Teversham Drift, Cherry Hinton, Cambridge

An Archaeological Evaluation

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Land North of Teversham Drift: Cherry Hinton, Cambridge

An Archaeological Evaluation and Watching Brief

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CONTENTS

LIST OF FIGURES AND TABLES

NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

An archaeological trench evaluation and watching brief was undertaken on land north of Teversham Drift, Cherry Hinton. Thirty-four trenches totalling 1252.4m (2277.6sqm) were excavated, with a further six test pits monitored for archaeological potential. Archaeological features dating from the Late Bronze Age the late historic, post-medieval, era were identified, generally divided between three zones of activity – Areas A-C. Exposed during excavation was an Iron Age enclosure, four undated inhumation burials and clunch wall foundations of probable Medieval or later date. Finds included flint, burnt and worked stone, a small quantity of metalwork, Iron Age pottery and animal bone.

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1. INTRODUCTION

This archaeological trench evaluation and watching brief was undertaken by the Cambridge Archaeological Unit (CAU) on behalf of the Marshall Group, Cambridge. Thirty-four trenches totalling 1252.4m (2277.6sqm) were excavated between 12th and 23rd January 2015; following the backfilling of these trenches the excavation of a further six test pits for filtration testing was monitored on 10th February 2015. Overall, a record of fairly dense archaeological coverage was documented and dated from the Late Bronze Age to the late historic, post-medieval, era. This notably entailed a rectilinear enclosure, perhaps of a farmstead, of Iron Age date, four undated inhumation burials and possible Medieval or post-Medieval structures with clunch wall foundations.

1.1 Location, Topography, Geology

The Proposed Development Area (PDA) extends over 7.8ha centred at TL 49170 57513 (Figure 1), and is located to the west of Cherry Hinton Road and the east of Marshall's airfield; it is further bounded by agricultural land to the northwest with housing and Teversham Drift to the southeast. The site has most recently been used as agricultural land, and an underground gas line is known to traverse the north half of the site on a southwest-northeast axis.

The site's geology is of the West Melbury Marly Chalk Formation interspersed with occasional outcrops of superficial sandy head gravels. Within its local context the topography of the site is striking (Figure 3 and 4), and consists of an elevated spine oriented northeast to southwest at a height of around 8.2mOD that sinks gradually to the south and east towards a plateau levelling at approximately 6.3mOD, and falls more dramatically to 3mOD to the north and west.

1.2 Archaeological Background

No previous archaeological investigation had been carried out within the PDA; a full archaeological background of the site's broader location is detailed in a desktop assessment (Appleby 2014), from which a summary is provided below.

Geophysical Survey

In advance of this project a geophysical survey was carried out in September 2014 (Richardson 2014). Within the survey, former enclosures, a possible ring ditch and an area of ridge and furrow cultivation all returned distinct geophysical responses, and other geophysical anomalies registered in the survey were also possible signatures of archaeological features (Figure 2). Strong biopolar geophysical responses (indicated by mixed black and white linear or stippled anomalies) were aligned with known features of modern origin, namely the underground gas service and fencing, and ferrous – probably agricultural – objects likely deriving from the ploughsoil.

Prehistory

Only limited prehistoric activity has been found within 1km of the PDA, with a character and wide distribution that is suggestive only of small-scale and transient activity, likely separate from any main settlement foci. The evidence includes a Mesolithic or Neolithic flint (MCB19635) residual to a feature of a later period, a flint scatter dated to the Neolithic (HER04880) with an unrelated scatter of undated blades, flakes, cores, pot boilers and two sherds of coarse-ware and a number of undiagnostic flint flakes and blades (HER04882, 05101). Higher frequency activity for the Neolithic and Bronze Age is known within 2km southwest of the PDA at Limekiln Hill, where both settlement and burial activity is attested (Coppock 1984). Similarly, to the north side of Newmarket Road, between 1.8 and 2km north of the PDA, open area and trenched excavation has attested to extensive later prehistoric activity. Here Mesolithic and earlier Neolithic worked flint has dominated a fairly small assemblage obtained from later prehistoric features that comprised a dense layout of Late Bronze Age to terminal Iron Age settlements connected through a network of trackways (Hinman 1997; Mortimer 1997; Gibson and Lucas 2000; Cooper and Evans 2003; Hatherly 2003; Collins 2013).

Romano-British

Evidence for Romano-British activity is also sparsely distributed throughout the area around the PDA (CB15329, ECB150) including metal detector finds (MCB16701) and burials (MCB17618) including a possible early Christian Romano-British cemetery (ECB147) west-southwest of the PDA, but there has been no previous indication that this extends into the PDA. Nevertheless, the aforementioned areas of dense prehistoric activity within the 2km radius have also registered the presence of Roman settlement. This includes rare Conquest period or Early Roman pottery firing kilns north of Newmarket Road (Gibson and Lucas 2002), and occupation at Limekiln Hill between the 2nd and 4th centuries AD (Wareham & Wright 2002: 100).

Medieval

Significant evidence for Medieval settlement and burials has been found within the area immediately around the PDA and the wider area in general. This includes a large Anglo-Saxon inhumation cemetery (at least 664 inhumations) and features located less than 250m west of the PDA, a possible early timber church (abandoned during the 12th century), and nearby dense Anglo-Saxon settlement and later Medieval activity (Murray and Vaughan 1999; Prosser 1999; Ferrante di Ruffano and Waldron 2005; Patten 2006; Slater 2011a, 2011b, 2012). It is possible that this forms the centre of a previously unknown manorial estate (Cessford and Dickens 2005; Cessford and Slater 2014).

Post-Medieval

St Andrew's Church (HER05104; RCHM 1959) was at least partially extant in the 13th century, with the chancel and nave arcades dating to this period, with later rebuilding of the tower and vestry in the 16th century. In addition to the settlement focus identified from investigations in Church End and Rosemary Lane, Saxon to 11th century features and a 13th–14th century well were found during evaluations at

the New Vicarage (Fletcher 2004; Mortimer and Phillips 2004). These represented at least four phases of activity, possibly associated with rear-side plots and later post-Medieval boundaries of properties fronting the High Street. A small quantity of Medieval pottery was also recovered from Hinton Fields (HER05101a). Identified in the analysis of aerial photographs are traces of Medieval ridge and furrow located to the north and west of the PDA (Air Photo Services 1999; ECB1319, HER08906), and it may be of note that topographic survey has recorded earthworks interpreted as the possible site of Mallet's Manor (ECB151, HER13015).

1.3 Methodology

The work followed specifications previously outlined in a design Brief for archaeological evaluation issued by the office of the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Team (Thomas 2014), and a Project Specification produced by the CAU (Dickens 2014).

In total, thirty-four trenches (Figures 2 & 3) were excavated using a 360° excavator with a 1.8m wide toothless ditching bucket under the supervision of an experienced archaeologist. Trenches were excavated to a level where archaeological features were visible; these were planned and hand excavated. Data sheets were completed for all of the trenches to record section profiles and geological variances and were accompanied by scale plans of all archaeological features (at 1:50 and 1:100) and the recording of excavated features with sections drawn at a scale of 1:10, complimented by digital photography. The Unit-modified version of the Museum of London recording system was employed throughout with all excavated stratigraphic events assigned feature numbers (F.#) and all contexts assigned individual numbers ([context #]). The trenches was fixed to the Ordnance Survey (OS) grid and a contour survey undertaken with a Global Positioning System (GPS). All trenches were reinstated upon completion of the excavation programme.

A watching brief on six test pits for filtration testing was monitored on 10th February 2015 as part of the evaluation to determine if archaeological features or artefacts were present (Section 3.2).

1.4 Archive

Information detailing the character of the trenches (e.g. data sheets, digital photography and survey record) has been catalogued together within an archive following procedures outlined in MoRPHE (English Heritage 2006). This is being stored with the processed material record at the CAU offices, under the site code TDM14.

2. RESEARCH DESIGN

The principal objective of the evaluation process was to determine the presence or absence of archaeological remains and to establish their character (e.g. chronological range and quality of preservation) and the site's depositional history.

Furthermore, the site's potential local, regional and national significance was assessed.

3. RESULTS

Archaeological features, 89 in total, were identified in all but three trenches (Tr 4, 6 and 33). These are quantified in Tables 1 and 2.

Number of:	Archaeological Feature
Features Recorded	89
Excavated Features	54
Excavated Contexts	176

Table 1: Feature totals

Feature category	Total
Pit	32
Linear	31
Post hole	10
Clunch wall foundation	9
Grave	4
Gulley	2
Drain	1
Total	89

Table 2: Feature frequency

A total of 894 (20096g) artefacts were recovered from cut features (Tables 3 and 4). The detail of these features is outlined below by order of feature category; a complete overview of each trench is provided in Section 6.3.

Material	Quantity	Weight (g)
Animal Bone	317	3019
Human Bone	15	26
Brick/Tile	1	64
Stone	24	3054
Worked Stone	2	150
Burnt Stone	76	9880
Pottery	187	1243
Worked Flint	6	82
Burnt Flint	115	2062
Metalwork	5	13
Shell	74	56
Slag	72	448
Total	*894*	*20097*

Table 3: Total number of finds by category

Material	Feature (g)	Subsoil (g)
Animal Bone	3019	-
Human Bone	26	-
Brick/Tile	64	-
Stone	3054	-
Worked Stone	150	-
Burnt Stone	9880	-
Pottery	1242	1
Worked Flint	82	-
Burnt Flint	2062	-
Metalwork	12	1
Shell	56	-
Slag	448	-
Total	*20096*	*2*

Table 4: Total number of finds by context

For the purposes of analytical clarity and the presentation of the investigation's results, the PDA has been divided into three areas (Areas A-C) that each reflects a particular topographic situation (the following heights have been recorded from the trench bases). Area A is defined by the landfall along the west of the PDA, approximately incorporating land between 6.5m and 2.5mOD; Area B covers the highest and most consistently level topographic position of the PDA between Areas

A and C, at a height of between 6.5m and 7.7mOD; the outline of Area C consists of a gradual landfall on the east side of the PDA, between approximately 7m and 5.7mOD. It is of no surprise that the division of these areas by means of their topographic qualities also coincides with a distinction in the character of the archaeology documented therein. Consideration of the significance of this is expanded in the discussion in Section 3.3, with the following separately outlining the results of the three areas.

The combined thickness of the ploughsoil and subsoil differed markedly over the PDA (Figure 4); in general this reflects differences in the thickness of the subsoil as the ploughsoil's thickness was found to be consistently in the region of 0.28-0.32m. The trenches situated at the lowest flank of the landfall in Area A revealed colluvial subsoil up to 0.31m thick and gradually thinning upslope to a complete absence of subsoil at around 5.3mOD. From about 6.4mOD eastwards, and broadly at the point at which the convergence of Area A and Area B has been defined, the landfall flattens but a subsoil headland of 0.23m thickness and a length of around 15-20m was apparent in Tr9, Tr18 and Tr22 oriented north-northeast along the lip of the landfall. This is apparent as a soil mark from an aerial vantage (Figure 5). The subsoil in area A was variable, but generally thin (less than 0.1m thickness) and occasionally found to be completely eradicated. A possible second headland about 0.2m thick was observed at the intersection of Areas B and C, again positioned north-northeast along the increasing landfall, although this might also reflect downslope colluvial migration. The majority of archaeological features were masked by the subsoil where present, with only the latest (post-Medieval) features (in Tr4, Tr26-27 and Tr29) either cutting through the subsoil or contained within its profile.

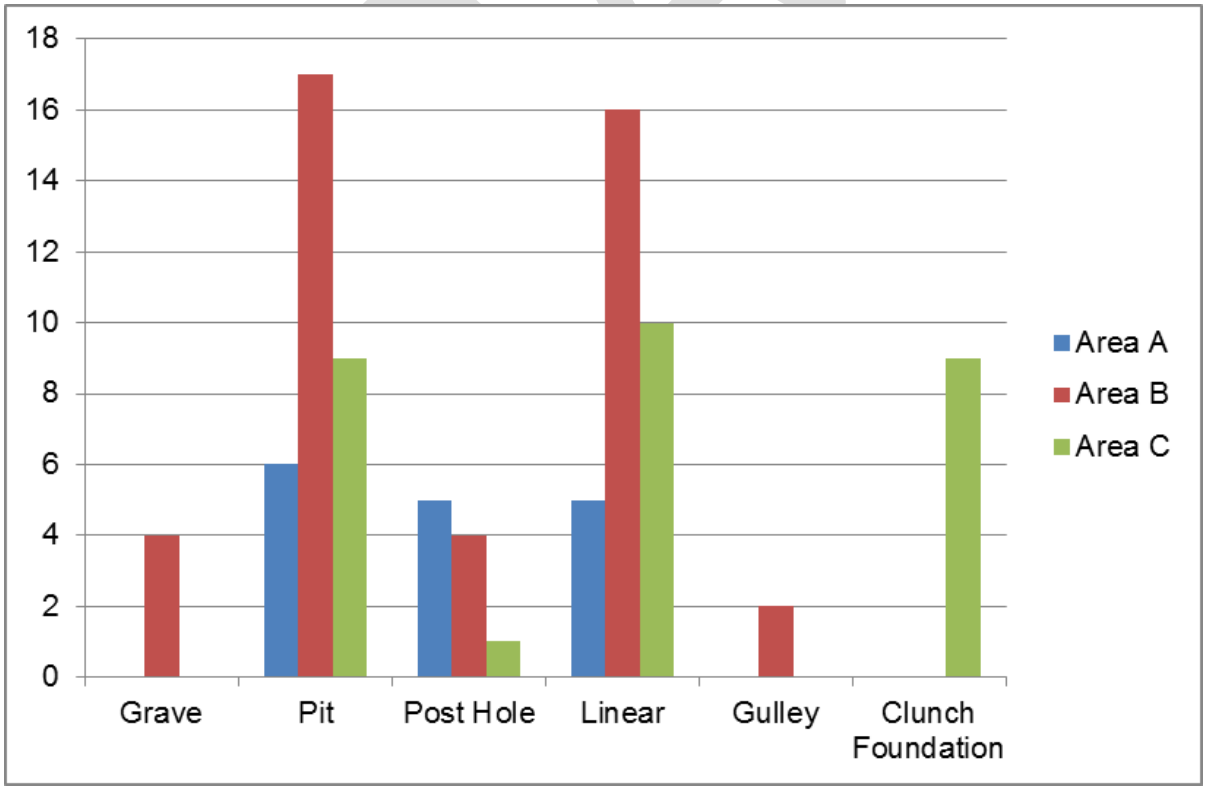

Chart 1: Graph showing total number of features by area (excludes drains)

Sub-soiling scars aligned northwest-southeast were evident in Area A, penetrating up to 0.1m into the parent marl geology. Although these were less prevalent in Areas B and C, here plough scars oriented northeast-southwest were intermittently visible but with minor impact to archaeological features.

