

FRIMSTONE CARRSTONE QUARRY, SNETTISHAM, NORFOLK

A Strip, Map and Record Excavation



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Frimstone Carrstone Quarry, Snettisham, Norfolk:

A 'Strip, Map and Record' Excavation

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Cambridge Archaeological Unit carried out a strip, map and record excavation on land just north of Snettisham, Norfolk, centred at 568348E 335104N from September to October 2006. The excavation exposed five Neolithic pits, and five earlier Neolithic tree throws. In addition, two large Bronze Age pits were identified and three Romano-British ditches, exposed in the 2005 evaluation, were revealed extending across the site. Three medieval furrows, sealed by a deep deposit of colluvial were revealed at the southernmost edge of the site, a pit and a small potentially medieval ditch, which post dated the furrows was also exposed.



Figure 1. Site location

Introduction

A strip, map and record excavation was carried out by a team of archaeologists from the Cambridge Archaeological Unit between 18th September and 23rd October 2006 on land to the north of Snettisham, Norfolk (Figure 1). Frimstone Ltd commissioned the excavation in response to a brief set out by Norfolk Landscape Archaeology (Gurney 2005). The excavation followed an archaeological specification written by the CAU (Gibson 2006) and agreed by David Gurney, Principal Archaeologist, Norfolk Landscape Archaeology.

Location, topography and geology

The development area was c. 1.5 km north of Snettisham; the area of proposed mineral extraction totalled 6.75 ha, whilst the 2006 phase of excavation comprised 1.5 ha of the total area and was centred at 568348E 335104N. The land within the area dropped in height from 37.5 m OD at the north-eastern edge, to 36 m OD at the south-western edge. Carrstone underlay the area of excavation, with a red and then white chalk cap in the north-eastern area.

Archaeological background

An area of important archaeology has been identified just c.1 km northeast of the development area; the 'Treasure Field', which yielded internationally-significant Iron Age artefacts (Stead 1991). The wider region has yielded other, earlier hoards. Bronze Age hoards were recovered from Hunstanton and Shernborne (Clarke 1952); whilst there is a possibility that Snettisham itself has yielded several bronze hoards (Flitcroft 2001). A substantial settlement dating from the mid-first century AD has been identified through crop marks, stray finds and excavation in the Ingol Valley to the south of development area (Flitcroft 2001).

Further evidence for archaeological activity in the vicinity of the development area takes the form of crop marks to the north-west (NSMR 13010) and the north-east (NSMR 1479), and a medieval coin and potentially Saxon pottery to the north-west (NSMR 13010). Whilst prehistoric, Iron Age, Romano-British, Middle Saxon and medieval pottery, prehistoric flints and possible burials (NSMR 1490) were recovered to the south of the development area. The CAU carried out an evaluation on land to the south of the development area in 1995 revealing sparse evidence for archaeological activity and no positive traces of settlement (Gdaniec 1995).

Additional evidence for prehistoric activity was identified by the 2005 evaluation, which comprised field survey and trial trenching. Flint was recovered from across the site, although the material was slightly more abundant in the western half. Furthermore, one clear, and a number of potential Neolithic pits were exposed in the north-western part of the site. Evidence for later prehistoric activity was in the form of a single potentially Iron Age copper alloy disc; whilst four sherds of pottery provided very limited evidence for Romano-British activity. Medieval material was equally scarce, comprising five artefacts including two silver 13th-14th century coins.

However, post medieval activity was well represented by artefacts dating from the 18th through to 20th century, which are likely to be the result of personal losses by agricultural labourers.

Methodology

The whole proposed development area has already been the subject of a metal detecting survey in 2005 (Beadsmoore 2005); the topsoil was metal detected in north-south transects at 20m intervals whilst two areas were detected in more detailed 2m interval transects. The evaluation trenches were also metal detected, before and after machining. During the excavation the site was metal detected again in 5m interval east-west transects, prior to any machining. Furthermore, once the topsoil and subsoil were removed, features, the spoil heaps of topsoil and subsoil and the whole of the underlying natural surface were also metal detected. The reason behind this intensive strategy was because the torc pits in the nearby 'Treasure Field' were sometimes difficult to detect by eye; presumably because they were excavated and backfilled comparatively promptly with relatively clean natural (pers. comm. Dave Webb).

An area of c.15000 square metres (c.1.5 ha) was machined with a toothless ditching bucket on a 360° tracked machine. Topsoil and deposits overlying the archaeology were removed under archaeological supervision. All of the archaeological features in the machined area were planned immediately and subsequently sampled. A minimum of 50% of each discrete feature and 10% of each ditch was excavated. Where appropriate, discrete features were 100% excavated; in practice this strategy led to the 100% excavation of the majority of the pits.

Excavation was carried out by hand and all finds were retained. The recording followed a CAU modified MoLAS system (Spence 1990); assigning context numbers (e.g. [fill], [cut]) to stratigraphic units and feature numbers, F., to interrelated stratigraphic units (e.g. a ditch's cut and fills). Base plans were drawn at 1:50, sections at 1:10. The photographic archive comprises colour and black and white slides as well as digital images. A representative range of features were bulk sampled. The site was fixed to the OS grid and a contour survey was undertaken with an Electronic Distance Measurer (EDM) and a Global Positioning System (GPS). All work was carried out in strict accordance with statutory Health and Safety legislation and with the recommendations of SCAUM (Allen and Holt 2002). The Norfolk Historic Environment Record assigned County Number 41936 SNT to the project.

The archive

72 contexts were excavated and recorded and the site yielded 650 artefacts. The documentary records and accompanying artefacts have been assembled into a catalogued archive in line with Appendix 6 of MAP2 (Andrews, English Heritage 1991), and are being stored under site code 41936 SNT at the Cambridge Archaeological Unit offices.

Report structure

The report comprises one main section; the results, which are presented chronologically. The specialist reports are in the appendices.

Results

All of the features exposed by the excavation are shown in Figure 2. Evidence for the earliest archaeology exposed at the site was provided by tree throws and pits that yielded Neolithic material. Two Bronze Age pits were also revealed, whilst the majority of the ditches exposed at the site were Romano-British. Evidence for medieval activity was focused on agriculture.

Neolithic tree throws

Four tree throws were exposed in the western part of the site **F. 29**, **F. 32**, **F. 33**, and **F. 37**, whilst an isolated tree throw **F. 36** was further to the southeast (Figure 3). The tree throws were identifiable by their fills and form; the sides were often partially undercutting and the edges were irregular. The features varied between 2.8m and 4m long, 0.9m and 1.6m wide and 0.32m and 0.81m deep. The single fills were dark greyish red sandy silt, which yielded between one and nine flints, and up to 62 sherds of pottery. The flint comprises flint working waste; the by products of systematic flake/blade production/core reduction prevalent during the Neolithic. Tree throw F. 33 also yielded a core rejuvenation flake that was removed to extend the use life of the core, a strategy that was frequently utilised during the earlier Neolithic. The pottery is also earlier Neolithic, probably Mildenhall style vessels. The pottery and the flint are likely to be broadly contemporary with the tree throws.

Neolithic pits

Five Neolithic pits were exposed at the site **F. 34**, **F. 39**, **F. 40** and **F. 41**, including the pit **F. 12**, identified during the evaluation (Figure 3). The oval shaped pit F. 12 was half sectioned during the evaluation and yielded roe deer antler and Neolithic flint, only one additional flint was recovered during the excavation (see flint report – Appendix 6). Three further possible features F. 15, F. 16 and F. 17 were identified in the area around pit F. 12 during the evaluation. They were only partially visible in the trenches and were consequently identified as potential, not definite archaeological features. Once the area around the trenches was exposed, it became clear that the features were the tail ends of silt filled natural cracks which extended across the whole site; the worked flint recovered from the features was residual and had simply become trapped in the soft silts.

