

**Land at Bidwell West, Plots H & I
Houghton Regis
Central Bedfordshire**

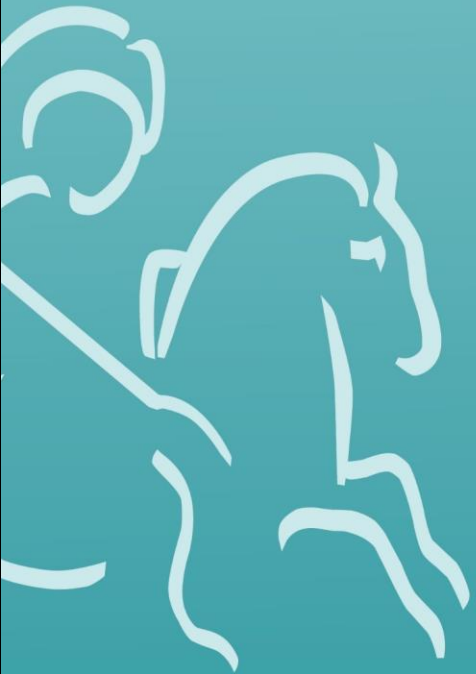
Archaeological Excavation



for:
Storey Homes

CA Project: MK0292
CA Report: MK0292_2

June 2023



Land at Bidwell West Houghton Regis Central Bedfordshire Plots H & I

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SUMMARY

Project name:	Land at Bidwell West, Plots H & I
Location:	Houghton Regis, Central Bedfordshire
NGR:	501173 224704
Type:	Excavation
Date:	July–September 2021
Planning reference:	CB/15/00297/OUT
Location of Archive:	To be deposited with Luton Culture Trust and the Archaeology Data Service (ADS)
Accession Number:	LUTNM 2019/55
Site Code:	BIDW 20

Between July and September 2021, Cotswold Archaeology carried out an archaeological excavation at Land at Bidwell West, Plots H and I (previously part of the Advanced Infrastructure Works (AIW) scheme), Houghton Regis, Central Bedfordshire, on behalf of Storey Homes. Two excavation areas (H and I) of 0.84ha and 1.27ha respectively were excavated within the site.

Multi-period activity spanning the Early Bronze Age to post-medieval periods was identified across both areas. Several dispersed discrete features of early prehistoric date included a pit, radiocarbon dated to the Early Bronze Age. The main period of occupation was later prehistoric and comprised several boundary or enclosure ditches along with features that probably represented peripheral settlement activity. A small number of Roman pits indicate the site was probably located some distance from any associated settlement during this period. Medieval boundary ditches and ridge-and-furrow cultivation shared an alignment with Bedford Road, adjacent to the medieval Bidwell village. Post-medieval remains were limited to a small number of field boundary ditches.

Early Prehistoric artefactual material comprised residual Mesolithic and Neolithic worked flints and sherds of an Early Bronze Age Collared Urn and Middle Bronze Age barrel-shaped vessel of the Deverel-Rimbury tradition. Late Prehistoric pottery included Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age material. A relative absence of Middle to Late Iron Age pottery suggests a hiatus prior

to the Roman occupation of the site, which, as the pottery assemblage indicates, probably spanned the 1st - 4th centuries. Medieval pottery was almost entirely 11th - 14th century in date. Other medieval finds suggest a degree of horse traffic and textile related craftwork in the vicinity. Post-medieval structural fixtures and fittings are suggestive of built structures within the wider area during this period.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. Between July and September 2021, Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological excavation at Land at Bidwell West, Plots H and I (previously part of the Advanced Infrastructure Works scheme), Houghton Regis, Central Bedfordshire (centred at NGR: 501173 224704; Fig. 1). The excavation was carried out as part of a wider set of investigations carried out in advance of a residential-led development known as 'Bidwell West' (Houghton Regis North 2 (HRN2)). The excavation was undertaken for Storey Homes.
- 1.2. Central Bedfordshire Council had granted outline 'hybrid' planning permission (planning ref. CB/15/00297/OUT) for a residential-led development site known as Bidwell West, located to the north-west of Houghton Regis, between Watling Street (A5) and Bedford Road (B5120) (Fig. 1). The Bidwell West development was undertaken in phases; the site was located in the eastern part of the overall development (Fig. 2). Condition 12 of this planning permission required the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with an approved written scheme of investigation (WSI).
- 1.3. The scope of this excavation was defined by Martin Oake, the archaeological advisor to Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeology Team (CBCAT). The excavation was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by CA (2016) and approved by Martin Oake. The fieldwork was monitored by Martin Oake. Hannah Firth (CBCAT) monitored the post-excavation work.
- 1.4. The excavation was also in line with the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation* (ClfA 2014a; updated October 2020), *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide* (Historic England 2015a) and accompanying *PPN 3: Archaeological Excavation* (Historic England 2015b).

The site

- 1.5. The site comprised two excavation areas approximately 2.11ha in extent, located to the west of Bidwell and approximately 1.5km to the north of Dunstable town centre (Fig. 1). At the time of the fieldwork the site comprised an irregular block of arable farmland divided into fields by hedgerows. The site is bounded by Bedford Road (B5120) to the east; Bidwell Farm to the west; housing on the western fringes of

Houghton Regis to the south, and agricultural land with Thorn Road beyond to the north (Fig. 1).

- 1.6. The bedrock geology of the area is mapped as West Melbury Marly Chalk Formation, a sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 94 to 101 million years ago in the Cretaceous Period. There are no recorded superficial deposits within the site (BGS 2023).

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1. The archaeological and historical background of the Bidwell West development area, including the site (Plots H and I), has been presented in detail in the Heritage Desk-Based Assessment (DBA) prepared by CA (2014a). This has been supplemented by the results of numerous published and unpublished archaeological investigations undertaken on land to the north of Houghton Regis between 2014–2021, some of which were ongoing during the production of the DBA. These investigations include work undertaken to the west of the development site at Thorn Turn (AA 2018, 2019a), as part of the Bidwell West development (MOLA 2022, and CA 2014b, 2018, 2022 and forthcoming a and b) and in advance of the construction of the A5–M1 link road (Brown 2020).
- 2.2. Further investigations have also been undertaken to the east and north-east of the development site in association with the Houghton Regis North 1 development (AA 2019b; Luke and Barker 2021). Collectively, this work has helped to identify extensive evidence of settlement and land-use spanning the early prehistoric to the post-medieval period, including early prehistoric pit and post alignments; round barrows and human burials; dispersed Bronze Age/early Iron Age settlement remains; Iron Age and Roman farmsteads, and medieval and post-medieval field systems.
- 2.3. The closest investigations to the development site were those undertaken in advance of the construction of the A5–M1 Link Road (Brown 2020) and various investigations within the Bidwell West housing development (MOLA 2022 and CA 2018, 2022, and forthcoming a and b). The following section provides a summary of this information and the archaeological background of the wider area. Sites and findspots mentioned in the text are located on Figure 2.

A5–M1 link road archaeological works

2.4. In 2007 an archaeological evaluation comprising a geophysical survey (NA 2008a) and trial trench evaluation (NA 2008b) was undertaken immediately to the north of the site along the route of the A5–M1 link road. Trenches were excavated along the scheme footprint followed by mitigation works undertaken in 2014 and 2015 in advance of construction of the road. Of particular note, was the archaeological excavation of sites D, G, M, and Parcel L situated at the western end of the road corridor, and site L which is located approximately 700m north-west of the site (Brown 2020).

2.5. At site D a series of Early Iron Age pits and Middle Iron Age ditches were revealed (Brown 2020) situated to the south of a contemporary settlement identified at site G. Additional Early Iron Age pit clusters, enclosures and two roundhouses were identified during excavations at Parcel L to the north of site D (MOLA 2022). At site G excavations identified the remains of a Middle to Late Iron Age settlement defined by dispersed, unenclosed settlement-related features (comprising roundhouses, pits and postholes). This settlement developed in the later Middle Iron Age into an enclosed settlement comprising rectilinear enclosures and field boundaries (Brown 2020). Archaeological excavations at site M revealed a Middle to Late Bronze Age boundary in the form of a pit alignment (Brown 2020).

Bidwell West: evaluation and AIW investigations

2.6. Between March and April 2014 Cotswold Archaeology undertook an evaluation of the wider Bidwell West development (CA 2014b). This was preceded by a geophysical survey that identified a range of anomalies pertaining to ditches, pits and enclosures (PCG 2014). Evidence for human activity ranging from the Early Neolithic to the post-medieval periods was identified on the site. Following on from the evaluation works, archaeological excavation was undertaken in a number of areas within the Bidwell West development.

2.7. No archaeology pre-dating the Bronze Age was discovered in the development area, but Neolithic pits were discovered at Puddlehill quarry, approximately 1.2km south of the site (HER687; CA 2014b). A Bronze Age pit alignment, along with scattered Iron Age and Roman features including pits, ditches and an isolated cremation burial were recorded at the western end of the development area (CA forth a). Iron Age settlement and activity has been identified along the northern edge of the greater development area, predominately to the north of Thorn Road and within the footprint of the A5-M1

link road (Brown 2020, CA forthcoming b). An Iron Age ditch system comprising several enclosures, ditches and associated pits was located near the junction of Thorn Road and Watling Street (HER18290; CA 2014b).

- 2.8. A previously unknown Roman settlement was discovered during the 2014 evaluation, in a small field to the east of Thorn Spring (CA 2014b, CA 2023 and TVAS forthcoming). Additionally, a large amount of Roman activity in the form of enclosure ditches, field systems, and pits was identified during an evaluation (IA 2017) and subsequent archaeological works at Bury Spinney (CA 2022), situated approximately 250m north-west of the site.
- 2.9. Excavations at Bidwell West Employment Lands and Bidwell West Parcel 21 (CA forthcoming b and CA 2023) located approximately 1.45km west and 800m north-west of the site respectively, have produced further evidence for Iron Age, Roman and medieval settlement. These remains included pits, penannular ditches, enclosure ditches and post-built structures.
- 2.10. The site of the medieval hamlet of Thorn (HER16888) is located at the northern end of the Bidwell West development. The Scheduled remains of a moated site constructed in the 12th–13th centuries are located at Thorn Spring (HER140; HE1013519), c.230m to the north-east of the site of the former hamlet. The remains of an exterior bank survive in part, while traces of building platforms within the enclosure have also been recorded (CA 2018). A further possible moated enclosure has been identified to the south of Thorn Road, at Bury Spinney (HER147).
- 2.11. Medieval and post-medieval field boundaries and the remains of ridge-and-furrow field systems were also identified across the wider development area; comprising blocks of parallel plough furrows on varying alignments, and various boundary ditches (CA 2014b and 2022, and Brown 2020). Post-medieval activity within the Bidwell development site also includes two quarries, one of which was served by a mineral railway (HER12255, HER 15318), located on the chalk scarp in the southern part of the Bidwell West development. Linear earthworks cutting through medieval ridge and furrow are recorded to the west of Thorn Farm (HER12268).

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 3.1. The general objectives of the archaeological excavation were to:

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- determine and understand the nature, function and character of the site in its cultural and environmental setting;
 - characterise the general archaeological landscape in which the site is set;
 - recover artefactual evidence to date any evidence of past settlement or land use;
 - identify, through a programme of environmental sampling and the collection of ecofacts, any activities that may have been carried out in the vicinity of the site in order to determine the function of the ditches and the general nature of the environment immediately surrounding the site;
 - investigate blocks of former ridge and furrow ploughing to develop models of past land use.

3.2. The broader aims of the project in terms of the landscape setting of the archaeological remains were to:

- consider the relationship between the Iron Age and Roman field systems, and local centres of contemporary rural settlement, to identify changes in the pattern of land-use, so that agricultural practises can be characterised and compared against evidence from other sites in the region that appear to show an increasingly sedentary pattern of settlement, throughout the 1st millennium BC (Oake *et al.* 2007, 11; Medlycott 2011, 31);
- attempt to establish if there is a recognisable change in the pattern of land use during the transitional period between the Iron Age and Roman periods, and how these changes may relate to changes in the local pattern of settlement (Medlycott 2011, 31); and
- relate the remains of the open field system (furrows), 'The Common' and 'The Great Meadow' to the foci of local medieval settlement (particularly site of the former hamlet at Thorn Farm and the moated site at Thorn Spring) to contribute to an understanding of the pattern of agricultural land-use and land-holding in the area (Oake *et al.* 2007, 14; Medlycott 2011, 70).

3.3. The research objectives for the project were formulated with reference to the results of the DBA (CA 2014a) and evaluation (CA 2014b), and based on the research agendas and strategies outlined in the following documents:

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- Maria Medlycott (ed.), 2011. *'Research and Archaeology Revisited: a revised framework for the East of England'*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers **24**;
 - Martin Oake, Mike Luke, Michael Dawson, Matthew Edgeworth and Peter Murphy, 2007. *'Bedfordshire Archaeology. Research and Archaeology: Resource Assessment, Research Agenda and Strategy'*, Bedfordshire Archaeological Council Monograph **9**
 - Nigel Brown, Jenny Glazebrook (eds), 2000. *'Research and Archaeology: a Framework for the Eastern Counties 2. research agenda and strategy'*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers **8**;
 - Jenny Glazebrook (ed.), 1997. *'Research and Archaeology: a Framework for the Eastern Counties 1. resource assessment'*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers **3**.

4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1. The Plots H & I site comprised two excavation areas totalling 2.11 ha (Fig. 2) agreed with Martin Oake (CBCAA) and informed by the preceding DBA (CA 2014a), geophysical survey (PCG 2014) and trial-trench evaluation (CA 2014b). The fieldwork followed the methodology set out within the WSI (CA 2016).
- 4.2. Two excavation areas were opened within the site (Fig. 2):
- Area H (c. 0.84ha): located to investigate a block of former ridge and furrow identified on the geophysical survey, and to establish if the Romano-British remains in Area I extend into this area; and
 - Area I (c. 1.27ha): located to investigate the extent and character of the Romano-British ditches identified during the evaluation (CA 2014b), and the plough furrows located in this area. The current works have identified that the Romano-British pottery recovered during the evaluation was residual material within medieval ditches.
- 4.3. The excavation and SMS areas were set out on OS National Grid co-ordinates using Leica GPS. Overburden was stripped from the excavation areas by a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless grading bucket. All machining was conducted under archaeological supervision to the top of the natural substrate, which was the level at which archaeological features were first encountered.

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- 4.4. Archaeological features/deposits were investigated, planned, and recorded in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 1: Fieldwork Recording Manual*. Each context was recorded on a pro-forma context sheet by written and measured description. Funerary remains were 100% excavated. All discrete features (e.g. postholes and pits) were sampled by hand excavation by at least 50%. All linear boundary features were sampled by at least 5% and all linear features associated with settlement were sampled by at least 25%. All excavated sections through linear features were at least 1m wide. All archaeological features identified were recorded in plan using a Leica GPS.
- 4.5. Deposits were assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential, and samples were taken in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 2: The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites*.
- 4.6. Artefacts were processed in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 3: Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation*.
- 4.7. CA will make arrangements with the Culture Trust Luton for the deposition of the project archive and, subject to agreement with the legal landowner(s), the artefact assemblage. A digital archive will also be prepared and deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS). The archives (museum and digital) will be prepared and deposited in accordance with *Standard and Guidance for the Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Deposition of Archaeological Archives* (ClfA 2014; updated October 2020).
- 4.8. A summary of information from this project, as set out in Appendix P, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

5. RESULTS

- 5.1. This section provides an overview of the excavation results. The results of the two areas (H and I) will be summarised individually below. Detailed summaries of the recorded contexts for both areas are given in Appendix A. Details of the artefactual material recovered from the site are given in Section 6 and Appendices B-K. Details of the environmental samples (palaeoenvironmental evidence) and radiocarbon dating results are given in Section 7 and Appendices L-O.

5.2. Features were assigned to periods based principally on artefact dates, although a number of features produced no dateable material. Where possible, the latter have been broadly dated on the basis of stratigraphic or spatial relationships with, or similarity to, dateable features. On the basis of these criteria, recorded finds and features for the excavation were assigned to the following five periods:

- Geology and soils
- Period 1: Prehistoric (4000 BC – AD 43)
 - Period 1.1: Bronze Age (2400 BC – 700 BC)
 - Period 1.2: Prehistoric (4000 BC – AD 43)
- Period 2: Late Prehistoric (1100 BC – AD 43)
- Period 3: Roman (AD 43 – AD 410)
- Period 4: Medieval (1066 – 1539)
- Period 5: Post-medieval (1540 – 1800)
- Undated

5.3. Some features could not be definitively assigned to a phase based on stratigraphy or dating evidence and these remain undated.

Geology and soils

5.4. The geology was consistent across both excavation areas. The natural substrate (6001 / 7002) consisted of light-yellow grey friable chalky clay. Immediately overlying the natural substrate was a dark-grey brown compact clay silt topsoil (6000 / 7000) with an average depth of 0.4m, though this became very shallow at the northernmost part of Area H, where it had an average thickness of 0.1m.

5.5. Across the site numerous tree throw holes were identified, which suggests there may have been some deliberate clearance of the land. In Area H, nine tree throw holes were identified, measuring between 2.01m and 0.4m long, between 1.32m and 0.37m wide and between 0.26m and 0.11m deep. In Area I, 16 tree throw holes were identified, measuring between 2.31m and 0.5m long, between 1.2m and 0.42m wide and between 0.43m and 0.08m deep. The tree throw holes in Area H were all sterile, however a small assemblage of finds comprising two pieces (26g) of non-diagnostic ironworking slag; two sherds (3g) of medieval pottery, one piece (498g) of burnt stone and four fragments (3g) of animal bone were recovered from the tree throw holes in Area I.

Area H (Figs 3 and 10)

Period 1.1: Bronze Age (2400 BC – 700 BC) (Figs 3 and 5)

- 5.6. The earliest activity identified in Area H comprised an Early Bronze Age pit (6090) and Middle Bronze Age posthole (6094).
- 5.7. Pit 6090 (Fig. 5, Section AA) was located in the central part of area H. The pit was an irregular oval shape in plan and measured 1.41m long, 0.6m wide and 0.35m deep. It contained a single fill of charcoal-rich dark-brown grey compact silty clay from which sherds of a possible Early Bronze Age Collared Urn (Fig 11, no. 1) and animal bone were recovered. A few charred remains from a sample of the fill included an emmer wheat glume base and tuber fragments. A similar pit was identified in Area I (pit 7106, section 5.20 below), which had a comparable size (0.65m long, 0.52m wide and 0.2m deep) and charcoal-rich silty clay fill.
- 5.8. Posthole 6094, which was located at the north-eastern end of the area, was oval in plan, measured 0.2m in diameter, 0.14m deep and had steep, slightly concave sides with a concave base. A sherd from a barrel-shaped jar that probably belongs to the Middle Bronze Age Deverel-Rimbury pottery tradition (Fig. 12, no. 2), was recovered from the single dark-grey brown silty clay fill. The function of the posthole is unclear; no additional postholes were identified within its vicinity, although its shallow depth suggests possible truncation and any related features may well have been completely removed by ploughing.

Period 2: Late Prehistoric (1100 BC – AD 43) (Fig. 3)

- 5.9. Within Area H, activity of late prehistoric date was limited to two dispersed pits (6085 and 6066). It is unclear if they were contemporary, but both probably represent outliers to the focus of Period 2 activity in Area I, which comprised substantial ditches, discrete pits and a pit group.
- 5.10. Pit 6085 at the centre of the area, was semi-rectangular in plan with steep sides and slightly concave, irregular base. The pit measured 0.97m long, by 0.23m wide and 0.23m deep, and contained a single mid grey-brown, silty-clay from which Middle Iron Age pottery was recovered.
- 5.11. Pit 6066 was located at the south-western boundary of Area H, extending beyond the limit of excavation to the south-west. The pit was oval shaped in plan and measured 1.65m long, by 1.2m wide and 0.5m deep. It contained three fills; mid-yellow brown

compact silty clay 6067, measuring 0.27m thick, was overlain by dark-grey brown compact silty clay 6068, measuring 0.21m thick, which in turn was sealed by dark-yellow brown compact silty clay 6069, measuring 0.38m thick. Pottery dating broadly to the later prehistoric period, as well as burnt animal bone and flint was recovered from the middle fill (6068).

Period 4: Medieval (1066 – 1539) (Fig. 3)

5.12. North-west/south-east aligned Ditch A terminated towards the north-western boundary of Area H. The ditch measured at least 33m long, between 0.6m and 0.8m wide and between 0.11m and 0.18m deep and contained a single fill of mid-grey brown compact silty clay. No finds were recovered with which to date the feature, though its shared alignment with the medieval ridge-and-furrow system (see below) and truncation by the Period 5 Post-medieval Ditch B indicates it was probably medieval in date.

5.13. Across the south-eastern side of Area H, medieval ridge-and-furrow cultivation was recorded aligned from north-west to south-east. The plough furrows typically measured between 0.95m and 2.63m wide and between 0.06m and 0.17m deep and contained compact mid-grey brown silty clay. Few finds were recovered from these furrows; however, they did produce a small assemblage comprising one residual Roman hobnail (3g) and an additional iron nail of uncertain date, one fragment (6g) of post-medieval/modern CBM and three fragments (16g) of animal bone.

Period 5: Post-medieval (1066 – 1539) (Fig. 3)

5.14. Only a single ditch (ditch B) dating to the post-medieval period was identified within Area H. This contrasted to the activity identified in Area I which comprised several ditches, a posthole alignment and a large occupation deposit.

5.15. Ditch B extended on a north-east/south-west alignment across the centre of Area H. The ditch measured 1.65m to 1.18m wide and 0.45m to 0.24m deep, and contained two fills. These typically comprised a basal deposit of mid-grey brown compact silty clay, measuring between 0.14m and 0.3m thick, overlain by light-brown grey compact chalky clay, which measured between 0.2m and 0.42m thick. Pottery dating to the post-medieval period was recovered from the ditch as well as a residual fragment of a mid 3rd to late 4th-century pottery.

Undated (Fig. 3)

- 5.16. A number of undated discrete features and short ditch segments were distributed across the central and southern part of Area H.
- 5.17. Ditch 6050 was identified extending approximately 5m into the area close to the south-westernmost corner. The ditch measured 1.1m wide and 0.18m deep and was infilled by mid-grey brown compact silty clay. Located immediately adjacent to ditch 6050 was broadly east/west ditch 6064. The ditch measured 0.74m wide and 0.26m deep, also extended approximately 5m into the area and contained a single dark-grey brown compact silty clay. Both ditches ended in rounded terminals to the south-east. It is unclear if these features were related.
- 5.18. A short segment of curvilinear ditch was observed in the central part of Area H, extending from north-west to south-east. Ditch 6058 was approximately 6m long and 0.33m wide. No finds were recorded within its compact, mid-yellow brown silty clay fill. To the east and north-east of ditch 6058, several small pits or possible tree throws were identified (6034, 6038 and 6076).
- 5.19. To the south-west of the area an irregular natural hollow of uncertain date was filled with a compact, dark-greyish brown clayey silt (6049). A Roman copper alloy radiate or *nummus* of uncertain issuing emperor and reverse type, dating between c. AD 260–402 was recovered from the deposit but is considered potentially residual/intrusive.

Area I (Figs 4 and 11)

Period 1.1: Bronze Age (2400 BC – 700 BC) (Figs 4 and 5)

- 5.20. Pit 7106 (Fig. 5, Section BB) was located close to the south-eastern boundary of Area I (Fig. 4, inset 2) The pit measured 0.65m long by 0.52m wide and 0.2m deep and had concave sides and a rounded base. No artefactual material was recovered from the two silty clay fills, but charcoal (oak sapwood) from upper fill 7107 returned an Early Bronze Age radiocarbon date (SUERC-108524, 1887–1742 cal. BC, 95.4% probability). The charcoal consisted solely of oak charcoal. Although this is consistent with charcoal assemblages found in cremation-related deposits or other event-specific functions, no cremated bone was present within the pit fill (Appendix O).
- 5.21. The same oak-dominated charcoal assemblage was identified in several other undated pits in close proximity (7313, 7330 and 7353/7316 in Pit group Q; Fig. 4, inset 2) and to the east 7049 and 7100 (Fig. 4, inset 1) and it is possible that some of these

may also be Early Bronze Age in date. Although undated, the seven pits forming Pit group Q (7293, 7299, 7309, 7313, 7330, 7343 and 7353 / 7316), and pit 7106 at the north-west, are in a broadly sub-oval shape in plan. The proximity, morphology, and similar charcoal assemblage present in three of them, suggests that they are potentially related. The spatial association of the pits, in a broadly oval arrangement, is a layout suggestive of a post-built structure, although there is no conclusive evidence to confirm this (see undated below).

Period 1.2: Prehistoric (4000 BC – AD 43) (Figs 4 and 6)

5.22. A small, isolated pit (7233) next to the north-western limit of excavation of Area I, contained a sherd of prehistoric pottery. Other artefactual material recovered from this pit included flint and a large quantity of animal bone, some of which was burnt. Pit 7233 (Fig. 6, Section CC) measured 1.65m long by 1.4m wide and 0.25m deep. The pit had concave moderately sloping sides and a flat base, and contained two fills, a sterile primary mid-yellow grey silty clay and a charcoal-rich upper fill, from which the artefactual material was recovered. The small charred plant assemblage recorded from pit 7233 was dominated by cereal remains, including those of barley and hulled wheat; it is likely to be representative of domestic hearth material.

5.23. Towards the south-eastern end of Area I, a further small pit (7379) of probable prehistoric origin was identified (Fig. 4, inset 1; Fig. 6, Section DD). Dating of the feature is more problematic; it was truncated by two Period 2 pits (7381 and 7383), both of which contained pottery of late prehistoric date, as well as flint and animal bone. A single sherd of Late Iron Age-Early Roman pottery was recovered from the fill of pit 7379, alongside an Early Neolithic leaf-shaped arrowhead (Fig. 13, no. 3) and an undiagnostic flint scrapper (Fig. 13, no. 4). The conditions on this part of the area are recorded as being disturbed and waterlogged and it is likely that the Late Iron Age-Early Roman pottery is intrusive. Pit 7379 measured 1.75m long by 1.25m wide and was 0.35m deep. The pit had steeply rounded sides and rounded base and contained a single mid-yellow brown with black-brown silty clay fill.

Period 2: Late Prehistoric (1100 BC – AD 43) (Figs 4 and 6–8)

5.24. Within Area I, Late Prehistoric activity was concentrated at the centre and the north-eastern end of the area, located around the substantial north north-west/south south-east orientated Ditches C and M located approximately 65m apart (Fig. 4). Spatial association, stratigraphic relationships and feature morphology suggests there may

be two broad phases of use during this period, an initial curvilinear ditch or enclosure feature (Gully E; Fig. 4, inset 1) with internal postholes, replaced by the substantial ditches (C and M) which probably served as boundary or land division ditches.

- 5.25. Curvilinear Gully E (Fig. 7, Section HH) curved on a south-west to north-east alignment, before turning to the north-west. The ditch measured 0.4m to 0.5m wide and 0.15m to 0.3m deep and contained a single fill of dark-green brown compact silty clay. Pottery dating to the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age was recovered from the fill and the ditch was truncated by the later recut of Ditch C. The pottery assemblage included sherds from a tall-necked jar with flaring rim (Fig 12, no.3) and slack shouldered bowl with simple upright rim (Fig 12, no.4). The former are commonly associated with Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age activity.
- 5.26. A short stretch of ditch (7190) was truncated by Ditch C and is likely to have formed a continuation of Gully E. The ditch measured 0.9m wide and 0.34m deep and contained two brown silty clay fills. No artefactual material was recovered from the fills.
- 5.27. A group of five pits (Pit group P) was located within the internal area of Gully E, an additional pit (7003) was located slightly to the north of these features. Pit group P probably represents a sub-square post-built structure with an internal area of 3.5m by 3.3m enclosed within gully E. The function of the structure is not clear but the relatively small finds assemblage and lack of identifiable domestic features such as hearths suggests that it was more likely to have been an ancillary structure than a domestic building. It is possible that additional settlement remains may be located beyond the eastern site limit.
- 5.28. Within Pit Group P, the pits measured between 0.7m and 0.46m long, between 0.6m and 0.43m wide, and between 0.35m and 0.2m deep. The majority contained a single fill of mid-grey brown compact silty clay, though in the case of pit 7003, there were two fills; a basal fill of mid-yellow brown chalky clay measuring 0.12m thick, and an upper fill of dark-grey brown silty clay measuring 0.07m thick. A small sherd of Late Iron Age to Early Roman pottery was recovered from pit 7155 (Fig. 8, Section II) which was possibly intrusive. Other finds from the pit group comprised animal bone and fired clay.

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- 5.29. Ditch C (Fig. 7, Section EE) had been recut numerous times indicating some longevity of use and it extended across the north-easternmost portion of Area I, aligned broadly north north-west/south south-east. It measured on average between 0.6m and 0.5m wide. The ditch alignment comprised a series of recuts. The earliest iteration of Ditch C measured approximately 0.75m in depth, with subsequent phases generally shallower. The presence of several terminals suggests the ditches were not recut along the full length each time. Small quantities of Late Prehistoric pottery were recovered from several interventions across the ditch alongside a moderate quantity of animal bone, flint (including a probable Neolithic core) and a small fragment of intrusive CBM. The animal bone assemblage included a fragmentary horn core and associated skull fragments that may have originally been buried as a (partial) skull.
- 5.30. Ditch M (Fig. 7, Section FF) extended across the central part of Area I on a broadly north north-west-south south-east alignment and measured 1.05m wide and 0.33m deep on average. Late Prehistoric pottery, animal bone and intrusive Roman pottery was recovered from the ditch. The pottery included a sherd from a narrow-necked jar (Fig 12, no.5). The animal bone assemblage included two left cattle radii that potentially represent the remains of joints of meat from at least two animals.
- 5.31. Ditches C and M could potentially represent opposing sides of an enclosure, with an internal area of at least 63m by 30m. Alternatively, the ditches may represent parallel boundary or land division features or have had different functions (such as Ditch C forming part of an enclosure that extended beyond the eastern site boundary, and Ditch M an associated land division ditch).
- 5.32. Two small Late Prehistoric pits (7381 and 7383; Fig. 4, inset 1) and a large number of undated discrete features and gullies were located between Ditches C and M. It is possible that some of the undated features also date to the Late Prehistoric period. Depending on the function of Ditches C and M, some of these discrete features could potentially represent internal enclosure features. A slighter parallel ditch (Ditch D) located approximately 8m to the north-east of Ditch C was also part of the late prehistoric activity. .
- 5.33. Ditch D (Fig. 7, Section GG) measured 0.3m wide and 0.06m deep and contained a mid-brown grey compact silty clay. No dateable finds were recovered from the ditch, though its spatial relationship alongside Ditch C, and truncation by a Period 3 Roman

pit (7022), suggests it formed part of the late prehistoric activity. Ditch D could potentially have formed an internal boundary ditch or a trackway.

- 5.34. To the west of Ditch C, at the southern limit of the area, two small pits (7381 and 7383; Fig. 4, inset 1) containing late prehistoric pottery truncated Period 1.2 pit (7379) (Fig. 6, Section DD). The two pits had average dimensions of 1.7m by 0.8m with moderately sloping sides and flat bases. Both contained a single black-brown silty clay fill.
- 5.35. Two small pits (7051 and 7065) (Fig. 4, inset 1) cutting into the fills of Ditch C contained charcoal, with pit 7051 also producing a small quantity of burnt bone. These pits may have represented dumps of material within the almost filled in ditch as opposed to deliberate cut features. An environmental sample of the fill from pit 7051 may be reflective of dispersed/wind-blown settlement waste.

