small number of weed seeds suggests that this assemblage may represent the accidental burning of fully processed grain being dried within the oven to harden it prior to milling. The assemblage (sample 7) examined from fill 1267 in the flue area of this drying oven during the assessment only contained a few indeterminate grain fragments. This may indicate that the flue was regularly cleaned out prior to the oven being fired.

Drying Oven 1252

A radiocarbon date of 85-238 cal. AD; SUERC-79196 was obtained on charred barley grain from fill 1268 (sample 8) of drying oven 1252. This deposit was located within the chamber of the structure and contained a moderate charred plant assemblage (sample 8). These remains were dominated by cereal remains, which formed 77% of the assemblage. The cereal remains included those of barley and spelt wheat and no evidence of germination was observed. The weed seeds included those of brome grass, scentless mayweed and docks. This assemblage may represent the parching of grain prior to storage or the drying of fully cleaned grain prior to milling together with waste material from the dehusking of hulled grain stored as semi-cleaned grain or in spikelet form. A broadly similar assemblage was recorded from deposit 1269 (sample 9) in the flue area of this drying oven during the assessment.

Ditch O

A very high number of charred plant remains were recovered from fill 1548 (sample 22) of ditch 1546 and these were predominantly those of cereal remains. The cereal remains included those of barley, spelt wheat and emmer wheat with a few of free-threshing wheat as well. A number of the barley and hulled wheat grains showed traces of germination and there were also three coleoptile fragments within the assemblage. Grains represented 51% of the assemblage and chaff elements 32%. The weed seeds included seeds of brome grass, oats, curled dock, fat-hen and persicaria/redshank (*Persicaria lapathifolia/maculosa*). This assemblage may be representative of material from a late stage of crop processing.

Phase 5.1: Late Roman I

Drying Oven 1555

A radiocarbon date of 263-532 cal. AD; (SUERC-79195; 95.4% probability) was obtained on charred spelt wheat grain from fill 1561 (sample 25) of drying oven 1556. This deposit was from the fire pit 1556 of the feature. A very rich assemblage was recovered from fill 1575 (sample 24) in the flue area of the oven. The cereal remains represented 72% of the assemblage, with the chaff elements accounting for 17% of these. An exceptionally large number of charred plant remains (estimated at 16565 items) was recorded from deposit 1561 (sample 25) in the fire pit. In this case the cereal remains formed around 75% of the assemblage, with the chaff elements representing 9% of them. The assessment of sample 23 from fill 1559 from the chamber of this drying oven showed that this deposit was also rich in charred plant remains, although no chaff elements were recorded.

The cereal remains included those of spelt wheat and barley with smaller numbers of those of emmer wheat and free-threshing wheat. There was evidence of germination from around 10% of these assemblages, including coleoptile fragments and traces of germination on barley, spelt wheat and emmer wheat grains and on oat and brome grass seeds.

The weed seeds included those of oats, brome grass, vetch/wild pea, poppy (Papaver sp.), corncockle (Agrostemma githago), curled docks, clover/medick, red bartsia, cleavers (Galium aparine), stinking mayweed (Anthemis cotula), meadow grass/cat's-tails and goosefoot. There were also capsule fragments of runch and rush (Juncus sp.). These weed seeds are generally from species typical of grassland, field margins and arable environments and are reflective of the exploitation of a number of different habitats.

The level of germination recorded in these assemblages may be indicative that this drying oven had been used during the malting stage as part of the brewing process. Grains which had been allowed to germinate, by being first steeped in water then spread out to dry on a malting floor, would then be roasted in a drying oven to stop the germination process and to produce the malt.

Phase 5.2: Late Roman II

Pit

Fill 1379 (sample 18) of pit 1378 produced a small charred plant assemblage, dominated by cereal remains. These included those of barley, spelt wheat and free-threshing wheat, with the chaff elements outnumbering those of grains. The weed seeds included those of vetch/wild pea, clover/medick, scentless mayweed and oats/brome grass. This assemblage may be a dump of crop processing waste material from the de-husking of hulled grain stored as semi-cleaned grain or in spikelet form.

Discussion

The predominance of hazelnut shells along with low levels of cereal remains noted within the Early Neolithic assemblage from this site, was also recorded in some other Neolithic assemblages from sites in the local area such as at Briar Hill Northampton (Perry (and Robinson 1985) and the Raunds area (Campbell 2011). This fits the wider pattern of the likely exploitation and general reliance on wild food resources during the Neolithic period in Southern Britain (Moffett *et al*. 1989; Stevens 2007; Robinson 2000).

During the Middle and Late Iron Age (Phases 3.1 and 3.2) phase of this site, the main crop appeared to have been spelt wheat with some barley and emmer wheat also present. Spelt wheat is the dominant wheat within the Iron Age period within this part of the British Isles (Greig 1991) and although it does not appear to be common in Late Bronze Age deposits in Northamptonshire, it seems to be predominant by the Middle Iron Age in this area (Monckton 2012). Spelt wheat, emmer wheat and barley were also recovered from deposits from Iron Age settlements in the wider area at Covert Farm, Crick (Monckton 2015), Land to the north-west of Crick (Cobain 2017), Grange Farm Courteenhall (Ciraldi 2006), Daventry International Rail Freight Terminal (Cobain 2015) and Stanwick (Campbell, unpublished). The assemblages are indicative of crop processing taking place on site during this period.

The weed seeds assemblages provide an indication of the use during this period of a number of different environments, such as lighter drier calcareous soils as favoured by species such as prickly poppy, ribwort plantain, field madder and red bartsia, heavier clay soils as shown by the presence of species such as stinking mayweed, more acidic sandier soils as favoured by sheep's sorrel and heather, damper soils as used by species such as blinks, curled docks and spike-rush, and hedgerow/woodland edge environments typical of species such as hazelnut and sloe. There is also some evidence of more nitrogen rich soils from the presence of fat-hen. The presence of low growing species, such as clover or medick, docks and field madder, and twinning species, such

as vetches/wild peas, cleavers and black bindweed, may suggest a low harvesting height by sickle (Hillman 1981). This is a typical harvesting technique for the period.

During the Late Iron Age–Early Roman to Late Roman (Periods 4 and 5) phase of the site, the cereals were again those of spelt wheat, barley and emmer wheat. These were also recovered from a number of assemblages of this date from other sites in the wider area such as Covert Farm, Crick (Monckton 2015), Grange Farm Courteenhall (Ciraldi 2006) and Stanwick (Campbell, unpublished). 'The Roman period is characterised by finds of abundant burnt wheat chaff, as waste or spent fuel from cereal processing, dumped in features on many sites' (Monckton 2012). The indication from the majority of the assemblages of this period analysed from this site is that the crops were being processed on site and were stored as semi-cleaned grain or in spikelet form before being used as required. It is thought that drying ovens were used for a variety of functions during the Romano-British period (van der Veen 1989). There is an indication from the assemblages that the two drying ovens from the mid Roman period had been used for the parching of crops, which had already been processed by winnowing, threshing and sieving, and for the drying of cleaned grain to harden it prior to milling, while the late Roman drying oven had been used to roast grains and stop the continuation of the germination process as part of the malting and brewing process. It is possible that these assemblages only reflect the final use of the drying ovens and that each individual oven was used for a variety of functions. Evidence of possible malting remains was recorded from a Roman corn drier at Grange Farm Courteenhall (Ciraldi 2006).

Although a pattern of different agricultural producer and consumer sites in Britain has been seen in the archaeobotanical record from the Iron Age onwards (van der Veen and Jones 2006, van der Veen 2016) and beer production can be thought of being a way to turn surplus grain into a cash crop (Jones 1981), it appears likely that the crop production on the site was at a level to support the local settlement rather than being a large-scale production site.

Again there is an indication of the exploitation of a number of different environments from the weed seeds assemblages with species such as prickly poppy, ribwort plantain, field madder and red bartsia favouring lighter drier calcareous soils, such as stinking mayweed typical of heavier clay soils, such as sheep's sorrel favouring more acidic sandier soils, such as blinks, curled docks, sedge (*Carex* sp.) and rushes typical of damper soils, and sloe/hawthorn type thorns indicative of hedgerow/woodland edge environments. Seeds of corncockle and cornflower (*Centaurea cyanus*) were only recorded in late Roman assemblages and these species together with stinking mayweed are more typical of post Roman assemblages. Again, the presence of low growing and twinning species may suggest that the crops continued to be harvested by sickle.

Summary

The assemblages recorded are compatible with other assemblages of this date. The mixture of crops in the Iron Age and Roman assemblages is comparable with other assemblages of this date in the East Midlands area (Monckton 2012). During these periods, it appears that the crops were being grown on a number of different soil types in the vicinity and were being processed on site at a level to supply the local settlement. During the late Roman period malting and beer production may have taken place on site. It seems to have been a typical rural settlement and there is no evidence for any exotic species being imported in. These assemblages add to the wider picture of the nature of the landscape and environmental practices in the area during the Iron Age and Roman periods.

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APPENDIX M: WOOD CHARCOAL

By Dana Challinor

Introduction

Assessment on fifty samples showed that charcoal was moderately well preserved at the site, but in low quantities. The samples came from a range of features, mostly from enclosure ditches and associated pits of Middle Iron Age to Late Iron Age date (Phase 3.1) through to drying ovens of Late Roman date (Phases 5.1 and 5.2). In practice, not all of the phases were well-represented by charcoal assemblages and the analysis on 15 samples is supplemented by the assessment data. In addition, a single sample from an Early Neolithic (Period 1) pit was examined.

Methodology

Charcoal >2mm in transverse section was considered for identification, though preference was given to larger >4mm fragments which could be assessed for maturity. Between 30 and 100 fragments per sample were examined, depending upon diversity and condition. The charcoal was fractured and sorted into groups based on the anatomical features observed in transverse section at X7 to X45 magnifications. Representative fragments from each group were then selected for further examination using a Meiji incident-light microscope at up to X400 magnification. Identifications were made by comparison with identification keys (Hather 2000, Schweingruber 1990) and modern reference material. Observations on maturity and other features were made where appropriate. Classification and nomenclature follow Stace 1997.

Results

Condition was generally fair to good, with occasional infusion of sediment caused by depositional environment. A high degree of vitrification was recorded in some fragments, relating to the condition of the wood prior to burning. The main factor affecting positive identification of the material was the predominance of small roundwood fragments, ranging in size from 2-10mm and age from 1-10 years. Although pith and bark were not often preserved on roundwood fragments, there were some tiny twigs, too small to identify, and multiple detached bark fragments. Distinguishing between diffuse porous species in small roundwood can be difficult and there were relatively high numbers of indeterminate fragments, many of which are likely to be of *Prunus* and Maloideae. Ten taxa were positively identified:

FAGACEAE: *Quercus* sp., oak

BETULACEAE: *Corylus avellana,* hazel

Only hazel was identified in the assemblage and the undifferentiated *Alnus/Corylus* is likely to represent additional hazel fragments.

SALICACEAE: *Salix* sp., willow, or *Populus* sp., poplar

ROSACEAE: *Prunus spinosa*, blackthorn, *P. avium,* wild cherry, and *P. padus,* bird cherry.

Differentiation between *Prunus* species is difficult, especially in roundwood material. The presence of the introduced *P. domestica* (plum) is also possible in the Romano-British period samples but is considered unlikely given the quantity of material from fuelwood. Fragments with variable ray widths suggested that more than one species was present and several fragments exhibited thorn stubs, indicating the presence of *P. spinosa*. Some sloe stones were also recorded in the charred remains (Wyles, this report).

ROSACEAE: Maloideae, hawthorn group: comprising *Malus* (apple)*, Pyrus* (pear),

Sorbus (rowan/service/whitebeams)*, Crataegus,* (hawthorn)*.*
RHAMNACEAE: *Rhamnus cathartica,* purging buckthorn
ACERACEAE: *Acer campestre*, field maple
OLEACEAE: *Fraxinus excelsior,* ash
CAPRIFOLIACEAE: *Sambucus nigra,* elder.