3.1 Trenching

Area	No. of Trenches	No. of Features
A	10	16
B	17	43
C	7	30
Total	*34*	*89*

Table 5: Total number of trenches and features by area

3.1.1 Area A

Trenches Tr1-5, Tr7-8, Tr19-21

There were 10 trenches excavated in Area A with a total of 16 features recorded therein. On the plan these appear with an even distribution across Area A, but in reality there is a greater concentration of features within its south half if taking into account the likelihood that **F.2** and **F.7** – two irregular small hollows – in Tr1 and Tr5 respectively are probably naturally formed. Both F.2 and F.7 were situated in trenches north of the Gas Main. Here, comprising trenches Tr1-6, three of the five recorded features produced datable finds. A small pit, **F.1**, in Tr2 contained a retouched worked flint of probable [EBA?] date. Iron Age pottery was recovered from linear **F.4**, oriented east to west in Tr3, which was cut to 0.61m depth at 2.48m width. F.4 was not observable as a geophysical anomaly, and it appears to hold little association to features north of the Gas Main. It is possible that F.4 is the continuation of F.9 identified in trenches Tr10 and Tr12 which also contained sherds of Iron Age pottery (see Area B). Besides these features north of the Gas Main, a post-Medieval linear (F.3) was also tested in trench Tr3 was similarly aligned east-west. In addition to its post-medieval finds assemblage, F.3 cut through the colluvial subsoil, which is an indicator for features elsewhere within the PDA of a comparatively late date.

To the south of the Gas Main trenches Tr7-8 and Tr19-20 revealed ten individual features. Three of these, all from Tr7, were linears of varying size. Oriented north-south, **F.19** was formed of shallow and irregular concave sides of 2.35m width and a gradual concave base at a depth of 0.35m. It contained three fills of homogenous pale to mid brown silt, often with shells of land snails and small sub-angular stones, but no finds or charcoal. The other two linears, **F.20** and **F.21**, each containing a single fill of light grey-brown silty clay, lay at right angles to one another on a northeast-southwest axis, with similar dimensions of c. 0.55m and depths near to 0.1m. Again, datable material was absent. F.20 was found to continue eastwards through Tr8, but no southerly continuation of F.21 was identified in Tr20.

A clustering of pits and postholes dominated the south half of Area A within trenches Tr19 and Tr20: **F.24-29**, **F.32** (Figure 8). Two types of pit could be identified: first is a moderately sized type with pale to mid brown clayey silt fills, as illustrated by F.24 (and paired with F.32), at *c*. 0.5m depth with 2-3m length or width and contained shells of land snails and small sub-angular stones; a similar fill with land snails was observed in linear F.19. F.24 also contained two small sherds of Iron Age pottery (see Hall, below). The second pit type is represented by F.29. This held considerably smaller dimensions than the first type, and was oval in plan (0.7x0.5m) with a depth of 0.27m. It was filled by a deposit of dark brown silt mixed in patches with pale marl, and contained fragments of burnt stone. Postholes F.24-28 ranged in depth from 3cm to 0.2m, each contained a single fill of mid or dark brown clayey silt, and appear to form a contiguous group.

Trench	Feature	Feature Type	Flint	Burnt Flint	Bone	Stone	Burnt Stone	Pottery	Metal	Shell	Tile	Total
2	1	Pit		1 (24g)								1 (24g)
3	3	Linear							1 (4g)		1 (64g)	2 (68g)
	4	Linear		25 (412g)		1 (114g)		3 (8g)				29 (534g)
19	24	Pit						2 (2g)		50 (22g)		52 (24g)
	29	Pit	1 (22g)				18 (524g)					19 (546g)
19 + 20	24	Pit		1 (6g)								1 (6g)
Total			1 (22g)	27 (442g)		1 (114g)	18 (524g)	5 (10g)	1 (4g)	50 (22g)	1 (64g)	104 (1202g)

Table 6: Summary of finds from Area A

3.1.2 Area B

Trenches Tr6, Tr9-12, Tr16-18, Tr22-25, Tr30-34

43 features were recorded from the 17 trenches that comprise Area B; of these, six produced finds datable to the Iron Age based on pottery associations.

Trench	Feature	Cut	No. Fills	Depth (m)	Width (m)
17	10	34	6	0.68	2.54
23	22	102	3	0.69	1.80
31	22	139	8	0.55	>1.3
16	35	155	9	0.90	1.45
24	38	117	8	0.89	2.20

Table 7: Summary of enclosure ditch profiles

The geophysics registered a series of linear anomalies forming a probable rectilinear enclosure that was targeted by Tr16-17, Tr23-25 and Tr31. Five excavated slots revealed that the ditches were each of moderate size and were varied in the character of their profile (Table 7), from straight and steep sides to sides with an undulating, slightly irregular shallow incline (Figures 6 & 7). These were cut to depths of between 0.55m and 0.9m varying in width from 1.45m to 2.54m. Each slot illustrated a comparable filling sequence with a thin basal layer of soft marl silting

overlain by layers deriving from the interior of the enclosure, most likely originating from an inner bank formed of material up-cast from the ditch cutting.

Within this sequence the details of the filling repertoire was spatially distinct between slots cut into the north of the enclosure, equating with **F.10** and **F.35**, and the south, to which **F.22** and **F.38** were assigned. Within the former, only half of the ditch profile appeared to have been backfilled by material of the inner bank, with the remaining profile capped by compact dark brown silt. The latter slots, also having been partially backfilled to the mid-way point of the ditch profile, were finally capped and effectively sealed by a compact layer of clean marl that may be interpreted as a deposit deliberately procured and placed with intent possibly aimed at the levelling of the remaining hollow. A small quantity of pottery and bone was recovered from the enclosure ditches (Table 8), the single sherd from F.35 attributed to the Iron Age and recovered from the upper fill of the ditch; a quantity of land snails were also recovered from the upper fill.

A direct relationship between the backfilled enclosure and discrete cut features containing Iron Age pottery was ascertained in Tr23 and Tr31 where at least eleven pits were identified. Two of these were tested: **F.23** and **F.31**. These were oval in plan and respectively 0.21m and 0.53m deep, cutting through the marl capping and upper fills of the enclosure ditch **F.22**, and may each have been cut into a larger cluster of similar features (Figure 8), a number of which evidently also cut into the enclosure ditch.

Additional pits and postholes containing Iron Age pottery were identified in Tr9, **F.18** and **F.58**, Tr16, **F.59** and **F.61** (both unexcavated) and Tr34, **F.48-50**. The postholes (F.48 & F.49) measured between 0.3m and 0.37m in length and 0.23m and 0.28m in depth. The three pits (F.18, F.50 & F.58) measured between 0.62m and 1.25m in width and between 0.11m and .4m deep; F.50 was oblong in shape, 1.83m long and over 0.85m wide. F.18 and F.50 contained mid to dark greyish brown or brown silty clay, with F.58 containing a single fill of mid to light grey silt. Although a direct association between these features the enclosure ditch cannot be conclusively demonstrated at this stage, the recovery of Iron Age pottery from the pits and enclosure ditch strongly suggest that such an association does exist and further excavation will shed light on the relationship between them.

During the evaluation four inhumation burials were identified within sub-rectangular grave cuts oriented north-south with the head to the north (**F.8**, **F.30**, **F.36** and **F.91**; Dodwell, below).. The burials appear to be laid on their backs, although one (**F.91**) in Tr23 may be face-down in a prone position and that from Tr17 (**F.36**) may have been flexed. No associated pottery vessels were found within the graves, with a copper alloy pin and small rectangular piece of copper alloy sheet recovered from the fills of two of the graves (**F.30** and **F.36** respectively). Only investigated sufficiently to confirm these features were burials, the exposed graves measured between 0.7m and 2.15m in length, 0.7-1.02m wide and tested to a depth of 0.3m; all of the graves were left in situ and suitably protected.

Within Tr9, possible quarry F.14 produced some 80 sherds of pottery dating from the 14th and 15th centuries in addition to a small quantity of bone, slag, shell and two pieces of worked stone.

Trench	Feature	Feature Type	Flint	Burnt Flint	Bone	Stone	Worked Stone	Burnt Stone	Metal	Pottery	Shell	Slag	Total
9	6	**Linear**			28 (582g)								28 (582g)
	14	Quarry?	1 (12g)		20 (124g)	7 (398g)	2 (150g)	3 (1842g)	1 (6g)	80 (496g)	6 (16g)	67 (262g)	187 (3306g)
	18	Pit	2 (24g)		1 (8g)					8 (42g)			11 (74g)
10	9	Linear	1 (18g)		20 (44g)					7 (28g)			28 (90g)
16	16	**Pit**			103 (830g)					18 (330g)			123 (1161g)
	17	Gulley								1 (6g)			1 (6)
	30	Grave			4 (20g)				1 (1g)				5 (21g)
	35	Linear			28 (367g)					1 (2g)	3 (8g)		32 (377g)
17	8	Grave			11* (6)								11 (6g)
	10	Linear	1 (6g)	14 (180g)	22 (472g)	2 (56g)		2 (112g)			8 (6g)	1(?) (6g)	50 (838g)
	36	Grave							1 (1g)				1 (1g)
	Surface find	-								1 (1g)			1 (1g)
22	37	Linear						2 (218g)		1 (2g)			3 (220g)
23 + 31	22	Linear		4 (16g)						4 (6g)	2 (3g)		10 (25g)
	31	Pit		25 (204g)	36 (170g)			7 (204g)		36 (202g)			104 (805g)
24	38	Linear		2 (2g)	18 (63g)	7 (1736g)		10 (2430g)		1 (6g)	5 (1g)		43 (4240g)
	45	Linear			2 (2g)								2 (2g)
31	22	Linear		10 (50g)	1 (1g)					1 (2g)		1(?) (4g)	13 (57g)
	23	Pit		1 (2g)						1 (2g)			2 (4g)
	83	Pit							1 (1g)				1 (1g)
Total			**5 (60g)**	**56 (454g)**	**294 (2683g)**	**16 (2190g)**	**2 (150g)**	**4 (9g)**	**160 (1125g)**	**24 (4806g)**	**24 (34g)**	**67 (272g)**	**656 (11789)**

Table 8: Finds summary Area B. *Teeth only collected

Towards the southern end of Tr22 three features were recorded. The morphology and examination of the 1945 aerial photograph (Figure 5) suggest these features are tree-throws and were not excavated.

3.1.3 Area C

Trenches Tr13-15, Tr26-29 and Tr33

30 features were recorded from the 8 trenches that comprise Area C, of which 13 were excavated; no datable pottery was recovered from these features. Of note, and stratigraphically sealed by subsoil, were a number of pits identified in the southern half of the area within Tr29 of possible prehistoric origin, pits **F.11**, **F.15**, **F.70**, **F.71**; these latter two were not excavated. Although unexcavated, within this trench where found three potential pit clusters (**F.72**-**F.74**) that may also be of prehistoric attribution, in addition to further undated pits located in Tr26 (**F.54**) and Tr27 (**F.65** - unexcavated). Two pits, F.11 and F.54, contained burnt stone, the former also containing a small quantity of animal bone (Table 9). In addition to these pits two linear features were excavated in Tr27, **F.41**, and Tr29, **F.55**. Oriented northwest-southeast, measuring 1.5m wide and, respectively, 0.5m and 0.42m deep, these had similar fills, convex sides with a break of slope to a near flat base and also contained burnt stone and F.41 two fragments of bone and 14 pieces of burnt flint.

Trench	Feature	Feature Type	Burnt Flint	Bone	Burnt Stone	Slag(?)	Stone	Total
26	54	Pit			2 (380g)			2 (380g)
27	41	Linear	14 (1038g)	7 (104g)	21 (2946g)	1 (164g)		43 (4252g)
29	11	Pit		2 (14g)	8 (1132g)		4 (656g)	14 (1802g)
		Total	14 (1038g)	9 (9g)	31 (4458g)	1 (164g)	4 (656g)	59 (6434g)

Table 9: Finds summary for Area C

In addition to an undated posthole in Tr14 (**F.52**), evidence of Medieval or post-Medieval strip quarrying was identified in Tr14 (**F.51**) and Tr15 (**F.47**) and consisted of linear features oriented roughly east-west and excavated to a depth of approximately 0.5m and measuring between 0.9m and 1.5m wide; neither feature contained any finds.

Located within Area C in trenches close to Cherry Hinton Road where a number of undated clunch foundation slots found in Tr26, **F.56**, and Tr29, **F.12** (see Figure 9) and unexcavated **F.76**-**F.79**. Although undated, these features and other undated features in this area cut the subsoil and early archaeological features. As well as several post-Medieval ditches and drains identified in this area (see trench summaries for details) Tr33 was opened as an extension to further clarify and confirm the absence of the large circular geophysical anomaly tested in Tr26. Not visible as an archaeological feature in either trench, this anomaly may relate to ploughsoil signatures or be natural in origin.

3.2 Watching Brief

Monitoring of the six test pits for filtration testing revealed no in situ archaeology or artefacts and no further investigation was required in respect of these.

3.3 Discussion

(Grahame Appleby)

The evaluation occurred on a raised area of the local landscape that showed a marked slope towards the north, with a more gradual incline towards Cherry Hinton Road. Formed as a result of glacial action eroding the underlying chalk, prior to enclosure in the 19th century this would have formed a distinctly visible promontory in the local landscape. It is of interest to note that the change in topography reflected the distribution of archaeological features, with fewer prehistoric features found In Area A to the north, a higher density within Area B, and again fewer features within Area C. Medieval and post-Medieval features were found almost exclusively in Area C.

As referred to above, the evaluation trenches were located to expose and determine the scale, type and extent of archaeological features identified during the geophysical survey (see Richardson in Appleby 2014). It is thus interesting that the large 'ring ditch' highlighted as of possible prehistoric origin during that survey and exposed in Tr9 (F.14) was found to be a Medieval or later quarry; a geological or glacial feature on the higher ground being conveniently exploited for either clunch or similar material.

Little evidence predating the Iron Age was found during the evaluation, although some of the undated pits and linear features may be of later Bronze Age attribution. The small quantity of potentially Neolithic or Bronze Age worked flint was recovered from features containing Iron Age pottery, suggesting this material was residual in nature. The paucity of flint and positively identified features pre-dating the Iron Age may suggest that this part of the landscape was only seasonally utilised with sparse occupation and the higher ground exploited for its flint. The remaining worked flint was expediently utilised and thus potentially manufactured in the later prehistoric period, most likely the Iron Age (10 pieces were found in pits containing Iron Age pottery).

Concentrated towards the centre of Area B were a number of Iron Age linear features and pits. The orientation, morphology and similar nature of the fills of four linear features (F.10, F.22, F.35, F.38) show that these formed a distinct enclosure, and which was evident on the geophysical plot. As well as residual and expediently worked flint from these features (see Beadsmoore below), 68 fragments of animal bone (841g) and 6 sherds of Iron Age pottery (16g) were recovered (Table 8). In terms of the animal bone, there is a very slight species bias in favour of sheep and sheep sized elements when compared to cattle, reflecting the higher incidence of sheep on Iron Age sites generally; however, this is a limited sample size and, as discussed by Rajkovača, 10 of the elements were teeth. Nonetheless, as her analysis of the skeletal elements demonstrates animal rearing and butchery was

occurring on or near to the site. The deposition of an articulated Red Deer leg also demonstrates that wild sources were also being exploited.

The lack of cereal grains in ditches and pits, although one *Triticum dicoccum* grain was found in linear F.41, indicates that the area was located away from or on the periphery of main settlement activity and where cereal processing might be expected. The presence of land snails, subject to analysis of these samples, does, however, show that the area around the site had been cleared of woodland by the later prehistoric period (the large number of snails reflects excellent preservation). Although a Bronze Age field system was identified at the Babraham Park and Ride site (Hinman 2001) there was no direct evidence revealed during the evaluation for a field-system or paddocks pre-dating the Early Iron Age, the area remaining open, possibly pasture.

