

The Addenbrookes MSCP Site, Cambridge

An Archaeological Excavation



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Summary

An archaeological excavation was undertaken by Cambridge Archaeological Unit (CAU) in advance of the construction of a Multi Storey Car Park (MSCP) at Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge. The archaeological evidence was dominated by ditches, which composed elements of multiple phases of field system potentially dating from as early as the Middle Bronze Age. A small number of pits recorded in the west of the site are probably associated with the Late Iron Age/Conquest period settlement formerly excavated at the Boulevard Site.

INTRODUCTION

An archaeological excavation was undertaken by Cambridge Archaeological Unit (CAU) in advance of the construction of a Multi Storey Car Park (MSCP) at Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge (centred on TL 46228 54854). The development is part of the Cambridge Biomedical Campus Expansion and lies within an area defined for full archaeological excavation during outline planning application (06/0796/OUT). The excavation area comprised a 1.4ha site situated off Robinson Way to the south-west of the existing hospital, which incorporates the plot of the MSCP itself as well as a soil storage area/works compound to the south and a drainage run to the west (Figure 1). The work was carried out between January and February 2013.

The work followed an archaeological evaluation of the wider Cambridge Biomedical Campus Expansion site (*The 2020 Lands*) carried out by the CAU in 2004 (Evans and Mackay 2005).

The project was commissioned on behalf of Vinci Construction Ltd. Work was carried out in accordance with a project design specification produced by the CAU (Dickens 2012) following discussions with Andy Thomas of Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team.

Landscape setting

The site is located on former agricultural land immediately to the south-west of Addenbrooke's Hospital, c. 4km to the south of the historic centre of Cambridge. It is situated at a height of c. 15m AOD on a geology comprising Lower Chalk (chalk marl with gravel). The area is relatively flat, lying at the foot of South Cambridgeshire's chalk downlands, which rise at White Hill just to the south of the site.

Archaeological background

The area around Addenbrooke's and Cambridge's southern fringe is a rich archaeological landscape, which has been subject to extensive archaeological investigation. Although Addenbrooke's first saw archaeological excavation in the grounds of the hospital in 1967 (Cra'ster 1969), the majority of the work has taken place since the turn of this century ahead of planned hospital expansion and housing developments. The results of all but the most recent of these investigations are outlined and discussed in the CAU's *Borderlands* publication (Evans *et al* 2008) and include major sites at Addenbrooke's itself as well as sites in the wider environs such as Trumpington Meadows. Most pertinent to the Addenbrooke's MSCP site, however, are the archaeological evaluations and subsequent excavations at Clay Farm and particularly *The 2020 Lands*.

Earlier prehistoric

Evidence of pre-Bronze Age activity within the Addenbrooke's landscape is largely limited to residual worked flint recovered from later features, although occasional pits and potentially *in situ* deposits of flint have been recorded (eg. the LMB site; Collins 2009). Yet, while there was clearly an earlier prehistoric 'presence' in the landscape no firm evidence of occupation has been forthcoming. Earlier prehistoric sites are, however, recorded in the wider environs including two Neolithic round barrows and associated burials at Trumpington Meadows (Patten 2012) and Neolithic pits at Trumpington Park and Ride (Hinman 2004), Glebe Farm (Collins 2011) and Clay Farm (Phillips and Mortimer 2011).

Bronze Age

A similar pattern emerges for the Early Bronze Age; a general scarcity of evidence in the Addenbrooke's area and further funerary activity at Trumpington including a Beaker period burial and Collared Urn cremation (Patten 2012). However, during the Middle Bronze Age the Addenbrooke's landscape appears to have been transformed and for the first time permanently settled. Evaluation and subsequent excavations at both Clay Farm (Evans *et al.* 2006; Phillips and Mortimer 2011) and *The 2020 Lands* (Evans and Mackay 2005; Collins 2009) have recorded significant remains dating to this period including an extensive field system - comprising multiple phases - and a number of substantial enclosures. Two enclosures have been recorded within the *The 2020 Lands*; to the north of the MSCP site at the LMB site (Collins 2009), and to the west, where a cropmark site is bisected by the railway line (see Evans *et al.* 2008, Site I). Although initially identified as potentially Roman and Iron Age respectively, both have now been firmly dated to the Middle Bronze Age through radiocarbon dating and their associated assemblages of Deverel-Rimbury pottery. At Clay Farm, immediately to the west, multiple phases of Middle Bronze Age activity have also been recorded. Here an early 'strip' field system developed over time into a complex series of fields and settlement enclosures, which produced significant artefact assemblages (Phillips and Mortimer 2011).

Settlement activity persisted, albeit apparently not on the same scale, into the Late Bronze Age, with numerous Post-Deverel-Rimbury associated features including pits and four-post structures recorded at the Hutchison Site (Evans *et al.* 2008). Features including pits and a roundhouse at the Boulevard Site have also been dated to the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age.

Early - Middle Iron Age

There is a general lack of earlier Iron Age activity recorded within the immediate Addenbrooke's environs although a possible structure was identified at the LMB Site (Collins 2009). Addenbrooke's does, however, lie on the edge of an area of Early and Middle Iron Age settlement spreading from Clay Farm (Phillips and Mortimer 2011) westwards and including a major site at Trumpington Park and Ride/Meadows (Hinman 2004; Patten 2012). At both Clay Farm and Trumpington settlement features including structures and storage pits (of which there were over 700 at Trumpington

Meadows) were recorded with a progression from open settlement in the Early Iron Age to enclosed settlement in the Middle Iron Age; a pattern that is familiar across the region. Slightly further afield, the Iron Age ringforts of War Ditches and Wandlebury lie within 4km of the MSCP site to the east and south-east respectively.

Late Iron Age - Roman

The southern fringe of Cambridge was a densely settled Late Iron Age - Roman landscape, which is discussed at length in the *Borderlands* publication (Evans *et al.* 2008). Major settlement remains, dating to the Later Iron Age, Conquest period and (to a lesser extent) the Roman period, have been excavated at the Hutchison Site (*ibid.*) as well as more recently at Clay Farm where features include two rich Conquest period cremations (Evans *et al.* 2008; Phillips and Mortimer 2011).

Most relevant to the MSCP site, however, are the Late Iron Age/Conquest period and Roman settlement remains recorded during the 2004 evaluation within *The 2020 Lands* (Evans and Mackay 2005). Here, two relatively discrete settlement sites were recorded. Firstly, to the north of the MSCP site, ditches, gullies, pits and postholes appear to represent a settlement dating to between the 1st and 4th centuries AD (predominantly the 2nd-3rd centuries). Secondly, immediately to the south-west (almost bordering the 'drainage run' of the MSCP excavation area) a Late Iron Age/Conquest period settlement was identified and has subsequently been partially excavated at the Boulevard Site (Newman *et al.* 2010). The site comprised a sequence of settlement enclosures with the remains of at least two structures, a number of wells and a midden within a dense zone of settlement features (*ibid.*).

Evidence recovered from across the Addenbrooke's environs suggests that these settlements were relatively well defined with areas of field systems/paddocks between.

Saxon

Limited evidence of Early-Middle Saxon settlement was encountered at the Hutchison Site (Evans *et al.* 2008) and immediately to the west during the excavation of a water main at Long Road College (Timberlake 2007). Also, in the north of *The 2020 Lands* an Early Saxon Sunken Floored Building (SFB) was excavated along with two wells at the LMB Site (Collins 2009). In the south of *The 2020 Lands* and across the Clay Farm landscape, however, little evidence of Saxon activity has been recorded. Indeed, there appears to be something of a 'blank' between Addenbrooke's and the Saxon site at Trumpington Meadows where recorded remains included four SFBs and four burials including a bed burial (Patten 2012).