Period 3: Roman (AD 43 – AD 410) (Fig. 4)

- 5.36. Activity dating to the Roman period in Area I was limited to several discrete pits and postholes (7022, 7025, 7270 and 7289) as well as a layer (7269) adjacent to pit 7270.
- 5.37. Pit 7022, which was located towards the north-eastern end of Area I (Fig. 4, inset 1), measured 1.4m long by 0.6m wide and 0.5m deep. The pit had concave irregular sides and a rounded base and contained two silty clay fills. Roman pottery, animal bone, flint and intrusive post-medieval CBM were recovered from the fills.
- 5.38. Pit 7025 was adjacent to pit 7022; however, the similarity in the fills of the two pits, meant a relationship could not be determined. Pit 7025 measured 1.07m long by 0.8m wide and 0.45m deep. No artefactual material was recovered from the single sterile mid-grey brown silty clay; however the pit's spatial association with, and comparable size and similarity of fill to pit 7022, suggests that it belonged to this period.
- 5.39. Pit 7270 was located close to the northern limit of excavation, adjacent to a layer from which Roman pottery was recovered (7269 / 7272), although the function of the features is not clear. The pit measured 1m in diameter and 0.2m deep and had concave sides and an irregular base. Late Iron Age to Early Roman pottery and flint was recovered from the single mid-blue grey, silty clay fill. An environmental sample from pit 7270 produced a moderately small charred assemblage, dominated by cereal remains including those of barley and spelt. Layer 7269 / 7272 comprised a compact

light-grey brown, silty clay covering an area of approximately 7.8m by 3.3m. A small quantity of Early Roman pottery was recovered from the layer.

- 5.40. Pit 7289, which was located centrally within the area, was truncated by a plough furrow. The pit measured 1.2m in diameter and was 0.42m deep, had vertical sides and an irregular base and contained a single dark-brown grey silty clay from which Roman pottery and glass was recovered. Other artefacts material included slag, CBM, coal, iron, slate, and post-medieval glass probably introduced into the feature during the creation of the plough furrow.

Period 4: Medieval (1066 – 1539) (Figs 4 and 9)

- 5.41. The remnants of north-west/south-east ridge-and-furrow cultivation were present across the central part of Area I. A large field boundary (Ditch F), re-cut on multiple occasions, was aligned parallel to the furrows, and may have delineated a boundary between two types of land use, as no furrows were identified in the area to the north-east of the ditch. A short gully (Gully R) and a pit (7114) also date to this period.
- 5.42. Ditch F (Fig. 9, Section JJ) extended across the north-eastern part of Area I and had multiple recuts, indicating evidence of maintenance during its use. Pottery of 12th to 14th-century date was recovered from several of the ditches, as well as animal bone, flint (Fig. 13, nos. 1 and 2), fired clay and an iron object, possibly a tooth originating from a heckle comb, that would have been utilised in the production of both wool and flax to separate fibres (Appendix H). The earliest iteration (7202; Fig. 9, Section JJ) measured at least 0.93m wide and 0.4m deep and contained at least two silty clay fills. This ditch was heavily truncated by later re-cuts and therefore its full profile is unclear. Ditch (7198 Fig. 9, Section JJ) had a steep sided profile with a rounded base measuring 0.6m wide and 0.38m deep. It contained a single fill of mid-grey brown compact silty clay. The north-westwards continuation of ditch 7198 truncated the continuation of ditch 7202 and is likely to have represented a re-establishing of the boundary ditch. Two subsequent cuts were identified, ditches 7205 and 7200 (Fig. 9, Section JJ).
- 5.43. Ditch 7205 extended the full length of Ditch F and measured 2.04m wide and 0.7m deep, with moderately steep, convex sides and a flat base. It typically contained a single fill of silty clay, though in some sections multiple fills were recorded. Ditch 7200 extended approximately 10m north-west from the south-eastern limit of excavation, where it terminated. The reasons why it did not extend the full length of the boundary

ditch are not clear. The ditch measured 0.48m wide by 0.34m deep, had straight sloping sides and a concave base and contained a single fill. The north-westwards continuation of ditch 7205 truncated the continuation of ditch 7198.

- 5.44. A short roughly perpendicular stretch of narrow gully (Gully R) contained a very small quantity of 12th to 14th-century pottery and may represent a feature associated with Ditch F. Gully R measured on average 0.3m wide and between 0.14m and 0.20m deep. It had a rounded profile and contained a single sterile fill.
- 5.45. A large oval pit (7114) at the far north-east corner of Area I, to the immediate east of Ditch F, contained multiple fills of dumped material and produced pottery of 12th–14th century date. Pit 7114 (Fig. 9, Section KK) had steep sides and a flat base, measured at least 1.6m by 1.2m and was 0.86m deep. The pit contained five mid-brown grey silty clay fills with frequent charcoal inclusions. Animal bone, pottery and a fragment of an iron horseshoe were recovered from the second fill (7116).
- 5.46. An extremely rich charred plant assemblage was recorded from pit 7114, including free-threshing wheat, barley, rye, hazelnuts, sloes and peas. The presence of chaff elements would tend to suggest that at least some of the crops were being processed on site at this time.

Period 5: Post-medieval (1540 – 1800) (Fig. 4)

- 5.47. Ditch H extended on a north-east/south-west alignment but did not continue beyond the large post-medieval layer (7369) which obscured much of the archaeology in this area. Ditch H measured on average 2.3m wide and 0.6m deep. Two interventions dug into the layer to investigate the continuation of Ditch H suggest that it turned to the south-east and probably truncated Ditch M. This projected course would explain why there is no evidence for Ditch H beyond its intersection with Ditch M. Pottery dating to the 15th-6th centuries and 16th-18th centuries was recovered from the ditch fill as well as residual Late Iron Age to Early Roman pottery.
- 5.48. Ditch I, at the west of Area I, followed a similar alignment but was less substantial than the other post-medieval boundary ditches, measuring on average 0.5m wide and 0.15m deep. Late 17th to 18th-century pottery was recovered from the fill.
- 5.49. Posthole alignment N, at the centre of Area I, comprised five postholes (7244, 7246, 7248, 7250 and 7252) on a north-west/south-east alignment. The southernmost

posthole (7252) cut into post-medieval spread (7369) indicating the alignment is post-medieval or later in date. The postholes broadly shared a similar alignment to the medieval plough furrows, which are shown in aerial photographs from 1946 and 1966 as still being extant at this time, so it is likely they respected them. The function of the posthole alignment is not clear. It could possibly be related to Bidwell Farm situated immediately adjacent to the northern boundary of Area I although this remains speculative. The postholes measured between 0.5m and 0.3m in diameter and had an average depth of 0.1m. They all contained a single sterile brown silty clay fill. The only artefactual material recovered was a small fragment of coal in posthole 7250.

- 5.50. Spread 7369 covered an area at least 37m long and between 32m and 15m wide and had an average depth of 0.4m. The spread comprised a dark brown-grey silty clay and obscured many of the features in this area of the site. Finds recovered from the spread included medieval and post-medieval pottery, post-medieval brick and tile, clay tobacco pipe, animal bone and slag.

Undated (Fig. 4)

- 5.51. Similarly to Area H, a large number of undated discrete features and short ditches and gullies were identified across Area I. The proximity of many of these to concentrations of multi-period activity means none can be reasonably assigned to a period based on morphology and spatial relationships.
- 5.52. Notable amongst these undated features was Pit Group Q, Gullies K and O and an area of trample (7275) (Fig. 4, inset 2), all of which may have been associated and formed part of a larger feature group.
- 5.53. Pit Group Q comprised seven pits (7293, 7299, 7309, 7313, 7330, 7343 and 7353/7316) in a roughly sub-oval arrangement surrounding the area of trample (7275) and gully O. The pits were generally sub-circular and measured between 0.8m and 0.23m in diameter and between 0.45m and 0.06m deep. A distal fragment of a flake removed from a Neolithic polished flint axe was retrieved from pit 7353/7316. No other dateable evidence was recovered from their silty clay fills, but charcoal recovered from environmental samples of pits 7313, 7330 and 7353/7316 consisted solely of oak charcoal, the same as was seen in the sample from Early Bronze Age pit 7106. which lay in close proximity to Pit group Q. Whilst the charcoal is consistent with those found in cremation-related deposits or other event-specific functions and the pits were interpreted as cremations on site, there was no evidence of any human remains.

Although it is possible that the pits contained deposits of pyre debris, the lack of evidence to support a funerary association suggests that a different function may be more likely.

- 5.54. The spatial association and potential shared date of the pit group with Early Bronze Age pit 7106, in a broadly sub-oval arrangement, is suggestive of a post-built structure, although other functions are also possible. The pit group encloses an area of approximately 18m by 11m. The undated trample deposit 7275 and gully O are situated fairly centrally within this internal area and the trample is perhaps indicative of a concentration of activity, as might be expected within a structure. It is also possible that the features are not related and represent different episodes of activity.
- 5.55. Trample 7275 comprised a brown-grey silty clay covering an area of approximately 5m by 5m. Gully O truncated the trample deposit 7275, measured 0.34m wide by 0.08m deep and had concave sides and a rounded base.
- 5.56. The eastern edge of the pit group was broadly demarcated by Gully K, which although containing no dating evidence was truncated by the Period 4 medieval plough furrows. Gully K measured 0.5m wide by 0.32m deep and had concave sides and a rounded base.
- 5.57. Several dispersed pits were also located within the area between Period 2 Ditches C and M (7006, 7018, 7047, 7049, 7100, 7291 and 7387) (Fig. 4). The pits were typically sub-circular and measured between 1.1m and 0.23m long, between 1m and 0.12m wide and between 0.32m and 0.08m deep. Similar oak charcoal assemblages as those described above were recovered from the environmental samples of pits 7049 and 7100. An additional undated pit was identified in this area during the preceding evaluation (CA 2014b, trench 115).
- 5.58. Other undated features in this area of the site included the slightly curving broadly north/south Gully L (Fig. 4), which extended beyond the limit of excavation to the north, pits 7391 and 7328 and possible short ditch 7284. Broadly north-west/south-east Ditch J extended beyond the eastern site boundary.
- 5.59. Towards the south-western end of Area I, located between the Period 1.2 prehistoric pit 7233 and the Period 5 post-medieval Ditch H, was a group of seven pits (7104, 7094, 7096, 7067, 7092, 7085 and 7395) and a short stretch of ditch (7238). The pits

typically had moderate to gently sloped sides and rounded bases and measured between 1.3m and 0.25m wide and between 0.45m and 0.07m deep. Flint, animal bone and a very small fragment of post-medieval glass were recovered from ditch 7238.

6. THE FINDS

- 6.1. Finds recovered are summarised below and listed in Table. Details are to be found in Appendices B to K.

Table 1: Finds concordance

Type	Category	Count	Weight (g)
Pottery	Early Prehistoric	63	413
	Late Prehistoric	47	422
	Roman	33	288
	Post-Roman	61	509
	<i>Total</i>	<i>204</i>	<i>1632</i>
CBM	All	66	3397
Fired clay	All	9	53
Lithics	Worked	37	295.5
	Burnt Unworked	1	45
Stone	Worked Stone	2	629
Metalwork	Iron	27	-
	Copper alloy	1	-
	<i>Total</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>-</i>
Clay pipe	All	4	42
Glass	All	11	204
Slag	Slag	-	135

Prehistoric and Roman Pottery

- 6.2. A total of 143 sherds (1123g) of pottery were recovered. The majority comprises early prehistoric pottery (63 sherds, 413g) although smaller late prehistoric (47 sherds; 422g) and Roman groups (33 sherds; 288g) were also recorded.
- 6.3. The earliest material is represented by sherds identified as Collared Urn dating to the late 3rd to earlier 2nd millennia BC. Both this and the Middle Bronze Age barrel-shaped vessel are most commonly associated with burials, however there is increasing evidence of use of barrel-shaped vessels in domestic contexts. The majority of pottery from Period 2 deposits is consistent with Early to Middle Iron Age traditions (c. 7th to 2nd century BC). The Roman assemblage was dominated by

utilitarian forms; dateable elements include those of Late Iron Age/Early Roman and Late Roman date.

Post-Roman Pottery

- 6.4. An assemblage of 61 sherds (509g) of post-Roman pottery was recovered. Approximately half of the assemblage consists of medieval fabrics. The group of medieval wares is clearly dominated by coarsewares, and glazed wares are almost totally absent. post-medieval and later pottery are all domestic wares and were largely recovered from Period 5 deposits.

Lithics

- 6.5. A total of 37, primarily residual, worked lithics (295.5g) and one piece of burnt, unworked flint (45g) was recovered. The assemblage includes chronologically diagnostic pieces which indicate activity on the site during the Mesolithic and Neolithic periods, the earliest of which was a microdentate recovered from Ditch F. These were particularly common during the Mesolithic and Early Neolithic periods, though continued to be used during the Bronze Age. The assemblage also includes a leaf-shaped arrowhead recovered from pit 7379 (Period 1.2) and three scrapers (one also from pit 7379, and two from Period 2 pit 7381).

Ceramic Building Material and Fired clay

- 6.6. The ceramic building material (CBM) assemblage consists of 66 fragments weighing 3397g. Four fragments can be broadly dated to the Roman period; material of a similar date was recovered from a Period 5 deposit. Most fragments (30 fragments, 1278g) are thought to date to the medieval or post-medieval periods and include several peg tiles. The post-medieval/modern assemblage included brick fragments.
- 6.7. The fired clay assemblage comprises nine fragments, weighing 53g which do not exhibit any diagnostic features and are of uncertain date.

Metalwork

- 6.8. A total of 27 iron and one copper alloy objects were recovered, ranging in date from the Roman to post-medieval periods. Post-medieval objects dominated the assemblage. The majority of the assemblage comprised utilitarian objects representing fixtures and fittings from built structures, with a few objects possibly associated with transport, industry and manufacturing. A virtual absence of artefacts of a personal or commercial nature, such as dress accessories and coins is notable.

The small assemblage suggests the site was not the focus of occupation or activity, though may indicate a degree of horse traffic and textile-related craftwork in the area.

Other finds

- 6.9. Two pieces of undated worked stone (629g) were recovered comprising a burnt cobble and a whetstone.
- 6.10. A total of 135g of slag was recovered, with the majority being non-diagnostic ironworking slag. The small size of the assemblage indicates that the slag was the result of smithing rather than smelting.
- 6.11. Four fragments of clay tobacco pipe, weighing 42g, included two pipe-bowls likely date to the late 17th to early 18th centuries.
- 6.12. The glass assemblage comprises 11 fragments, weighing 204g. Two fragments of blue-green vessel glass are in poor condition and lack diagnostic features but are probably to be Roman. Other material included late 17th to mid 18th-century bottle glass and several post-medieval to modern fragments.

7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

- 7.1. Biological evidence recovered is summarised below and listed table... Details are to be found in Appendices L to O.

Table 2: Biological evidence concordance

Type	Category	Count	Weight (g)
Animal Bone	Fragments	784	3565
Environmental Samples	Bulk soil samples	38	-

Animal bone

- 7.2. The animal bone assemblage amounts to 784 hand collected fragments. This comprises 480 refitted animal bones and teeth recovered from prehistoric to post-medieval features, of which 77 could be identified to taxon. Samples are too small to provide reliable insights into the diet, status or economy of those living at the site in the past. The largest assemblage was recovered from period 2 features. Cattle were most commonly recorded and it is likely that they were culled, processed and consumed in the area. The Period 5 assemblage included evidence of stock 'improvement' practices of the 16th century and tawying (preparing skins by curing them with alum and salt).

Plant macrofossils and Molluscs

- 7.3. A total of 38 bulk soil samples (593.5 litres of soil) were processed. The charred assemblages from the site augment the data from other assemblages of Roman and medieval date in the area. The range of crops (including free-threshing wheat, barley and rye) and other potential food sources recorded in the rich medieval assemblage is comparable with those in other medieval assemblages in the wider area. The range of weed seeds indicate a number of possible different habitats being exploited, such as lighter, drier soils and damp environments.
- 7.4. The mollusc assemblage indicates an open landscape with areas of long grass and woodland edge, or open deciduous woodland in the Early Prehistoric period. This subsequently became a well-established open landscape with areas of longer grass and scrub by the Roman period, and possibly with less scrub in the area by the medieval period. There appears to have been some areas of seasonal flooding and desiccation on the site during the later prehistoric and Roman periods.

Wood Charcoal

- 7.5. Charcoal was examined from 18 samples. The types of wood used for fuel in domestic type contexts (associated with food preparation, cooking or heating) is fairly typical for the prehistoric period generally, and the uncommonly used shrub purging buckthorn was present in this, and other Houghton Regis assemblages.
- 7.6. A single charcoal sample dated to the medieval period; it contained a significant quantity of beech.
- 7.7. The undated pits consisted solely of oak charcoal. These features were originally interpreted as cremation burials and, while that was discounted in post-excavation, the charcoal assemblages are consistent with those found in cremation-related deposits or, with other event-specific functions. The assemblages from these pits contrast with the typical domestic debris recorded at this site, and elsewhere at Houghton Regis. Several of the pits may have formed part of a structure, the charcoal deposits could potentially relate to activities occurring within this possible structure.

8. DISCUSSION

- 8.1. Excavation of the Plots H & I site, which lay in the valley of the Ouzel Brook on the edge of a lowland plateau, identified multi-period occupation spanning the early prehistoric to post-medieval periods, with a focus of activity during the late prehistoric

period. Early prehistoric activity is likely to be primarily transitory in nature. A group of undated pits contained notable charcoal deposits and might be associated with activity occurring within a possible structure during the early or late prehistoric periods. Evidence for domestic occupation of the site was limited and it is probable that the site occupied an outlying position throughout the duration of its occupation. The artefactual and ecofactual assemblages indicate that the site may have lain closer to settlement cores during the late prehistoric and medieval periods. In the Roman and post-medieval periods, the site appears to have formed part of a wider agricultural hinterland. Evidence of Iron Age and Roman occupation and a late medieval farmstead were identified to the immediate south of Area I, suggesting settlement focus' in this area during these periods (MOLA forthcoming; Fig. 2).

Early prehistoric

- 8.2. Although small and mostly residual, the lithics assemblage recovered from the site, includes some chronologically diagnostic pieces which confirm activity on the site during the Mesolithic, Early Neolithic and broader Neolithic periods. Settlement evidence in Bedfordshire, as in the rest of Britain during these periods, is scarce, with flint scatters, and discrete pits comprising the majority of the documented sites (Oake *et al.* 2007, 31).
- 8.3. The small number of dispersed discrete features of early prehistoric date, identified across the site, were either dateable to the Early or Middle Bronze Age or were only prehistoric in date, suggesting they are unlikely to have been associated features. It is possible that pit 7379, from which an Early Neolithic leaf-shaped arrowhead was recovered, may represent Early Neolithic activity. Late Iron Age to Early Roman pottery was also recovered from this pit, but this is likely to be intrusive. The features probably relate to transitory activity in the valley of the Ouzel Brook over a prolonged period, most likely associated with seasonal hunting.
- 8.4. In the wider area, Mesolithic flints have been uncovered during fieldwalking at Priestley Farm, Flitwick, approximately 10km to the north (Fadden 1991; Moore 2010), Beadlow Manor Farm, Clophill, approximately 13 km to the north-east (Fadden 1973) and Ruxox Farm, Maulden approximately 14km to the north (Fadden 1972). Early Neolithic activity has also been uncovered in the immediate vicinity at Puddlehill Quarry, approximately 1km to the south-west (HER 687), Bidwell West, Houghton

Regis North 2, just over 1km to the south-east (CA 2014), and Land east of B5120, Houghton Regis, just under 2km to the east (CA 2019).

- 8.5. Features identifiable as Early Bronze Age in date, comprised two pits, one dated by radiocarbon assay and the other through the recovery of pottery sherds form an Early Bronze Age Collared Urn, dating to the late 3rd to earlier 2nd millennia BC. Both this and the Middle Bronze Age barrel-shaped vessel of the Deverel-Rimbury tradition recovered from posthole 6094 are most commonly associated with burials, however there is increasing evidence of usage of barrel-shaped vessels in domestic contexts (Longworth 1984, 76). Examples found at Bedfordshire sites are rare.
- 8.6. Charcoal recovered from pit 7106 consisted entirely of oak, much of which derived from mature heartwood and burrwood. This assemblage is consistent with those found in cremation-related deposits or with other event-specific functions and contrasts with the typical domestic debris recorded at this site, and elsewhere at Houghton Regis. Additionally, undated pits 7313, 7330 and 7353 in Pit group Q immediately to the south, and pits 7049 and 7100 approximately 37m to the north-east had similar assemblages, although some in smaller quantities. The spatial association and same charcoal assemblages indicate that the undated features are possibly Early Bronze Age in date as well. However, no cremated bone was recovered from the pits suggesting the charcoal was unlikely to have originated from cremation-related deposits.
- 8.7. The broadly sub-oval shape in plan of Pit group Q and pit 7106, and possible association with an area of trample, indicative of a concentration of activity, suggests that a different function is more likely. This could have taken the form of a post-built structure, although no substantive evidence for one was identified and the pit group is undated, so other interpretations and dates are also possible.
- 8.8. If the pit group was associated with pit 7106, then the structure would be Early Bronze Age or possibly even Middle Bronze Age in date. A Middle Bronze Age ditch was identified approximately 120m to the south during the excavation of the adjacent site (MOLA forthcoming) and could potentially be broadly contemporary to the Bronze Age and possible Bronze Age remains on the Plots H & I site.
- 8.9. Examples of Bronze Age structures in Bedfordshire are rare, the period is not well investigated, with much of the work focused on funerary archaeology or ring ditches

(Brown 2020, 53). Across Southern Britain, structures of Middle Bronze Age date are typically circular or sub-circular roundhouses (Brück 1999). Oval buildings of this date are rare, and where they are identified, often form small ancillary buildings associated with roundhouses, such as at Thorny Down, Wiltshire (Ellison, 1987) and Easton Lane, Hampshire (Fasham *et al.* 1989).

- 8.10. The closest structural remains of Early to Middle Bronze Age date comprised a circular post-built structure located in close proximity to a fire pit and two groups of postholes interpreted as hide drying racks at Totternhoe, approximately 3.5km to the south-west (Thomas 1964, 21). Collared Urn sherds suggestive of an Early to Middle Bronze Age date were recovered from the features, which were located in the wider vicinity of an Early to Middle Bronze Age barrow (*ibid.*).

Late prehistoric

- 8.11. The main focus of occupation on the site appears to have been during the late prehistoric period. Although dating evidence was scarce in some of the features, the shared alignment and stratigraphic relationships with later features indicates that the curvilinear gully E and parallel broadly north/south Ditches M, C and D represent elements of late prehistoric occupation.
- 8.12. The function of the curvilinear Gully E and associated pit group, which possibly represented a post-built structure, is not clear, although the relatively small artefactual assemblages recovered from the gully (seven sherds of pottery and 14 fragments of animal bone) and pits (22 fragments of animal bone and two pieces of fired clay), and absence of features typically associated with domestic occupation, such as ring gullies and hearths, may suggest it formed an ancillary structure or working area, possibly on the periphery of a settlement located beyond the eastern site boundary. The truncation of Gully E by the latest recut of Ditch C, coupled with the presence of Late Bronze Age pottery in the gully fill, alongside the Early Iron Age material recovered from the gully and the original ditch cut, suggests that the ditch likely replaced the gully and represents a separate phase of occupation and use of the site.
- 8.13. The frequency of recutting of Ditch C, which in itself indicates some longevity of use, was not evident in Ditch M to the west, and may suggest that the two ditches had different functions. Ditch C could represent the western arm of an enclosure and Ditch M part of an associated field system or land boundary that did not remain in use for the same duration. Ditch D and Gully E, to the east of Ditch C, may represent internal

features and divisions within an enclosure. Alternatively, the ditches could all have formed part of a rectilinear field system.

- 8.14. An environmental sample of a backfill deposit or small pit cutting into Ditch C (7051) may be reflective of dispersed/wind-blown settlement waste, potentially suggesting that a settlement focus might lie to the east, outside of the site limits. The faunal assemblage from the late prehistoric features, which was the largest recovered from the site, provides some evidence on the nature of the site's economy (and of the inferred settlement focus that the site may have lain on the periphery of); cattle were the dominant species, and it is likely that they were culled, processed and consumed in the area. The recovered animal bone included deposits within Ditches C and M representing joints of meat from at least two animals and a probable partial skull.
- 8.15. A well-established open landscape with some areas of longer grass and scrub/woodland edge is indicated by the mollusc assemblage, as well as some localised occasional flooding and damp grassland in the vicinity of Ditch C, which would likely have resulted in meadowland suitable for grazing.
- 8.16. Pottery from most of the features was only broadly dateable to the late prehistoric period. Later material, including Late Iron Age to Early Roman pottery, in one of the pits forming Pit group P, and Roman pottery in Ditch M, are considered likely to be intrusive. There were few diagnostic elements to the pottery assemblage, however, the fingertip impressions on a jar sherd from Gully E is a decoration form commonly seen in Late Bronze Age (Waugh 1969, fig. 20) and Early to Middle Iron Age (Knight 2002, 129) assemblages. A sherd with an applied boss, recovered from Ditch C, may date as early as the Late Bronze Age, although similar decoration is present on a vessel of Early to Middle Iron Age date from Harwell, Oxfordshire (Thompson 2018, fig. 8, no. 23). An Early to Middle Iron Age settlement, with possible Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age antecedents, was identified to the south of Area I (MOLA forthcoming). The similar dating of the assemblages from both sites would suggest that the two areas of activity may possibly be related.
- 8.17. Agricultural extensification in the Late Bronze Age resulted in the creation of new land divisions (AA 2007, 13), which is consistent with the limited dating evidence recovered from the Late Prehistoric ditches. In the wider area, a late prehistoric enclosure and associated field system, which predated the Middle Iron Age, was identified at the Parcel 21 site, approximately 815m to the north-west (CA 2023). At Houghton Regis

North 1, site HRN32056 (Luke and Barker 2021), approximately 2.2km to the north-east, a Middle to Late Bronze Age rectilinear field system predated an Early Iron Age settlement, and at Thorn Turn Waste Park, approximately 1.3km to the south-west, Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age field systems, trackways, and settlement-related activity was identified (AA 2018). A possible agricultural enclosure of Early Bronze Age date was identified at the Employment Land site, approximately 1.4km to the west (CA forthcoming b), and a rectilinear enclosure of broad Iron Age date, as well as residual Late Bronze Age cultural material was identified approximately 2.3km to the east, at Conquest Road (TVAS 2013).

- 8.18. A relative absence of Middle to Late Iron Age pottery on the site would suggest there was probably a hiatus between the late prehistoric activity and the Roman occupation of the site, which potentially began in the Late Iron Age/Early Roman transition period.

Roman

- 8.19. Roman activity on the site was represented by a small number of dispersed pits, indicating the site likely occupied a position in the agricultural hinterlands of an associated settlement, although no field systems of this date were identified. The excavation identified that Roman ditches recorded during the evaluation (CA 2014b) were in fact the medieval Ditch M, from which residual Roman pottery was recovered.
- 8.20. An environmental sample from pit 7270 close to the northern edge of Area I contained a small quantity of charred seeds, but no substantive evidence of crop processing. The recovered molluscs included species which indicated areas of longer grass and scrub near the pit, in a wider open landscape.
- 8.21. Residual artefactual material in later features included pottery, several hobnails and a copper alloy radiate or *nummus* on which the issuing emperor and reverse type are unclear, but which dates between c. AD 260–402.
- 8.22. Datable elements from the pottery assemblage were Late Iron Age/Early Roman and Late Roman in date and may indicate long-lived activity in the area. The assemblage was dominated by utilitarian forms typical for the majority of rural settlement sites from the region and beyond and included regional wares suggesting access to regional markets from the middle Roman period onwards (c. 2nd century AD), albeit to a relatively local (within 50km) and limited degree. Slag recovered from pit 7289 is suggestive of iron smithing in the vicinity. Middle to Late Roman activity to the

immediate south of Area I included a trackway, a boundary ditch, a ring ditch and a field system with evidence of several episodes of alteration (MOLA forthcoming).

- 8.23. A previously unknown Roman settlement was identified approximately 750m to the north-west during the preceding evaluation (CA 2014b, TVAS forthcoming). Investigation of the northern periphery of this settlement at the Parcel 21 site (CA 2023) revealed enclosures and associated agricultural features, primarily of 3rd to 4th century date, although 1st and 2nd century AD material was recovered during the evaluation, which may suggest the settlement was fairly long lived. A Roman farmstead that was occupied between the 1st and 4th centuries AD was revealed at site HRN32056 of the Houghton Regis North 1 Development (Luke and Barker 2021) approximately 2.2km to the north-east.
- 8.24. At Bury Spinney (CA 2022) approximately 450m west of the site, enclosures and field systems were identified, although there were no associated settlement remains. Numerous archaeological excavations undertaken in the vicinity (CA 2018, AA 2019a, Brown, 2020, MOLA 2022 CA forthcoming b) also identified evidence of a wider Roman agricultural landscape, including field systems and enclosures.

Medieval and post-medieval

- 8.25. The earliest medieval evidence identified on the site was two small pottery sherds of a type broadly dateable to the early to mid Anglo-Saxon period (450–800 AD; Hamerow *et al.* 1994) that were recovered as residual material in post-medieval Ditch B. The early medieval period was a time of great change in Bedfordshire, as well as Britain as a whole (CA 2014a). Material culture is far sparser than in the preceding and following periods and very few remains of this period have been identified in the wider area. At Puddlehill (HER 687), approximately 1km to the south, an Anglo-Saxon farmhouse was recorded, and two Anglo-Saxon sunken-featured buildings were identified during pipeline construction, approximately 2km to the south-west (HER 12147).
- 8.26. Features dating to the medieval period comprised a substantial boundary ditch, pit and the remains of ridge-and-furrow cultivation. The furrow remnants were identified across the length of Area H, although they had either been truncated by later ploughing in the north-western part of the site or did not originally extend this far. The furrow remnants in Area I did not extend past medieval boundary ditch F, indicating the boundary probably delineated a change in land use. Area I was located further

east than Area H, so it is unclear if boundary ditch F extended as far north as Area H. Artefactual material recovered from the boundary ditch included pottery and a possible heckle comb tooth (utilised in the production of both wool and flax to separate fibres).

- 8.27. All of the linear features shared the same north-west/south-east alignment as the adjacent Bedford Road (B5120), an antecedent of which, the medieval hamlet of Bidwell (HER 16987) was located next to. A medieval green (HER 12241) was associated with the settlement, and both are depicted on the 1766 pre-enclosure Parish Map of Houghton Regis (Fig. 14). Bidwell was not recorded within the Domesday Survey of 1086 and subsequently would have formed part of the manor of Houghton Regis, which was a large royal manor of 50 households at the time of the survey (CA 2014a, 17). Although located in the wider vicinity of the medieval settlement at Thorn and Thorn Spring moated site (see Aims and Objectives) the ridge-and-furrow cultivation identified on the site relates to the adjacent Bidwell hamlet.
- 8.28. Although the 1766 Parish Map depicts the settlement of Bidwell as lying adjacent to the eastern side of Bedford Road (Fig. 14), the location and alignment of boundary Ditch F, coupled with the absence of ridge-and-furrow cultivation in the area to the east of the ditch, potentially suggest that it represents the rear boundary of a plot fronting onto Bedford Road.
- 8.29. Internal features of medieval date within the possible plot were limited to a shallow perpendicular gully and a pit, but evidence of occupation in the vicinity was recovered from the latter, comprising animal bone, pottery, a fragment of an iron horseshoe, and an extremely rich charred plant assemblage, including free-threshing wheat, barley, rye, hazelnuts, sloes and peas. It is possible that some of the undated features in the vicinity, such as Gully L and Ditch J, which appear to share the same broad alignment as the medieval features, may also relate to this period of occupation.
- 8.30. The faunal assemblage from the medieval features was limited, but included cattle, sheep/ goat and canid remains. The rich charred plant assemblage mentioned above suggests the augmentation of the diet with wild food resources, and the recovered artefactual material suggests a degree of horse traffic and textile related craftwork in the vicinity.

