

# The Addenbrooke's Access Road, Glebe Farm, Trumpington, Cambridge.

The 2007 Investigations: Site 1, 2, 5 & 6



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## Abstract

*This report details the results of archaeological investigations at Glebe Farm, Trumpington, Cambridgeshire. The work was undertaken on behalf of Cambridgeshire County Council by the Cambridge Archaeological Unit during May and June 2007. Four sites were considered: Two open area excavations, Sites 1 and 2; Two trench evaluations, Sites 5 and 6. Only Site 1 produced significant results covering a total area of 0.57ha which revealed 84 separate features. The pottery indicated occupation dated to the Early Iron Age - 5<sup>th</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> centuries BC.*

*There were eleven ditch features in four discrete rectilinear alignments, within which two probable drove-ways were identified. Two flexed inhumation burials were revealed and 22 features represented pits of various size, form and function. A total of 37 postholes were identified; fourteen of these were attributed to square post-built structures. A large waterlogged feature located during the evaluation was revealed in the western part of the site and identified as a well with three associated hollows partially filled with metalling deposits.*

*Two features were dated to an earlier prehistoric period; a small pit of the Middle Bronze Age and a treethrow contained two small fragments of Neolithic pottery and worked flint. A late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age presence was identified from the recovery of 109 residual flints including tools, flakes, cores and waste from Iron Age features.*

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## **INTRODUCTION**

The Cambridge Archaeological Unit (CAU) carried out archaeological investigations on the Addenbrooke's Access Road construction corridor at Glebe Farm, Trumpington, during May and June 2007. Desktop assessment (Evans *et al.* 2002) and a trial trenching evaluation (Evans *et al.* 2006) established the likely range, date and nature of the features and deposits along this corridor. Consequently two open area excavations, Site 1 and Site 2, were undertaken with additional evaluation trenching at Sites 5 and 6. These were located 0.3km south of Trumpington, between the Hauxton and Shelford roads centred on NGR TL 444 539 (Figure:1). Further investigations were carried out at Site 3, east of Shelford Road on the former showground at Clay Farm (Timberlake 2007). The project is ongoing and Sites 4 and 7 at Clay Farm will be investigated in 2008. The work was commissioned on behalf of Cambridgeshire County Council and monitored by Cambridgeshire Archaeology Planning and Countryside Advice (CAPCA).

### **Geology and Topography**

Sites 1, 2, 5 and 6 were located on the lightly sloping southern side of a broad ridge of Marly Chalk overlain in places by third terrace river deposits and bounded to the south and west by the valley of the river Cam (British Geological Survey 2002). To the north and west of the site the ridge is occupied by Trumpington village. The underlying geology consisted of third terrace river deposits overlying West Melbury marly chalk and Gault mudstone.

### **Archaeological Background**

The Addenbrooke's Access Road construction corridor has been the subject of a desktop assessment (Appleby 2004: Evans 2002), aerial photographic and geophysical surveys (Palmer in Evans *ibid*; Johnson 2005) and trial trenching evaluation (Evans *et al.*, 2006). Aerial photographic assessments identified extensive crop marks in adjacent fields but failed to reveal any features on Field A in which sites 1, 5 and 6 are located (Evans *ibid*). The evaluation identified features in Trenches 87, 89 and 105, concentrated in the southern section of Field A (Evans *ibid*). These features represented pits, one with a probable human inhumation, a possible well, postholes and ditches, dated by pottery to the Early Iron Age (5<sup>th</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> centuries BC).

The concentration of Iron Age settlement in the upper Cam Valley is well attested. To the north of Glebe farm, at Trumpington and Grantchester, Early Iron Age remains were recognised from coprolite and gravel digging during the early first quarter of the 20<sup>th</sup> century (Victoria County History (VCH) Volume 1, 1967). Significant quantities of Early Iron Age material were also recovered to the south, from phosphate digging near Hauxton Mill in the 1880's and 1890's and excavations at Rectory Farm by Alexander, Legge and Trump in 1978 (VCH, *ibid*). Cropmarks have been investigated to the west of the site and through limited excavations identified as Iron Age (Davidson and Curtis, 1973).



Figure 1. Location plan

Development of the Trumpington area close to Glebe Farm (approximately 400m to the northwest) has stimulated a number of new excavations revealing Iron Age settlement: The former Plant Breeding Institute (Kenny 1999; Hinman 2001) and the Trumpington Waitrose and Park and Ride sites (Kenny & Hatton 2001; Hinman 2004). A recent evaluation on Trumpington Meadows by the CAU confirmed that the substantial Iron Age remains found at the Park and Ride site extended to the west and south of that excavation (Brudenell 2006)

The model that emerged from these investigations was one of Early to Middle Iron Age activity within the Cam valley dominated by 'open' settlement sites; characterised by pit cutting associated with 'four-post' structures. This pattern appears to place less emphasis on distinct settlement boundaries, whereas the enclosure of the surrounding land seemed better established within a system of rectilinear field systems. These characteristics have been identified elsewhere in the wider landscape, for example at Granta Park (Kemp 1994; Brudenell 2004b), Wandlebury (Fox 1923) and at the late Iron Age defended site at War Ditches (Hughes 1903; Lethbridge 1949). The Park and Ride site also illustrated possible mortuary structures and the disposal of human remains in pits, perhaps performed in a 'ritual' context (Hinman 2004). Larger Iron Age enclosures are known from Addenbrooke's (Cr'aster 1969) and Wandlebury (Hart 1957; Hill 2004; Webley 2005), perhaps acting as focal points in the landscape.

During the evaluation, Late Neolithic and Bronze Age worked flint was also recovered from Iron Age features (Evans *et al* 2006) suggesting an earlier prehistoric presence in the immediate vicinity. Elsewhere in the locality this has generally been of a low intensity. The Park and Ride site showed that deposition of Neolithic and Bronze Age material was largely confined to small pit groups, dispersed single features and in naturally derived hollows or treethrows (Hinman 2004). The Trumpington Meadows evaluation largely confirmed this picture of dispersed activity but did locate an Early Bronze Age ring ditch and burial on a spur of gravel projecting into the Cam valley floor (Brudenell 2006). Far more substantial prehistoric activity has been attested to the west of Glebe Farm in the environs of Addenbrooke's (Evans 2002 and 2006) and the Gog Magog Hills (Hinman in Bruck, 2001).

## **Methodology**

Under archaeological supervision the topsoil and subsoil were removed by a 360° tracked excavator utilising a 2m wide toothless bucket. A grid of survey points at 10m intervals was established across the opened area and once cleaned, the site was planned at 1:50 scale. Discrete single features were tested by a combination of half sections (e.g. pits and postholes) quarter-quadrant sections (pits over 1.00m diameter) and 1.00m wide slots through linear features and spreads (e.g. ditches). Where it was considered necessary, features were fully excavated and slots were extended. With linear features slots were initially placed at 20m intervals in order to test find density variation within ditches. Having excavated these, further slots were placed to explore stratigraphic relationships or where observation suggested further information would be gained.





Figure 2. Plan of local archaeological investigations

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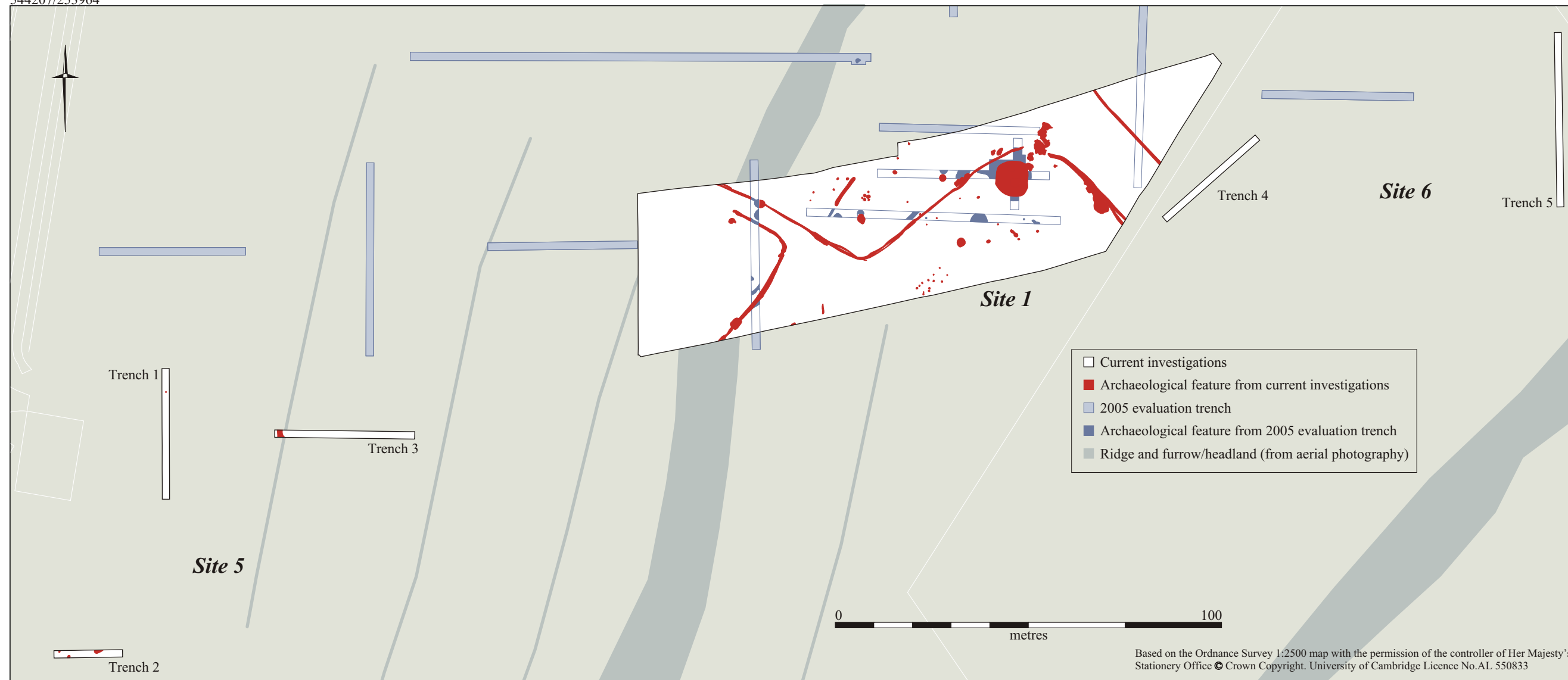


Figure 3. Plan of Sites 1, 5 and 6

The CAU-modified version of the MoLAS recording system (Spence 1990) was employed throughout: excavated stratigraphic entities (e.g. a cut, a fill) were recorded as individual contexts, with interrelated events (e.g. a ditch cut and its associated fills) assigned feature numbers. Sections were drawn at 1:10, base plans at 1:50. The photographic archive consists of digital images, slide and monochrome film. Bulk environmental samples were taken where potential preservation was seen to be good.

A metal detector was used to scan soil removed during the initial machining and to scan all features revealed in the excavations.

## **Report Structure**

The report summarises the details of the four sites at Glebe Farm then examines the results of the investigations by period. Specialist reports are then presented followed by a discussion and concluding paragraph.

### *Site 1 (ECB2845)*

This excavation area was located in Field A, to the east of the Hauxton Road, and was primarily placed to fully examine a small but relatively rich area of Early Iron Age activity identified in the trenching evaluation (Dickens 2006; Evans *et al.* 2006). A secondary objective was to investigate the background presence of Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age worked flint found during both evaluation and fieldwalking surveys (*ibid.*). 0.56 hectares was stripped revealing the primary concentration of archaeology. A further single trench was placed in the adjacent field in order to test for the presence of archaeological features.

### *Site 2 (ECB2846)*

The Site 2 excavation area was intended to investigate the site of a balancing pond to be constructed as part of the Access Road scheme. The area was located in Field C, situated 450m to the east of Site 1, covered 0.87ha (figure 1.), and had not been subject to trenched evaluation. Having machine stripped approximately half of the proposed site it became clear that no deposits of archaeological interest were present and so, in consultation with CAPCA, the decision was made to cease excavation.

### *Sites 5 and 6 (ECB2845)*

These covered a widening at the western end of the development corridor as it joins Hauxton Road (Site 5) and an area of proposed tree planting at the western edge of Field A (Site 6). The primary investigations were carried out through trial trenching, with further provision for area excavation upon discovery of significant archaeological remains. Site 5 investigation comprised three trenches at a total length of 87.75m. Seven undated features were identified across the three trenches. Site 6 was sampled with one trench 44m long, aligned north to south. There were no deposits of archaeological interest identified within this trench.