Medieval to present

For the most part, the medieval and post-medieval history of the Addenbrooke's landscape is unremarkable and the site appears to have been agricultural land throughout. It is important to note, however, that the landscape generally is littered

with features associated with the WWII Defence of Britain; the GHQ line is located just to the west of Addenbrooke's, for example (see Evans *et al.* 2008), while the remains of anti-aircraft searchlight batteries were recorded at Clay Farm (Phillips and Mortimer 2011)). Clay Farm was also the site of the Royal Agricultural Show on a number of occasions during the 20th century while Addenbrooke's Hospital moved to its present site in the early 1960s.

METHODOLOGY

The site was stripped of topsoil and subsoil using a 360° tracked excavator fitted with a toothless bucket operating under the supervision of an experienced archaeologist. Potential archaeological features were then plotted and the site located using an advanced Global Positioning System (GPS) with Ordnance Datum (OD) heights obtained. All potential features were hand excavated and archaeological finds were retained. Environmental bulk soil samples were also taken from selected features. A written record of archaeological features and *in situ* buried deposits was created using the CAU recording system and sections were drawn at an appropriate scale. A photographic record of the site was also maintained.

RESULTS

Apart from at the eastern extent of the site, where a limited area of potential settlement-related activity was recorded abutting the Boulevard Site, the archaeological evidence was dominated by ditches, which composed elements of multiple phases of field system (see Figure 2). Full feature descriptions and details of finds recovered are included in Appendix 1.

Field systems

Although ditches were recorded across the excavation area – including in the western ‘drainage run’ – it was only in the main (eastern) ‘open area’, where inter-relationships between ditches could be determined and the ditches extensively sampled, that any attempt at dating/phasing has been possible (see Figure 3).

Phase I – Pre-Roman?

Two undated phases of field system – the latter of which was cut by a Phase II ditch - have been attributed to a ‘Pre-Roman’ phase (although that one or both in fact belong to a preceding Early Roman phase cannot be entirely discounted).

The earlier of the two phases (Phase Ia) comprised two ditches (**F.561** and **F.574**), which appeared to form the north-eastern corner of an enclosure or paddock extending beyond the limit of excavation to the south-west on a broadly north-east to south-west alignment. No finds were recovered from either of the ditches.

The Phase Ib field system, cut F.561 and comprised a continuous boundary forming an enclosure, again occupying a broadly north-east to south-west alignment and extending beyond the limit of excavation to the south-west. The north-western boundary of the enclosure comprised a single ditch (**F.557**) while two ditches were recorded along the north-eastern boundary where ditch F.557 cut an earlier boundary (**F.558**). These two boundaries appeared to converge towards the south-eastern corner of the enclosure with the south-eastern boundary once again recorded as a single ditch (**F.552**). Finds were limited to a single cattle bone from ditch F.551.

Phase II – Early Roman

The second main phase of field system has been dated to the Early Roman period. Aligned on a dominant north-east to south-west axis, five ditches (a number of which were ‘re-cut’ during their lifetime) can be attributed to this phase with relative confidence and are detailed in Table 1.

Ditch	Alignment	Re-cuts	Finds
F.552	NE-SW	-	-
F.630	NE-SW	F.629	-
F.571	NW-SE	F.570	-
F.562	NW-SE	-	-
F.582	NW-SE	-	Pottery, animal bone

Table 1: Main Phase II field system ditches

As shown in Table 1, only ditch F.582 yielded finds; two sherds of 1st century AD pottery (see Anderson, below), a residual sherd of Middle Iron Age pottery (see Brudenell, below) and fragments of cattle bone (see Rajkovaca, below). However, ditches F.552 and F.630 can also be dated from material recovered when they were excavated in adjacent trial trenches during *The 2020 Lands* evaluation in 2004 (Evans and Mackay 2005). Ditch F.552 (recorded as F.125 in Trench 26) produced a single sherd of samian pottery, while F.630 (recorded as F.77 in Trench 18) produced four sherds of 1st-2nd century AD pottery.

In addition to the main Phase II field system evidence of a potentially slightly earlier system, now highly truncated, on the same alignment was also encountered. Ditches F.588 and F.590 survived to a depth of no more than 0.16m and had evidently been truncated by ploughing over the majority of their course but nevertheless hint at a possible preceding phase. Furthermore, ditch F.590 appears to align with F.134 recorded in 2004 evaluation Trench 17 (Evans and Mackay 2005), which yielded mid 1st century AD greyware pottery, and the features are potentially one and the same.

Finally, a group of ditches in the north-east of the site, which appear to form a series of small enclosures on the same alignment as F.582 have also been tentatively attributed to Phase II. None of the ditches produced any dating evidence and many were highly truncated by ploughing meaning that relationships with confidently phased features (such as F.582) could not be determined. The ditches included in this feature group are **F. 608**, **F.610**, **F.612** (itself a re-cut of **F. 613** and **F.614**), **F.623**, **F.624** and **F.625**.

Phase III – Post-medieval

The final identified phase of field system has been attributed to the post-medieval period. The Phase III system comprised three ditches. In the north of the excavation area ditch F.584 followed much the same alignment as Phase II ditch F.582 and was initially thought to be broadly contemporary, however, post-medieval brick and tile recovered from the feature suggest that it is a much later feature. Aligned perpendicular to, and ‘abutting’ F.582 (as well as containing a similar fill), ditch F.587 is also assigned to Phase III. Finally, ditch F.560 at the eastern end of the ‘drainage run’ contained a sherd of post-medieval pottery and is also attributed to this phase.

Unphased

Up to a further 15 ditches remain undated and unphased. While many of these features – based on alignment – may well belong to the Roman period, the fact that all three identified phases of field system occupy broadly the same alignment means that this cannot be stated with any degree of confidence. Certainly a number of features such as F.598 – which aligns with a modern field drain to the north – may well be much more recent in origin.

Settlement evidence

In the far west of the MSCP site (at the western extent of the ‘drainage run’) four pits (**Fs. 577, 600, 601 and F.604**) potentially relate to the settlement remains encountered during the excavations at the Boulevard Site (Newman *et al.* 2008) along the course of what is now Francis Crick Way. Two of the pits truncated a sequence of boundary ditches aligned north-east to south-west (**Fs. 602, 603, 606/627 and F.628**), and with a north-west to south-east aligned ‘branch’ (**F.599**). This sequence of boundaries produced no dateable finds and while it could potentially relate to the nearby settlement it could equally represent an earlier pre-Roman field system.

Of the pits themselves, **F.600** and **F.601**, and possible pit **F.604** were exposed in a slot excavated across the main north-east to south-west aligned ditch (F.602 etc.) and were not visible in plan. The pits were found to be inter-cutting however due to the circumstances of their discovery their inter-relationship was not determined. Pit F.600 was the most substantial at 1.55m in diameter and 1.2m deep. The pit contained ten fills with multiple ‘silting’ layers clearly visible in section (see Figure 4). Although located close to a settlement it produced only a small finds assemblage comprising three sherds of 1st century AD pottery, two fragments of animal bone and two fragments of burnt stone. Located immediately to the north of pit F.600, pit F.601 measured up to 1.8m in diameter by 1m deep and contained a single fill, which produced a single fragment of slag (see Timberlake, below). The remnant of a third possible pit (F.604), which had been cut by F.600 was also visible in section. Finally pit **F. 577**, just to the south-east of pits F.600 and F.601 measured 1.42m in diameter by 0.15m deep and contained a single fill, which yielded no finds.