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- 8.31. Typically, in this part of Bedfordshire, nucleated villages in rows along streets were more common than clustered settlements (Oake et al. 2007, 99). Many villages are thought to have shrunk, shifted or been deserted during the period of economic decline and agricultural recession in the 14th century associated with outbreaks of plague and depopulation of the countryside (ibid. 101). Whilst this is more typically associated with settlements located on the clay uplands and to a lesser extent the greensand (ibid.), the settlement at Bidwell is recorded as having shrunk (HER 16987).
- 8.32. With the exceptions of a sherd of St Neots ware of the 9th to 11th centuries recovered as residual material in Ditch B (and several sherds of glazed Brill/Boarstall ware which can extend into the 15th century), the medieval pottery assemblage spans the 11th to 14th centuries. The near complete absence of medieval pottery post-dating the 14th century on the site would suggest that it may have lain close to the shrunken former areas of settlement. If the settlement did originally extend to the western side of Bedford Road, then the presence of rear plot boundaries would be a likely component.
- 8.33. Recent excavations have identified a small medieval farmstead of probable 15th to 16th century date, laid out in a loose courtyard arrangement, immediately south of Area I (MOLA forthcoming). The alignment and layout of the farmstead, the main dwelling of which was set back approximately 100m from the present Bedford Road, is not suggestive of a plot fronting onto the road. Two enclosures representing fields or livestock enclosures, containing pottery of 13th to 16th century date, were also identified, although no evidence for ridge-and-furrow cultivation was present. The majority of the identified remains relate to a period of occupation post-dating the medieval activity on the current site, although the pottery assemblage suggests that some low-level activity was probably occurring prior to the construction of the farmstead.
- 8.34. In the wider area, medieval buildings, and ditches, associated with the village and large green at Thorn, were excavated as part of the A5-M1 link road scheme (Brown, 2020, site Q) and the Parcel 21 Bidwell West site (CA 2023). The remains of a small medieval farmstead, comprising five buildings, lesser structures, and enclosures, was identified at Thorn Turn, approximately 1.3km to the south-west (AA 2019a).
- 8.35. Ditches A, H and I, which lie parallel to the modern field boundaries, were likely associated with the post-medieval enclosure of the open fields. Evidence for

agricultural practices occurring in the wider area included the stock ‘improvement’ practices of the 16th century (Thomas *et al.* 2013) and tawying (preparing skins). The predominance of structural fixtures and fittings such as nails, recovered from the medieval features, is perhaps indicative of built structures within the wider area, and a probable barn is depicted in the vicinity of the site on the 1848 Parish map of Houghton Regis (Fig. 15).

- 8.36. Aerial photographs of 1946 and 1966 (Figs. 16 and 17 respectively) show that the ridge and furrow surrounding the recorded location of the medieval Bidwell settlement remained extant until recent times.

9. CA PROJECT TEAM

- 9.1. Fieldwork was undertaken by James Coyne, Bethany Hardcastle and Andrew Whelan, assisted by Sian Bramble, Charlotte Brown, Trudy Craig, Mark Davies, Jacopi Gelmi, Owen Lazzari, Joe Locke and Morgan Wampler. This report was written by Jessica Cook, James Coyne and Grace Griffith. The finds reports were written by Alejandra Gutiérrez, Laura Pearson, Jacky Sommerville, Ruth Shaffrey, Alex Bliss, and David Dungworth. The environmental reports were written by Matilda Holmes, Sarah F. Wyles and Dana Challinor. The report illustrations were prepared by Ryan Wilson. The project archive has been compiled and prepared for deposition by Molly Agnew-Henshaw. The project was managed for CA by Adrian Scruby and the post-excavation by Daniel Stansbie.

10. STORAGE AND CURATION

- 10.1. The archive is currently held at CA offices, Milton Keynes, whilst post-excavation work proceeds. Upon completion of the project, CA will make arrangements with the Culture Trust Luton (accession number: LUTNM 2019/55) for the deposition of the site archive and, subject to agreement with the legal landowner(s), the artefact collection. The Culture Trust Luton has agreed in principle to accept the archive upon completion of the project.
- 10.2. A digital archive will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS). This archive will be compiled in accordance with the ADS Guidelines for Depositors (ADS 2021).

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- 10.3. The archives (museum and digital) will be prepared and deposited in accordance with *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (ClfA 2014b; updated October 2020).

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APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Area	Context	Type	Fill of	Description	Period	Feature label
H	6000	Layer	6002	Dark greyish brown clayey silt		
H	6001	Layer		Light yellowish grey, friable chalky clay with sub-angular stones		
H	6002	Cut		NW/SE oriented linear furrow, gradual break of slope, flat irregular base	4	
H	6003	Fill	6002	Firm, light greyish brown clayey silt	4	
H	6004	Cut		NW/SE oriented linear furrow, gradual break of slope, flat base	4	
H	6005	Fill	6004	Moderately compact light yellowish grey sandy clay	4	
H	6006	Cut		NW/SE oriented linear furrow, gradual sloping sides, flat base. Truncated by field drain.	4	
H	6007	Fill	6006	Moderately compact light grey sandy clay	4	
H	6008	VOID		VOID		
H	6009	VOID		VOID		
H	6010	Cut		NW/SE oriented linear furrow, sharp break of slope, steep sloping sides, flat base.	4	
H	6011	Fill	6010	Friable mid greyish brown silty clay with chalk and sub-rounded pebbles	4	
H	6012	Cut		SW/NE oriented irregular oval tree throw truncated by furrow 6010. Sharp break of slope, steep concave sides, irregular flat base.	U	
H	6013	Fill	6012	Fine friable silty clay, mid yellow brown with small pebbles. Cut by furrow 6010.	U	
H	6014	Cut		NW/SE oriented linear furrow. Gentle sloping sides, flat base. Truncated by field drain.	4	
H	6015	Fill	6014	Moderately compacted mid brown grey silty clay with small stones.	4	
H	6016	Cut		Irregular oval cut of tree throw. Moderate break of slope, shallow sloping sides, irregular base. Evidence of bioturbation at base.	U	
H	6017	Fill	6016	Firm mid yellow brown fine silty clay with small sub-rounded chalk inclusions.	U	
H	6018	Cut		NW/SE oriented cut of tree throw with irregular base. NW side of feature has irregular sides and a gentle break of slope. SE side of feature has a sharp break with steep sides.	U	
H	6019	Fill	6018	Compact mid grey brown silty clay with sub-rounded and sub-angular stones.	U	
H	6020	Cut		NE/SW oriented furrow with gentle break of slope, concave sides and irregular base. Runs parallel to 6022.	4	
H	6021	Fill	6020	Compact mid grey brown clay silt with stones inclusions.	4	
H	6022	Cut		NW/SE oriented linear furrow with concave sides and a flat base. Runs parallel to 6020.	4	
H	6023	Fill	6022	Firm mid grey brown clayey silt with sub-angular stone inclusions and rooting.	4	
H	6024	Cut		Cut of irregular oval tree throw. Steep sloping sides and stepped break of slope. Base is concave and irregular.	U	

H	6025	Fill	6024	Firm mid yellow brown silty clay with inclusions of charcoal and chert fragments.	U	
H	6026	Cut		Cut of ditch aligned NW/SE. Truncated by 6028. Moderately sloping sides and concave base.	4	Ditch A
H	6027	Fill	6026	Friable mid brownish grey silty/chalky clay with gravel inclusions.	4	Ditch A
H	6028	Cut		Sub-round cut of tree-throw with moderately sloping sides and concave base. Truncates 6026.	U	
H	6029	Fill	6028	Friable mid to light brownish grey silty chalky clay with gravel inclusions.	U	
H	6030	Cut		Cut of linear ditch with concave sides and an irregular concave base.	4	Ditch A
H	6031	Fill	6030	Mid greyish brown silty clay with stone inclusions.	4	Ditch A
H	6032	Cut		NE/SW oriented linear ditch with shallow concave sides and a rounded base with gradual break of slope. Truncated by drain.	4	Ditch A
H	6033	Fill	6032	Firm mid greyish brown silty clay with stone inclusions.	4	Ditch A
H	6034	Cut		Cut of irregular sub-oval tree throw with concave sides and irregular base. Oriented E/W.	U	
H	6035	Fill	6034	Compact mid greyish brown silty clay with stones inclusions.	U	
H	6036	Cut		Cut of NW/SE oriented linear ditch with steep sides and a flat base.	5	Ditch B
H	6037	Fill	6036	Compact mid greyish brown silty clay with stone and charcoal inclusions.	5	Ditch B
H	6038	Cut		NE/SW oriented cut of tree throw. NE side of feature has a sharp break of slope, the SW sides are vertical, and the base is irregular.	U	
H	6039	Fill	6038	Compact mid greyish brown clayey silt with stones inclusions and evidence of bioturbation.	U	
H	6040	Cut		Linear cut of ditch with a sharp break of slope and straight sides. Sharp break of slope at base with flat base.	5	Ditch B
H	6041	Fill	6040	Compact mid brownish grey silty clay with stone inclusions.	5	Ditch B
H	6042	Cut		NW/SE oriented modern linear drainage ditch. Steep vertical sides with flat base. Drainage pipe cut into base.	Mod	
H	6043	Fill	6042	Friable mid greyish brown clayey sand with stone inclusions.	Mod	
H	6044	Cut		Sub-rectangular cut of modern service trench. Sharp break of slope with steep/vertical sides. The base slopes to a point.	Mod	
H	6045	Fill	6044	Friable light greyish brown sandy clay with chalk and stone inclusions.	Mod	
H	6046	Cut		NW/SE oriented oval tree throw. Sides gently slope on SE and steeply slope on NW side; the base is flat.	U	
H	6047	Fill	6046	Compact mid greyish brown silty clay with stone and rooting inclusions.	U	
H	6048	Cut		Cut of natural hollow depressions. Irregular in shape with sloping sides and flat base.	U	
H	6049	Fill	6048	Compact dark greyish brown clayey silt with stone and rooting inclusions.	U	
H	6050	Cut		NW/SE oriented linear ditch with gradual break of slope at top and base, concave sides and a concave base.	U	
H	6051	Fill	6050	Compact mid-greyish brown silty clay with stone inclusions	U	

H	6052	Cut		Cut of NW/SE oriented terminus with steep straight and irregular sides and irregular base.	U	
H	6053	Fill	6052	Compact mid greyish brown silty clay with stone inclusions.	U	
H	6054	Cut		Cut of NE/SW oriented linear ditch with concave sides and base.	5	Ditch B
H	6055	Fill	6054	Firm mid greyish brown clay with stone inclusions.	5	Ditch B
H	6056	Fill	6054	Firm light whitish grey chalky clay.	5	Ditch B
H	6057	Fill	6054	Loose mid brownish grey silty clay with stone inclusions.	5	Ditch B
H	6058	Cut		Cut of E/W aligned linear ditch terminus with shallow sloping sides and a flat base.	U	
H	6059	Fill	6058	Firm mid yellowish brown sandy clay with stone inclusions.	U	
H	6060	Cut		Oval cut of tree throw with steep sloping sides and irregular base.	U	
H	6061	Fill	6060	Firm mid greyish brown silty clay with stone, chalk and manganese inclusions.	U	
H	6062	Cut		Cut of natural hollow with irregular, shallow sloped sides with an irregular base		
H	6063	Fill	6062	Mid grey-brown silty clay with chalk, stone and manganese inclusions.	5	
H	6064	Cut		Cut of E/W aligned ditch terminus with irregular sides and flat base.	U	
H	6065	Fill	6064	Compact dark greyish brown silty clay with stone inclusions.	U	
H	6066	Cut		Cut of oval pit partially obscured by L.O.E. Gradual break of slope, stepped sides and a flat base.	2	
H	6067	Fill	6066	Compact mid yellowish brown silty clay with stone and charcoal inclusions.	2	
H	6068	Fill	6066	Compact dark greyish brown silty clay with stone and charcoal inclusions.	2	
H	6069	Fill	6066	Compact dark yellowish brown silty clay with occasional stone inclusions.	2	
H	6070	VOID		VOID		
H	6071	VOID		VOID		
H	6072	Cut		Cut of NE/SW aligned ditch with concave sides and base.	5	Ditch B
H	6073	Fill	6072	Firm/hard mid brownish grey clay with stone inclusions.	5	Ditch B
H	6074	Fill	6072	Firm light greyish white chalky clay.	5	Ditch B
H	6075	Fill	6072	Loose mid brownish grey silty clay with stone inclusions.	5	Ditch B
H	6076	Cut		Cut of sub-circular pit with a sharp break of slope, steep concave sides and an irregular base.	U	
H	6077	Fill	6076	Compact dark greyish brown silty clay with chalk inclusions.	U	
H	6078	Cut		Cut of N/S aligned irregular tree throw with concave sides and an irregular base.	U	
H	6079	Fill	6078	Compact mid greyish brown silty clay with chalk, charcoal and stone inclusions.	U	
H	6080	Cut		Cut of NE/SW aligned ditch with concave sides and a flat base. Cut by drainage pipe 6083.	5	Ditch B
H	6081	Fill	6080	Firm mid brownish grey silty clay with stone inclusions. Upper fill of ditch.	5	Ditch B

H	6082	Fill	6080	Compact mid blueish grey clay with stone inclusions. Lower fill of ditch.	5	Ditch B
H	6083	VOID		VOID		
H	6084	VOID		VOID		
H	6085	Cut		Cut of semi-rectangular pit with steep, concave sides and an irregular base.	2	
H	6086	Fill	6085	Friable mid greyish brown silty clay with charcoal and stone inclusions.	2	
H	6087	Cut		Cut of NE/SW aligned ditch with steep sloping sides and a flat base.	5	Ditch B
H	6088	Fill	6087	Compact mid greyish brown silty clay with charcoal, chalk and stone inclusions. Upper fill of ditch.	5	Ditch B
H	6089	Fill	6087	Compact mid yellowish brown silty clay with charcoal and manganese. Lower fill of ditch.	5	Ditch B
H	6090	Cut		Cut of NW/SE aligned irregular ditch with concave sides and a rounded, irregular base disturbed by bioturbation.	1.1	
H	6091	Fill	6090	Hard/firm dark grey-brown clay with charcoal and stone inclusions.	1.1	
H	6092	Cut		Cut of oval tree throw with concave sides and a concave base.	U	
H	6093	Fill	6092	Compact dark orangish brown silty clay with stone inclusions and bioturbation.	U	
H	6094	Cut		Cut of oval posthole with steep, concave sides and a concave base.	1.1	
H	6095	Fill	6094	Compact dark greyish brown silty clay with stone inclusions.	1.1	
H	6096	Cut		Cut of SW/NE aligned ditch with steep sides and a flat base.	5	Ditch B
H	6097	Fill	6096	Friable light yellowish brown clayey chalk with stone inclusions. Upper fill of ditch.	5	Ditch B
H	6098	Fill	6096	Compact mid greenish brown silty clay with stone and charcoal inclusions. Lower fill of ditch.	5	Ditch B
I	7000	Layer		Topsoil		
I	7001	Layer		Subsoil		
I	7002	Layer		Natural		
I	7003	Cut		Cut of circular pit with steep sides and a flat/convex base.	2	Pit group P
I	7004	Fill	7003	Dark greyish brown silty clay with occasional charcoal inclusions. Upper fill of pit.	2	Pit group P
I	7005	Fill	7003	Mid yellowish brown chalky silty clay. Lower fill of pit.	2	Pit group P
I	7006	Cut		Cut of sub-circular pit with steep, sloping sides and a concave base.	U	
I	7007	Fill	7006	Mid greyish brown silty clay with charcoal inclusions. Lower fill of pit.	U	
I	7008	Fill	7006	Mid brownish grey chalky clay with gravel inclusions. Upper fill of pit.	U	
I	7009	Cut		Cut of E/W aligned ditch with irregular concave sides and an irregular base.	U	Gully L
I	7010	Fill	7009	Light yellowish grey clay with chalk inclusions. Lower fill of ditch.	U	Gully L
I	7011	Fill	7009	Mid brownish grey silty clay. Upper fill of ditch.	U	Gully L
I	7012	Cut		Cut of N/S aligned ditch with steep convex sides and an irregular base.	2	Ditch C

I	7013	Fill	7012	Hard mid greyish brown silty clay with stone inclusions. Upper Fill of ditch.	2	Ditch C
I	7014	Fill	7012	Compact greenish grey clay with charcoal and stone inclusions. Middle fill of ditch.	2	Ditch C
I	7015	Fill	7012	Compact mid yellowish grey clay with stone inclusions. Lower fill of ditch.	2	Ditch C
I	7016	Cut		Cut of sub-circular pit with steep, sloping sides and a flat base.	2	Pit group P
I	7017	Fill	7016	Dark yellowish grey chalky clay with charcoal and rooting inclusions.	2	Pit group P
I	7018	Cut		Cut of sub-circular pit with steep sides and a concave base.	U	
I	7019	Fill	7018	Mid greyish brown sandy clay with stone inclusions.	U	
I	7020	Cut		Natural root disturbance with steep concave sides and a flat base.	U	
I	7021	Fill	7020	Mid greyish brown sandy clay with stone and rooting inclusions.	U	
I	7022	Cut		Cut of sub-circular pit with concave irregular sides and a concave base.	3	
I	7023	Fill	7022	Dark greyish brown silty clay with flint inclusions. Upper fill of pit.	3	
I	7024	Fill	7022	Dark blackish brown silty clay with flint inclusions. Lower Fill of pit.	3	
I	7025	Cut		Cut of sub-circular pit with concave gently sloping sides and a rounded base.	3	
I	7026	Fill	7025	Mid greyish brown silty clay with flint inclusions.	3	
I	7027	Cut		Cut of N/S aligned ditch with irregular sides and a concave base. Recut of ditch 7033.	2	Ditch C
I	7028	Cut		Cut of N/S aligned ditch with convex sides and a flat base. Recut of ditch 7031.	2	Ditch C
I	7029	Fill	7028	Loose mid yellowish grey silty clay.	2	Ditch C
I	7030	Fill	7031	Compact light greyish yellow chalky clay with chalk inclusions.	2	Ditch C
I	7031	Cut		Cut of N/S aligned ditch with steep and convex sides and a rounded base.	2	Ditch C
I	7032	Fill	7033	Compact dark brownish grey clay with stone inclusions.	2	Ditch C
I	7033	Cut		Cut of N/S aligned ditch with steep, straight sides and a flat base.	2	Ditch C
I	7034	Cut		Cut of NW/SE aligned ditch with irregular sides and an irregular base. Same as 7027.	2	Ditch C
I	7035	Fill	7034	Loose dark brownish grey clay with stone inclusions.	2	Ditch C
I	7036	Cut		Cut of NW/SE aligned ditch with steep, slightly convex sides and a rounded base.	2	Ditch C
I	7037	Fill	7036	Compact mid blackish brown clay with flint inclusions.	2	Ditch C
I	7038	Cut		Cut of NE/SW aligned ditch with convex sides and a rounded base. Recut of ditch 7036.	2	Ditch C
I	7039	Fill	7038	Compact light greyish brown clay with flint inclusions.	2	Ditch C
I	7040	Cut		Cut of N/S aligned ditch with steep, straight sides and a rounded base.	2	Ditch C
I	7041	Fill	7040	Compact mid whiteish grey clay with stone inclusions.	2	Ditch C
I	7042	Cut		Cut of NE/SW aligned ditch with concave sides and a rounded base.	2	Ditch C

I	7043	Fill	7042	Compact light whiteish grey chalky clay with flint inclusions.	2	Ditch C
I	7044	Fill	7358	Compact mid whiteish grey clay with flint inclusions.	2	Ditch C
I	7045	Cut		Cut of N/S aligned ditch with concave sides and an irregular base.	2	Gully E
I	7046	Fill	7045	Mid greenish brown silty clay with chalk inclusions.	2	Gully E
I	7047	Cut		Sub-circular pit with concave sides and a flat base.	U	
I	7048	Fill	7047	Mid yellowish brown silty clay with chalk inclusions.	U	
I	7049	Cut		Sub-circular pit with moderately steep sides and a flat base.	U	
I	7050	Fill	7049	Dark brownish grey silty clay with burnt bone and charcoal inclusions.	U	
I	7051	Cut		Sub-circular pit with concave sides and a rounded base.	2	
I	7052	Fill	7051	Dark brownish black silty clay with burnt bone inclusions.	2	
I	7053	Cut		Cut of N/S aligned ditch with steep, straight sides, and a rounded base.	2	Ditch C
I	7054	Fill	7074	Loose mid greyish brown silty clay.	2	Ditch C
I	7055	Fill	7053	Compact mid greenish grey clay with stone inclusions.	2	Ditch C
I	7056	Fill	7059	Dark greyish black clay with abundant charcoal.	2	Ditch C
I	7057	Cut		Cut of N/S aligned ditch terminus with irregular sides and a flat base.	2	Ditch C
I	7058	Fill	7057	Compact light brownish grey clay.	2	Ditch C
I	7059	Cut		Cut of linear ditch with moderate sloping sides and a rounded base.	2	Ditch C
I	7060	Fill	7053	Compact mid greenish grey clay.	2	Ditch C
I	7061	Cut		Cut of N/S aligned ditch with moderately steep sides and a rounded base.	2	Ditch M
I	7062	Fill	7061	Mid brownish grey silty clay with stone, bone and shell inclusions.	2	Ditch M
I	7063	Cut		Cut of N/S aligned ditch with concave sides and a flat base.	U	Gully L
I	7064	Fill	7063	Mid yellowish brown silty clay with charcoal and rooting inclusions.	U	Gully L
I	7065	Cut		Cut of sub-circular pit with concave sides and a rounded base.	2	
I	7066	Fill	7065	Compact dark greyish black silty clay with burnt bone inclusions.	2	
I	7067	Cut		Cut of sub-circular pit with straight vertical sides and a concave base.	U	
I	7068	Fill	7067	Mid brownish grey silty clay with stone inclusions.	U	
I	7069	Cut		Cut of NE/SW aligned ditch with moderately steep concave sides and a rounded base.	2	Ditch M
I	7070	Fill	7069	Dark brownish grey silty clay with flint and stone inclusions.	2	Ditch M
I	7071	Cut		Cut of N/S aligned ditch with steep straight sides and a flat base.	2	Ditch C
I	7072	Fill	7071	Compact mid greyish brown silty clay with flint inclusions.	2	Ditch C
I	7073	Fill	7071	Compact dark greyish brown silty clay with flint inclusions.	2	Ditch C
I	7074	Cut		Cut of N/S aligned ditch with moderate straight sides and a rounded base.	2	Ditch C

I	7075	Cut		Cut of N/S aligned ditch with moderate convex sides and an irregular base.	2	Ditch C
I	7076	Fill	7075	Compact mid greyish brown silty clay with flint inclusions.	2	Ditch C
I	7077	Cut		Cut of N/S aligned ditch with straight and convex sides and a rounded base.	2	Ditch C
I	7078	Fill	7077	Compact light greyish brown silty clay.	2	Ditch C
I	7079	Cut		Cut of N/S aligned ditch with shallow slightly concave sides and a rounded base.	2	Ditch C
I	7080	Fill	7079	Compact dark greyish brown clay.	2	Ditch C
I	7081	Cut		Cut of N/S aligned ditch with steep concave sides and a concave base.	2	Ditch C
I	7082	Fill	7081	Compact light greyish brown silty clay.	2	Ditch C
I	7083	Cut		Cut of N/S aligned ditch with moderately sloped sides and a rounded base.	U	Gully L
I	7084	Fill	7083	Mid yellowish brown silty clay with chalk and rooting inclusions.	U	Gully L
I	7085	Cut		Cut of sub-circular pit with moderately steep sides and a pointed base.	U	
I	7086	Fill	7085	Mid brownish grey silty clay with stone inclusions.	U	
I	7087	VOID		VOID		
I	7088	VOID		VOID		
I	7089	Fill	7357	Compact mid brown silty clay with flint inclusions.	2	Ditch C
I	7090	Fill	7053	Compact mid yellowish grey clay.	2	Ditch C
I	7091	Fill	7197	Dark greyish black silty clay with charcoal inclusions.	U	
I	7092	Cut		Cut of sub-circular posthole with moderately steep asymmetrical sides and a tapered base.	U	
I	7093	Fill	7092	Mid to dark greyish brown silty clay with stone inclusions.	U	
I	7094	Cut		Cut of sub-circular pit with gentle concave sides and a flat base.	U	
I	7095	Fill	7094	Mid greyish brown silty clay with stone inclusions.	U	
I	7096	Cut		Cut of sub-circular pit with moderately steep concave sides and a rounded base.	U	
I	7097	Fill	7096	Dark brownish grey silty clay with charcoal inclusions.	U	
I	7098	Cut		Cut of sub-circular posthole with concave gently sloping sides and a rounded base.	U	
I	7099	Fill	7098	Mid to dark greyish brown silty clay with stone inclusions.	U	
I	7100	Cut		Cut of sub-circular pit plan with vertical sides and a flat base.	U	
I	7101	Fill	7100	Dark brownish black silty clay with charcoal inclusions.	U	
I	7102	Fill	7100	Light yellowish grey silty clay with chalk and stone inclusions.	U	
I	7103	Fill	7100	Mid brownish grey silty clay with charcoal and stone inclusions.	U	
I	7104	Cut		Cut of sub-circular posthole with moderately steep concave sides and a rounded base.	U	
I	7105	Fill	7104	Mid greyish brown silty clay.	U	
I	7106	Cut		Cut of circular pit with concave sides and a rounded base.	1.1	
I	7107	Fill	7106	Dark greyish black silty clay with charcoal and heat-altered stone inclusions.	1.1	

I	7108	Fill	7106	Mid greyish brown clay with rare sub-rounded stone inclusions.	1.1	
I	7109	Cut		Cut of N/S aligned ditch with gentle sloping concave sides and a concave base.	2	Ditch C
I	7110	Fill	7109	Compact light grey silty clay.	2	Ditch C
I	7111	Fill	7356	Compact dark greyish brown clay.	2	Ditch C
I	7112	Cut		Cut of N/S aligned ditch with moderately sloping sides and an irregular base.	2	Ditch M
I	7113	Fill	7112	Mid to dark greyish brown silty clay with stone inclusions.	2	Ditch M
I	7114	Cut		Cut of sub-circular pit with steep sides and a flat base.	4	
I	7115	Fill	7114	Mid brownish grey silty clay with chalk and stone inclusions.	4	
I	7116	Fill	7114	Dark greyish black clayey silt with charcoal and rooting inclusions.	4	
I	7117	Fill	7114	Mid brownish grey silty clay with chalk and stone inclusions.	4	
I	7118	Fill	7114	Dark brownish grey clayey silt with charcoal and rooting inclusions.	4	
I	7119	Fill	7114	Mid brownish grey clayey silt with rooting and charcoal inclusions.	4	
I	7120	Fill	7114	Mid brownish grey silty clay with charcoal and stone inclusions.	4	
I	7121	Cut		Cut of N/S aligned ditch with moderately steep concave and stepped sides and a rounded base.	2	Ditch M
I	7122	Fill	7121	Mid greyish brown silty clay with stone inclusions.	2	Ditch M
I	7123	Cut		Cut of NW/SE aligned ditch with irregular concave sides and an irregular concave base.	4	Ditch F
I	7124	Cut		Cut of NW/SE aligned ditch with concave sides and a rounded base.	4	Ditch F
I	7125	Cut		Cut of NW/SE aligned ditch with straight sloping sides and a flat base.	4	Ditch F
I	7126	Fill	7125	Compact mid greyish brown silty clay with stone inclusions.	4	Ditch F
I	7127	Fill	7123	Compact dark brownish grey silty clay.	4	Ditch F
I	7128	Fill	7123	Compact mid orangish brown clay.	4	Ditch F
I	7129	Fill	7124	Compact mid orangish brown clay with stone inclusions.	4	Ditch F
I	7130	Cut		Cut of N/S aligned ditch with moderately sloped straight sides and a rounded base.	2	Ditch M
I	7131	Fill	7130	Mid to dark greyish brown silty clay with stone inclusions.	2	Ditch M
I	7132	Fill	7124	Compact dark brownish grey silty clay with stone inclusions.	4	Ditch F
I	7133	VOID		VOID		
I	7134	VOID		VOID		
I	7135	Cut		Cut of NW/SE aligned ditch with moderate sloping sides and a flat base.	4	Ditch F
I	7136	Fill	7135	Compact mid greyish brown silty clay with charcoal inclusions.	4	Ditch F
I	7137	VOID		VOID		
I	7138	Cut		Cut of NW/SE aligned ditch with moderate straight sloping sides and a flat base.	4	Ditch F

I	7139	Fill	7138	Compact mid greenish brown silty clay.	4	Ditch F
I	7140	VOID		VOID		
I	7141	VOID		VOID		
I	7142	Cut		Cut of NW/SE aligned ditch with steep cut straight sides and a flat base.	4	Ditch F
I	7143	Fill	7142	Compact light yellowish brown silty clay.	4	Ditch F
I	7144	Cut		Cut of NE/SW aligned ditch with irregular stepped and straight sides and a concave base.	4	Ditch F
I	7145	Fill	7144	Compact light yellowish grey clay with flint inclusions.	4	Ditch F
I	7146	Cut		Cut of NE/SW aligned ditch with irregular stepped sides and a concave base.	4	Ditch F
I	7147	Fill	7146	Compact light greyish brown clay with flint inclusions.	4	Ditch F
I	7148	Cut		Cut of NE/SW aligned ditch with a flat base. The sides were not visible.	4	Ditch F
I	7149	Fill	7148	Compact light greyish brown clay.	4	Ditch F
I	7150	Cut		Cut of NW/SE aligned ditch with steep sloping irregular sides and a flat base.	4	Ditch F
I	7151	Fill	7150	Dark blackish grey silty clay with stone inclusions.	4	Ditch F
I	7152	Fill	7150	Compact light yellowish grey clay with stone inclusions.	4	Ditch F
I	7153	Cut		Cut of NW/SE aligned ditch with near-vertical sides and a flat base.	2	Gully E
I	7154	Fill	7153	Mid to dark brown silty clay with stone inclusions.	2	Gully E
I	7155	Cut		Cut of sub-circular pit with irregular steep sides and a rounded base.	2	Pit group P
I	7156	Fill	7155	Mid greyish brown silty clay with charcoal and stone inclusions.	2	Pit group P
I	7157	Cut		Cut of circular pit with rounded base.	2	Pit group P
I	7158	Fill	7157	Mid greyish brown silty clay with stone inclusions.	2	Pit group P
I	7159	Cut		Cut of circular pit with irregular concave sides and a rounded base.	2	Pit group P
I	7160	Fill	7159	Mid greyish brown silty clay with stone and flint inclusions.	2	Pit group P
I	7161	Cut		Cut of curvilinear ditch with moderately steep concave sides and a rounded base.	2	Gully E
I	7162	Fill	7161	Dark brownish black silty clay with stone, burnt flint and charcoal inclusions.	2	Gully E
I	7163	Cut		Cut of NW/SE aligned ditch with moderately steep sides and a flat base.	2	Gully E
I	7164	Fill	7163	Mid to dark brown silty clay with stone inclusions.	2	Gully E
I	7165	Cut		Cut of sub-circular pit with irregular sloping sides and a rounded base.	2	Pit group P
I	7166	Fill	7165	Mid greyish brown silty clay with stone inclusions.	2	Pit group P
I	7167	Cut		Cut of sub-circular tree throw with steep sides and a rounded base.	U	
I	7168	Fill	7167	Dark brownish black silty clay with stone and charcoal inclusions.	U	
I	7169	Cut		Cut of NW/SE aligned ditch with steep sloping sides and a flat base.	4	Ditch F
I	7170	Fill	7169	Compact light greyish brown silty clay.	4	Ditch F
I	7171	Fill	7169	Compact mid greyish brown silty clay with flint inclusions.	4	Ditch F