The four pits exposed during the excavation were circular, whilst the pit F. 12 first identified during the evaluation was oval. The circular pits varied between 0.36m and 0.85m long, 0.22m and 0.72m wide and 0.04m and 0.22m deep. Pit F. 34 was exposed

to the west of F. 12, near the western edge of excavation. The remaining three pits F. 39, F. 40 and F. 41 were identified in an informal group at the southern edge of the site. Pits F. 34, F. 39, F. 41 and oval pit F. 12 all yielded Neolithic flint working waste; whilst hazelnut shells were recovered from pits F. 40 and F. 41. However, in contrast to the tree throws, no pottery was recovered from the pits.

Bronze Age pits

Two large pits that yielded Bronze Age pottery were exposed at the site, **F. 27** and **F. 30** (Figure 3). The two pits were sub-rectangular in plan, between 3.75m and 4m long, 2.1m wide and 0.65m and 1.02m deep. Each pit had four fills. Pit F. 27 contained residual flint that predated the pottery, which was Middle Bronze Age and recovered from a charcoal lens running through the feature (Figure 4). The pit also yielded animal bones, burnt clay and mussel, oyster and cockle shells. The pottery recovered from pit F. 30 was Early Bronze Age. The Bronze Age pits yielded predominantly cattle bones and one sheep/goat bone (see Appendix 7).

Romano-British ditches

The three ditches **F. 11**, **F. 13** and **F. 14** identified during the evaluation were exposed during the excavation (Figure 3). Ditch F. 11 was aligned east-west, extending into the edge of excavation to the east, and stopping at the junction with ditch F. 13 to the west. The two ditches only just touched, but ditch F. 13 appeared to cut ditch F. 11. Ditch F. 11 was between 0.55m and 1.05m wide and 0.05m and 0.45m deep, becoming increasingly shallow and truncated to the east as the depth of protective overlying deposits decreased and exposed the ditch to plough damage (Figure 5). Ditch F. 13 was between 0.35m and 1.21m wide and 0.1m and 0.32m deep. The ditch also became gradually shallower and increasingly truncated towards the east, until it was ploughed out and no longer visible. Ditches F. 11 and F. 13 yielded earlier Neolithic and Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age residual pottery and flint, and Romano-British pottery that is more likely to be broadly contemporary with the ditches. Both ditches F. 11 and F. 14 yielded a number of Romano-British sherds from single vessels, which suggest that the pottery is likely to be broadly contemporary with the ditches (Appendix 3). Ditch F.13 cut ditch F. 11 and is consequently also potentially Romano-British. A sheep/goat mandible was recovered from F. 11, whilst F.13 yielded a cattle molar (see Appendix 7). Cinder and mussel shell were recovered from the surface of ditch F. 11, whilst oyster shell was recovered from the surface of ditch F. 13.

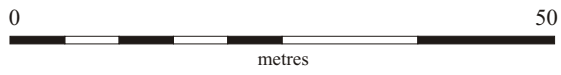
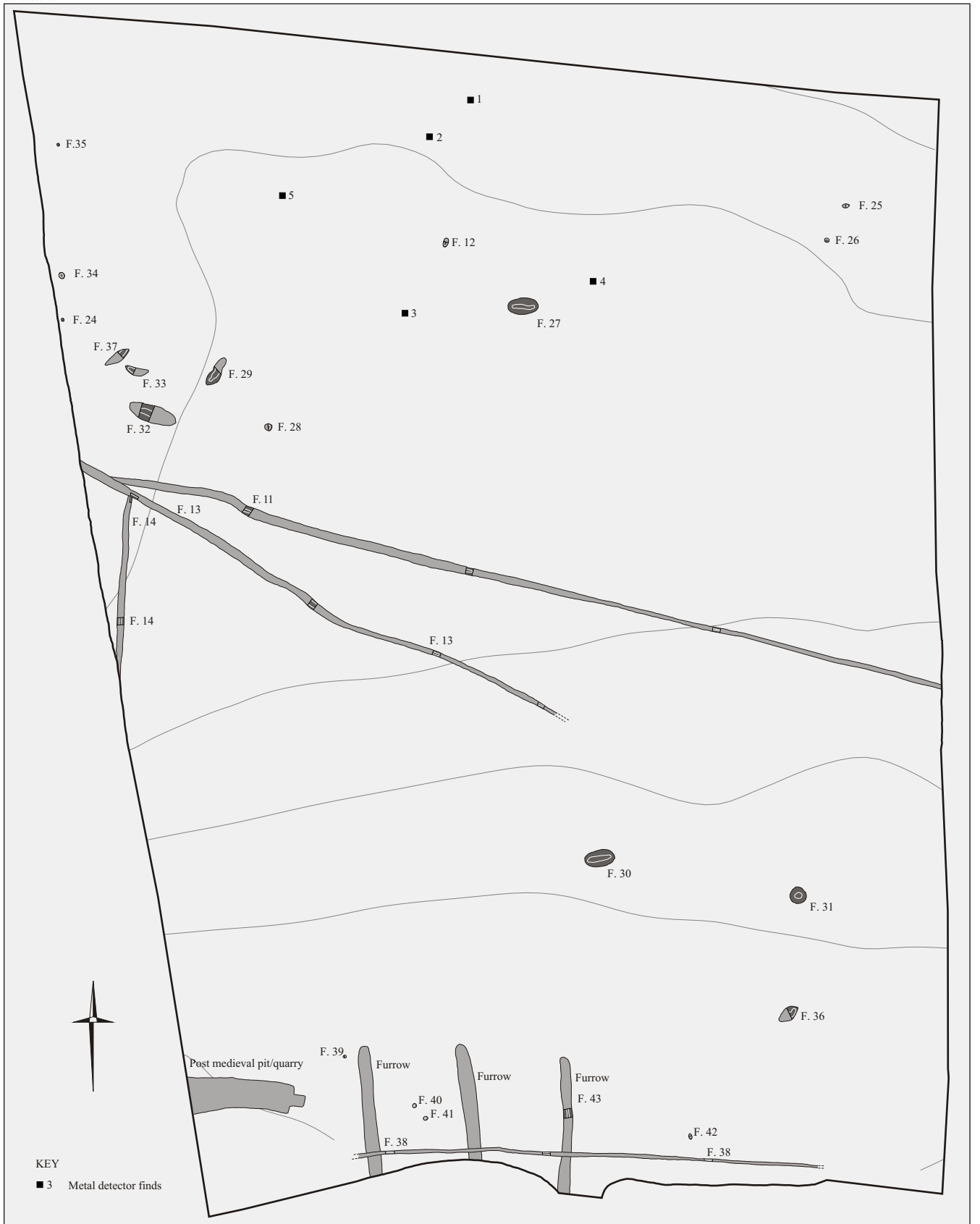


Figure 2. Site plan



Figure 3. Phase plan

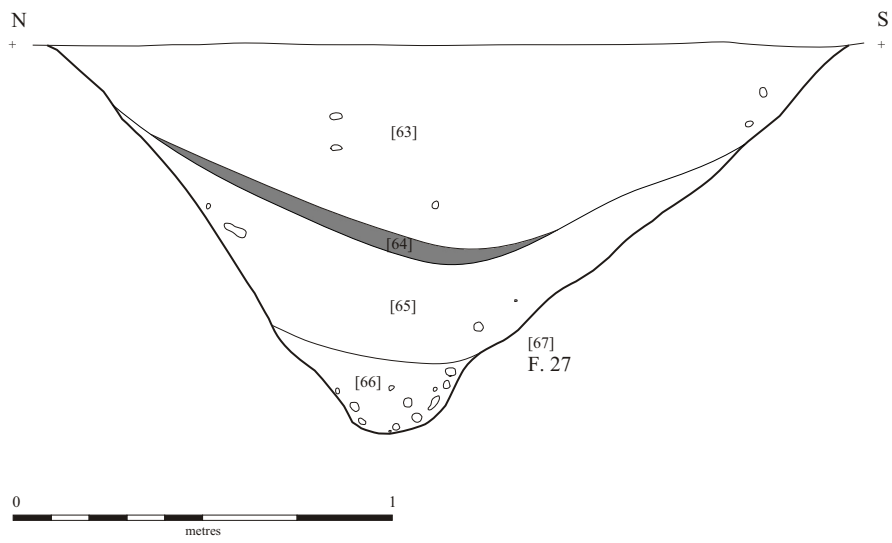


Figure 4. Middle Bronze Age pit F. 27



Figure 5. Romano-British ditch F. 11

Medieval features

A fourth ditch **F.38** was exposed by the excavation, aligned east-west, the ditch yielded 14th century medieval pottery and cut three furrows (Figure 3). A small nearby pit F.42 also yielded comparable medieval pottery and mussel shell. However, the condition of the pottery in both features suggests that it could be residual rather than contemporary with the ditch and the pit. The furrows were on a northwest-southeast alignment and only survived at the southern edge of the site, where they were protected from ploughing by colluvial deposits. One furrow was excavated F. 43 and was 1.25m wide and 0.22m deep. Further limited evidence for medieval activity was also provided by five medieval finds recovered from the metal detecting; including a silver coin and two French 15th century jettons (see Appendix 9).