The location of the Iron Age enclosure and relatively lower number of prehistoric features in Areas A and the possible prehistoric pits in Tr29 in Area C, imply the site was one of numerous small open settlement type sites that appeared during the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age transition where pits form the dominant archaeological feature associated with settlement activity and which continued into the Middle Iron Age (Patten 2014; Cunliffe 2004). The recovery of over 80% of the Iron Age pottery (80 sherds) compared to that from the enclosure ditches and other linear features (13 sherds) would support this interpretation and further exposure of the site will help to refine this conclusion; the current number of pits does not indicate the site will have as dense a number of pits as found elsewhere on sites of the period in the Cam Valley (Patten 2012, 114-115). Unlike the Trumpington Meadows landscape (Patten 2012) or Cam Valley as a whole (Evans *et al*. 2008) there is presently no clear Late Iron Age settlement identified within or immediately adjacent to the site, although settlements and enclosures of the period are known from the wider landscape (Appleby 2014; Gibson & Lucas 2000, 2002). Nor did the site emerge or develop as a defended site such as those at Wandlebury, War Ditches, or further afield at Arbury Banks in King's Hedges (French 2004; Mortimer 2012; Evans & Knight 2002).

The apparent lack of Late Iron Age and Romano-British features within the site is surprising in view of the known archaeology of these periods within the surrounding landscape (Appleby 2014, 10). This lack of evidence may indicate that the enclosure was abandoned during the Late Iron Age period, or that the site was never a focus for settlement related activity. It may therefore be of significance that the four undated inhumation burials are located 'inside' the enclosure and possibly associated. Inhumed in 'formal' graves (Dodwell, pers. comm) the burials are likely to be of Late Iron Age or later attribution (the metalwork recovered from two of the burials was found in the upper fills away from the bodies and thus likely to intrusive[1]). At the time of writing the relationship between the burials and enclosure must remain speculative.

Located in Area C were a number of undated prehistoric pits and later, post-Medieval foundation slots containing clunch (Figure 9). Of a relatively substantial nature (*c.* 0.3m-0.5m wide) the function of these slots is unclear; they are also undated. Aligned downslope and towards Cherry Hinton Road, these wall

[1] The looser soils of the features was in many instances severely affected by burrowing animals.

foundations are not recorded on any maps of the area and may only provide a slight register on the geophysical survey results. No finds were forthcoming from the two excavated examples, F.12 and F.56. It remains a matter of interpretation whether these walls are building or drainage related, but due to their size a structural function is currently considered the most likely. If correct, these foundation slots and walls represent previously unknown or recorded buildings in this part of Cherry Hinton and dating these features will be an important aim of any further excavations.

4. CONCLUSION

The evaluation has revealed a landscape occupied from at least the Late Bronze Age to the later Iron Age, notably of an open settlement nature, with only slight evidence of earlier utilisation, probably seasonal. This interpretation, however, is based on the exposed archaeology and current pottery assessment and will be subject to revision. The earlier geophysical survey revealed potentially more features of archaeological interest and the aerial photographic assessment indicates the presence of at least one further ring ditch close to the site, although this feature may also prove to be a Medieval or later quarry or geological in origin.

The discovery of four inhumations of possible Late Iron Age or later date is of importance as these are located both on the locally higher ground and ‘inside’ the Iron Age enclosure and the relationship between these and the enclosure evidence will require further investigation. The lack of Romano-British features and artefacts demonstrate that the area also lay beyond the foci of settlement activity during this period, a situation that seemingly continued into the Medieval period.

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6. APPENDICES

6.1 Specialist Reports

6.1.1 Pottery
David Hall

Some 178 pieces of pottery were recovered from 15 features (Table 10); no pottery was associated with the four graves in Area B. These were predominately Iron Age in date, with the exception of two possible Saxon sherds from F.9 and F.50 in Tr10 and Tr34 respectively; 83 (38g) Medieval sherds, 57 (459g) attributable to the 14th and 15th centuries, were all recovered from Medieval quarry F.14 in Tr9. Further analysis of this small assemblage will be required if no further archaeological excavations occur at this site, but currently, it provides direct dating evidence for this potentially significant Iron Age site within this part of the Cambridge environs.

Trench	Feature	Context	Cat. No.	Fabric	Notes	Qty.	Wt. (g)	Date
3	4	12	3			2	2	I.A.
9	18	52	42			8	43	I.A.
10	9	25	8			1	6	Saxon?
10	9	25	8			3	15	I.A.
10	9	26	10			1	1	I.A.
10	9	27	11			2	7	I.A.
16	16	47	39		Some shell, some flint gritted.	10	316	I.A.
16	16	47	103			4	15	I.A.
16	17	49	41			1	5	I.A.
17			97		TR17 S.F. 1	1	1	I.A.
19	24	62	54			2	2	I.A.
22	37	93	75		Flint gritted.	1	2	I.A.
23	31	95	59		Flint gritted.	8	45	I.A.
23	31	96	63			16	40	I.A.
23	31	97	66		Flint gritted.	8	118	I.A.
24	38	104	77			1	7	I.A.
25	35	131	70			1	2	I.A.
31	22	100	49		Decorated.	4	7	I.A.
31	23	60	52			1	1	I.A.
32	14	39	25			25	38	Med
32	14	40	30	Essex Red	Includes slip.	18	198	15th C
32	14	40	30		Grimstone.	1	6	14th C
32	14	40	30		Ely ware.	1	13	14th C
32	14	40	30	Buff + greyware		37	242	14th C
34	49	175	89			2	3	I.A.
34	50	170	90			1	14	Saxon?
34	50	170	90		1 base, 1 rim.	18	88	I.A.

Table 10: Spot dated pottery quantities

6.1.2 Human Bone
Natasha Dodwell

Four inhumations, as yet undated, were identified. Located in Trenches 16, 17 and 23, all of the graves were oriented north-south, with the head at the southern end. It was decided that the conditions of archaeological evaluation did not warrant the graves' full excavation beyond determination of their nature and potential. In two of the graves (F.8 and F.91) the skulls had been clipped by the machine – illustrating the shallow depth of burial – and in the other two (F.30 and F.36) a small slot was excavated to expose and assess the depth, orientation and preservation of any bone.

All of the bone that was exposed is in good condition with some evidence of insect/rootlet etching on the cortical surfaces.

Skeleton [69] – identified in a sub-rectangular grave (F.30) in Trench 16 (Figure 8) at a depth of 0.3m. The skull rested on its right side facing east and its morphological traits suggested that the individual might be female. In addition to the skull the atlas and a scapula were exposed, although the remaining upper vertebrae appeared to be either missing or displaced; this may be a result of soil acidity or animal burrowing, but selective deposition may also not be discounted.

Skeleton [22] – identified in a sub-rectangular grave (F.8) in Trench 17 with the skull clipped and part-exposed by the machine excavator; the mix of deciduous and permanent dentition suggested that the individual was aged *c*. 8-9 years old.

Skeleton [91] – located in a grave (F.36) *c*. 5m west of Skeleton [22] in Trench 17, and with only the north 1m of the grave extending from the edge of the trench; the lower legs of an adult were exposed at 0.3m depth in a deposit mixed by animal burrowing. The position of the legs on the western side of the grave suggested that the body *may* be flexed.

Skeleton [180] – identified in a shallow grave (F.91) at the north limit of Trench 23. Again, the machine had clipped the skull and vertebrae of an adult inhumation.

Prior to backfilling of the trenches, any loose human bone was recovered for storage at the CAU; the graves were covered in a double thickness of a permeable fabric and several centimetres of orange/yellow gravel to protect them and make them easily identifiable in future investigations.

A mandibular canine tooth from skeleton [69] was submitted for radiocarbon dating.

6.1.3 Animal Bone
Vida Rajkovača

A small scale evaluation produced an assemblage of animal bone with a raw count of 332 fragments and a total weight of 3045g. Following the assessment, some 138 assessable specimens were recorded from the hand-recovered assemblage, of which only 47 were possible to assign to species level (34%, Tables 11 and 12). Further 19 specimens were recovered as heavy residues during the processing of environmental bulk soil samples.

Methods: Identification, quantification and ageing

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. Taphonomic criteria including indications of butchery, pathology, gnawing activity and surface modifications as a result of weathering were also recorded when evident.

The preservation was varied, ranging from poor, with signs of severe flaking and erosion, to quite good, with minimal surface erosion. Within the hand-recovered assemblage, only one specimen was recorded as burnt and eight showed signs of canine gnawing. It was not possible to note any traces of butchery. Despite the high fragmentation, red deer tibia from F.6 ([17]) was over 75% complete. The only two complete specimens were two sheep/ goat and cattle phalanges. A few cattle-sized long bones had heat-cracking marks, possibly to expose and extract marrow.

The table below lists the species by feature and trench (Table 11). It is clear that the majority of bone came from trenches in the centre and south of the investigated area (Tr 16, 17, 23/31 and 24), covering the area of intensive activity.

	Trench 9			Trench 10	Trench 16		Trench 17	Trench 23/31	Trench 24		Trench 27	Trench 29	Trench 31	Trench 34
Taxon	**F.6**	**F.14**	**F.18**	**F.9**	**F.16**	**F.35**	**F.10**	**F.31**	**F.38**	**F.45**	**F.41**	**F.11**	**F.22**	**F.50**
Cow	.	.	.	.	5	1	.	5	1	.	1	.	.	3
Sheep/ goat	1	1	1	1	13	.	.	2	4	.	.	.	.	.
Pig	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Horse	.	1	.	.	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Dog	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.
Red deer	2	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Sub-total to species	**3**	**2**	**1**	**1**	**20**	**1**	**2**	**8**	**5**	**.**	**1**	**.**	**.**	**3**
Cattle-sized	2	1	.	1	8	1	6	1	1	.	3	2	.	1
Sheep-sized	.	11	.	7	4	6	1	10	7	1	1	.	1	11
Mammal n.f.i.	.	1	.	.	.	.	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Total	**5**	**15**	**1**	**9**	**32**	**8**	**12**	**19**	**13**	**1**	**5**	**2**	**1**	**15**

Table 11: Number of Identified Specimens for all species – breakdown by feature and trench. The abbreviation nf.i. denotes that the specimen could not be further identified.

Pottery dating evidence suggested the majority of bone came from Iron Age contexts. Three features were tentatively recorded as prehistoric (F.10, 11 and 41) and one context (F.45, [128]) remains undated. Medieval quarry pit F.14 with a moderate amount of poorly preserved bone has been quantified separately. The assemblage was quantified accordingly and the results are presented in Table 12.

Though ovicapra are seemingly the most common species, of 23 specimens, ten were loose teeth. Sheep/ goat are closely followed by cattle (NISP=16) with 5 specimens representing the skull fragments, mandibular elements and loose teeth.

Other domesticates are under-represented. Red deer is represented by meat-bearing elements only: two tibiae and a distal femur. The only specimen possible to age was the cow mandible from F.16 ([47]) giving the age at death of 8-18 months.

Taxon	Iron Age	?Prehistoric	Medieval quarry pit F.14	Undated
Cow	15	1	.	.
Sheep/ goat	22	.	1	.
Pig	1	.	.	.
Horse	1	1	1	.
Dog	1	.	.	.
Red deer	2	1	.	.
Sub-total to species	**42**	**3**	**2**	**.**
Cattle-sized	15	11	1	.
Sheep-sized	46	2	11	1
Mammal n.f.i.	.	3	1	.
Total	**103**	**19**	**15**	**1**

Table 12: Number of Identified Specimens for all species – breakdown by date/phase. The abbreviation nf.i. denotes that the specimen could not be further identified

The prevalence of sheep/ goat is typical of the majority of Iron Age assemblages from the country, a pattern which more resembles the Iron Age from the southern England (see Hambleton 2008). This prevalence is very slight and cattle must have provided more meat. Higher numbers of mandibular elements, loose teeth, metapodials and phalanges within the skeletal element count is a clear sign animals were reared and butchered on site. It is possible red deer was hunted, and that joints of meat were the only portion of the carcass brought to site.

Fauna from heavy residues

A total of 19 specimens were recovered from three samples (F.16, 38 and 53), all of which were assigned to a size-category: a sheep-sized vertebra fragment (F.16), a rodent-sized limb bone fragment (F.53) and 17 crumbs of unidentifiable bone. Four specimens from F.16 were recorded as heavily burnt or calcined.

6.1.4 Environmental Assessment

Jacqui Hutton

A small number of environmental samples were processed to determine the quality and preservation of environmental evidence recovered from the archaeological features across the evaluation. In total six samples were processed; the environmental evidence in the form of grains and seeds was sparse with the exception of land snail shells that were abundant.

Methodology

The bulk soil samples were floated using an Ankara-type flotation machine. The flot was collected in a 300µm aperture mesh and the remaining heavy residue washed over a 1mm mesh. Both the flot and heavy residue were dried indoors prior to

analysis. The flot residues were examined and sorted by eye only and not with the aid of a microscope. The >4mm fractions of the heavy residue was sorted by eye and all of the finds have been added to Table 13.

Sample No.	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**6**
Feature No.	16	24	38	22	41	35
Context No.	47	62	105	100	119	153
Sample Volume	6L	14L	10L	14L	12L	5L
Flot fraction examined - %	100	100	100	100	100	100
med charcoal 2-4mm	**++**	**+**	**+**	**-**	**++**	**-**
small charcoal <2mm	**+++**	**++**	**++**	**++**	**++**	**++**
Cereal Grains						
Triticum dicoccum Wheat					**-**	
Unidentified seeds			**-**		**-**	**-**
Other Biological Items						
Land Snail Shells	**+++**	**+++**	**+++**	**+++**	**+++**	**+++**
Other Artefacts						
Pottery	**+**					
Bone	**++**		**+**			**+**
Burnt Flint			**-**		**+**	
Modern rootlets	P	P	P	P	P	P

Table 13: Results from the flots and heavy residues

Results

Sample <1>
F.16 [47] A Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pit that contained a very small amount of pottery, bone and charcoal within the heavy residue. The flot produced no grains or other cereal crop, but did contain a large amount of charcoal and an abundance of land snail shells.

Sample <2>
F.24 [62] was an undated later prehistoric pit. No artefacts were recovered from the heavy residue apart from land snail shells. There was a small amount of charcoal with an abundance of land snail shells recovered from the flot.

Sample <3>
F.38 [105] was an undated prehistoric ditch forming the southeast arm of an enclosure. The heavy residue produced a small amount of artefacts included bone, burnt flint and snail shells. The flot produced one seed with a moderate amount of charcoal and an abundance of snail shell.

Sample <4>
F.22 [100] was an undated prehistoric ditch forming the southwest arm of an enclosure. The flot produced very little evidence of material apart from snail shells and charcoal. The heavy residue produced no finds at all.

Sample <5>
F.41 [119] was a ditch that probably dated to the prehistoric period. The flot produced one cereal grain and two seeds as well as an abundance of snail shells and the heavy residue a small amount of burnt flint and charcoal and an additional charred grain.

Sample <6>
F.35 [153] was an undated prehistoric ditch forming the northeast arm of an enclosure. The flot produced a small amount by way of environmental data – one seed – although there was a fairly large amount of charcoal and land snail shells. The residue produced a small amount of bone and burnt bone.