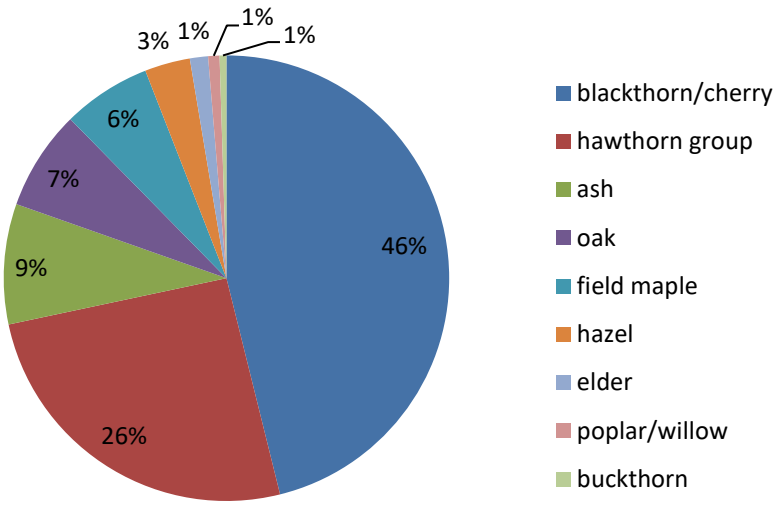
Discussion

The charcoal from Early Neolithic (Period 1) pit 1625 was associated with numerous charred hazelnut shells, probably representing waste from a domestic hearth (Wyles, this report). The charcoal consisted predominately of hazel and oak, and traces of blackthorn/cherry and hawthorn group. Some small roundwood pieces were evident. The assemblage is fairly typical for domestic fuelwood of the period, utilising mixed deciduous woodland resources and possibly collected at the same time as food gathering. It is notable that use of hazel, as firewood, does not continue extensively in later periods.

The charcoal assemblages from the Middle to Late Iron Age (Phase 3.1) through to the Late Roman period (Phase 5.2) were surprisingly homogeneous: dominated by small roundwood fragments of blackthorn/cherry (*Prunus*) and hawthorn group taxa (Maloideae) (Figure M1). In contrast, the quantity of charcoal from large trees, oak and ash, is significantly less. It is also worth noting that the assessment results from nine additional samples (from Period 3 pits) indicated that *Prunus* and/or Maloideae was present in 89%, while oak was only recorded in 33%. Both the *Prunus* and Maloideae groups comprise several species, and it is unknown exactly which species may be present, but all are commonly small trees which are typical of scrub/hedgerows and woodland margins. Other shrub type taxa, such as elder and purging buckthorn, are also commonly found in hedgerow habitats, as is field maple. There are rare traces of poplar or willow, which favour wet ground habitats.

If these scrub/hedgerow type taxa were confined to a single phase or a couple of features, it might represent hedgerow trimmings, but they represent significant components of the charcoal in all of the Iron Age and Romano-British phases (until Period 6), which indicates that they were deliberately and consistently selected for fuelwood. The use of small roundwood suggests bundles of firewood sticks; providing a high, but relatively short-lived fire, occasionally supplemented by logs from larger trees, which would have provided more sustained heat. This is appropriate for most domestic type activities, such as cooking, crop processing and heating.

Figure M.1: Taxonomic composition of charcoal from Phase 3.2-5.2 (based upon fragment count; N=607)



The Late Roman (Phases 5.1 and 5.2) phases produced only a small charcoal dataset, but with some notable assemblages. The small assemblage from Ditch O, 1546 was not dissimilar to the taxonomic list of earlier assemblages but did contain a significant proportion of oak. The drying oven assemblage from 1556 was also unusual for its quantity of ash and hazel. Functional purposes may explain the uncommon characteristics of these assemblages, or it may represent a change in fuelwood management in this phase.

Conclusion

The charcoal assemblage from Saxon Rise, Brixworth, reveals a very distinctive pattern of fuel use in the Iron Age and Romano-British periods; in which the use of fuelwood from hedgerow/scrub type taxa predominates. This suggests that the area was largely cleared, perhaps an arable landscape, criss-crossed with small areas of open woodland and hedgerows, the latter also being useful for stock enclosures. The use of large trees, such as oak and ash, may have been reserved for timber purposes; certainly, they were infrequently used for fuel, perhaps to supplement a sustained fire for specific purposes. Other Late Iron Age and Romano-British settlements in the region exhibit a similar range of taxa in the domestic-type charcoal assemblages; sites at Burton Latimer (Challinor 2011), Higham Ferrers (Challinor 2009) and on the south-western end of the A421 (near Bedford) (Challinor 2007) produced significant components of hedgerow and scrub taxa in domestic contexts, also indicating open field conditions. There was more evidence for the use of oak at these sites, perhaps in part relating to function (there were cremation burials at Burton Latimer and structural remains at Higham Ferrers). Consequently, the charcoal assemblage from Brixworth is compatible with the regional picture of an open, farmed landscape, but it is also remarkable for the homogeneity of fuel use throughout the Middle Iron Age to Late Romano-British phases.

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Table M.1: Wood charcoal identifications

	Period	1	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	4.2	4.2	5.1
	Feature type	Pit	Ring Ditch C pit	Pits	Pits	Pit Group X	Pit Group X	Pit Group Y	Pit	Pit Alignment L	Ditch	Ditch	Ditch N	Ditch O	Drying Oven 1555
	Feature	1625	1221	160	1628	1769	1828	1926	3175	1732	1893	1893	1323	1546	1556
	Context	1626	1224	160	1630	1825	1830	1932	3176	1733	1895	1896	1326	1548	1561
	Sample	31	4	30	29	41	36	44	51	33	42	43	13	22	25
Quercus sp.	oak	18 (rs)	1			1	3 (h)		13	1		1		15 (rs)	9
Corylus avellana L.	hazel	19 (r)		2r			1r							2r	15r
Alnus/Corylus	alder/hazel	6													
Populus/Salix	poplar/ willow				1					1				3 (r)	
Prunus spinosa L.	blackthorn		6r	1r	2r		18 (r)	9r	19r						
Prunus sp.	cherry type	2	2r	62r	33r	9 (r)	31 (r)	10 (r)	11r	16r	20r	15r	9r	7r	
Maloideae	Hawthorn group	5		14r	44r	8 (r)	22 (r)	22 (r)		14r	8r	11 (r)	12r		
Rhamnus cathartica L.	buckthorn								1r	2r					
Acer campestre L.	field maple		5	9	10 (r)	3	1	4		5		2 (r)			
Fraxinus excelsior L.	ash		14 (r)	5	1	4 (1s)								3	26r
Sambucus nigra L.	elder						8 (r)								
Indeterminate	diffuse porous		2 (r)	7r	9r	4	10 (r)	5r		9 (r)	2r	1	9r		
Indeterminate						1b	6b		6 (1b)	2b					

r=roundwood; s=sapwood; h=heartwood; b=bark

APPENDIX N: RADIOCARBON DATING

By SUERC, summarised by Sarah Cobain and Emma Aitken

Radiocarbon dating was undertaken in order to confirm the date of skeleton 3226; drying ovens 1556, 1252 and 1251; pits 1877, 1707, 1769 and 1625; ring ditch 1221 and ditches 3364 and 3383 (Table N.1). The samples were analysed during November 2017 and May 2018 at Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre (SUERC), Rankine Avenue, Scottish Enterprise Technology Park, East Kilbride, Glasgow, G75 0QF, Scotland. The methodology employed by SUERC Radiocarbon Laboratory is outlined in Dunbar *et al.* (2016).

The uncalibrated dates are conventional radiocarbon ages. The radiocarbon ages were calibrated using the University of Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit calibration programme OxCal v4.3.2 (2017) (Bronk Ramsey 2009) using the IntCal13 curve (Reimer *et al.* 2013).

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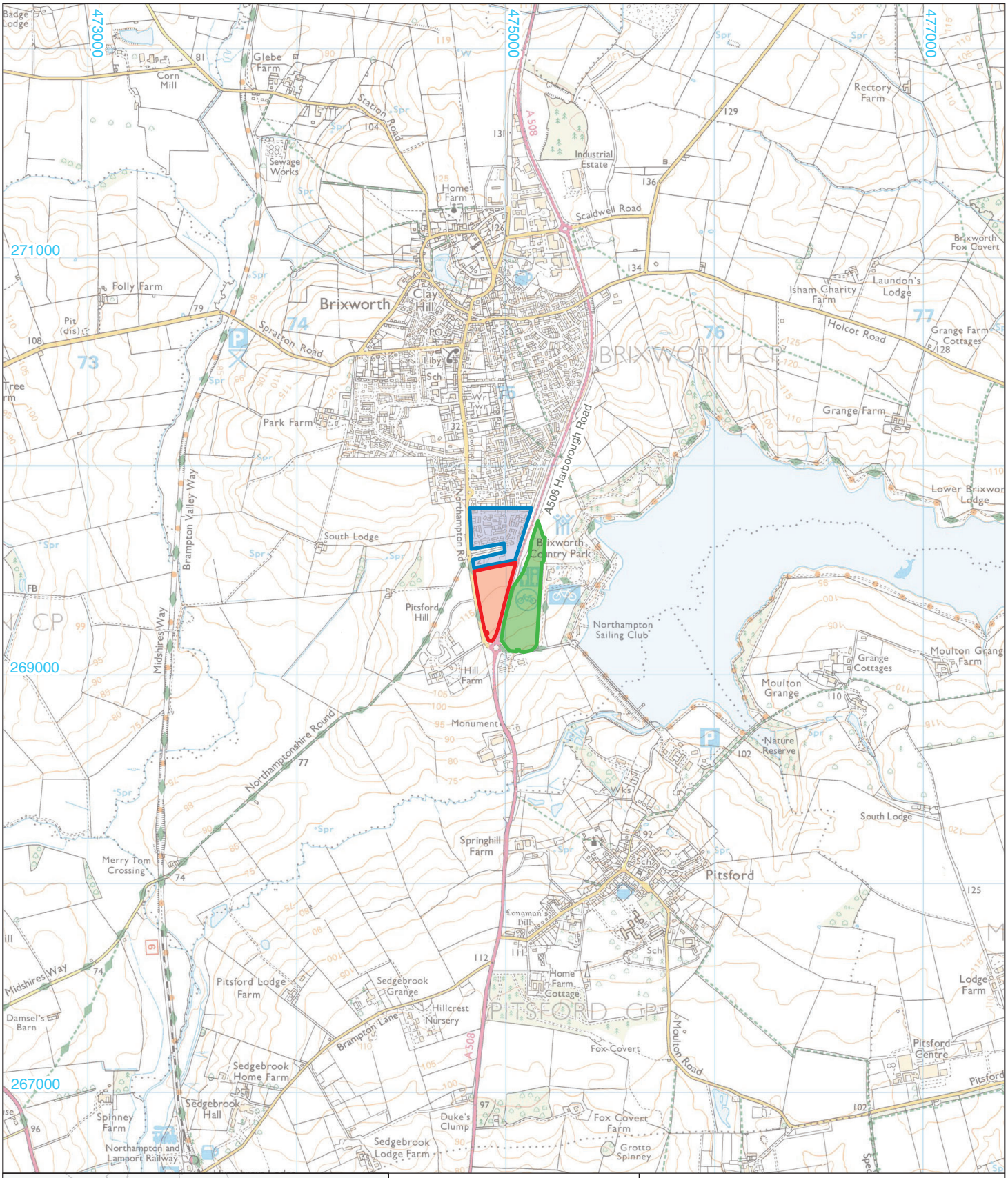
Table N1: Radiocarbon dating results