Undated features

The remaining five features exposed at the site could not be dated (Figure 3). A circular pit **F. 31** was revealed that yielded two sherds of Neolithic pottery, however, the fill and morphology of the pit differed from those of the tree throws and Neolithic pits in other areas of the site, suggesting that the pottery was potentially residual in a later feature. A silt hollow containing worked flint and three postholes were also exposed at the site, **F. 25, F. 26, F. 28** and **F. 35**. The post holes were near to several undated post holes/pits exposed during the evaluation, one of which F. 23 yielded Romano-British pottery. The features were just to the west of the excavation area, immediately north of the ditches and potentially broadly contemporary.

Discussion

Evidence for the earliest archaeological activity at the site is provided by Neolithic tree throws and pits. The features were loosely concentrated in the western half of the site; only one tree throw F. 36 was exposed in the eastern half of the site. The distribution of the tree throws and small pits may be the result of the protection from ploughing provided by a more substantial colluvial overburden on the western half of the site. Alternatively, the features may have been focused on the Carrstone and not on the chalk. The presence of the tree throws suggests that the area was at least partially and probably largely wooded during the earlier Neolithic. Three of the five pits were in an informal cluster in the south-western part of the site, potentially in a former clearing. The tree throws were also in a loose cluster, and potentially created a clearing that was utilised when the trees fell over.

The tree throws' fills suggest that the material culture was deposited in the existing features, as opposed to falling into the void created when the trees fell over. The flint working waste and broken pots suggest that activities were carried out in or near the tree throws and that the material was then cleared away, or left in the hollow. In contrast, the pits were specifically dug and the material deposited in them. The roe deer antler recovered from pit F. 12 may even have been used to dig the pit/pits. A series of activities and tasks were carried out in the earlier Neolithic either in small

clearings or utilising smaller areas created by the tree throws, waste generated by these activities was then cleared away either into tree throws or pits.

Although both feature types yielded Neolithic material, the quantity and artefact types differed slightly between the pits and the tree throws. Four of the five tree throws yielded Neolithic pottery; one feature alone yielded 62 sherds of pottery. However, no pottery was recovered from the Neolithic pits. Every tree throw yielded Neolithic flint, and Neolithic flint was recovered from four of the five Neolithic pits. In contrast, hazelnut shells were recovered from two of the pits and none of the tree throws, one of the pits also contained a roe deer antler. The limited number of tree throws and pits mean that the differences in artefact quantities may not be meaningful. However, the differences could potentially be the material traces of the varied activities that were carried out in or near the features, activities that generated the material recovered from the tree throws and pits. These activities included flint working, using pots, fires and processing food. Interestingly, the only food remains that survived, the hazelnut shells were in the pits, whilst pottery was only found in the tree throws.

Evidence for Bronze Age activity was provided by two large pits. Both of the pits yielded Bronze Age pottery. Five of the three sherds of Early Bronze Age pottery recovered from pit F. 30 refitted, which suggests the pottery was broadly contemporary with the feature. Pit F. 27 yielded 19 sherds of Middle Bronze Age pottery, several of which were large, which again suggests that the pottery is likely to be broadly contemporary with the pit. No other features could be dated to the Bronze Age.

Three ditches initially identified in the evaluation were clustered in the western part of the site, potentially because they were protected from plough damage by the slightly thicker overburden. The ditches are likely to be Romano-British, although they also yielded earlier residual material. No other features could be dated to the Romano-British period, although several postholes/pits were located to the north of the ditches and could potentially be contemporary; one of the pits in the area of the post holes yielded a sherd of Romano-British pottery. A Roman coin was also found just to the west of the ditches in the topsoil (see Appendix 9). The presence of the ditches suggests that the area was at least partially cleared of trees by the Romano-British period.

Medieval activity at the site was focused on agriculture; the truncated remains of three furrows and an east west ditch were protected by colluvial in the south-western part of the site. The ditch yielded a sherd of 14th century, potentially residual pottery and cut the furrows (see Appendix 4). A single probable medieval pit was exposed to the north of the ditch.

Conclusion

The results of the excavation confirmed, enhanced and added to the results of the evaluation. The presence of Neolithic activity at the site was confirmed and expanded to include tree throws; whilst previously unidentified, albeit limited Bronze Age

activity was also exposed. The formerly undated ditches could be dated to the Romano-British period, whilst previously unexposed medieval activity was also revealed.

The wooded earlier Neolithic landscape at the site was used by probable small groups focused on clearings and tree throws. The tasks carried out in the landscape included processing food, fires, using pots and working flint, probably to replace the tools that were used; types of activities associated with occupation, whatever its duration. The material waste generated by these activities was cleared into tree throws and pits. Evidence for Bronze Age activity was more limited, and focused on two large pits. By the Romano-British period, the area was at least partially cleared in the western part of the site. The evidence for Romano-British activity is agricultural, although several undated postholes could have been broadly contemporary with the field system. Medieval activity was also agricultural in character; three furrows survived in the south-western corner of the site, protected by the colluvial deposits but they potentially, originally extended across the site. A later ditch, containing potentially residual 14th century pottery cut the furrows.

Appendix 1

Prehistoric Pottery *Mark Knight*

The prehistoric pottery assemblage comprised 96 sherds weighing 603g (MSW 6.28g). The material was derived from 10 separate contexts, although the majority came from F.27 (19.8% by number and 48.3% by weight) and F.29 (64.6% by number and 46.3% by weight). The condition of the assemblage was good and included large pieces as well sherds in fresh condition. Diagnostic sherds consisted of 11 rims, 1 collar, 2 fragments of an applied cordon and possibly 2 decorated sherds.

Feature	Context	Number	Weight	Fabric
11	Sample 10	2	2g	2
13	127	2	2g	2
27	64	19	291g	1
29	70	62	279g	2
30	72	5	13g	3
31	77	2	1g	2
32	95	1	2g	2
36	102	1	2g	2
37	103	1	3g	2
Surface Find	140E/960N	1	8g	2
<i>Totals:</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>96</i>	<i>603g</i>	<i>3</i>

Table 1 - Assemblage Breakdown

The assemblage can be broken down into three groups: Early Neolithic, Early Bronze Age and Middle Bronze Age.

Early Neolithic

F.29 contained 62 sherds including 9 rim fragments and 1 possibly incised body sherd. Some of the thinner walled fragments also appeared to have external and internally applied slips. The rim forms incorporated out-turned, rolled-over and externally thickened types characteristic of Early Neolithic and probably Mildenhall style vessels. Based upon the rim types a minimum of 5 vessels are represented. The Mildenhall attribution is also consistent with the incised decoration as is the presence of a few concave neck pieces suggestive of carinated vessel forms (importantly there are no base angles present). The hard, sandy flint-rich fabric also situates the assemblage along side the ‘major’ Norfolk Mildenhall assemblages of Hurst Fen (Clark 1960) and Kilverstone (Garrow et al. 2005).