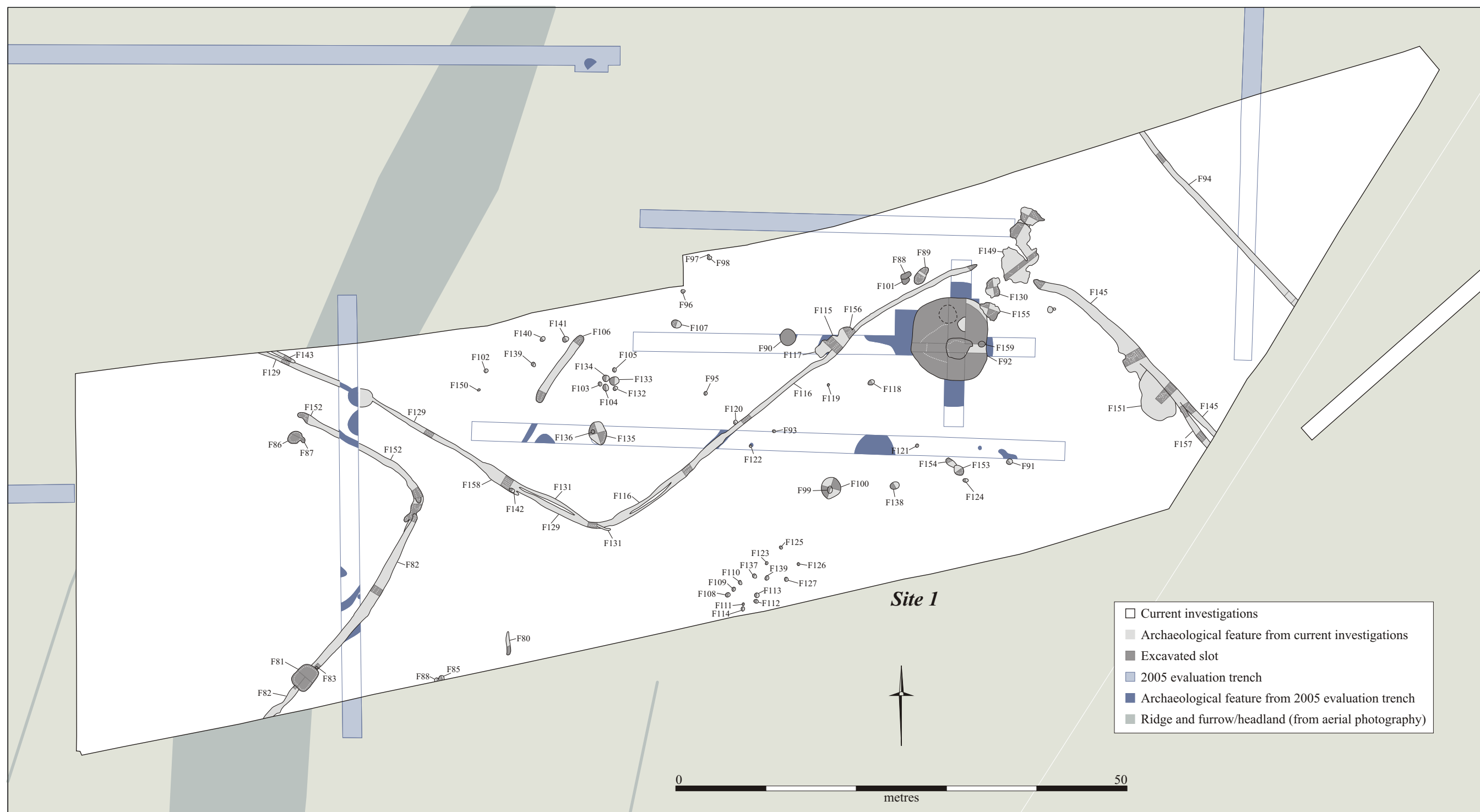


Figure 4. Plan of Site 1 features

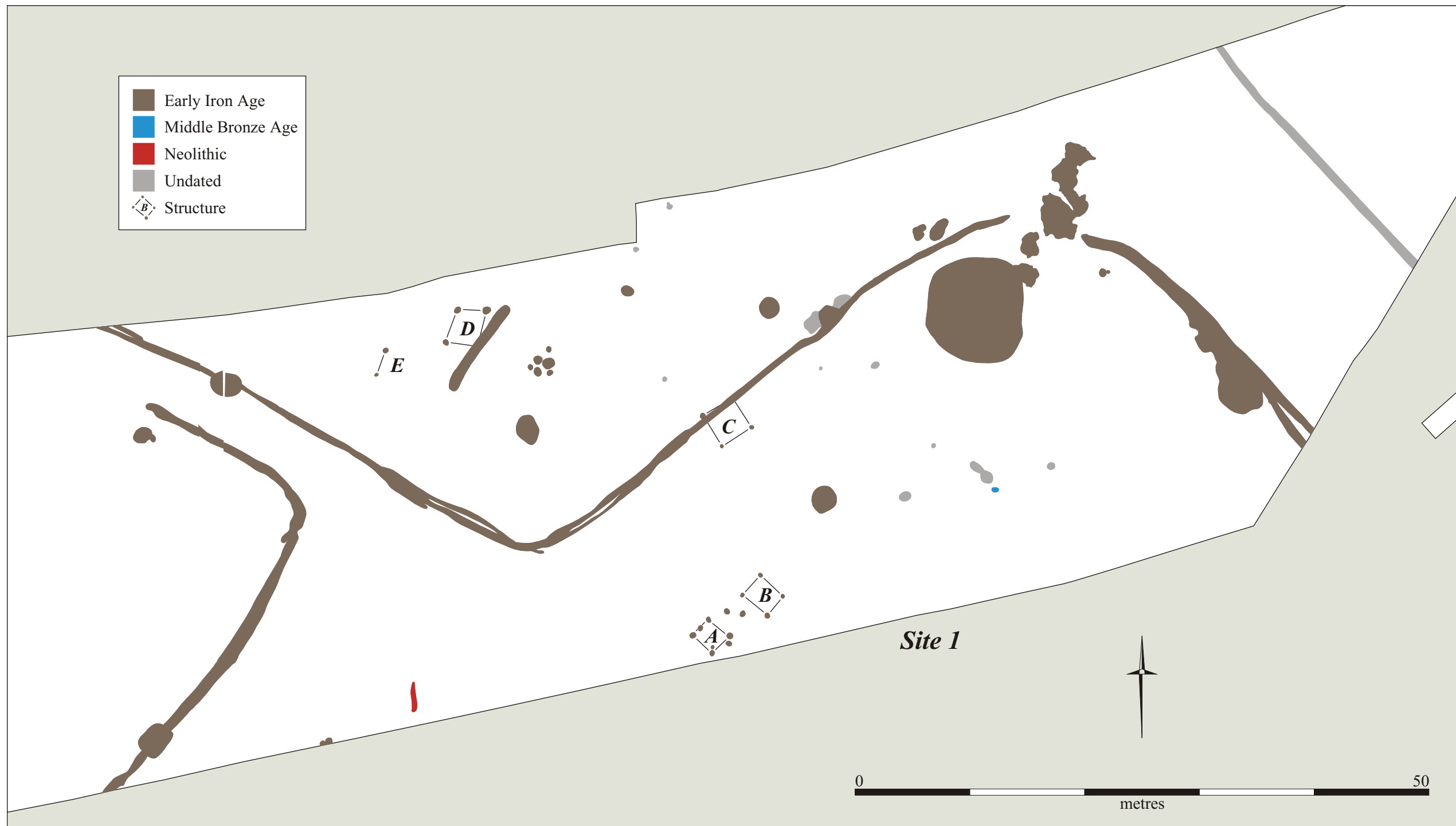


Figure 5. Plan of Site 1 phasing

## SITE 1 RESULTS

### Neolithic/Bronze Age

Whilst the majority of features on Site 1 were dated to the Early Iron Age, two were firmly dated to the Neolithic and Middle Bronze Age. A limited assemblage of residual earlier prehistoric flintwork (109 pieces) was also recovered from the Early Iron Age features, creating an assemblage dated largely to the Late Mesolithic through to Neolithic but with some expedient workmanship suggesting a Bronze or Iron Age date (Beadsmore; this report p.24). Categories of flint identified included waste from manufacturing; a core, a core rejuvenation flake and flake and blade blanks suggesting some primary working was happening in the close vicinity. Several tools, a Neolithic laurel leaf (from **F.115**), a serrated blade and edge-used flakes also indicate local activity, perhaps the seasonal exploitation of natural resources. The single Neolithic feature identified was **F.80**, a treethrow, which produced two small sherds of flint tempered pottery and a narrow flint blade, both of which tend to be indicative of the earlier rather than later Neolithic.

The Middle Bronze Age was represented by **F.124**, a small pit, which produced 30 sherds of Deverel-Rimbury type potsherds (and one intrusive EIA). This was associated with a scatter of undated pits and postholes located in a cluster that contained five pits; **F.91**, **F.121**, **F.138**, **F.153** and **F.154**, but there was no way to confirm that these features were also Middle Bronze Age. With the exception of **F.91** which contained a large quantity of degraded charcoal and **F.121**, which produced an updateable worked flint, no finds were recovered from the other features.

### Early Iron Age (EIA)

#### *The Well*

The well, **F.92**, was first identified during the trial trenching investigations in 2005 (Evans *et al.* 2006). At this time waterlogged deposits were noted and so when revealed in Site 1 it was decided to excavate as much of these deposits as possible, with due regard to Health and Safety legislation (SCAUM 2001). This entailed a succession of tasks combining hand and machine excavation, recording of deposits and sections followed by reduction of the wider ground level and stepping the sides to make safe. In this way the well was excavated to full depth. The high water table within the feature meant that constant pumping was necessary to maintain workable conditions.

The feature consisted of two main elements; the upper part, a wide inverted cone 9.50m by 8.50m by approximately 1.00m and the main well shaft, 2.50m in diameter at the top tapering evenly to 1.20m diameter at the base, a total depth of 3.10m (cut [701]). The sides were cut into a natural of chalk marl with thick veins and lenses of sand and gravel. The chalk provided relatively stable sides for the shaft, which was noticeably devoid of erosion derived deposits at the base. However in time the excavators discovered that water action undercut the sides causing collapse; overall it seems most likely that the well shaft was reinforced in some way, possibly with a wicker lining. Some erosion of the shaft was seen as a long narrow 'groove' cut into

the eastern side, apparently through the action of a (still) active spring. A posthole, **F.163**, located at this point may have had some function relating to the prevention of further erosion.

The primary deposit was a log ladder ([695]) derived from the upper trunk of an immature tree which measured 0.13m at its widest point and was 1.76m in length. It was covered by the primary fill, [700], and was in a good state of preservation, having been entirely waterlogged. Examination showed that it had three carved notches for footholds and the bottom had been chopped off at a sharp angle with an implement like an axe. Fill [700] consisted of very fine layers of silt interleaved with lenses of fine sand. Within this matrix a quantity of large animal bone fragments (4kg) had been deposited along with 23 sherds of pottery. There was also a large worn stone <237> that may have been part of a saddle quern (Timberlake; this report p.29). Environmental bulk samples were taken from [700] which produced a good range of seeds (table 3, p.35), including examples from field penny-cress (*Thlaspi arvense*) and black mustard (*Brassica nigra*) which are thought not to be native and are currently listed as Roman imports (de Varielles; this report p.34). The deposit appeared sorted through water action and the fine nature of the silt and grains of sand are suggestive of both a wind blown accumulation as well as deliberate backfill. Indeed the boundary between this fill and the natural base and sides of the cut ([701]) was so clear that a regular cleaning out, or perhaps covering, of the well shaft was implied.

The first sight of the ladder was seen whilst excavating [686], which overlay [700], a thick fill of clayey silt which had again accumulated under water and subsequently consisted of many thin layers. Due to the differences in colour and texture at the extreme ends of the deposit this was recorded as two fills, [686], and above that [687]. Fill [686] produced a large quantity of animal bone (79 pieces, 1131g) and 14 large potsherds, additionally a number of wooden rods were identified to the north of the shaft. Initially thought to be the remnants of a wicker lining these were examined but appeared not to have been *in situ*. As one had a sharpened point it is possible these had been rods driven into the base of the well through which the wattling was woven.

On top of [687] lay the partially preserved remains of a wooden trough [688]. Although the edges had rotted it was possible to recover about three quarters of the artefact, and this is currently undergoing conservation. Initial inspection of the item suggests that it was possibly a trough for kneading dough (Taylor M. *pers. comm.*) Covering this was a layer of coarse redeposited sand, gravel and chalk fragments, [693], and above this [685], a fine, slightly silty sand. The deposits were waterlogged from this level to the base of the well which as well as the wooden items allowed the preservation of beetle remains. The finds from [685] were numerically few but of large size, indicating primary deposition. cursory examination of the beetle remains suggest that they were of *geotrupes stercorarius*; the Dor 'dung' beetle (Jessop 1987).

Above [685] the well cut began to widen and was filled by layers [683] and [684], a clayey sand and a sandy clay respectively. Both deposits had multiple bands of fine sand and lenses of fine silty sand suggesting deposition into standing water. The main difference between the two layers was the contrast in type of finds recovered; [683] produced 65 pieces of animal bone (1250g) and 14 potsherds (364g) whereas [684] had 79 potsherds (1356g) and 25 pieces of animal bone (358). Between these two

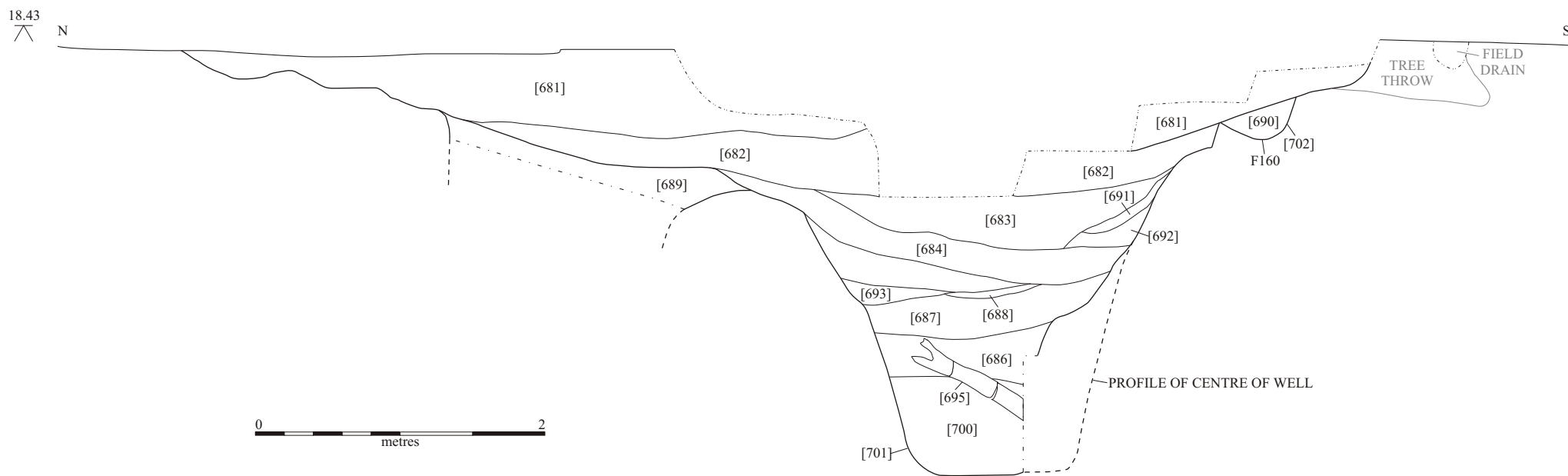


Figure 6. Section of well F92

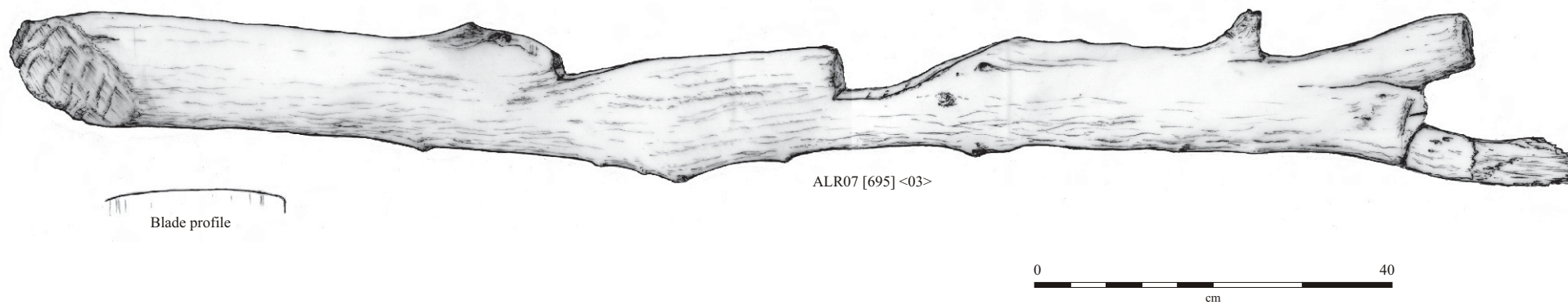


Figure 7. Illustration of ladder [695]



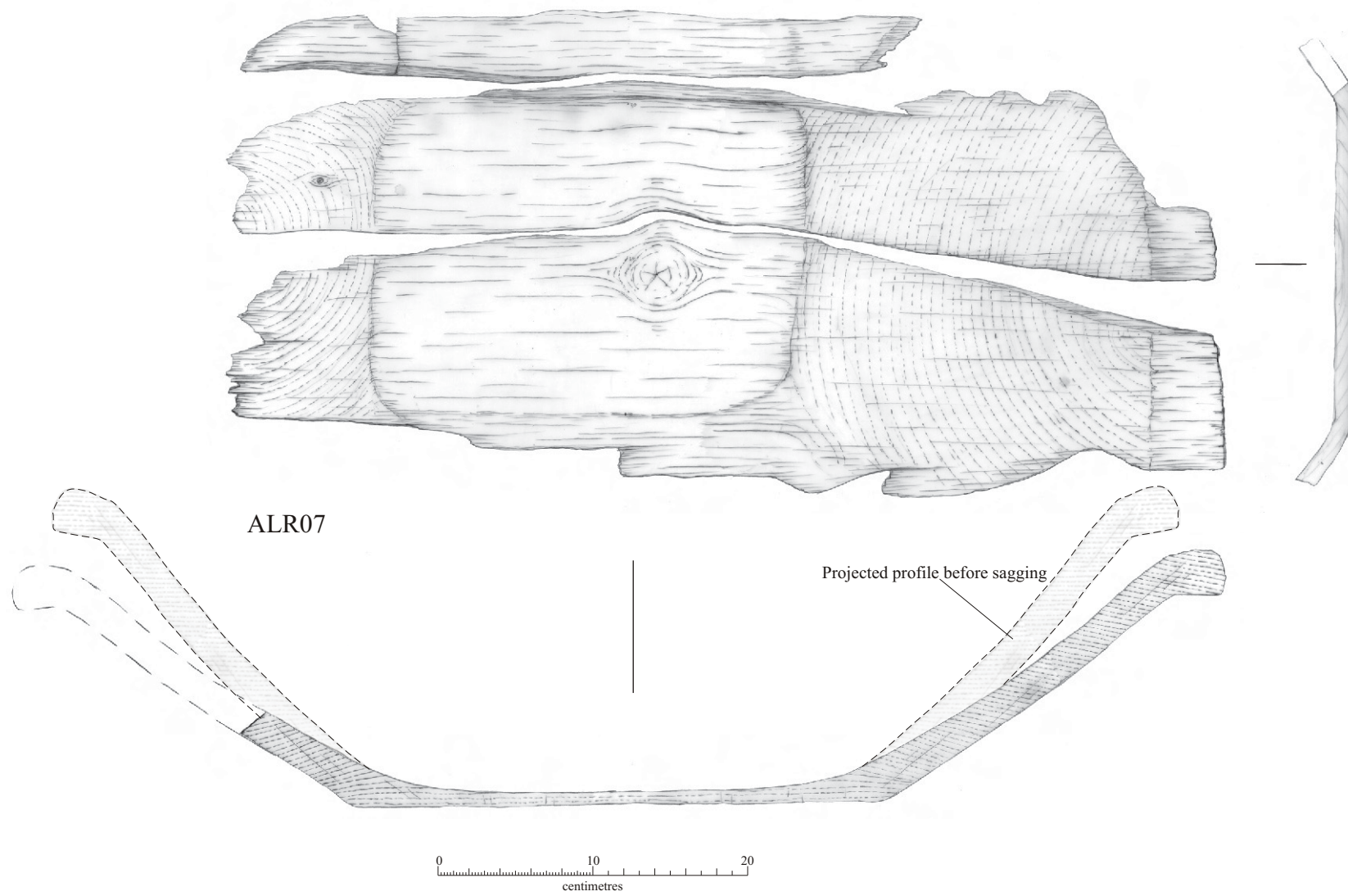


Figure 8. Illustration of bowl [688]

layers, at the southern side of the cut lay [691], a fine silty sand and [692], redeposited sand and gravel. These appear to represent a single deposition and may have been derived from the spoil of a re-cutting episode; no finds were recovered.