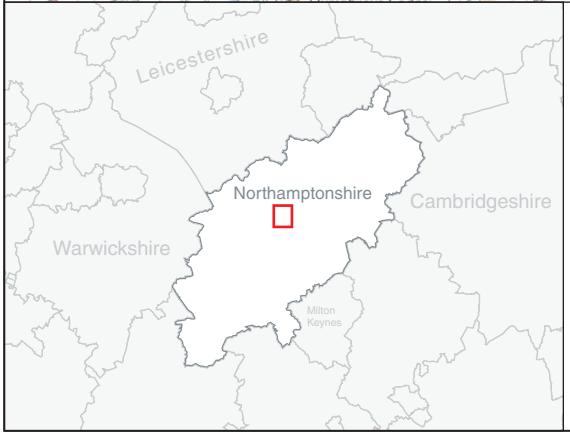
Feature	Lab No.	Material	δ ^{13}C	δ ^{15}N	C/N ratio	Radiocarbon age	Calibrated radiocarbon age 95.4% probability	Calibrated radiocarbon age 68.2% probability
Skeleton 3226 Pit 3230	SUERC-75529	Human bone Proximal left humerus fragment	-20.5‰	10.2	3.2	2152 ± 30 yr BP	357–283 cal. BC (32.4%) 257–247 cal. BC (0.9%) 235–91 cal. BC (62.2%)	350–307 cal. BC (25.2%) 210–161 cal. BC (37.7%) 131–118 cal. BC (5.3%)
Context 1825 Pit 1769 Pit group X	SUERC-75530	Charcoal Cherry (*Prunus*) species twig	-25.3‰			2101 ± 30 yr BP	198–47 cal. BC (95.4%)	171–91 cal. BC (61.7%) 71–61 cal. BC (6.5%)
Context 1626 Pit 1625	SUERC-75696	Charred nutshell Hazelnut shell (*Corylus avellana*)	-23.2‰			4705 ± 30 yr BP	3631–3579 cal. BC (20.0%) 3535–3490 cal. BC (21.5%) 3470–3373 cal. BC (53.9%)	3623–3603 cal. BC (11.2%) 3524–3498 cal. BC (16.7%) 3436–3378 cal. BC (40.3%)
Context 1561 Corn Drier 1556	SUERC-79195	Charred plant remains: Spelt Wheat (*Triticum spelta)*	-22.3‰			1651±30 yr BP	263–275 cal. AD (1.3%) 330–433 cal. AD (86.2%) 489–532 cal. AD (7.9%)	352–367 cal. AD (11.0%) 380–423 cal. AD (57.2%)
Context 1268 Corn Drier 1252	SUERC-79196	Charred plant remains: Barley (*Hordeum vulgare)*	-22.9‰			1847±30 yr BP	85–238 cal. AD (95.4%)	130–215 cal. AD (68.2%)
Context 1266 Corn Drier 1251	SUERC-79197	Charred plant remains: Spelt Wheat (*Triticum spelta)*	-23.3‰			1844±30 yr BP	85–240 cal. AD (95.4%)	131–216 cal. AD (68.2%)
Context 1879 Pit 1877 Pit Group X	SUERC-79201	Charred plant remains: Spelt Wheat (*Triticum spelta)*	-22.0‰			2090±28 yr BP	188–44 cal. BC (95.4%)	162–129 cal. BC (26.2%) 120–88 cal. BC (26.1%) 77–56 cal. BC (15.9%)
Context 1224 Pit 1221	SUERC-79202	Charred plant remains: Barley (*Hordeum vulgare)*	-23.1‰			2083±30 yr BP	191–40 cal. BC (95.4%)	159–133 cal. BC (18.6%) 117–53 cal. BC (49.6%)
Context 1708 Pit 1707	SUERC-79203	Human bone: Fragment of human cranium	-20.5‰	9.8‰	3.2	1702±30 yr BP	252–405 cal. AD (95.4%)	263–276 cal. AD (9.7%) 329–390 cal. AD (58.5%)
Context 3365 Ditch 3364 Enclosure A	SUERC-79204	Animal bone: Unidentified animal bone fragments	-21.7‰	6.1‰	3.3	2151±30 yr BP	356–284 cal. BC (31.2%) 254–250 cal. BC (0.3%) 235–91 cal. BC (63.2%) 69–62 cal. BC (0.6%)	350–311 cal. BC (23.6%) 209–160 cal. BC (38.7%) 132–118 cal. BC (6.0%)
Context 3365 Ditch 3364 Enclosure A	SUERC-79205	Animal bone: Unidentified animal bone fragments	-21.8‰	8.6‰	3.2	2219±29 yr BP	373–203 cal. BC (95.4%)	360–350 cal. BC (6.3%) 308–269 cal. BC (25.4%) 264–210 cal. BC (36.5%)
Context 3384 Ditch 3383 Enclosure B	SUERC-79206	Animal bone: Unidentified long bone fragments	-21.7‰	5.1‰	3.2	2030±30 yr BP	156–137 cal. BC (2.7%) 114–53 cal. AD (92.7%)	88–77 cal. BC (5.6%) 56 cal. BC–20 cal. AD (62.6%)

APPENDIX O: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	Saxon Rise 2, Northampton Road, Brixworth, Northamptonshire	
Short description	A programme of archaeological investigation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology between June and October 2016 at the request of Barratt Northampton at Saxon Rise 2, Brixworth, Northamptonshire. An area of 3.44ha was excavated across the development site. Two Early Neolithic pits and one of Early Bronze Age date were identified, along with ditches and pits more broadly dating from the Bronze Age to Early Iron Age. The most significant remains comprised trapezoidal and sub-circular enclosures, two possible ring ditches and extensive pitting dating to the Middle to Late Iron Age. Activity continued from the Late Iron Age into the Romano-British period, characterised by the development of a farmstead of complex form, comprising a series of sub-rectangular enclosed areas that appear to have been used for domestic occupation and mixed agricultural purposes; crop processing certainly being carried out here by the mid-2nd century. The construction of a large drying oven suggests an expansion of crop-processing activities on site in the later Roman period and possibly brewing taking place in the vicinity. The western ditch delineating the farmstead appears to have marked a major boundary during the earlier Roman period and was maintained throughout the Roman occupation of the site, eventually being replaced by a stone wall. Few post-Roman features were identified, with no evidence of site occupation until the establishment of a ridge-and-furrow agricultural system in the medieval or post-medieval periods. There was evidence for a post-medieval boundary wall and possible quarry pits, along with a modern ditch, postholes and dog burials.	
Project dates	6 June – 28 October 2016	
Project type	Excavation	
Previous work	DBA (CA 2012) Geophysical survey (Stratascan 2012, 2014) Field evaluation (CA 2014)	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	Saxon Rise 2, Northampton Road, Brixworth, Northamptonshire	
Study area (M^2/ha)	3.44 ha	
Site co-ordinates	474940 269390	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	Northamptonshire County Council	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Stuart Joyce	
Project Supervisor	Peter Boyer	
MONUMENT TYPE	Iron Age Enclosure, Romano-British Farmstead	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	Metalwork, Worked stones, pottery	
PROJECT ARCHIVES	Intended final location of archive (museum/Accession no.)	Content (e.g. pottery, animal bone etc)

Physical	Northamptonshire Archaeological Resource Centre	Ceramics, clay tobacco pipe, fired/burnt clay, glass, lithics, metalwork, metalworking debris, worked stone, human bone, animal bone, plant macrofossils and charcoal
Paper	Northamptonshire Archaeological Resource Centre	Context sheets, registers, skeleton recording sheets, sample sheets, plans and sections
Digital	Northamptonshire Archaeological Resource Centre	Database, digital photos, site survey
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2018 *Saxon Rise 2, Northampton Road, Brixworth, Northamptonshire: Archaeological Excavation* CA Report **18193**		





N

Saxon Rise 2

Saxon Rise 1

ULAS (2015)

0 1:25,000 1km

Cotswold Archaeology

Andover 01264 347630
Cirencester 01285 771022
Exeter 01392 573970
Milton Keynes 01908 564660
Suffolk 01449 900120
w www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
e enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE

Saxon Rise 2, Brixworth, Northamptonshire

FIGURE TITLE

Site location plan

DRAWN BY	**DJB**	*PROJECT NO.*	**669047**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**RP**	*DATE*	**24.11.2020**	**1**
APPROVED BY	**TB**	*SCALE@A4*	**1:25,000**	

475000

269500

Allotments

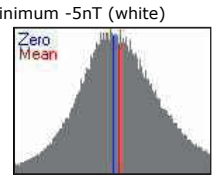
Northampton Road

A508 Harborough Road

Saxon Rise 1 & 2
Geophysics by Stratascan (2012)

Plotting parameters

Maximum +5nT (black)
Minimum -5nT (white)



-5nT +5nT

+5nT

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PROJECT TITLE

Saxon Rise 2, Brixworth, Northamptonshire

FIGURE TITLE

Geophysical survey; Saxon Rise 1, Saxon Rise 2 and east of Harborough Road

DRAWN BY	**DJB**	*PROJECT NO.*	**669047**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**RP**	*DATE*	**26/11/2020**	**2**
APPROVED BY	**TB**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:2000**	

Saxon Rise 1 evaluation trench

Saxon Rise 2 evaluation trench

ULAS (2015) evaluation trench

N

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ULAS (2015)
Geophysics by Stratascan (2014)

Plotting parameters

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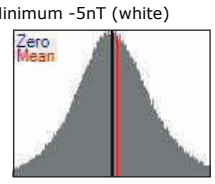
Minimum -5nT (white)



-5nT +5nT

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Northampton Road

A508 Harborough Road

Northampton Road

A508 Harborough Road

Cotswold Archaeology

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PROJECT TITLE

Saxon Rise 2, Brixworth, Northamptonshire

FIGURE TITLE

Plan showing archaeological features at Saxon Rise 1 and Saxon Rise 2

DRAWN BY	**DJB**	*PROJECT NO.*	**669047**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**RP**	*DATE*	**24/11/2020**	**3**
APPROVED BY	**TB**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:2000**	

- Saxon Rise 2
- Saxon Rise 1
- Limit of excavation
- Main excavation area
- SMS area
- Evaluation trench
- Archaeological feature
- Previous archaeological feature
- Plough furrow

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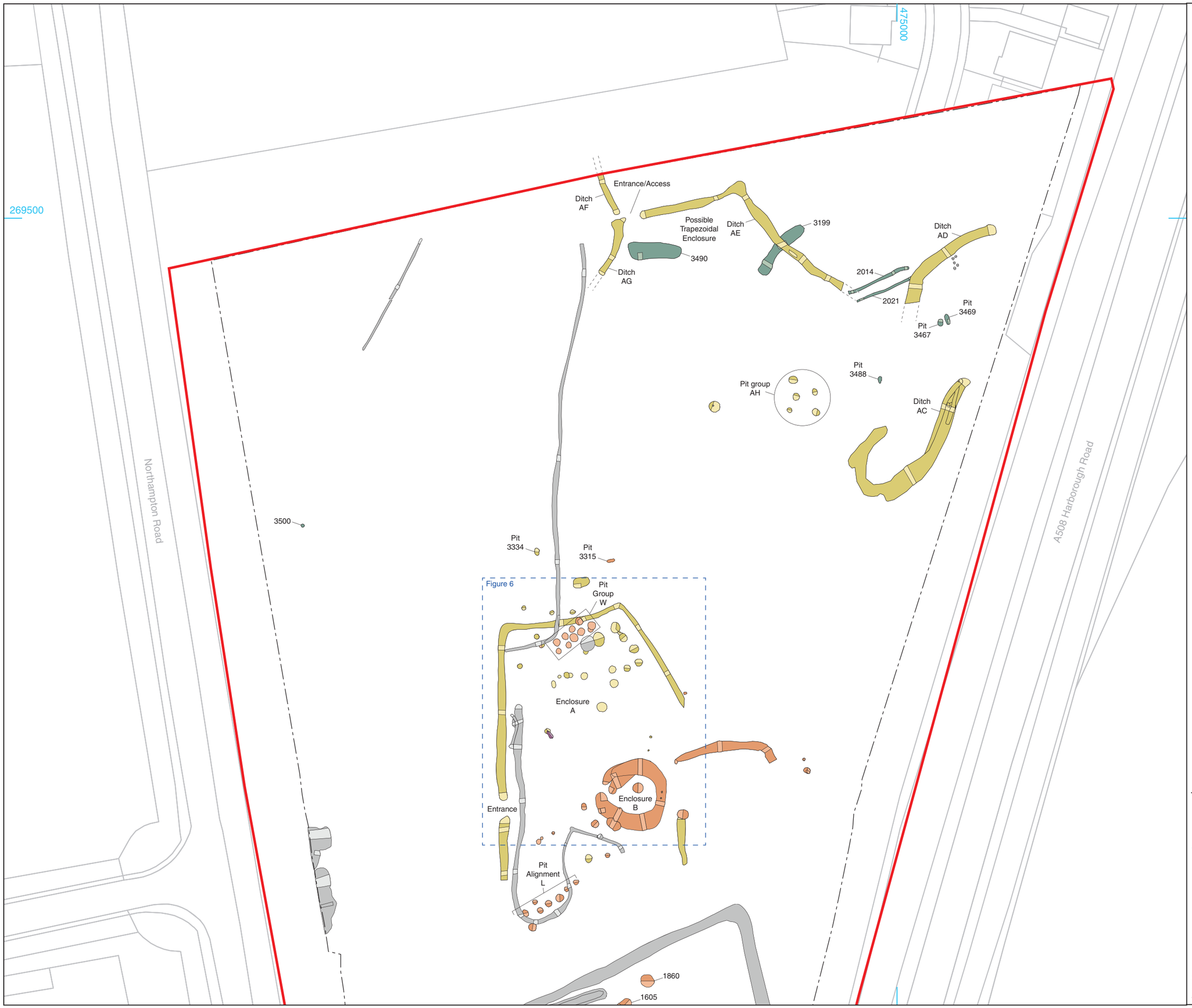