Single or paired plain body fragments from **F.11**, **F.13**, **F.31**, **F.32**, **F.36**, **F.37** and a single surface find were made of a fabric consistent with the sherds found within F.29 and have therefore been grouped as being Early Neolithic.

Early Bronze Age

The 5 small pieces from **F.30** came from a single vessel (3 pieces refitted and the largest sherd had fresh breaks around its edges). A collar fragment possibly decorated with a vertical line of vestigial fingernail impressions indicates that these pieces came from a small Early Bronze Age Collared Urn.

Middle Bronze Age

F.27 produced several large sherds (over 5 x 5cm) with false rims (indicative of a ring or coil built vessel) belonging to a single large barrel-shaped urn. The assemblage also included two internally bevelled rim fragments as well as evidence for an applied horizontal cordon around the ‘shoulder’ of the vessel. Small remnants of the cordon also survived and these suggested that it was once decorated with a single line of finger-tip pinching. In combination, the rim form, vessel shape and cordon indicate that the sherds came from a single Deverel-Rimbury type urn.

Fabric Series:

Fabric 1 – Hard with frequent large-medium angular SANDSTONES, common SAND and possible rare GROG.

Fabric 2 – Very hard, SAND-rich fabric with frequent to abundant medium-small burnt FLINT.

Fabric 3 – Medium hard with common small-medium GROG.

Appendix 2

Later Prehistoric Pottery- Matt Brudenell

An assemblage of 7 (24g) sherds of Later Prehistoric pottery was recovered from the excavation. The pottery was retrieved from just three features, with a mean sherd weight of 3.4g. All the sherds are small and well abraded.

Feature	Context	Cat No.	No.	Weight (g)	Date
11	91-92	694	4	16	LBA-EIA (1100-800 BC)
33	96	617	1	2	Later prehistoric (1100 BC- c. AD 50)
11	Small find 7	641	1	4	LBA-EIA?
13	Small find 17	653	1	2	LBA-EIA?

Table 2 - Assemblage breakdown

Six of the sherds are dated to the Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age. These sherds are characterised by fabrics tempered with moderate-common coarse burnt-flint with moderate medium sub-rounded quartz sand. The small sherd size and similarity of fabrics to the Early Neolithic pottery has made identification problematic. As such, the amount of LBA/EIA material may either be over or underestimated. For the purposes of this report, only thin sherds with moderately well sorted burnt flint inclusions and generally sandier fabrics have been assigned to the LBA/EIA. However, it remains possible that some of this material, particularly the two Small Find sherds, could be Neolithic. Likewise, the reverse is also possible. The two rim sherds from context [91-92] can be more confidently assigned to the period. One has a gently concave neck with a flat rim-top and slightly expanded lip. The other rim has two deep fingertip impressions on the inner lip; a decorative trait typical of LBA/EIA assemblages in the region.

The remaining sherd in the assemblage is tempered by moderate medium sub-rounded quartz sand and sparse coarse flint. The sherd is hand made, but cannot be assigned a date closer than latter prehistoric, c.1100 BC-AD 50.

Appendix 3

Roman Pottery – Katie Anderson

31 sherds of Roman pottery, weighing 118g were recovered from the excavations. All of the material was examined and details of fabric, form and date were recorded, along with any other information deemed important.

The pottery came from two different features, with one final sherd being a stray find. Feature 11, a ditch, contained 26 sherds weighing 106g from three different contexts and the surface. All of the sherds were relatively small and abraded with only the sherds recovered from the surface being diagnostic, identified as a necked jar. Due to the size and condition of the sherds, specific dating was problematic, although the fabrics suggest an early Roman date (mid 1st-2nd century AD). There appears to be little chronological difference between the fills containing Roman pottery, highlighted by several sherds from the same vessel occurring in different contexts. Three sherds

from a fine, sandy, black-slipped ware were recovered from context [085], sherds from the same vessel were also found in context [086]. Seven sherds from a single vessel excavated from context [124] were from the same vessel as seven sherds recovered from the surface of this feature.

Feature 14 contained four sherds (8g) from a single vessel, a non-diagnostic coarse sandy greyware, dating mid 1st-2nd century AD. The sherd recovered from the surface consisted of a coarse, sandy greyware, which could only be dated Romano-British.

Overall the Roman pottery assemblage is very small and suggests this was not a main focus of Roman activity. Although the small quantity does suggest these features and consequently Roman occupation was in the early part of the Roman period, between the mid 1st and 2nd century AD.

Appendix 4

Medieval pottery - Craig Cessford based on spot dating by David Hall

Excavations at Snettisham produced an extremely small quantity of medieval pottery. The condition of the material means that it can only provide a *terminus post quem* for the features in which it was found and should not be regarded as conclusive dating evidence. Additionally the material is coarseware which cannot be precisely dated.

F.38 [108] produced one sherd of grey coarseware with an oxidised finish weighing 3g. Probably 14th century in date.

F.42 [117] produced one sherd of red coarseware with a reduced finish weighing 3g. Probably 15th century in date.

Appendix 5

Burnt clay

Three pieces of chronologically non-diagnostic burnt clay were recovered from the site; F. 27 yielded two pieces of burnt clay (10g), whilst F. 31 yielded one (2g).

Appendix 6

Flint report – Emma Beadsmoore

A total of 97 (<996g) flints were recovered from the site during the excavation; 25 (<231g) from tree throws and a silt hollow, four Neolithic pits yielded 10 (<43g) flints, whilst 3 (40g) were recovered from a Bronze Age pit, one (8g) from a medieval pit, three Romano-British ditches yielded 38 (<336g) flints and 20 (338g) flints were collected from the colluvial, spoil heaps and whilst machining. The flints are

presented by feature and type in Table 3 including five flints recovered from the half of pit F. 12 excavated during the evaluation.

Tree throws

Five tree throws yielded between one and nine flints comprising flint working waste, no tools were recovered from the features. A few blades were amongst the material, classic products of earlier Neolithic dedicated blade production. Although many of the flakes are broader, they still have the distinctive traces of systematic flake production/core reduction that are characteristic of earlier Neolithic flint working. A core rejuvenation flake was also recovered from tree throw F. 33, providing further evidence for systematic flake production through the deliberate modification of platforms, leading to the control, and extension of the use life of the core.

Neolithic pits

Four pits yielded a total of 15 (<49) flints. Again the material comprised discarded flint working waste; waste blades and broken flakes, chunks and waste flakes used to remove awkward sections of cores to deliberately extend the use life. However, regardless of the frequently fragmentary nature of the material, there were still traces of the systematic flake production/core reduction that is a characteristic of Neolithic flake production/core reduction.

Bronze Age and medieval pits

Three residual flakes were recovered from a Bronze Age pit, material that had been inadvertently incorporated into the feature when it established. In contrast to the earlier Neolithic material that was recovered from earlier Neolithic features, the tree throws and Neolithic pits, the residual Neolithic material recovered from the Bronze Age pit included a tool; a Neolithic serrated flake. A Neolithic core rejuvenation flake was also recovered from the pit and a flake blank that is compatible with Neolithic flake production/core reduction strategies. A medieval pit yielded a single chronologically non-diagnostic chunk.

Romano-British ditches

Three Romano-British ditches yielded 38 flints. The material includes residual Neolithic waste flakes, several of which are potentially the products of discoidal cores, more prevalent in the later Neolithic. A Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age thumbnail scraper was also recovered. However, the material included a number of flakes and an irregular core that were the product of more expedient flake production/core reduction; focused simply on producing flakes, regardless of their form and with no concern over the use life of the core. This type of expedient flake production was prevalent from the Middle Bronze Age onwards.

Stray finds

The majority of the material recovered as stray finds was expediently produced flint working waste and a couple of tools that potentially dates from the Middle Bronze Age onwards. The tools are an irregular scraper and a retouched flake. However, several other flakes, a single platform core, a piercer and a retouched flake are the products of systematic flake production/core reduction carried out during the Neolithic. The colluvial, which yielded the majority of the stray finds, contained a mixture of earlier and later flint.