Capping these deposits were two extensive layers, [682], and above that, [681], both of which filled the wide cone at the top of the shaft. Layer [682] produced a large quantity of EIA pottery (181 sherds) and even more animal bone (285 pieces). The animal bone included two rarities; a piece of antler that may have come from moose, and a vertebra, possibly from zebu (humped) cattle. (Seetah; this report p.42) The layer was silty sand with frequent inclusions of gravel and small chalk fragments and large lenses of slightly silty sand/sand and gravel. The deposit was clearly derived from a sustained series of backfilling episodes and so the accumulation of finds appears deliberate rather than a haphazard disposal of rubbish over a longer time span.

A possible source of at least some of the natural material found within layer [682] may have derived from a reworking of the western side of the well and the cutting of a pit, **F.161**, which was noted in the evaluation (Evans *et al.* 2006). This feature was largely sampled at that time and within the Site 1 excavation only the peripheral edges were extant. However it seems probable that the intention was to create a water hole. To the east, beneath [681], another smaller pit was found, **F.159**, possibly excavated for the same purpose.

The uppermost deposit in the sequence was layer [681], a 0.60m thick deposit of homogenous sandy clay which produced 51 EIA potsherds and 54 pieces of animal bone. Given the large volume of the deposit excavated the number of finds were comparatively scarce, perhaps confirming that this was a more natural accumulation of material that occurred after the main settlement activity.

### *Metalled Surfaces*

Three patches of metalled surface (**F.130**, **F.149** and **F.155**) survived modern ploughing due to preservation in the base of shallow depressions within the natural horizon. These survived as a linear arrangement of irregular features located on the northeast edge of well **F.92**; their alignment then projected north northeast between the ditch terminals of **F.145** to the east and **F.116** to the west. The hollows were filled with patches of redeposited sand and gravel in a silty matrix, however the metalling itself consisted of a basal layer of predominantly small rounded pebbles with infrequent inclusions of larger stones and cobbles.

Finds recovered were generally small and consisted of animal bone and pottery fragments. **F.30** contained 90 pieces of bone but these only weighed 46grammes, indicative of their highly fragmented nature. In all, only six potsherds were recovered, and five of these were dated to the Romano-British period EIA. **F.155** also produced a half-socketed iron sickle blade <240> and quern stone fragment <165> (Timberlake, this report, p.29).



Figure 9: Metallised surface surviving in the base of hollow **F.130**.

### *Burials*

Two inhumations were identified on Site 1, both located within the immediate vicinity of well **F.92**, lying to the north of ditch **F.116**. Burial **F.90** was 18 metres due west of the well and had been initially identified during the trenching evaluation. Burial **F.88** was situated eight metres to the north northwest of **F.92** and 14 metres to the northeast of **F.90**. Found during machining it was excavated first due to its relatively exposed position close to the surface.

Burial **F.88** was a flexed adult inhumation [438] aligned north northeast – south southwest. The grave (cut [439]) was an irregular shallow scoop truncating **F.101**, a probable treethrow. The body of a mature female was interred apparently resting on the left side with arms laid on each side of the body and the legs flexed. However the body seems to have slumped during decomposition so that the torso was prone and the skull face down. Bone preservation was poor with much evidence of mineral leeching and fragmentation. The grave backfill ([437]) was predominantly of washed in sandy silt with occasional elements of weathered natural. Less than a metre to the east of the burial was **F.89**, another natural feature that was probably associated with **F.101** and **F.88**. The fills and irregular profiles of **F.101** and **F.89** were so similar that it appeared that they formed two parts of a large treethrow, the edges between them being diffuse. It seems likely, therefore, that the body was inserted into the partially silted hollow left by a large treethrow.



Figure 10: Burial **F.88**.

The finds recovered from **F.88** and **F.89** do not present a cohesive date of interment. The pottery is of mixed date, small in size and abraded. Two sherds appear to be Middle Iron Age and three appear to be Early Romano-British. Additionally the circular flint scraper recovered was of Bronze Age date, though the limited patination evident suggests at least some residuality. It therefore seems that the comparatively soft soils of the relict treethrow have allowed the periodic movement and ingress of artefacts through animal and root action. The date of the burial is therefore not secure.

Burial **F.90** was that of a flexed adult male [475] lying on the left side with the knees flexed and legs pulled up towards the torso. The left arm lay beneath the body and the right was folded with elbow upwards, the wrists of both arms meeting in front of the stomach. The feet had largely been disturbed during the evaluation phase but otherwise the skeleton appeared to be in good condition.

A cut mark was recorded on the back of the skull and the individual may have been suffering from tuberculosis (Dodwell; this report p.39).

The body had been placed centrally within a large sub circular cut ([479]) which measured 1.85m long by 1.75m and 0.65m deep. The care given the original cutting of the pit (straight vertical sides and flat base) suggests it may originally have been a



Figure 11: Burial F.90.

storage pit, later re-used as a rubbish pit (see below, p.20). The body itself lay within a deposit that was identified during excavation as two separate fills ([476] and [477]) although noted as identical in soil type. Upon detailed examination, re-fitting potsherds were found from the fills, strongly suggesting that they were originally a homogenous deposit. It appears that having backfilled the original storage pit with occupation debris this was later re-excavated and used to backfill the grave.

### *Ditches*

In general the ditches appeared to followed a northeast–southwest and northwest–southeast rectilinear pattern. Initially these seemed to be the result of a single phase of site enclosure. However it was possible to identify at least eleven distinct episodes of piecemeal ditch cutting and re-cutting.

The most prominent boundary was located across the central part of the site, a sequence of cutting, re-cutting and extension of ditches that combined to produce one linear boundary consisting of **F.116**, **F.129**, **F.131**, **F.143** and **F.158**. Starting just to the north of the well (**F.92**) it followed a southwest to northeast alignment before turning to the northwest and extended beyond the northern limit of excavation. Nine slots were cut through these features. The finds assemblage from **F.116** and **F.129**

was fairly scarce and produced 48 sherds of pottery, 13 pieces of animal bone and 13 worked flints. **F.143** produced ten potsherds and 16 pieces of animal bone.

**F.158** was the earliest feature in this sequence and appeared to represent a short length of U-profiled ditch on a northwest–southeast alignment. Four metres of this feature

was identified; the full extent could not be determined due to its subsequent, and comprehensive, truncation by **F.129**. It is probable, however, that **F.158** was never much longer than this and was perhaps related to **F.106**, another short (8.50m) segment of ditch located ten metres to the northeast. There seemed to be a spatial relationship between the two, which were set at right angles to each other.

Ditch **F.129** was the next in the sequence, a full length boundary ditch that had a steep concave profile leading to a narrow slot-like base, quite unlike the other ditches, which were broadly U-profiled. The ditch was L-shaped in plan, again on a northwest-southeast alignment with the shorter 'arm' turning to the northeast and heading towards the northern edge of well **F.92** for approximately 16m. Some time later this 'arm' was extended by **F.116**, which passed the northern edge of **F.92** on a northeast-southwest alignment prior to terminating just west of **F.149**, a metalling deposit. The other main length of **F.129** (northwest-southeast orientated) was also re-established, by a shallow U-profiled ditch re-cut, **F.131**, which projected slightly past the original bend southeast.

The north western part of **F.129** was obscured beneath the northern baulk of Site 1. At this point approximately four metres of **F.143** was identified, the terminal end of another ditch, which was on the same alignment but slightly further to the north than **F.129**. This ditch truncated **F.129** and in common with the other cuts had a shallow U-shaped profile. Rather than being a separate ditch it may have been the result of re-cutting episode to re-define or establish a further extension of **F.129** towards the northwest.

The eastern ditches **F.94**, **F.145** and **F.157**, were aligned northwest to southeast and revealed single cutting episodes in five slots. **F.94** was the easternmost feature to be identified on site and was undated. At 26 metres length from the northern to southern limits of excavation it was also revealed in an additional trench to the east of the open area (figure 3). Ditch **F.145** was parallel to **F.90** and ran from the southern edge of site to terminate to the east of well **F.92**, where it apparently respected the metallised surface of **F.149**. The ditch truncated a series of pits (**F.144**, **F.146**, **F.147**, **F.148** and **F.151**) perhaps explaining the comparatively elevated quantities of finds from Slot 25 which produced 19 Early Iron Age potsherds and 38 pieces of animal bone. **F.145** was truncated by ditch **F.157** of which only approximately eight metres were revealed before it was obscured by the southern limit of excavation. This ditch produced 28 potsherds from one slot, considerably more than found from other ditch slots on site and also six residual worked flints from a broad date range, Neolithic to Bronze Age.

The western ditches, **F.82** and **F.152**, appeared to be one continuous L-shaped feature on plan but excavation demonstrated that the each 'arm' was in fact cut separately. **F.82** was aligned northeast-southwest and measured an overall length of 28m. It was joined at its northeast end by **F.152** which measured 16.00m long and was aligned northwest-southeast, running parallel to **F.129**. The junction of the two features was marked by five terminal ends. **F.82** had an original U-shaped cut profile followed by a convex sided re-cut very similar to **F.129** which truncated the earlier butt-end. **F.152** had a primary cut of U-shaped profile which was re-cut two more times with similar profiles. It was hard to distinguish a stratigraphic sequence between the two features due to truncation through intercutting episodes. The secondary re-cut to **F.82** appeared to be fairly late in the sequence.

The arrangement of the enclosure ditches appear to suggest that two drove-ways were intended. The first is flanked by **F.129** and **F.152** to the west of the site on a northwest to southeast alignment and of approximately 5m width. The second is situated on the eastern side of the site, also aligned northwest to southeast (although orientated several degrees further north). This measured approximately 20m in width and was flanked by ditches **F.94** and **F.143**. It should be noted that the patches of metalled surface represented by **F.151** appeared to have a significant spatial relationship in following access from the drove-way to the well/water hole **F.92**.

### *Post built structures*

Two four-post structures, A and B, were located in a linear group of thirteen postholes close to the southern limit of excavation, the other postholes perhaps represent additional supports or repair pieces.

Structure A was located to the south-west of the group and was made up of features **F.108**, **F.110**, **F.113** and **F.114** with postholes **F.111**, **F.112** and **F.109** representing additional posts. The structure measured 2.10m by 2.40m and was orientated northeast to southwest. The postholes produced a relatively large quantity of finds; **F.108** was the most prolific with 27 EIA potsherds, two fragments of burnt clay, a large fragment of burnt quern stone and lumps of charcoal. The other features contained ten EIA potsherds, 17 pieces of animal bone and similar evidence of burning; charcoal and burnt clay.

Structure B was directly to the north-east of Structure A and consisted of postholes **F.123**, **F.125**, **F.126** and **F.127**. These features contained far fewer finds with only two potsherds and one fragment of animal bone recovered. Two additional postholes, **F.128** and **F.137**, were located between the two structures, their function being uncertain.



Figure 12: Structure A, looking south. The four larger postholes at each corner form the structure. Intermediate smaller postholes may be structural repairs.



Figure 13: Structure B, looking south.

Structure C was provisionally identified as comprising postholes **F.93**, **F.120** and **F.122** and was located 15metres due north of Structure B. The hypothetical fourth posthole would have been removed entirely by ditch **F.116**. The structure formed a right angle with 'sides' 3.00m long and was orientated northeast to southwest, notably similar to Structures A and B. Four EIA potsherds and one animal bone were recovered from the posthole backfills. Posthole **F.95** may have been associated with this structure but was undated.

Structure D, located to the northwest of the group, consisted of three postholes **F.139**, **F.140** and **F.141** (the fourth conjectural posthole having been truncated by ditch **F.106**). The posts seem to have been arranged in a diamond shape, the long axis aligned northeast to southwest, rather than a square like Structures A, B and C. This arrangement was also identified at the Trumpington park and ride (Hinman 2004). No finds were recovered from the postholes.

To the southwest of Structure D were two postholes, **F.102** and **F.150**, which may represent a 'two-post' structure or the truncated remnants of a four-post structure. The distance between posts was 2.20m, similar to the distances between the postholes of structures A and B, and it was aligned north northeast to south southwest the same as the western side of structure D. The balance of probability is that this was a structure of some sort and has therefore been labelled Structure E. **F.102** produced 29 pieces of burnt clay and six EIA potsherds from a charcoal rich fill ([455]), reminiscent of the finds from Structures A and B.

A scatter of isolated or undated postholes were located across the site. **F.118** and **F.119** were located 10 metres east of Structure C and may have been associated. **F.119** contained one sherd of EIA pottery and **F.118** was undated. Postholes **F.96**, **F.97** and **F.98** were located to the north of the site and although undated were close to **F.107** and **F.90**, both EIA features. They did not appear to be in any spatial arrangement suggestive of a structure but were heavily truncated and close to the northern limit of excavation so associated postholes may have been lost or remained outside these investigations.



### *Principal pits*

Feature **F.90** has been dealt with as a grave above, it is additionally one of the principal pits of the site in terms of form and finds. F.90 was located between Structure D and Well F.92, was near circular and measured 1.85m long by 1.75m wide and was 0.65m deep. It had steep straight sides and a predominantly flat base. Three fills were identified [476] [477] and [478]. Fills [476] and [477] were in essence the same deposit, split by the insertion of skeleton [475] and between them produced 216 EIA potsherds (1355g), 65 animal bone fragments, nine worked flints and one fragment of fired clay spindle whorl. The basal fill, [478], was a thin layer of weathered natural derived from the feature sides.



Figure 14: Pit F.81.



Figure 15: Pit F.100.

Pit **F.100** was roughly circular in plan, measuring 2.20m in diameter but only 0.15m in depth and was located between Structure B and Well F.90. The fill contained 21 sherds of EIA pottery and eleven pieces of bone. In contrast **F.99**, a pit cut into the top of **F.100**, measured only 0.80m long by 0.72m wide and 0.12m deep but contained 228 sherds of EIA pottery (1474g), 164 fragments of animal bone and four worked flints. Also present were burnt stones, burnt clay and large quantities of charcoal inclusions.

Pit **F.81** was located to the west of the site near the southern edge of the excavation and truncated ditch **F.82**. In contrast to the other pits on site it was rectangular in plan with rounded corners, near vertical sides and a flat base. It measured 2.98m long, 2.20m wide and 0.47m deep. Highly fragmented animal bone was the predominant find from this pit, 471 pieces (757g) as opposed to 75 sherds of EIA pottery (187g). Perhaps most interesting was the recovery of 6 pieces of worked flint from the feature. Elsewhere the flint recovered from within features is a residual find from earlier prehistoric periods but the flint from F.81 is of a quality commensurate with Early Iron Age flint usage (Beadsmore; this report p.25). Associated with **F.81** was a small posthole, **F.83**, located on its northern edge and also truncating ditch **F.82**.

### *Pit groups*

Four groups of Iron Age pit oriented activity were identified across the site. Approximately six metres to the southeast of Structure D was a cluster of four

postholes, **F.103**, **F.104**, **F.105**, and **F.132** associated with a pair of pits, **F.133** and **F.134**. There was no evident structural arrangement to be discerned between the postholes although all six features were clearly discrete suggesting they were broadly contemporary. A small collection of finds came from this group; postholes **F.103** and **F.104** produced a sherd of EIA pottery some burnt clay, a chunk of worn burnt stone and a quern fragment. Pit **F.133** produced six EIA potsherds and 2 fragments of fired clay, probably part of a loomweight.

Directly to the south of this cluster was a large shallow pit, **F.135**, which had a posthole, **F.136**, cut into its western side. This pit had been truncated through ploughing and produced ten small sherds of EIA pottery and a fragment of spindle whorl. To the north-east of the group was pit **F.107**. The pit was shallow and had been truncated through ploughing, the upper fill ([472]) produced three EIA potsherds and burnt clay fragments. Little can be deduced of the function of the individual features in this group however the potsherds, burnt clay, quern, loomweight and spindle whorl fragments all point to domestic type activities.

Six metres to the east of F.90 a series of three inter-cut pits were identified; **F.115**, **F.117** and **F.156**. All three had been truncated along their southern edges by ditch **F.116**. Identifying the exact sequence of pit cutting was made harder by the similar nature of the fills in features **F.115** and **F.117** however **F.156** was the earliest of the three and it produced flint that was probably expediently worked in the Bronze Age or later (Beadsmore; this report p.25). The later pits had substantial quantities of charcoal in their lower fills and **F.115** produced three sherds of EIA pottery and two worked flints, one a Neolithic laurel leaf arrowhead. None of the pits was well formed, unlike the principle pits on site, or used to dispose of refuse except perhaps fire/bonfire waste, and so it appears that they were probably small quarry pits, similar to those cut by **F.145** (30 metres to the east).