Conclusions

The environmental evidence from the processed samples produced very little by way of grains and seeds; these were found in in very small quantities and in only three samples. Given the low, but still registerable return of environmental data from the bulk samples, larger volumetric samples should be considered here in future sampling strategies so to maximise the return of environmental data. The presence of land snails from sealed contexts also presents a potential source of information regarding environmental conditions at this site.

6.1.5 Worked and Burnt Flint
Emma Beadsmoore

A total of 63 (≤1434g) flints were recovered from 11 features during the evaluation of the site; 28 (<148g) are worked, whilst 1 (1g) is worked and burnt, and 35 (1286g) are burnt. The flint is listed by context and type in Table 14.

			Type				
Feature	chip	chunk	primary flake	secondary flake	tertiary flake	irregular core	**Totals**
1				1			1
4	1		2	8	2		13
9				1			1
10		1		2			3
14				1			1
18		1		1			2
22				2			2
23				1			1
24				1			1
31				1		1	2
50					1		1
Sub totals	1	2	2	19	3	1	28

Table 14: Flint types listed by feature

The material comprises flint working waste, no tools were recovered from the site. The flints are nearly all flakes, with just a couple of chips and chunks and one irregular core. The majority of the material is expediently produced, with no visible attempt to control the form and character of the products or make the most use of the raw material. Expediently manufactured flakes are broadly chronologically diagnostic

of the later prehistoric period, and could be contemporary with the Iron Age features they were recovered from. However, some of the flakes were the products of slightly more systematic flake production/core reduction that potentially dates to the Bronze Age/Neolithic. This potentially earlier material was recovered from features F. 4, F. 10, F. 22 and F.24 and so are likely to be residual.

6.1.7 Metalwork
Grahame Appleby / Andy Hall

A small number of metal items were recovered from five features and comprised three pieces of copper alloy and two iron objects, probably nail shanks (these are not described any further). Two copper alloy items were recovered from graves.

<100> Grave F.30 [68], Trench 16. Reasonably well preserved slightly curved rectangular-shaped piece of thin copper alloy sheet with an attachment pin or tack; one corner is corroded and missing. Length 19mm, width 14.2mm, weight <1g. Possible clothes grip or decorative applique. This item, was recovered from the upper fill of the grave and maybe Medieval in origin.

<101> Grave F.36 [90], Trench 17. Well preserved, bent copper alloy pin, length 38.6mm, weight 1g. Possibly from a brooch.

<102> SF102, surface of F.83, Trench 31. Possible fragment from a small bracelet, Bent in half, the outer surface has a medial longitudinal ridge and the terminal is decorated with transverse grooves. Roman.

6.1.8 Worked & Burnt Stone
Grahame Appleby

A total of 102 pieces of worked and burnt stone weighing 13kg were recovered from 11 features in 12 trenches, burnt stone forming the largest category (Table 15). Only two pieces have been identified as worked and four pieces are spheroidal/round.

Feature	Burnt Stone	Stone	Worked Stone	Total
4		1 (114)		1 (114)
10	2 (112)	2 (56)		4 (168)
11	8 (1132)	4 (656)		12 (1788)
14	3 (1842)	7 (398)	2 (150)	12 (2390)
29	18 (524)			18 (524)
31	7 (204)			7 (204)
37	2 (218)			2 (218)
38	10 (2430)	7 (1736)		17 (4166)
41	21 (2946)			21 (2946)
50	3 (92)	3 (94)		6 (186)
54	2 (380)			2 (380)
Total	**76 (9880)**	**24 (3054)**	**2 (150)**	**102 (13084)**

Table 15: Worked and burnt stone totals

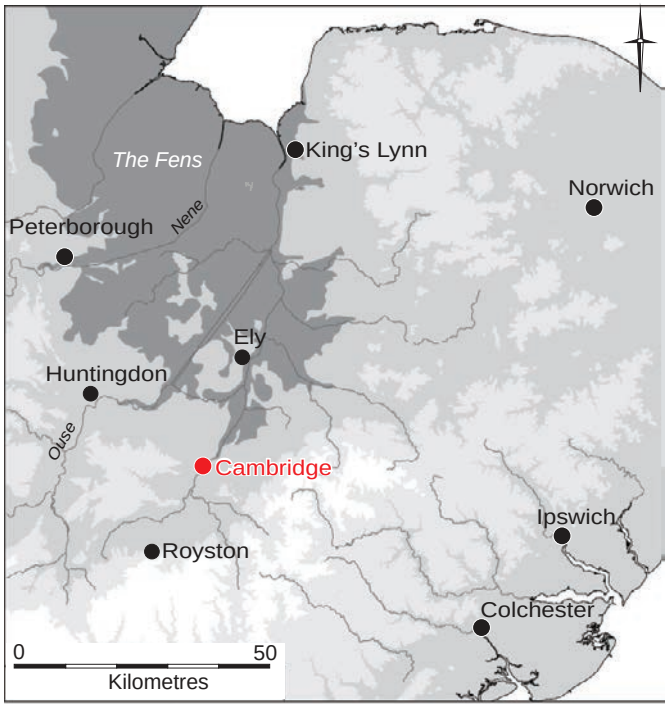
6.1.9 Shell
Jacqui Hutton

A small assemblage of snail and oyster shell was recovered from the evaluation. The majority of the shells derived from land snails, which can aid in the assessment of environmental data. These can be seen in Table 16.

Oyster was recovered from one feature (F.14 in Tr9, Area B). One right valve from [40] was near complete though very small in size (42x43mm), generally, however, the pieces are fragmentary and in poor condition therefore no additional data can be derived from them.

Sample No.	Feature No.	Context No.	Shell Type	Notes
<2>	24	62	Snail	Trench 19
<3>	38	105	Snail	Trench 24
<6>	35	153	Snail	Trench 16
-	10	29	Snail	Trench 17
-	14	39	Oyster	Trench 9
-	14	40	Oyster	Trench 9
-	22	100	Snail	Trench 23 & 31
-	35	131	Snail	Trench 16