Features	Type														Totals	
	chip/chunk	primary flake	secondary flake	tertiary flake	secondary blade	tertiary blade	single platform core	discoidal core	irregular core	core rejuvenation flake	piercer	thumbnail scraper	miscellaneous scraper	miscellaneous retouched flake		serrated flake
Tree throws																
F. 29			2	5	1	1										9
F. 32	1		2	4		1										8
F. 33		1	1	1					1							4
F. 36	1															1
F. 37			3													3
Neolithic pits																
F. 12	2		1	3												6
F. 34			2	3		1										6
F. 39	1															1
F. 41			2													2
Bronze Age pit																
F. 27			1						1						1	3
Medieval pit																
F. 42	1															1
Romano-British ditches																
F. 11	3		2	2					1			1	1			10
F. 13	5		5	12			1	1								24
F. 14	1		1	2												4
Stray																
F. 25			1													1
colluvial	2		4	5		1		1		1		1	1			16
spoil heap			1	1												2
surface													1			1
Sub totals	17	1	28	38	1	3	2	1	2	2	1	1	2	2	1	102

Table 3 – Flints recovered from the site

Conclusion

The flint recovered from the excavation comprises earlier Neolithic and Neolithic material; both broadly contemporary with the features from which it was recovered, the tree throws and Neolithic pits, and residual in later features, the later ditches and Iron Age pits. In addition to the residual Neolithic material, the ditches also yielded expediently manufactured flint that potentially dates from the Middle Bronze Age onwards. The stray finds recovered from the colluvial provide further evidence for background Neolithic activity as well as the later, expedient exploitation of flint.

Appendix 7

Faunal remains - Chris Swaysland

A small assemblage of animal bones numbering 280 fragments and weighing 672 grams was recovered from an open area excavation. The assemblage is in poor condition and is characterised by large amounts of highly fragmentary, unidentifiable long bone.

Methodology

The animal bones were identified using the reference collection of the Cambridge Archaeological Unit. The assemblage was quantified using a modified version of the methodology of Serjeantson (1996), a 'zonal' approach. Results are presented by NISP (Number of Identified Specimens). No attempt has been made to distinguish between the remains of sheep and goat; these bones are recorded as sheep/goat. Information on gnawing, butchery and pathology was recorded where present.

Results

The assemblage is analysed by phase as defined by the excavator.

Bronze Age

Eight identifiable fragments were recovered from pits F.27, F.30 and F.31. Seven specimens were identified as cattle; one specimen was identified as sheep/goat.

Romano-British

Two identifiable fragments were recovered, one each from ditches F. 11 and F.13. F.11 yielded a sheep/goat mandible and F. 13 yielded small find 10, an unerupted, mandibular permanent cattle molar.

Discussion

Clearly these assemblages are very small and beyond saying that the species represented in the assemblages were present on the site no further conclusions are possible.

Further Work

This is a small assemblage in poor condition; no further work is recommended

Appendix 8

Assessment of bulk environmental samples - Anne de Vareilles

Methodology

Five samples were processed using an Ankara-type flotation machine at the Cambridge Archaeological Unit. The flots were collected in a 300µm mesh and the remaining heavy residues washed over a 1mm mesh. The flots were dried indoors and scanned for the presence of charred plant remains, molluscs and charcoal.

Sorting and identification of macro remains were carried out under a low power binocular microscope. Identifications were made using the reference collection of the George Pitt-Rivers Laboratory, McDonald Institute, University of Cambridge. Nomenclature follows Stace (1997) for plants and Beedham (1972) for molluscs. All environmental remains are listed in Table 4

Preservation

All plant remains were preserved through carbonisation. All samples contained modern rootlets and a few modern seeds, indicative of bioturbation through which macro remains may have been lost and/or displaced. The tree-throw and Iron Age pits had blind burrowing snail shells (*Ceciloides acicula*), also a sign of context disturbance.

Results and Conclusion

Although charcoal was present in all features, it was only the Neolithic pits (F.40 [112] and F.41 [114]) that revealed any archaeobotanical food remains. The pits contained hazel-nut shell fragments as are often found in Neolithic features. Such remains are a testimony that, although cereal cultivation was practiced, the gathering of fruits and nuts remained an important part of the Neolithic diet.

Sample number		<19>	<20>	<12>	<15>	<17>
Context		[112]	[114]	[64]	[72]	[70]
Feature		40	41	27	30	29
Feature type		Pit	Pit	Pit	Pit	Tree throw
Phase/Date		Neo.	Neo.	I.A.	I.A.	
Sample volume - litres		2.5	10	12	12	10
Flot fraction examined		1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1
Wild Plant Seeds						
<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel-nut shell fragment	11	24			
Small <i>Chenopodium</i> sp.	Small Goosefoots			+ M	+ M	
<i>Atriplex patula/prostrata</i>	Oraches	- M				
<i>Silene</i> sp.	Campions				1	
<i>Fallopia convolvulus</i>	Black Bindweed					- M
Modern rootlets						
<i>Ceciloides acicula</i>	Blind burrowing snail	+	+++	+++	+++	+++
Charcoal						
>4mm			+			
2 – 4 mm		-	++	++		
< 2mm		++	+++	+++	++	+++
Vitrified			-	-		-
Parenchyma	Undifferentiated plant storage tissue	-	-			

Key: '-' 1 or 2; '+' <10; '++' 10 – 50; '+++> >50 items; M – modern.

Table 4 - Archaeobotanical Remains from 41936 SNT

Appendix 9

Metal Detecting Survey - Andrew Hall With coin identification by Martin Allen

Methodology

A metal detecting survey was carried out in order to retrieve artefacts from the topsoil prior to the machine striping of the excavation area. As well as contributing datable finds, assessing the topsoil assemblage can also pinpoint activities that may not register with traditional earth-fast archaeological features. The survey was conducted along transects running east to west, spaced at 5m intervals. This intensive survey strategy was adopted in light of the results of the preceding field survey and evaluation as well as the area's proximity to a site of known archaeological importance (NSMR 1487). The transects were walked at a slow pace with the sweep covering 1.5-2.0m, using Tesoro detectors. The survey was carried out over several days by two experienced detectorists from the Cambridge Archaeological Unit.

Throughout the survey, small iron objects were discriminated out, and very recent objects of little or no archaeological significance, such as milk bottle tops, ring pulls, shotgun cartridges and small caliber bullet cases etc were collected but discarded prior

to finds assessment. Some however slipped through this vetting procedure and were added to the final catalogue. All finds were numbered individually and plotted to within a metre along each transect. The numbering sequence does not reflect any dated chronology of the finds but rather the order in which the objects were retrieved. The results for each field are illustrated within Figure 6 and listed in Table 5 below.

The conditions for metal detecting were poor on initial inspection with a considerable growth of scrub and weeds across the area. To facilitate the detecting, the vegetation was machine stripped from the surface of the field. This resulted in excellent soil conditions. Discussion with Mr Steve Brown, a local respected detectorist, during the evaluation stage of this project, centered on the iron rich carrstone geology and the potential masking effect this had on metalwork within the topsoil. Throughout the survey this did not appear to be a problem with recovery rates high and consistent across the site.

Results

The close proximity to the PDA to the ‘Treasure Field’ (NSMR 1487) has attracted the attentions, both sanctioned and clandestine, of local detectorists. The level of detecting is of course impossible to quantify, as are the results. Detecting by Mr Brown over recent years revealed a few post medieval and later medieval finds but no significant scatters. Additional detecting took place as part of the British Museum investigations during 1991, with Tony Paccito surveying the field with limited results. (D. Webb pers. comm.). The results cannot be viewed in isolation from those of the early field survey and evaluation, both of which incorporated this current area within their respective study zones. The results from these earlier phases of work are fully catalogued and located with the 2005 report (Beadsmoore 2005).