This group consisted of five intercutting pits; **F.144**, **F.146**, **F.147**, **F.148** and **F.151**. These were located to the east of the site and were earlier than ditch **F.145** which truncated the group on the eastern side. Interpretation was problematic as no clear function could be determined. It seems probable that the pits were primarily quarrying pits although it is possible that the highly irregular shaped pit **F.151**, had an animal based origin such as a large set, den or other burrowing. 31 EIA potsherds (186g) and 33 pieces of animal bone (227g) were recovered from the group as a whole.

Pits **F.86** and **F.87** were located to the west of the site, adjacent to the terminal end of ditch **F.152** and were possibly two parts of the same feature, tentatively identified as indicating the remnants of a forge. They were located to the south of the western terminal of ditch **F.152** in the far western quarter of the site. **F.86** measuring 1.49m long by 1.25m wide and was 0.20m deep, having been considerably truncated through ploughing. **F.87** projected 0.45m from the eastern edge of **F.86** although the exact relationship was obscured by a chunk of concreted iron oxide, probably smithing waste (Timberlake; this report p.31). The sides of the larger pit showed no sign of heat but the smaller pit displayed patches of burning in the natural of the eastern side. Pit **F.86** produced 271 EIA potsherds (1382g) and 120 fragments of animal bone (112g) some of which were calcined. Large quantities of charcoal inclusions were noted and 4 pieces of burnt clay. A large quantity of highly friable material described as 'mortar' was noted, which may have represented the remains of the forge superstructure.

It is worth associating two small pits, **F.84** and **F.85**, with **F.86** and **F.87** for although small and situated 30 metres to the southeast at the edge of excavation they produced another large concreted chunk of iron oxide. This has again been interpreted as smithing waste (Timberlake; as above). **F.85** otherwise contained only two EIA potsherds and a small quantity of animal bone (16 fragments, 11g), none of the other burning evidence was present.

## **SITE 5 RESULTS**

Site 5 comprised three trenches at a total length of 87.75m which revealed a total of six features. Trench 1 measured 33.80m in length and was aligned north to south. A single undated possible posthole, **F.206**, measuring 0.20m diameter by 0.14m deep was located six metres from the northern end of the trench. Trench 2 was 17.75m long, aligned east to west and revealed four features: Ditch **F.200** and ditch re-cut **F.201**, posthole **F.204** and pit **F.205**. No finds were recovered from any of these features. Trench 3 was aligned east to west and measured 36.80m in length. Two possible ditch terminals were identified, **F.202** and **F.203**. These were waterlogged and no finds were recorded. Both fills appeared to contain a great deal of re-deposited or disturbed natural, consequently it was decided that these represented naturally derived treethrows.

Features **F.202** and **F.203** in Trench 3 appear to correspond to a cropmark plotted from aerial photographs (Evans *et al.* 2006). There was no dating from either feature to help ascertain to which period system these ditches belonged. The north to south alignment is not characteristic of the Iron Age systems in the area, so it may be Romano-British in origin (Evans *ibid.*)

The lack of dating evidence and ephemeral nature of all the features identified at Site 5 suggested that continued work there would be unproductive. Additionally the features were located on the extreme edges of the development area, therefore, in consultation with CAPCA, it was decided not to open up the area as a full excavation. The feature descriptions are in Appendix 1.

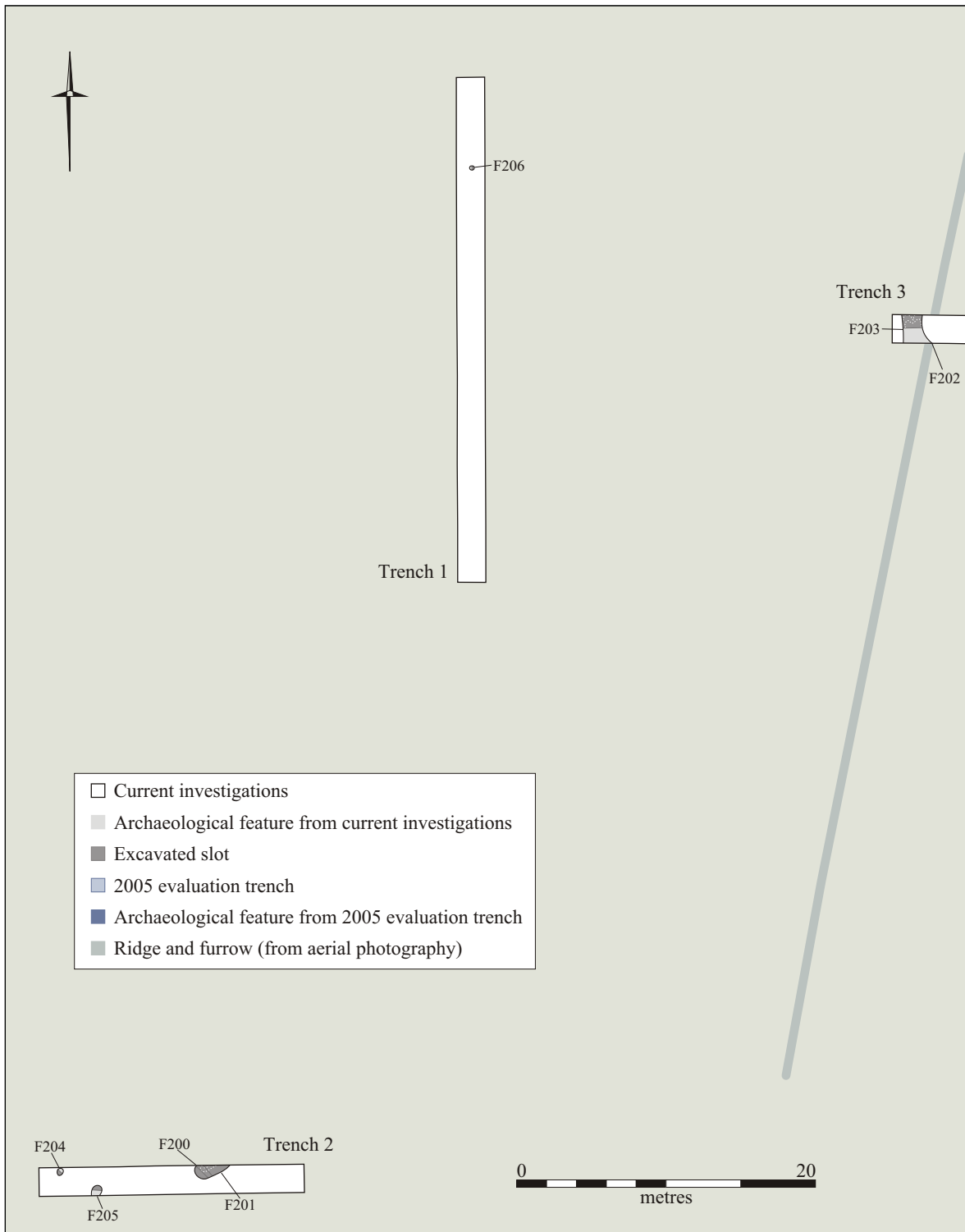


Figure 16. Plan of Site 5 features

## SPECIALIST REPORTS

### Flint - Emma Beadsmoore

A total of 109 (1066g) flints were recovered from Site 1; 98 (869g) of which are worked, 2 (31g) are worked and burnt, whilst 9 (166g) are just burnt. The majority of the material was recovered from Iron Age features, whilst a Neolithic pit and a possible Bronze Age pit both yielded flint that was potentially broadly contemporary with the pits, the remaining material was recovered from undated features. The flint is listed by type and context in Table 1.

| Feature           | Type       |               |                 |                |                |                         |                |                      |                      |                 |                          |                |             |                            | Totals |
|-------------------|------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------------|----------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|----------------|-------------|----------------------------|--------|
|                   | chip/chunk | primary flake | secondary flake | tertiary flake | tertiary blade | core rejuvenation flake | irregular core | single platform core | end and side scraper | edge used flake | retouched and worn flake | serrated blade | laurel leaf | unworked burnt chips/chunk |        |
| 80                | 1          |               | 1               | 1              |                |                         |                |                      |                      |                 |                          |                |             |                            | 3      |
| 81                | 1          |               | 4               | 2              |                |                         |                |                      |                      |                 |                          |                |             | 1                          | 8      |
| 82                |            |               | 1               | 2              |                |                         |                |                      |                      |                 |                          |                |             |                            | 3      |
| 85                | 1          |               |                 | 1              | 1              |                         |                |                      |                      |                 |                          |                |             |                            | 3      |
| 86                | 2          |               | 3               | 3              |                |                         |                |                      |                      |                 |                          |                |             | 2                          | 10     |
| 88                |            |               |                 | 1              |                |                         |                | 1                    |                      |                 |                          |                |             |                            | 2      |
| 90                |            |               | 8               | 1              |                | 1                       |                | 1                    |                      |                 |                          |                |             |                            | 11     |
| 92                | 2          | 1             | 8               | 6              |                |                         | 3              |                      |                      | 2               | 1                        |                |             | 1                          | 24     |
| 93                |            |               | 1               |                |                |                         |                |                      |                      |                 |                          |                |             |                            | 1      |
| 99                |            |               | 2               | 2              |                |                         |                |                      |                      |                 |                          |                |             | 2                          | 6      |
| 115               |            |               | 1               |                |                |                         |                |                      |                      |                 |                          |                | 1           |                            | 2      |
| 116               |            |               | 4               | 1              |                |                         |                |                      |                      | 1               |                          |                |             |                            | 6      |
| 121               |            |               | 1               |                |                |                         |                |                      |                      |                 |                          |                |             |                            | 1      |
| 129               |            |               | 2               | 2              |                | 1                       |                | 1                    |                      |                 |                          |                |             | 1                          | 7      |
| 131               |            |               | 1               |                |                |                         |                |                      |                      |                 |                          |                |             |                            | 1      |
| 137               |            |               |                 |                | 1              |                         |                |                      |                      |                 |                          |                |             |                            | 1      |
| 143               |            |               | 1               |                |                |                         |                |                      |                      |                 |                          |                |             | 1                          | 2      |
| 145               |            |               |                 | 1              |                |                         |                |                      |                      |                 |                          |                |             |                            | 1      |
| 151               |            |               | 1               | 1              |                |                         |                |                      |                      |                 |                          |                |             |                            | 2      |
| 152               |            |               |                 | 1              |                |                         |                |                      |                      |                 |                          |                |             |                            | 1      |
| 156               |            |               | 1               | 1              |                |                         |                |                      |                      |                 |                          |                |             |                            | 2      |
| 157               |            |               | 2               | 1              |                | 1                       | 1              |                      |                      |                 |                          | 1              |             |                            | 6      |
| 158               | 1          |               | 1               | 2              |                |                         | 1              |                      |                      |                 |                          |                |             | 1                          | 6      |
| <b>Sub totals</b> | 8          | 1             | 43              | 29             | 2              | 3                       | 5              | 2                    | 1                    | 3               | 1                        | 1              | 1           | 9                          | 109    |

**Table 1:** Flint types and contexts

### *Neolithic and Bronze Age features*

Three flints including a narrow potentially Neolithic flake were recovered from pit **F.80** alongside Neolithic pottery, suggesting that the flint and the pottery are likely to be broadly contemporary with the pit. A Neolithic blade was also recovered from pit **F.137**. Pit **F.121** yielded a chronologically non-diagnostic flake, found alongside Middle Bronze Age pottery that could also potentially be broadly contemporary with the feature.

### *Iron Age features*

The majority of the flint from the site was recovered from Iron Age features. The quantities of flint per feature varied between one and 24 and the larger features tended to yield more material. Chronologically diagnostically earlier flint was recovered from many of the features; including possible Late Mesolithic/earlier Neolithic and Neolithic flint, residual material that was inadvertently incorporated into the fills of later features. The larger features were more likely to contain residual material because of the volume of their fills. The pre-Iron Age flint includes manufacturing waste; a core, a core rejuvenation flake and flake and blade blanks; as well as several tools, a Neolithic laurel leaf recovered from **F.115**, edge used flakes and a serrated blade.

Amongst the remaining flint from the Iron Age features are some expediently manufactured flakes, which are either residual and chronologically non-diagnostic by-products of systematic Late Mesolithic/Neolithic flake production/core reduction, or the result of expedient later prehistoric flint working. The majority of these expediently manufactured flints were amongst earlier residual material in the Iron Age features. The exceptions are pits **F.81** and **F.156** which contained either chronologically non-diagnostic or later prehistoric flints that are potentially broadly contemporary with the features.

The limited quantity of flint recovered from Site 1 provides evidence for a pre-Iron Age phase of activity at the site. The Neolithic pit provides more tangible evidence, whilst the earlier residual material indicates background activities within the landscape. The limited quantity of flint recovered from the features, combined with the evidence for residuality suggests that little flint was contemporary with the Iron Age features. However, the occasional, clearly expediently manufactured flints are characteristic of Iron Age flint exploitation, manufactured when needed with no concern over the form or use life of the products and are potentially broadly contemporary with the features.

## Prehistoric Pottery - Matthew Brudenell

1496 sherds of prehistoric pottery (9948g) were recovered from a total of 41 features (Table 2). With the exception of two potential Neolithic sherds from tree throw F.80, a small assemblage of Middle Bronze Age Deverel-Rimbury pottery from post-hole F.124 and a handful of residual Late Bronze Age Post-Deverel Rimbury sherds scattered throughout some of the features, the entire assemblage belongs to the latter part of the Early Iron Age, dating from the c.5-3<sup>rd</sup> century BC.

| Feature | Type       | No. sherds | Wt. (g) | MSW  | No. rims | No. bases |
|---------|------------|------------|---------|------|----------|-----------|
| 80      | Tree throw | 2          | 12      | 6    | -        | -         |
| 81      | Pit        | 75         | 187     | 2.5  | 1        | -         |
| 82      | Ditch      | 10         | 86      | 8.6  | 1        | -         |
| 85      | Pit        | 2          | 25      | 12.5 | -        | -         |
| 86      | Pit        | 271        | 1382    | 5.1  | 9        | -         |
| 87      | Pit        | 9          | 21      | 2.3  | -        | -         |
| 88      | Grave      | 1          | 4       | 4    | -        | -         |
| 89      | Tree throw | 5          | 6       | 1.2  | -        | -         |
| 90      | Pit        | 216        | 1355    | 6.3  | 4        | 2         |
| 92      | Well       | 393        | 4064    | 10.3 | 15       | 7         |
| 93      | Posthole   | 3          | 12      | 4    | -        | -         |
| 99      | Pit        | 228        | 1474    | 6.5  | 13       | 3         |
| 100     | Pit        | 21         | 230     | 11   | 2        | -         |
| 102     | Posthole   | 6          | 7       | 1.2  | -        | -         |
| 103     | Posthole   | 1          | 5       | 5    | -        | -         |
| 106     | Ditch      | 7          | 45      | 6.4  | 1        | -         |
| 107     | Pit        | 3          | 3       | 1    | -        | -         |
| 108     | Posthole   | 27         | 168     | 6.2  | -        | -         |
| 109     | Posthole   | 3          | 8       | 2.7  | -        | -         |
| 110     | Posthole   | 7          | 21      | 3    | -        | -         |
| 114     | Posthole   | 3          | 46      | 15.3 | -        | -         |
| 115     | Pit        | 3          | 4       | 1.3  | -        | -         |
| 116     | Ditch      | 23         | 104     | 4.5  | -        | -         |
| 119     | Posthole   | 1          | 4       | 4    | -        | -         |
| 120     | Posthole   | 1          | 18      | 18   | -        | -         |
| 123     | Posthole   | 1          | 1       | 1    | -        | -         |
| 124     | Posthole   | 31         | 90      | 2.9  | -        | -         |
| 125     | Posthole   | 1          | 1       | 1    | -        | -         |
| 127     | Posthole   | 1          | 2       | 2    | -        | -         |
| 129     | Ditch      | 25         | 143     | 5.7  | -        | -         |
| 130     | Hollow     | 1          | 1       | 1    | -        | -         |
| 131     | Ditch      | 2          | 12      | 6    | -        | -         |
| 133     | Pit        | 6          | 15      | 2.5  | 1        | -         |
| 135     | Pit        | 11         | 7       | 0.6  | -        | -         |
| 143     | Ditch      | 10         | 27      | 2.7  | 1        | 1         |
| 144     | Pit        | 14         | 92      | 6.6  | 3        | -         |
| 145     | Ditch      | 19         | 52      | 2.7  | 1        | -         |
| 151     | Pit        | 17         | 94      | 5.5  | -        | -         |
| 157     | Ditch      | 33         | 64      | 1.9  | 1        | -         |
| 158     | Ditch      | 1          | 5       | 5    | -        | -         |
| 159     | Pit        | 2          | 51      | 25.5 | -        | -         |

**Table 2:** Assemblage quantification.

In general, sherds in the assemblage were highly fragmented, as reflected in the low mean sherd weight (MSW) of 6,6g. Of the 41 features yielding prehistoric ceramics, 25 contained less than 50g of pottery, 7 contained between 51-100g, 5 contained between 101-250g and 4 contained over 1000g. Features containing over 1000g of pottery included pits F.86, F.90, F.99 and Well F.92. Together these accounted for 83% of the total assemblage by weight or 74% by sherd count.