Table 16: Shell totals



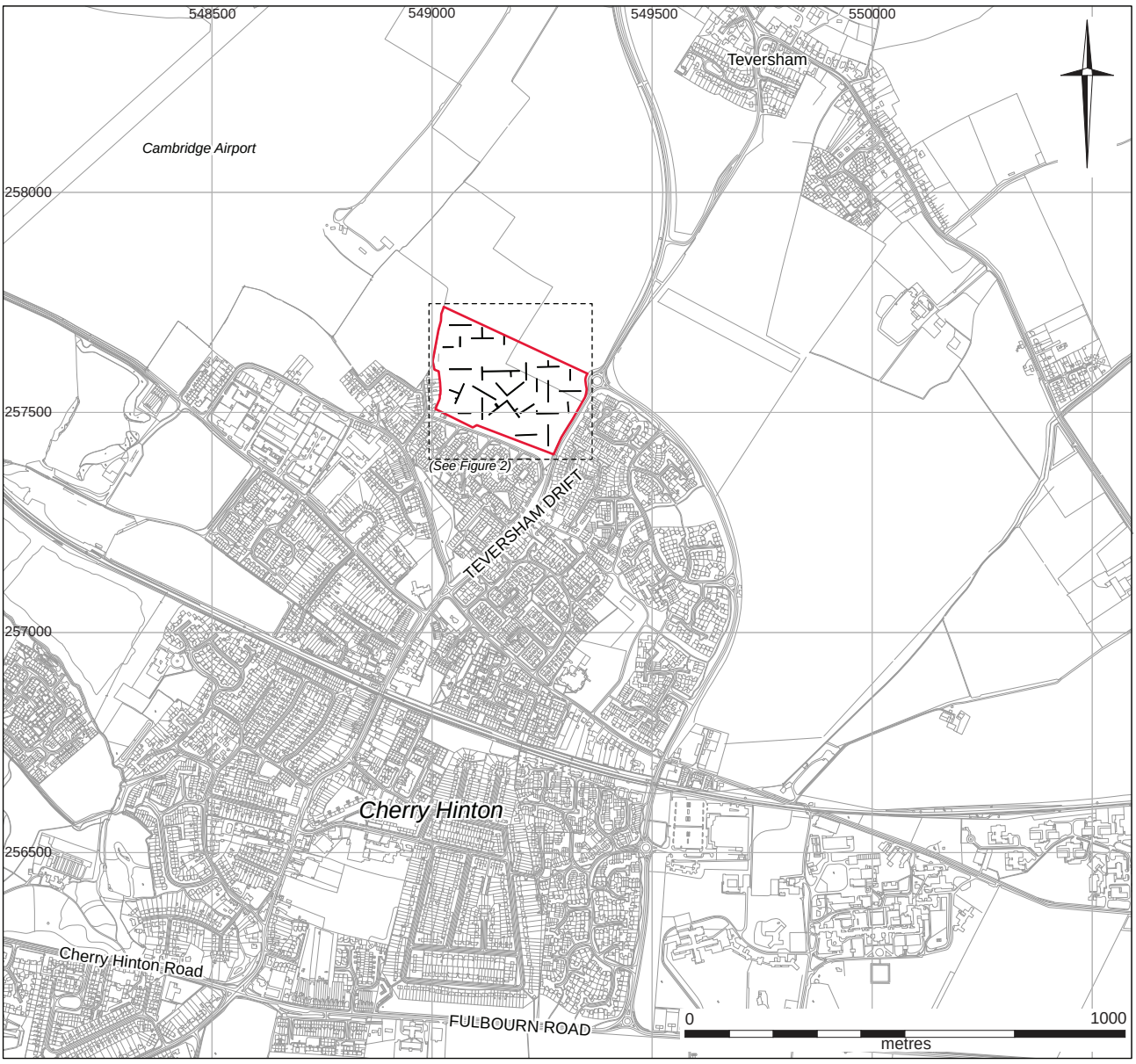


Figure 1. Site Location

Figure 2. Trench plan with geophysical survey results

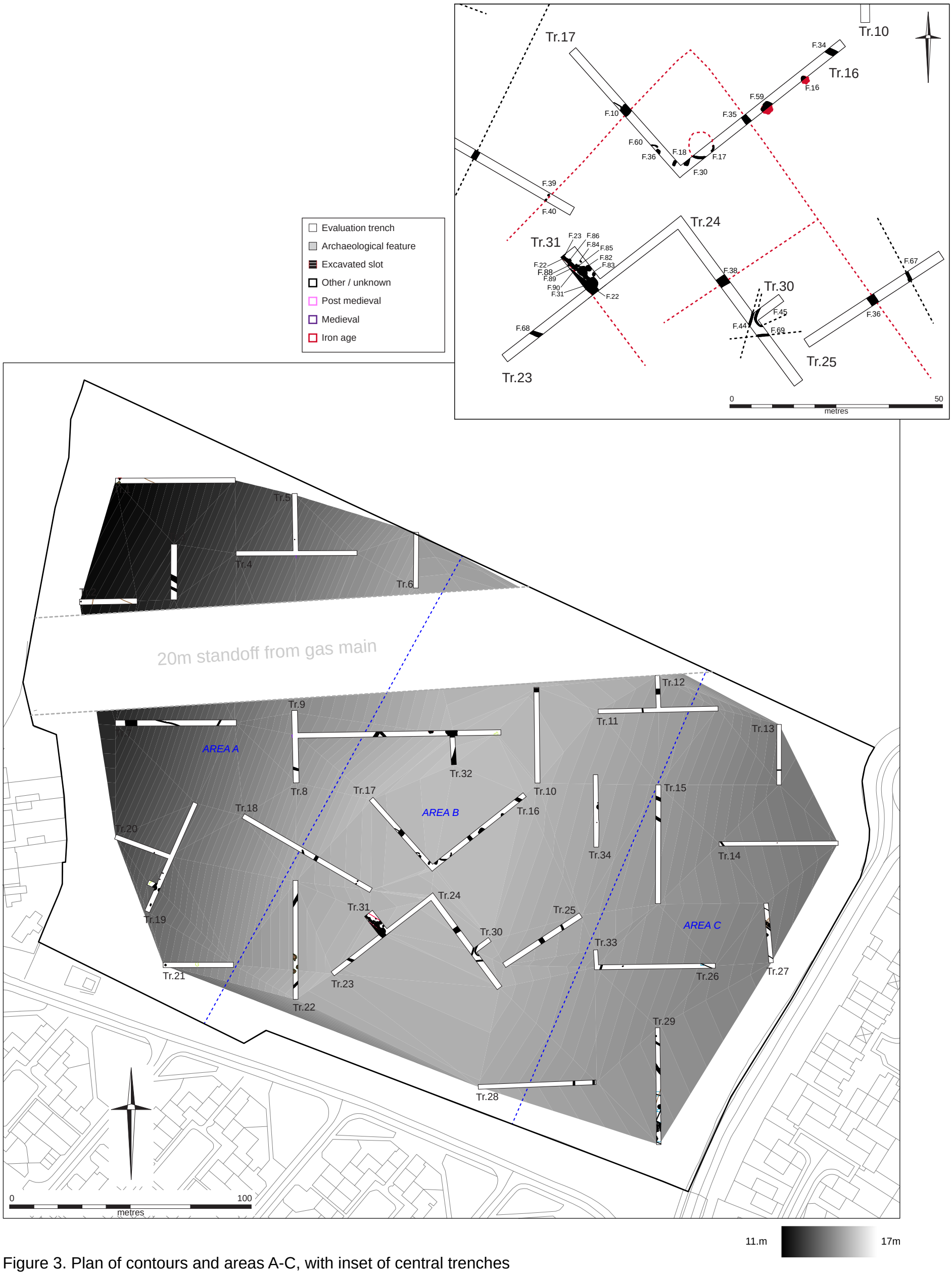


Figure 3. Plan of contours and areas A-C, with inset of central trenches

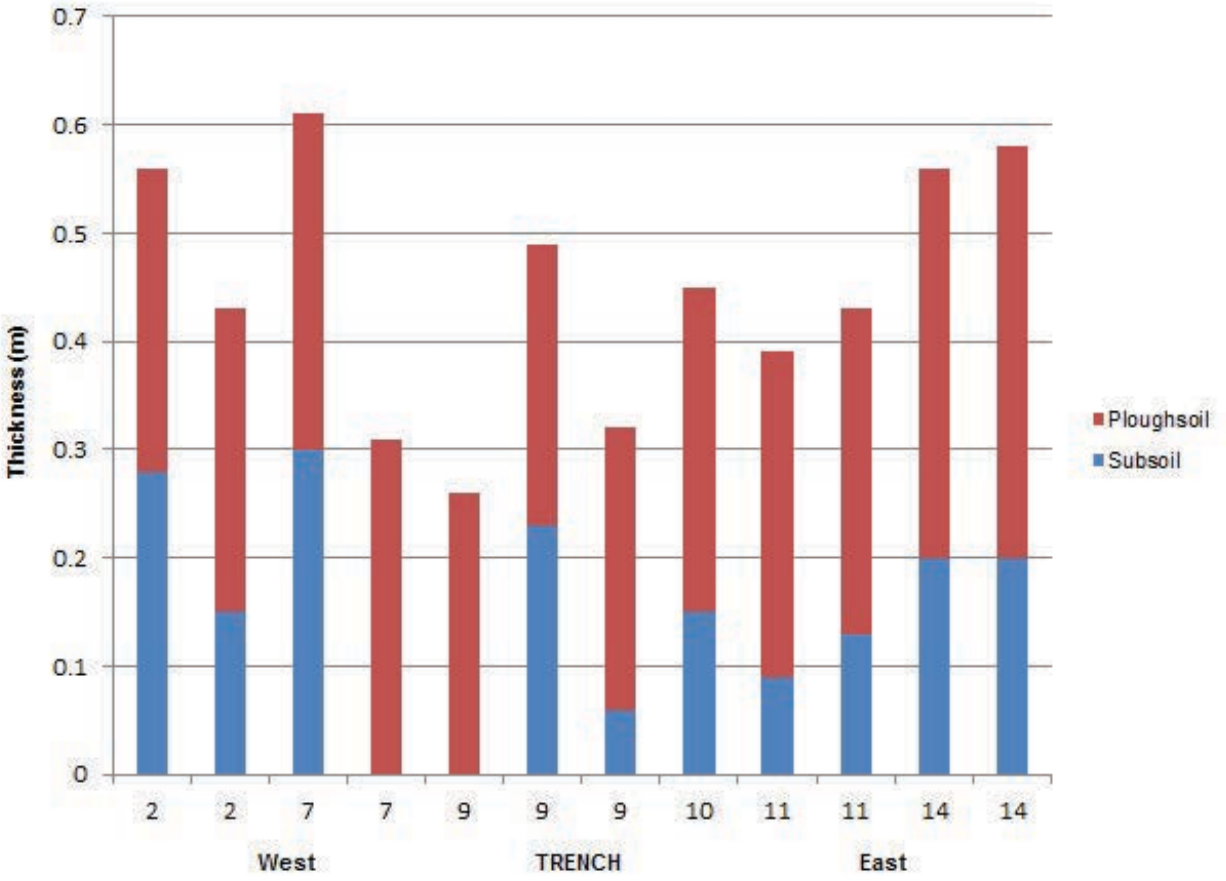


Figure 4a. Landscape profile with graph of subsoil / topsoil thicknesses

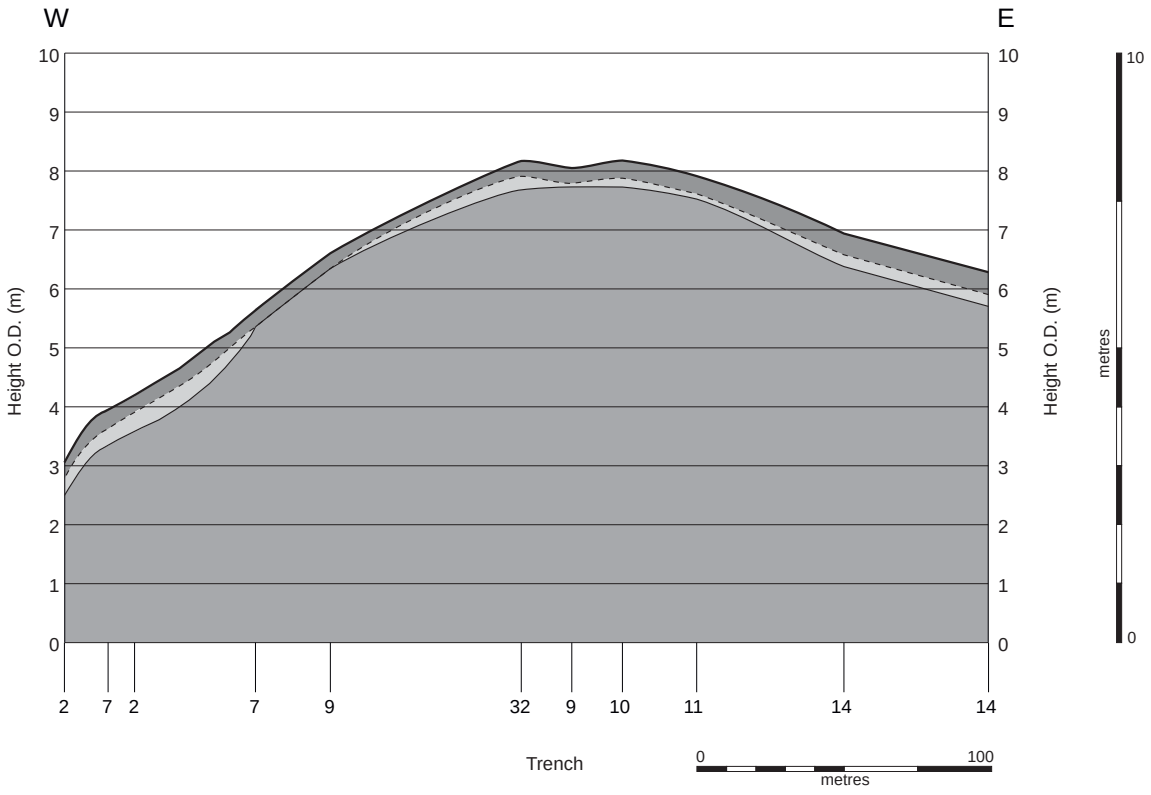
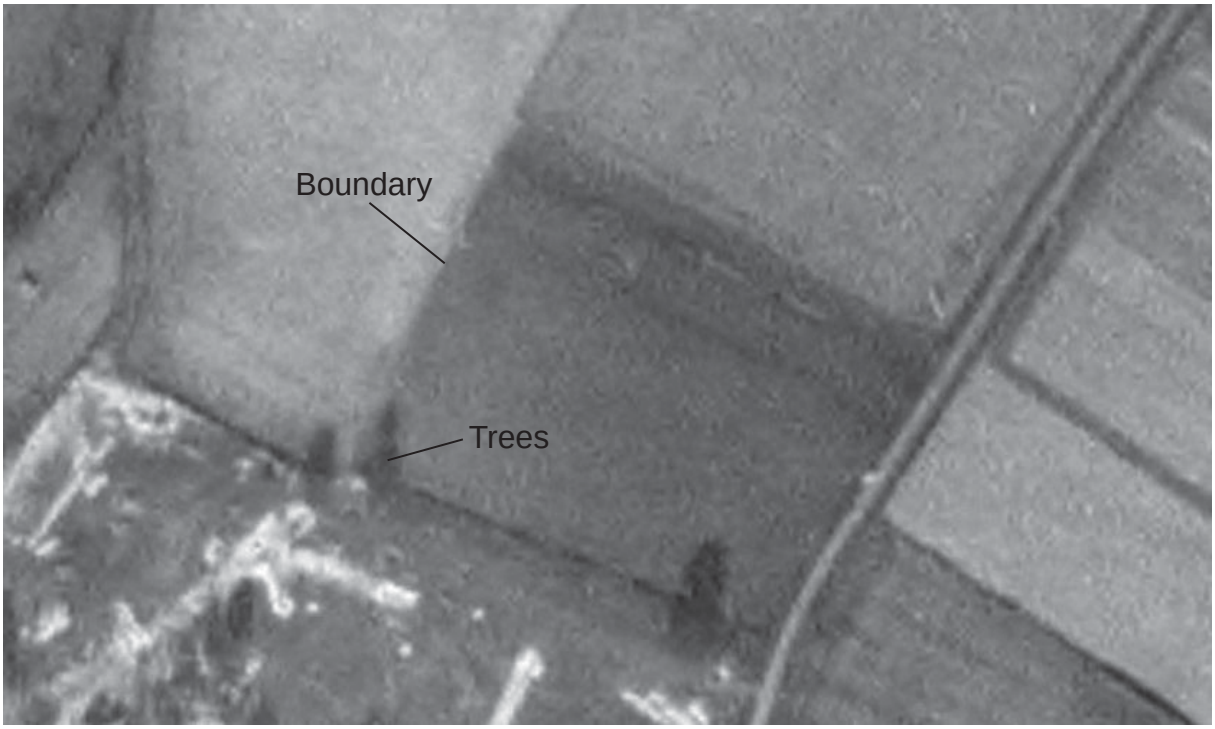


Figure 4b. Representative section across site (NB Vertical scale exaggerated).



1945

2007

Figure 5. Aerial views of the site

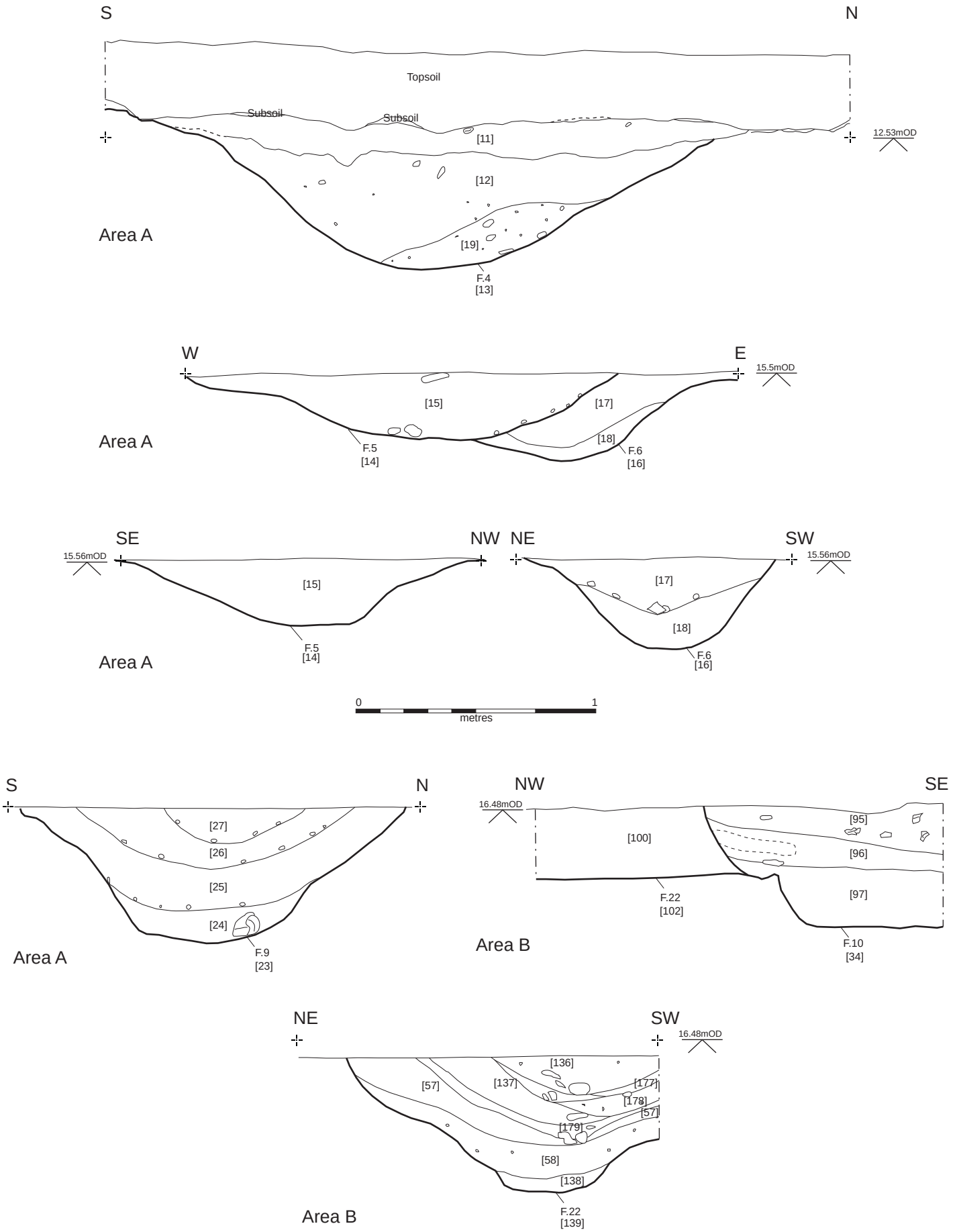


Figure 6a. Selected sections

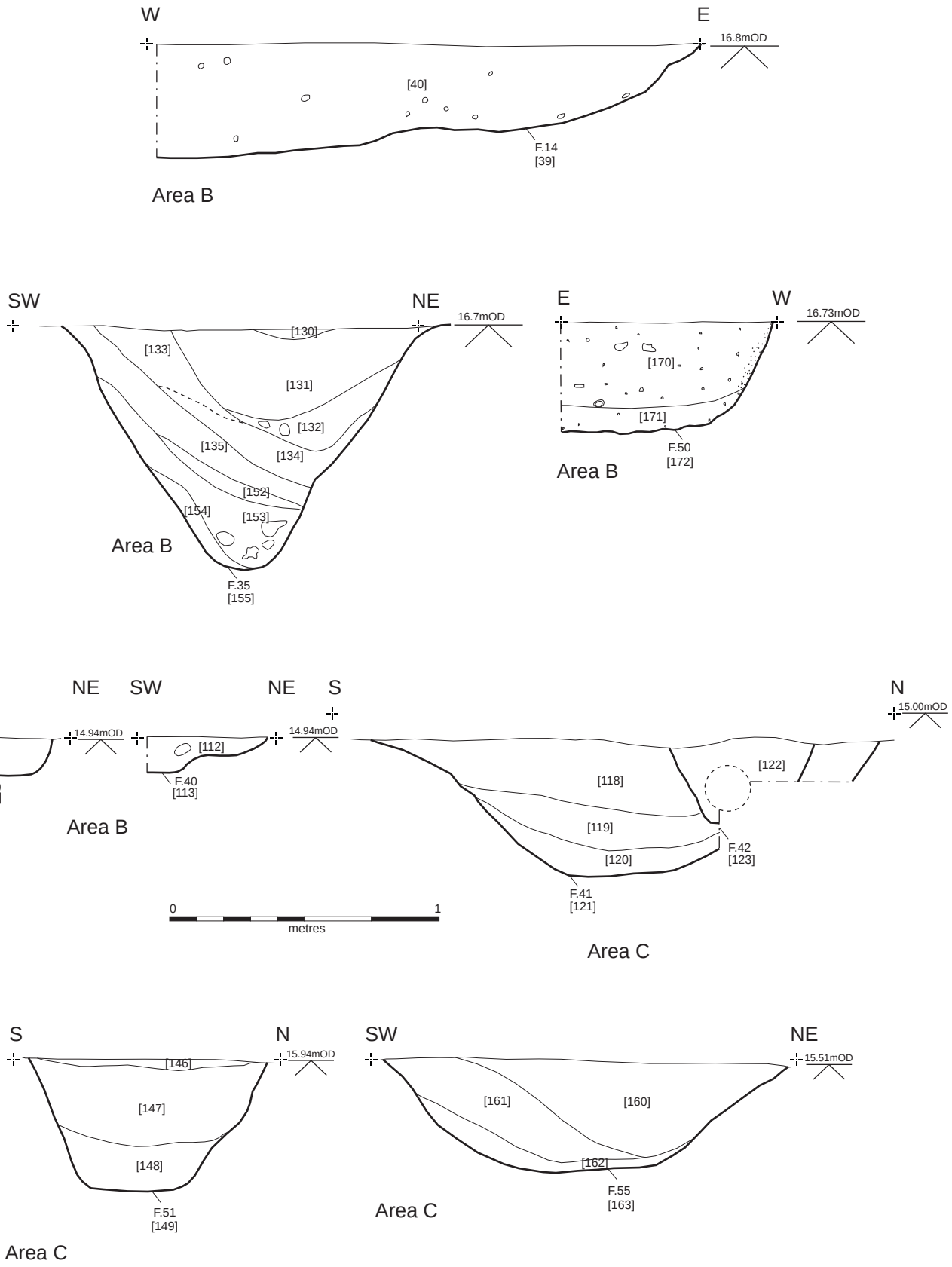


Figure 6b. Selected sections

Area B enclosure ditch F.38, Trench 24.