I	7172	VOID		VOID		
I	7173	VOID		VOID		
I	7174	VOID		VOID		
I	7175	VOID		VOID		
I	7176	Fill	7169	Compact dark blueish brown silty clay.	4	Ditch F
I	7177	Cut		Cut of sub-circular tree throw with steep sides and a concave base.	U	
I	7178	Fill		Compact dark greyish brown clay.	U	
I	7179	VOID		VOID		
I	7180	Cut		Cut of NE/SW aligned ditch with moderately steep rounded sides and a rounded base.	4	Gully R
I	7181	Fill	7180	Mid yellowish brown silty clay with stone inclusions.	4	Gully R
I	7184	VOID		VOID		
I	7185	VOID		VOID		
I	7186	Cut		Cut of NE/SW aligned ditch with gentle sloped sides and a rounded base.	4	Gully R
I	7187	Fill	7186	Mid greyish brown silty clay.	4	Gully R
I	7188	Cut		Cut of NE/SW aligned ditch with straight gently sloping sides and a flat base.	4	Gully R
I	7189	Fill	7188	Mid yellowish brown silty clay with stone inclusions.	4	Gully R
I	7190	Cut		Cut of ditch with no observable orientation.	2	
I	7191	Fill	7190	Mid to dark brown silty clay with stone inclusions.	2	
I	7192	Cut		Cut of N/S aligned ditch with concave moderately sloping sides and a rounded base.	2	Ditch C
I	7193	Fill	7192	Mid greyish brown silty clay with stone inclusions.	2	Ditch C
I	7194	Cut		Cut of NW/SE aligned ditch with straight moderately sloping sides and a flat base.	2	Gully E
I	7195	Fill	7194	Mid to dark brown silty clay with stone inclusions.	2	Gully E
I	7196	Fill	7190	Mid greyish brown silty clay with stone inclusions.	2	
I	7197	Cut		Cut of sub-circular pit with irregular sloping sides and a rounded base.	U	
I	7198	Cut		Cut of NW/SE aligned ditch with steep straight sloping sides and a flat base.	4	Ditch F
I	7199	Fill	7198	Compact mid greyish brown silty clay with chalk inclusions.	4	Ditch F
I	7200	Cut		Cut of NW/SE aligned ditch with steep straight sloping sides and a concave base.	4	Ditch F
I	7201	Fill	7200	Soft mid greenish brown silty clay with chalk inclusions.	4	Ditch F
I	7202	Cut		Cut of NW/SE aligned ditch with moderate sloping concave sides and a flat base.	4	Ditch F
I	7203	Fill	7202	Soft light yellowish brown sandy clay.	4	Ditch F
I	7204	Fill	7202	Compact dark greyish brown silty clay.	4	Ditch F
I	7205	Cut		Cut of NW/SE aligned ditch with steep straight sloping sides and a flat base.	4	Ditch F
I	7206	Fill	7205	Soft mid greenish brown silty clay.	4	Ditch F
I	7207	Fill	7205	Compact mid greyish brown silty clay.	4	Ditch F
I	7208	Cut		Cut of E/W aligned ditch with vertical sides and a flat base.	4	Gully R

I	7209	Fill	7208	Dark brownish black silty clay with charcoal inclusions.	4	Gully R
I	7210	Cut		Cut of NE/SW aligned ditch with concave moderately sloping sides and a flat base.	2	Ditch D
I	7211	Fill	7210	Mid yellowish brown silty clay with stone and burnt stone inclusions.	2	Ditch D
I	7212	VOID		VOID		
I	7213	VOID		VOID		
I	7214	VOID		VOID		
I	7215	Fill	7128	Loose mid greyish brown silty clay.	4	Ditch F
I	7216	VOID		VOID		
I	7217	VOID		VOID		
I	7218	Cut		Cut of NW/SE aligned ditch with straight and gently sloping sides and an irregular base.	4	Ditch F
I	7219	Fill	7218	Compact mid greyish brown silty clay.	4	Ditch F
I	7220	Cut		Cut of NW/SE aligned ditch with steep straight sides and a flat base.	4	Ditch F
I	7221	Fill	7220	Compact mid yellowish brown silty clay.	4	Ditch F
I	7222	Cut		Cut of ditch with irregular stepped sides and a concave base.	4	Ditch F
I	7223	Fill	7222	Compact dark brown silty clay.	4	Ditch F
I	7224	Cut		Cut of irregular tree throw with moderately sloping sides and a rounded base.	U	
I	7225	Fill	7224	Mid orangish brown silty clay with charcoal and stone inclusions.	U	
I	7226	Cut		Cut of irregular tree thrown with straight steeply sloping sides and an irregular base.	U	
I	7227	Fill	7226	Light greyish brown silty clay with stone inclusions.	U	
I	7228	Fill	7224	Dark brownish black silty clay with stone and chalk inclusions.	U	
I	7229	Cut		Cut of N/S aligned ditch with sloping sides and a flat base.	2	Ditch D
I	7230	Fill	7229	Mid brownish grey silty clay.	2	Ditch D
I	7231	Cut		Cut of N/S aligned ditch with shallow sides and a rounded base.	2	Ditch D
I	7232	Fill	7231	Mid brownish grey silty clay with stone inclusions.	2	Ditch D
I	7233	Cut		Cut of sub-circular pit with concave moderately sloping sides and a flat irregular base.	1.2	
I	7234	Fill	7233	Mid yellowish grey silty clay.	1.2	
I	7235	Fill	7233	Dark brownish black silty clay with charcoal and stone inclusions.	1.2	
I	7236	Cut		Cut of irregular tree throw with steeply sloping sides and an irregular rounded base	U	
I	7237	Fill	7236	Mid brownish grey clayey silt with stone inclusions.	U	
I	7238	Cut		Cut of NE/SW aligned ditch with moderately sloping sides and a flat base.	U	
I	7239	Fill	7238	Mid yellowish brown silty clay with stone inclusions.	U	
I	7240	Cut		Cut of ENE/WSW aligned ditch with asymmetrically sloping sides and a tapered base.	U	
I	7241	Fill	7240	Mid greyish brown silty clay with stone and mollusc inclusions.	U	

I	7242	Cut		Cut of NW/SE aligned ditch with straight moderately sloping sides and a concave base.	4	Ditch F
I	7243	Fill	7242	Mid greyish brown silty clay with stone, chalk and manganese inclusions.	4	Ditch F
I	7244	Cut		Cut of sub-circular posthole with moderately steep sides and a rounded base.	5	Posthole alignment N
I	7245	Fill	7244	Dark greyish brown silty clay with stone and charcoal inclusions.	5	Posthole alignment N
I	7246	Cut		Cut of sub-circular pit with steep convex sides and a rounded base.	5	Posthole alignment N
I	7247	Fill	7246	Dark greyish brown silty clay with rare small stone and charcoal inclusions.	5	Posthole alignment N
I	7248	Cut		Cut of sub-circular posthole with vertical-moderate sloping sides and a rounded base.	5	Posthole alignment N
I	7249	Fill	7248	Dark greyish brown silty clay with stone and charcoal inclusions.	5	Posthole alignment N
I	7250	Cut		Cut of sub-circular posthole with moderately sloping concave sides and a rounded base.	5	Posthole alignment N
I	7251	Fill	7250	Dark greyish brown silty clay with stone and charcoal inclusions.	5	Posthole alignment N
I	7252	Cut		Cut of sub-circular posthole with moderately steep straight sides and a rounded base.	5	Posthole alignment N
I	7253	Fill	7252	Mid brownish grey silty clay with stone and charcoal inclusions.	5	Posthole alignment N
I	7254	Cut		Cut of sub-circular tree throw with sloping irregular sides and an irregular rounded base.	U	
I	7255	Fill	7254	Mid greyish brown silty clay with stone inclusions.	U	
I	7256	Cut		Cut of irregular tree throw with shallow sloping sides and a rounded base.	U	
I	7257	Fill	7256	Mid greyish brown silty clay with stone inclusions.	U	
I	7258	Cut		Cut of NE/SW aligned ditch with straight sides and a rounded base.	U	Gully O
I	7259	Fill	7258	Mid greyish brown silty clay with stone inclusions.	U	Gully O
I	7260	Cut		Cut of N/S aligned ditch with sloping concave sides and a flat base.	U	Ditch J
I	7261	Fill	7261	Mid brownish grey silty clay with stone inclusions.	U	Ditch J
I	7262	Fill	7260	Light yellowish grey clay with stone inclusions.	U	Ditch J
I	7263	Cut		Cut of NW/SE aligned ditch with moderate sloping and concave sides and a flat base.	4	Ditch F
I	7264	Fill	7264	Compact mid greyish brown silty clay.	4	Ditch F
I	7265	Cut		Cut of NE/SW aligned ditch with vertical sides and a flat base.	4	Ditch F
I	7266	Fill	7265	Friable mid yellowish brown silty clay.	4	Ditch F
I	7267	Fill	7265	Compact mid greyish brown silty clay.	4	Ditch F
I	7268	Fill	7265	Compact dark greyish brown silty clay.	4	Ditch F
I	7269	Layer		Compact light greyish brown silty clay.	3	
I	7270	Cut		Cut of sub-circular pit with moderate concave sides and an irregular base.	3	
I	7271	Fill	7270	Compact mid blueish grey silty clay.	3	
I	7272	Layer		Compact light greyish brown silty clay.	3	

I	7273	Cut		Cut of NW/SE aligned ditch with concave gently sloping sides and a rounded base.	U	Gully K
I	7274	Fill	7273	Mid greyish brown silty clay with stone inclusions.	U	Gully K
I	7275	Layer		Mid brownish grey silty clay with stone inclusions.	U	
I	7276	Cut		Cut of E/W aligned ditch with concave sides and a rounded base.	U	Gully O
I	7277	Fill	7276	Mid greyish brown silty clay with stone inclusions.	U	Gully O
I	7278	Cut		Cut of irregular tree throw with irregular sides and base.	U	
I	7279	Fill	7278	Dark brownish grey silty clay with charcoal and stone inclusions.	U	
I	7280	Cut		Cut of NW/SE aligned ditch with rounded gently sloping sides and a rounded base.	U	Gully K
I	7281	Fill	7280	Mid greyish brown silty clay with stone inclusions.	U	Gully K
I	7282	VOID		VOID		
I	7283	VOID		VOID		
I	7284	Cut		Cut of SW/NE aligned ditch with steep sloping sides and a rounded base.	U	
I	7285	Fill	7284	Dark greyish brown silty clay with stone and shell inclusions.	U	
I	7286	Layer		Black charred and burnt organic material with slag and charcoal inclusions.		
I	7287	VOID		VOID		
I	7288	VOID		VOID	3	
I	7289	Cut		Cut of circular pit with vertical irregular sides and a rounded base.	3	
I	7290	Fill	7289	Dark brownish grey silty clay with charcoal and stone inclusions.	3	
I	7291	Cut		Cut of sub-circular pit with straight steep sides and a flat base.	U	
I	7292	Fill	7291	Light greyish brown silty clay with stone inclusions.	U	
I	7293	Cut		Cut of sub-circular pit with concave moderately steep sides and a rounded base.	U	Pit group Q
I	7294	Fill	7293	Mid greyish brown silty clay with stones inclusions.	U	Pit group Q
I	7295	Cut		Cut of NW/SE aligned ditch with concave moderately sloping sides and a flat base.	4	
I	7296	Fill	7295	Mid yellowish brown silty clay with stone and mollusc inclusions.	4	
I	7297	Cut		Cut of NW/SE aligned ditch with moderately steep concave sides and a flat base.	U	Gully K
I	7298	Fill	7297	Mid greyish brown silty clay with mollusc shell inclusions.	U	Gully K
I	7299	Cut		Cut of circular posthole with a flat base and sides truncated by ditch and furrow.	U	Pit group Q
I	7300	Fill	7299	Light greyish brown silty clay with stone inclusions.	U	Pit group Q
I	7301	Cut		Tree root disturbance associated with 7303.	U	
I	7302	Fill	7302	Dark greyish black silty clay with charcoal, stone and burnt stone inclusions.	U	
I	7303	Cut		Cut of circular tree throw with shallow sides and a rounded base.	U	
I	7304	Fill	7303	Mid greyish brown silty clay with stone inclusions.	U	

I	7307	Cut		Cut of circular tree throw with steep sides and a rounded base.	U	
I	7308	Fill	7307	Mid greyish brown silty clay with stone inclusions.	U	
I	7309	Cut		Cut of sub-circular pit with gently sloping sides and an irregular rounded base	U	Pit group Q
I	7310	Fill	7309	Dark greyish brown silty clay with stone inclusions.	U	Pit group Q
I	7311	Cut		Cut of sub-circular tree throw with steep sides and a rounded base.	U	
I	7312	Fill	7311	Dark greyish brown silty clay.	U	
I	7313	Cut		Cut of sub-circular pit with rounded moderately steep sides and a flat base.	U	Pit group Q
I	7314	Fill	7313	Dark greyish brown silty clay.	U	Pit group Q
I	7315	Fill	7313	Dark greyish black silty clay with charcoal inclusions.	U	Pit group Q
I	7316	Cut		Cut of pit with asymmetrical steep sloping sides and a concave base. Same as 7353.	U	Pit group Q
I	7317	Fill	7316	Dark brownish grey silty clay with charcoal and stone inclusions.	U	Pit group Q
I	7318	Fill	7316	Mid brownish grey silty clay with flint and shell inclusions.	U	Pit group Q
I	7319	Cut		Cut of NE/SW aligned ditch with sloping sides and a rounded base.	5	Ditch H
I	7320	Fill	7319	Mid greyish brown silty clay with stone inclusions.	5	Ditch H
I	7321	Cut		Cut of NE/SW aligned ditch with sloping convex sides and a rounded base.	5	Ditch H
I	7322	Fill	7321	Dark greyish brown silty clay with stone inclusions.	5	Ditch H
I	7323	Cut		Cut of NW/SE aligned ditch with gradual sloping concave and convex sides and a concave base.	5	
I	7324	Fill	7323	Fill of ditch	5	
I	7325	Cut		Cut of NW/SE aligned ditch with steep straight and convex sides and a flat base.	5	
I	7326	Fill	7325	Fill of ditch	5	
I	7327	Layer		Layer	5	
I	7328	Cut		Cut of NW/SE aligned ditch with moderately steep sides and a rounded base.	U	
I	7329	Fill	7328	Mid greyish brown silty clay with stone and chalk inclusions.	U	
I	7330	Cut		Cut of circular pit with moderately sloping concave sides and a sloping flat base.	U	Pit group Q
I	7331	Fill	7330	Dark brownish black silty clay with charcoal, burnt bone and stone inclusions.	U	Pit group Q
I	7332	Fill	7330	Dark blackish brown silty clay with charcoal, burnt bone and stone inclusions.	U	Pit group Q
I	7333	Fill	7330	Mid yellowish brown silty clay with charcoal inclusions.	U	Pit group Q
I	7334	Fill	7330	Mid yellowish brown silty clay with charcoal inclusions.	U	Pit group Q
I	7335	Fill	7330	Mid yellowish brown silty clay with charcoal inclusions.	U	Pit group Q
I	7336	Fill	7330	Mid yellowish brown silty clay with charcoal inclusions.	U	Pit group Q
I	7337	Fill	7330	Mid yellowish brown silty clay with charcoal inclusions.	U	Pit group Q
I	7338	Fill	7330	Mid yellowish brown silty clay with charcoal inclusions.	U	Pit group Q
I	7339	Cut		Cut of sub-circular tree throw with steep sloping sides and a rounded irregular base.	U	

I	7340	Fill	7339	Mid greyish brown silty clay.	U	
I	7341	Cut		Cut of rectangular tree throw with steep sides and an irregular flat base.	U	
I	7342	Fill	7341	Dark greyish brown silty clay with chalk inclusions.	U	
I	7343	Cut		Cut of sub-circular pit with steep sides and a rounded base.	U	Pit group Q
I	7344	Fill	7343	Mid greyish brown silty clay.	U	Pit group Q
I	7345	Cut		Cut of NNE/SSW aligned ditch with steep rounded sides and a rounded base.	5	Ditch H
I	7346	Fill	7345	Light yellowish grey silty clay with charcoal and stone inclusions.	5	Ditch H
I	7347	Cut		Cut of NNE/SSW aligned ditch with concave moderately sloping sides and a rounded base.	5	Ditch H
I	7348	Fill	7347	Mid brownish grey silty clay with stone and mollusc inclusions.	5	Ditch H
I	7349	Cut		Cut of NNE/SSW aligned ditch with steep rounded sides and a rounded base.	5	Ditch H
I	7350	Fill	7349	Dark blackish brown silty clay with mollusc inclusions.	5	Ditch H
I	7351	Cut		Cut of sub-circular tree throw with steep sides and a rounded base.	U	
I	7352	Fill	7351	Mid greyish brown silty clay with stone inclusions.	U	
I	7353	Cut		Cut of sub-circular pit with gently sloping sides and a rounded base.	U	Pit group Q
I	7354	Fill	7353	Dark brownish black silty clay with mollusc inclusions.	U	Pit group Q
I	7355	Fill	7353	Mid brownish black clay with stone inclusions.	U	Pit group Q
I	7356	Cut		Cut of N/S aligned ditch with moderate straight sides and a rounded base.	2	Ditch C
I	7357	Cut		Cut of N/S aligned ditch with moderate straight sides and a rounded base.	2	Ditch C
I	7358	Cut		Cut of N/S aligned ditch with shallow concave sides and a rounded/imperceptible base.	2	Ditch C
I	7359	Cut		Cut of ditch terminus with moderate straight sides and an irregular base.	2	Ditch C
I	7360	Fill	7359	Compact mid greyish brown silty clay with stone and charcoal inclusions.	2	Ditch C
I	7361	Cut		Cut of N/S aligned ditch with moderate slightly concave sides and a rounded base.	2	Ditch C
I	7362	Fill	7361	Compact light brownish grey silty clay with stone inclusions.	2	Ditch C
I	7363	Cut		Cut of N/S aligned ditch with steep convex sides and a rounded base.	2	Ditch C
I	7364	Cut		Cut of N/S aligned ditch with steep convex sides and a flat base.	2	Ditch C
I	7365	Cut		Cut of NE/SW aligned ditch. Not fully excavated.	5	
I	7366	Fill	7365	Mid orangish brown silty clay with stone inclusions.	5	
I	7367	Cut		Cut of NW/SE aligned ditch. Not fully excavated.	2	Ditch M
I	7368	Fill	7367	Dark brownish grey silty clay with stone inclusions.	2	Ditch M
I	7369	Layer		Dark brownish grey silty clay with stone inclusions.	5	
I	7370	Fill	7027	Compact mid greenish grey silty clay.	2	Ditch C

I	7371	Cut		Cut of sub-circular pit with irregular moderately sloping sides and a rounded irregular base.	U	
I	7372	Fill	7371	Dark brownish black silty clay with stone and charcoal inclusions.	U	
I	7373	Fill	7371	Dark brownish black silty clay with stone and charcoal inclusions.	U	
I	7374	Fill	7371	Mid brownish orange and dark brownish black silty clay with charcoal and stone inclusions	U	
I	7375	Fill	7371	Mid brownish orange and dark brownish black silty clay with charcoal and stone inclusions.	U	
I	7376	Fill	7371	Dark brownish black silty clay with chalk and charcoal inclusions.	U	
I	7377	Fill	7371	Dark brownish black silty clay with chalk and charcoal inclusions.	U	
I	7379	Cut		Cut of sub circular pit with steeply rounded sides and a rounded base.	1.2	
I	7380	Fill	7379	Mid yellowish brown and blackish brown silty clay with charcoal and stone inclusions.	1.2	
I	7381	Cut		Cut of circular pit with concave moderately steep sides and a flat base.	2	
I	7382	Fill	7381	Dark blackish brown silty clay with stone and charcoal inclusions.	2	
I	7383	Cut		Cut of circular pit with concave steep-moderate sloping sides and a flat base.	2	
I	7384	Fill	7383	Dark blackish brown silty clay with charcoal and stone inclusions.	2	
I	7385	Cut		Cut of ditch with sharply sloping sides and a rounded base.		
I	7386	Fill	7385	Light greyish brown silty sand.		
I	7387	Cut		Cut of sub-circular pit with rounded steep sides and a rounded base.	U	
I	7388	Fill	7387	Mid greyish brown silty clay with stone inclusions.	U	
I	7389	Cut		Cut of NE/SW aligned ditch with moderately steep rounded sides and a rounded base.	5	Ditch I
I	7390	Fill	7389	Mid greyish brown clayey silt with chalk and stone inclusions.	5	Ditch I
I	7391	Cut		Cut of circular pit with straight gently sloping and concave sides and a flat base.	U	
I	7392	Fill	7391	Mid yellowish brown silty clay with stone and charcoal inclusions.	U	
I	7393	Cut		Cut of NE/SW aligned ditch with moderately steep sides and an irregular base.	5	Ditch I
I	7394	Fill	7393	Light greyish yellow silty clay.	5	Ditch I
I	7395	Cut		Cut of circular pit with straight steep sides and a flat base.	U	
I	7396	Fill	7395	Dark brownish black silty clay.	U	
I	7397	Fill	7395	Dark brownish black silty clay.	U	
I	7398	Cut		Cut of NE/SW aligned ditch with moderately sloped sides and a flat base.	5	Ditch B
I	7399	Fill	7398	Light brownish grey sandy clay.	5	Ditch B
I	7400	Cut		Cut of NE/SW aligned ditch with vertical gently sloping sides and a flat base.	5	Ditch B
I	7401	Fill	7400	Light brownish grey sandy clay.	5	Ditch B

I	7402	Cut		Cut of NE/SW aligned ditch with moderately steep irregular sides and a flat base.	5	Ditch I
I	7403	Fill	7402	Light yellowish grey silty chalk with stone inclusions.	5	Ditch I
I	7404	Fill	7405	Light yellowish grey chalky clay with stone inclusions.	5	Ditch I
I	7405	Cut		Cut of NE/SW aligned ditch with moderately sloping sides and a flat base.	5	Ditch I
I	7406	Cut		Cut of NE/SW aligned ditch with moderately sloping sides and a flat base.	5	Ditch I
I	7407	Fill	7406	Light yellowish grey silty clay.	5	Ditch I
I	7408	VOID		VOID		
I	7409	VOID		VOID		
I	7410	VOID		VOID		
I	7411	VOID		VOID		
I	7412	VOID		VOID		
I	7413	Cut		Cut of NE/SW aligned ditch with moderately sloped sides and a flat base.	5	Ditch H
I	7414	Fill	7413	Mid greyish brown clay with stone inclusions.	5	Ditch H
I	7415	Cut		Cut of NW/SE aligned ditch with gently sloping straight sides and an uneven base.	5	Ditch B
I	7416	Fill	7415	Light greyish brown sandy clay.	5	Ditch B

APPENDIX B: PREHISTORIC AND ROMAN POTTERY

By Laura Pearson

Introduction and methodology

A total of 143 sherds (1123g) of pottery were recovered by hand from 34 deposits and from one bulk soil sample. The majority comprises early prehistoric pottery (63 sherds, 413g) although smaller late prehistoric (47 sherds; 422g) and Roman groups (33 sherds; 288g) were also recorded. The total (rim) EVEs value is 1.56 representing a minimum of 10 vessels (MNV). The condition of the pottery overall is poor, with surfaces and fractures exhibiting heavy abrasion.

Recording of the pottery assemblage was direct to an Access database. The pottery was examined by context, using a x10 binocular microscope and quantified according to sherd count (NOSH) and weight by period. The fabrics are described below in accordance with national guidelines (Barclay *et al.* 2016) and those set out by the Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group (PCRG 2010). A concordance with the Bedfordshire fabric type series (summarised in Parminter and Slowikowski 2004) and the National Roman Fabrics Reference Collection (Tomber and Dore 1998) has also been provided where appropriate. Rims and vessel forms have been recorded when the material has allowed for this; rim diameters have been measured (mm) together with (rim) estimated vessel equivalents (EVEs). The minimum number of vessels (MNV) has also been recorded based on the number of rim sherds identified belonging to different vessels/sherd families. Decoration and surface treatments have been recorded when present.

Early Prehistoric

The early prehistoric group consists of 63 sherds (413g; 0.07 EVEs) of handmade pottery, derived from three deposits. The early prehistoric assemblage has a moderately low mean sherd weight of 6.6g. Material from postholes accounts for over 65% of the early prehistoric group by sherd count and weight. One third by count (26% by weight) derives from ditches, and pit 7233 produced a single sherd ($\leq 2\%$). There was no material from later periods found with the early prehistoric pottery, suggesting secure, contemporary features.

Range: fabrics (Table 1)

The early prehistoric fabrics are described below. The largest fabric group is that containing shell-temper (SH3/SHGR2); this accounts for a third of the total by count and just under 75%

by weight. A total of 21 sherds (33%) are in grog-tempered (GR2) fabrics. The pottery was probably produced using local clays. Sandy superficial deposits and glaciofluvial deposits located within 5km of the site are likely sources of quartz sand (BGS 2023). The shell-temper is probably fossiliferous from the chalk bedrock which surrounds the site.

Fabric description

Grog-tempered fabrics (21 sh; 108g; (33.3% NOSH)

GR2 Moderate, moderately sorted, subrounded, medium grog. Buff to brown with black cores and internal surfaces. Black grog $\leq 3\text{mm}$. 21 sherds; 108g.

Shell-tempered fabrics (42 sh; 305g; 0.07 EVE (66.7% NOSH)

SH3 Abundant, poorly sorted, coarse shell or plate like voids. Buff to brown throughout. Shell $\leq 5\text{mm}$. 1 sherd; 22g.

SHGR2 Sparse, moderately sorted, medium shell or plate like voids; moderate, well sorted, subrounded, medium grog. Buff to brown with black cores and internal surfaces. Black grog $\leq 3\text{mm}$. 41 sherds; 283g; 0.07 EVE.

Forms/decoration and stylistic affinities (Table 2)

Rim sherds from a minimum of 2 vessels (MNV) were recorded. Pit 6090 produced a slightly upturned rim with an internal bevel from a possible Collared Urn in grog-tempered fabric (GR2), likely Early Bronze Age in date (Fig 12, no. 1). The rim is similar to Longworth's Type 24 rim form (1984, Fig. 3) and the bevel exhibits twisted cord decoration. Examples of Collared Urns were found at other Bedfordshire sites such as Kempston (Kennett 1970), Roxton (Timby *et al.* 2007, 53) and Dunstable (Longworth 1984, 150, no. 14); the latter Urn also exhibited diagonal twisted cord lines. A barrel-shaped jar with a flat-topped upright rim (0.07 EVEs) and an applied cordon with impressed fingertip decoration in a medium shelly grog-tempered (SHGR2) fabric was recovered from Period 1.1 posthole 6094 (Fig 12, no. 2). It likely belongs to the Deverel-Rimbury pottery tradition, dating to the Middle Bronze Age (c. 1700 to 1200 BC) (Knight 2002, 123).

Illustration catalogue

1. Collared Urn with slightly upturned rim with internal bevel and twisted cord decoration. Fabric GR2. Period 1.1 pit 6090 (fill 6091).
2. Deverel-Rimbury Barrel-shaped jar with flat-topped upright rim. Fabric SHGR2. Period 1.1 posthole 6094 (fill 6095).

Late Prehistoric

The late prehistoric group consists of 47 sherds (422g; 0.16 EVEs) of handmade pottery, derived from 13 deposits including one bulk soil sample. The mean weight of the late prehistoric assemblage is 9g. Late prehistoric material was recovered in approximately equal quantities by weight from pits (210g) and ditches (212g). A small group from Period 4 ditch 7265 was most likely residual.

Range: fabrics (Table 1)

The late prehistoric fabrics are described below. The largest fabric group is that containing grog-temper (GR5/GRFL5/GRFL6); this accounts for 49% of the late prehistoric material by count. A significant proportion of the assemblage is made in flint-tempered fabrics (FL5/FL6/QFL6) which comprise over two fifths of the group by count (72% by weight). Sandy fabrics (Q4/Q5/Q6) make up the remainder of the late prehistoric material; approximately 3-6% by count and weight. As discussed above the pottery was probably locally sourced and produced. Flint was available in a clay-with-flint formation 4km south-west of Bidwell or in riverine pebbles in local waterways.

Fabric description

Quartz sand fabrics (3 sh; 15g (6.4% NOSH))

- Q4 Common, well sorted, subrounded, fine quartz sand. Dark brown with black core. Quartz sand $\leq 0.5\text{mm}$. 1 sherd; 2g.
- Q5 Common, moderately sorted, rounded, medium quartz sand. Buff to brown with black core and internal surface. Quartz sand $\leq 1\text{mm}$. 1 sherd; 8g.
- Q6 Common, poorly sorted, subrounded, coarse quartz sand. Orange brown with black core Quartz sand $\leq 1.5\text{mm}$. 1 sherd; 5g.

Grog tempered fabrics (23 sh; 102g; 0.03 EVE (48.9% NOSH))

- GR5 Common, moderately sorted, subrounded, medium grog. Dark brown with black core and internal surface. Black grog $\leq 3\text{mm}$. 1 sherd; 4g.
- GRFL5 Common, poorly sorted, subrounded, medium grog; sparse to moderate, poorly sorted, subangular, medium flint. Buff to brown with black cores. Black grog $\leq 3\text{mm}$. Flint $\leq 3\text{mm}$. 20 sherds; 91g; 0.03 EVE.

GRFL6 Moderate, moderately sorted, subrounded, fine grog; moderate, poorly sorted, angular, coarse flint. Buff to brown with grey black cores. Black grog $\leq 2\text{mm}$. Flint $\leq 5\text{mm}$. 2 sherds; 7g; 0.06 EVE.

Flint-tempered fabrics (21 sh; 305g; 0.13 EVE (44.7% NOSH))

FL5 Common, moderately sorted, angular, medium flint. Buff to brown with black core and some black internal surfaces. Flint $\leq 3\text{mm}$. 9 sherds; 149g.

FL6 Sparse to moderate, moderately sorted, angular or subangular, coarse flint. Buff to brown to black with black cores. Flint $\leq 5\text{mm}$. 7 sherds; 79g.

QFL6 Moderate, moderately sorted, subrounded, medium to coarse quartz sand; sparse, poorly sorted, angular or subangular, coarse flint. Brown with grey black cores and internal surfaces. Quartz sand $\leq 2\text{mm}$. Flint $\leq 5\text{mm}$. 5 sherds; 77g; 0.07 EVE.

Forms/decoration and stylistic affinities (Table 2)

Rim sherds from a minimum of 3 vessels were recorded. In most cases it was possible to determine the full vessel profile: where this is not the case a generic “vessel” category has been assigned.

A tall-necked jar with flaring rim (Fig 12, no. 3) and slack shouldered bowl with simple upright rim (Fig 12, no. 4) are the only two identified forms within the assemblage. Tall-necked vessels are commonly associated with Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age activity (c. 900–400 BC) at sites in Bedfordshire, including from Salford (Dawson 2005, 24, no. 37). Slack-shouldered bowls are paralleled at Fairfield Park, Stotfold, Bedfordshire and are indicative of a Middle Iron Age date (Edwards 2007, 69). Unidentified vessels account for 33% of the MNV. Simple upright rims are most common.

Evidence for decoration and surface treatment is rare. The tall-necked jar (in FL5), from Period 2 ditch 7161, is decorated with rim-top fingertip impressions. Such decoration is commonly seen in Late Bronze Age (Waugh 1969, Fig. 20) and Early to Middle Iron Age (Knight 2002, 129) assemblages. A sherd in fabric FL5 with an applied boss from Period 2 ditch 7356 may date as early as the Late Bronze Age, although similar decoration is present on a vessel of Early to Middle Iron Age date from Harwell, Oxfordshire (Thompson 2018, fig. 8, no. 23).