Other features

A further 11 possible pits and postholes were recorded within the MSCP site. Although occurring in groups of up to three, all were relatively isolated and none produced any dateable finds. Of the pits, only two are worthy of further mention; pits **F.591** and **F.593**, located adjacent to each other in the approximate centre of the excavation area. F.593 was an irregular pit measuring up to 0.94m in diameter by 0.17. Although the pit yielded no finds it contained two fills, the uppermost of which appeared to be a dump of ‘scorched’ material possibly deriving from a hearth of some description. Further evidence relating to potential ‘cooking’ (or similar) activity in the vicinity was found in pit F.591, which produced over 14.5kg of burnt stone (see Timberlake, below).

In the east of the excavation area a series of silt-filled hollows (**Fs.615-617**) was excavated. All were very shallow (generally less than 0.2m deep) with sterile fills and the features are most likely to be natural in origin. None produced any finds.

Finally, a number of tree throws identified across the site were sample excavated in order to determine whether they may contain artefactual assemblages (cf. F.71 at the LMB Site, for example; Collins 2009). Only one tree throw contained any finds and was subsequently recorded; F.589, located adjacent to F.591 and F.593 yielded four fragments of burnt stone which presumably derived from activity in this area associated with the aforementioned pits.

DISCUSSION

Archaeological features within the MSCP Site were largely limited to ditches – along with the occasional pit/post hole - and the site clearly lies in an area between settlements occupied by field systems/paddocks (see Figure 5). Very few dateable finds were recovered from the site and although this has limited the dating and phasing of the site somewhat it has still been possible to identify three broad phases of land division (Phases I-III).

The earliest phase of land division has been defined as pre-Roman on the basis that elements of it were truncated by the comparatively well-dated Early Roman system. Any attempts to refine this date are to some extent speculation and given that remains dating from the Middle Bronze Age through to the Early Roman period – including significant Late Iron Age/Conquest period sites – are widespread in the landscape the Phase I system’s potential date range remains broad. Having said that, a recent reappraisal of the Clay Farm/2020 Lands landscape by M. Brittain (*pers comm.*) has identified an extensive Middle Bronze Age field system(s) – with contemporary settlements – and that the Phase I system dates to this period is perhaps most likely. Few other potential Bronze Age remains were recorded although undated pits F.591 and F.593, which produced a relatively large assemblage of burnt stone are perhaps more characteristic of prehistoric rather than Roman activity.

A single sherd of residual Middle Iron Age pottery attests to a presence within the landscape and that some of the undated ditches recorded could date to this period cannot be ruled out. Generally, however, the Addenbrooke’s landscape does not seem to have witnessed significant activity in the Early-Middle Iron Age and most of the

features recorded at the MSCP Site probably relate to the Late Iron Age/Conquest period and Roman sites that lie to the south-west and north respectively.

A number of features at the western extent of the 'drainage run' certainly relate to the Late Iron Age/Conquest settlement at the Boulevard site (although the ditches in this area may well belong to an earlier field system). Of the four pits excavated, two appeared to be well-type features, although only one produced any dateable finds, (F.600 – three sherds of 1st century AD pottery) and in this sense the features are unremarkable. Perhaps the most significant aspect of the limited Late Iron Age/Conquest period remains excavated at the MSCP site is that they appear to demonstrate the how well defined the contemporary settlement was with very little 'domestic' activity beyond its boundaries.

To the east of this Late Iron Age/Conquest period settlement site the MSCP Site's main field system seems more likely to be associated with the 1st-4th century settlement to the north recorded during the *The 2020 Lands* evaluation although it could potentially have had its origins when the Boulevard Site was still inhabited. This Phase II system is comparatively well dated to the 1st century AD from pottery sherds recovered from ditches both within the current excavation area and previously in the 2004 evaluation trenches (*ibid.*). Finds recovered were, however, very low in number almost certainly reflecting the distance from contemporary settlement and highlighting once again the degree to which domestic activity was evidently restricted to defined settlement zones. The ditches themselves almost certainly had an important drainage function – in addition to being boundaries – with the land snail assemblages recovered from the environmental samples indicating that they were at least seasonally waterlogged (see de Vareilles, below).

Finally, the extent to which the Phase III post-medieval field system appears to respect the Early Roman field system, and particularly the way in which post-medieval ditch F.582 follows the course of Early Roman F.584 suggests that at least in part there has been long term continuity of land division and a degree of 'fossilisation' in the landscape which has persisted until relatively recent times.

CONCLUSION

The excavation at the MSCP Site has enabled a further element of the Addenbrooke's landscape to be investigated and revealed multiple phases of field system and limited settlement-related activity associated with contemporary settlement activity to the north and south-west. The mapping and phasing of features in this between-settlement zone – which will hopefully be refined by future excavations to the north and south – forms an important part of the on-going archaeological recording programme at Addenbrooke's.

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SPECIALIST STUDIES

Iron Age pottery – *Matt Brudenell*

A single sherd of Iron Age pottery was recovered from F.611 [932.02], weighing 12g. The sherd was a base fragment with a pinched-out foot in a hard quartz-sand tempered fabric containing rare poorly sorted flint (1-2mm). The character of the fabric suggests a Middle Iron Age date, c. 350-50 BC.

Roman pottery – *Katie Anderson*

A small assemblage of Roman pottery totaling six sherds and weighing 29g was recovered from three contexts (Table 2). The pottery comprised small, fragmented body sherds, with a low mean weight of 4.8g. All of the sherds date to the early Roman period – c. AD43-100. The fabrics comprised coarsewares, which are likely to have been made locally.

Context	Feature	No.	Wt(g)	Date
849.02	584	1	8	AD43-100
922.01	611	2	6	AD43-100
890.01	600	3	15	AD43-100
TOTAL		6	29	

Table 2: All Roman pottery by Context

Burnt and worked stone – *Simon Timberlake*

A total of 15.526 kg of burnt stone was recovered from five different features, most of these containing less than 1kg of stone, but with one feature (F.591) being a significant repository of large heat-fractured fragments of burnt and bleached pale-coloured sandstone cobbles (some 14.55 kg). All of these burnt stones appear to be made up of glacial erratic cobbles collected from the local gravels, with most having Eastern England (Lincolnshire?) sources. It seems likely that this assemblage represents residual prehistoric burnt stone material. The fragmentation and decrepitation of the softer sandstones suggests immersion of these hot cobbles into water, perhaps for the purposes of cooking (Timberlake 2007 and 2010).

Compared to most of the other burnt stone collected from the Addenbrooke's landscape which seems to consist of a mixture of sandstone (c.90%), quartzite, limestone, metamorphic and igneous rocks (rhyolite, rhyolitic and andesitic tuff, dolerite, basalt and quartz porphyry; see Timberlake in Timberlake 2007, 2010 and Collins 2009), the material from this excavation is almost wholly made up of sandstone. However, this sort of variation has been noted before, and is unlikely in this case to represent intentional choice, but rather reflect the availability of suitably hard erratic stone lithologies which probably varies naturally across the width of a braided flood plain.