This 2006 survey resulted in the recovery of 128 metal artefacts, from an area covering approximately 1.5 hectares. Of these finds, 84 were copper alloy, 25 were made of lead, one of silver, and two of an unidentified white metal (probably tin).

A proportion (34 / 26%) of the finds such as fragments of copper or lead sheet were un-diagnostic and therefore difficult to date. Of the diagnostic / datable material, the majority (87 / 68%) is of the post medieval period, with 18th and 19th century finds well represented. This corresponds well with the 2005 results which demonstrated very similar proportions of finds, both in terms of material and period breakdown.

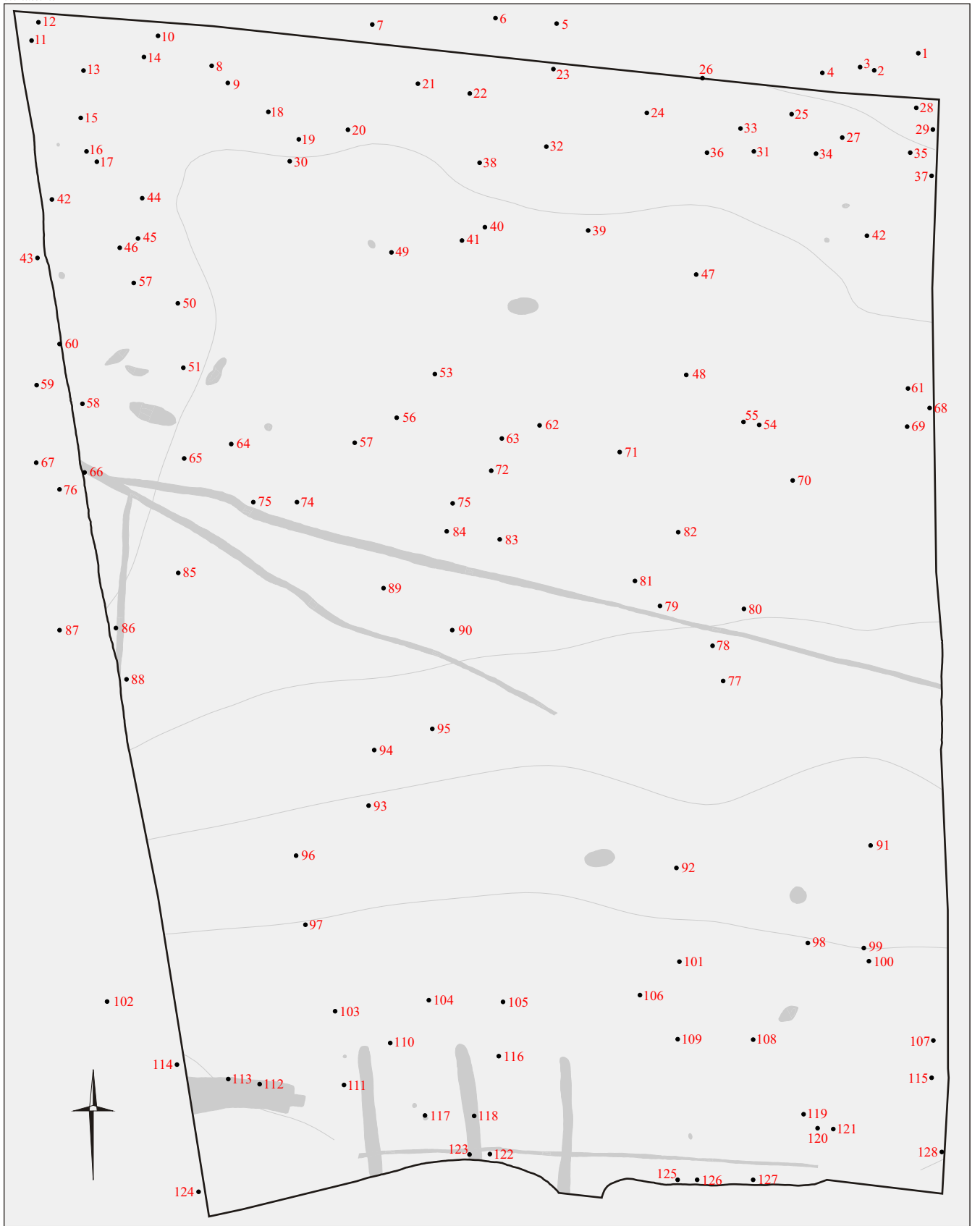
Location	Catalogue number	Notes	Wt(g)	Date
1	560	Short length of lead bar	19	-
2	474	Copper alloy domed fitting or button cover	5	Post med
3	475	Late Medieval copper alloy belt or strap mount (parallel Egan 2005, No.136. p.40)	5	15 th -16 th
4	476	Small domed headed copper alloy tack or stud	3	19 th -20 th
5	477	Lead / tin stud / fitting, undecorated with low relief oval head	20	15 th -17 th
6	478	Small copper alloy domed fitting or mount	3	Post med
7	561	Small bore (10mm)lead pistol ball	8	18 th -19 th
8	479	Fragment of sheet copper alloy fitting with rivet	5	Post med

9	562	Spherical pierced lead line weight	15	Post med
10	480	Sheet copper alloy washer	3	20th
11	481	Decorative copper alloy flat fitting/mount with chamfered edge in a rococo form. Possibly furniture or structural fitting	21	17 th -18th
12	482	Shotgun cartridge end (discarded)	5	20th
13	549	Iron file	155	19 th -20th
14	483	V small copper alloy ring	2	19 th -20th
15	484	Copper alloy button, loop intact, undecorated	8	18 th -19th
16	563	Small bore(8mm) lead pistol ball or shot	7	18 th -19th
17	564	Fragment of lead sheet scrap		
18	485	Cast solid copper alloy domed button decorated with concentric circles, with separate wire loop or shank (see Egan and Pritchard 1991, p.275-6 for examples)	4	15 th -17th
19	486	Flat copper alloy button with loop intact, silvered or tinned surface	10	18 th -19th
20	487	Flat plain copper alloy button, loop intact. Tinned coating?	5	18 th -19th
21	488	Copper Victorian farthing.	5	1896
22	489	Copper alloy small weight with 5/8 cast into upper surface	8	19 th -20th
23	490	Cast copper alloy overall button with four holes	3	20th
24	491	Circular copper alloy strap or harness fitting	5	18 th -19th
25	492	Copper alloy button with silvered front surface. Loop missing	7	18 th -19th
26	550	Rectangular section iron bar 60mm length	44	-
27	565	Off cut of lead sheet	20	-
28	566	Pistol ball (12mm diameter)	11	17 th -19th
29	567	Circular domed lead weight	94	Post med
30	493	Copper alloy circular button, traces of silvering, loop missing	6	18 th -19th
31	568	Lead spill / possible vessel repair	41	-
32	569	Pear shaped domed weight with flat back	152	Post med
33	494	Copper alloy overall button with four holes	3	19 th -20th
34	460	Silver hammered penny of Edward III (1327-77) Post treaty coinage (1369-77), York, amulet on breast. (North 1991, no.1295)	1.16	14th
35	461	Copper alloy jetton from Nuremberg, 'Rechenmeister' type, alphabet in circular frame. C.1580's-90's (Mitchiner 1988, No. 1430) 27mm diameter	3.09	16th
36	495	Copper alloy button with traces of gilding. Loop intact	6	18 th -19th
37	496	Strip of copper alloy sheet, off cut.	4	-
38	497	Cast copper alloy vessel foot, possibly from a small skillet or jug (Margeson 1993, p.92 for similar examples)	10	15 th -16th
39	498	Folded fragment of copper alloy sheet	2	-
40	499	Copper alloy caster from bed stead	36	19 th -20th
41	500	Copper alloy machine part	27	19 th -20th
42	501	Stamped copper alloy sheet thimble, no mark. (see Margeson 1993, p. 188, no. 1466 for parallel)	8	18 th -19th
42b	462	Ireland, George III copper halfpenny	5	1781
43	463	Copper alloy jetton, France 15 th century. <i>Obv.</i> Shield of France modern. <i>Rev.</i> Triple-straned cross fleuretty in tressure of four arcs. Diameter 28mm	1.71	15th
44	502	Copper alloy decorative peg with rectangular shank, collar, and rounded head. The later is hollowed out. The upper surface of the head is concave with a central raised boss. Possibly a tuning peg from a stringed instrument	4	17 th -19th