The assemblage comprised a range of fine and coarseware jars and bowls, most of which had slack or rounded shoulders, short upright necks and simple flat, expanded or pinched rims. Based on the number of different rims and bases present, the total assemblage contained a minimum of 66 vessels (53 different rims, 13 different bases). Most coarseware sherds were tempered with a mixture of partly burnt flint and quartz sand, and some also contained calcareous grits, probably chalk or limestone. A small number of coarse shelly wares were present, as well one or two chaff tempered sherds. In the few instances where forms could be established, the coarsewares comprised shouldered jars, or small tub-shaped jars with either no distinct neck, or a very short upright neck. Decoration on these vessels was rare, though some of the rims and shoulders were embellished with finger-tip impressions, slashing or deep-finger tip/nail impressions. Notable examples include the small slack-shouldered jar from well F.92 [681], decorated with a row of shallow finger-tip impressions on the shoulder. The jar had a rim diameter of 18cm, of which 25% was intact. Oblique diagonal slashing was found on the shoulder of another large slack-shouldered jar from F.92 [683]. This jar had a diameter of 29%, though only 10% of the rim was intact.

Decoration was also found on the neck of a shell-tempered jar rim from pit F.99 [449] which displayed an 'unusual' double row of deep finger-tip impressions. Other decorated coarseware sherds rims/shoulders were recovered from pit F.81 [403], pit F.99 [450], pit F.90 [476] and ditch F.116 [507]. Two coarseware body sherds were also decorated with deep finger-tip impression all over their surface (one from the top 20cm of Pit 81, the other from pit 86 [242]). These sherds are very distinctive, and have been found in other Early Iron Age assemblages in Southern Cambridgeshire, namely at Linton (Fell 1953) and at the Trumpington Part and Ride Site (Braddock 2004).

The finewares had dark grey to black burnished surfaces, and tended to be tempered with quartz sand, or very finely ground/crushed burnt flint. Most of the finewares appeared to be bowls, though forms were difficult to establish. The bowls appeared to have flaring profiles with everted rims rising from relatively short rounded shoulders. Alternatively, some vessels had more sinuous profiles, with more pronounced rounded shoulders. The short angular shoulders, more commonly associated with the Early Iron Age 'Darmsden-Linton style' ceramics of Southern Cambridgeshire were notably absent from this assemblage, though other decorative features of this 'ceramic tradition' were present (see below). The profile of only two bowls could be reconstructed from the assemblage; both vessels deriving from the fills of Well F.92. The first was a burnished hemispherical bowl with short upright rim, 18cm in diameter (context [685] 12% of rim intact). The second was a deep, polished open bowl with a slack-shoulder and slightly flaring rim (context [684]). The bowl had a rim diameter of 19cm (15% intact), and had a small footing base 7cm in diameter (30% intact).



Only a small number of decorated fineware sherds were recovered from the site. Pit F.90 contained two sherds decorated with shallow horizontal grooves; a feature of the Early Iron Age 'Darmsden-Linton style' (Cunliffe 1968; 1978, 1991; 2005). Posthole F.108 [407] contained a burnished sherd decorated with three evenly spaced, finely executed impressed dots. This decoration is reminiscent of that on two tripartite bowls from Abbington Piggotts (Fox 1924), which Cunliffe has assigned to his 'Chinnor Wadleybury' style (Cunliffe 1978; 1991; 2005). A sherd from pit F.100 [452] also displays small circular marks, though these had been scratched on post-firing. Finally, the shoulder of a fineware sherd from Ditch 116 [610] had a row of small oval stabbed impressions.

The most elaborate decorative scheme was found above the shoulder of a flaring finewares bowl from Well F.92 [682]. This was decorated with three horizontal grooves, the lower two of which were filled with incised chevron and bands of horizontal lines. Flaring bowls with incised chevrons are a key characteristic of Cunliffe's 'Chinnor Wandlebury' style ceramics, and it is to this 'tradition' that the vessel belongs (Cunliffe 1978, 1991; 2005).

#### *Discussion: date and affiliation*

Very little early prehistoric pottery was recovered from the site. Just two burnt-flint tempered Neolithic sherds were identified from tree throw F.80, whilst evidence Middle Bronze Age activity was limited to sherds of a shell-tempered Deverel-Rimbury urn in posthole F.124 (though this also contained a single flint-tempered fineware Post-Deverel Rimbury shoulder sherd). A small quantity of Late Bronze Age pottery was also identified; including the partial profile of a high shoulder jar from Well F.92 [F.682], which had a rim diameter of 22cm (6% intact), and a rim of a bipartite jar with long inward sloping neck and simple rim from pit F.100 [452]. Both of these vessels are considered residual, as they were found in contexts with diagnostic Early Iron Age material.

The bulk of the pottery belongs to the Early Iron Age. Whilst it is possible that some of this pottery dates as far back as the 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> century BC, the presence of foot-ring and pedestal bases in three of the largest feature based assemblages (F.90, F.92 and F.99), indicates that most of the pottery dates to the period after 600BC. In addition, the general paucity of decoration, the absence of sharply carinated fineware bowls and presence of numerous rounded and slack-shouldered forms, suggests a date towards the end of the Early Iron Age. This pottery is therefore assigned a 5<sup>th</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> century date, and may overlap with the very beginning of the Middle Iron Age (depending on where one draws the boundary). The nature of ceramic change during these centuries is still poorly understood. However, in southern Cambridgeshire it would appear that the angular forms of the Early Iron Age gradually give way to more rounded and slack-shouldered vessels forms; be they bowls or jars. This trend is also coupled with a reduction in the use of burnt-flint as temper, and the increasing emphasis on dense sandy fabrics. Overall, the pottery is best paralleled by assemblages from Trumpington Meadows (Braddock 2004; Brudenell 2006), Wandlebury (Hartley 1957, Hill 2004, Webley 2005), Edix Hill (Woudhuysen 1997), and Linton (Fell 1953); all of which fall within the 6<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> century BC bracket.

## Worked and Burnt Stone - Simon Timberlake

### *Worked Stone*

<89> F.108 [487]

A large fragment of the upper rubber stone of a saddle-quern (115mm x 165mm x 45mm). This has a very slightly convex and fairly smooth and even grinding surface with areas of wear polish, the 'pluck holes' from which grains of rock have been removed suggesting a rubbing motion at right angles to the profile of convexity. This would indicate an elongate rubber stone perhaps 30 cm+ long and 17cm wide with a camber along the mid-point axis of the stone of about 3mm. The large fragment was evidently cracked as a result of heating, the fire reddening around its underside suggesting that this had been later used for some sort of cooking activity, or else to line a hearth. The lithology is of fine grained orthoquartzitic sandstone with a high degree of silica cement. Possibly a Cretaceous (or basal Tertiary) rock, commonly referred to as 'sarsens', clearly one transported glacially and the collected as an erratic cobble or boulder from an exposure of Terrace or glacial gravels, or perhaps boulder clay. This may have been locally collected, though an original source may have Southern England, perhaps from the Chilterns or further west.

<62> F.104 [459]

A small fragment (75mm x 65mm x 40mm) of heat-cracked stone, the end of which was probably once the basal stone (N.B. the slightly concave grinding surface) of a saddle quern. This stone may originally have been broken prior to its reuse within a hearth, since the other side has been smoothly hollowed, possibly for re-use as a small anvil stone with a hand-held hammer or crushing stone. The lithology of this appears more or less identical to that of F.108 (sarsen , an erratic likewise collected from the terrace gravels or local till deposits.

<165> F.155 [643]

A large heat-fractured fragment of saddle-quern, with one flat, smooth and very slightly convex grinding surface with areas of wear polish on it, plus an uneven and burnt (fire-reddened) underside (135mm x 92mm x 50mm). The rock used is similar to F.104 and F.108 although a trace fossil in the form of a fossil root cast or straight animal burrow can be seen in cross-section. Originally an erratic rock collected from the gravels or boulder clay.

<237> F.92 [700]

A crudely shaped tablet of sandstone (105cm wide, 72cm long and 42cm deep) with rounded ends and a very slightly concave upper grinding surface, possibly from use as a saddle-quern. This surface is very smooth, thus it is possible that this may have been used for something else. The underside is rough and broken, whilst the rock shows signs of heat cracking from its having been burnt following its use and discard. The rock is a mid to dark grey finely grained and bedded micaceous sandstone (or flagstone), perhaps Jurassic or even an Upper Palaeozoic (Carboniferous) sandstone, the latter perhaps from the Yoredale Series or from beds of Upper Carboniferous Coal Measures sandstones. The latter may have a Pennine origin, yet these would have been collected locally as glacial erratics.

## *Burnt stone*

Most examples show less evidence of burning and more of weathering and redeposition. The small number of samples collected from these contexts suggests that there may not have been any 'burnt stone features' such as mounds or cooking pits within the immediate vicinity. There is also an insufficient sample size from any of these features to be able to determine the presence, or not, of two size fractions, such as might suggest the re-use of burnt stone within hearths. The burnt stone may well be Bronze Age, and thus here just incorporated within later pit and ditch fills. Again there seems to have been the same preferential selection of sandstone lithologies, a practice which appears to be universal.

<153> F.145 [621]

Two heat-fractured pebbles: large (60-70mm) is of quartz porphyry and small (30mm) is of fine grained quartzitic sandstone.

<65> F.106 [463]

One slightly sooted (burnt) pebble of pink quartzitic sandstone.

<238> F.92 [700]

Three heat altered pebbles of sandstone; two are micaceous sandstones (one of which is probably Middle to Upper Carboniferous), the other a Bunter quartzite (40-50mm diameter).

<157> F.145 [623]

Two heat fractured pebbles, one a typically sized (40mm diameter) fragment; consists of a Millstone Grit type plus a finer grained orthoquartzitic sandstone.

<59> F.102 [455]

Two small reddened heat affected stone fragments; both of micaceous sandstone, possibly Devonian or Carboniferous.

<55> F.100 [452]

Two heat-fractured sandstones; micaceous sandstone as above.

<50> F.99 [450]

Two fragments of very slightly micaceous sandstone, one enclosing a possible plant fossil. Probably Upper Carboniferous in age.

<138> F.129 [597]

Burnt sandstone and fractured quartzitic sandstone (30-50mm).

<41> F.99 [449]

Three pieces of (?) same heat fractured quartzitic sandstone pebble (originally c.70mm diameter), plus two others.

## Metalworking Waste - Simon Timberlake

**F.85:** A large concretion from fill [422].

A large amorphous-looking oxidised iron concretion in sand and gravel. Most of this is now secondary iron hydroxide forming a concretion around what was presumably once iron waste, possibly from the smelting of an iron bloom somewhere close by. However, because of the degree of alteration, it is now difficult to be certain of this, or to say much about it if it was. Interestingly, the angular to sub-rounded flint pebbles concreted to the underside show a degree of reddening suggesting at least minor surface burning, whilst the iron oxide concretion here is brick to cherry red in colour, and thus probably *bidhemite*, the latter formed under conditions of surface heating and oxidation. Here the concretion encloses small abraded fragments of what looks like oyster shell, and also some partly calcined and powdery bone.

**F.87:** A similar large concretion from fill [426].

The feature was a pit associated with burning, with charcoal, burnt clay and some calcined bone. Some sort of hearth seems probable.

A similar concreted mass with a largish area of slightly burnt oxidised iron, with sand and small flint pebbles on the underside (?). Examination of this suggested that it might represent a mass of tiny and now oxidised iron smithing scale which has accumulated within a pit, perhaps once associated with an anvil (anvil stone?), at a bloomery smithing site. If this was the case, then the intermixed sand and gravel has either run in to the pit, or else has been backfilled during the process. The lack of a slag or other iron metallurgical waste suggests that the iron being worked was quite pure, and thus was simply a billet being forged into objects, or else made objects being recycled (re-forged) by the smith.

Some metallic iron oxide is visible, but this is poorly magnetic. Any iron that was once here has thus been heavily altered and oxidised, much of it redistributed throughout the concretion. Under magnification, there is still some relict evidence for the presence of iron grains or microscopic platy scale, although confirmation of this was not possible.

## Bulk Environmental Samples - Anne de Vareilles

Eight of the ten samples collected on site were chosen for analysis. Seven were processed using an Ankara-type flotation machine at the Cambridge Archaeological Unit. The single waterlogged sample was processed in the G. Pitt-Rivers laboratory, McDonald Institute, University of Cambridge. 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 archaeological plant macro-remains.

Sorting and identification of macro remains were carried out under a low power binocular microscope. Identifications were made using the reference collection of the G. Pitt-Rivers Laboratory. Floral nomenclature follows Stace (1997). All environmental remains are listed in tables 3 and 4.

### *Preservation*

All samples contained charred plant remains. The preservation of burnt grain is average with quite a high proportion of puffed and distorted caryopses, making identification to species difficult. Waterlogged remains were only recovered from the well where a sample was taken from the basal fill [700]. The survival of naturally and possibly culturally deposited plant remains and insects is good. The blind burrowing snail *Ceciloides acicula*, intrusive rootlets and modern seeds seen in all the charred samples are indicative of bioturbation through which macro remains may have been lost and/or displaced.

### *Results*

Pits **F.86**: [424], **F.87**: [426], **F.88**: [437] and **F.90**: [476] and [477]

Although all the pits had some plant macro-remains, very small assemblages from pits **F.87** and **F.88** can only represent burnt scattered debris. **F.86** and **F.90** however, appear to contain the waste product of burnt wood and cereal processing waste dominated by hulled barley grain (*Hordeum vulgare sensu lato*). A little hulled wheat grain (*Triticum spelta/dicoccum*) was also recovered, as well as three glume bases and a few oats (*Avena* sp.) from **F.90**, though it is unclear whether the latter were wild or cultivated. The only assemblage of charred wild plant seeds was recovered from **F.90**, and consisted of a small number of common crop-weeds.

Tree-throw, **F.101**: [453]

This contained no plant macro-remains other than a little charcoal and was similar to **F.88**, both being closely associated. Neither **F.88** nor **F.101** contain enough material for AMS dating.

Ditch **F.116**: [518]

Half of the large flot was sorted. It contained no grains, chaff or seeds but a lot of charcoal which suggests that a fire was cleaned into the ditch.

## Well / Waterhole **F.92**: [700]

Other than a little charcoal, a barley grain and a grass seed, all the plant remains from the well were waterlogged, including the 25 spelt and perhaps emmer wheat glume bases. The vast majority of the plants recovered are typical of damp arable, pasture or wasteland, and although some seeds may have been deposited with the wheat chaff the assemblage should be regarded as representative of the area around the well/waterhole. Other than the willow bract (*Salix* sp.) no evidence was found for trees or scrub. Small, flat (roughly 5-2mm long) lumps of grass fibres tightly packed in no particular orientation were spotted in the flot. These 'lumps' may be layers of naturally accumulated organic debris compressed through time, or fragments of dung.

### *Discussion*

As noted at the nearby Trumpington Park and Ride site there are no burnt food offerings associated with the burials (Fryer in Hinman 2004b). The seeds and grains from F.90 are more likely to predate the inhumation when the feature was used as a rubbish pit (for description see p.20). In terms of archaeobotanical assemblages there is no significant difference between [477] and [476] of **F.90**, with hulled barley grains predominating in both. A similar assemblage was found in **F.86**, albeit with no chaff and possibly no wild plant seeds. The findings from these three pits, as well as the waterlogged wheat glume bases from the well, suggest that cereal processing was taking place nearby.

Interestingly, the importance of barley over wheat recognised at the Park and Ride site was also seen at Site 1, yet this is not a pattern seen at other sites in the same geographical area (Evans *et al.* 2004). It is tempting to assign such assemblages to animal feed, nevertheless, the absence of any rich finds of wheat tends to indicate that barley was a major staple for humans too. Also, if stable refuse was burnt one would expect to find a high proportion of straw, chaff and possibly dung. Though cows were the most prevalent domestic mammal on site (Seetah; this report p.40), the presence of faecal material in the well/waterhole can not be proven unequivocally; although if dung beetle remains from the well are confirmed this might lend weight to a positive diagnosis. Barley may also have been used in brewing, but only one grain had signs of germination (necessary for fermentation).