Illustration catalogue

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- 3 Tall-necked jar with flaring rim and finger-tip decoration. Fabric FL5. Period 2 ditch 7161 (fill 7162).
 - 4 Slack-shouldered bowl with simple upright rim. Fabric QFL6. Period 2 pit 6085 (fill 6086).

Roman

The Roman group consists of 33 sherds (288g; 1.33 EVEs) of wheel-thrown pottery, derived from 18 deposits. The Roman group is well broken-up as illustrated by the low mean sherd weight of 8.7g. Approximately half (by sherd count and weight) was recovered from Period 2, 4 and 5 ditches. Pits contribute 18% by count, 39% by weight, whilst the remainder of the material came from layers. Roman wares were largely recovered from Period 3 deposits, although intrusive and residual material is common.

Range: fabrics

The Roman fabrics are described below. Overall sandy reduced wares (UNS GW/UNS FGW/UNS CGW) account for one third of the assemblage by count and weight. Roman black fired (UNS BSW) and oxidised (UNS OX) coarsewares individually comprise 21% and 18% of the group by sherd count, respectively. Roman grog-tempered (UNS GR), and sandy wares with limestone inclusions (UNS QLI) make up nominal proportions of the Roman group (3% by count each). The origin of these fabrics could not be determined; however, they are most likely of local production. Five sherds (51g) of transitional Southern British ('Belgic') grog-tempered ware (**SOB GT**), c. 1st century AD (Thompson 1982), make up 15% of the Roman group.

Regionally imported wares are uncommon, accounting for 6% of the assemblage by count (2 sherds, 13g). A sherd of pink grog-tempered ware (**PNK GT**), probably from the Stowe Park region of Buckinghamshire and dating to the 2nd to 4th centuries AD (Henig and Booth 2000), was recovered from Period 5 ditch 6054. One small sherd (3g) of Hadham oxidised ware (**HAD OX**) was recovered from Period 5 ditch 6087 and was likely produced at the kilns at Little Hadham or Much Hadham, Hertfordshire, c. mid 3rd to late 4th centuries AD (Atkinson and Preston 2015).

Fabric description

Regional wares (2 sh; 13g (6% NOSH))

HAD OX Hadham oxidised ware. 1 sherd; 1g.

PNK GT Pink grog-tempered ware. 1 sherd; 10g.

Local or Unsourced wares (31 sh; 275g; 1.33 EVE (94% NOSH))

SOB GT Southern British ('Belgic') grog-tempered ware. 5 sherds; 51g; 0.04 EVE.

UNS BSW Unsourced black fired sandy ware. 7 sherds; 49g; 0.29 EVE

UNS CGW Unsourced coarse sandy grey ware. 6 sherds; 38g.

UNS FGW Unsourced fine sandy grey ware. 4 sherds; 53g; 1 EVE.

UNS GR Unsourced Roman grog-tempered ware. 1 sherd; 3g.

UNS GW Unsourced sandy grey ware. 1 sherd; 2g.

UNS OX Unsourced sandy oxidised ware. 6 sherds; 73g.

UNS QLI Unsourced sandy ware with limestone inclusions. 1 sherd; 6g.

Vessel forms and dating (Tables 2 and 5)

Rim sherds from a minimum of 5 vessels were recorded. In most cases it was not possible to determine the full vessel profile: where this is the case generic “jar/bowl”, “beaker/bowl” or “bowl/dish” categories has been assigned.

The earliest vessel is represented by a necked jar/bowl with an out-curved rim (in **SOB GT**) (0.04 EVEs) recovered from layer 7272. It broadly dates to the Late Iron Age or Early Roman period (c. 1st century AD). Jars, or probable jars, without curved rims in fully Romanised fabrics are the most common forms within the assemblage (2 MNV; 1.04 EVEs). A narrow-necked jar (1 EVEs) in fine sandy grey ware (UNS FGW) was recovered from Period 2 ditch 7130 (Fig 12, no. 5). Similar forms were found at Stagsden Bypass (Dawson 2000, 84, no. 250), Ruxox Farm, Maulden and Kempston, Bedfordshire (Dawson 2004, table 9.15). A bowl/dish recovered from Period 2 ditch 7061 and a jar/bowl from Period 4 ditch 7123, in black fired sandy ware (UNS BSW), can be broadly dated to the Roman period. A plain rimmed bowl/beaker (**HAD OX**) was recovered from Period 5 ditch 6087. It likely dates to the mid 3rd to late 4th centuries AD, similar examples are known from Late Roman deposits at Foxholes Farm, Hertfordshire (Partridge 1989, 200–207).

Illustration catalogue

- 5 Narrow-necked jar with out-curved rim (1 EVEs). Fabric UNS FGW. Period 2 ditch 7130 (fill 7131).

Discussion

The pottery assemblage provides limited evidence for activity in the vicinity of the site during the early prehistoric, late prehistoric and Late Iron Age/Roman periods.

The earliest material is represented by sherds identified as Collared Urn (Fig 12, no. 1), dating to the late 3rd to earlier 2nd millennia BC. The Middle Bronze Age barrel-shaped vessel (Fig 12, no. 2) belongs within the Deverel-Rimbury tradition, which is known from southern and eastern England (Allen *et al.* 1987, 211–21). Both this and the earlier Collared Urn tradition are most commonly associated with burials, however there is increasing evidence of its use in domestic contexts (Longworth 1984, 76). Examples found at Bedfordshire sites are rare.

The majority of pottery from Period 2 deposits is consistent with late Early to Middle Iron Age traditions (c. 7th to 2nd century BC); this is suggested by the combinations of forms and fabrics. The fabric profile of the late prehistoric group is comparable with Early and Middle Iron Age groups seen at Salford, Bedfordshire (Dawson 2005, table 3.8), however flint-tempered fabrics, similar to the Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age wares found at Ivinghoe Beacon 10km to the east (Waugh 1968), were recovered in greater quantities than at Queens Street, Stotfold Bedfordshire (Barclay 2017) where handmade sandy, shelly and grog-tempered fabrics are most common.

The dominance of utilitarian forms within the Roman assemblage, such as necked jars, jar/bowls and bowl/dishes, is typical for the majority of rural settlement sites from the region and beyond, reflecting the primary use of pottery for cooking/food preparation and storage. Datable elements from this small group are of the Late Iron Age/Early Roman and Late Roman periods and may indicate long-lived activity in the area. The presence of regional wares suggests that the site had access to regional markets from the middle Roman period onwards (c. 2nd century AD), albeit to a relatively local (within 50km) and limited degree.

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Table 1: Fabric codes and quantities

Period	Fabric Codes*	Bedfordshire Fabric Codes**	Count	% of Count	Weight (g)	% of Weight	EVEs
Early Prehistoric pottery	GR2		21	14.7	108	9.6	0
	SH3		1	0.7	22	2.0	
	SHGR2		41	28.7	283	25.2	0.07
<i>Subtotal</i>			63	44.1	413	36.8	0.07
Late Prehistoric pottery	FL5	F01A / F01B	9	6.3	149	13.3	0.06
	FL6	F01A	7	4.9	79	7.0	
	GR5	F06B	1	0.7	4	0.4	
	GRFL5	F02	20	14.0	91	8.1	0.03
	GRFL6	F02	2	1.4	7	0.6	
	Q4	F28	1	0.7	2	0.2	
	Q5	F28 /F29	1	0.7	8	0.7	
	Q6	F29	1	0.7	5	0.4	
	QFL6	F01C	5	3.5	77	6.9	0.07
<i>Subtotal</i>			47	32.9	422	37.6	0.16
Roman pottery	HAD OX	R22A	1	0.7	3	0.3	0
	PNK GT	R09A	1	0.7	10	0.9	
	SOB GT	F06	5	3.5	51	4.5	0.04
	UNS BSW	R07B	7	4.9	49	4.4	0.29
	UNS CGW	R06B	6	4.2	38	3.4	
	UNS FGW	R06C	4	2.8	53	4.7	1
	UNS GR	R35	1	0.7	3	0.3	
	UNS GW	R06	1	0.7	2	0.2	
	UNS OX	R05A	6	4.2	73	6.5	
	UNS QLI		1	0.7	6	0.5	
<i>Subtotal</i>			33	23.1	288	25.6	1.33
Grand Total			143	100	1123	100	1.56

* National Roman Fabric Reference Collection codes in bold (Tomber and Dore 1998)

** Bedfordshire fabric series (Parminter and Slowikowski 2004)

Table 2: Vessel forms by minimum number of vessels (MNV) and EVEs

Period	Vessel Form	MNV	% of MNV	EVEs	% of EVEs
Early Prehistoric pottery	Jar	2	20	0.07	4.5
Late Prehistoric pottery	Bowl	1	10	0.07	4.5
	Jar	1	10	0.06	3.8
	Vessel (undefined)	1	10	0.03	1.9
Roman pottery	Jar	1	10	1	64.1
	Jar/bowl	2	20	0.08	5.1
	Bowl/beaker	1	10	0	0.0
	Bowl/dish	1	10	0.25	16.0
Grand Total		10	100	1.56	100

Table 3: Early Prehistoric pottery fabrics by phase

Fabric Codes	Period 1.1		Period 1.2		Total	
	Ct.	Wt. (g)	Ct.	Wt. (g)	Ct.	Wt. (g)
GR2	21	108			21	108
SH3			1	22	1	22
SHGR2	41	283			41	283
Total	62	391	1	22	63	413

Table 4: Late Prehistoric pottery fabrics by phase

Fabric Codes	Period 2		Period 4		Total	
	Ct.	Wt. (g)	Ct.	Wt. (g)	Ct.	Wt. (g)
FL5	8	148	1	1	9	149
FL6	7	79			7	79
GR5			1	4	1	4
GRFL5	20	91			20	91
GRFL6	2	7			2	7
Q4	1	2			1	2
Q5	1	8			1	8
Q6			1	5	1	5
QFL6	5	77			5	77
Total	44	412	3	10	47	422

Table 5: Roman pottery fabrics by phase

Fabric Codes*	Period 1.2		Period 2		Period 3		Period 4		Period 5		Total	
	Ct.	Wt. (g)	Ct.	Wt. (g)	Ct.	Wt. (g)	Ct.	Wt. (g)	Ct.	Wt. (g)	Ct.	Wt. (g)
HAD OX									1	3	1	3
PNK GT									1	10	1	10
SOB GT	1	14			4	37					5	51
UNS BSW			3	17	1	3	1	7	2	22	7	49
UNS CGW							1	11	5	27	6	38
UNS FGW			4	53							4	53
UNS GR							1	3			1	3
UNS GW							1	2			1	2
UNS OX					5	71			1	2	6	73
UNS QLI									1	6	1	6
Total	1	14	7	70	10	111	4	23	11	70	33	288

* National Roman Fabric Reference Collection codes in bold (Tomb

APPENDIX C: POST-ROMAN POTTERY

By Alejandra Gutiérrez

Introduction

A small group of 61 sherds, weighing 509g, of post-Roman pottery was recovered. The assemblage was studied in 2022 following the standards for archaeological material (Barclay *et al.* 2016, 12–14). The data were recorded directly to a Microsoft Access database and includes quantification by fabric and by sherd count and weight; estimated vessel equivalents (EVEs) were only noted when the rim was large enough to offer a reliable reading. Vessel form and rim morphology have also been recorded, when possible, together with decoration and evidence for vessel use or adaptation.

The pottery was sorted into fabrics with the aid of a microscope (x10) and the list of types, given in parenthesis in the text, were devised for the purpose of this report. They were then correlated with the Bedfordshire Type Series (Baker *et al.* 1979; Slowikowski 2013) wherever possible. They are defined in summary in Table 1.

Medieval (including Early Medieval/Saxon)

About half of the whole post-Roman assemblage consists of medieval fabrics. Only one of them is lead glazed (M1), and the group is clearly dominated by coarsewares. The earliest medieval pottery recorded is a black-firing fabric with abundant organic inclusions (O1) of the type which is broadly dated to the early to mid Anglo-Saxon period (450–800 AD) (Hamerow *et al.* 1994). Only two small bodysherds of this fabric (O1) were recovered, both from different fills (6056 and 6057) of the same ditch 6054 in Area H. Fill 6057 also produced a single sherd of St Neots ware (fabric SH1) of the 9th to 11th centuries. Both organic-tempered and St Neots wares have a wide distribution across the region (e.g. Baker *et al.* 1979; Blinkhorn 2005; Kennett 1969; Slowikowski 2013).

There are scarce numbers of later shelly wares (SH2) of the 11th to 13th century, a maximum of two vessels in a limestone-rich fabric (Li1) and one in a flint-tempered fabric (F1). The rest of the medieval wares are sandy fabrics, coarse (CSW) or finer (MSW2). One vessel occurs in a hard, buff-firing, fine sandy fabric (M2) similar to Brill/Boarstall-type coarsewares of the 12th to 14th centuries. The only glazed wares are the minimum three jugs in the fine, externally glazed Brill/Boarstall fabric (M1) which dates to the 13th to 15th centuries. One of the sherds is a rod handle with small carefully slashed incisions along its length (deposit 7288).

The group of medieval wares consists of very small sherds, most of them bodysherds, plain and undecorated. Only three rims were recovered, in fabrics F1, CSW and MSW2, all everted rims from jars. Two are plain (deposits 7116 and 7136), the other has a flat top and thumbled edge (from ditch fill 7116), similar to those published from other sites in the region (Slowikowski 2013, fig. 55.03, no. 96).

The medieval pottery is distributed across all areas investigated (H and I), but in varying quantities and mostly mixed in with later material of Period 5 deposits. The only fills which do not seem to contain post-medieval material are located in Area I and include Period 4 fills (7116, 7136, 7201, 7209, 7268, 7302) of pits and ditches (features 7114, 7135, 7200, 7208 and 7265). The density of material, from 1 to 2 sherds per feature is extremely low, the only exception being pit 7114 which produced 9 sherds (109g).

Post-medieval and modern

The group of post-medieval and later material (mid 16th century onwards) is also small and very fragmented (Table 2). The only sizeable group is the lead-glazed red earthenwares of fine fabric (R1/R3). At least some from among this material might have been produced at Brill/Boarstall, but more local sources could also be included (Slowikowski 2013, fabric P01). Single sherds of 16th century black-glazed Cistercian ware (CW) and Bristol/Staffordshire slipwares (KK) of the late 17th and 18th centuries were also recovered. The latest wares on site are a yellow ware and two pearlwares of the 19th century.

The post-medieval and later pottery are all domestic wares which are representative of a long timespan but in extremely low numbers. They are concentrated in Period 5 deposits, especially fills of linear ditches in both areas, including ditch H (7321, 7349) and ditch I (7402) in Area I, and across several fills of ditch B (6036, 6054, 6080, 6096) in Area H. The yellow ware, probably the latest pottery recorded, was found in a modern drainage ditch (6042).

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Table 1: Description summary of main fabrics identified

Fabric	Description	Surface treatment	Date
Medieval			
O1	Organic-tempered ware; black with brown exterior surface; micaceous, abundant elongated voids from organic temper	Unglazed coarsewares (cw)	C5–C8
SH1	St Neots ware	Unglazed coarsewares (cw)	mid C9–late C12
SH2	Later shelly ware; sparse shelly inclusions; light grey with brown surfaces	Unglazed coarsewares (cw)	C11–C13
M2	Brill/Boarstall, fine sandy, buff/light grey	Unglazed coarsewares (cw)	C11–C14
Li1	Moderate limestone inclusions, occasional voids; grey interior, brown exterior	Unglazed coarsewares (cw)	C11–C14
MSW2	Fine sandy ware, grey with brown surfaces	Unglazed coarsewares (cw)	C11–C14
CSW	Coarse sandy ware; abundant polished quartz sand; black with buff or orange surfaces	Unglazed coarsewares (cw)	C11–C14
F1	Flint and quartz-tempered ware; light grey	Unglazed coarsewares (cw)	C11–C14
M1	Brill jug; very fine sandy fabric	Green glazed exterior	C13–C15
Post-medieval and modern			
A4	Pearlware	Blue-transfer decoration	1770–1840+
CW	Cistercian ware; dark brown, fine fabric	Black, thick glaze interior and exterior	1480–1600
R1	Very fine red earthenware; very rare, well sorted grog	Transparent (amber) glaze interior only; darker red wash exterior	C15–C18
R2	Fine sandy brown earthenware; moderate quartz 0.3, but up to 0.5mm; rare grog <0.8mm	All-over white slip int, under bright green glaze	C16–C18
R3	Very similar to R1, but very hard fired	Very dark brown (almost black) glazed interior; very dark brown wash exterior	C15–C18
KK	Bristol/Staffs slipware	Feathered slipware	late C17–C18
YW	Yellow ware earthenware	Transparent glaze all over	1820–1900

Table 2: Quantification of the post-Roman pottery recovered

Site fabric	Beds fabric code	Common name	Count	Weight (g)	MNV
Medieval					
O1	A1	Organic tempered	2	10	1
SH1	B1	St Neots	1	3	1
CSW	C59A	Coarse sandy type	10	57	3
MSW2	C59B	Fine sandy type	7	57	4
M2	C11	Brill/Boarstall coarseware	1	4	
F1	C63	Flint and quartz	1	33	1
Li1	-	Limestone tempered	5	32	1
SH2	B7	Later shelly ware	3	7	
M1	C11	Brill/Boarstall glazed jug	4	59	3
		Subtotal	33	260	14
Post-medieval and modern					
CW	P12	Cistercian ware	1	2	1
KK	P3	Bristol/Staffordshire slipwares	1	25	1
R1	P01	Late red earthenware	16	160	7
R2	-	White slipped red earthenware	4	22	1
R3	P01	Hard fired late red earthenware	3	27	1
A4	P43	Pearlware	2	4	1
YW	-	Yellow ware	1	9	1
		Subtotal	28	249	13
		Total	61	509	26

APPENDIX D: LITHICS

By Jacky Sommerville

Introduction and methodology

A total of 37 worked lithics (295.9g) and one piece of burnt, unworked flint (45g) was retrieved via the hand-excavation and bulk soil sampling of 27 separate deposits, and as unstratified finds. The artefacts were recorded according to broad debitage/artefact type as defined by Butler (2005) and catalogued into a Microsoft Access database (summarised in Table 1). Attributes recorded include raw material; weight; dimensions (for unbroken items); degree of edge damage (microflaking) and cortication (a white or blueish surface discoloration resulting from soil conditions: Shepherd 1972, 109); cortex description; and the presence of breakage and burning.

Raw material

All of the lithics were made of good quality, fine-grained flint. Of the 15 flints with cortex, it is chalky on 10 (67%) and abraded on 5 (33%), which tentatively suggests a preference for chalk flints, although the sample size is very small. The underlying geology at the site is chalk of the West Melbury Chalk Formation, so chalk flints would have been available very locally (BGS 2023).

Provenance and condition

Only one flint was recorded from Plot H (a flake from Period 2 Late Bronze Age–Middle Iron Age pit 6066) and the remainder were from Plot I. The only worked lithics recovered from prehistoric (Period 1.2) features are four from pit 7379 and one from pit 7233 (14%). Most (23, 64%) were residual in deposits assigned to Periods 2, 3 (Late Iron Age–Early Roman), 4 (medieval) and 5 (post-medieval/modern). A further seven (19%) are from unphased features (two pits and a ditch) and one (3%) was recovered as an unstratified find. Condition is mixed, with 12 worked flints displaying moderate or heavy edge damage (33%) and slight or no edge damage on the remainder. A little over half of the lithics are broken (20, 56%) and one is burnt (3%).

Range and variety

The assemblage is too small to enable the production of meaningful statistical information, however, some observations can be made.

Primary technology

The debitage comprises 21 flakes and two blades. Only five flakes are unbroken so average flake dimensions were not calculated. Butt types are mostly plain (11, 69%), however, irregular (3, 19%), faceted (1, 6%) and cortical (1, 6%) butts are also present. Hinged terminations are most common (6, 60%), but feathered (2, 20%), step (1, 10%) and axial (1, 10%) terminations were also present. The very small sample size means these figures may not be truly representative. A distal fragment of a flake removed from a Neolithic polished flint axe was retrieved from fill 7317 in pit 7316 of unphased Pit Group Q. The only core recovered (from fill 7014 of Period 2 Ditch C) is a multi-platform flake core, which has been worked out (18g). Small, worked out cores are often a feature of Neolithic assemblages (Malone 2001, 217) in areas where good quality raw material is readily available.

Secondary technology

Retouched tools total seven, which is 19% of the assemblage.

Truncation

A truncation (Fig. 13, no. 1), made on a blade blank, was recorded as a residual find in Period 4 Ditch F (fill 7206). Such tools are Mesolithic in date and this example displays very fine, semi-abrupt retouch along the distal dorsal edge, which is at a 90° angle to the direction of percussion. Microwear studies suggest that this type of tool had a multifunctional purpose with uses including cutting, scraping, drilling and grooving (Conneller *et al.* 2018, 528).

Microdenticulate

Also residual in Ditch F is a broken microdenticulate (Fig. 13, no. 2). It is a proximal fragment and it was not possible to discern whether it was made using a flake or blade blank. The tool displays very fine serrations along the right dorsal edge and a little silica gloss on the reverse edge. Microdenticulates are considered to have been used for plant processing (Juel Jensen 1994, 67) and the gloss on this example indicates it has most likely been used to work on siliceous plants. They are particularly common in Mesolithic and Early Neolithic assemblages (Pitts and Jacobi 1979, 173), although their use continued into the Bronze Age (Saville 2002, 96).

Arrowhead

A broken leaf-shaped arrowhead (Fig. 13, no. 3) was retrieved from a bulk soil sample of Period 1.2 pit 7379 (fill 7380). It has been finely ripple-flaked across almost the whole of both

surfaces and the tip is missing. This Early Neolithic tool is narrow and elongated, most closely matching Green's Type 3Cw (Green 1980, 71, fig. 28).

Scrapers

The assemblage includes three scrapers. An end scraper was recorded from fill 7382 of Period 2 pit 7381. It has been retouched steeply and quite regularly along both the distal and proximal dorsal edges. The other scraper from the same deposit is vaguely rectangular in plan and features steep, irregular retouch along all four dorsal edges. Both of these scrapers were made on flake blanks. The third scraper (Fig 13, no. 4 [photograph]), from fill 7380 of Period 1.2 pit 7379, was made on a relatively thick, heavily corticated flake. It displays steep, regular retouch along the distal half of the left dorsal edge and the left hand two-thirds of the dorsal distal edge, which bites through the cortication. Just to the right of this retouch is an area of steep, corticated retouch which demonstrates that this item was originally a scraper, which was resharpened after the original tool had become completely corticated. It was also used as a core, as single flakes (which also cut through the recortication) had been removed from the right dorsal and left ventral edges. The scrapers and the retouched flake are not chronologically diagnostic types. However, the reuse of lithics worked in an earlier period is a procurement strategy most typical of the Bronze Age (Edmonds 1995, 175–6).

Illustration catalogue

- 1 Plot I, Period 4 Ditch F, cut 7205, fill 7206. Truncation.
- 2 Plot I, Period 4 Ditch F, cut 7123, fill 7127. Microdenticulate.
- 3 Plot I, Period 1.2 pit 7379, fill 7380. Leaf-shaped arrowhead.
- 4 Plot I, Period 1.2 pit 7379, fill 7380. Scraper/core.

Discussion

Although small and mostly residual, this assemblage includes some chronologically diagnostic pieces which confirm activity on the site during the Mesolithic, Early Neolithic and broad Neolithic periods. Numerous sites in the area have produced Mesolithic flints, mostly recovered via fieldwalking. These include Priestley Farm, Flitwick, approximately 10km to the north (Fadden 1991; Moore 2010), Beadlow Manor Farm, Clophill, approximately 13 km to the north-east (Fadden 1973) and Ruxox Farm, Maulden approximately 14km to the north (Fadden 1972). Early Neolithic activity has also been uncovered in the immediate vicinity at Puddlehill Quarry, approximately 1km to the south-west (HER 687), Bidwell West, Houghton Regis North 2, just over 1km to the south-east (CA 2014), and Land east of B5120, Houghton Regis, just under 2km to the east (CA 2019). An Early Neolithic causewayed enclosure is also

known at Maiden Bower, Totternhoe, approximately 4km to the south-west (HE Research Records 1181431).

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Table 1: Lithic assemblage (weight in grammes)

Type	Plot H	Plot I	Unstratified	Total
Burnt unworked		1 (45)		1 (45)
Primary technology				
Blade		2 (3)		2 (3)
Core		1 (18)		1 (18)
Flake	1 (3)	19 (97.1)	1 (26)	21 (126.1)
Flake from polished implement		1 (8)		1 (8)
Shatter		4 (19)		4 (19)
Secondary technology				
Arrowhead (leaf-shaped)		1 (2)		1 (2)
Microdenticulate		1 (2)		1 (2)
Retouched flake		1 (5)		1 (5)
Scraper (discoid)		1 (25)		1 (25)
Scraper (end)		1 (55)		1 (55)
Scraper (end)/core		1 (32)		1 (32)
Truncation		1 (0.8)		1 (0.8)
Total	1 (3)	35 (311.9)	1 (26)	37 (340.9)

APPENDIX E: CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL

By Laura Pearson

Introduction and methodology

The assemblage consists of 66 fragments of ceramic building material (CBM), weighing 3397g, and was recovered by hand from 19 deposits. The assemblage was examined using a x10 binocular microscope, sorted by fabric and quantified by fragment count and weight per context. A summary of the results is contained in this report. The ceramic building material was not overly fragmented and is in moderately good condition.

Roman

Four fragments of CBM (432g) can be broadly dated to the Roman period. The assemblage is in oxidised fine (fs) sandy fabrics, some with clay pellet (cp) inclusions. Based on its thickness (32mm), a fragment, from Period 5 layer 7369, most likely represents a Roman brick, probably a *pedalis*. Three undiagnostic fragments from the same deposit are, based on their fabric and characteristics of firing, most likely of Roman date.

Medieval/post-medieval

Most fragments (30 fragments, 1278g) of ceramic building material are thought to date to the medieval or post-medieval periods. They are in oxidised fine (fs) or medium (ms) sandy fabrics, some mixed (x) with clay pellet (cp), ferrous (fe) or quartzite (qz) inclusions. Four fragments (282g) of medieval/post-medieval peg tiles, measuring 13mm to 20mm in thickness, came from Period 5 ditch 6054 (fills 6056 and 6057) and Period 5 layer 7369. Several tiles (26 fragments) of similar character and thickness as the peg tiles are recorded from Period 5 layer 7369 and eight Period 5 ditches.

Post-medieval/modern

Twenty fragments (1607g) were of post-medieval or modern date. The post-medieval/modern material is in oxidised fine (fs) or medium (ms) sandy fabrics, with clay pellets (cp) or ferrous (fe) inclusions. Ten brick fragments (1539g) were recorded from Period 3 pit 7022, five Period 5 features and as unstratified finds. None were complete, however thickness, where measurable, was in the 49-58mm range (1.9-2.3") and width ≥ 59 -100mm (≥ 2.3 -3.9"). A total of ten fragments of CBM exhibit no diagnostic features and as such their function could not be determined. Based on their fabric a post-medieval or modern date is most likely.

Undated

A further 12 fragments (80g) lack diagnostic features and could not be closely dated.

Table 1: Summary of CBM by form/fabric.

Period	Form	Fabrics	Count
Roman	Brick	fscp	1
	Miscellaneous	fscp	3
Medieval/ Post-medieval	Peg tile	fscp; fscpfe	4
	Misc. (flat) tile	fscp; mscp; fsfe; msfe; fscpfe; fsxcp; fsfeqz	26
Post-medieval/modern	Brick	fscp; mscp; fscpfe	10
	Misc.	fscp; fsfe; fscpfe; mscpfe	10
Undated	Misc.	fs; fscp; fsfe; fscpfe; fscpqz; fsfeqz	12
Total			66

APPENDIX F: FIRED CLAY

By Laura Pearson

Introduction and methodology

The fired clay assemblage comprises nine fragments, weighing 53g. It was recovered by hand from six deposits. The assemblage was examined using a x10 binocular microscope and recorded direct to an Access database. This now forms part of the archive. The group was quantified by fragment count and weight per context.

Assemblage Range

Miscellaneous

The assemblage is in a variety of fine sandy fabrics, some mixed with clay pellet and ferrous inclusions. Surface and interior colouring ranges from pink/orange to grey. The fired clay fragments do not exhibit any diagnostic features and are of uncertain date.

APPENDIX G: STONE

By Ruth Shaffrey PhD, MCIfA, FSA

A total of three pieces of stone were retained and submitted for assessment. One of these is unworked and not reported on further. Worked and burnt stone was recorded with the aid of a x10 magnification hand lens and is summarised in Table 1.

A cobble, naturally fractured along the bedding planes and reddened from exposure to heat, was recovered from tree hole fill 7302. Layer 7369 contained a square sectioned elongate whetstone with gently convex faces and faceted arises. It is made of micaceous sandstone and is not typologically dateable.

Table 1: utilised stone

Context	Function	Notes	Size	Weight	Lithology
7302	Burnt	Cobble, broken along natural bedding planes. Burnt/reddened		498	Micaceous sandstone
7369	Whetstone	Most of a square sectioned elongate whetstone with gently convex faces and faceted arises. One end is broken and rough. The other end is slightly concave and a bit rough	Measures 86mm in length x 30-34 and 30-31mm	131	Micaceous sandstone, cream coloured

APPENDIX H: METALWORK

By Alex Bliss

Quantification and recording

A total of 28 objects were recovered during excavation of Bidwell West Plots H and I. Of these, 27 are iron and one is copper alloy. The objects have been recorded directly into an MS Excel spreadsheet and analysed in accordance with guidelines set out in the ClfA Toolkit for Specialist Recording (ClfA 2021). In addition to visual analysis, they have been examined with the assistance of low powered magnification and digital x-ray plates that will be deposited as part of the site archive. None of the objects were recorded as Registered Artefacts (Ras), all being recorded only as bulk metal finds recorded per feature.

The report produced below serves as an all-encompassing purpose in detailing all metal objects found at the site and duly interpreting them in full. Identifications, suggestions for dating and any future actions applicable to the objects are all set out in full. In addition to this, objects are exhaustively described and their dimensions are recorded fully where appropriate.

Distribution, dating and character

The finds from Plots H and I originate from a total of 12 features (Table 1). These consist of seven ditches, two linears, a pit, a natural hollow and a layer. These features are variously phased to Period 3 (Roman, 1 feature), 4 (Medieval, 4 features) and 5 (Post-medieval, 7 features). Two thirds of the metalwork assemblage (17 objects) originate from just two of these – pit 7329 (Period 3, 9 metal finds) and layer 7369 (Period 5, 8 metal finds).

Metal items recovered range in date from the Roman to post-medieval periods, with those of post-medieval date (Period 5) overwhelmingly predominating. Most of the metal items excavated from the site comprise fixtures and fittings originating from various elements of built structures, with a few objects also possibly representing those associated with transport, industry and manufacturing. By contrast, finds of a more personal or commercial nature, such as dress accessories or coins, are virtually absent.

Within the scope of this report, the metalwork assemblage has been categorised into functional groupings adapted from those devised by Crummy (1983), facilitating an overview

of this entire element of the site finds (Table 1). Each of these is discussed in turn, with conclusions based on a synthesis of the entire assemblage set out in the final section of this report.