Cat no	Feature	Context	Nos. frag	Size (max)	Weight (g)	Geology	Notes
011	F.600	890.02	2	50-90mm	618	micaceous qtz sstn (sarsen type)	dk grey reduced interior
006	F.589	861.01	4	25-55mm	234	lmstn breccia (Trias?) + fossilif sstn with plant (<i>Elatides</i> sp. Bajocian, Lincs) + micac sstn	
019	F.611	922.01	1	50mm	64	coarse arkosic and micac sstn	very burnt and fragmented
002	F.555	810.02	3	40mm	60	decalcified pink siltstone/ sstn	
008	F.591	886.01	22	40-150mm	7594	laminated to x-bedded white siltstones and coarser soft sstn (90%) + sstn grit + sst qtzite (Mesozoic)	incl x1 poss frag (82g) of saddlequern ? (to WS)
007	F.591	867.01	30	30-140mm	6956	fossilif siltstone/ sstn with plants (Bajocian, Lincs.?) + qtzitic sstn + micac sstn + calc sstn + carstone etc.	incl x1 poss frag (204g) of saddlequern. Same rock/ quern as <008> (to WS)

This type of rather poorly size-sorted assemblage seems very typical of the Middle Bronze Age domestic use of burnt stone, and in the absence of any other culturally identifiable material it may be used very provisionally as a means of dating these otherwise undated features. This method of assessment was subsequently confirmed at the LMB Site (Collins 2009) by the radiocarbon dating of animal bone, indicating the true extent northwards of the extensive Middle Bronze Age landscape consisting of enclosures and field systems previously identified at Clay Farm (Timberlake 2007; Mortimer 2012).

A total of **292g** of worked stone was recovered from amongst the large amount of burnt stone collected from feature F.591. These consisted of two (non-adjointing) fragments of the same rock, and possibly from the grinding surface of the same broken-up and discarded sandstone saddlequern.

<008> F.591 [886.01] fragment of pale white burnt sandstone with remnants of a flat ground surface (50mm x 40mm) surviving. Weight 82g.

<007> F.591 [867.01] fragment of pale white burnt sandstone with remnants of a flat ground surface (522mm x 40mm) surviving. Weight 204g.

The most likely date of this quernstone, based on the association of the two fragments with the burnt stone assemblage recovered from pit F.591, is Middle Bronze Age (see Collins 2009; Timberlake 2007).

Iron slag – *Simon Timberlake*

Two fragments of iron slag were recovered from pit F.601:

<012> F.601 [891.01] x2 fragments of slagged hearth lining (44g). The presence of iron oxide-rich inclusions plus the thinness of the slagged surface and depth of burnt (reddened) clay behind this suggests that here we are looking at broken-up fragments from a secondary smithing hearth. One of these pieces shows a curvature suggesting this is a piece detached from the upper slightly everted rim of the hearth close to the tuyere. Small (<3mm diameter) inclusions of broken-up chalky flint within the mass of fired and fused clay implies (not surprisingly) the use here of the local chalk marl or else silts and clays derived from the overlying gravel sequences. No fuel inclusions were visible within the slagged surfaces.

This is probably hearth waste material redeposited from nearby iron smithing activity. It is probably Early Roman in date.

Miscellaneous finds

Ditch F.584/618 produced two fragments of brick as well as a fragment of tile. The fragments were highly eroded but based on fabric appear likely to be post-medieval (Graham Appleby and Richard Newman *pers comm.*)

Truncated ditch F.598 produced a badly corroded iron nail, which cannot be accurately dated.

Finally, a sherd of post-medieval pottery was noted within F.560. The sherd was discarded on site.

Faunal remains – *Vida Rajkovača*

The excavations resulted in the recovery of an assemblage totalling 31 fragments and weighing 1292g. With the exception of a cow humerus from ditch F.551, which shows signs of severe weathering and erosion, the material exhibited an overall moderate to quite good level of preservation. It was not possible to obtain any measurements or ageing data, due to the high fragmentation.

The zooarchaeological investigation followed the system implemented by Bournemouth University with all identifiable elements recorded (NISP: Number of Identifiable Specimens) and diagnostic zoning (amended from Dobney & Reilly 1988) used to calculate MNE (Minimum Number of Elements) from which MNI (Minimum Number of Individuals) was derived. Identification of the assemblage was undertaken with the aid of Schmid (1972), and reference material from the Cambridge Archaeological Unit.

Dominated by cattle or cattle-sized remains (Table 3), the assemblage reflects a reliance on domestic sources of food, although the absence of wild fauna does not mean that the wild resources were not utilised. Cattle tend to be the prevalent species

in this part of the country, albeit with slight local variations, and this assemblage certainly conforms to that pattern.

Taxon	Pre-Roman?	Roman						Total NISP
	Ditch F.551	Ditch F.563	Ditch F.573	Ditch F.582	Pit F.600	Ditch F.611	Ditch F.630	
Cow	1	1	1	1	.	7	.	11
Dog	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	1
Sub-total to species	1	1	1	1	1	7	.	12
Cattle-sized	.	.	3	.	.	12	3	18
Sheep-sized	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	1
Total	1	1	4	1	2	19	3	31

Table 3. Number of Identified Specimens (NISP) for all species: breakdown by feature.

Assessment of bulk environmental samples – Anne de Vareilles

Methodology

A total of 14 bulk soil samples from Romano-British pits and ditches were processed using an Ankara-type flotation machine. The flots were collected in 300µm aperture meshes and the remaining heavy residues washed over a 1mm mesh. The flots and heavy residues were dried indoors prior to analysis. J. Hutton sorted the >4mm fractions of the heavy residues by eye. Dry flots were separated through a stack of sieves; fractions were sorted and macro remains identified under a low power binocular microscope (6x-40x magnification) by the author. Nomenclature follows Zohary and Hopf (2000) for cereals and the Conchological Society Website (Wilkinson, 2012) for molluscs. All environmental remains are listed in Table 4.

Preservation

Snail shells were prolific throughout, unlike the rare charcoal and charred plant macro-remains. Cereal remains and wild plant seeds were found as single specimens in five of the samples, whilst charcoal only occurred as a light dusting in eight of the features, none of which is likely to be *in situ*. Modern intrusive rootlets were common in all samples.

Results and Conclusions

The cereal remains were found in the Phase II ditch F.629 (a fragment of emmer or spelt wheat chaff), and the undated ditch F.606. Single occurrences of cereal grain fragments were recovered from both Conquest period pits, F.600 and F.601. The only wild plant seed found was a small wild grass seed from pit F.593. It would appear that cereal processing and consumption did not occur near to the features sampled. Fragments of finds were most common in the samples from the Conquest period pits.

Most of the features contained a rich and diverse range of fresh- and brackish-water molluscs. These features must have been seasonally wet, containing standing or slow flowing water long enough for vegetation and other living organisms to establish themselves. *Anisus leucostama* and *Galba truncatula*, amongst others, show that snails species that withstand dry periods were favoured. The Conquest period pits and ditch F.606 seem to have been the only features never to have contained standing water. The land surface appears to have been dry, open grassland or fields.