Unlike the upper fill of the well/waterhole which contained very poor waterlogged remains (Evans *ibid.*), a good variety of wild plant seeds were recovered from the basal fill [700]. They point to a damp (but not waterlogged), disturbed, nutrient rich, open landscape which could translate to arable, pasture or scrub regeneration after occupation. With the presence of domestic mammals and the evidence for cereal processing I think it likely that land was used both for cultivation and pasture. It may be that cultivation was concentrated on the outskirts of the settlement, though there is no reason why smaller 'backyard' plots were not also used. Fryer concluded that the data from the Park and Ride site suggested it was a consumer site (Fryer in Hinman 2004). Although spelt and emmer were probably still in their glumes when traded, so that one might expect to find such chaff on a consumer site, I find the cereal and wild plant data from that site ambiguous. I think it likely that some cultivation was

practiced, which is not to say that cereals and/or other goods were not exchanged or traded for.

The waterlogged primary deposit of well **F.92** produced two surprising results. Field penny-cress (*Thlaspi arvense*) and black mustard (*Brassica nigra*) are described in the literature as “probably” or “doubtfully” native (Clapham et al. 1987, Stace 1997). Such uncertainty would tend to suggest the plants had been imported to Site 1 from the continent, perhaps as ‘contaminants’ in traded goods. But whereas field penny-cress is just an arable weed, black mustard might have been brought into prehistoric England as a condiment.

In a more general sense, the almost complete absence of land and fresh water snails (other than *Ceciloides acicucla*) is very puzzling since they are common in surrounding archaeological sites, including the Park and Ride site and ALR.07 Site 3 (Timberlake *forthcoming*). The most probable explanation is that the environment was hostile to snails during the life of the settlement.

### *Conclusion*

This site has revealed a lot of very interesting, even if puzzling data. Insects from the well/waterhole should be analysed for a more detailed description of the use of the surrounding landscape. Our understanding of this site as a whole should be correlated with that of the Trumpington sites in order to reasonably interpret the unusually low concentrations of wheat, and establish its role as a potential trading post or centre.

## Waterlogged Sample

| <b>Sample number</b>                                   | <b>&lt;31&gt;</b>                     |    |
|--|---------------------------------------|----|
| Context  | [700]                                 |    |
| Feature  | Basal fill                            |    |
| Feature type   | Well                                  |    |
| <b>Phase / Date - centary AD.</b>                      | <b>E.I.A.</b>                         |    |
| Sample volume - millilitres                            | 500                                   |    |
| Flot fraction examined -%                              | 100                                   |    |
| Cereal Chaff   |                                       |    |
| Triticum spelta glume base                             | Spelt wheat glume base                | 10 |
| T. spelta/dicocum glume b.                             | Spelt or Emmer glume base             | 14 |
| Indeterminate base/start of cereal ear                 |                                       | 1  |
| Wild Plant Seeds                                       |                                       |    |
| <i>Ranunculus acris/repens /bulbosus</i>               | Meadow / Creeping / Bulbous Buttercup | -  |
| <i>Ranunculus sardous</i>                              | Hairy Buttercup                       | +  |
| <i>R. Subgen, BATRACHIUM</i>                           | Crowfoot                              | -  |
| <i>Papaver rhoeas</i>                                  | Common Poppy                          | +  |
| <i>Papaver cf. dubium</i>                              | Long-headed Poppy                     | ++ |
| <i>Urtica urens</i>                                    | Small Nettle                          | -  |
| <i>Chenopodium album</i>                               | Fat-hen                               | ++ |
| <i>Chenopodium sp.</i>                                 | Goosefoots                            | ++ |
| <i>Atriplex patula/prostrata</i>                       | Oraches                               | -  |
| <i>Arenaria serpyllifolia</i>                          | Thyme-leaved Sandwort                 | +  |
| <i>Stellaria media</i>                                 | Common Chickweed                      | b  |
| <i>Cerastium sp.</i>                                   | Mouse-ears                            | -  |
| <i>Polygonum lapathifolium</i>                         | Pale Persicaria                       | -  |
| <i>Polygonum aviculare</i>                             | Knotgrass                             | a  |
| <i>R. conglomeratus/obtusifolius/sanguineus</i> - Dock |                                       | +  |
| <i>Rumex sp.</i>                                       | Dock                                  | -  |
| <i>Salix sp.</i>                                       | Willow bracts                         | -  |
| <i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i>                         | Shepherd's-purse                      | a  |
| <i>Thlaspi arvense</i>                                 | Field penny-cress                     | +  |
| <i>Brassica nigra</i>                                  | Black mustard (frags.)                | +  |
| <i>Potentilla anserina</i>                             | Silverweed                            | -  |
| <i>Potentilla / Alchemilla</i>                         | Cinquefoils / Lady's-mantles          | +  |
| <i>Aphanes cf. arvensis</i>                            | Parsley-piert                         | +  |
| <i>Torilis nodosa</i>                                  | Knotted Hedge-parsley                 | +  |
| <i>Hyoscyamus niger</i>                                | Henbane                               | -  |
| <i>Valerianella dentata</i>                            | Lamb's Lettuce                        | -  |
| cf. <i>Valerianella rimosa</i>                         | Broad-fruited cornsalad               | -  |
| small Indet. Asteraceae                                | Daisy family seed                     | -  |
| large Poaceae  | large wild grass                      | -  |
| small Poaceae  | small wild grass                      | ++ |
| Indeterminate wild plant seeds                         |                                       | 2  |
| Indeterminate dicot. leaf fragment                     |                                       | +  |
| >2mm lumps of tightly packed, grass-like plant fibre   |                                       | ++ |
| Entomological remains                                  | Insect remains                        | ++ |

key: '-' 1 or 2, '+' <10, '++' 10-25, 'a' 25-50, 'b' 50-100, 'c' 100-500, 'd' >500 items

**Table 3: Waterlogged Sample from Well F.92**



## Charred Samples

| Sample number   | <28>  | <29>  | <20+21>    | <23>             | <24>             | <22>       | <25>           | <31>        |
|---|---|-------|------------|------------------|------------------|------------|----------------|-------------|
| Context   | [424]   | [426] | [437]      | [476]            | [477]            | [453]      | [518]          | [700]       |
| Feature   | 86  | 87    | 88         | 90               | 90               | 101        | 116            |             |
| Feature Type  | Pit   | Pit   | Burial pit | Upper Burial pit | Lower Burial pit | Tree-throw | Top fill Ditch | Basal, Well |
| <b>Phase / Date</b>                                   | All features are Early Iron Age, 5th-3rd Century B.C. |       |            |                  |                  |            |                |             |
| Sample volume -litres                                 | 11  | 4     | 15         | 10               | 18               | 6          | 9              | 0.5         |
| Flot fraction examined -%                             | 100   | 100   | 100        | 100              | 100              | 100        | 50             | 100         |
| <b>Cereal Grains and Chaff</b>                        |   |       |            |                  |                  |            |                |             |
| <i>Hordeum vulgare sensu lato</i> Hulled Barley       | 23  |       |            | 11               | 37               |            |                | 1           |
| <i>Triticum spelta/dicoccum</i> Spelt or Emmer wheat  | 1   |       |            |                  | 2                |            |                |             |
| <i>Hordeum / Triticum</i> Wheat or Barley grain       | 7   | 1     |            | 2                | 5                |            |                |             |
| <i>Avena sp.</i> Wild or cultivated Oat               |   |       |            |                  | 2                |            |                |             |
| <i>Hordeum / Avena</i> Barley or Oat grain            |   |       |            |                  | 4                |            |                |             |
| Indeterminate cereal grain fragments                  | 22  | 3     | 1          | 7                | 19               |            |                |             |
| <i>T.spelta/dicoccum g. base</i> Spelt or Emmer chaff |   |       |            | 3                | 3                |            |                |             |
| <b>Wild Plant Seeds</b>                               |   |       |            |                  |                  |            |                |             |
| <i>Corylus avellana</i> Hazel nut shell frag.         |   |       |            |                  | 1                |            |                |             |
| <i>Chenopodium sp.</i> Goosefoot                      |   |       |            | 1                | 4                |            |                |             |
| <i>Polygonum aviculare</i> Knotgrass                  |   |       |            |                  | 2                |            |                |             |
| <i>Rumex sp.</i> Dock                                 |   |       |            | 1                | 1                |            |                |             |
| <i>Galium aparine</i> Cleaver                         |   |       |            |                  | 1                |            |                |             |
| <i>Phleum sp.</i> Cat's-tails                         |   |       |            |                  | 1                |            |                |             |
| Indeterminate small grass seed                        |   |       |            |                  | 1                |            |                | 1           |
| Indeterminate wild plant seed                         |   |       |            |                  |                  |            |                |             |
| Indet. Poaceae fragments Wild or cultivated grass     | 19  | 2     |            | 11               | 10               |            |                |             |
| <b>Charcoal</b>                                       |   |       |            |                  |                  |            |                |             |
| >4mm  | ++  |       |            | ++               | ++               |            | b              | -           |
| 2-4mm   | c   | ++    |            | b                | b                |            | d              | +           |
| <2mm  | d   | c     | +          | d                | d                | ++         | d              | +           |
| Vitrified   |   |       | -          |                  |                  |            | -              |             |
| Parenchyma - undifferentiated plant storage tissue    | a   | ++    |            | ++               | ++               |            |                |             |
| Culm node Grass stem node                             | 1   |       |            |                  |                  |            |                |             |
| Culm base Base of grass stem                          |   |       |            | 1                |                  |            |                |             |
| <i>Ceciloides acicula</i> Blind burrowing snail       | a   | a     | ++         | ++               |                  | +          |                |             |
| Modern intrusive rootlets                             | d   | d     | d          | d                | d                | d          | a              |             |
| Modern seeds (species represented)                    | 2 (1)   |       |            | 6 (4)            |                  |            | 3 (3)          |             |

key: '-' 1 or 2, '+' <10, '++' 10-25, 'a' 25-50, 'b' 50-100, 'c' 100-500, 'd' >500 items

**Table 4:** Charred material from samples.

## Human Remains - Natasha Dodwell

Two skeletons were recovered during excavations in the summer of 2007 at Glebe Farm on land between Shelford Road and the Hauxton Road (A10). One, F.88 was buried in an irregular-shaped grave, and the other, F. 90 was buried c. 15m away in a large circular pit. An inventory of all of the skeletal elements recovered was made for each skeleton. Their sex was determined by characteristics recorded on the pelvis and skull (Buikstra and Ubelaker, 1994), and their ages by the extent of epiphyseal fusion, the degree of dental wear (Brothwell 1981) and in the case of skeleton [475] changes in the pubic symphysis and auricular surface (Brooks and Suchey 1990, Lovejoy et al 1985).

### *F.88 skeleton [ 439] middle adult female*

The body was in a prone position, with the head in the north east of the grave, face down and with the legs tightly flexed to her right side. Her left hand was under the pelvis and her right hand in the stomach region. The bone preservation was poor and although all parts of the body are represented the elements are extremely fragmentary, particularly the thorax and most of the articular ends are missing.



Figure 17: Burial F.88.

The cortical surfaces of many of the bones have insect and root damage, as does the enamel on the teeth. The only pathological changes which were observed on this skeleton were marginal osteophytes and an increase in porosity on the bodies of the surviving cervical vertebrae, changes characteristic of degenerative joint disease.

*F.90 Skeleton [475] mature adult male*

The body, was buried in a large circular pit, with his head to the north, lying on his left side, although the torso has slumped over to be almost prone. The legs were tightly flexed to his right and the position of the arms and hands suggests that the hands may have been tied at the wrists. The bone preservation is excellent, although the lower limbs have suffered post-mortem breaks. Most of the feet bones were recovered during the evaluation phase of the excavation.



Figure 18: Burial F.90; note position of hands/wrists.

Two teeth had been lost ante-mortem with a further two surviving only as rotten roots. Slight to moderate deposits of calculus were recorded on all of the surviving teeth.

Five of the lower thoracic vertebrae (T5-T10) exhibited erosive lesions around the lateral and ventral aspects of their bodies. These hollows and scoops penetrated up to 15mm into the sides of the bodies and often encroached into the margins of the inferior and/or superior surfaces. The surfaces of these scoops are irregular and rugged and there is no evidence of new bone or remodelling. Deposits of cream, lamellar bone were recorded on the lamina and transverse processes of T9 and T10 suggesting some form of soft tissue trauma or infection. A large (12mm) cloacae was recorded on T7 which drained through the dorsal part of the surviving inferior portion

of the body. Its edges were relatively sharp suggesting that the lesion was active and weeping discharge at death. The structure of the surviving trabecular bone of all of the vertebrae appears normal and the vertebral arches are unaffected. Lower down the spine changes characteristic of osteoarthritis (Schmorl's nodes, an increase in porosity and marginal osteophytes) were recorded in the lumbar vertebrae. In addition the surfaces of the inferior body of L3 and the superior body of L4 are irregular and eroded although the margins remain intact. The left and ventral parts of their bodies have collapsed which would have resulted in some curvature of the spine. Cream, lamellar bone was recorded around the bodies of both of these vertebrae again suggesting soft tissue trauma. The lesions described above are all characteristic of tuberculosis although conditions such as osteomyelitis or brucellosis should be considered.

A cut mark, inflicted by a sharp blade was recorded on the left parietal just above the lamboid suture. The position of the wound suggests that the blow was struck from behind. The wound measures c. 30mm long and 2mm deep; although its edges are sharp, the base of the cut is irregular which could be evidence of the very early stages of remodelling suggesting it *may* have been inflicted ante-mortem and even be the cause of death.

#### *Recommendations for further work*

Detailed photographs of the blade injury and the lesions in the spine of skeleton F.90 need to be taken. The blade injury on the skull of skeleton [475] deserves closer, microscopic examination in order to determine the extent, if any, of healing and therefore whether it was inflicted immediately prior to (hours/days) or after death. It would be useful to obtain radio carbon dates for both of these skeletons so that they could more fruitfully be discussed in relation to the other features on the site and also to the skeletal remains previously identified at the Plant Breeding Institute 500m to the north (Hinman 2004).

## **Faunal Remains - Krish Seetah**

### *Introduction*

An assemblage of animal bone was recovered from the Addenbrooke's Access Road, Site 1, during excavations carried out in 2007. This report provides a brief outline of the results following zooarchaeological analyses of the material and concludes that this assemblage holds considerable promise for future research in the immediate area. The recovered material has not only demonstrated the potential to contribute an ecological and environmental perspective, but also to improve our understanding of Iron Age faunal exploitation within the region. Furthermore, two relatively rare finds (discussed below) of a bifurcated bovid thoracic spine and a potential fragment of moose antler would suggest that the site was an important point for trade and exchange.

### *Method*

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. Aging of the assemblage employed fusion of proximal and distal epiphyses (Silver 1969). Elements from sheep and goats were distinguished, where possible, based on criteria established for the post-cranial skeleton by Boessneck (1969) and teeth by Payne (1985) and Halstead *et al* (2002). Identification of the assemblage was undertaken with the aid of Schmid (1972), Cohen and Serjeantson (1996) and reference material from the Cambridge Archaeological Unit, the Grahame Clark Zooarchaeology Lab, Dept. of Archaeology, Cambridge and the Zoology Museum, Cambridge. Taphonomic criteria including indications of butchery, pathology, gnawing activity and surface modifications as a result of weathering were also recorded when evident.

### *Preservation*

The assemblage was hand collected and exhibited good overall preservation: of 57 separate contexts studied 14 were 'Quite Good' or 'Good' with minimal or no weathering, bone surface exfoliation and other erosive damage. 23 contexts showed 'Quite Poor' or 'Poor' levels of preservation, with 17 demonstrating 'Moderate' preservation. The remaining three contexts were showed a mixed state of preservation. When we observe the actual numbers of fragments that these figures correspond to we see that some 593 bones showed a level of preservation that was quite good / good, compared to 253 that were quite poor / poor; it is clear that overall the bone material was well preserved.

## Results

In total 1131 fragments were analysed from the site with 674 (60%) identifiable to element and 303 (27%) further identified to species. Of the identifiable elements the overwhelming majority were assigned to domestic mammals. Cow accounted for the greatest proportion of the identifiable fragments, followed by ovicaprids, pig, horse, and finally dog (refer to Table 5 below).

| Species   | NISP | % NISP                 | MNI | % MNI |
|-----------|------|------------------------|-----|-------|
| Cow       | 176  | 58                     | 9   | 38    |
| Ovicaprid | 76   | 25                     | 7   | 29    |
| Pig       | 26   | 8.5                    | 3   | 12.5  |
| Horse     | 23   | 7.5                    | 3   | 12.5  |
| Dog       | 1    | 0.3                    | 1   | 4     |
| Cervid    | 1    | 0.3                    | 1   | 4     |
| UMM       | 200  | 29 ( $\Sigma = 674$ )  | -   | -     |
| ULM       | 171  | 25 ( $\Sigma = 674$ )  | -   | -     |
| UUM       | 457  | 40 ( $\Sigma = 1131$ ) | -   | -     |

Key: UMM & ULM = Unid. Medium and Large Mammal / UUM = Unid. Fragment. NB: Species percentages are out of 303. These differ from the unidentified counts as these are calculated on the basis of element identification (for UMM & ULM) and total fragments (for UUM).