Table 1: finds per context for Bidwell West Plots H and I

Context	Feature	Period	Fixtures and fittings	Dress accessories	Equestrian	Tools, manufacture and industry	Uncertain/ misc	Coins, tokens and jetons	Total
7290	Pit 7289	3	7				2		9
6007	Linear 6006	4		1					1
6021	Linear 6020	4	1						1
7116	Ditch 7114	4			1				1
7268	Ditch 7265	4				1			1
6049	Natural hollow 6048	U						1	1
6055	Ditch 6054	5	1						1
6057	Ditch 6054	5	2						2
6097	Ditch 6096	5	1						1
7322	Ditch 7321	5		1					1
7369	Layer 7369	5	5	2		1			8
7394	Ditch 7393	5	1						1
Totals			18	4	1	1	3	1	28

Fixtures and fittings

A total of 18 objects entailing fixtures and fittings were recovered from archaeological features across Plots H and I. The vast majority of these consist of carpentry nails preserved in various states of completeness, most measuring in the 20–50mm range. Though frequently heavily corroded, most appear to have square-sectioned shanks and heads of pyramidal form which existed in relatively unchanging appearance from the Roman to post-medieval periods, though one example from pit 7289 (Period 3) may be of Manning’s type 4 with an offset head (Manning 1985, 133, fig. 32, no. 4). However, it is possible that intrusive modern items make an input

into this portion of the metalwork assemblage (even the stratified material) – given that another fragment from pit 7289 appears to have a screw thread visible in its x-ray. None of the nails from later (Period 4) contexts could be matched with the types published by Goodall (2011, 164, fig. 9.1). One example from layer 7369 (Period 5) is of particularly large size, with a rectangular head and curving, truncated rectangular shank – surviving to a length of over 60mm. This likely represents a more specialised kind of structural nail of more heavy-duty type.

Dress accessories

Four metal items excavated across three disparate features are identifiable as dress accessories, one from a Period 4 feature and the remaining three from Period 5 deposits. Three of the items are of securely Roman date (one from linear 6006, the other two from layer 7369), apparently residual in archaeologically later features. All can be identified as hobnails originating from footwear, demonstrating domed heads and stubby, tapering shanks. Surviving to lengths between c. 10–15mm, they are comparable with those published by Crummy (1983) which originate from graves at the Butt Road cemeteries, Colchester (*ibid.*, 51–52, fig. 56, nos. 1821–1849). These are found in contexts ranging from the 1st to 4th centuries in date, and though often associated with military footwear (*caligae*) can equally be found on that worn by civilians. The presence of these individual examples rather than large groups is suggestive of pieces detached from their host footwear rather than representing the burial or discard of complete shoes.

The final dress accessory originates from ditch 7321 (Period 5) and probably represents the rectangular frame of a single looped buckle, demonstrating a rounded strap bar and thickened front edge. Fragmented into three pieces, it is preserved heavily corroded and in extremely poor condition – its frame approximately 28mm long by 19.5mm wide when re-assembled. Complete buckles of this broad type are noted by Goodall from various sites (2011, 351, cf. cat. Nos. K125–128, K132–133), where they generally occur in contexts from the 15th–16th century. Though they could represent belt buckles, it is probable that some originate from straps attached to components of horse equipment.

Objects associated with transport or equestrianism

Ditch 7114 (Period 4) produced a single metal artefact assignable to this category, which can be identified as a fragment of horseshoe. Consisting approximately 2/3 of one web, it displays the wavy edge, terminal calkin and countersunk nail holes indicative of Clark's type 2 (cf. 1995,

116, fig. 82, no. 125) which although is encountered as early as the later 11th century becomes most common from c.1150–1250.

Tools and objects associated with manufacturing, production and industry

A single object can be tentatively identified as being utilised in crafts and production, possibly specifically associated with textile working.

The former was excavated from ditch 7265 (Period 4) and consists of an elongated, square-sectioned curving rod that tapers to a point – surviving to a length of 105mm. Too long to represent a nail shank, this object may be best identified as a tooth originating from a heckle comb. These were utilised in the production of both wool and flax to separate fibres – consisting multiple iron teeth set within a wooden handle (Goodall 2011, 59). Those published by Goodall (*ibid.*, 62–63) are all between approximately 80–180mm in length, occurring across a wide range of Medieval sites both urban and rural – with diverse dates from the 11th to 15th centuries.

Coins, tokens and jetons

One numismatic item was recovered during excavation of the site, this originating from undated natural hollow (6049). Though illegible, the coin can be identified as being of Roman date, consisting of a copper alloy radiate or *nummus* of uncertain issuing emperor and reverse type dating broadly between c. AD 260–402. This object represents the sole item of non-ferrous metalwork present within this element of the finds assemblage.

Unidentified objects

Three metal items could not be identified, none presenting any diagnostic features. The two from pit 7289 (Period 3) consist of a small, amorphous lump of iron and a scrap of curved sheet iron approximately 23mm in length. The third item, from layer 6379 (Period 5), is a triangular iron fragment 55mm in length, which tapers towards one end. It possibly represents part of a socketed implement of uncertain type’.

Discussion

The small group of metal finds from Bidwell West Plots H and I probably represents a general background ‘spread’ of objects either discarded as refuse or casually lost during day-to-day use. The relatively low number of objects is perhaps an indication that although activity

appears to have taken place in the broad vicinity, Plots H and I do not represent the main focus of occupation or activity areas. No items appear to reflect deliberate deposits, some likely being thrown away after breakage.

The metalwork assemblage indicates some generic, limited activity within the general area from the Roman period onwards, though site re-use in the post-medieval period appears to have impacted on this, with a large proportion of those finds attributed a securely Roman date being apparently re-deposited in later features. The predominance of structural fixtures and fittings such as nails (most of which derive from Period 5 features) is perhaps indicative of built structures within the wider area, while the singular horseshoe and possibly heckle comb tooth from Period 4 deposits suggest a degree of horse traffic and textile-relating craftwork taking place. However, as with the Roman material, their relatively ephemeral presence suggests the main focus of this may have been elsewhere.

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APPENDIX I: SLAG

By David Dungworth

Introduction

The excavation yielded 135g of apparent slag. The material submitted for assessment was examined visually and recorded following standard guidance (Historic England 2015). The material was divided into several categories based on surface morphology, density, porosity, colour, etc, and weighed.

Results of the Visual Examination

The majority of the assessed material (125g) is non-diagnostic ironworking (NDFe) slag. This material appears to be fayalitic and almost certainly produced by some sort of ironworking; however, it lacks a sufficiently distinctive surface morphology to deduce the precise processes that produced it. This material was recovered from two unphased contexts and one Roman context.

Table 1. Summary of assessed slag (and other material) from Bidwell West (Areas H & I)

Context	Area	Period	Type	Comment	Weight (g)
6043	H	5: post-medieval	VitCeram	reduced-fired; hackly fracture	7.0
6057	H	5: post-medieval	UID	slag?	1.2
6097	H	5: post-medieval	PBC		1.8
7256	I	Undated	NDFe		26
7290	I	3: Roman	NDFe	very light of cinder	46
7369	I	5: post-medieval	NDFe	rather light	53

The remaining material is of little significance. The material from (6057) is too small to be certain what it is, although it is plausibly slag. The partially burnt coal (PBC) from (6097) suggest the use of coal but there is no evidence that this was associated with any metalworking. It was recovered from a post-medieval context and so could have been used for domestic heating/cooking. The vitrified ceramic (VitCeram) from (6043) could have been produced deliberately or accidentally.

Conclusions

The excavations recovered a small amount of ironworking slag; and some of this came from a Roman context. The small size of this assemblage suggests that it was produced by smithing rather than smelting.

References

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APPENDIX J: CLAY TOBACCO PIPE

By Laura Pearson

Introduction and results

The assemblage consists of four fragments of clay tobacco pipe, weighing 42g. It was recorded direct to an Access database. This forms part of the archive. The clay tobacco pipe was quantified by count and weight per context.

Two bowls (29g), each with a short, flat heel, were recorded from Period 5 layer 7327 and as unstratified material. The latter bowl fragment is decorated with a half-milled design below the rim, similar to an example found in Newport, Hampshire (Higgins 2017, 173, fig. 2, no. 15). Based on their form and decoration, the bowls likely date to the late 17th to early 18th centuries (Oswald 1975, fig. 3, G). Period 5 layer 7369 produced a fragment of stem with a partial heel (10g). None of the heels in the assemblage are stamped. Due to the absence of spur forms within the assemblage the heeled fragments possibly pre-date the mid- 18th century when the spur became the dominant style (*ibid.*, 175). A fragment of stem (3g), broadly dating to the post-medieval period, was recovered from Period 5 ditch 6036.

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APPENDIX K: GLASS

By Laura Pearson

Introduction and methodology

The glass assemblage comprises 11 fragments, weighing 204g. It was recovered by hand from seven deposits: four Period 5 ditches, Period 3 pit 7289, and two modern or undated ditches. The assemblage was recorded direct to an Access database. This now forms part of the archive. The group was quantified by fragment count and weight per context.

Roman

Period 3 pit 7289 and Period 5 ditch 7413 contained two fragments (6g) of blue-green vessel glass. The fragments are in poor condition and lack diagnostic features of form but are considered most likely to date to the Roman period.

Post-medieval

The neck of a wine/spirits bottle (130g) in green glass was recovered from Period 5 ditch 6080 (fill 6081); the rim is missing. It is of a type in use during the post-medieval period. Similar examples were found at Limekiln Lane, Bristol (Dungworth 2005, 3-4, fig. 3.1 and 3.3); the tapering neck is observed from the late 17th to mid 18th centuries, prior to the appearance of straight-necked cylindrical-shaped bottles (Willmott 2002, 89).

Post-medieval/modern

The post-medieval/modern glass assemblage consists of nine fragments from six deposits. The assemblage includes green (54g) and brown-green (2g) bottle glass. The glass fragments do not exhibit any diagnostic features and can only be broadly dated to the post-medieval or modern period. Due to their fragmentary nature, it is not possible to determine their form or function with any certainty. Two fragments of colourless vessel glass (3g) probably of post-medieval or modern date were recovered from Roman-phased (Period 3) pit 7289 (fill 7290), seemingly intrusive within this deposit. One fragment (5g) of white, opaque 'milk glass' was recovered from a modern drainage ditch 6042. The fragment is likely pressed glass produced between the mid 18th to 20th centuries.

References

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APPENDIX L: ANIMAL BONE

By Matilda Holmes

Introduction

The animal bone assemblage amounts to 784 hand-collected fragments (3565g). This comprises 480 refitted animal bones and teeth recovered from prehistoric to post-medieval features. Poor preservation meant that only 77 fragments could be identified to taxon. Samples are too small to provide reliable insights into the diet, status or economy of those living at the site in the past, though results are summarised and any notable finds highlighted.

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. Equids (horses, donkeys and mules) and canids (dogs/ foxes) were separated based on long bone measurements and morphology (Davis *et al.* 2008; Eisenmann 1986; Johnson 2015; Johnstone 2006; Ratjen and Heinrich 1978). Bones that could not be identified to species 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). Ribs were identified to size category where the head was present, vertebrae were recorded when the vertebral body was present, and maxilla, zygomatic arch and occipital areas of the skull were identified from skull fragments.

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 (Behrensmeyer in Lyman 1994, 355). Other taphonomic factors included the incidence of burning, gnawing, recent breakage and refitted fragments. A number of 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 included in analysis if they came from features securely dated to a single phase. Quantification of taxa and anatomical elements used a count of all fragments (NISP – number

of identified specimens). Mortality profiles were constructed based on tooth eruption and wear (Grant 1982; Jones 2006; Jones and Sadler 2012) and bone fusion (O'Connor 2003).

Taphonomy and Condition

Bones were generally in poor condition and extremely friable with numerous refitted fragments and recently broken bones recorded (Table 1). The poor condition of the assemblage is reflected in the high proportion of fragmentary teeth and mandibles (48%), as tooth enamel is the hardest structure in the mammalian body, and the mandible one of the densest bones.

Relatively few observations of canid gnawing, or butchery marks were made, which may have been due to poor surface condition of the bones rather than a lack of such bone modifications. A few calcined fragments were noted in period 2 hand-collected material (contexts 7040, 7052 and 7070), and larger groups of small, calcined fragments from the samples (contexts 6068 and 7052), which possibly relate to hearth waste.

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

Condition	1.2: Prehistoric	2: Late prehistoric	3: Roman	4: Medieval	5: Post- medieval
Fresh					
Very good					
Good		2	1		7
Fair	1	7		1	8
Poor	3	9			5
Very poor	2	5		1	1
Total	6	23	1	2	21
Refit	15=5	84=15		23=1	14=6
Fresh break	1	13			6
Gnawed		3			3
Loose mandibular teeth*	2	3			1
Teeth in mandibles*	3	4			1
Butchery					2
Burning*		9			

*deciduous and permanent 4th premolar and molars; burnt bones from unidentified long bone fragments

Period 1.1 Bronze Age (2400 BC – 700 BC)

Two calcined fragments of medium-sized mammal bone were recovered from pit 6090.

Period 1.2 Prehistoric

Pit 7233 produced a relatively large quantity of animal bones and teeth from cattle, sheep/ goats and pigs. One cattle mandible was recovered from an adult c. 8–16 years of age. A cattle tooth was also identified amongst the small group of bones in pit 7379 (Table 2).

Period 2: Late Prehistoric

The largest assemblage was recovered from period 2 features. Large quantities of animal remains came from ditches M and C, and a few smaller groups from ditch D, gully E, pit group P and pits 7051 and 7381. Ditch C (context 7082) included a fragmentary horn core and associated skull fragments that may have originally been buried as a (partial) skull. Ditch M (context 7070) produced two left cattle radii that potentially represent the remains of joints of meat from at least two animals.

Cattle were most commonly recorded alongside a few sheep/ goat teeth and isolated finds of pig and equid (Table 2). Cattle were represented by all parts of the carcass and it is likely that they were culled, processed and consumed in the area. One cattle mandible was from an adult, and another from a young adult at wear stage E (c. 26–36 months).

Period 3: Roman

The unfused distal epiphysis of a small canid femur (most likely a fox rather than a dog) was recovered from pit 7289 (Table 2).

Period 4: Medieval

A few cattle, sheep/ goat and canid remains were recovered from ditch F, linear 6006, plough furrows 6014 and 6020 and pit 7114 (Table 2).

Period 5: Post-medieval

Ditches B, H and I and layer 7369 produced animal remains. Sheep/ goats were most commonly recorded followed by cattle and pigs and a few equid and canid (including a very small dog or fox) remains (Table 2). A subadult pig humerus was very large, consistent with the types of animals found in this period following the stock 'improvement' practices of the 16th century (Thomas *et al.* 2013). A sheep skull had been split longitudinally and the horn core had been removed, typical of waste from the consumption of brawn and removal of the skin for tawying (preparing skins by curing them with alum and salt). One sheep/ goat third molar produced a wear stage of E, indicating an animal at prime meat age, nearing maturity.

Table 2: Species representation by anatomical element (fragment count). Hand collected bones. C= cattle; S/G= sheep/ goat; P= pig; H/D= horse/ donkey; D/F= dog/ fox

Element	1.2			2				3	4			5				
	C	S/G	P	C	S/G	P	H/D	D/F	C	S/G	D/F	C	S/G	P	H/D	D/F
Horn core + frontal				1												
Skull (partial)													1			
Loose maxillary tooth				3	4					1						
Mandible	1			3										1		
Loose mandibular tooth	2	1		1	3								1		1	
Tooth fragment	1				2						1					
1st cervical vertebra				1												
Cervical vertebra													1			
Thoracic vertebra													1			
Scapula	1			1					1							
Humerus	1		1	3									1		1	
Radius		1		2			1						2			
Ulna				2												
Pelvis				1									1		1	
Femur				1		1		1								
Tibia		1		1									4			1
Calcaneus				1									1			
Metacarpal	1			2									1	1		1
Metapodial													1			
Metatarsal				2									2			
1st phalanx				1												
2nd phalanx									1							
Total	7	3	1	26	9	1	1	1	2	1	1	5	12	4	1	2
Unidentified		68			251			2		17				65		

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APPENDIX M: PLANT MACROFOSSIL AND MOLLUSCS

By Sarah F. Wyles

Introduction

A total of 38 bulk soil samples (593.5 litres of soil) were processed from a range of features and deposits from the site. These were dated to the Early Prehistoric, Late Prehistoric, Roman, and medieval periods, or were unphased. These samples were taken from across the site with the intention of recovering environmental evidence of domestic, industrial or funerary activity on the site. The breakdown of these samples by phase and feature type can be seen in Table 1. It was hoped these samples would provide some information on the nature of the settlement and surrounding landscape, the range of crops and the crop-processing activities and techniques taking place on site and whether this changed over time as well as possibly adding to the information on the charcoal rich Period 2 (Late Prehistoric) pits.

Table 1: Break down of the bulk samples by phase.

Period	Number of samples	Volume of samples (L)	Features
1.1 Bronze Age	2	38	Pit, posthole
1.2 Prehistoric	2	74	Pits
2 Late Prehistoric	8	165.5	Pits, posthole, cremation related deposit, Ditch C
3 Roman	1	36	Pit
4 Medieval	1	7	Pit
5 Post-medieval	1	5	Posthole alignment N
Undated	23	277	Pit group Q, Pits
Total	38	593.5	

The bulk samples were processed following standard flotation methods, using a 250µm sieve for the recovery of the flot and a 0.5mm mesh for the collection of the residue. All identifiable plant remains were identified and the results are recorded in Tables 2–4. The plant identifications follow the nomenclature of Stace (1997) for wild plants, and traditional nomenclature, as provided by Zohary *et al* (2012) for cereals. Mollusc shells were noted in the bulk samples and the range of species represented in them has also been recorded in Tables 5 and 6. Nomenclature for the mollusc assemblages follows Anderson (2005) and details of

the ecological preferences of the species follow Evans (1972), Kerney (1999) and Davies (2008).

Period 1.1 –Bronze Age

The few charred remains were recovered from pit 6090 (sample 3) including an emmer (*Triticum dicoccum*) glume base and tuber fragments. The large mollusc assemblage contained a diverse range of open country, intermediate, shade-loving and marsh species. The assemblage appears to suggest an open landscape, with areas of long grass and woodland edge/open deciduous woodland near the pit. *Acanthinula aculeata* and *Ena montana* are species which favour open deciduous woodland. It is possible that this assemblage may suggest either an open clearing in woodland or fairly recent woodland clearance in the vicinity of this pit.

Sparse or no plant remains were recovered from posthole 6094.

Sparse numbers of charred plant remains were recorded in pit 7106 (sample 13). The remains may represent hearth waste material.

Period 1.2 – Prehistoric

The small charred plant assemblage recorded from pit 7233 (sample 17) was dominated by cereal remains, including those of barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) and hulled wheat (emmer or spelt (*Triticum dicoccum/spelta*)). It is likely to be representative of domestic hearth material. No charred plant remains were recovered from pit 7379 (sample 39).

The large diverse mollusc assemblages recorded from these samples appear to suggest an open landscape, with some areas of longer grass and woodland edge in the vicinity of these pits.

Period 2 – Late Prehistoric

Sparse or no plant remains were recovered from pits 6066, 6085, 7051, 7381 and 7383, possible cremation related deposit within pit 7065 and Ditch C. The remains from pit 7051 may be reflective of dispersed/wind-blown settlement waste.

Shell numbers varied in these samples, with the assemblages generally reflecting a well-established open landscape with some areas of longer grass and scrub/woodland edge. The presence of the rarity *Azeca goodalli* in a few of the samples is noteworthy, as this species favours open deciduous woodland and undisturbed scrubby places. There was also an

indication from the assemblages from Ditch C of some localised occasional flooding and damp grassland.

Period 3 – Roman

Sample 19 from pit 7270 produced a moderately small charred assemblage, dominated by cereal remains including those of barley and spelt (*Triticum spelta*).

The large mollusc assemblage contained shells of a range of open country, intermediate, and shade-loving species, as well as a few shells of *Galba truncatula*, an amphibious species which thrives in areas subject to seasonal flooding and desiccation, and of the intermediate aquatic species *Pisidium* sp. This assemblage appears to reflect areas of longer grass and scrub near the ditch, in a wider open landscape.

Period 4 – Medieval

An extremely rich charred plant assemblage (around 135 plant remains per litre) was recorded from pit 7114. The assemblage was dominated by cereal remains (85% of the assemblage), with those of free-threshing wheat (*Triticum turgidum/aestivum*) predominant (44% of the assemblage). There were also small quantities of barley and rye (*Secale cereale*). The presence of chaff elements would tend to suggest that at least some of the crops were being processed on site at this time. Remains from other potential crops/ food sources included those of hazelnuts (*Corylus avellana*) and sloes (*Prunus spinosa*), and peas (*Pisum sativa*). A number of the oat grains were large in size and are likely to be those of the cultivated species (*Avena sativa*). These would all be typical crops and food sources in the medieval period (Greig 1991) and have been recorded on other areas of the Bidwell West site (e.g Wyles forthcoming a and b), other rural sites of this period such as at Longforth Farm, Wellington (Wyles 2016) and in other medieval assemblages from sites in the wider area such as from Walton, Aylesbury (Giorgi 1991), Cheddington (Wyles 2019), Queen Street Stotfold (Stevens 2017), and Broom (Stevens 2007).

The weed seeds are generally those typical of grassland, field margins and arable environments and mainly are likely to have been brought in with the crops. The range of weed seeds appears to hint at the possible exploitation of a range of different soil types with species such as corn gromwell (*Lithospermum arvense*) favouring lighter, drier soils, and species such as sedge (*Carex* sp.), club-rush (*Schoenoplectus lacustris*) and bristle club-rush (*Isolepis setacea*) thriving in damp environments.

The large mollusc assemblage contained shells of a range of open country, intermediate, and shade-loving species. The assemblage appears to reflect a well-established open landscape with areas of longer grass.

Period 5 – Post-medieval

Sparse charred remains were recovered from Posthole alignment N.

The large mollusc assemblage contained shells of a range of open country, intermediate, and shade-loving species. The assemblage appears to reflect a well-established open landscape with areas of longer grass.

Undated

A total of 22 samples were examined from pits 7313, 7316, 7330 and 7353 in Pit Group Q and also pits 7049, 7100, 7371 and 7395. Sparse numbers of charred plant remains were recorded in six samples. The remains from pits 7316 and 7049 may represent hearth waste material, whilst those from pits 7330, 7353 and 7100 may be reflective of dispersed/wind-blown settlement waste.

The mollusc assemblages appear to be indicative of a well-established open landscape with some areas of longer unkempt grass and scrub/woodland edge and a small amount of occasional flooding and desiccation.

Summary

The charred assemblages from the site augment the data from other phases of work on the site and other assemblages of similar date in the area, in particular the medieval period. The cereal remains recovered within these assemblages are compatible with the dates for these deposits.

The cereal remains appear to follow the general trend of free-threshing wheat being the predominant wheat in the medieval period. The range of crops and other potential food sources recorded in the rich medieval assemblage is comparable with those in other medieval assemblages in the wider area. The range of weed seeds recorded on the site include species generally typical of grassland, field margins and arable environments and there is an indication of a number of possible different habitats being exploited.

The mollusc assemblages are indicative of an open landscape with areas of long grass and woodland edge/open deciduous woodland in the Early Prehistoric period, becoming a well-established open landscape with areas of longer grass and scrub by the Roman period, and

possibly with less scrub in the area by the medieval period. There appears to have been some areas of seasonal flooding and desiccation on the site during the later prehistoric and Roman periods.

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Table 2: Charred plant remains from Period 1.1, 1.2 and 2 samples

Area		H		I		I		H		I						
Period		1.1 Bronze Age				1.2 Prehistoric				2 Late Prehistoric						
Feature Type		Pit	Posthole	Pit	Pit	Pit	Pit	Pit	Pit	Pit	Pit	Pit	Cremation related deposit	Ditch C		
Feature		6090	6094	7106	7233	7379	6066	6085	7051	7381	7383	7065	7012	7053	7059	
Context		6091	6095	7107	7235	7380	6068	6086	7052	7382	7384	7066	7014	7055	7056	
Sample		3	4	13	17	39	1	2	8	41	40	9	5	16	10	
Vol (L)		34	4	20	38	36	36	25	10	34	20	2	0.5	5	34	
Flot size (ml)		50	10	125	100	15	80	175	15	50	10	5	5	20	650	
Roots %		15	50	5	30	10	25	5	25	25	25	30	10	15	1	
Cereals	Common Name															
<i>Hordeum vulgare</i> L. s/l (grain)	barley	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
<i>Triticum dicoccum</i> (Schübl) (glume base)	emmer wheat	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
<i>Triticum dicoccum/spelta</i> (grain)	emmer/spelt wheat	-	1	1	2	-	-	cf. 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
<i>Triticum turgidum/aestivum</i> (grain)	free-threshing wheat	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cf.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	
<i>Triticum sp.</i> (grain)	wheat	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Cereal indet. (grains)	cereal	1	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	
Cereal frag. (est. whole grains)	cereal	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
Other Species																
<i>Corylus avellana</i> L. (fragments)	hazelnut	-	-	1	-	-	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	

<i>Prunus spinosa</i> L./ <i>Crataegus monogyna</i> Jacq (thorns/twigs)	sloe/hawthorn type thorns	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i> Jacq.	hawthorn	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	
<i>Vicia</i> L./ <i>Lathyrus</i> sp. L.	vetch/wild pea	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Tuber		2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Charcoal		*/**	*/*	***/*	***/*	*/*	***/*	****/*	***	**/*	**/*	-/*	1/*	-	*/*	****/*

Key: * = 1-4, ** = 5-19, *** = 20-49, **** = 50-99, ***** = 100+,

Table 3: Charred and waterlogged plant remains from Period 3, 4 and 5 samples

Area	Period	I		
		3 - Roman	4 - medieval	5 - post-medieval
Feature Type		Pit	Pit	Posthole alignment N
Feature		7270	7114	7252
Context		7271	7116	7253
Sample		19	14	18
Vol (L)		36	7	5
Flot size (ml)		40	80	15
Roots %		60	10	10
Cereals	Common Name			
<i>Hordeum vulgare</i> L. <i>sl</i> (grain)	barley	1	14	-
<i>Triticum spelta</i> L. (glume bases)	spelt wheat	1	-	-
<i>Triticum turgidum/aestivum</i> (grain)	free-threshing wheat	-	270	-
<i>Triticum aestivum</i> (rachis frag)	free-threshing wheat	-	3	-
<i>Triticum turgidum/aestivum</i> (rachis frags)	free-threshing wheat	-	140	-
<i>Triticum sp.</i> (grain)	wheat	6	80	-
<i>Secale cereale</i> (grain)	rye	-	4	-
Cereal indet. (grains)	cereal	4	227	-
Cereal frag. (est. whole grains)	cereal	4	46	-
Cereal frags (rachis frags)	cereal	-	5	-
Cereal frags (culm node)	cereal	-	7	-
Cereal frags (basal culm node)	cereal	-	4	-
Other Species				
<i>cf. Ranunculus ficaria</i> tuber	lesser celandine	-	1	-
<i>Corylus avellana</i> L. (fragments)	hazelnut	-	2	-
<i>Chenopodium sp.</i> L.	goosefoot	-	2	-
<i>Polygonum aviculare</i> L.	knotgrass	-	1	-
<i>Rumex sp.</i> L.	docks	-	1	-
<i>Rumex crispus</i> L. Type	curled dock	-	3	-
<i>Prunus spinosa</i> L.	sloe stone	-	2	-
<i>Vicia L./Lathyrus sp.</i> L.	vetch/wild pea	-	18	-
<i>Pisum sativum</i> L.	pea	-	3	-
<i>Lithospermum arvense</i> L.	corn gromwell	-	1	-
<i>Stachys sp.</i> L.	woundwort	-	1	-
<i>Lamium sp.</i>	dead-nettle	-	2	-
<i>Cardus/Cirsium sp.</i> L.	thistle	-	3	-
<i>Schoenoplectus lacustris</i> Palla	club-rush	-	1	-
<i>Isolepis setacea</i> (L.) R. Br.	bristle club-rush	-	1	-
<i>Carex sp.</i> L. (trigonus seed)	sedge	-	1	-
<i>Lolium/Festuca sp.</i> L.	rye-grass/fescue	-	5	-
<i>Avena sp.</i> L. (grain)	oat grain	-	60	-
<i>Avena sp.</i> L. (floret base)	oat floret	-	1	-
<i>Avena L./Bromus L.</i> sp.	oat/brome grass	1	25	-
Parenchyma/Tuber/dung		-	1	*
Tuber		-	1	-
Mineralised nodule		-	8	-
Charcoal 4/2mm		*/**	**/**	*/*

Key: * = 1-4, ** = 5-19, *** = 20-49, **** = 50-99, ***** = 100+,

Table 4: Charred plant remains from undated samples

Area	I																				
Period	Undated																				
Feature Type	Pit group Q															Pits					
Feature	7313			7316			7330						7353	7049	7100		7371		7395		
Context	7314	7315	7317	7318		7331	7332	7333	7334	7335	7336	7337	7338	7354	7050	7101	7102	7372	7374	7396	7397
Sample	22	23	32	33	34	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	35	7	11	12	36	37	42	43
Vol (L)	9	4	20	40	25	3	3	4	5	5	5	4	3	23	15	20	28	12	10	4	5
Flot size (ml)	10	25	60	220	25	5	15	5	5	5	2	2	2	30	75	10	50	5	5	50	40
Roots %	30	20	20	10	30	5	35	20	30	40	40	20	25	30	10	35	20	20	20	20	20
Cereals	Common Name																				
<i>Triticum dicoccum/spelta</i> (grain)	emmer/spelt wheat	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Triticum turgidum/aestivum</i> (grain)	free-threshing wheat	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	cf. 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Triticum aestivum</i> (rachis frag)	free-threshing wheat	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Triticum sp.</i> (grain)	wheat	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Cereal indet. (grains)	cereal	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-
Cereal frag. (est. whole grains)	cereal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Other Species																					
<i>Corylus avellana</i> L. (fragments)	hazelnut	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Anthemis cotula</i> L.	stinking mayweed	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Charcoal		1*/**	**/**	**/**	**/**	**/**	**/**	**/**	**/**	**/**	**/**	**/**	**/**	**/**	**/**	**/**	**/**	**/**	**/**	**/**	**/**

Key: * = 1-4, ** = 5-19, *** = 20-49, **** = 50-99, ***** = 100+

Table 5: Molluscan remains from Period 1.1, 1.2, 2, 3, 4 and 5 samples.