45	503	Cast copper alloy winding handle?	6	19 th -20 th
46	570	Large cast circular lead seal or token (more likely former) with crude pellets around circumference, raised seam, and P X impressed within surface. Reverse plain. Possibly a grain sack seal	26	Post Med
47	571	Folded fragment of lead sheet	143	-
48	504	Copper Victorian Half penny	7	1862
49	572	Rolled lead sheet fragment	85	-
50	505	Copper alloy machine fitting	6	19 th -20 th
51	573	Cut fragment of lead sheet	4	-
52	507	Copper alloy, silvered livery button with number 14. Possible the 14 th Regiment of Foot	4	18 th -19 th
53	508	Fragment of copper alloy sheet	2	-
54	509	Small cast copper alloy horse harness buckle	6	19 th -19 th
55	510	Shotgun cartridge (discarded)	5	20 th
56	511	Small copper alloy overall button with four holes	4	19 th -20 th
57	512	Copper alloy escutcheon plate, possibly attached to drawer front of an early Georgian piece of furniture	10	17 th -18 th
58	513	Plain copper alloy domed button with wire loop (see Egan and Pritchard 1991, p.275-6 for examples)	5	15 th -17 th
59	514	Fragment of a large cast copper alloy crotal bell with foliate design on lower half (see Margeson 1993, p.214, no. 1760 for similar)	12	17 th
60	515	Cast copper alloy strap loop /buckle, from horse harness	8	18 th -19 th
61	516	Copper alloy small hinge from box / writing slope etc	10	19 th
62	573	Fragment of lead scrap	3	-
63	517	Copper alloy overall button with four holes	3	19 th -20 th
64	518	Copper alloy stud or rivet	4	Post med
65	574	Lead grain sack seal with Baker's Extras and Fakenham on reverse, NB an identical example was recovered from the evaluation phase	6	19 th -20 th
66	575	A crudely cast lead spherical object. Possibly a weight	36	-
67	519	Copper alloy plain button, loop intact, tinned surface	9	18 th -19 th
68	464	Copper alloy coin or token 28mm diameter	7.60	18 th -19 th
69	465	Copper alloy jetton, France 15 th century. <i>Obv.</i> Shield of France modern. <i>Rev.</i> Triple-stranded cross fleuretty in tressure of four arcs. Diameter 28mm	1.74	15 th
70	551	Iron disc 34mm in diameter. Possible machine part	41	-
71	552	Iron key 85mm length	17	18 th -19 th
72	466	Copper alloy jetton, Nuremberg? 16 th -17 th century. 25mm diameter	2.95	16 th -17 th
73	553	Iron horse shoe fragment	13	Post Med
74	520	Shotgun cartridge (discarded)	5	20 th
75	521	Plain copper alloy ring	2	19 th -20 th
76	467	Bronze Roman coin of Domitian (AD 81-96). Dupondius, Rome AD 85-96. <i>Rev.</i> FORTVNAE AVGVSTI	5.86	1 st c AD
77	576	Irregular lump of lead casting waste	80	-
78	577	Folded thick lead sheet	69	
79	522	Rifle bullet, fired	14	20 th
80	554	Iron horse shoe fragment		
81	578	Lead scrap	12	-
82	523	Shotgun cartridge (discarded)	5	20 th
83	524	Copper alloy small caliber cartridge case	3	20 th
84	579	Length of lead round section bar, possible weight	17	Post med
85	468	Copper alloy token, Norwich, T. Wilson & Son, 1839.	3.14	1839

		(Bell 1975, p.90, no.18)		
86	525	Machine pressed two hole copper alloy button	3	19 th -20 th
87	526	Shotgun cartridge discarded	6	20 th
88	580	Folded and riveted lead strap end? Of square shape	82	Post med
89	-	Shotgun cartridge (discarded)	8	20 th
90	581	Lead off cut	28	-
91	582	Triangular lead off cut	6	-
92	583	Irregular lead spill	10	-
93	584	Lead alloy (pewter?) mount, possible bridal boss or pendant of circular shape with raised central boss decorated with floral motifs	18	Med
94	527	Copper alloy spoon bowl	9	19 th -20 th
95	528	Small machine pressed copper alloy escutcheon plate	4	20 th
96	555	Large round copper alloy button, traces of gilding, loop intact	11	18 th -19 th
97	529	Copper alloy strip	25	-
98	469	Base metal token "3 pence" diameter 29mm	3.68	19 th -20 th
99	530	Square shaped copper alloy buckle	6	18 th -19 th
100	531	Folded copper alloy strip	6	-
101		VOID (number not used)		
102	532	Fragment of copper alloy sheet	9	-
103	556	Folded iron strip	16	-
104	585	Fragment of decorative lead object	15	-
105	533	Cast copper alloy furniture foot, cast in the form of a lion's paw.	123	17 th -18 th
106	586	Irregular shaped lead casting spill	32	-
107	587	Small conical shaped lead weight / or possible gaming counter	12	Med
108	588	Fragment of bent lead sheet off cut	18	-
109	589	Irregular lead lump	73	-
110	590	Small fragment of scrap lead	9	-
111	534	Copper alloy sheet, possibly fragment of furniture mount	4	Post Med
112	112	Large lead collar formed from rolled thick sheet	210	-
113	557	Small fragment of copper alloy scrap	4	-
114	558	Rectangular white metal plate with screw holes	9	-
115	535	Small copper alloy sheet fitting	3	Post Med
116	536	Small length of thin copper alloy sheet	2	-
117	537	Plain copper alloy button, tinned or silvered surface	7	18 th -19 th
118	538	Plain copper alloy button, tinned, loop intact	7	18 th -19 th
119	470	Copper alloy jetton. Hans Krauwinckel II 1586-1635	3	16 th -17 th
120	539	Sheet copper alloy domed boss or possible sheet metal bell fragment	6	Post med
121	540	Copper alloy bar, machine part, length 120mm	34	19 th -20 th
122	471	Victorian penny, bronze	8.5	1884
123	541	Copper alloy buckle, horse harness	14	19 th
124	542	Copper alloy machine part, consisting of pulley wheel within housing	24	19 th -20 th
125	543	Fragment of copper alloy sheet	5	-
126	544	Fragment of window leading	9	Post med
127	472	George III (1760-1820) copper halfpenny	5	1770-5
128	473	George III (1760-1820) copper halfpenny, heavily worn	5	1770-5
129	699	Small copper alloy domed button with wire loop	3	15 th -17 th

Table 5 - Results of Metal detecting survey



0 50 metres

Figure 6. Metal detector finds in topsoil

Discussion

The discussion of the material from the earlier phases of work concentrated on single significant finds, notably the Iron Age coin, and the fine quality medieval seal matrix recovered from the evaluation (Beadsmoore 2005). The former was located within the 2006 survey area, yet no further discoveries of this period were made. The only Roman find from the current survey was a late 1st century bronze coin of Domitian. No further material of this period was recovered from any of the phases of detecting.

No Saxon material was recovered, and medieval finds were limited to a total of five. These included a single silver hammered coin (34), two French 15th century jettons (43,69) and a few additional finds. Several finds such as the small domed buttons and strap mounts fall into a grey area of dating that could place them both within the later medieval or post medieval periods.

This lack of medieval finds corresponds well with the results of the conventional fieldwalking and earlier phases of detecting. This reinforces the idea expressed during the 2005 phase that during this period the field may have been a green or pasture land; therefore lacking the introduction of finds via manuring and intensive arable land use.