**Table 5:** Species frequency by NISP (Number of Identifiable Specimens) and MNI (Minimum Number of Individuals)

Cow dominated both the NISP (176 fragments) and MNI (nine individual animals) count. Ovicaprids were well represented by NISP counts and only marginally less well represented than cattle by MNI calculations. Considering that this has been dated through pottery finds as an Early Iron Age site (Brudenell; this report p \*), one might have anticipated that ovicaprids would have made a more significant contribution to the assemblage. Although we must be cautious of over inference based on a relatively small assemblage, it is possible that environmental conditions favoured cattle husbandry, rather than sheep. Furthermore, cattle would have been the more important provider of meat and while both animals would have been significant for secondary products, the potential use of cattle for traction would have made it the more important species economically. We should not rule out the importance of goat on this site. At least three definite goat fragments were recovered and whilst the overall assemblage demonstrated an impoverished breadth of species, a near complete range of domestic, British, mammalian species is presented (although cat is conspicuously absent).

Horse was found in only marginally lower numbers than pig (23 fragments / 7.5% of total identified assemblage as opposed to 26 fragments / 8.5% for pig) and would seem to indicate the growing importance of this species for traction purposes. A point to note however is that this species only supersedes cattle as the preferred traction animal in later periods when improvements in horse husbandry and morphology increase the traction ability of the horse: in the prehistoric and early historic periods cattle are still the dominant beast of burden and traction animal.

As mentioned, the species representation is relatively poor. Although the domestic classes are present, including non-food species such as horse and dog, wild species are only represented by one example of a cervid antler. This fragment deserves further discussion and is intriguing as it is palmate. Of native British fauna, whether prehistoric, historic or modern, only three species of deer have palmate antler that would correspond to the proportions of the antler found at the site: moose (*Alces alces*), reindeer (*Rangifer tarandus*) and fallow deer (*Dama dama*). The origins of Fallow deer in Britain are questionable, but it is generally accepted that they were introduced following the Norman Conquest (Yalden 1999: 157). Although examples have been found on Roman sites (Wilson 1975; and indeed Mesolithic and earlier sites, c.f. Churchill 1965, Yalden 1999:153-4) it is possible that such finds are intrusive. Furthermore, the overall size of the find from Addenbrooke's would appear to rule out Fallow deer as a candidate. Similar caveats would appear to rule out reindeer. Although there are suggestions that this species survived in the British Isles until the medieval period these have invariably been shown to be much earlier (Clutton-Brock & MacGregor 1988). Furthermore, the overall shape of the antler found does not correspond convincingly with the composition of reindeer antler. The final candidate is moose; although there are very limited finds of this species on British archaeological sites (only one published find in the Iron Age, c.f. Lister 1984) due to the thickness of the fragment this is the most likely candidate. If the occurrence of *Alces alces* on the site could be confirmed through molecular techniques, not only would it be of particular relevance for the breadth of fauna present at this site, but for the wider zooarchaeological incidence of this species in Britain. We must be cautious of over inference from this find, for example, we should not conclude environmental conditions based on an easily transported, and highly tradable, portion of the carcass. However, trade may well be an important aspect as not only did the antler show clear evidence of sawing to remove a side tine, but it also demonstrated a clear perforation. This portion, though relatively small, may well hold much significance if it was indeed a portion of traded, raw material, procured for working or decorative purposes. It could prove important for establishing trading networks. Again, molecular investigation may provide more conclusive evidence as to the origins of this particular find.

Another rare and potentially important find was recovered from the site: a bifid thoracic spine fragment from a large bovid. Bifid spinous processes are generally attributed to *Bos indicus* (zebu, or humped cattle) (Matthews 2002). This particular species of *Bos* is generally restricted to warmer climates (Clason 1978; Grigson 1980; Matthews 2002) and is unlikely to have been present on a British Iron Age site. Furthermore, at least two other finds of bifid cattle spinous processes have been noted on British sites and have been attributed to *Bos taurus*, one from Saxo-Norman phases at Walton, Buckinghamshire (Noddle 1976) and the other from Roman levels at March, Cambridgeshire (Stallibrass 1983). While in other parts of the world similar finds (in larger numbers) have been employed to suggest the presence and movement of *Bos indicus* (Grigson 1980), the occurrence in Britain has been linked to selective breeding and perhaps the presence of heavily horned individuals. Bifidation only occurs in domestic stock and the two finds, one Roman and now one from the Iron Age, though limited, may be indicative of specific types of cattle in the region.

### *Conclusion*

This has proved to be a very interesting assemblage. It is important that future research clarifies age structures and kill patterns from the material with a more in-depth analysis of toothwear and fusion data. Metric data are also much needed particularly if the possibility that specific cattle types (as potentially evidenced by the bifurcated spine) were present on the site.



## DISCUSSION

Site 1 produced a small but significant collection of features dated to the 5<sup>th</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> centuries BC which are characteristic of the Early Iron Age in the wider environs of the Cam Valley. They confirm the emerging picture of a dispersed settlement area characterised by pit digging activities with associated four-post structures and stretches of rectilinear ditching (Evans *et al*, 2002). Site 1 belongs to this model both in terms of chronology and character. The marginal survival from truncation by modern farming methods has helped in some respects to ‘unclutter’ the settlement and break it down into recognisable elements. In places only the most substantial features survived. Pits **F.86** and **F.99** were reduced to a depth of between fifteen and twenty centimetres, yet still produced nearly 500 sherds (2856g) of pottery, approximately a third of the entire assemblage.

How this truncation reflects on the lack of familiar Iron Age round house structures with semi-circular ‘drip gully’ and enclosure is uncertain. It may be that the excavation area simply missed them or else they were originally constructed in a way that has left no trace. The Trumpington Park and Ride site also lacked ring gullies, taken there to illustrate the “seemingly absent domestic heart of the site” (Hinman 2004). This inference is not supported by the evidence from Site 1. Although lacking ‘houses’ the domestic occupation of the site is seen in the fragments of quern, loomweight, spindlewhorl and diverse pottery of both fine and coarse wares recovered from the features. The maintained and cleaned well shaft with ladder and later backfill with dough trough (Taylor M. *pers. comm.*) and environmental evidence for the cultivation and processing of cereals all suggest occupation based immediately within and around the small collection of features revealed by the Site 1 excavation.

A little of the economic life of the settlement could be extrapolated from the environmental evidence. Cattle were dominant at 38% of the total (nine individual animals identified) followed by sheep at 29% (7 animals), pig and horse both 12.5% (3 animals each), dog and deer at 4% each (1 of each), (Seetah; this report p.40). These results are limited by the relatively small bone assemblage total and further work needs to be done to assess age and size of the animals before too much interpretation can be considered. However, it seems likely that cattle were kept both for meat and traction whilst sheep were kept for wool or meat. The greater proportion of barley over wheat (de Vareilles; this report p.33) may indicate its importance as a winter fodder, supporting the greater numbers of cattle. The recovery of artefacts related to weaving presumably emphasises the keeping of sheep for wool rather than as a primary source of meat. In fact both cattle and sheep were probably kept for a variety of reasons and tend to suggest a mixed farming economy, pastoral and arable.

The presence of nearby arable is supported by environmental sample results that point to ‘a damp (but not waterlogged), disturbed, nutrient rich, open landscape which could translate to arable, pasture or scrub regeneration after occupation’ (de Vareilles; this report p.33). Further evidence was present for wheat and barley consumption, charred remnants of the primary separation processes (*ibid.*) and for grinding the grains into flour, four chunks of saddle quern were found (Timberlake; this report p.29). The dominance of barley tends to suggest animal feed although it could have been for human consumption also; however the comparative lack of wheat may only indicate

that much larger quantities of barley were present on site and that the sample is showing an accurate representation of those proportions.

Much has been made of the function of four-post structures, identified variously as granaries, mortuary platforms and by Cunliffe (2005) as a supporting structure for stacking large quantities of fodder for animal consumption throughout the winter. The environmental evidence goes some way to supporting this latter suggestion, although with evidence for grain processing on site their traditional interpretation as granaries could also be offered. Cunliffe suggests that “cattle were far more difficult to maintain than sheep. They needed constant watering [...] and provision of regular feeds of straw, hay, leaf fodder and silage”. Certainly the provision of water could be fulfilled so it seems logical, given the marginally heightened presence of cattle on site, that feed was also provided.

The position of Site 1 on a relatively high gravel escarpment overlooking the Cam river valley suggests that environmental considerations played a part in the location of the settlement and probable field systems. The evidence for landscape use and enclosure in the locality is currently not fully understood for this period. However if cattle were of primary importance in the Early Iron Age, before being later replaced by sheep (Cunliffe 2005), then it is possible that the river valley floors were being specifically exploited as managed meadowland for hay and silage. Recent trenching on Trumpington Meadows has illustrated this apparently preferred location choice, the valley bottom having a few isolated centres of Bronze age activity and then heavy utilisation during the Romano-British period (Brudenell 2006). Conversely, the gravel escarpment further away from the river was occupied almost exclusively during the Early Iron Age period, continued through the Middle Iron Age, then declined rapidly into the Late Iron Age with little or no Romano-British presence identified (Brudenell *ibid*; Hinman 2004). This could be explained if settlement were kept away from the valuable meadow resources of the Iron Age but were then exploited fully under a fundamentally different farming regime imported by the Romans. A side effect of this possible model is that by moving the settlement away from the rivers it put increased reliance upon wells for supplying water for both animal and human needs.

Further evidence for this might be seen in the wider landscape as the settlement and field systems spread east from Trumpington towards the Gog Magog hills and Babraham Park and Ride site. A clear series of cropmarks bisected by the A1307 Babraham Road just to the west of the Park and Ride site provide an intriguing glimpse into what appears to be a similar type of site. The features were identified as Early Iron Age by the finds from those ditch sections that were revealed in the sides of the Cambridge anti-tank ditch, cut during the second world war (Collins 1948). They show a series of rectilinear enclosures on an east to west alignment that appear to have characteristic large wells or watering holes set at, or near, the corners of the fields. A putative hierarchy based on enclosure size hints at a mixture of occupation and agriculture. However, there are also areas of higher ground to the east that have no Early or Middle Iron Age occupation; the recent excavations on the Addenbrooke's Access Road Site 3 (Timberlake 2007) and at the Bell School site (Brudenell 2004b). These areas may have been used as pasture (Abrams 2000), woodland, or simply represent unenclosed areas of the landscape set between discreet areas of planned fields, paddocks and settlement activity. But although ignored in the earlier Iron Age, Site 3 did reveal extensive evidence of Late Iron Age activity,

suggesting expansion into those areas. The later Iron Age field boundaries identified in the Addenbrooke's environs (Abrams 2000; Evans *et al.* 2004), seen in conjunction with the 'open-spaces' may provide insight into the organisation and orientation of a landscape with dispersed settlements at roughly 300m to 500m intervals.

Site 1 can therefore be seen in context, a small settlement set in a wider landscape supporting a mixed farming economy, the river areas used for meadow and the upper areas a mix of fields, pasture and woodland with scattered small farms and larger more intensive settlement. As suggested above, the well (F.92) must surely be the focal point of the settlement as the nearest available fresh water which might otherwise be no nearer than the Cam, approximately one kilometre away. As such it may be inferred that the condition of the well in many respects paralleled the condition of the settlement.

In the first instance, a near-circular shaft was cut into the underlying geology on top of a natural spring. This will almost certainly have been reinforced with some type of lining, probably of wicker construction, but although fragments of hazel rods of the right size were found in the backfill this was not conclusively proven. Thus revetted and constantly replenished from the spring it could be relied upon to produce copious clean water if covered or regularly cleaned out. The log ladder found in the base may have been part of this regime. At some later date, however, this was discarded into the base of the well, the primary deposit, and a sequence of soil deposition began to occur that eventually covered it, suggesting rapid abandonment. The accumulation of soil in the well started from a clean base, suggesting that there was insufficient time for degradation of the sides and again may indicate a sudden change in status.

Site 1 artefact deposition demonstrates a clear break between the use of an artefact, the primary function of a feature and the disposal of one into the other. The larger pits such as Pit F.90 displayed only slight signs of weathering prior to having been backfilled with soil and settlement waste. The deposition into the well seems to have occurred quickly after feature disuse. Pits F.86, F.99, well F.92 and burial/pit F.90 between them produced 83% of the total pottery assemblage by weight and 74% by sherd numbers (Brudenell; this report p.26). Examination of the pottery from these features suggested there was no single episode of dumping into the features at any one time. With the exception of the initial sequence of well back-filling activity, it appears that the large majority of material had been exposed to 'smashing' or 'trample' prior to deposition, but weathering was relatively light (Brudenell *ibid*). The mean sherd weight across the site was generally quite small, typically around 6 grams, indicating that the pottery had become well fragmented prior to deposition; animal bone was generally also highly fragmented yet in good condition (Seetah; this report p.40). This suggests that the material was being included in middens where the sherds and bone might become fragmented, but the continuous addition of overlying material would give some protection from the weather. The occasional larger sherds in these assemblages are probably due to their comparatively recent inclusion into the midden prior to re-deposition into redundant features. The midden (or middens) seem to have been dispersed and re-worked throughout the life of the settlement.

This process appears to be paralleled throughout the period of occupation as illustrated by the differing frequency of finds from the postholes of Structures A and B. This group of four-post structures and additional postholes is of some interest as it

appears to demonstrate a sequence of construction, repair, redundancy and replacement. The elevated quantity of finds recovered from the postholes of Structure A could suggest the demolition of the structure and backfilling of features during the occupational life of the settlement. That this structure was long-lived is suggested by the additional postholes which hint at the application of repair pieces to the original structure. Based on spatial alignment it seems likely that Structure B was an eventual replacement for Structure A; the lack of finds and charcoal noted within the fills of Structure B point towards dismantlement at the end of settlement activity, or indicate that the activity had moved away from the structure by the time of its redundancy. The small amount of material recovered from any of the postholes of structures B, C and D possibly suggests these structures were still viable, or were younger than Structure A, at the end of settlement occupation.

The paucity of features on site is indicative of low intensity settlement, a point reinforced by the relative lack of finds. When we assess the various assemblages we see that the faunal remains represent nine cows, seven sheep, three pigs and horses, one dog and two humans. The artefactual assemblage includes the remains of 66 pottery vessels, four querns, two spindle whorls and one loomweight. It may of course be that the Site 1 area just missed more intensive occupation, but this is not supported by either crop mark analysis, evaluation trenching or field walking.

Most of the artefactual evidence available comes from abandoned features so the only evidence for settlement development comes from the study of the ditches that cut across the centre of the site (**F.116**, **F.129** and **F.131**). These demonstrate a stratigraphic sequence that is otherwise lacking on Site 1. In broad terms they illustrate a relatively simple series of boundary ditches that appear to mark the edges of the settlement but are then expanded to cut across the middle of the settlement in two stages. In the first stage the northern side of the site, associated with Structure D, was partially delineated by **F.129**, itself probably an over-cut of **F.158**, the full extent of which could not be determined. At that time the ditch terminated just to the west of Structure C but in the second phase **F.129** was re-cut by **F.116** and extended east all the way to the northern edge of well **F.92**, truncating Structure C in the process. This almost entirely cut off the northern portion of the site and at the same time it seems very likely that **F.145** to the east was dug, replacing **F.157**, and this enclosed the site from the east. The western part of boundary **F.129** was re-emphasised by a re-cutting episode that resulted in ditch **F.131**.

The evidence of serial acts of enclosure tends to suggest a change in some part of the life of the settlement. The most obvious possibilities are a redefinition of 'ownership', a change in settlement organisation or the gradual abandonment of the settlement in favour of an alternative arrangement. It seems unlikely that Site 1 can produce more than an observation of change, and answering such larger questions is probably beyond the scope of both the evidence or this report. However it seems clear that a process of enclosure was undertaken that divided the occupied areas of Site 1 and also conformed to those EIA alignments that seem ubiquitous within the vicinity of the Cam valley.