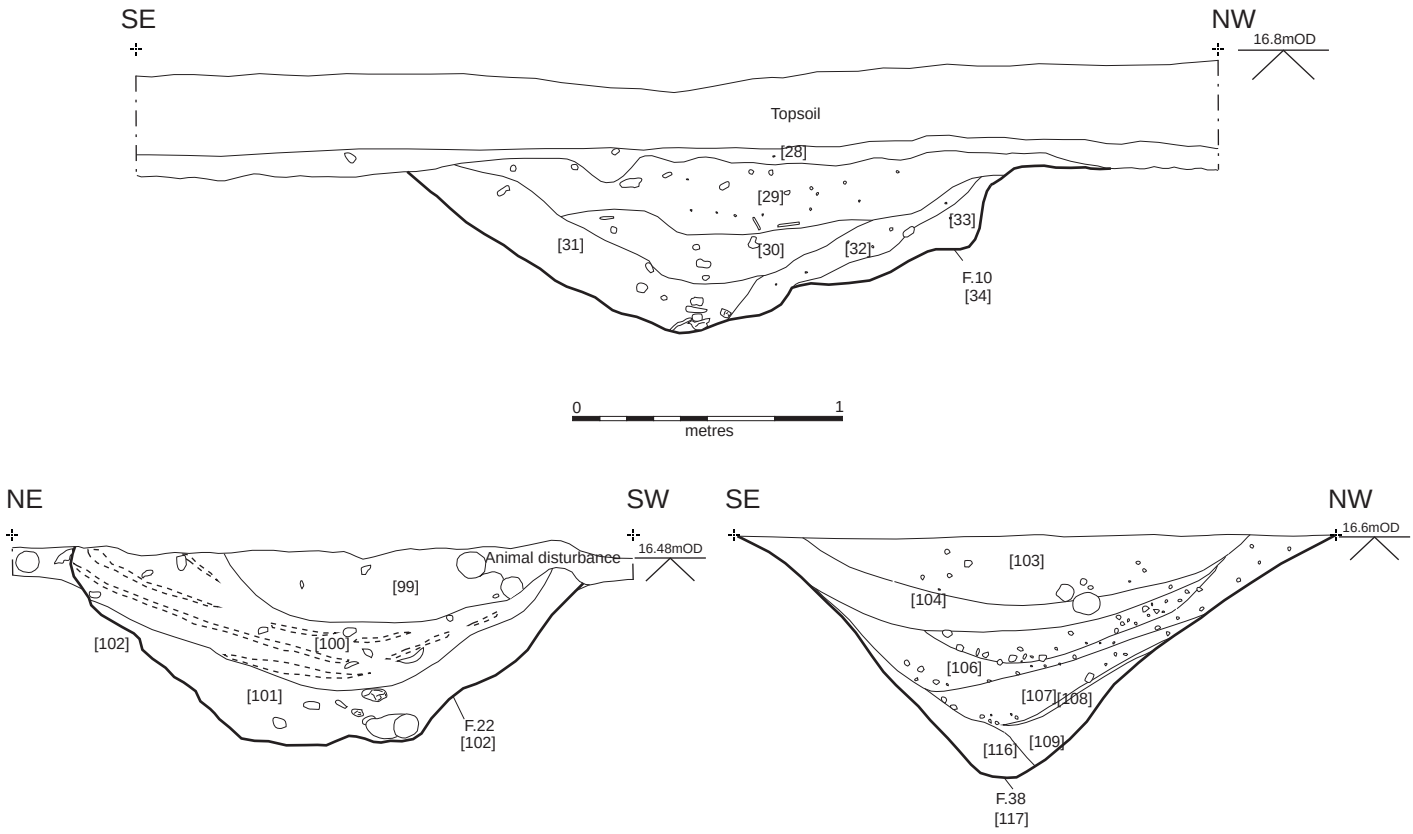


Figure 7. Sections of enclosure ditches in Area B

Landscape profile

Area A, Trench 19, pit F.24 and unexc. F.32

Area B, Trench 16, grave F.30, skeleton 69

Area B Trench 31

Figure 8.

Area C, Trench 29, foundation slot F.12

Area C Trench 29, Pit F.11, foundation slot F.12 and pit F.15

Figure 9.

6.3 Detailed Trench Summaries

Trench 1

	Summary description
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.31
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.13-0.23
Orientation of Trench	W-E
Width of Trench (m)	1.8
Length of Trench (m)	49.5

A single feature was recorded, but most likely a naturally occurring hollow or treethrow. In essence this was a test of geological anomalies.

Contexts

F.No.	F.Type	Context	Cut/Fill	Dimensions (m)	Description	Comments
2	Pit or tree throw	5	Fill	1.0 (L) 0.6 (W) 0.2 (D)	Friable light brownish grey silty clay with occasional small stones	nd
		6	Cut		Irregular sub-rounded plan oriented north-south with curve to the west. Corresponds with similar 'feature' on the south edge of trench.	

Trench 2

	Summary description
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.3
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.15-0.28
Orientation of Trench	E-W
Width of Trench (m)	1.8
Length of Trench (m)	23.8

The lowest-lying of the trenches, with a single small pit containing a worked flint at its west end. This was submerged by the water table soon after excavation, and the higher clay content here suggests that this lies within proximity to a former watercourse.

Contexts

F.No.	F.Type	Context	Cut/Fill	Dimensions (m)	Description	Comments
1	Pit	1	Fill	0.41 (L) 0.4 (W) 0.12 (D)	Mid grey slightly sandy silt with spots of mottled orange.	Prehistoric
		2	Cut		Sub-circular pit with gradual concave sides and slight concave base	

Trench 3

Summary description	
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.31
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.09
Orientation of Trench	N-S
Width of Trench (m)	1.8
Length of Trench (m)	22.9

Positioned on the landfall, this trench revealed a post-medieval ditch cutting the subsoil, and a ditch sealed by the subsoil and containing a few fragments of possible Iron Age pottery.

Contexts

F.No.	F.Type	Context	Cut/Fill	Dimensions (m)	Description	Comments
3	Linear	7	Fill	0.7 (W) 0.49 (D)	Mid light yellowish brown silt with dark brown clayey silt mottling	Post-Med
		8	Fill		Moderately firm mid dark brownish grey clayey silt with occasional small stones and marl lumps	
		9	Fill		Friable light greyish brown silty gravelly clay	
		10	Cut		Linear oriented E-W with regular concave profile; cutting subsoil	
4	Linear	11	Fill	2.48 (W) 0.61 (D)	Soft light brown clayey silt with rare small sub-angular stones. Mixed with subsoil	IA?
		12	Fill		Moderately firm light greyish brown clayey silt with rare small sub-angular stones and occasional snail shells	
		13	Cut		Linear oriented E-W with steep, straight inverted sides and sharp concave lower break of slope to slight concave base	
		19	Fill		Mid orangey brown clayey silt with occasional small to medium rounded stones.	

Trench 4

	Summary description
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.35
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0-0.05
Orientation of Trench	E-W
Width of Trench (m)	1.8
Length of Trench (m)	50.0

Positioned on the landfall, this trench contained no archaeology.

Trench 5

	Summary description
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.3
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.02
Orientation of Trench	N-S
Width of Trench (m)	1.8
Length of Trench (m)	25.0

Adjoining trench 4 on the landfall, a single undated posthole was identified.

Contexts

F.No.	F.Type	Context	Cut/Fill	Dimensions (m)	Description	Comments
7	Post Hole	20	Fill	0.18 (W) 0.22 (D)	Soft mid grey clayey silt	nd
		21	Cut		Post hole with sub-circular plan and slightly irregular sides, near vertical, to gradual lower break of slope and flat base	

Trench 6

	Summary description
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.3
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.0
Orientation of Trench	N-S
Width of Trench (m)	1.8
Length of Trench (m)	23.0

On the cusp of the plateau and the landfall, this trench was devoid of archaeology.

Trench 7

Summary description	
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.31
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0-0.3
Orientation of Trench	E-W
Width of Trench (m)	1.8
Length of Trench (m)	50.0

Positioned on the lower landfall, three linears were tested in this trench. Relationships were indeterminable, but all appeared to have been sealed by the subsoil/colluvium, thereby suggesting some antiquity.

Contexts

F.No.	F.Type	Context	Cut/Fill	Dimensions (m)	Description	Comments
19	Linear	64	Fill	2.35 (W) 0.35 (D)	Soft dark orangey brown silt with very slight clay content and very rare small sub-angular stones with rare snail shells	nd
		65	Fill		Soft light orangey brown silt	
		66	Fill		Mottled moderately firm off-white marl and [65] with rooting	
		67	Cut		Linear oriented N-S with gradual and irregular concave sides to irregular shallow concave base - deepening at west side	
20	Linear	53	Cut	0.55 (W) 0.07 (D)	Linear oriented E-W with sharp concave sides and flat base	nd
		54	Fill		Soft light greyish brown silty clay with occasional small rounded and sub-angular stones	
21	Linear	55	Cut	0.6 (W) 0.17 (D)	Linear oriented NE-SW with shallow concave profile	nd
		56	Fill		Soft light brownish grey silty clay with occasional rounded and sub-angular stones	

Trench 8

Summary description	
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.3
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.0
Orientation of Trench	N-S
Width of Trench (m)	1.8
Length of Trench (m)	29.0

Positioned on the mid slope of the landfall, the continuation of linear F.20 from Trench 7 was identified but not tested.

Contexts

F.No.	F.Type	Context	Cut/Fill	Dimensions (m)	Description	Comments
20	Linear				See Trench 7	nd

Trench 9

Summary description	
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.26
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0-0.23
Orientation of Trench	E-W
Width of Trench (m)	1.8
Length of Trench (m)	81.9

This trench traversed the plateau and the upper and mid portion of the landfall. Five features were identified. This included two intercutting linears; neither of these contained material evidence, but an Iron Age and post-Medieval date is likely. Two intercutting pits were dated by pottery to the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age, and a late medieval curvilinear feature registered on the geophysics was also recorded and was possibly part of a quarry.

Contexts

F.No.	F.Type	Context	Cut/Fill	Dimensions (m)	Description	Comments
5	Linear	14	Cut	1.8 (W) 0.27 (D)	Linear oriented NE-SW with gradual concave sides to near flat base	Post-Med?
		15	Fill		Mid light brown soft silty clay with rare small angular stones	
6	Linear	16	Cut	1.03 (W) 0.37 (D)	Linear oriented NW-SE with near straight inverted sides with sharp concave lower break of slope and near flat - slight concave - base	IA?
		17	Fill		Mid light greyish brown silty clay with occasional both small and medium sub-angular and rounded stones	
		18	Fill		Mottled light brown and off-white silty clay with rare small and medium sub-angular stones	
14	Quarry?	39	Cut	4.5 (W) 0.4 (D)	Crescent shaped feature oriented N-S with shallow concave and slightly undulating sides to near flat base	15th century AD
		40	Fill		Moderately compact mid greyish brown sandy (clay) silt	
18	Pit	51	Cut	1.25 (W) 0.25 (D)	Circular pit with straight near vertical sides and flat base	LBA/EIA
		52	Fill		Moderately firm mid to dark greyish brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and rare small sub-angular stones	
58	Pit	168	Fill	0.62 (W) 0.11 (D)	Moderately firm mid to light grey silt	LBA/EIA
		169	Cut		Sub-circular pit with straight inverted sides and near flat base	

Trench 10

	Summary description
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.3
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.15
Orientation of Trench	N-S
Width of Trench (m)	1.8
Length of Trench (m)	39.5

Located on the plateau, this trench revealed a linear registered on the geophysics that upon excavation returned pottery of Early Iron Age date. Oriented east-west, the linear continues into Trench 12.

Contexts

F.No.	F.Type	Context	Cut/Fill	Dimensions (m)	Description	Comments
9	Linear	23	Cut	1.3 (W) 0.55 (D)	Linear oriented E-W with steep concave profile	EIA
		24	Fill		Firm mottled light brown and off-white marly clay with rare medium sub-angular stones	
		25	Fill		Moderately firm mid light brownish grey silty clay with occasional small sub-angular stones	
		26	Fill		Moderately firm mid brown silt with rare small sub-angular stones	
		27	Fill		Moderately firm mid brown silty clay with rare small sub-angular stones	

Trench 11

Summary description	
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.3
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.1
Orientation of Trench	E-W
Width of Trench (m)	1.8
Length of Trench (m)	49.3

Traversing the plateau and the slight landfall towards Cherry Hinton Road, this trench revealed a single linear cutting the subsoil and of probable post-medieval date.

Contexts

F.No.	F.Type	Context	Cut/Fill	Dimensions (m)	Description	Comments
46	Linear	140	Fill	1.22 (W) 0.32 (D)	Moderately compact dark brown sandy clay silt with occasional small sub-angular stones and greater sand content towards the base of the context; re-deposited topsoil	Post-Medieval
		141	Cut		Linear oriented N-S with steep straight sides and near flat base; cuts subsoil	

Trench 12

	Summary description
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.28
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.08
Orientation of Trench	N-S
Width of Trench (m)	1.8
Length of Trench (m)	13.2

Adjoining Trench 11 on the cusp of the plateau and the east landfall, this trench identified the continuation of F.9 from Trench 10.

Contexts

F.No.	F.Type	Context	Cut/Fill	Dimensions (m)	Description	Comments
9	Linear				See Trench 10	EIA

Trench 13

Summary description	
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.33
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.1-0.25
Orientation of Trench	N-S
Width of Trench (m)	1.8
Length of Trench (m)	25.0

Situated within the east landfall towards Cherry Hinton Road, a single linear or drain, unexcavated, was revealed and is probably post-Medieval in date. Underfoot the trench remained soggy whilst open.

Contexts

F.No.	F.Type	Context	Cut/Fill	Dimensions (m)	Description	Comments
66	Linear or drain				Unexcavated	?Post-Med

Trench 14

Summary description	
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.37
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.2
Orientation of Trench	E-W
Width of Trench (m)	1.8
Length of Trench (m)	49.1

Traversing the east landfall, the east half of this trench was submerged soon after being opened and remained in this state during the course of the project. No features there were identified. The west half revealed an undated posthole and a straight sided linear filled with loose sand and gravel, and this is possibly the remnant of Medieval or post-Medieval strip quarrying.

Contexts

F.No.	F.Type	Context	Cut/Fill	Dimensions (m)	Description	Comments
51	Linear	146	Fill	0.9 (W) 0.48 (D)	Soft light greyish brown clayey silt with occasional small sub-angular and rounded stones	Med/Post-Med Quarry?
		147	Fill		Soft and friable mixed whitish yellow sand and dark grey horizontal streaks of silt	
		148	Fill		Soft and loose mid brown sandy silt; saturated	
		149	Cut		Linear oriented E-W with straight south side near vertical and with irregular inverted north side to flat base	
52	Post Hole	150	Fill	0.24 (W) 0.1 (D)	Mixed soft very dark grey silt with occasional charcoal flecks and yellowish white silty marl	nd
		151	Cut		Circular post hole with vertical sides and flat base	

Trench 15

	Summary description
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.29
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.12
Orientation of Trench	N-S
Width of Trench (m)	1.8
Length of Trench (m)	49.3

Running parallel with the lip of the plateau and the east landfall, two linears were identified in this trench and based on the form of F.47 these were comparable to the linear in Trench 14 interpreted as possible Medieval or post-Medieval strip quarrying.