Sample number	130	131	122	128	127	133	129
Context	890.02	891.01	838.01	865.01	866.01	938.02	932.02
Feature	600	601	574	557	558	629	611
Feature description	Pit	Pit	Ditch	Ditch	Ditch	Ditch	Ditch
Phase	Conquest prd		I	I	I	II	II
Sample volume - litres	12	10	12	15	15	15	12
Flot fraction examined -%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
large charcoal, incl. from heavy residue (>4mm)	+						
med. charcoal (2-4mm)	+	-					
small charcoal (<2mm)	+++	++				+	
indeterminate parenchyma		-	-				
estimated charcoal volume - millilitres	<1ml.	<1ml.	<1ml.	0 ml.	0 ml.	<1ml.	0 ml.
Archaeobotanical remains							
<i>Triticum</i> sp. unspecified wheat							
Indeterminate cereal grain fragments	1	1					
<i>T. spelta/ dicoccum</i> spikelet fork spelt/emmer chaff						1	
small Poaceae small wild grass seed							
Charophyte oogonia algae 'seed;						+	
Fresh and brackish-water snails							
<i>Bithynia tentaculata</i> L.				+	++	+++	
<i>Lymnaea palustris</i> L.					-	++	+
<i>Lymnaea fusca</i> C.Pfeiffer						++	+
<i>Galba truncatula</i> Müller			-	++	++		++
<i>Planorbis planorbis</i> L.			+	-	-	+++	+++
<i>Planorbis carinatus</i> Müller						++	
<i>Planorbis corneus</i> L.						+	+
<i>Anisus leucostama</i> Millet			++	++	+		++
<i>Anisus vortex</i> L.						+++	
<i>Physa fontinalis</i> L.							
cf. <i>Viviparus</i> sp.							
<i>Valvata cristata</i> Müller							-
<i>Bathyomphalus contortus</i> L.					-	+	++
Land snails							
<i>Cochlicopa lubrica/lubricella</i>	++	++	-	+	++	+	++
<i>Succinea</i> sp.							+
<i>Vallonia costata</i> Müller							
<i>Vallonia</i> sp.	+++	+++	-	+	++		+
<i>Vertigo pygmaea</i> Draparnaud	+	-					
mixed <i>V.pygmaea</i> and <i>V.antivertigo</i> Draparnaud			++	++	+++	++	++
<i>Carychium</i> cf. <i>minimum</i> Müller			++	++	+++	+	+++
<i>Discus rotundatus</i> Müller							
<i>Pupilla</i> sp.	++	+++	++	++	+	+	+++
<i>Helicella itala</i> L.		+					++
<i>Oxychilus/Aegopinella</i> sp.							+
<i>Trichia</i> sp.	+++	+++	+	+++	+++	++	+++
<i>Ceciloides acicula</i> Müller	++	++				-	
>4mm Artefacts from the Heavy Residues							
animal bone fragments	++						
pottery sherds	+	-					
baked clay							
burnt stone							
worked (burnt) flint	-				-		

Table 4: Environmental bulk samples. Key: - 1 one or two items, + <10 items, ++ 10-50 items, +++ >50 items. Intrusive rootlets present in all samples.

Sample number	120	121	123	124	132	125	126
Context	849.01	855.01	872.01	822.02	899.01	867.01	871.02
Feature	573	573	573	567	606	591	593
Feature description	Ditch	Ditch	Ditch	Ditch	Ditch	Pit	Pit
Phase	II	II	II	RB?	RB?	?	?
Sample volume - litres	10	20	12	10	15	12	12
Flot fraction examined -%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
large charcoal, incl. from heavy residue (>4mm)							
med. charcoal (2-4mm)							
small charcoal (<2mm)	+		+	+			-
indeterminate parenchyma				-			
estimated charcoal volume - millilitres	<1ml.	0 ml.	<1ml.	<1ml.	0 ml.	0 ml.	<1ml.
Archaeobotanical remains							
<i>Triticum</i> sp. unsepcified wheat					1		
Indeterminate cereal grain fragments							
<i>T. spelta/ dicoccum</i> spikelet fork spelt/emmer chaff							
small Poaceae small wild grass							1
Charophyte oogonia algae 'seed'							
Fresh and brackish-water snails							
<i>Bithynia tentaculata</i> L.	++	++	+++			-	
<i>Lymnaea palustris</i> L.	++	+					
<i>Lymnaea fusca</i> C.Pfeiffer			+				-
<i>Galba truncatula</i> Müller	+	+	+	+		+	+
<i>Planorbis planorbis</i> L.	++	+++	+++				+
<i>Planorbis carinatus</i> Müller							
<i>Planorbis corneus</i> L.		+				+	
<i>Anisus leucostama</i> Millet	+++	+++	+++	++		++	++
<i>Anisus vortex</i> L.							
<i>Physa fontinalis</i> L.		++	+			-	-
cf. <i>Viviparus</i> sp.							
<i>Valvata cristata</i> Müller							
<i>Bathyomphalus contortus</i> L.			++				
Land snails							
<i>Cochlicopa lubrica/lubricella</i>	+	+	++	++	++		
<i>Succinea</i> sp.	+	+	+				-
<i>Vallonia costata</i> Müller					++		
<i>Vallonia</i> sp.	++		+	+	+	-	+
<i>Vertigo pygmaea</i> Draparnaud					+		
mixed <i>V. pygmaea</i> and <i>V. antivertigo</i> Draparnaud	++	+++	+++	+++		+	++
<i>Carychium</i> cf. <i>minimum</i> Müller	++	++	++	+			++
<i>Discus rotundatus</i> Müller			-				
<i>Pupilla</i> sp.	++	+	++	++	++	+	
<i>Helicella itala</i> L.				-	+	+	
<i>Oxychilus/Aegopinella</i> sp.				+			
<i>Trichia</i> sp.	+++	+++	++	+++	+++		+++
<i>Ceciloides acicula</i> Müller			+		+		+
>4mm Artefacts from the Heavy Residues							
animal bone fragments		-					
pottery sherds				+	-		-
baked clay					-		
burnt stone							
worked (burnt) flint				- (-)	- (+)		(+)

Table 4 contd.

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APPENDIX 1

Feature descriptions

Feature No.	Intervention Nos.	Feature type	Description	No. of contexts	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comments
550	800	Ditch	Linear (NNE-SSW)	2	1 (slot)	0.8	0.42	
551	801	Ditch	Linear (NE-SW/NW-SE)	2	1 (slot)	1.3	0.3	Finds: animal bone
	803			2	1 (slot)	1	0.36	
	805			3	1 (slot)	1.2	0.37	
	806			2	1 (slot)	0.92	0.52	
	880			3	1 (slot)	1.13	0.36	
553	807	Ditch	Linear (NW-SE)	2	1 (slot)	0.3	0.12	
	808			2	1 (slot)	0.35	0.07	
	877				1 (slot)	0.86	0.23	
	879			4	1 (slot)	0.72	0.23	
555	810	Pit	Sub-oval	4	0.82	0.62	0.13	
557	809	Ditch	Linear (NE-SW/NW-SE)	2	1 (slot)	0.7	0.22	Finds: burnt stone
	811			2	1 (slot)	0.36	0.1	
	812			2	1 (slot)	0.64	0.14	
	825			2	1 (slot)	0.3	0.15	
	865			2	1 (slot)	0.51	0.31	
	878			3	1 (slot)	0.38	0.38	
558	813	Ditch	Linear (NW-SE)	2	1 (slot)	0.72	0.26	
	826			2	1 (slot)	0.46	0.08	
	866			2	1 (slot)	0.77	0.31	
	869			2	N/A	N/A	N/A	
559	814	Ditch	Linear (NNE-SSW)	4	1 (slot)	2.04	0.38	
560	815	Pit/post hole?	Sub-circular	2	0.5	0.49	0.11	
561	816	Ditch	Linear (WNW-ESE)	2	1 (slot)	1	0.23	
	832			2	N/A	N/A	0.19	
	833			3	1 (slot)	0.55	0.12	
	834			2	1 (slot)	0.8	0.26	
562	817	Ditch	Linear (WNW-ESE)	3	1 (slot)	1.55	0.38	
	857		Linear (WNW-ESE)	3	N/A	N/A	N/A	
	859		Linear (WNW-ESE)	5	1 (slot)	1.18	0.34	
	942		Linear (WNW-ESE)	2	0.7 (slot)	0.73	0.14	
563	818	Pit?	Sub-circular	2	0.62	0.52	0.12	Finds: animal bone
564	819	Ditch	Linear (NNE-SSW)	2	1 (slot)	0.63	0.16	
565	820	Ditch	Linear (NNE-SSW)	4	1 (slot)	1.07	0.32	
566	821	Ditch	Linear (NNE-SSW)	3	1 (slot)	0.58	0.26	
567	822	Ditch	Linear (NNE-SSW)	3	1 (slot)	1.31	0.42	