N

Site boundary

Excavation area

excavated\unexcavated

Period 2:
Bronze Age to Early Iron Age

Period 3.1:
Middle to Late Iron Age phase I

Period 3.2:
Middle to Late Iron Age phase II

Period 4.1:
Late Iron Age to Early Roman

Other periods

0 1:750 25m

Cotswold Archaeology

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Milton Keynes 01908 564660
Suffolk 01449 900120
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e enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE

Saxon Rise 2, Brixworth, Northamptonshire

FIGURE TITLE

The northern half of the excavation area, showing Period 1 - 4 features

DRAWN BY	**DJB**	*PROJECT NO.*	**669047**	*FIGURE NO.*
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APPROVED BY	**TB**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:750**	

475000

269300

Enclosure B

Entrance

Pit Alignment L

1732

1509

1746

1709

1860

1605

Inset

Figure 7

Pit Group X

Ring Ditch C

Enclosure I

Ring Ditch D

Pit Group Y

1952

1771

1721

gully 1715

Ditch T

Ditch N

Gully J

Northampton Road

A508 Harborough Road

Inset: Period 1 pits

1680

A

A

1625

0 1:50 2m

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PROJECT TITLE

Saxon Rise 2, Brixworth, Northamptonshire

FIGURE TITLE

The southern half of the excavation area, showing Period 1 - 4 features

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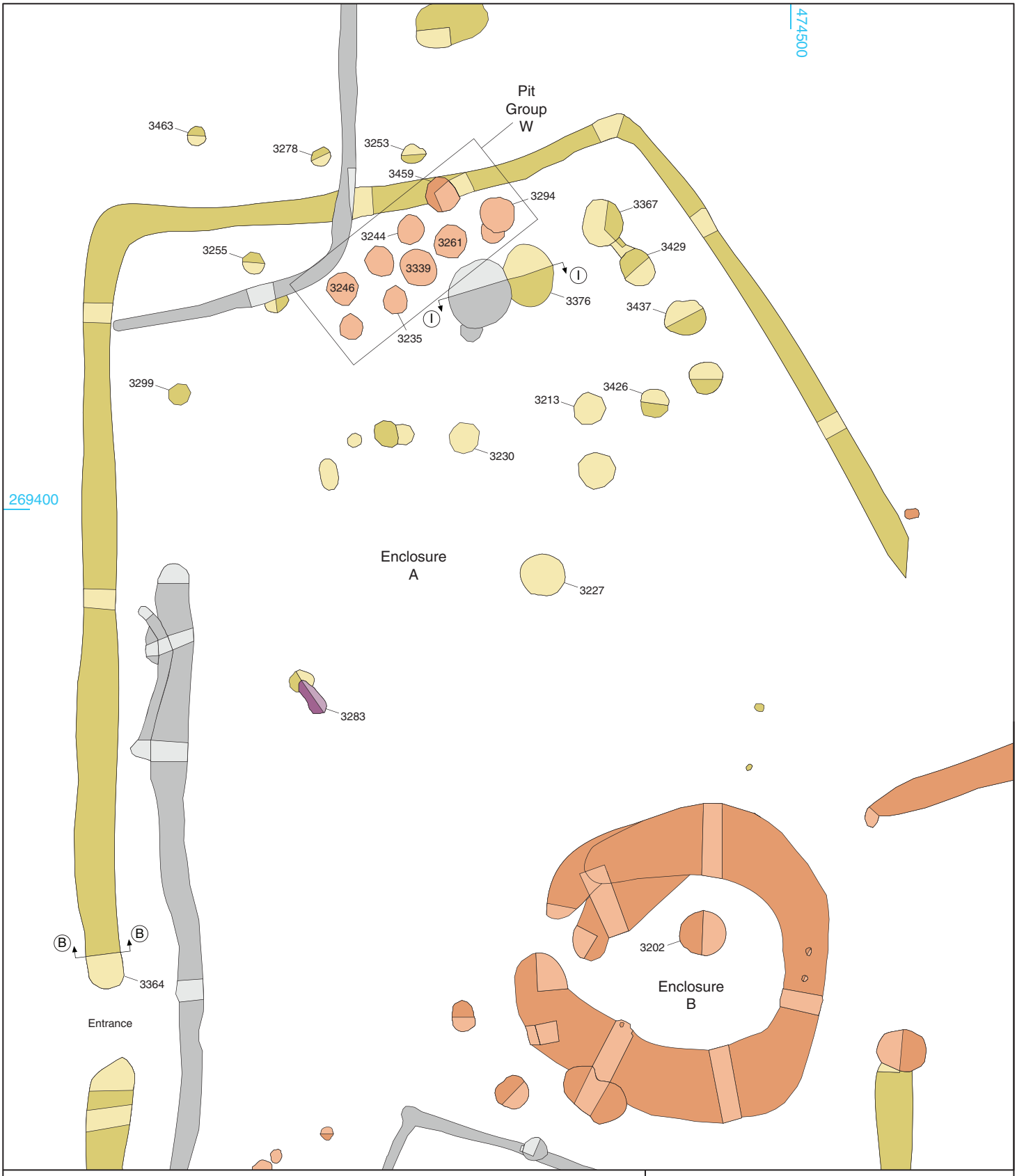
Site boundary
Excavation area
Plough furrow
A Section location A

excavated\unexcavated

Period 1: Early Neolithic
Period 2: Bronze Age to Early Iron Age
Period 3.1: Middle to Late Iron Age phase I
Period 3.2: Middle to Late Iron Age phase II
Period 4.1: Late Iron Age to Early Roman
Modern
Other periods

N

0 1:750 25m



excavated\unexcavated

- Period 3.1: Middle to Late Iron Age phase I
- Period 3.2: Middle to Late Iron Age phase II
- Period 4.1: Late Iron Age to Early Roman
- Other periods
- Section location

N

0 1:250 10m

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Saxon Rise 2, Brixworth, Northamptonshire

FIGURE TITLE

Enclosures A and B, Pit Group W and associated features

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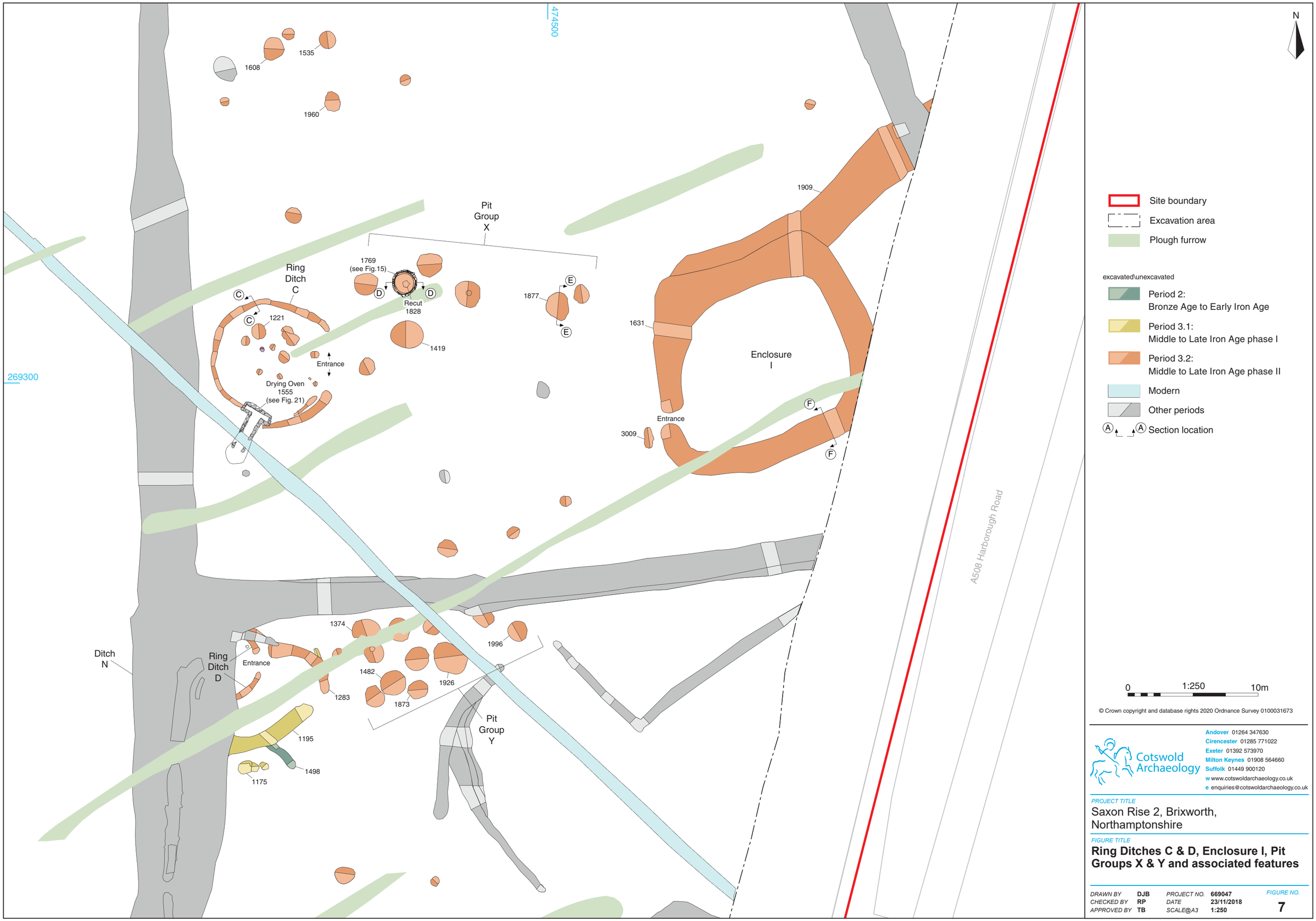
APPROVED BY	TB	SCALE@A4	1:250	



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Saxon Rise 2, Brixworth, Northamptonshire

FIGURE TITLE

Ring Ditches C & D, Enclosure I, Pit Groups X & Y and associated features

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APPROVED BY	**TB**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:250**	