As mentioned above, the large proportion of the datable finds were of the 16th through to the 20th century, with personal items such as buttons, coins and buckles found alongside furniture mounts, musket balls and seed sack seals. How this material becomes incorporated within the topsoil is an interesting question. Undoubtedly dumping/manuring/night soiling must be one factor, and it remains the best explanation for the presence of five furniture mounts and other household items. However, the distance from the nearest settlement (some 3km) and in turn the relative lack of post medieval ceramics suggests this is not the over-riding means of finds introduction. The personal items outlined above are a high proportion of the total finds assemblage. They may reflect losses by agricultural laborers, and perhaps those crossing the land or using the field for recreation such as hunting or shooting. One alternative theory, evidenced recently through work at Broom in Bedfordshire (Knight and Cooper 2004), is the practice of “shoddying”. This is the introduction of shredded clothes (along with some buttons) to the soil as a form of fertilizer. Of the 33 buttons recovered from all phases, at least half were of a uniform type. Understanding the formation processes of individual topsoil assemblages is a subject worthy of further study. What the evidence from Snettisham has already demonstrated is the large numbers of post medieval finds that occupy the topsoil, representing forms of past landuse that would be invisible without this form of survey. To date some 137 post medieval finds have been recovered from the two phases of field survey. This does not include finds by other detectorists which are known to have been very active within the field. If this number is factored up in accordance with the 2005 survey sample proportion, this results in an estimate of some 1000 finds of this period or 150 per hectare (if an even distribution is assumed). For the 2006 results, the estimate increases to 1300 or 193 per hectare.

Comparison with other sites within Cambridgeshire and Norfolk where identical survey methodology had been adopted, shows the Snettisham finds densities to be high. In fact, the estimated finds densities are almost twice that of the nearest rival,

Longstanton Cambridgeshire, which has an estimated total finds per hectare of 116 (Beadsmoore in Evans & MacKay 2004).

Due to the numbers of finds recovered during this phase, some comments can be made on the distribution within the survey area. The plot shows slightly higher clustering at the sides of the fields. This probably represents proximity to pathways/route ways along the field boundaries.

Appendix 10

Feature descriptions

Tree throws

F.29 Tree throw; [70] length 4m; width 1.2m; depth 0.4m. Irregular in plan with irregular sides sloping to an uneven base. Fill was dark greyish red sandy silt; contained pottery and flint.

F.32 Tree throw; [95] length 3m; width 1.2m; depth 0.43m. Irregular oval in plan with sides sloping steeply to an uneven base. Fill was dark greyish red sandy silt; contained pottery and flint.

F.33 Tree throw; [96] length 2.8m; width 0.9m; depth 0.32m. Irregular oval in plan with sides sloping steeply to an uneven base. Fill was dark greyish red silty sand; contained pottery and flint.

F.36 Tree throw; [102] length 3m; width 1.6m; depth 0.4m. Irregular lozenge shape in plan with irregularly sides sloping to an uneven base. Fill was dark greyish pink silty sand; contained pottery and flint.

F.37 Tree throw; [103] length 3.5m; width 1.2m; depth 0.81m. Irregular lozenge shape in plan with irregularly sides sloping to an uneven base. Fill was dark greyish red sandy silt; contained pottery and flint.

Neolithic pits

F. 12 Neolithic pit; [31] length 1.08m; width 0.64m; depth 0.37m; oval in plan with concave sides sloping down to a rounded base. Fill: [30] medium reddish brown silty sand with moderate pink chalk and charcoal inclusions; contained a roe deer antler and Neolithic flint.

F.34 Small pit; [99] length 0.85m; width 0.72m; depth 0.22m. Circular in plan with sides sloping gently to a concave base. Fills: [97] dark greyish red sandy silt, contained flint; [98] brownish red silty sand; no finds.

F.39 Small pit; [111] length 0.36m; width 0.22m; depth 0.04m. Sub-circular in plan with sides sloping gently to a flattish base. Fill: [110] medium brownish red sandy silt; contained flint.

F.40 Small pit; [113] length 0.4m; width 0.35m; depth 0.06m. Circular in plan with sides sloping gently to a rounded base. Fill: [112] medium brown sandy silt; contained hazelnut shell.

F.41 Small pit; [116] length 0.57m; width 0.5m; depth 0.16m. Circular in plan with steep sides sloping to a concave base. Fill: [114] dark grey sandy silt, contained flint and hazelnut shells; [115] mid brown sandy silt, contained hazelnut shells.

Bronze Age pits

F.27 Large pit; [67] length 3.75m; width 2.1m; depth 1.02m. Almost rectangular in plan with very steep sides sloping to a narrow, concave base. Four fills: [66] pale reddish sand with light grey silt, no finds; [65] dark pinkish red sand mixed with grey silt, no finds; [64] dark greyish red silty sand, contained pot, bone, worked flint, sea shell and other shell; [63] medium greyish red silty sand, contained bone.

F.30 Large pit; [75] length 4.0m; width 2.1m; depth 0.65m. Almost rectangular in plan with sides sloping moderately to a concave base. Four fills: [74] dark reddish grey silty sand mixed with patches of yellow sand, no finds; [73] dark reddish sand mixed with pale grey silt, no finds; [72] medium brownish red silty sand, contained pot and bone; [71] medium brownish red sandy silt mixed with patchy yellow sand, no finds.

F.31 Large pit; [78] length 2.1m; width 2.06m, depth 0.52m. Circular in plan with sides sloping moderately to a rounded base. Fill: [77] mid to dark reddish brown silty sand; contained animal bone; [76] medium reddish brown silty sand, contained animal bone.

Romano-British ditches

F.11 E-W ditch with a visible length of 102m. Four slots [88], [90], [94] and [126] were excavated. Width varied between 0.55m and 1.05m; depth between 0.05m and 0.45m. The sides sloped quite steeply to concave bases. The fills were fairly uniform medium to dark reddish brown silty sands, which contained pottery, bone, flint and shell.

F.13 SE-NW ditch with a visible length of 75m. The SE end of the ditch had been truncated. Five slots [80], [82], [84], [122] and [128] were excavated. Width varied between 0.35m and 1.21m; depth between 0.1m and 0.32m. The sides sloped moderately to concave bases. The fills were fairly uniform medium to dark reddish brown silty sands, which contained bone and flint.

F.14 S-N ditch with a visible length of 23m. Two slots [124] and [131] were excavated. Width was 1.1m; depth varied between 0.27m to 0.3m. The sides sloped moderately to concave bases. The fills were uniform medium reddish brown silty sand, which contained pot and flint.

Medieval features

F.38 E-W truncated ditch, visible for 51.5m. Three slots, [105], [107] and [109] were excavated. Width varied between 0.25m and 0.4m; depth between 0.05m and 0.08m. The concave sides sloped to a concave base. The fills were medium brown silty sands, which contained medieval pottery.

F.42 Small pit; [118] length 0.63m; width 0.37m; depth 0.26m. Oval in plan with sides sloping steeply to a rounded base. Fill: [117] medium reddish brown silty sand; contained medieval pottery, flint and shell.

F.43 NW-SE Furrow; [120] length 16.9m; width 1.25m; depth 0.22m. Fill: medium brownish red sandy silt; no finds.

Undated features

F.25 Silt hollow; [60] length 0.8m; width 0.55m; depth 0.23m; sub-circular in plan with irregularly sides sloping to an uneven base. Fill; pinkish brown silty sand; contained worked flint.

F.26 Posthole; [62] length 0.6m; width 0.5m; depth 0.22m. Circular in plan with steep sides sloping to a flat base. Fill: [61] dark greyish red silty sand; no finds

F.28 Posthole; [69] length 0.45m; width 0.4m, depth 0.17m. Circular in plan with very steep sides sloping to a concave base. Fill: [68] dark reddish grey silty sand; no finds.

F.35 Posthole; [101] length 0.35m; width 0.3m; depth 0.10m. Circular in plan with sides sloping moderately to a concave base. Fill: [100] dark greyish red silty sand; no finds.

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Martin Allen (coin identification)

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