Contexts

F.No.	F.Type	Context	Cut/Fill	Dimensions (m)	Description	Comments
47	Linear	142	Fill	1.5 (W) 0.46 (D)	Dark grey soft clayey silt with very occasional rounded stones <10cm diameter	Med/post-Med Quarry?
		143	Fill		Soft and slightly loose and friable mid reddish brown sandy silt with frequent small sub-angular and rounded stones	
		144	Fill		Dark grey soft silt with rare small sub-angular stones	
		145	Cut		Linear oriented E-W with straight near vertical south edge and gradual concave north edge to uneven base	

Trench 16

Summary description	
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.27
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0-0.07
Orientation of Trench	NE-SW
Width of Trench (m)	1.8
Length of Trench (m)	47.5

Located on the plateau at the centre of the project area, this trench revealed seven features: three pits dated to the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age with a probably related ring gulley, a probable post-Medieval linear or strip quarry, and a grave oriented north-south and of unknown date. A linear forming part of an enclosure identified on the geophysics was also examined, and contained Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery in its uppermost fill, but this probably relates to the later settlement activity and the linear could therefore not be dated here.

Contexts

F.No.	F.Type	Context	Cut/Fill	Dimensions (m)	Description	Comments
16	Pit	47	Fill	1.12 (W) 0.2 (D)	Loose and soft very dark brownish grey sandy silt with charcoal flecks and moderate small and medium rounded stones with patches of re-deposited yellowish sand	LBA/EIA
		48	Cut		Sub-circular pit running into trench north section. Gentle sloping sides to flat base	
17	Gulley	49	Fill	0.5 (W) 0.15 (D)	Moderately compact mid brownish grey clayey (sand) silt with occasional small sub-angular stones and rare charcoal flecks	LBA/EIA?
		50	Cut		Curvilinear (ring?) gulley with gap oriented to north. Excavation of rounded terminus with near vertical sides and slightly irregular, near flat, base	
30	Grave	68	Fill	2.15 (L) 1.02 (W) 0.3+ (D)	Moderately compact mid brownish grey sandy clay silt with occasional small and medium sub-rounded stones and occasional larger c.20cm diam rounded cobbles, with rare charcoal flecks	
		69	SK		Skeleton - possibly female - with head at south of grave cut facing east.	
		70	Cut		Sub-rectangular grave oriented N-S with rounded corners and near vertical sides	
34	Linear	114	Fill	1.72 (W) 0.3 (D)	Very loose gravelly sand with patches of dark grey silt	Med/post-Med Quarry?
		115	Cut		Linear oriented E-W with inverted near straight sides and near flat base	
35	Linear	130	Fill	1.45 (W) 0.9 (D)	Band of reddish-pink silt stained with charcoal, 50mm thick, 30cm wide. Possible in-situ burning	Nd. Prehistoric
		131	Fill		Dark brown sandy silt of moderate compaction with occasional small and medium sized stones with occasional charcoal flecks and small fragments, and including occasional small snail shells	
		132	Fill		Similar to [131] with more frequent small to large rounded stones and moderate flecks of charcoal and re-deposited marl	
		133	Fill		Moderately compact mid pale grey sandy silt with moderate fragments of marl and occasional small sub-angular stones with occasional charcoal flecks and small snail shells; slumps from south	

		134	Fill		Moderately compact silty clay and re-deposited marl slumping from south with moderate charcoal flecks and fragments; occasional small and medium snail shells also	
		135	Fill		Dark brown - almost purple - sandy silt of moderate compaction with moderate charcoal flecks and fragments and moderate small to medium and large stones	
		152	Fill		A thick lens (6cm) of re-deposited marl, similar to [134], slumping from the south	
		153	Fill		Moderately compact mid greyish brown sandy silt, similar to [135], with moderate re-deposited marl and very occasional stones of varying size, including large cobbles, and occasional charcoal flecks and fragments. Occasional snail shells, and an animal bone 10cm above the base lying parallel to the ditch	
		154	Fill		Basal fill of dirty marl	
		155	Cut		Enclosure ditch oriented NW-SE with steep near straight inverted sides and sharp upper break of slope to gradual lower break of slope towards flat base sloping slightly to the NW	
59	Pit				Unexcavated	LBA/EIA
61	Pit or terminus				Unexcavated	LBA/EIA

Trench 17

Summary description	
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.29
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.05-0.32
Orientation of Trench	NW-SE
Width of Trench (m)	1.8
Length of Trench (m)	38.7

Adjoining Trench 16, and with related archaeology, a total of four features were identified: the northwest arm of the enclosure ditch (undated), two undated graves oriented north-south, and a possible (ring?) gulley or burrow that was unexcavated.

Contexts

F.No.	F.Type	Context	Cut/Fill	Dimensions (m)	Description	Comments
8	Grave	22	SK	1.3 (W) 0.7 (D)	Sub-rectangular grave oriented N-S with rounded corners	**nd**
10	Linear	28	Fill	2.54 (W) 0.68 (D)	Soft mid brown slightly sandy clayey silt with occasional small sub-angular stones. Mixed with subsoil	Nd. Prehistoric
		29	Fill		Mid brown slightly sandy clayey silt with gradual paler colour towards base of fill. Frequent snail shells throughout	
		30	Fill		Pale greyish brown slightly sandy clayey silt with occasional small sub-angular stones and frequent snail shells throughout	
		31	Fill		Pale greyish brown clayey silt with occasional small sub-angular stones; slumping from east	
		32	Fill		As [31] with less stones	
		33	Fill		Greyish white, slightly sandy clayey silt with rare small sub-angular stones. Basal silting	
		34	Cut		Enclosure ditch oriented NW-SE with gradual, very slight concave inverted SE side and steeper and slightly stepped (perhaps animal burrowed0 NW side to shallow concave base	
36	Grave	90	Fill	0.7+ (L) 0.8 (W) 0.3+ (D)	Disturbed by animal burrowing. Soft dark brown grey silt with rare small and medium sub-angular stones and rare larger cobble sized stones. Includes a large lens of marl probably dragged by animals	**nd**
		91	SK		Skeleton - lower legs to north, seemingly adult-sized	
		92	Cut		Sub-rectangular grave oriented N-S with sharp vertical sides	
60	Gulley or burrow				Unexcavated	**nd**

Trench 18

Summary description	
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.28
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.08-0.29
Orientation of Trench	NW-SE
Width of Trench (m)	1.8
Length of Trench (m)	61.0

Traversing the upper slop of the west landfall and the plateau, three features were recorded in this trench. The continuation of probable post-Medieval F.5 from Trench 9 was unexcavated; however, of note were two postholes that correspond with the alignment of the enclosure ditches observed in the geophysics. It is likely that these form part of an entrance to the enclosure.

Contexts

F.No.	F.Type	Context	Cut/Fill	Dimensions (m)	Description	Comments
5	Linear				See Trench 9	Post-Med?
39	Post Hole	110	Fill	0.54 (L) 0.35 (W) 0.13 (D)	Soft mid yellowish brown clayey silt mixed with very light brown clayey marl	Nd. Enclosure entrance?
		111	Cut		Oval post hole oriented NE-SW with near vertical sides and sharp concave lower break of slope to flat base	
40	Post Hole	112	Fill	0.45+ (L) 0.36 (W) 0.12 (D)	Soft mid yellowish brown clayey silt mixed with very light brown clayey marl and rare small sub-angular stones	Nd. Enclosure entrance?
		113	Cut		Oval post hole oriented NE-SW with shallow concave NE side to flat step at 7cm depth breaking to near circular plan with sharp concave sides and flat base; continues into trench south section	

Trench 19

Summary description	
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.32
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.05-0.1
Orientation of Trench	SW-NE
Width of Trench (m)	1.8
Length of Trench (m)	50.0

Six features were recorded in this trench lying at the foot of the west landfall. These comprised of three pits and three postholes all clustered within the south half of the trench. Two sherds of later prehistoric pottery were recovered from F.24.

Contexts

F.No.	F.Type	Context	Cut/Fill	Dimensions (m)	Description	Comments
24	Pit	62	Fill	3.4 (L) 1.8 (W) 0.48 (D)	Soft very dark grey clayey silt with occasional charcoal flecks and very occasional snail shells	Prehistoric (IA?)
		63	Cut		Oval pit oriented N-S funnelling to linear form at north (possibly multiple cut pits in alignment) with sharp concave sides and flat base; slight damage on south edge by animal burrowing	
		71	Fill		Soft light yellowish brown sandy clay silt with occasional small and medium sub-angular stones	
		72	Fill		Moderately compact mid orange brown clayey silt with rare sub-angular stones and occasional snail shells; very rare charcoal flecks	
		73	Fill		Moderately compact mid orangey brown silty clay	
		74	Fill		Moderately compact and friable mixed light yellow brown and off-white silty marl	
		75	Fill		as [75]	
26	Post Hole	79	Fill	0.35+ (W) 0.18 (D)	Soft mid orangey brown silt	Prehistoric?
		80	Cut		Very sharp concave sides and flat base - continues into trench west section	
27	Post Hole	81	Fill	0.25 (W) 0.03 (D)	Soft mid orangey brown silt	Prehistoric?
		82	Cut		Circular post hole with sharp concave sides and flat base	
28	Post Hole	83	Fill	0.3 (W) 0.07 (D)	Soft mid orangey brown silt	Prehistoric?
		84	Cut		Circular post hole with sharp concave sides and flat base	
29	Pit	85	Fill	0.7 (L) 0.5 (W) 0.27 (D)	Dark brown clayey silt with occasional mixing of marl	Prehistoric?
		86	Cut		Sub-rectangular pit with rounded corners, oriented N-S with near straight vertical sides and a sharp lower break of slope to a flat base	
32	Pit				Unexcavated	Prehistoric?

Trench 20

Summary description	
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.32
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.1-0.3
Orientation of Trench	E-W
Width of Trench (m)	1.8
Length of Trench (m)	23.3

Adjoining Trench 19 at the base of the west landfall, this trench included another posthole that forms part of the group identified in the south of Trench 19.

Contexts

F.No.	F.Type	Context	Cut/Fill	Dimensions (m)	Description	Comments
25	Post Hole	76	Fill	0.22 (W) 0.2 (D)	Very dark grey clayey silt	Prehistoric?
		77	Fill		Dark greyish brown clayey silt	
		78	Cut		Circular post hole with near vertical edges and flat base	

Trench 21

Summary description	
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.3
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0-0.16
Orientation of Trench	E-W
Width of Trench (m)	1.8
Length of Trench (m)	29.0

On the south edge of the PDA, and on the shallow landfall, a square pit with a post-Medieval brick fragment was identified.

Contexts

F.No.	F.Type	Context	Cut/Fill	Dimensions (m)	Description	Comments
33	Pit	87	Fill	0.6 (L) 0.56 (W) 0.22 (D)	Mid greyish brown clayey silt with rare sub-angular stones	Post-Medieval
		88	Fill		Mixed yellowish white marl and mid greyish brown clayey silt	
		89	Cut		Square pit with vertical sides and flat base	

Trench 22

Summary description	
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.26
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.13-0.22
Orientation of Trench	N-S
Width of Trench (m)	1.8
Length of Trench (m)	48.6

Positioned along the cusp of the plateau and the west landfall, this trench contained two linears, one a continuation of F.5 from trenches 9 and 18, and the other containing a fragment of late prehistoric pottery of probable Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age date.

Contexts

F.No.	F.Type	Context	Cut/Fill	Dimensions (m)	Description	Comments
5	Linear				See Trench 9	Post-Medieval?
37	Linear	93	Fill	0.8 (W) 0.27 (D)	Moderately firm mixed fill of mid yellow brown clayey silt and mid yellowish white marl with rare medium rounded stones	LBA/EIA?
		94	Cut		Linear oriented NE-SW with concave profile	

Trench 23

Summary description	
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.31
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0-0.11
Orientation of Trench	NE-SW
Width of Trench (m)	1.8
Length of Trench (m)	50.8

This trench was located upon the plateau and contained four features including one unexcavated linear at its southern end and an undated grave oriented north-south at its northern end. The southwest arm of the enclosure ditch identified on the geophysics continued through this and Trench 31, and although again undated its uppermost fills were cut by pits containing Late bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery that at least provides a *terminus ante quem* for its use.

Contexts

F.No.	F.Type	Context	Cut/Fill	Dimensions (m)	Description	Comments
22	Linear	99	Fill	1.8 (W) 0.69 (D)	Soft pale brownish white sandy marl	nd
		100	Fill		Soft pale brown sandy clay silt banded with streaks of white marl and with occasional small sub-angular stones; rare charcoal	
		101	Fill		Soft pale to mid brown sandy clay silt spotted with small flecks of white marl; rare charcoal. Some animal burrowing in SW	
		102	Cut		Enclosure ditch oriented NW-SE with steep concave sides and gradual lower break of slope to near flat - slight concave - base	
31	Pit	95	Fill	2.4 (L) 2.2 (W) 0.53 (D)	Dark greyish brown sandy (clay) silt with rare sub-angular stones and charcoal flecks	Nd. Prehistoric
		96	Fill		Mid brown sandy clay silt with occasional sub-angular stones and mottling of pale brown, white and orange. Similar to [95] with more charcoal flecks	
		97	Fill		Orange sandy clay silt mixed with dark grey clay silt and mid brown marly clay silt - combination of possible animal disturbance and material re-deposited from earlier ditch F.22	
		98	Cut		Oval pit oriented NW-SE with steep slightly concave sides and shallow concave base. Possibly one of a number of intercutting pits	
68	Linear				E-W linear - unexcavated	nd
91	Grave	180	SK		N-S grave, head at north; possibly prone	nd

Trench 24

Summary description	
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.27
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.0
Orientation of Trench	NW-SE
Width of Trench (m)	1.8
Length of Trench (m)	47.5

Adjoining Trench 23 on the plateau, the southeast arm of the enclosure ditch was crossed by this trench, but again produced no datable material. An additional three linears appear to be unrelated to the enclosure, but nonetheless spatially connected to one another at the south of the trench.

Contexts

F.No.	F.Type	Context	Cut/Fill	Dimensions (m)	Description	Comments
38	Linear	103	Fill	2.2 (W) 0.89 (D)	Firm light brown to greyish white marl with rare small rounded and sub-angular stones	Nd. Prehistoric
		104	Fill		Soft mid yellowish grey brown sandy silt with occasional small sub-rounded stones	
		105	Fill		Soft dark brownish grey sandy silt with flecks of charcoal throughout and very occasional small rounded and sub-angular stones	
		106	Fill		Soft mid orangey brown sandy silt with occasional small sub-angular stones, particularly at base of context	
		107	Fill		Soft to firm mixed marl and mid yellowish grey-brown sandy silt with occasional small sub-angular stones	
		108	Fill		Compact lens of re-deposited marl approximately 2cm thick	
		109	Fill		Mid orangey brown soft silty sand with rare small sub-angular stones	
		116	Fill		Soft to firm mottled light brown silty marl	
		117	Cut		Enclosure ditch oriented NE-SW with near straight, slightly context sides inverted to sharp lower break of slope and rounded, slightly tapered, base	
44	Linear	126	Fill	0.7 (W) 0.15 (D)	Soft mid brown sandy silt with occasional small sub-angular stones and rare marl clumps	nd
		127	Cut		Linear oriented N-S with sharp break of slope and flat base	
45	Linear	128	Fill	0.65 (W) 0.15 (D)	Soft mid brown sandy silt with occasional small sub-rounded and sub-angular stones	nd
		129	Cut		Curvilinear ditch turning from E-W to N-S with concave sides and a gradual break of slope to a near flat base	
69	Linear				E-W linear - unexcavated	nd

Trench 25

Summary description	
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.28
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0-0.08
Orientation of Trench	NE-SW
Width of Trench (m)	1.8
Length of Trench (m)	37.8

This trench was located upon the plateau and revealed the south extension (from Trench 16) of the enclosure's north-side ditch. This was not excavated. A second linear was also left unexcavated.