Area		H		I	I		H		I		I							
Period		1.1 Bronze Age			1.2 Prehistoric		2 Late Prehistoric					3 Roman	4 medieval	5 post-medieval				
Feature Type		Pit	Posthole	Pit	Pit	Pit	Pit	Pit	Pit	Pit	Pit	Cremation related deposit	Ditch C			Pit	Pit	Posthole alignment N
Feature		6090	6094	7106	7233	7379	6066	6085	7051	7381	7383	7065	7012	7053	7059	7270	7114	7252
Context		6091	6095	7107	7235	7380	6068	6086	7052	7382	7384	7066	7014	7055	7056	7271	7116	7253
Sample		3	4	13	17	39	1	2	8	41	40	9	5	16	10	19	14	18
Processed vol (L)		34	4	20	38	36	36	25	10	34	20	2	0.5	5	34	36	7	5
LAND SNAILS	Habitat																	
<i>Pomatias elegans</i> (Müller)	I	X	-	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	-	X	X	-	X
<i>Carychium cf. minimum</i> Müller	M	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	X	-	-	-
<i>Carychium tridentatum</i> (Risso)	S	X	-	X	X	X	-	X	X	X	-	-	-	X	X	X	X	-
<i>Carychium</i> spp.	S	X	-	X	X	X	-	X	X	X	-	-	-	X	X	X	X	-
<i>Succinea/Oxyloma</i> spp.	M	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Azeca goodalli</i> (Férussac)	S	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-
<i>Cochlicopa lubrica</i> (Müller)	I	X	-	X	X	X	-	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	X	-	-
<i>Cochlicopa lubricella</i> (Porro)	I	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-
<i>Cochlicopa</i> spp.	I	X	-	X	X	X	-	-	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<i>Vertigo pygmaea</i> (Draparnaud)	I	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Vertigo</i> spp.	O	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	X	X	X	X
<i>Pupilla muscorum</i> (Linnaeus)	O	X	-	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	X	X	X	X
<i>Vallonia costata</i> (Müller)	O	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<i>Vallonia excentrica</i> Sterki	O	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<i>Vallonia</i> spp.	O	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<i>Acanthinula aculeata</i> (Müller)	S	X	-	-	X	X	-	X	X	-	X	-	-	X	X	X	-	-
<i>Ena montana</i> (Draparnaud)	S	X	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	X	-	-	-
<i>Merdigera obscura</i> (Müller)	S	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	X	-	-	-
<i>Punctum pygmaeum</i> (Draparnaud)	I	-	-	-	X	X	-	-	-	-	X	-	X	X	X	X	-	X
<i>Discus rotundatus</i> (Müller)	S	X	X	-	X	X	X	-	-	X	X	X	-	X	X	X	X	X
<i>Vitrina pellucida</i> (Müller)	I	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	X	X	-	-	X	X	-	-	-
<i>Vitrea</i> sp.	S	X	-	-	X	-	X	X	X	-	X	-	-	X	X	-	-	-

<i>Aegopinella pura</i> (Alder)	S	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	X	-	-	-
<i>Aegopinella nitidula</i> (Draparnaud)	S	X	X	-	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	-	-
<i>Oxychilus cellarius</i> (Müller)	S	X	X	-	X	X	-	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	-	X
<i>Zonitoides nitidus</i> (Müller)	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Deroceras/Limax</i>	I	X	-	-	X	X	X	X	-	-	X	-	-	X	X	X	-	X
<i>Cecilioides acicula</i> (Müller)	B	X	X	-	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	X	X	X
<i>Cochlodina laminata</i> (Montagu)	S	X	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	X	-	-
<i>Clausilia bidentata</i> (Ström)	S	X	-	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	X	X	X	X
<i>Balea perversa</i> (Linnaeus)	S	X	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-
<i>Helicella itala</i> (Linnaeus)	O	X	-	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	-	-	X	X	X	X	X
<i>Trochulus hispidus</i> (Linnaeus)	I	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<i>Helicigona lapicida</i> (Linnaeus)	S	X	X	-	X	-	-	-	X	-	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Cepaea/Arianta sp.</i>	I	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
AQUATIC SNAILS																		
<i>Galba truncatula</i> (Müller)	A	-	-	X	-	-	X	-	-	X	-	-	X	X	X	X	-	-
<i>Radix balthica</i> (Linnaeus)	IA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	X	-	-	-
<i>Pisidium spp.</i>	IA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-
Total Moll-t		*****	**	****	*****	*****	*****	*****	****	*****	*****	**	***	*****	*****	*****	****	****
Total Moll-a		-	-	*	-	-	*	-	-	*	-	-	**	*	***	*	-	-

Key: X = present, * = 1-4, ** = 5-19, *** = 20-49, **** = 50-99, ***** = 100+, O = open country species, I = intermediate species, S = shade-loving species, M = marsh species, B = burrowing species,

A = amphibious species, IA = intermediate aquatic species,

Table 6: Molluscan remains from undated samples

Area	I																					
Period	Undated																					
Feature Type	Pit group Q																					
Feature	7313			7330							7316			7353	7049	7100		7371		7395		
Context	7314	7315	7331	7332	7333	7334	7335	7336	7337	7338	7317	7318	7318	7354	7050	7101	7102	7372	7374	7396	7397	
Sample	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	7	11	12	36	37	42	43	
Processed vol (L)	9	4	3	3	4	5	5	5	4	3	20	40	25	23	15	20	28	12	10	4	5	
LAND SNAILS	Habitat																					
<i>Pomatias elegans</i> (Müller)	I	-	X	-	X	-	-	X	-	X	-	X	-	-	-	X	-	X	X	X	-	-
<i>Carychium tridentatum</i> (Risso)	S	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	X	X	X	-	-	X	-	
<i>Carychium</i> spp.	S	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	X	X	X	X	-	-	-	-	
<i>Succinea/Oxyloma</i> spp.	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	
<i>Cochlicopa lubrica</i> (Müller)	I	-	X	-	X	-	X	-	-	-	X	X	-	X	X	-	X	-	X	-	-	
<i>Cochlicopa</i> spp.	I	-	X	-	X	-	-	X	X	-	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	X	-	-	
<i>Vertigo cf. pusilla</i> Müller	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	
<i>Vertigo pygmaea</i> (Draparnaud)	O	-	-	-	X	-	-	X	-	X	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	X	-	-	
<i>Vertigo</i> spp.	O	-	X	-	X	-	-	X	-	X	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	X	-	-	
<i>Pupilla muscorum</i> (Linnaeus)	O	X	-	-	X	-	X	-	X	-	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	-	-	
<i>Vallonia costata</i> (Müller)	O	X	X	-	X	X	X	X	-	-	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	
<i>Vallonia excentrica</i> Sterki	O	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	X	-	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
<i>Vallonia</i> spp.	O	X	X	-	X	-	X	X	X	-	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
<i>Acanthinula aculeata</i> (Müller)	S	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	X	-	X	-	-	-	
<i>Merdigera obscura</i> (Müller)	S	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	
<i>Punctum pygmaeum</i> (Draparnaud)	I	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
<i>Discus rotundatus</i> (Müller)	S	X	X	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
<i>Vitrea</i> sp.	S	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	X	-	X	-	-	
<i>Aegopinella pura</i> (Alder)	S	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	X	-	X	-	-	-	-	
<i>Aegopinella nitidula</i> (Draparnaud)	S	-	X	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	X	X	-	X	X	X	X	X	-	-	-	
<i>Oxychilus cellarius</i> (Müller)	S	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	X	-	-	X	-	X	X	X	X	-	
<i>Deroceras/Limax</i>	I	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	X	-	-	
<i>Cecilioides acicula</i> (Müller)	B	-	-	-	X	-	X	-	-	-	X	X	-	X	X	-	X	X	X	X	X	
<i>Cochlodina laminata</i> (Montagu)	S	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	X	-	X	-	-	-	-	

<i>Clausilia bidentata</i> (Ström)	S	-	X	-	X	-	-	X	-	-	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	-
<i>Balea perversa</i> (Linnaeus)	S	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Helicella itala</i> (Linnaeus)	O	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	X	X	X	-	-	X	-	X	-	-
<i>Trochulus hispidus</i> (Linnaeus)	I	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<i>Helicigona lapicida</i> (Linnaeus)	S	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	X	X	-	-	-	-
<i>Cepaea/Arianta sp.</i>	I	-	X	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	-	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
AQUATIC SNAILS																						
<i>Galba truncatula</i> (Müller)	A	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	X	X	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-
<i>Anisus leucostoma</i> (Millet)	A	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-
Total Moll-t		**	***	**	***	**	**	**	**	**	**	*****	*****	****	*****	*****	***	*****	****	***	**	***
Total Moll-a		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	*	-	-	-	*	-	*	-	-

Key: X = present, * = 1-4, ** = 5-19, *** = 20-49, **** = 50-99, ***** = 100+, O = open country species, I = intermediate species, S = shade-loving species, M = marsh species, B = burrowing species, A = amphibious species

APPENDIX N: WOOD CHARCOAL

By Dana Challinor

Introduction

Charcoal from 18 samples from Areas H and I at Bidwell West were assessed, but upon examination, several produced too little identifiable material to merit full quantification. The results have, however, been discussed in this report, with the full results retained in the archive. Assemblages from four prehistoric pits and a ditch from Period 1.2 and Period 2 were fully analysed, along with a Period 4 (medieval) pit. Additionally, a number of rich samples from currently undated pits (mostly associated with Pit Group Q) were also analysed. Whilst it represents a relatively small dataset, the charcoal offers an insight into fuel use in different periods/features, which is useful in comparison to other recently excavated sites at Houghton Regis.

Methodology

Charcoal >2mm in transverse section was considered for identification, though preference was given to larger >4mm fragments which could be assessed for maturity. Where available, 50 fragments per feature (in some cases across multiple samples) were randomly selected for identification. 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 (Gale and Cutler 2000, Hather 2000, Schweingruber 1990) and modern reference material. Heartwood was identified by the presence of multiple tyloses across more than one growth ring and sapwood was identified by the absence of tyloses. In the absence of pith and/or bark, roundwood was attributed to fragments which exhibited strong or moderate ring curvature. Additional observations on features relating to pre- and post-burning conditions (e.g. vitrification, vivianite or iron staining, presence of insect tunnels and fungal hyphae) were also recorded. Classification and nomenclature follow Stace 2019.

Results

Results are presented in Table 1 (Periods 1–4: Prehistoric to medieval) and Table 2 (Undated). Assemblages of charcoal were moderate or abundant, but levels of identifiable material were hampered by small fragment sizes, often highly comminuted. Condition was fair to good, but

with frequent and significantly high levels of vitrification, which hampered anatomical visibility. Nonetheless, the presence of at least 12 taxa was positively identified:

ROSACEAE: *Prunus* spp., blackthorn/cherry, including some *P. spinosa* (blackthorn)

Maloideae, hawthorn group: comprising *Pyrus* (pear), *Malus* (apple), *Sorbus* (rowan/service/whitebeams), *Crataegus*, (hawthorn)

RHAMNACEAE: *Rhamnus cathartica*, purging buckthorn

ULMACEAE: *Ulmus* sp., elm

FAGACEAE: *Fagus sylvatica*, beech

Quercus sp., oak

BETULACEAE: *Alnus glutinosa*, alder

SALICACEAE: *Populus/Salix*, poplar or willow

SAPINDACEAE: *Acer campestre*, field maple

CORNACEAE: cf. *Cornus* sp., dogwood

OLEACEAE: *Fraxinus excelsior*, ash

ADOXACEAE: *Sambucus nigra*, elder

Roundwood fragments were frequent, though generally moderate in curvature and lacking preservation of pith or bark, although some detached bark fragments were noted in two pits. Determination of maturity in ring porous taxa was hampered by condition and comminution, but some oak heartwood and burrwood was recorded in undated pits 7316 and ash heartwood in Period 2 (Late Prehistoric) ditch 7059.

Discussion

Prehistoric (Period 1.1-2)

The charcoal assemblage from the earliest phase (1.1, Bronze Age) consisted solely of oak charcoal, much of which derived from mature heartwood and burrwood. The charcoal assemblage from pit 7106 consistent with those found in cremation-related deposits – or, at

least, with other event-specific functions. The assemblage was the same as that in the majority of the undated pits (below).

The prehistoric phase (1.2) was characterised by scrub/hedgerow taxa (blackthorn, Maloideae group, buckthorn), with a little oak heartwood. The later prehistoric samples produced some evidence for the same scrub/hedgerow taxa, but also included more oak, field maple and ash. Ash was particularly prevalent in ditch 7059 (Period 2). The types of wood used for fuel in domestic type contexts (associated with food preparation, cooking or heating) is fairly typical for the prehistoric period generally, and specifically has been recorded at other sites in Houghton Regis. Nine assemblages from Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pits and postholes from Sites HRN3205 (Challinor 2019), HRN3486 (Challinor 2021) and HRN3454 (Challinor 2022); and four early-Middle Iron Age pits at Thorn Turn (Challinor 2020) produced charcoal assemblages with similar charcoal signatures, characterised by open ground, light-demanding and hedgerow/scrub species (ash, blackthorn, purging buckthorn, elder and Maloideae type), along with oak, hazel and field maple. The use of purging buckthorn (which is a thorny shrub growing in marginal woodland and open areas on calcareous soils) is uncommon in general prehistoric sites, and the shrub is generally unfavoured for fuel use, but it occurs regularly in Houghton Regis assemblages (Challinor 2021) and was clearly utilised by prehistoric inhabitants.

Table 1: Charcoal results from Prehistoric and Medieval features (showing fragment counts)

	Period	1.1	1.2	2			4
	Area	I	I	H	H	I	I
	Feature Type	Pit	Pit	Pit	Pit	Ditch	Pit
	Feature	7106	7233	6066	6085	7059	7114
	Context	7107	7235	6068	6086	7056	7116
	Sample	13	17	1	2	10	14
<i>Prunus spinosa</i> L.	blackthorn		6	8 (r)			
<i>Prunus</i> sp.	blackthorn/cherry		3 (r)		2r		3r
Maloideae	hawthorn group		18 (r)		14 (r)		
<i>Rhamnus cathartica</i> L.	buckthorn		12 (r)		10 (r)		
<i>Fagus sylvatica</i> L.	beech						21 (r)
<i>Quercus</i> sp.	oak	48 (bhs)	3 (h)	21			
<i>Alnus glutinosa</i> Gaertn.	alder			1			
<i>Alnus/Corylus</i>	alder/hazel						1
<i>Populus/Salix</i>	poplar/willow						3
<i>Acer campestre</i> L.	field maple				6		
<i>Cornus sanguinea</i> L.	dogwood						(1r)

<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> L.	ash				13 (sr)	50 (hsr)	
<i>Sambucus nigra</i> L.	elder				4		
Bark				+			
Indeterminate		2	8		1		1

r=roundwood; h=heartwood; s=sapwood; +=rare; brackets=cf. identification or presence in some frags only

Medieval (Phase 4)

Although there was only a single charcoal sample dating to this period, it was immediately recognisable as medieval by the presence of a significant quantity of beech. None of the other features examined from this site, including the undated pits, contained beech charcoal. Beech was not commonly used for fuel until the Anglo-Saxon or medieval period and its increasing use is evident in the dataset from Bidwell West TWSM, where the taxon was present in 100% of 12th to 14th century AD samples (N=12), representing 70% of all fragments examined (N=442) (Challinor forthcoming). The presence of a range of other wetland or hedgerow/scrub type taxa is also typical for the period.

Undated pits

With the exception of pit 7395, which produced a mixed assemblage consistent with those examined from the prehistoric period, the undated pits (including three additional pits which were not fully quantified), consisted solely of oak charcoal, much of which derived from mature heartwood and burrwood. These features were originally interpreted as cremation burials and, while that was discounted in post-excavation, it is interesting to note that the charcoal assemblages are consistent with those found in cremation-related deposits – or, at least, with other event-specific functions. Certainly, the assemblages from these pits contrast with those typical of domestic debris recorded at this site, and elsewhere at Houghton Regis.

Table 2: Charcoal results from undated pits (showing fragment counts)

	Period	Undated				
		I				
Area	Feature Type	Pits				
		7049	7316		7395	
Feature	Context	7050	7317	7318	7396	7397
Sample		7	32	33	42	43
<i>Prunus spinosa</i> L.	blackthorn					2
<i>Prunus</i> sp.	blackthorn/cherry					3 (r)
Maloideae	hawthorn group				4	6 (r)
<i>Ulmus</i> sp.	elm				9	6
<i>Quercus</i> sp.	oak	29	20 (hs)	30 (bhs)	2	6 (h)
<i>Acer campestre</i> L.	field maple				6 (r)	
<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> L.	ash				1	

Bark					+	
Indeterminate		1			3	2

R=roundwood; h=heartwood; s=sapwood; b=burrwood; +=rare; brackets=present in some frags only

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APPENDIX O: RADIOCARBON DATING

SUERC, summarised by Emma Aitken

Radiocarbon dating was undertaken in order to confirm the date of pit 7106. The sample was analysed during February 2023 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 v4.4.2 (Bronk Ramsey 2009, Bronk Ramsey 2020) using the IntCal20 curve (Reimer *et al.* 2020).

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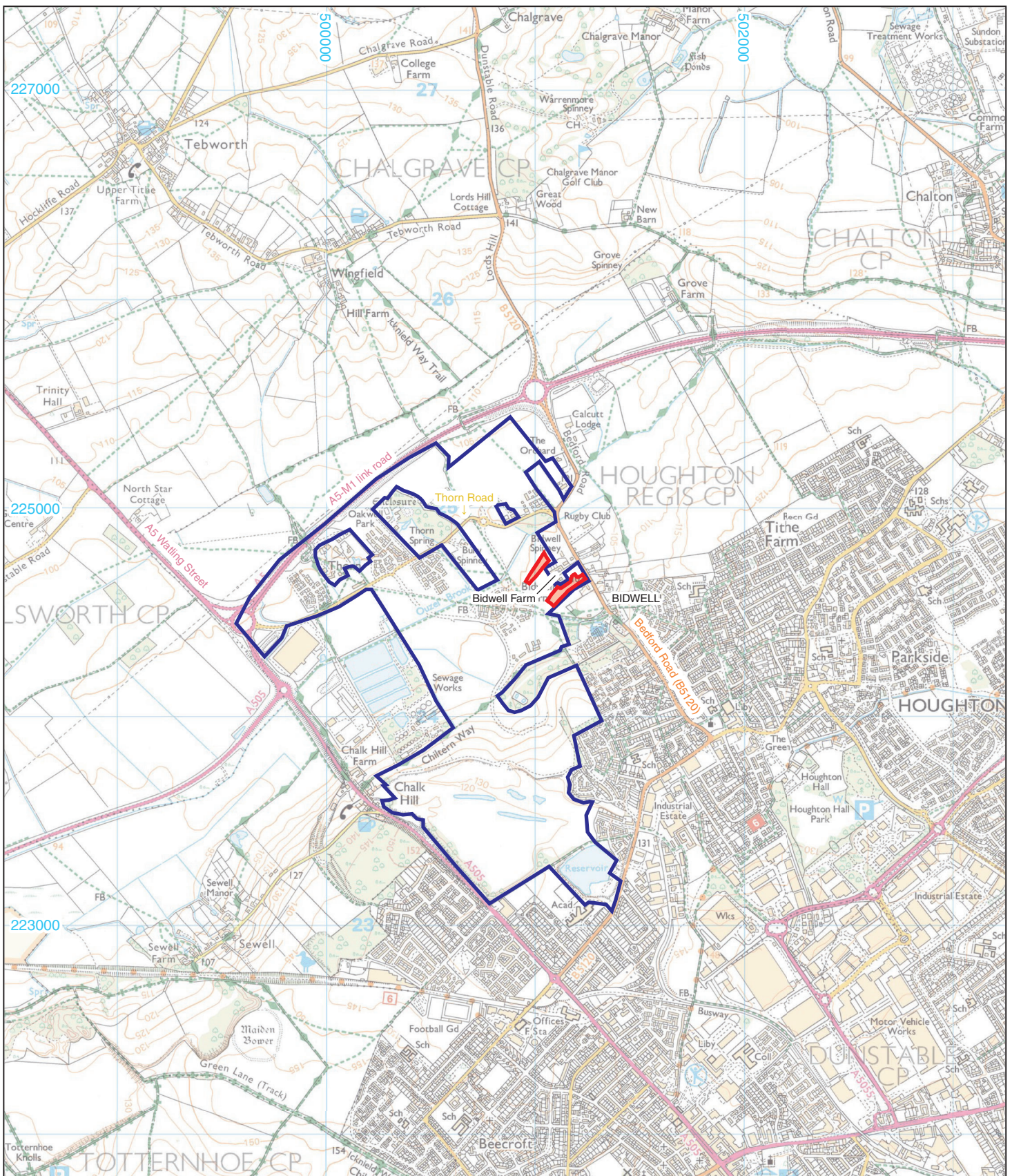
Table 1: Radiocarbon dating results

Feature	Lab No.	Material	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$	Radiocarbon age	Calibrated radiocarbon age 95.4% probability	Calibrated radiocarbon age 68.3% probability
Context 7107 Pit 7106	SUERC- 108524	Charcoal: Oak (<i>Quercus</i>) sapwood fragment	-25.4‰	3488 ± 24 yr BP	1887–1742 cal. BC (95.4%)	1879–1862 cal. BC (11.6%) 1856–1840 cal. BC (11.0%) 1826–1766 cal. BC (41.4%) 1759–1751 cal. BC (4.3%)

APPENDIX P: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS	
Project name	Land at Bidwell West, Houghton Regis, Central Bedfordshire, Plots H & I
Short description	<p>Between July and September 2021, Cotswold Archaeology carried out an archaeological excavation at Land at Bidwell West, Houghton Regis, Central Bedfordshire, Plots H & I, on behalf of Taylor Wimpey South Midlands. At the request of the Central Bedfordshire Council Archaeological Advisor, and in relation to conditions forming part of outline 'hybrid' planning permission, two excavation areas (H and I) of 0.84ha and 1.27ha respectively were excavated within the site.</p> <p>Multi-period activity spanning the Early Bronze Age to Post-medieval periods was identified across both areas. Several dispersed discrete features of early Prehistoric date included a pit radiocarbon dated to the Early Bronze Age. Several undated pits in the vicinity with similar assemblages could possibly be associated. The main period of occupation was Late prehistoric and comprised several boundary or enclosure ditches and features that probably represented peripheral settlement activity. A small number of Roman pits indicate the site was probably located some distance from any associated settlement during this period. Medieval boundary ditches and ridge and furrow cultivation shared an alignment with Bedford Road, adjacent to the medieval Bidwell village. Post-medieval remains were limited to a small number of field boundary ditches.</p> <p>Early Prehistoric artefactual material comprised residual Mesolithic and Neolithic worked flints and sherds of an Early Bronze Age Collared Urn and Middle Bronze Age barrel-shaped vessel of the Deverel-Rimbury tradition. Late Prehistoric pottery included Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age material. A relative absence of Middle to Late Iron Age pottery suggests a hiatus prior to the Roman occupation of the site, which, as the pottery assemblage indicates, probably spanned the 1st - 4th centuries. Medieval pottery was almost entirely 11th - 14th century in date. Other medieval finds suggest a degree of horse traffic and textile related craftwork in the vicinity. Post-medieval structural fixtures and fittings are suggestive of built structures within the wider area during this period.</p>
Project dates	July–September 2021
Project type	Excavation
Previous work	Desk-based assessment (CA 2014) Geophysical survey (Pre-Construct Geophysics 2014) Field evaluation (CA 2014)
Future work	Unknown
PROJECT LOCATION	
Site location	Land north of Thorn Road, Bidwell, Houghton Regis, Central Bedfordshire
Study area (m ² /ha)	2.75ha
Site co-ordinates	501173 224704
PROJECT CREATORS	
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology
Project brief originator	N/A
Project design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology
Project Manager	Adrian Scruby
Project Supervisor	James Coyne
MONUMENT TYPE	
	Pit – Early Bronze Age Pits – Late Prehistoric Ditches – Late Prehistoric Pits – Roman Boundary ditches – medieval

SIGNIFICANT FINDS	Ceramics – prehistoric, Roman, medieval Animal bone, metalwork, lithics	
PROJECT ARCHIVES	Intended final location of archive	Content
Physical	Culture Trust Luton LUTNM 2019/55	Pottery, metalwork, lithics, stone, slag, plant macrofossils and molluscs, wood charcoal
Paper	Culture Trust Luton LUTNM 2019/55	Context sheets, section drawings
Digital	Archaeology Data Service	Database, digital photos, digital survey
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
Cotswold Archaeology 2023 <i>Land at Bidwell West, Houghton Regis, Central Bedfordshire Plots H & I: Archaeological Excavation CA typescript report MK0292_2</i>		



- Site boundary
- Bidwell development area

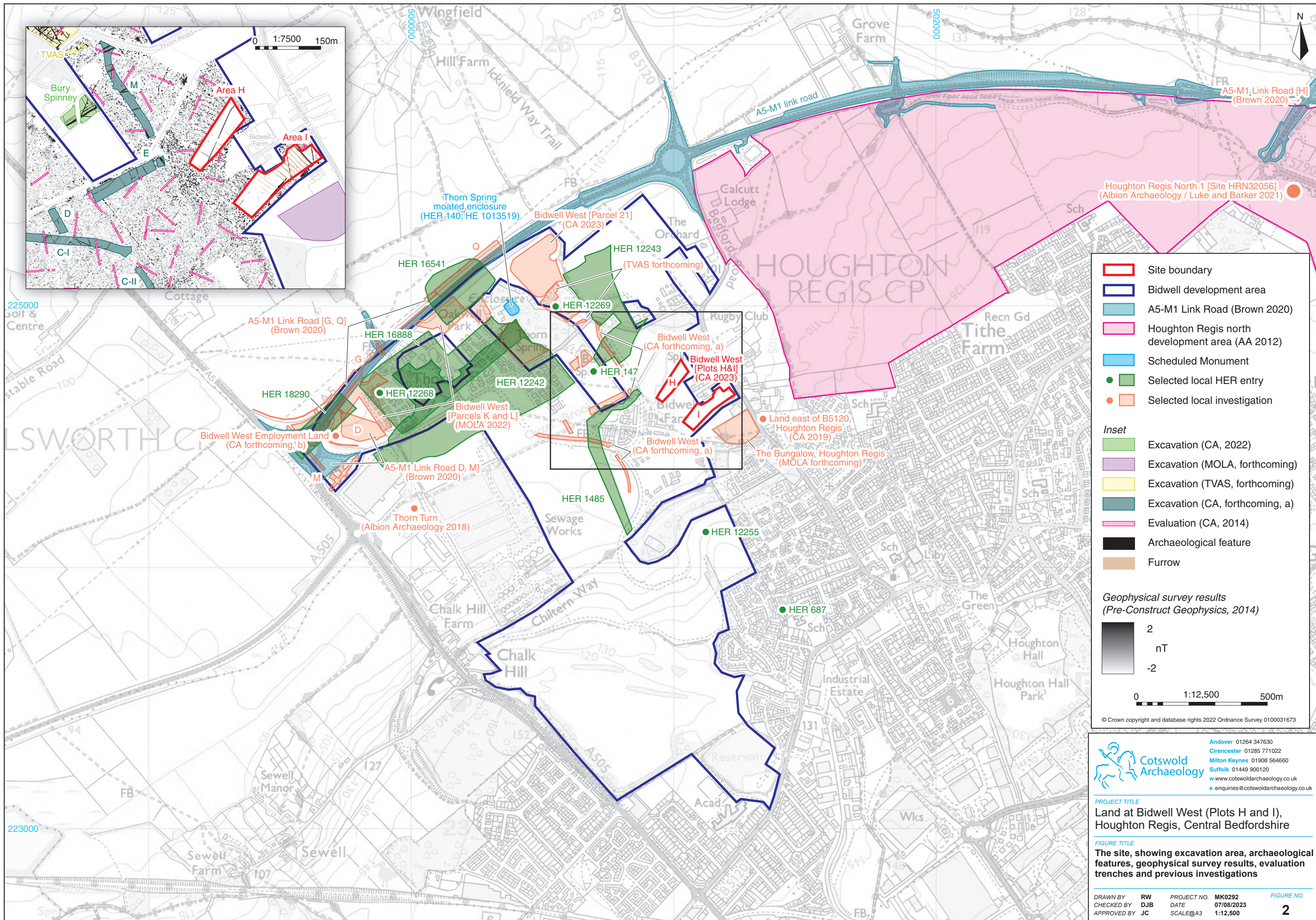


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PROJECT TITLE
 Land at Bidwell West (Plots H and I),
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FIGURE TITLE
 Site location plan

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CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	05/05/2022	1
APPROVED BY	JC	SCALE@A4	1:25,000	

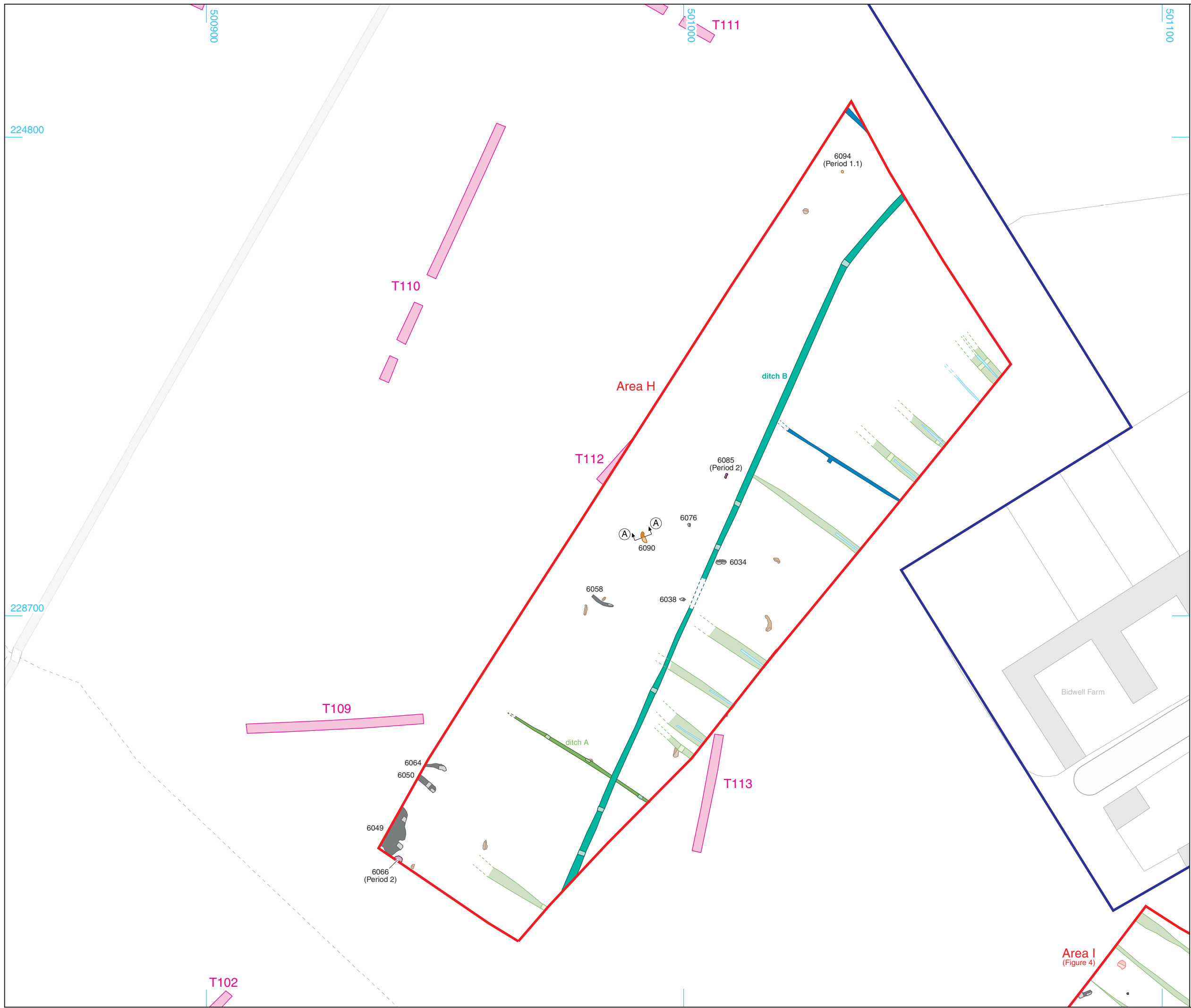


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PROJECT TITLE
 Land at Bidwell West (Plots H and I), Houghton Regis, Central Bedfordshire

FIGURE TITLE
 The site, showing excavation area, archaeological features, geophysical survey results, evaluation trenches and previous investigations

DRAWN BY RW **PROJECT NO.** MK0292 **FIGURE NO.**
CHECKED BY DJB **DATE** 07/08/2023 **2**
APPROVED BY JC **SCALE@A3** 1:12,500



- Site boundary
- Bidwell development area
- Previous evaluation trench (CA 2014)
- Period 1.1: Bronze Age (excavated / unexcavated)
- Period 1.2: prehistoric (Area I only)
- Period 2: Late prehistoric
- Period 4: medieval
- Period 5: post-medieval
- Modern
- Undated
- Furrow
- Drain
- Tree-throw
- Projected feature
- A Section location