475000

269300

Ditch K

Pit 3183

Ditch F

Ditch N

Enclosure AI

Ditch F

Ring Ditch C

1854

Ditch N

Drying Oven 1555

1837

Ditch P

Ditch G

1707

Enclosure AB

1999

1858

1522/1676

Enclosure AJ

wall foundation 1845

1880

1887

3020/1756

1771

Figure 9

1378

1380

rubble spread 1833/1920

Ditch H

Ditch Q

Ditch N

Enclosure AK

Ditch V

Ditch F

Ditch S

Ditch R

1144

1142

1140

Ditch Z

1792

1784

Ditch AA

Ditch F

1276

Ditch O

Northampton Road

A508 Harborough Road

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Saxon Rise 2, Brixworth, Northamptonshire

FIGURE TITLE

The southern half of the excavation area, showing Period 4 - 6 features

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APPROVED BY	**TB**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:750**	

excavated\unexcavated

- Site boundary
- Excavation area
- Plough furrow
- Period 4.1: Late Iron Age to Early Roman
- Period 4.2: Early Roman
- Period 5.1: Late Roman phase I
- Period 5.2: Late Roman phase II
- Period 6: Post-Roman
- Modern intrusions
- Other periods

N

0 1:750 25m

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FIGURE TITLE

Enclosures AJ and AK, Drying Ovens 1251 and 1252, Wall 1050 and associated features

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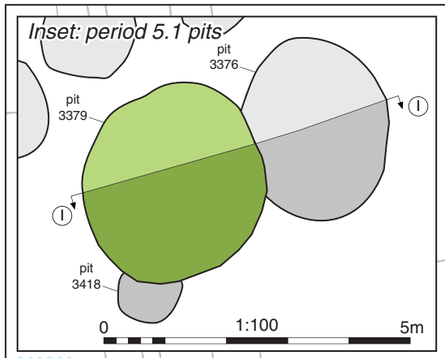
APPROVED BY	**TB**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:250**	

excavated\unexcavated

- Site boundary
- Excavation area
- Plough furrow
- Section location
- Period 4.1: Late Iron Age to Early Roman
- Period 4.2: Early Roman
- Period 5.1: Late Roman phase I
- Period 5.2: Late Roman phase II
- Other periods
- 14 Registered artefact (Ra.)

N

0 1:250 10m



475000

269500

Northampton Road

A508 Harborough Road

3498

2029

2031

Ditch M

Inset

Ditch K

1847

1703

1852

Ra. 28

Ditch N

N

Site boundary

Excavation area

excavated\unexcavated

Period 4.1: Late Iron Age to Early Roman

Period 4.2: Early Roman

Period 5.1: Late Roman phase I

Period 6: Post-Roman

Other periods

A A Section location

Ra. location

0 1:750 25m

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Saxon Rise 2, Brixworth, Northamptonshire

FIGURE TITLE

The northern half of the excavation area

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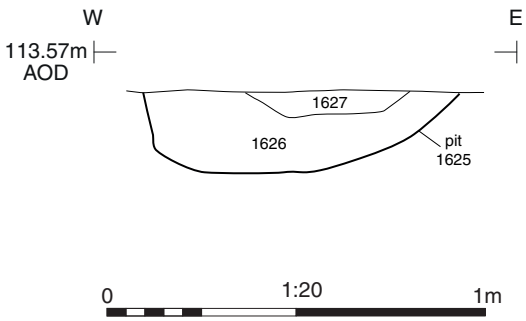
APPROVED BY	TB	SCALE@A3	1:750 1:100	

Section AA



Period 1 pit 1625, looking north (scale 0.5m)

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FIGURE TITLE

Section AA, with photograph (Pit 1625)

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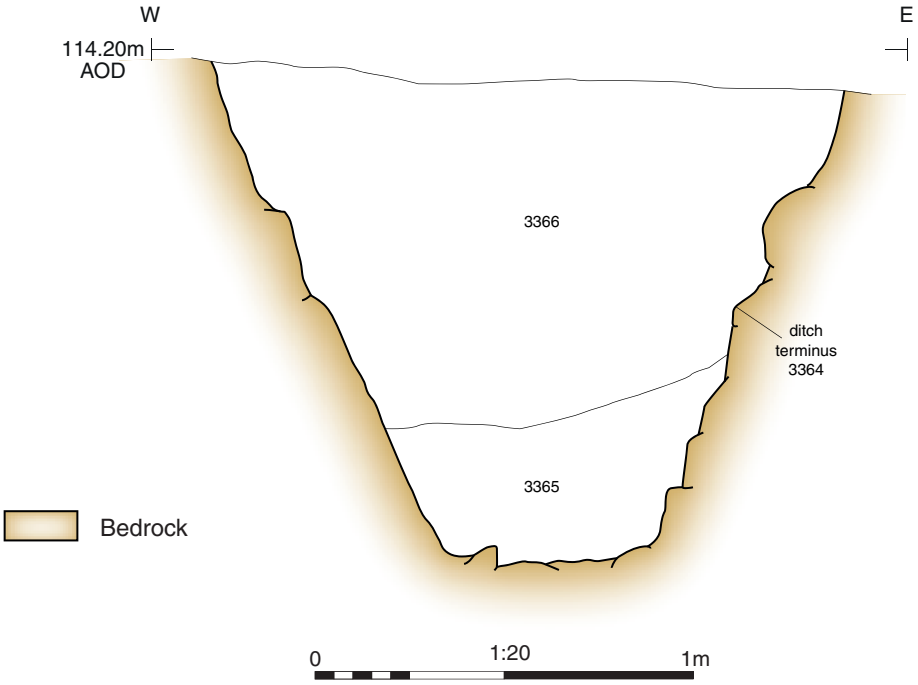
APPROVED BY	**TB**	*SCALE@A4*	**1:20**	

Section BB



Period 3.1 Enclosure A (ditch cut 3364), looking north (scale 1m)

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FIGURE TITLE

Section BB, with photograph (Enclosure A ditch)

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13

Period 3.1 pit 3376, Period 3.2 Pit Group W and Period 5.1 Pit 3379, looking west

14

Period 3.1 skeleton 3226 within pit 3230, looking south-west (scale 0.3m)

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Saxon Rise 2, Brixworth, Northamptonshire

FIGURE TITLE

Photographs

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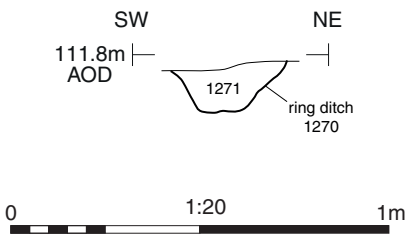
APPROVED BY	**TB**	*SCALE@A4*	**NA**	

Period 3.2 Ring Ditch C and Period 5.1 Drying Oven 1555, looking west (scales 1m)

Period 3.2 Ring Ditch C (cut 1270), looking south-west (scale 0.3m)

Section CC



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Saxon Rise 2, Brixworth, Northamptonshire

FIGURE TITLE

Section CC, with photographs (Ring Ditch C)

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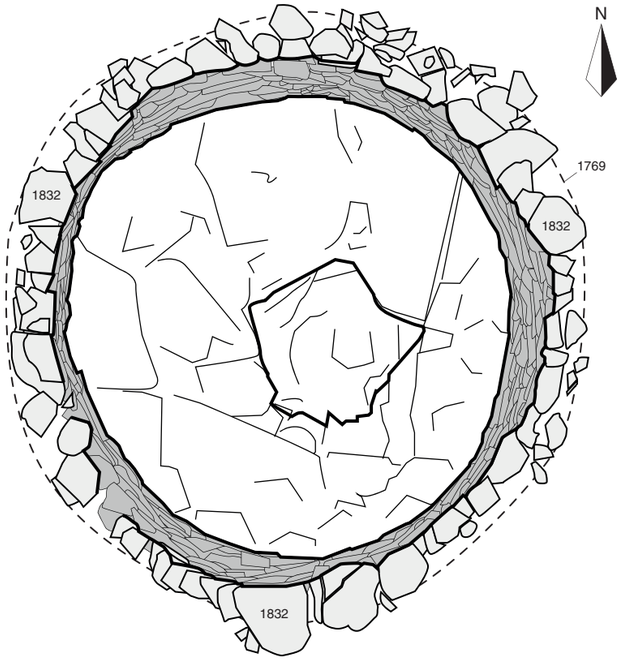
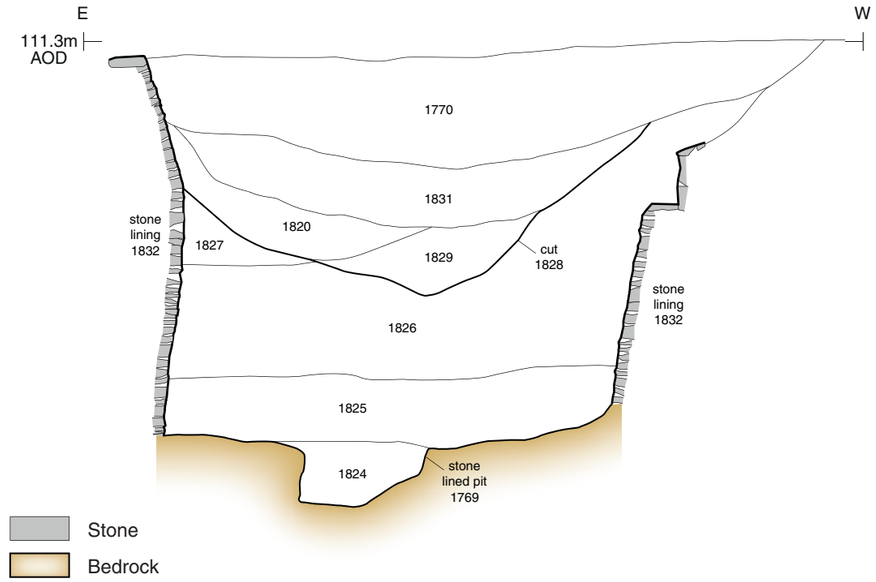
APPROVED BY	**TB**	*SCALE@A4*	**1:20**	



0 1:20 1m

Section DD



0 1:20 1m

Period 3.2 pit 1769, looking south (scale 2m)

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Saxon Rise 2, Brixworth, Northamptonshire

FIGURE TITLE

Section DD, with plan and photograph (Pit 1769)

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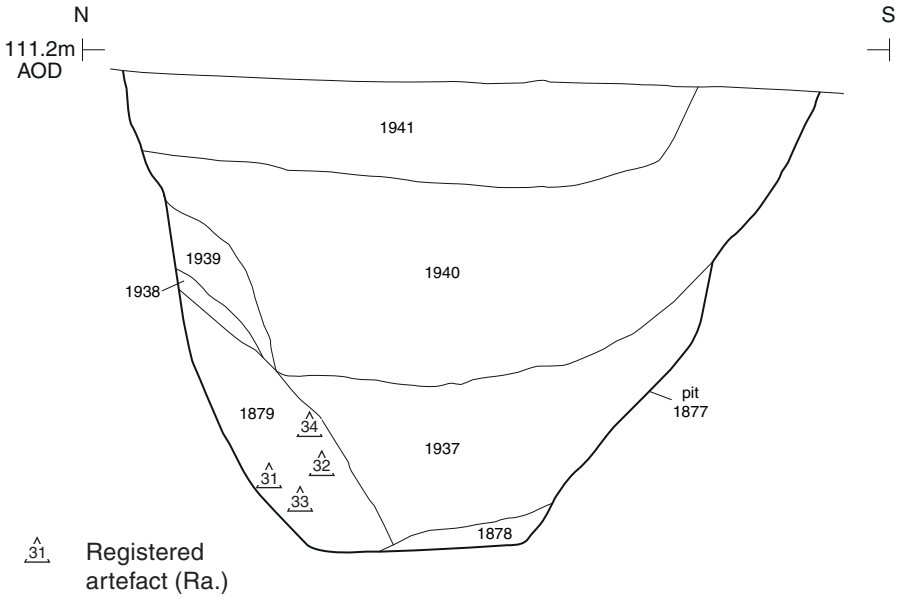
APPROVED BY	**TB**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:20**	

Section EE



Period 3.2 pit 1877, looking east (scale 1m)