Feature No.	Intervention Nos.	Feature type	Description	No. of contexts	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comments
568	823	Ditch	Linear (NNE-SSW)	4	1 (slot)	0.86	0.36	
570	824	Ditch	Linear (WNW-ESE)	2	1 (slot)	N/A	N/A	
	827			2	1 (slot)	0.73	0.17	
	831			2	N/A	N/A	0.15	
571	828	Ditch	Linear (WNW-ESE)	3	1 (slot)	0.76	0.23	Truncated
	840			2	1 (slot)	0.63	0.13	
572	829	Ditch	Linear (NNE-SSW)	3	1.5 (slot)	1.2	0.18	
573	802	Ditch	Linear (NNE-SSW)	2	1 (slot)	0.95	0.15	Finds: animal bone
	804			2	1 (slot)	0.9	0.26	
	839			2	5	1.09	0.32	
	841			5	1 (slot)	1.37	0.42	
	855			2	1 (slot)	1.34	0.26	
	856			3	N/A	N/A	N/A	
	860			2	1 (slot)	1	0.35	
574	830	Ditch	Linear (NNE-SSW)	2	N/A	N/A	0.36	
	835			3	1 (slot)	0.77	0.5	
	838			2	1 (slot)	0.9	0.58	
575	836	Ditch	Linear (WSW-ESE)	2	1 (slot)	0.4	0.1	
576	837	Pit	Sub-circular	2		0.33	0.17	
577	842	Pit?	Sub-oval	2	1.42	0.76	0.15	
578	843	Pit	Sub-oval	2	0.7	0.6	0.11	
579	844	Pit	Sub-circular	2		0.26	0.1	
580	845	Pit	Sub-oval	2	0.42	0.28	0.09	
581	846	Pit	Sub-circular	3	0.61	0.8	0.1	
582	847	Ditch	Linear (WNW-ESE)	4	1 (slot)	1.02	0.32	Same as F.618
	853			2	1 (slot)	1.3	0.4	
	874				N/A	N/A	N/A	
	920			2	N/A	N/A	N/A	
	923			2	1 (slot)	1.28	0.4	
583	848	Ditch	Linear (NNW-SSE)	2	1 (slot)	0.5	0.06	
	883			2	1 (slot)	0.46	0.19	
584	849	Ditch	Linear (WNW-ESE)	4	1 (slot)	1.42	0.56	Same as F.611 Finds: pottery, animal bone
	854			3	1 (slot)	1.5	0.57	
	875				N/A	N/A	N/A	
	922			2	1 (slot)	1.3	0.48	
	932			3	1 (slot)	1.26	0.56	
585	850	Pit/post hole?	Sub-oval	3	0.45	0.3	0.2	
586	851	Pit/post hole?	Sub-oval	2	0.8	0.37	0.08	
587	852	Ditch	Linear (NNW-SSE)	2	1 (slot)	0.65	0.4	

Feature No.	Intervention Nos.	Feature type	Description	No. of contexts	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comments
	876				N/A	N/A	N/A	
588	858	Gully/ditch	Linear (NNE-SSW)	2	N/A	N/A	N/A	Heavily truncated
	864			2	1 (slot)	0.21	0.11	
	868			3	N/A	N/A	N/A	
	870			3	1 (slot)	0.22	0.16	
	873			2	1 (slot)	0.39	0.23	
589	861	Tree throw	Irregular crescent	3	N/A	1.25	0.42	Finds: burnt stone
590	862	Ditch	Linear (ENE-WSW)	2	1 (slot)	0.36	0.08	Heavily truncated
	863			2	1 (slot)	0.36	0.07	
591	867	Pit	Sub-circular	2	1.2	1.02	0.27	Finds: burnt stone
	886			2	1.2	1.02	0.27	
593	871	Pit	Pit	3	0.94	0.68	0.17	
594	881	Ditch?	Linear (NNE-SSW)	3	1 (slot)	0.88	0.1	
	882			3	1 (slot)	0.72	0.09	
596	884	Pit	Sub-circular	3		0.92	0.35	
597	885	Pit	Sub-oval	2	0.64	0.4	0.25	
598	887	Ditch	Linear (NNE-SSW)	4	1 (slot)	0.58	0.14	Finds: iron nail. Heavily truncated
	888			3	1 (slot)	0.35	0.08	
599	889	Ditch	Linear (WNW-ESE)	2	1 (slot)	0.92	0.23	
	897			3	N/A	N/A	N/A	
600	890	Pit	Sub-circular	11		1.55	1.2	Finds: pottery, animal bone, burnt stone
601	891	Pit	Sub-circular	2		1.8	1	Finds: slag?
602	892	Ditch	Linear (NNE-SSW)	2	1 (slot)	0.75	0.19	Same as F.606
603	894	Ditch	Linear (NNE-SSW)	2	1 (slot)			
	900			2	1 (slot)	0.78	0.2	
604	896	Pit?	Truncated	2		0.23	0.24	
606	899	Ditch	Linear (NNE-SSW)	4	1 (slot)	1.64	0.48	Same as F.602
607	901	Ditch?	Linear (NNE-SSW)	3	1 (slot)	0.56	0.31	
608	902	Ditch	Linear (NW-SE)	2	3.5 (slot)	0.72	0.12	
	934			2	N/A	0.28	0.09	
609	903	Ditch?	Linear (NW-SE)	2	1 (slot)	1.08	0.1	
	905			2	1 (slot)	0.76	0.09	
610	904	Ditch	Linear (NNE-SSW)	3	1 (slot)	0.76	0.52	
	925		Linear (NNE-SSW)	2	1 (slot)	0.55	0.25	
	929		Linear (NNE-SSW)	2	N/A	N/A	N/A	

Feature No.	Intervention Nos.	Feature type	Description	No. of contexts	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Comments
611	906	Ditch	Linear (WSW-ENE)	2	1 (slot)	1.26	0.56	Same as F.584 Finds: animal bone
612	907	Ditch	Linear (WNW-ESE)	5	1 (slot)	0.93	0.49	
	937			3	N/A	N/A	N/A	
613	908	Ditch	Linear (WNW-ESE)	2	1 (slot)	0.8	0.32	
	935			2	N/A	0.6	0.33	
614	909	Ditch	Linear (WNW-ESE)	3	1 (slot)	0.8	0.25	
	930			2	N/A	N/A	N/A	
615	910	Hollow	Irregular	3		1.09	0.33	
616	911	Hollow	Irregular	2		0.54	0.07	
	913			2		0.35	0.04	
617	912	Hollow	Irregular	2	2.5	2.5	0.2	
	914			2	2.5	2.5	0.2	
618	915	Ditch	Linear (WSW-ENE)	2	1 (slot)	1.26	0.46	Same as F.582 Finds: brick and tile
	918			4	1 (slot)	1.3	0.44	
	919			6	1 (slot)	0.6	0.45	
619	916	Ditch?	Linear? (NNW-SSE)	3	0.8 (slot)	1.14	0.24	
620	917	Ditch?	Linear? (NNW-SSE)	2	1 (slot)	0.4	0.08	
623	921	Ditch	Linear (NNE-SSW)	2	N/A	N/A	N/A	Heavily truncated
	924			2	1 (slot)	0.35	0.1	
624	926	Ditch	Linear (NNE-SSW)	2	1 (slot)	0.3	0.04	Heavily truncated
	928			2	1 (slot)	0.4	0.07	
625	944	Ditch	Linear (NNE-SSW)	2	1 (slot)	0.2	0.05	Heavily truncated
626	927	Ditch	Linear (NNE-SSW)	2	1 (slot)	0.72	0.1	
	931			3	1 (slot)	0.78	0.21	
	936			2	1 (slot)	1.2	0.18	
628	898	Ditch	Linear (NNE-SSW)	4	1 (slot)	0.44	0.26	
629	938	Ditch	Linear (NNE-SSW)	3	1 (slot)	2.64	0.59	
630	939	Ditch	Linear (NNE-SSW)	2	1 (slot)	0.75	0.29	Finds: animal bone
631	940	Ditch?	Linear (NNE-SSW)	2	1 (slot)	0.9	0.09	
632	941	Ditch?	Linear (NNE-SSW)?	2	1 (slot)	0.45	0.2	
633	943	Ditch	Linear (NNE-SSW)	2	1.3 (slot)	0.29	0.03	Heavily truncated



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Figure 1. Site location, also showing previous excavations and trial trenching.