Contexts

F.No.	F.Type	Context	Cut/Fill	Dimensions (m)	Description	Comments
35	Linear				See Trench 16	nd
67	Linear				NW-SE linear - unexcavated	Nd. Prehistoric

Trench 26

Summary description	
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.3
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.08-0.13
Orientation of Trench	E-W
Width of Trench (m)	1.8
Length of Trench (m)	50.0

This trench was traversed the plateau and the east landfall, and was positioned in order to test a large, circular and strong responsive geophysical anomaly. This was not visible as an archaeological feature and the anomaly may relate to ploughsoil signatures. A small pit filed with burnt stone was identified, and at the east end of the trench was a length of a clunch-filled foundation slot of probable post-medieval origin, cutting the lower profile of the subsoil.

Contexts

F.No.	F.Type	Context	Cut/Fill	Dimensions (m)	Description	Comments
54	Pit	158	Fill	0.75 (L) 0.42 (W) 0.11 (D)	Moderately loose dark grey sandy silt with moderate small patches of marl, rare charcoal flecks, and occasional small to medium rounded stones possibly burnt or heat affected.	Prehistoric?
		159	Cut		Oval pit oriented NW-SE with gentle concave sides and shallow concave base	
56	Foundation slot	164	Fill	0.48 (W) 0.3 (D)	Intersection of sandy natural and [166] [167]	Post-Medieval?
		165	Cut		Slot for wall footing/foundation, tightly cut with near vertical sides and flat base, slightly splaying at top owing to ploughing. Cut within subsoil	
		166	Fill		Very dark moderately firm clayey silt with very rare small rounded stones. Fills voids between [167]	
		167	Fill		Unsorted clunch chunks of small and medium size forming a flat face. Voids between chunks filled by [166]	
81	Linear				NE-SW linear - unexcavated	nd

Trench 27

Summary description	
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.35
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.19-0.24
Orientation of Trench	N-S
Width of Trench (m)	1.8
Length of Trench (m)	24.8

Seven features were recorded in this trench positioned on the east downslope. Three features were lengths of clunch-filled foundation slots probably relating to two post-Medieval and separate buildings. A ceramic drain was aligned upon a different orientation to these foundations, and was clearly the latest feature in the trench, but a linear cutting the subsoil (F.43) was also cut by one of the foundation slots. Underlying all of these, and representing the earliest features in the trench, was a linear (F.41) containing burnt stone and animal bone, and pit F.65 may also be contemporary with this phase of activity.

Contexts

F.No.	F.Type	Context	Cut/Fill	Dimensions (m)	Description	Comments
41	Linear	118	Fill	1.5 (W) 0.5 (D)	Mid greyish brown soft sandy silt with occasional small sub-angular stones	Prehistoric?
		119	Fill		Dark reddish brown-grey clayey silt with occasional charcoal flecks; sits within upper limit of water table	
		120	Fill		Light yellowish brown clay marly silt; saturated in water table	
		121	Cut		Linear oriented NW-SE with straight inverted sides to near flat base	
42	Drain	122	Fill	0.55 (W) 0.3 (D)	Mixed reddish dark grey sandy clay silt with circular yellow moulded ceramic drain	Post-Medieval
		123	Cut		Drain oriented NE-SW with straight inverted sides and flat base	
43	Linear	124	Fill	0.45 (W) 0.12 (D)	Dark greyish brown soft clay silt with occasional small sub-angular stones	Post-Medieval
		125	Cut		Linear oriented NW-SE with sharp concave sides and flat base	
62	Foundation slot				Clunch filled - unexcavated	Post-Medieval
63	Foundation slot				Clunch filled - unexcavated	Post-Medieval
64	Foundation slot				Clunch filled - unexcavated	Post-Medieval
65	Pit?				Unexcavated	Prehistoric?

Trench 28

Summary description	
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.27
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0-0.07
Orientation of Trench	E-W
Width of Trench (m)	1.8
Length of Trench (m)	48.9

The trench was predominantly set upon the plateau, but the east end dipped slightly towards the east landfall, and it was at this end that two shallow, undated and parallel linears were identified.

Contexts

F.No.	F.Type	Context	Cut/Fill	Dimensions (m)	Description	Comments
53	Linear	156	Fill	0.9 (W) 0.19 (D)	Moderately firm dark greyish brown sandy silt with rare small sub-angular and sub-rounded stones	nd
		157	Cut		Linear oriented N-S with concave sides and flat base	
80	Linear				N-S linear - unexcavated	nd

Trench 29

Summary description	
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.28
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.1-0.2
Orientation of Trench	N-S
Width of Trench (m)	1.8
Length of Trench (m)	48.3

Containing the most features (n=14) and positioned on the shallow slope of the landfall towards Cherry Hinton Road, this trench included five clunch-filled foundation slots for at least three buildings. These cut the subsoil and earlier features that include a linear containing burnt stone and of possible prehistoric date. The subsoil also sealed individual and clusters of pits that also contained burnt stone.

Contexts

F.No.	F.Type	Context	Cut/Fill	Dimensions (m)	Description	Comments
11	Pit	35	Fill	2.8 (L) 1.4 (W) 0.45 (D)	Soft dark greyish brown silt with rare small sub-angular stones	?Prehistoric
		36	Fill		Mottled friable and gritty mid yellowish brown, mid orangey brown and dark grey mixed sandy silt and clayey silt, with occasional small sub-angular stones and occasional burnt stone with rare charcoal flecks	
		37	Fill		Soft whitish grey-marl mixed with [36]. Slumping deposit from south	
		38	Cut		Rounded in plan with gradual slight concave S-side and steep concave W-side to flat base	
12	Foundation slot	41	Fill	0.5 (W) 0.31 (D)	Intersection of sandy natural and [43] [44]	Post-Medieval
		42	Cut		Slot for wall footing/foundation, tightly cut with near vertical sides and flat base, slightly splaying at top owing to ploughing. Cut within subsoil	
		43	Fill		Very dark moderately firm clayey silt with very rare small rounded stones. Fills voids between [44]	
		44	Fill		Unsorted clunch chunks of small and medium size forming a flat face. Voids between chunks filled by [43]	
15	Pit	45	Fill	0.85 (W) 0.28 (D)	Soft and slightly friable mid yellowish grey-brown sandy silt	?Prehistoric
		46	Cut		Sub-circular pit with concave profile flattening towards the top	
55	Linear	160	Fill	1.5 (W) 0.42 (D)	Moderately compact mid grey clayey silt with occasional small to medium sub-angular stones - many heat affected - primarily towards lower half of context	?Prehistoric
		161	Fill		Moderately compact mid yellowish brown-grey silt mixed with whitish-grey marl and rare small sub-angular stones; slumping from south	
		162	Fill		Fairly soft mid to dark greyish brown clayey silt with slight marl mottling and rare small to medium sub-angular stones	

		163	Cut		Linear oriented NW-SE with slight convex sides to gradual concave lower break of slope and near flat base	
70	Pit?				Unexcavated	?Prehistoric
71	Pit?				Unexcavated	?Prehistoric
72	Pit cluster?				Unexcavated	?Prehistoric
73	Pit cluster?				Unexcavated	?Prehistoric
74	Pit cluster?				Unexcavated	?Prehistoric
75	Linear				NW-SE linear - unexcavated	Post-Medieval
76	Foundation slot				Clunch filled - unexcavated	Post-Medieval
77	Foundation slot				Clunch filled - unexcavated	Post-Medieval
78	Foundation slot				Clunch filled - unexcavated	Post-Medieval
79	Foundation slot				Clunch filled - unexcavated	Post-Medieval

Trench 30

	Summary description
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.32
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.0
Orientation of Trench	NE-SW
Width of Trench (m)	1.8
Length of Trench (m)	7.8

See Trench 24

Contexts

F.No.	F.Type	Context	Cut/Fill	Dimensions (m)	Description	Comments
44	Linear				See Trench 24	
45	Linear				See Trench 24	

Trench 31

Summary description	
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.25
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.1
Orientation of Trench	NW-SE
Width of Trench (m)	4.2
Length of Trench (m)	9.7

Adjoining trench 31 as an extension to further identify the relationship of later pits to the enclosure ditch. See Trench 23.

Contexts

F.No.	F.Type	Context	Cut/Fill	Dimensions (m)	Description	Comments
22	Linear	57	Fill	1.3+ (W) 0.55 (D)	Soft mid to dark brown sandy silt with rare small sub-angular stones and occasional marl mottling	Nd. Prehistoric
		58	Fill		Moderately compact light brown sandy clay silt mixed with marl and with rare small sub-angular stones and charcoal flecks	
		136	Fill		Compact clayey white marl capping	
		137	Fill		Moderately compact light brown sandy clay silt mixed with marl and with rare small to medium sub-angular stones	
		138	Fill		Moderately firm pale grey silt mixed with marl; basal silting	
		139	Cut		Enclosure ditch oriented NW-SE with near straight inverted sides. Base not reached	
		177	Fill		Compact white marl clunch in light grey clayey marl silt	
		178	Fill		Soft mid brown clayey silt with rare marl and charcoal flecks	
		179	Fill		Compact white marl clunch in light grey clayey marl silt	
23	Pit	60	Fill	0.68 (L) 0.2+ (W) 0.21 (D)	Firm dark greyish brown sandy clay silt mottled with white and light grey marl and with occasional small sub-angular stones and rare charcoal flecks	LBA/EIA?
		61	Cut		Oval pit oriented NE-SW against trench NW section with steep upper sides and shallow concave profile at base	
31	Pit				See Trench 23	LBA/EIA?
82	Pits				Unexcavated	LBA/EIA?
83	Pit				Unexcavated	LBA/EIA?

84	Pit				Unexcavated	LBA/EIA?
85	Pit				Unexcavated	LBA/EIA?
86	Pit				Unexcavated	LBA/EIA?
87	Pit				Unexcavated	LBA/EIA?
88	Pit				Unexcavated	LBA/EIA?
89	Pit				Unexcavated	LBA/EIA?
90	Pit				Unexcavated	LBA/EIA?

Trench 32

	Summary description
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.29
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.11-0.16
Orientation of Trench	N-S
Width of Trench (m)	1.8
Length of Trench (m)	11.9

Adjoining Trench 9 as an extension to further examine the late Medieval curvilinear feature. See Trench 9.

Contexts

F.No.	F.Type	Context	Cut/Fill	Dimensions (m)	Description	Comments
14	Quarry?				See Trench 9	?Medieval

Trench 33

	Summary description
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.3
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.08
Orientation of Trench	N-S
Width of Trench (m)	1.8
Length of Trench (m)	6.3

Adjoining Trench 26 as an extension to clarify the absence of the large circular and strongly responsive geophysical anomaly. See Trench 26.

Trench 34

Summary description	
Avg. Topsoil Depth (m)	0.25
Avg. Subsoil Depth (m)	0.0
Orientation of Trench	N-S
Width of Trench (m)	1.8
Length of Trench (m)	30.0

Positioned on the plateau between areas of known prehistoric and post-Medieval activity, this trench revealed two postholes and a pit all dating to the Early Iron Age.

Contexts

F.No.	F.Type	Context	Cut/Fill	Dimensions (m)	Description	Comments
48	Post Hole	173	Fill	0.37 (L) 0.23 (W) 0.21 (D)	Dark greyish brown silty sand with occasional sub-angular stones and charcoal	EIA
		174	Cut		Oval post hole oriented N-S with vertical sides and tapered base	
49	Post Hole	175	Fill	0.3 (L) 0.28 (W) 0.2 (D)	Dark greyish brown silty sand with occasional sub-angular stones and charcoal	EIA
		176	Cut		Circular post hole with vertical sides and flat base	
50	Pit	170	Fill	1.83 (L) 0.85+ (W) 0.4 (D)	Dark brown sandy clay silt with rare small sub-angular stones and occasional charcoal flecks	EIA
		171	Fill		Greyish-white mottled sandy clayey silt with occasional small sub-angular stones	
		172	Cut		Possibly oval pit oriented N-S with steep near straight sides and sharp concave lower break of slope to flat base	

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Project details

Project name	Land North of Teversham Drift: Cherry Hinton, Cambridge An Archaeological Evaluation and Watching Brief
Short description of the project	An archaeological trench evaluation and watching brief was undertaken on land north of Teversham Drift, Cherry Hinton. Thirty-four trenches totalling 1252.4m (2277.6sqm) were excavated, with a further six test pits monitored for archaeological potential. Archaeological features dating from the Late Bronze Age the late historic, post-medieval, era were identified, generally divided between three zones of activity - Areas A-C. Exposed during excavation was an Iron Age enclosure, four undated inhumation burials and clunch wall foundations of probable Medieval or later date. Finds included flint, burnt and worked stone, a small quantity of metalwork, Iron Age pottery and animal bone.
Project dates	Start: 12-01-2015 End: 23-01-2015
Previous/future work	No / Yes
Any associated project reference codes	ECB4388 - HER event no.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 4 - Character Undetermined
Monument type	PITS Late Prehistoric
Monument type	DITCHES Late Prehistoric
Monument type	ENCLOSURE Iron Age
Monument type	PITS Iron Age
Monument type	INHUMATIONS Iron Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Iron Age
Significant Finds	BONE Iron Age
Significant Finds	METALWORK Uncertain
Significant Finds	METALWORK Roman

Project location

Country	England
Site location	CAMBRIDGESHIRE CAMBRIDGE CAMBRIDGE Land North of Teversham Drift: Cherry Hinton, Cambridge
Postcode	CB1 9XF
Study area	1252.40 Square metres
Site coordinates	TL 49 57 52.1906510252 0.180026244224 52 11 26 N 000 10 48 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 3.00m Max: 8.20m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Cambridge Archaeological Unit
Project brief originator	Contractor (design and execute)
Project design originator	Alison Dickens
Project director/manager	Alison Dickens
Project supervisor	Marcus Brittain
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Marshalls Group

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Cambridge Archaeological Unit
Physical Archive ID	TDM14
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Human Bones","Metal","Worked bone","Worked stone/lithics","other"
Digital Archive recipient	Cambridge Archaeological Unit
Digital Archive ID	TDM14
Digital Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Human Bones","Metal","Stratigraphic","Survey","Worked bone","Worked stone/lithics","other"
Digital Media available	"GIS","Geophysics","Images raster / digital photography","Spreadsheets","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Cambridge Archaeological Unit
Paper Archive ID	TDM14

Paper Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Human Bones","Metal","Stratigraphic","Survey","Worked bone","Worked stone/lithics","other"
Paper Media available	"Aerial Photograph","Context sheet","Manuscript","Miscellaneous Material","Report","Section","Survey "

Project bibliography 1

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