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Saxon Rise 2, Brixworth, Northamptonshire

FIGURE TITLE

Section EE, with photograph (Pit 1877)

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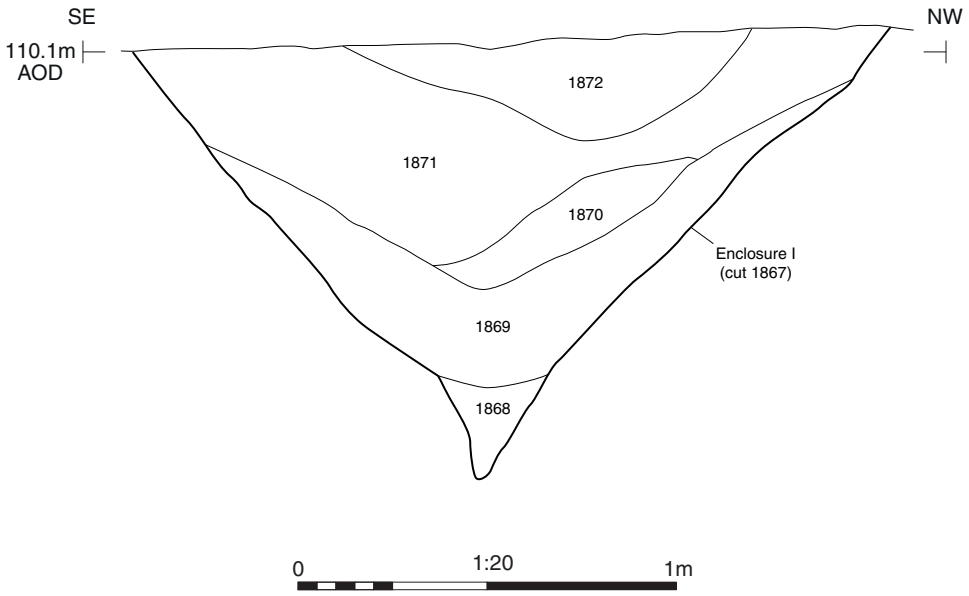
APPROVED BY	**TB**	*SCALE@A4*	**1:20**	

Section FF



Period 3.2 Enclosure I (cut 1867), looking south-west (scale 1m)

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FIGURE TITLE

Section FF, with photograph (Enclosure I ditch)

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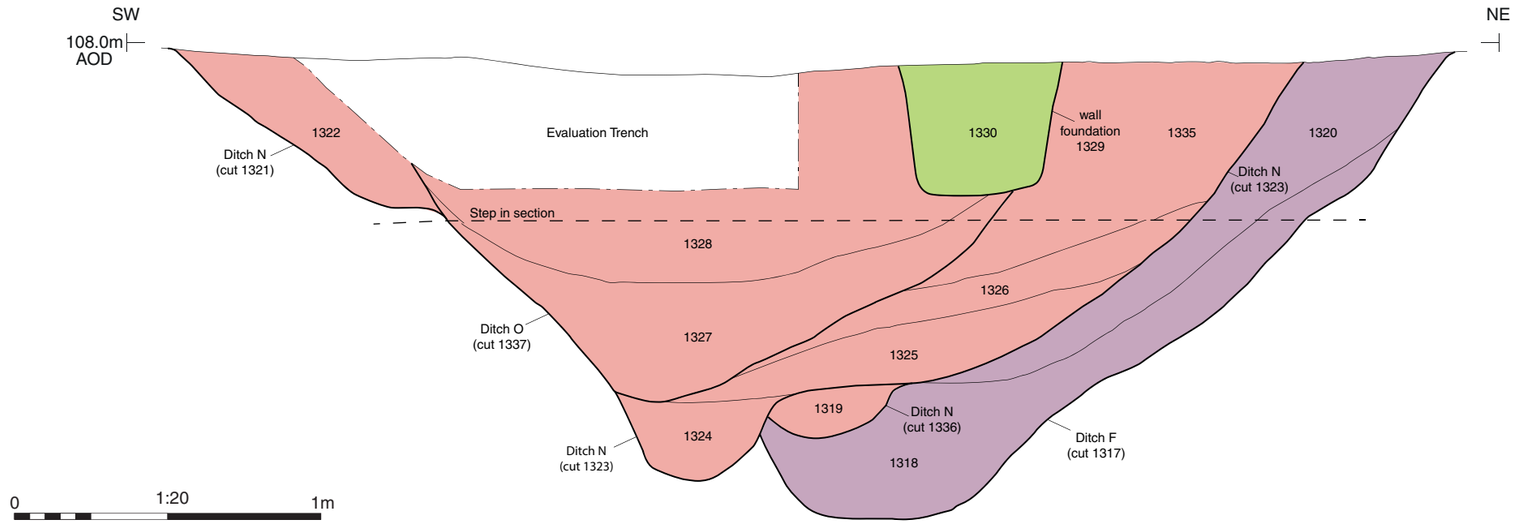
Section GG



Period 4.1 Ditch F (cut 1317), Period 4.2 Ditch N (cuts 1323, 1336 and 1321), Period 4.2 Ditch O (cut 1337) and Period 5.1 wall foundation cut 1329, looking north-west (scale 2m)

Period 4.1: Late Iron Age to Early Roman
Period 4.2: Early Roman
Period 5.1: Late Roman phase I

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Saxon Rise 2, Brixworth, Northamptonshire

FIGURE TITLE
Section GG, with photograph (Ditch recuts and wall)

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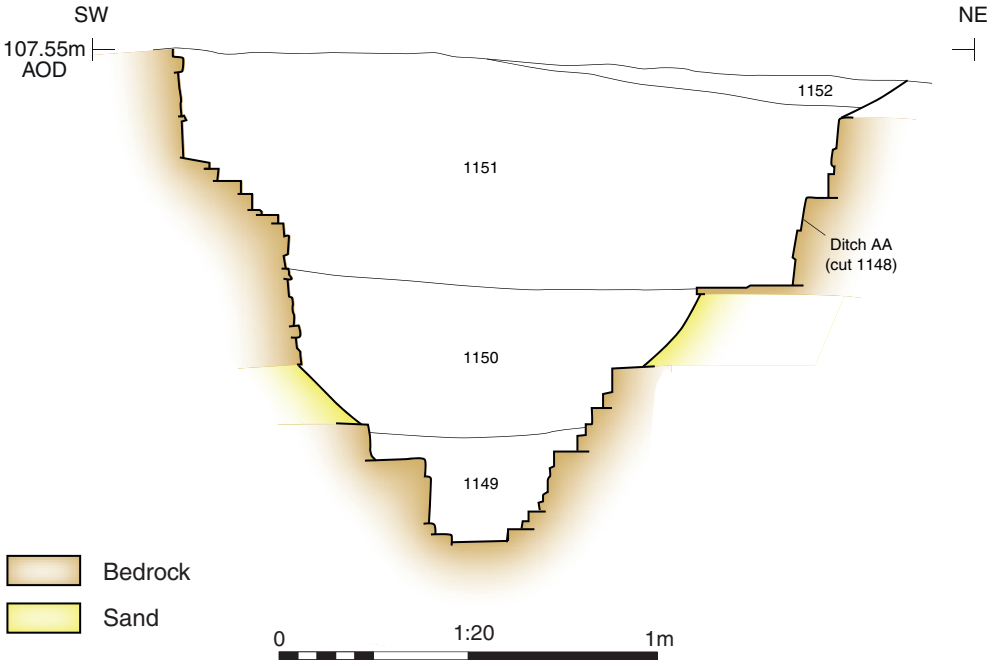
APPROVED BY	**TB**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:20**	

Section HH



Period 4.1 Ditch AA (cut 1148), looking north-west (scale 1m)

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FIGURE TITLE

Section HH, with photograph (Ditch AA)

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Period 4.2 Drying Ovens 1251 and 1252, looking south

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PROJECT TITLE

Saxon Rise 2, Brixworth, Northamptonshire

FIGURE TITLE

Photograph: Excavation of Drying Ovens 1251 and 1252

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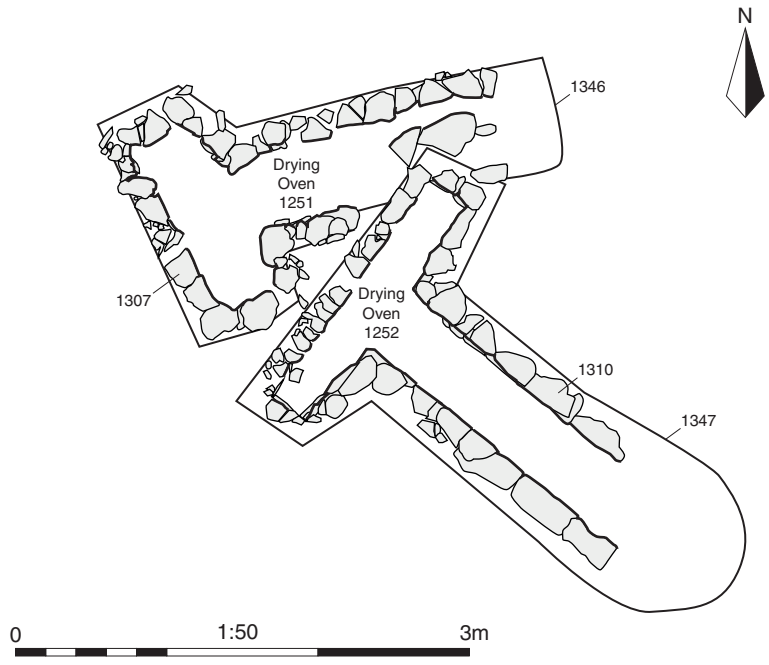
Period 4.2 Drying Ovens 1251 and 1252, looking south-west (scales 1m)



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Saxon Rise 2, Brixworth, Northamptonshire

FIGURE TITLE

Photograph: Excavation of Drying Ovens 1251 and 1252

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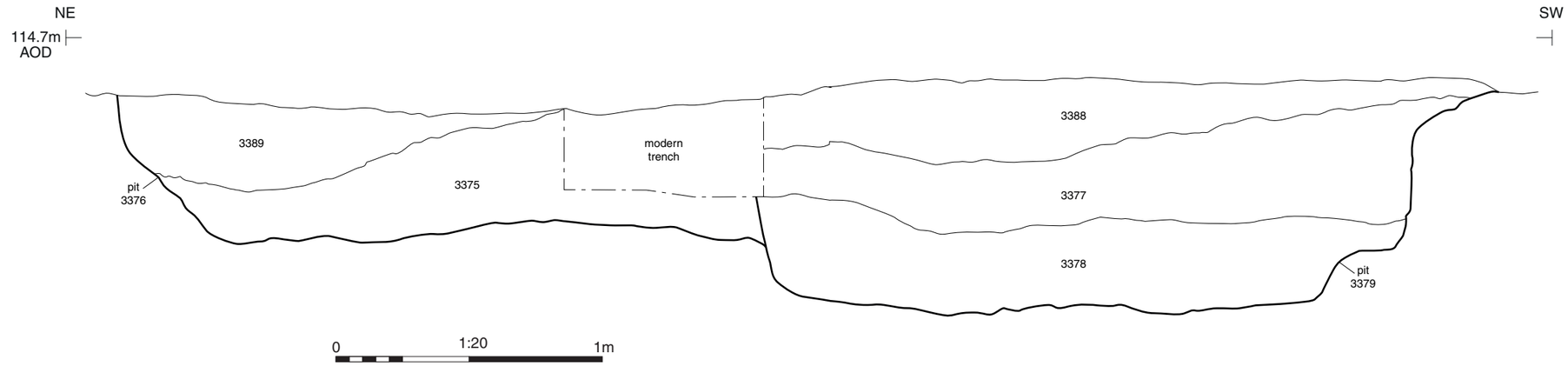
APPROVED BY	**TB**	*SCALE@A4*	**1:50**	

Section II



Period 5.1 pit 3379, looking south (scale 2m)