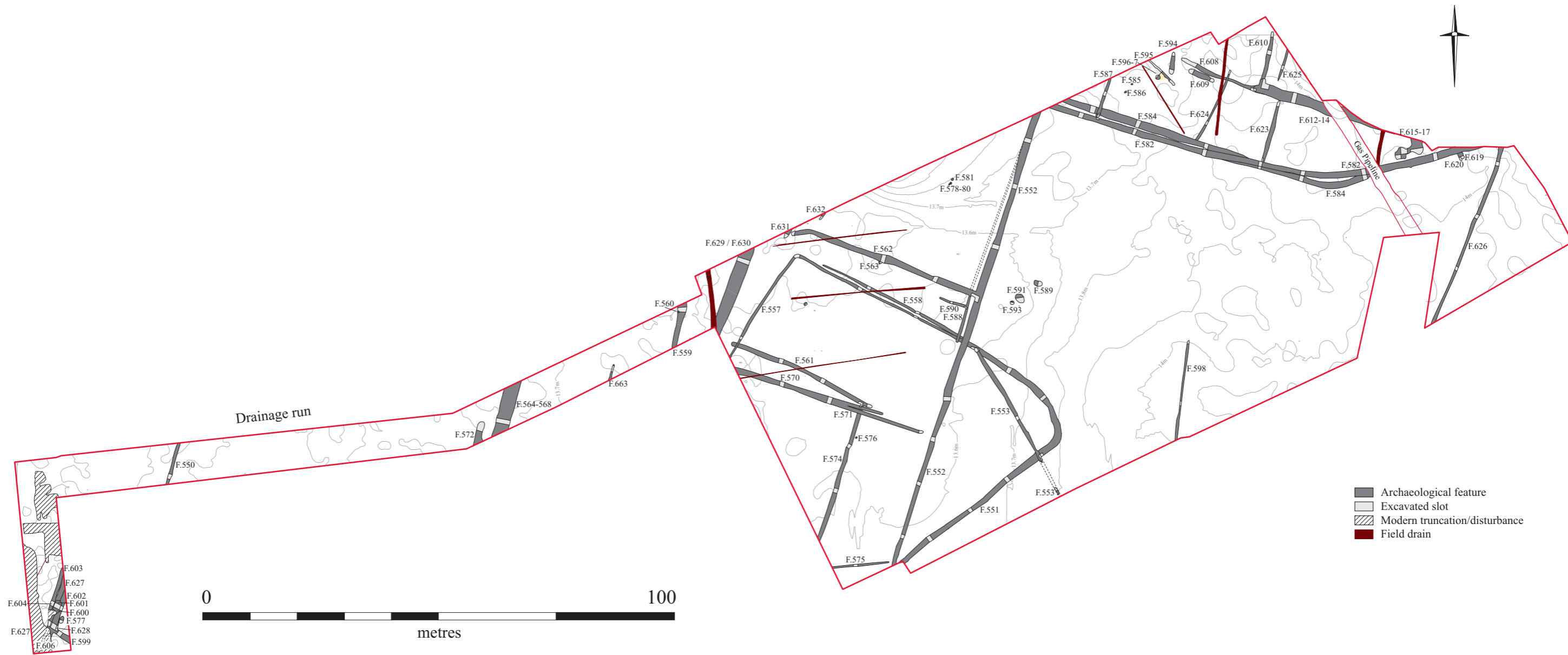


Figure 2. Plan of archaeological features

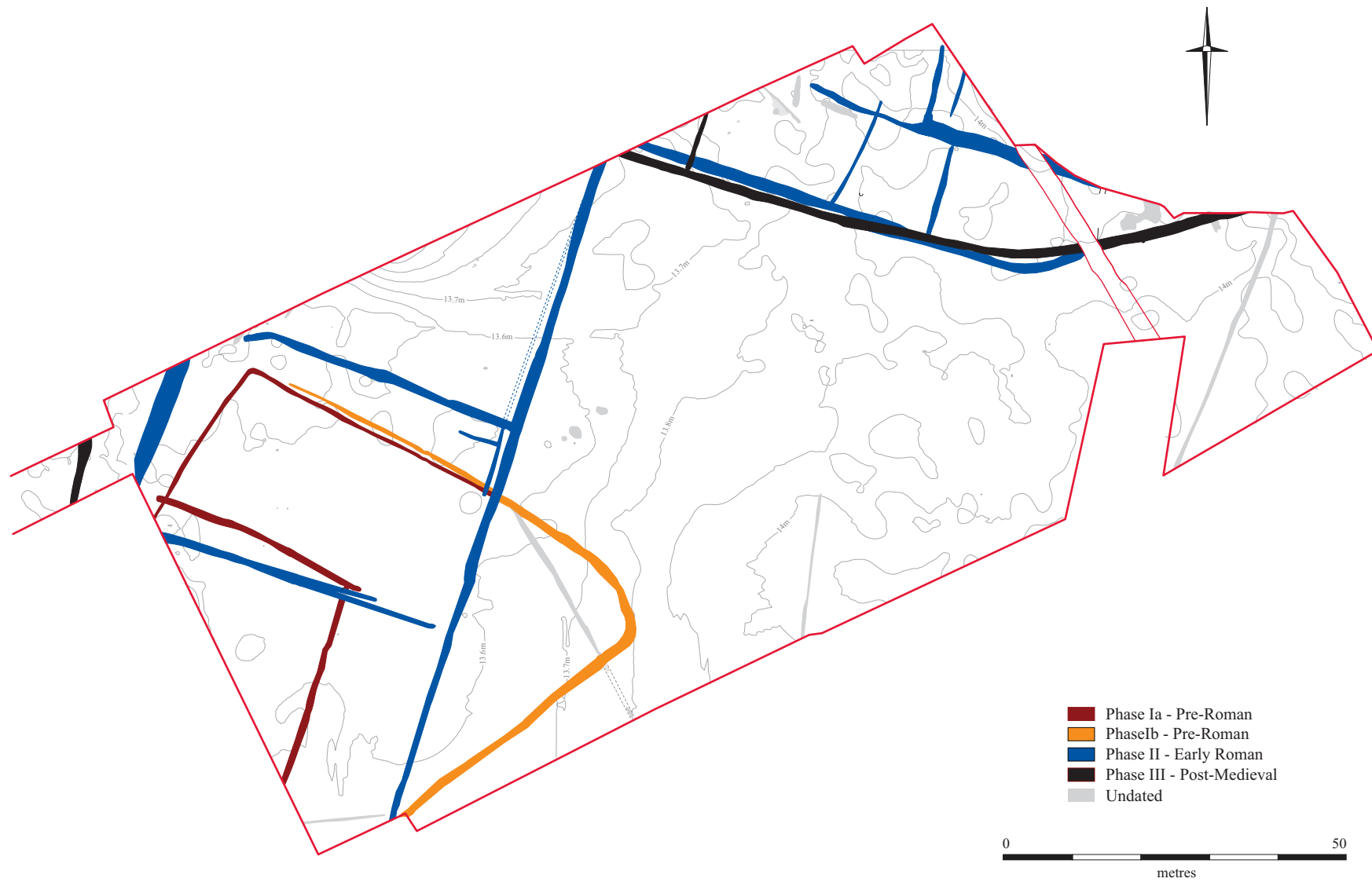


Figure 3. Field system phasing

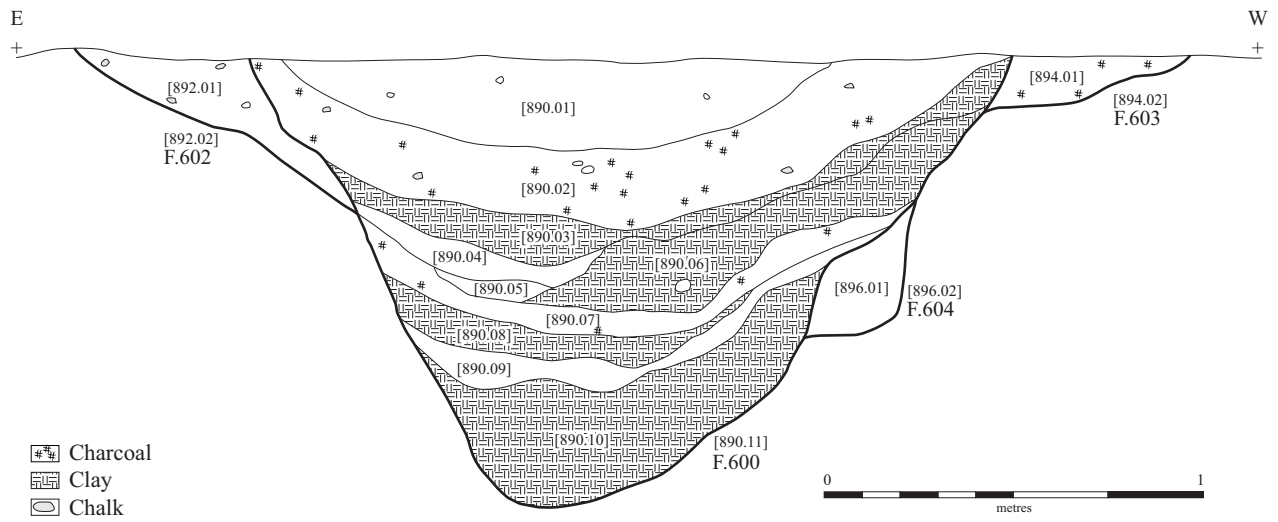


Figure 4. Section and photograph of pit F.600

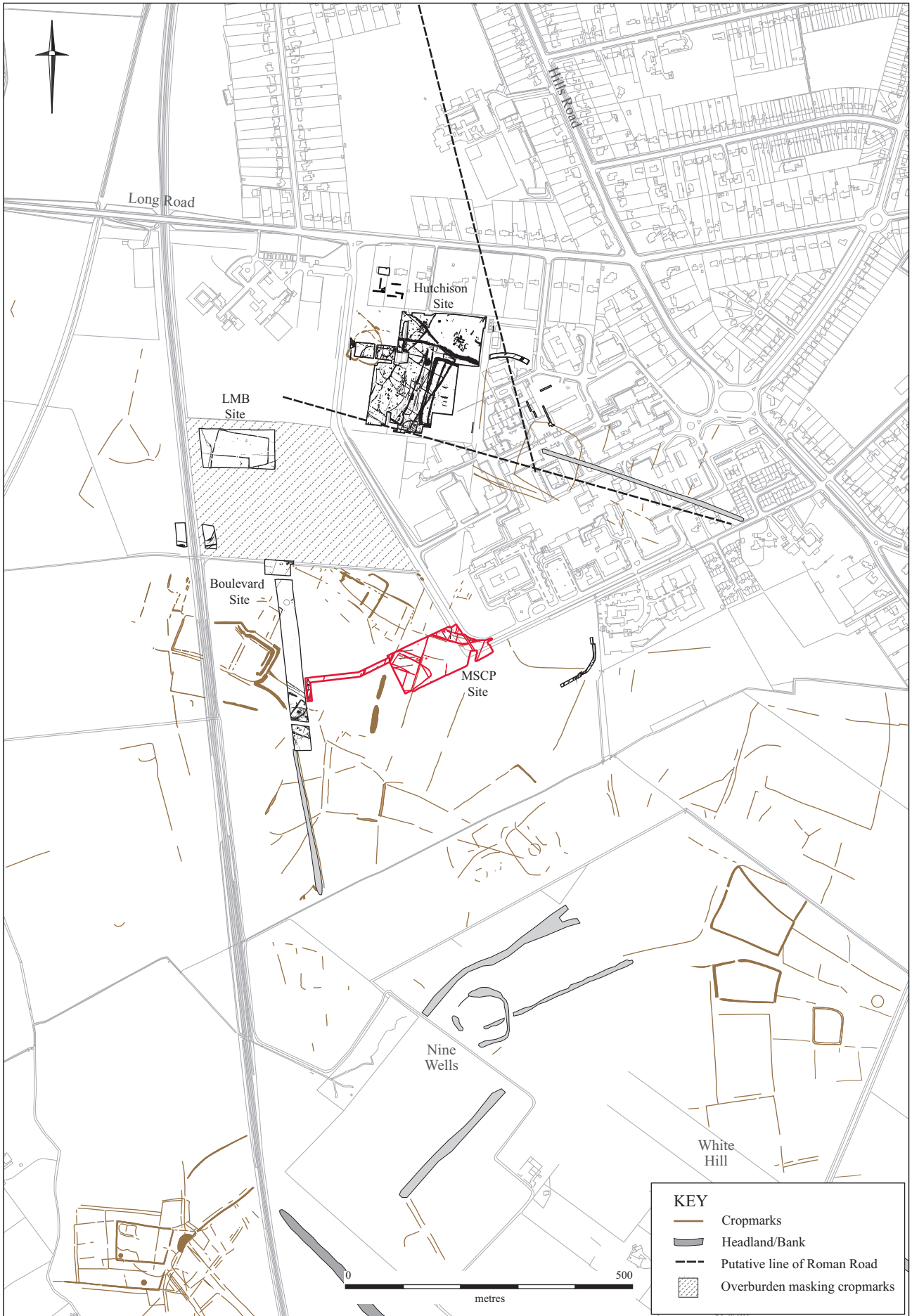


Figure 5. The archaeology of The 2020 Lands.

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OASIS ID: cambridg3-144758

Project details

Project name	The Addenbrookes MSCP Site, Cambridge
Project dates	Start: 14-01-2013 End: 14-02-2013
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	ATT:MSC13 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	ECB 3884 - HER event no.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 3 - Operations to a depth more than 0.25m
Monument type	DITCH Roman
Monument type	DITCH Post Medieval
Monument type	DITCH Uncertain
Monument type	PIT Roman
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Investigation type	""Full excavation""
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16

Project location

Country	England
Site location	CAMBRIDGESHIRE CAMBRIDGE CAMBRIDGE The Addenbrookes MSCP Site
Postcode	CB2 0QQ
Study area	1.40 Hectares

Site coordinates TL 46228 54854 52 0 52 10 19 N 000 08 18 E Point
 Height OD / Depth Min: 15.00m Max: 15.00m

Project creators

Name of Organisation Cambridge Archaeological Unit
 Project brief originator Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
 Project design originator Alison Dickens
 Project director/manager Alison Dickens
 Project supervisor Jonathan Tabor
 Type of sponsor/funding body Developer
 Name of sponsor/funding body Vinci Construction Ltd.

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Cambridge Archaeological Unit
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