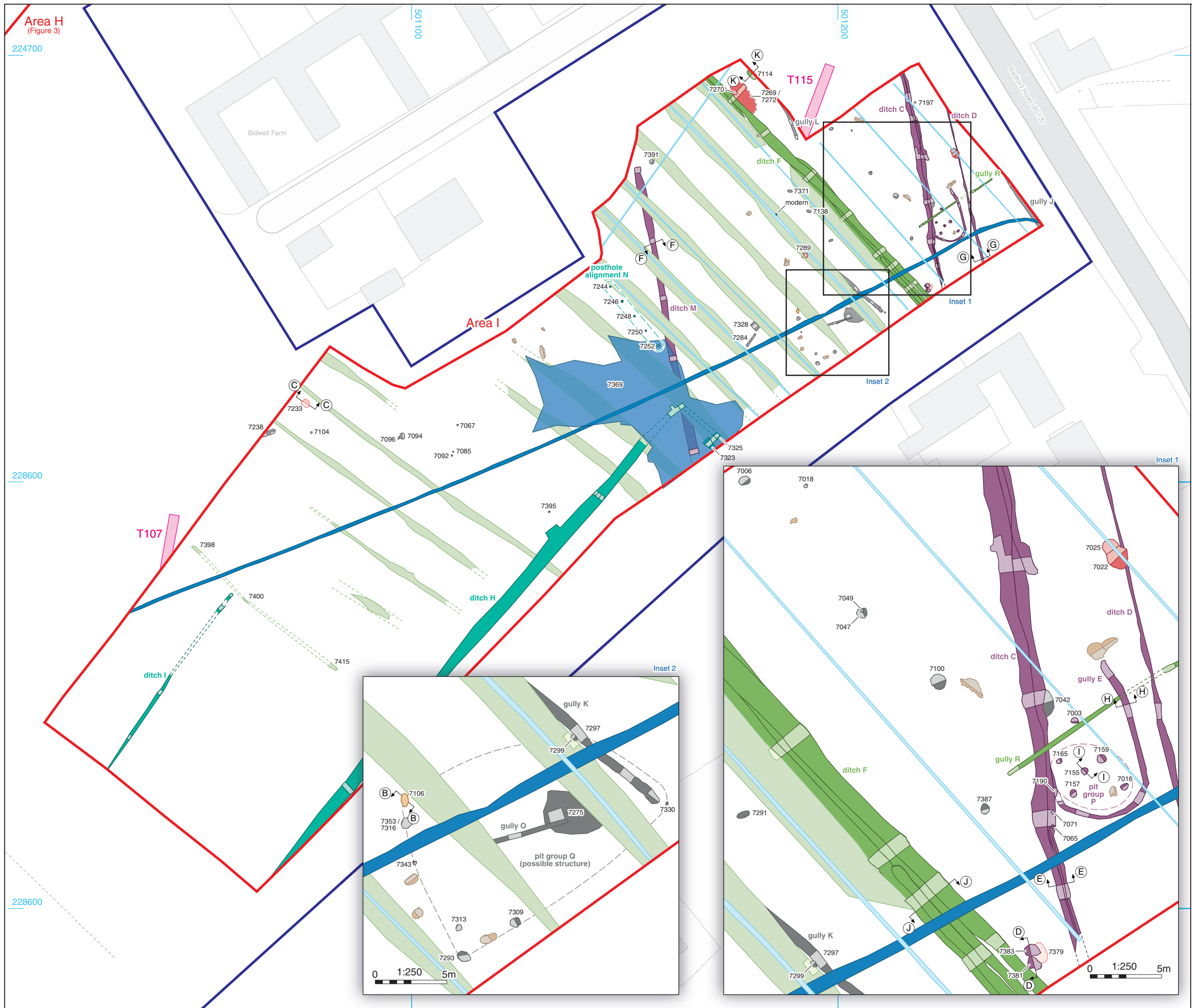
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PROJECT TITLE
 Land at Bidwell West (Plots H and I),
 Houghton Regis, Central Bedfordshire

FIGURE TITLE
 Overall plan depicting Plot H and
 archaeological features

<small>DRAWN BY</small> LZS, RW	<small>PROJECT NO.</small> MK0292	<small>FIGURE NO.</small> 3
<small>CHECKED BY</small> DJB	<small>DATE</small> 24/04/2023	
<small>APPROVED BY</small> JC	<small>SCALE@A3</small> 1:750	



- Site boundary
- Bidwell development area
- Previous evaluation trench (CA 2014)
- Period 1.1: Bronze Age (excavated / unexcavated)
- Period 1.2: prehistoric
- Period 2: Late prehistoric
- Period 3: Roman
- Period 4: medieval
- Period 5: post-medieval
- Modern
- Undated
- Furrow
- Drain
- Tree-throw
- Projected feature
- Section location



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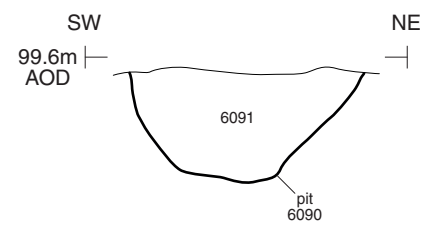
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PROJECT TITLE
 Land at Bidwell West (Plots H and I),
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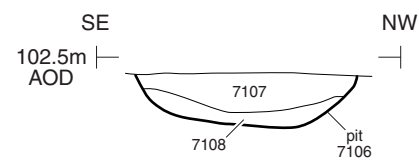
FIGURE TITLE
 Overall plan depicting Area I and
 archaeological features

DRAWN BY LZS, RW PROJECT NO. MK0292 FIGURE NO.
 CHECKED BY DJB DATE 24/04/2023 4
 APPROVED BY MH SCALE@A3 1:750, 1:250

Section AA



Section BB



Pit 6090, looking north-west (0.5m and 1m scales)



Pit 7106, looking south-west (0.5m scale)

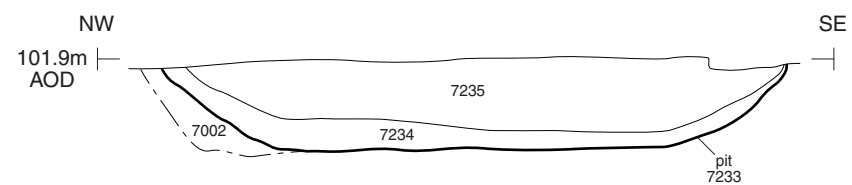

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PROJECT TITLE
**Land at Bidwell West (Plots H and I),
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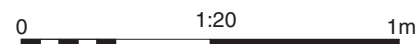
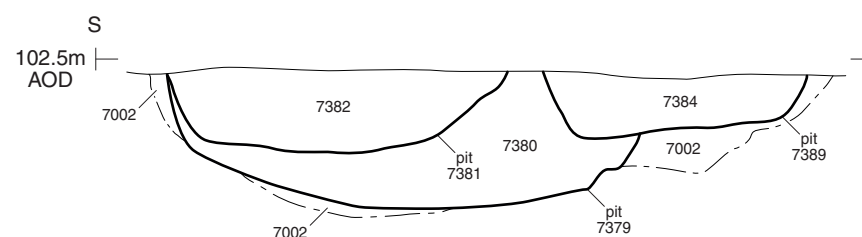
FIGURE TITLE
Period 1.1: sections and photographs

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CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	20/02/2023	5
APPROVED BY	MH	SCALE@A3	1:20	

Section CC



Section DD



Pit 7233, looking north-east (0.5m scale)



Period 1.2 pit 7379 and period 2 pits 7381 and 7383, looking west (0.5m scale)

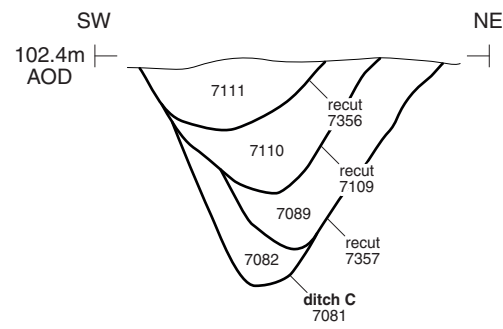

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PROJECT TITLE
 Land at Bidwell West (Plots H and I),
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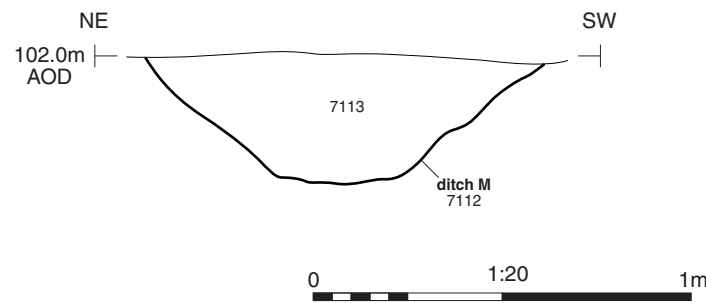
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Period 1.2: sections and photographs

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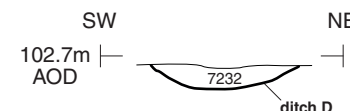
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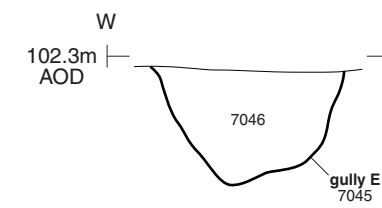
Section FF



Section GG



Section HH



Ditch C (cut 7081) and recuts, looking north (1m scale)



Ditch M (cut 7112), looking south (1m scale)



Ditch D (cut 7231), looking north-west (0.4m scale)



Gully E (cut 7045), looking north (0.5m scale)

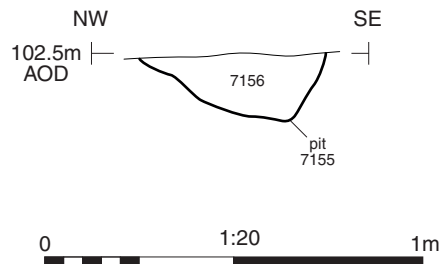

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PROJECT TITLE
 Land at Bidwell West (Plots H and I),
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FIGURE TITLE
 Period 2: sections and photographs

DRAWN BY	RW	PROJECT NO.	MK0292	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	05/05/2022	7
APPROVED BY	MH	SCALE@A3	1:20	

Section II



Pit 7155, looking north-east (0.4m scale)



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PROJECT TITLE

Land at Bidwell West (Plots H and I),
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FIGURE TITLE

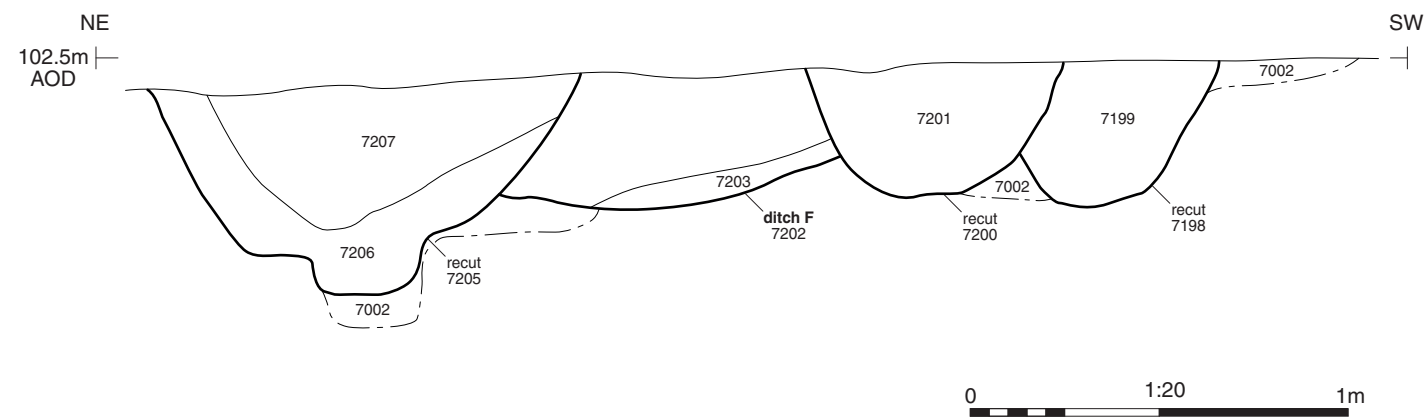
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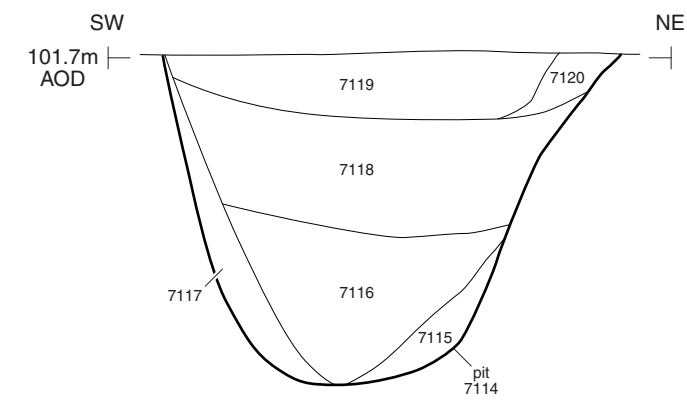
FIGURE NO.

8

Section JJ



Section KK



Period 4 Ditch F (cut 7202) and recuts (7205, 7200 and 7198), looking east (1m scales)



Pit 7114, looking north-west (1m scale)


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PROJECT TITLE
**Land at Bidwell West (Plots H and I),
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FIGURE TITLE
Period 4: sections and photographs

DRAWN BY	RW	PROJECT NO.	MK0292	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	05/05/2022	9
APPROVED BY	MH	SCALE@A3	1:20	



Overview of Area H, showing medieval ditch A and post-medieval ditch B, looking south-east



Overview of Area H, looking south-west



Overview of Area H, looking north-east



Overview of Area H, looking north


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 Land at Bidwell West (Plots H and I),
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FIGURE TITLE
 Area H: photographs

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CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	22/06/2023	10
APPROVED BY	GG	SCALE@A3	NA	



Overview of Area I with posthole 7014 in foreground, looking south-east



Overview of Area I, looking south-west



Overview of Area I, looking south-east



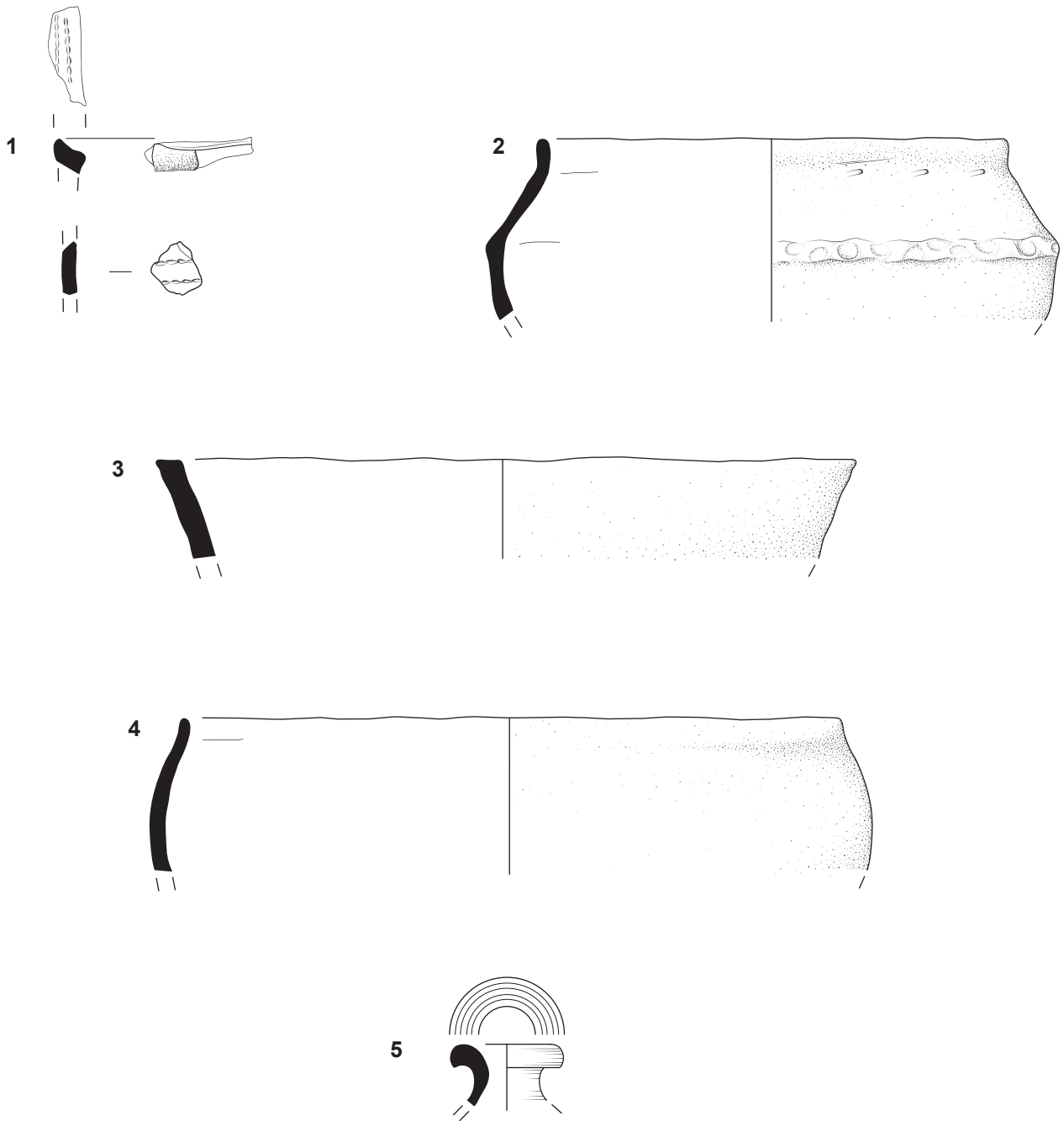
Overview of Area I, showing post-medieval ditches I and H, looking north-east


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PROJECT TITLE
 Land at Bidwell West (Plots H and I),
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FIGURE TITLE
Area I: photographs

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CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	22/06/2023	11
APPROVED BY	GG	SCALE	@A3 NA	



0 1:3 150mm



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PROJECT TITLE

Land at Bidwell West (Plots H and I),
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FIGURE TITLE

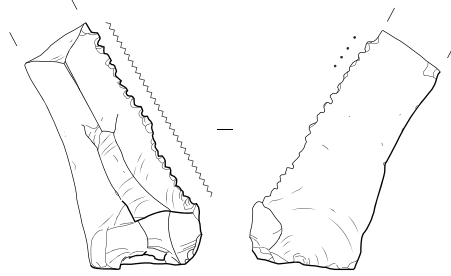
**Early Prehistoric, Late Prehistoric and
 Roman pottery**

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APPROVED BY	DS	SCALE@A4	1:3	

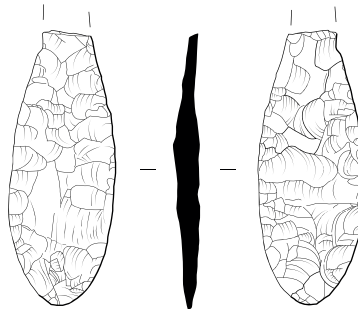
1



2



3



4



0 1:1 50mm



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PROJECT TITLE

Land at Bidwell West (Plots H and I),
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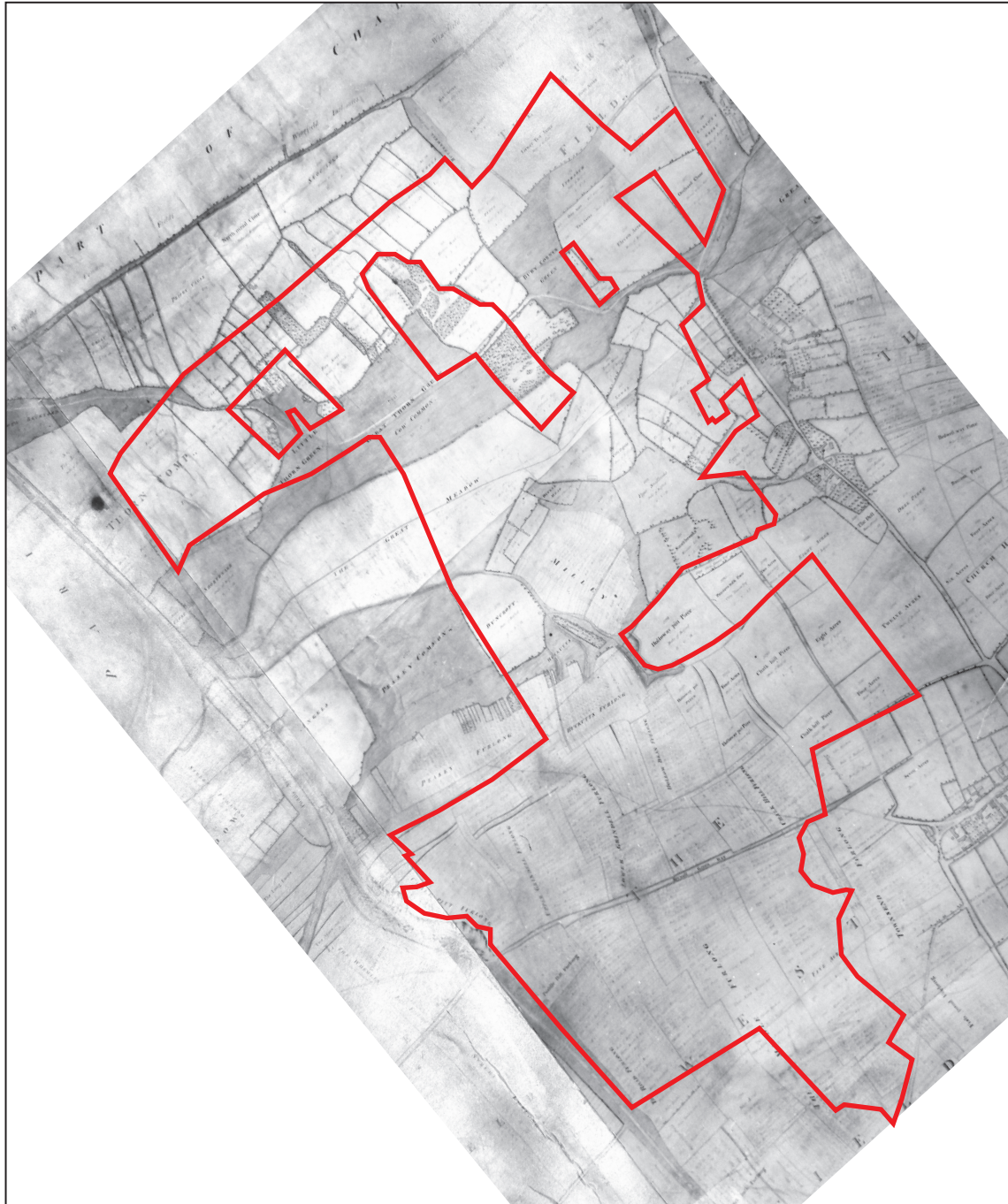
FIGURE TITLE

Lithics


DRAWN BY LZS PROJECT NO. MK0292
 CHECKED BY DJB DATE 16/01/2023
 APPROVED BY DS SCALE@A4 1:1

FIGURE NO.

13



Extract from the 1766 Parish Map of Houghton Regis belonging to the Duke of Bedford (Bidwell development area rectified to fit mapping)

 (Rectified) Bidwell development area boundary



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Land at Bidwell West (Plots H and I),
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FIGURE TITLE

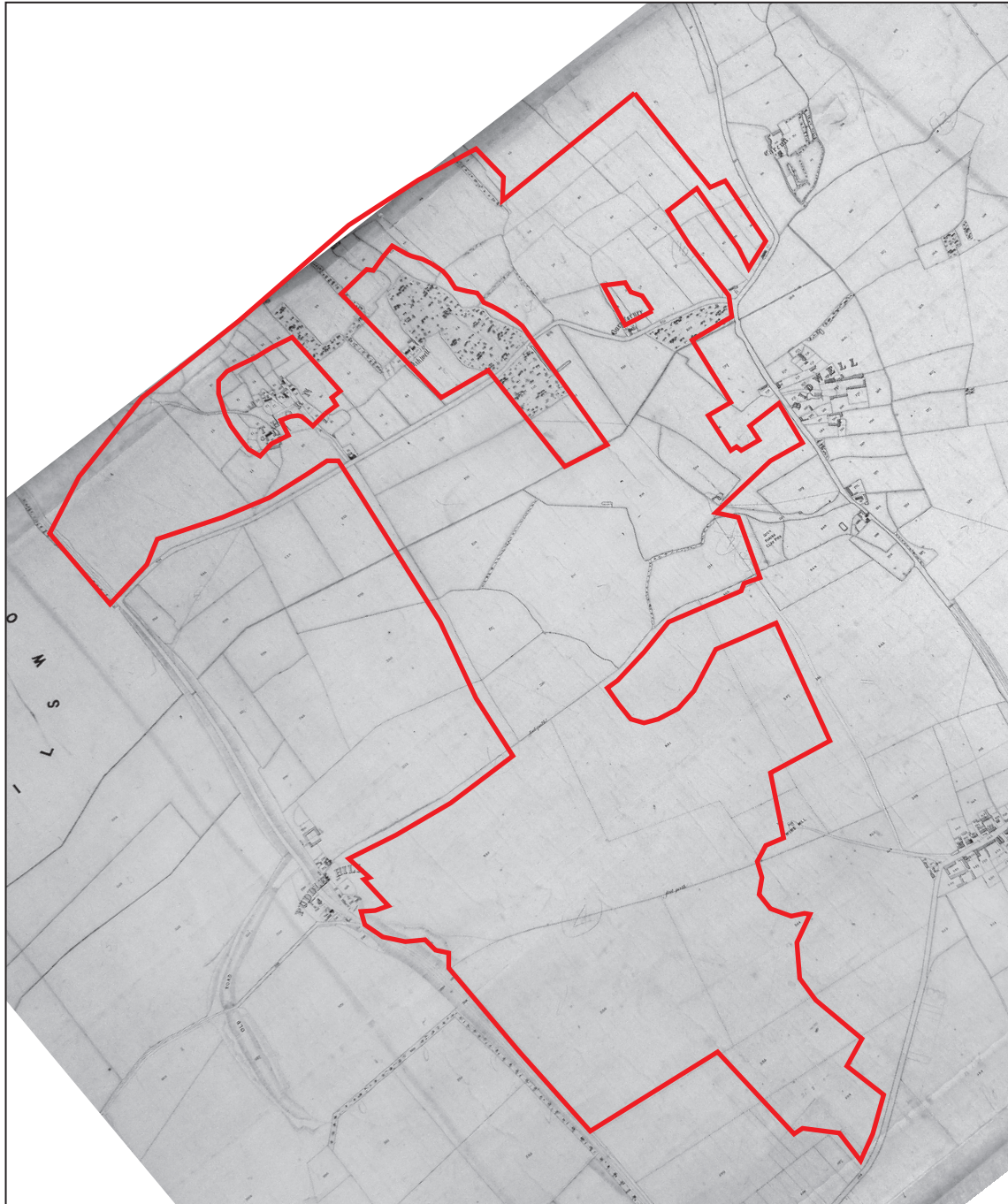
**Bidwell development area shown on
 1766 Parish Map**

0 1:15,000 500m


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 CHECKED BY JC DATE 24/04/2023
 APPROVED BY JC SCALE@A4 1:15,000

FIGURE NO.

14



Extract from the 1848 Parish Map of Houghton Regis (Bidwell development area rectified to fit mapping)

 (Rectified) Bidwell development area boundary



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PROJECT TITLE

Land at Bidwell West (Plots H and I),
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FIGURE TITLE

**Bidwell development area shown on
 1848 Parish Map**

0 1:15,000 500m


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 CHECKED BY JC DATE 24/04/2023
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FIGURE NO.

15



Aerial photograph from 1946 (Bidwell development area rectified to fit aerial photograph)

 (Rectified) Bidwell development area boundary



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PROJECT TITLE

Land at Bidwell West (Plots H and I),
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FIGURE TITLE

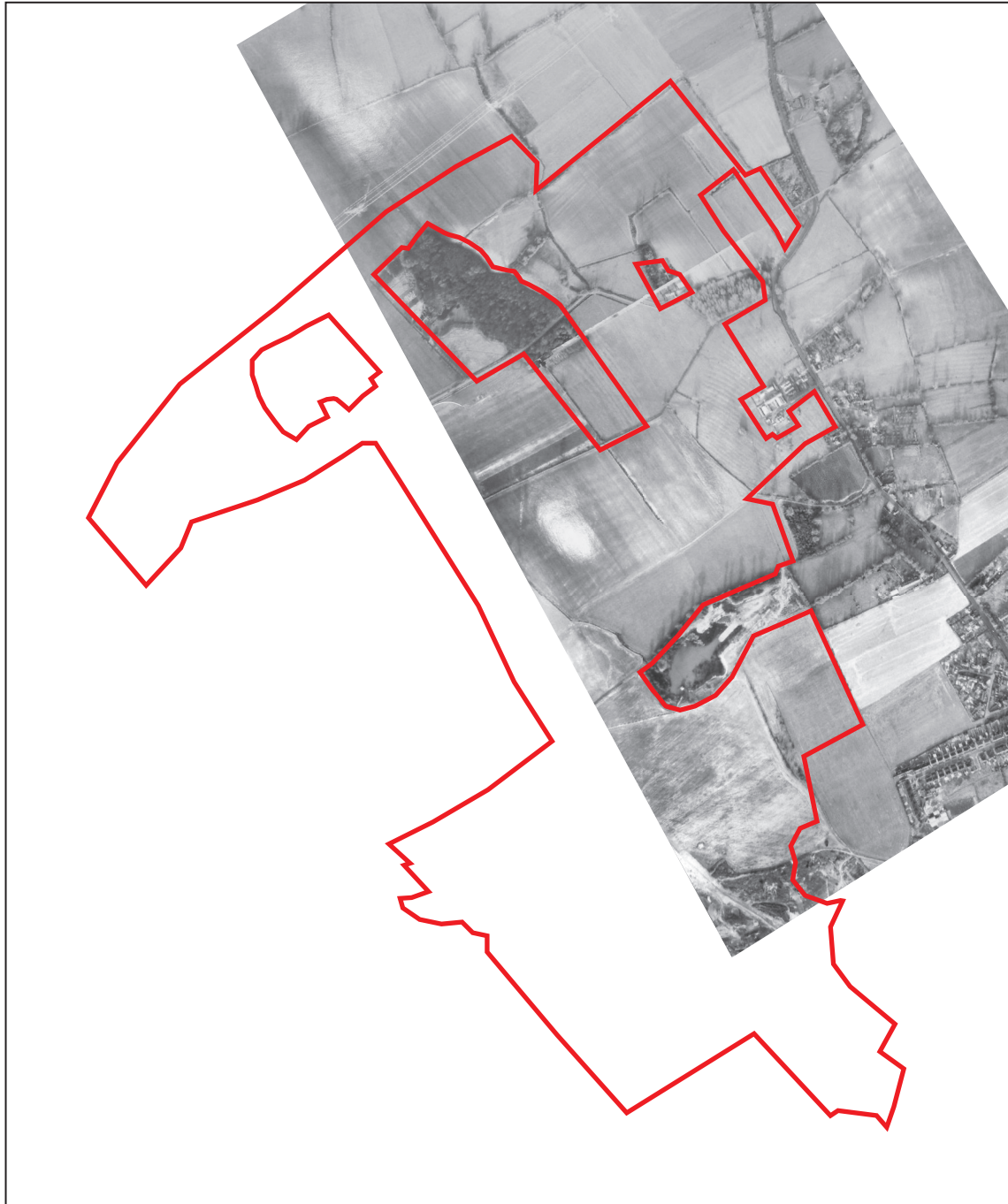
**Bidwell development area shown on
 1946 aerial photograph**

0 1:15,000 500m


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CHECKED BY	JC	DATE	24/04/2023
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FIGURE NO.

16



Aerial photograph from 1966 (aerial photograph geo-rectified)

 Bidwell development area boundary



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PROJECT TITLE

Land at Bidwell West (Plots H and I),
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FIGURE TITLE

**Bidwell development area shown on
 1966 aerial photograph**

0 1:15,000 500m

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FIGURE NO.

17

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