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PROJECT TITLE

Saxon Rise 2, Brixworth, Northamptonshire

FIGURE TITLE

Section II, with photograph (Pit 3379)

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APPROVED BY	**PB**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:20**	

Period 5.1 Wall 1050, looking north (scales 1m)

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FIGURE TITLE

Photograph: Wall 1050, looking north

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Period 5.2 Rubble spread 1833, looking north-east

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Saxon Rise 2, Brixworth, Northamptonshire

FIGURE TITLE

Photograph: Rubble spread 1833, looking north-east

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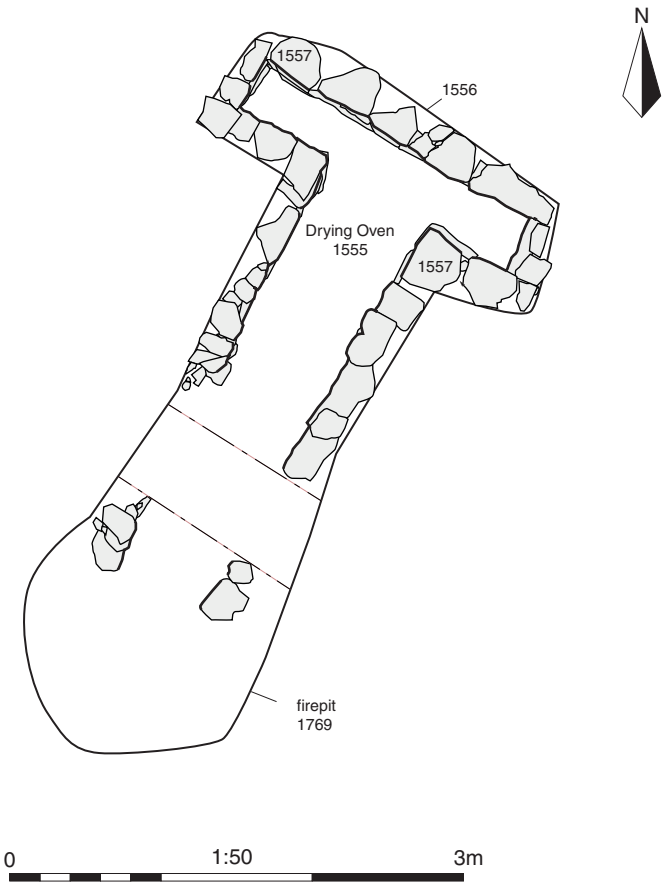
APPROVED BY	**TB**	*SCALE@A4*	**NA**	

Period 5.1 Drying Oven 1555, looking north-east (scale 1m)



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Saxon Rise 2, Brixworth, Northamptonshire

FIGURE TITLE

Plan and photograph: Drying Oven 1555

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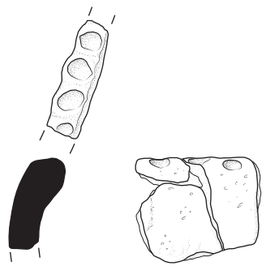
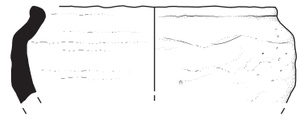
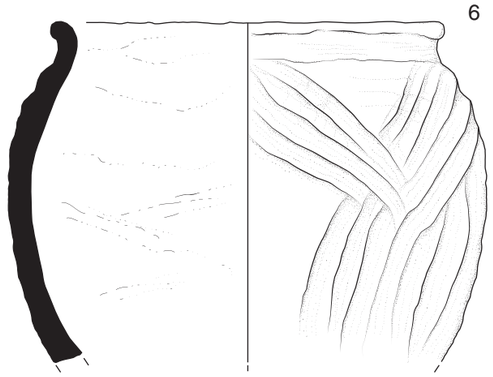
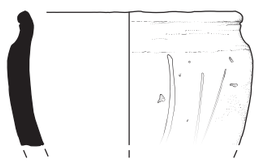
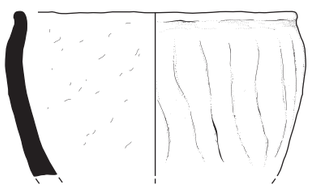
APPROVED BY	**TB**	*SCALE@A4*	**1:50**	

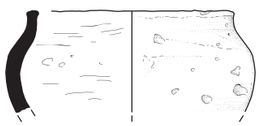


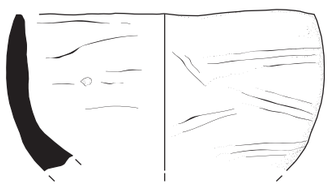


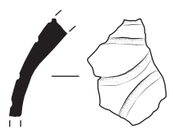


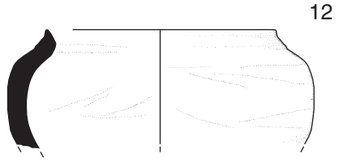


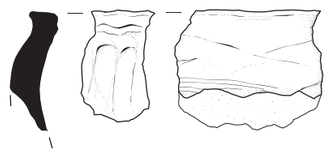


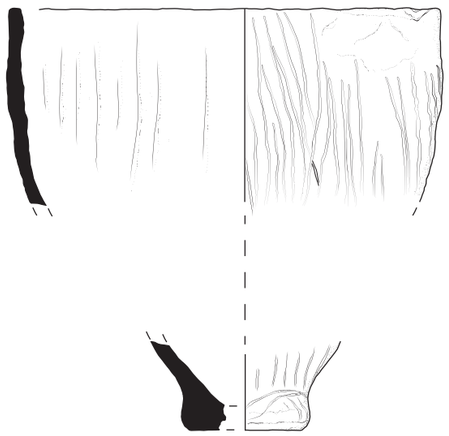


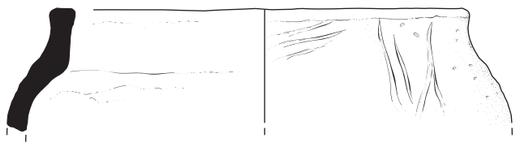












0 1:3 150mm

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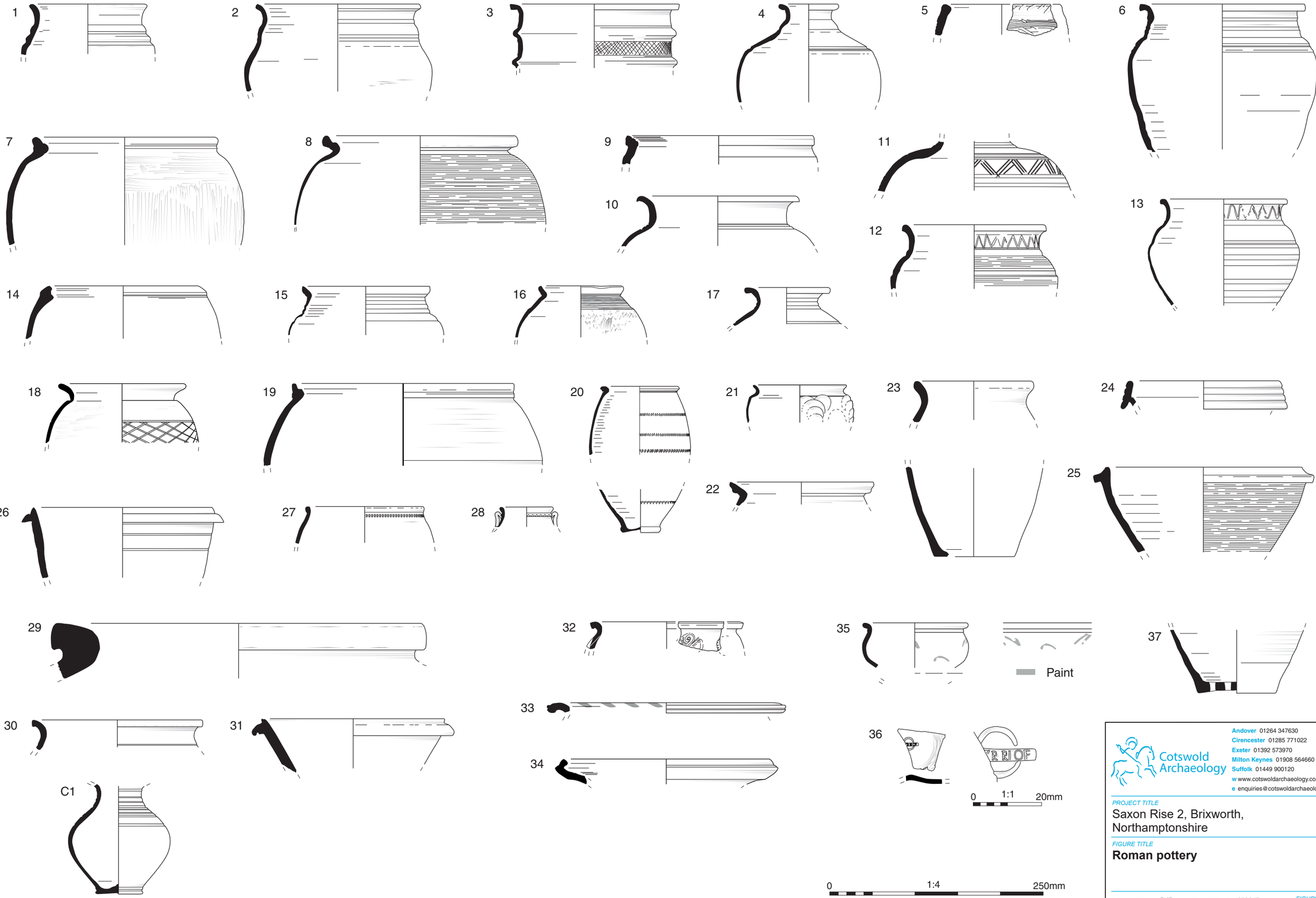
PROJECT TITLE

Saxon Rise 2, Brixworth, Northamptonshire

FIGURE TITLE

Prehistoric pottery

DRAWN BY	**EE**	*PROJECT NO.*	**669047**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**26/11/2020**	**27**
APPROVED BY	**TB**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:3**	



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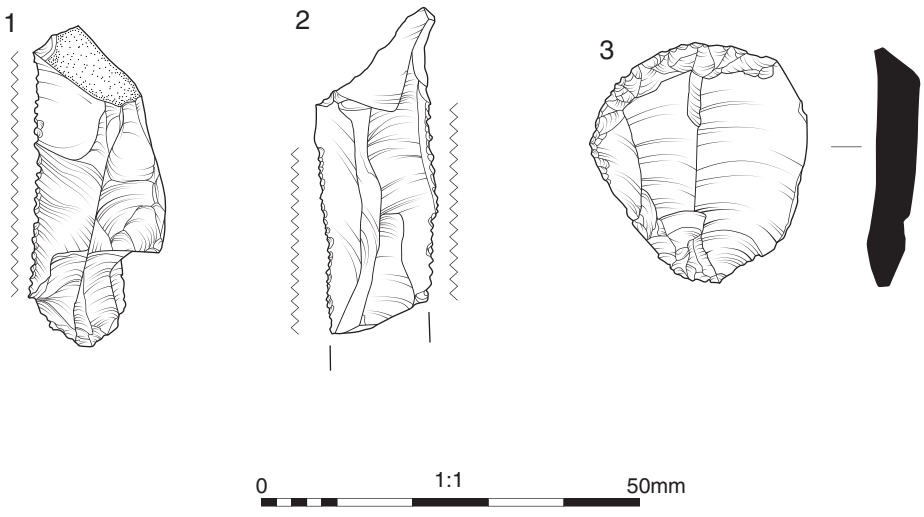
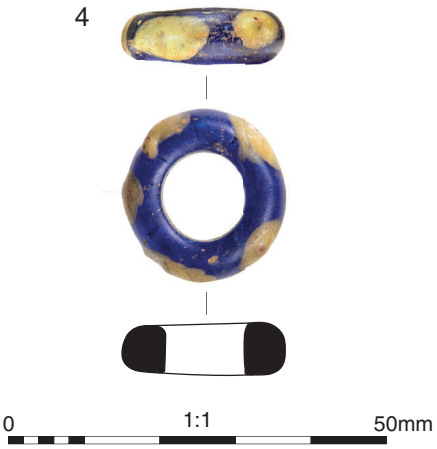
PROJECT TITLE
Saxon Rise 2, Brixworth, Northamptonshire

FIGURE TITLE
Roman pottery

DRAWN BY	DJB	PROJECT NO.	669047	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	RP	DATE	26/12/2020	28
APPROVED BY	TB	SCALE@A3	1:4	





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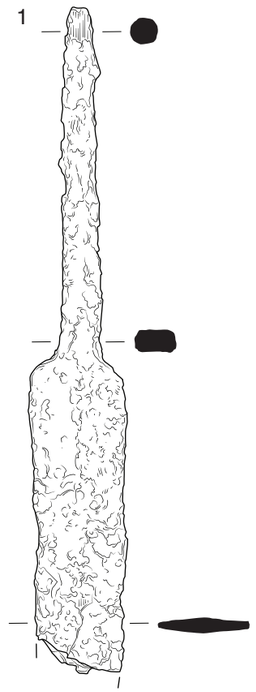
PROJECT TITLE

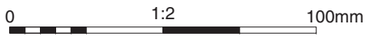
Saxon Rise 2, Brixworth, Northamptonshire

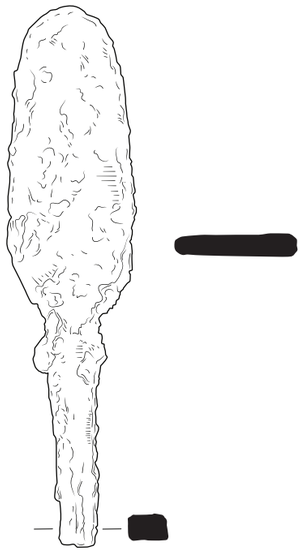
FIGURE TITLE

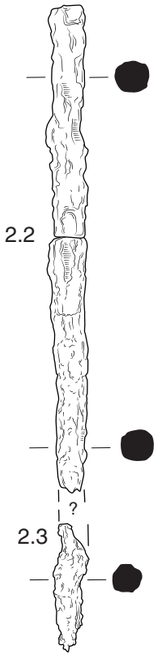
Lithic artefacts and glass bead

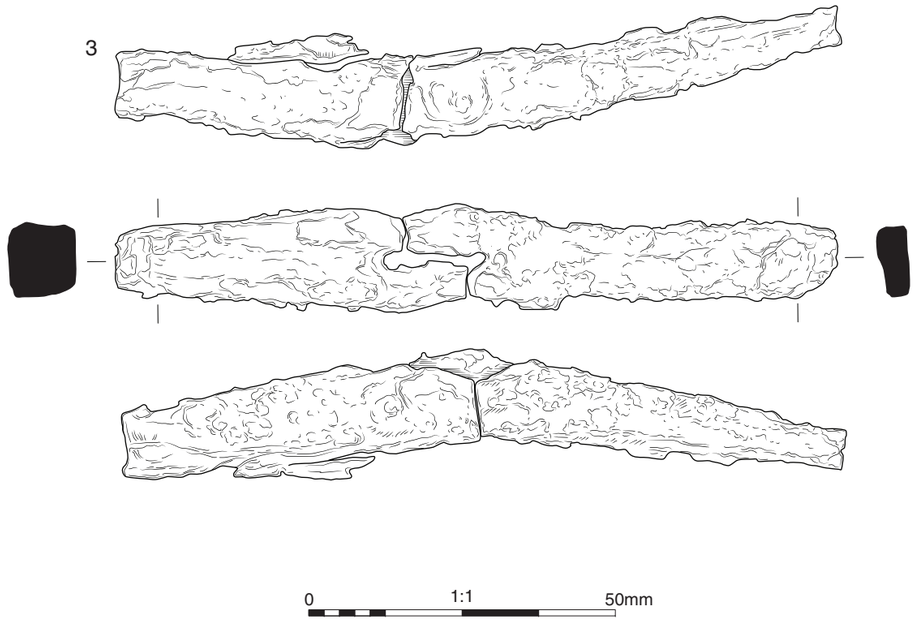
DRAWN BY	**EE**	*PROJECT NO.*	**669047**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DB**	*DATE*	**26/11/2020**	**29**
APPROVED BY	**TB**	*SCALE@A4*	**1:1**	

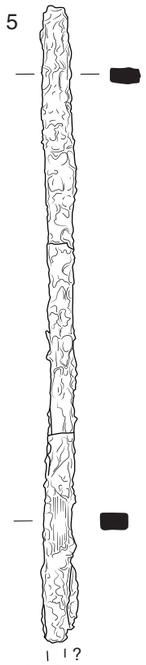


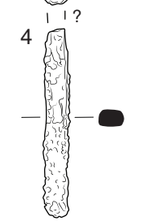


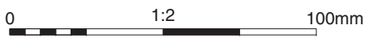


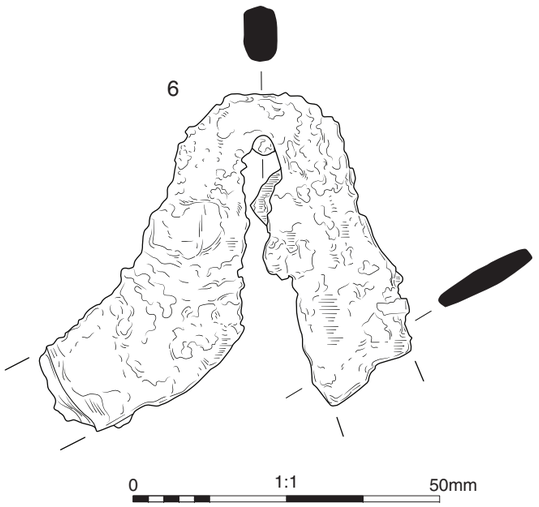


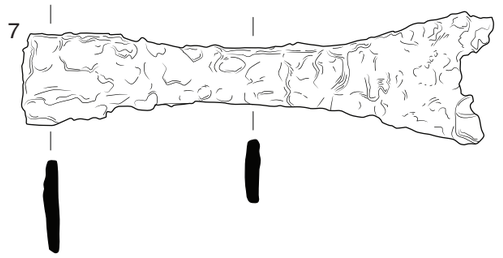












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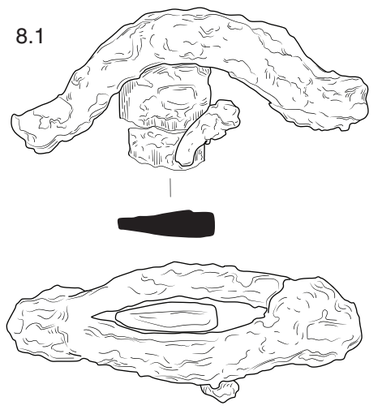
PROJECT TITLE

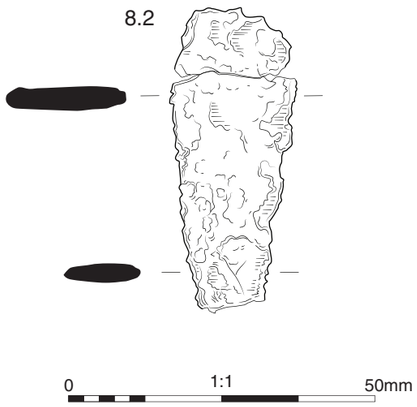
Saxon Rise 2, Brixworth, Northamptonshire

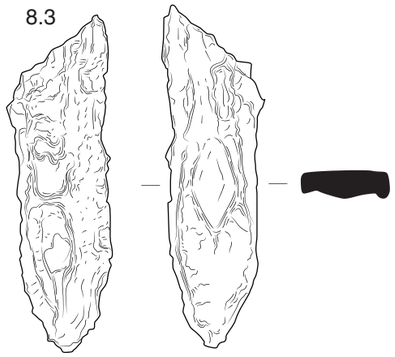
FIGURE TITLE

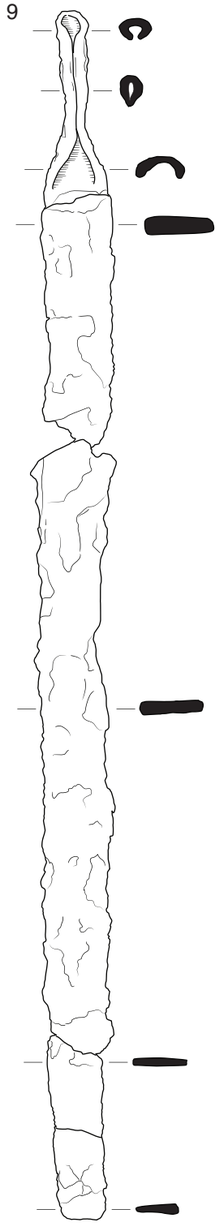
Metal artefacts (1 to 7)

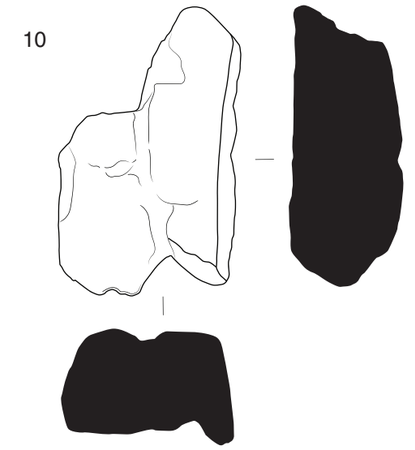
DRAWN BY	RP/EE	PROJECT NO.	669047	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DB	DATE	26/12/2020	30
APPROVED BY	TB	SCALE@A3	1:1 / 1:2	

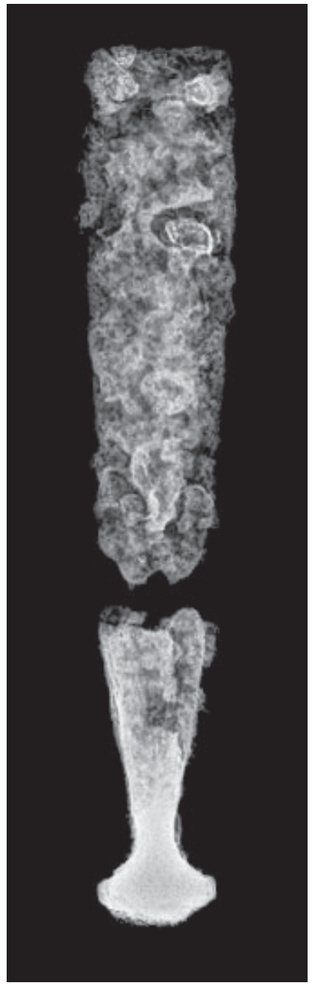












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PROJECT TITLE

Saxon Rise 2, Brixworth, Northamptonshire

FIGURE TITLE

Metal artefacts (8 to 11)

DRAWN BY	**RP/EE**	*PROJECT NO.*	**669047**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DB**	*DATE*	**26/11/2020**	**31**
APPROVED BY	**TB**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:1 / 1:2 / 1:4**	

1

Ra. 36

0 1:4 200mm

2

Ra. 44

0 1:4 200mm

3

Ra. 34

0 1:1 50mm

4

Ra. 24

0 1:4 200mm

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PROJECT TITLE

Saxon Rise 2, Brixworth, Northamptonshire

FIGURE TITLE

Worked stone (1 to 4)

DRAWN BY	RP/EE	PROJECT NO.	669047	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DB	DATE	26/11/2020	32
APPROVED BY	TB	SCALE@A3	1:1 / 1:2	

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PROJECT TITLE
Saxon Rise 2, Brixworth, Northamptonshire

FIGURE TITLE
Worked stone (5 to 7)

DRAWN BY	DJB	PROJECT NO.	669047	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	RP	DATE	26/11/2020	33
APPROVED BY	TB	SCALE@A4	1:1 1:2	

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