The ditches enclosed the well into the southern enclosure, yet still allowed limited access from the north, yet isolated the burials in the northern half. It also encompassed the creation of the two tentative droveways to east and west. Interestingly, the ditches

enclose all other settlement features except Pit **F.81** and Pits **F.86** and **F.87** in the western side. This may very well be because these two features were of different nature to the others. In a simple sense, **F.81** was rectangular rather than circular and may have been associated with butchering activity due to the number of animal bone fragments recovered from the fill. Pits **F.86** and **F.87** had the most firmly spatial sense of being isolated just beyond the bounds of occupation. That these features may represent the remnants of smithing activity (Timberlake; this report p.31) either reinforces the idea that smiths and their art held a special place in the hierarchy of the Iron Age society (Cunliffe 2005) or implies that fire related activities were better kept away from large stacks of tinder-dry fodder. The apparent isolation of the burials is, however, more likely to be accidental rather than intentional.

Burial F.88 was that of a middle aged woman with signs of a degenerative joint disorder. She had been buried with some care in what appeared to have been the remains of a large tree throw. Post depositional movement had rolled the body to the right and it had ended up face down, almost certainly not the original intent. The comparison with a female burial discovered at the Trumpington Park and Ride site is inevitable. There the corpse was buried in a position that suggested extreme carelessness, 'slung headfirst' (Hinman 2004). Other human bones were recovered from pits across the Park and Ride site, suggesting either a degree of exposure or else deliberate butchery. This is not evident at Site 1, which produced no disarticulated human bone even though the area was clearly acceptable as a burial ground. The dating of F.88 is not, however, secure. Of the associated finds two potsherds appear to be Middle Iron Age but three appear to be Early Romano-British. A circular flint scraper also recovered was of Bronze Age date, though patination of the surface suggested it was residual.

In the context of Iron Age burial practice in the southeast of Britain the female burial is slightly unusual, as it seems to have been a deliberate inhumation within a grave dug specifically for the purpose, albeit in the base of a former treethrow. Burials placed into disused pits are more common on Iron Age settlement sites (Cunliffe 2005) and as the excavators found at the Park and Ride site, they could also be 'strewn' with chunks of articulated and disarticulated human skeleton, often deposited with rubbish in pits (Hinman 2004). There the evidence suggested an excarnation rite prior to breaking up and disposing of a body and this was taken to infer that the four-post structures on the site represented the foundations of exposure platforms (*ibid*). This may be so, but the evidence from Site 1 demonstrates that although there were both burials and four-post structures on site there were no pieces of disarticulated bone suggestive of prior exposure. It may be that any use of four-post structures as excarnation platforms is essentially secondary, as with the burial within former storage pits demonstrated by the second burial, **F.90**.

This was of an older man, who was interred in a back-filled storage pit, the excavated deposits having been replaced to cover the body, as indicated by refitting potsherds and the environmental samples. The individual shows signs of having been in poor health before he died, perhaps suffering from tuberculosis. However, the cause of death may be a 'cut mark, inflicted by a sharp blade [...] on the left parietal just above the lamboid suture' (Dodwell; this report p.39). The wound seems to show slight signs of healing, but requires more detailed inspection to be certain. Although the cut might be too slight to suggest a 'killing blow' it may still indicate the person suffered

a violent death. This seems more likely when considering the unnatural position of the arms at burial. Under excavation it appeared that the hands had been tied together wrist to wrist, although this might have been done to aid carrying the body rather than for restraint. The undertone of disrespect in the attitude of this burial again helps underline the differing cultural perceptions of the Iron Age and modern times (Cunliffe 2005).

Whilst the well shaft was probably put out of use over a rapid time frame, and the settlement likewise, it seems that its use as a water supply continued. At least three further episodes of re-cutting into the top of the filled-in well indicates that the feature was being re-worked periodically as a watering hole. Further evidence for this is provided by the metalled surfacing that leads to the well from the proposed eastern droveway. This suggests the consolidation of an area of erosion caused by the passage of animals, most probably cattle, due to their weight. It seems that the area underwent a rapid change and the well, once a focal point in a settlement, became an important source of water in the corner of an enclosure beside a droveway. The significance of this is provided by five small sherds of Romano-British pottery recovered from the northernmost area of disturbance. This suggests that not only was the well still being used much later but that the droveway and enclosure boundaries were still extant and being utilised. This provides supporting evidence to recent landscape analysis of South Cambridgeshire that offers a model of land division beginning in the Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age that created a system of fields and droveways that persisted into the Romano-British period (Evans *et al.* 2006).

## CONCLUSION

Site 1 has expanded our knowledge of the Early Iron Age in the upper Cam Valley by giving some indication that although the establishment of field or enclosure systems may have been a protracted and sporadic affair, the resulting landscape seems well enough established to have lasted into the Romano-British period. The unenclosed settlement revealed by Site 1 was neither intensive nor probably very long-lived yet it suggests a sophisticated agrarian economy and provides leads into further avenues of research in the wider archaeological landscape. Inevitably a close and detailed comparison should be made with the Trumpington Park and Ride site in terms of pottery, animal bone, burials, structures and environmental evidence.

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## APPENDIX 1: Feature descriptions

**F.80** – Treethrow, slightly curved linear on a north-south orientation measuring 3.45m long, 0.58m wide and 0.32m deep. Cut [401] had steep irregular sides leading to an undulating base. Fills [402] and [400] contained fragments of Iron Age pottery and three worked flints.

**F.81** – Pit, sub-rectangular in plan, orientated northeast-southwest and measuring 2.98m long, 2.20m wide and 0.47m deep. Excavated in quadrants, Cut [405/412] had near vertical straight sides leading to a flat base through sharp breaks of slope. Two fills were identified in each quadrant, the upper fill was [403/410] and it contained moderate amounts of Iron Age pottery, considerable quantities of animal bone and occasional worked flint flakes. The lower fill [404/411] contained small quantities of pottery, bone and flint. The pit cut F.82 and was associated with posthole F.83.

**F.82** – Ditch, linear in plan, aligned northeast-southwest and measured an overall length of 28m. It was sampled in two slots and recorded at the intersection with pit F.81 (cuts [407/414] fills [406/413]). **Slot 23**, 1.20m wide and 0.32m deep, cut [421] had a steep western side, shallow eastern side and narrow flat base; fills [417], [418], [419] and [420]. [417] produced four Iron Age potsherds, animal bone and worked flint. **Slot 24**, 0.95m wide by 0.44m deep. Cut [670] filled by [669] and re-cut [668] filled by [667]; [670] had steep convex sides leading to a narrow flat base and [668] had shallow concave sides leading to a rounded base. Fill [669] produced eight fragments of animal bone.

**F.83** – Posthole, circular in plan, measuring 0.28m diameter and 0.08m in depth. Cut [409] had shallow sides leading to a rounded base through imperceptible breaks of slope. Fill [408], no finds recovered.

**F.84** – Pit, sub-circular in plan measuring 0.50m long by 0.38m wide and 0.13m deep. Partially obscured by southern limit of excavation. Cut [416] had moderately sloping sides to a rounded base through imperceptible breaks of slope. Fill [415] consisted of eroded natural and contained no finds.

**F.85** – Pit, sub-circular in plan measuring 0.55m long by 0.54m wide and 0.16m deep. Partially obscured by southern limit of excavation. Cut [423] was steep sided with a sharp break of slope to a rounded base. Fill [422] had common inclusions of large stones, two sherds of pottery, a small quantity of animal bone and 3 worked flints. Feature truncated by ploughing and cut by F.84.

**F.86** – Pit, oval in plan, orientated northeast-southwest, excavated 100%. It measuring 1.49m long by 1.25m wide and 0.20m deep. Cut [425] had gently sloping sides leading to a flat base and had been truncated by ploughing. Fill [424] contained a large assemblage of Iron Age pottery (271 pieces), a moderate quantity of animal bone and fragments of burnt clay, flint and charcoal. Charcoal and burnt clay were evident throughout the deposit but were too friable to collect. Feature associated with F.87 with which it had an uncertain stratigraphic relationship.

**F.87** – Pit, circular in plan, located on the eastern edge of F.86. both were truncated by ploughing. Cut [427] had moderately sloped sides leading to a flat base and may have truncated F.86 although this relationship was uncertain. Fill [426] was very similar to fill [424] (above) containing charcoal pottery and a large concreted mass (see this report p \*).

**F.88** – Grave, irregular rectangle in plan orientated northeast-southwest and measuring 1.25m long by 0.65m wide and 0.23m deep. Located to the north of well F.92. Cut [439] had steep sides leading to a flat base through gradual breaks of slope. Fill [437] was a mid greyish brown fine sandy silt with orange mottles containing 2 struck flints and one degraded potsherd. Skeleton [438] was a crouched inhumation lying on its left side, skull face down, on a roughly northeast-southwest orientation. Bone preservation was poor and fragmentary.

**F.89** – Treethrow, irregular oval shape in plan, orientated northeast-southwest. Measured 2.23m long by 1.10m wide and 0.29m in depth. Cut [468] was largely diffuse with few clear boundaries; sides were steep, the base bio-turbated. Upper fill [466] largely silty sand with five Iron Age potsherds recovered; lower fill [467] hardly distinguishable from natural.

**F.90** – Burial/Pit, sub-circular in plan, measuring 1.85m long by 1.75m wide and 0.65m deep. Cut [479] had steep straight sides leading to a predominantly flat base through gradual breaks of slope. Upper fill [476] overlay skeleton [475] and contained a large quantity of Iron Age potsherds (172

pieces) moderate quantities of animal bone and five struck flints. Skeleton [475] was a crouched adult inhumation lying on its left side with the skull facing right. It was aligned roughly north to south. Fills [477] and [478] were located beneath [475]. Fill [477] was very similar to [476] and contained potsherds, animal bone and four worked flints. Fill [478] was a primary deposit of weathered natural. Additionally [480] was assigned as a clearance number for finds associated with the trial trenching backfill.

**F.91** – Pit/Posthole, circular in plan measuring 0.55m diameter and 0.15m in depth. Cut [482] had shallow concave sides leading to a rounded base through imperceptible breaks of slope. Fill [481] had frequent charcoal inclusions, no finds.

**F.92** – Well, sub-circular in plan with primary well shaft off-centre to the southeast. Total overall dimensions were 9.50m long by 8.50m wide by 3.10m deep. The well profile consisted of two main elements; the upper part was of a wide inverted cone 9.50m by 8.50m by 1.00m deep leading to a sub-circular shaft. The shaft measured 2.50m diameter by 2.10 m deep with steep straight sides which became near vertical as they approached the flat base through gradual breaks of slope. The deposits within the well were also broadly divided into two groups; those found within the upper ‘cone’ were classified as layers and those within the shaft as fills. The upper layers were [681], [682], [683] and [684]. These were accumulated through natural depositional processes and consisted of sandy clay or silty sand, commonly with small rounded chalk inclusions. A large quantity of finds were recovered from these layers including Iron Age pottery, animal bone, worked flints and burnt clay. [691] and [692] were also part of this depositional sequence but were localised dumps of redeposited natural and contained no finds. The lower fills, [685], [693], [687], [686] and [700] were all waterlogged. A large number of finds were also recovered from these fills, including a wooden trough ([688]), and ‘notched’ ladder ([695]) from the base of the shaft.

**F.93** - Posthole, circular in plan measuring 0.33m diameter and 0.16m in depth. Cut [484] had straight vertical sides leading to a rounded base through sharp breaks of slope. Fill [485] had occasional charcoal inclusions and contained three Iron Age potsherds.

**F.94** – Ditch, linear in plan, aligned northwest-southeast and measuring 26m total within Site 1. This feature was of uniform character across all three slots being U-shaped in profile and having single homogenous sandy silt fills. **Slot 15** measured 0.78m wide by 0.32m deep, cut [486], fill [485], no finds. **Slot 16** measured 0.60m wide by 0.08m deep, cut [589], fill [488], no finds. **Slot 20** was situated in an eastern trench extension to Site 1 and measured 1.07m wide by 0.20m deep; cut [637] and fill [636], no finds.

**F.95** – Posthole, irregular in plan with weathered truncated edges measuring 0.28m diameter by 0.08m deep. Cut [441] and fill [440] ill defined, no finds.

**F.96** – Posthole, sub-circular in plan measuring 0.45m diameter by 0.11m depth. Cut [444] weathered shallow concave sides leading to a rounded base through imperceptible breaks of slope. Fills [442] and [443], no finds.

**F.97** – Posthole, oval in plan measuring 0.50m long by 0.23m wide and of 0.05m depth. Cut [446] weathered shallow concave sides leading to a rounded base through imperceptible breaks of slope, truncated by F.98. Fill [445], no finds.

**F.98** – Posthole, sub-circular in plan measuring 0.30m diameter by 0.07m depth. Cut [448] shallow concave sides leading to a rounded base through imperceptible breaks of slope. Fill [447], no finds.

**F.99** – Pit, cut near centrally into the top of F.100. Oval in plan, 0.80m long by 0.72m wide and of 0.12m depth; excavated 100%. Cut [450], poorly defined within F.100, appeared to have concave sides leading to a flat base through gradual breaks of slope. Fill [449] contained considerable quantities of Iron Age pottery (228 sherds) and animal bone (164 pieces). Also collected were burnt clay, stone and flint.

**F.100** – Pit, sub-circular in plan, measuring 2.24m long by 2.20m wide and 0.15m deep; excavated 100%. Cut [452] had shallow concave sides leading to an undulating base through imperceptible breaks of slope. Fill [451] contained Iron Age potsherds, animal bone and burnt stone.

**F.101** – Treethrow, irregular oval shape in plan, orientated northeast-southwest. Measured 1.05m long by 0.64m wide and 0.23m in depth. Cut [454] was largely diffuse with few clear boundaries except the south-eastern side. Fill [453] was hardly distinguishable from natural except by feel. No finds.

**F.102** – Posthole, circular in plan, measuring 0.35m diameter and 0.17m in depth. Cut [456] had steep straight sides leading to a rounded base through gradual breaks of slope. Fill [455] had frequent charcoal inclusions and contained Iron Age potsherds and burnt clay.

**F.103** – Posthole, circular in plan, measuring 0.33m diameter and 0.13m in depth. Cut [458] had steep straight sides leading to a rounded base through gradual breaks of slope. Fill [457] contained one Iron Age potsherd.

**F.104** – Posthole, circular in plan, measuring 0.43m diameter and 0.18m in depth. Cut [460] had steep straight sides leading to a rounded base through gradual breaks of slope. Fill [459] contained burnt clay and a fragment of possible quern.

**F.105** – Posthole, circular in plan measuring 0.35m diameter and 0.15m in depth. Cut [462] had moderately steep straight sides leading to a rounded base through gradual breaks of slope. Fill [461], no finds.

**F.106** – Ditch, linear in plan, aligned northeast-southwest and measuring a total of 8.50m long, 0.90m wide and 0.25m deep. Sampled at both terminal ends. **Slot 10**; cut [465] had a shallow U-shaped profile. Fills [463] and [464] contained Iron Age potsherds, animal bone and a rubbing? stone. **Slot 11**; cut [471] had a complicated profile that suggested an original U-shaped ditch that had been re-cut by a wide flat-based ditch. Fills [469] and [470] contained Iron Age potsherds and animal bone.

**F.107** – Pit, sub-circular in plan, measuring 1.02m long by 0.84m wide and 0.19m deep. Cut [474] had shallow concave sides leading to a tilted flat base through imperceptible breaks of slope. Upper fill [472] contained three Iron Age potsherds and burnt clay. Basal fill [473] had no finds.

**F.108** – Posthole, circular in plan, measuring 0.47m diameter and 0.22m in depth. Cut [488] had steep straight sides leading to a rounded base through sharp breaks of slope. Fill [487] contained burnt clay, Iron Age potsherds and a large fragment of burnt quern.

**F.109** – Posthole, circular in plan, measuring 0.38m diameter and 0.12m in depth. Cut [490] had straight sides, shallow angle on north side, leading to a rounded base through imperceptible breaks of slope. Fill [489] contained three Iron Age potsherds.

**F.110** – Posthole, sub-circular in plan, measuring 0.46m long, 0.30m wide and 0.18m deep. Cut [492] had steep straight sides leading to a rounded base through gradual breaks of slope. Fill [491] contained Iron Age potsherds, burnt clay and animal bone.

**F.111** – Posthole, circular in plan, measuring 0.28m diameter and 0.25m in depth. Cut [494] had steep straight sides leading to a rounded base through gradual breaks of slope. Fill [493] had no finds.

**F.112** – Posthole, sub-circular in plan, measuring 0.36m diameter and 0.34m in depth. Cut [496] had steep straight sides leading to a flat base through sharp breaks of slope. Fill [495] contained burnt clay.

**F.113** – Posthole, circular in plan, measuring 0.50m diameter and 0.12m in depth. Cut [498] had shallow sides leading to a rounded base through imperceptible breaks of slope. Fill [497] contained animal bone and burnt clay.

**F.114** – Posthole, circular in plan, measuring 0.45m diameter and 0.22m in depth. Cut [501] had steep straight sides leading to a rounded base through very gradual breaks of slope. Fills [499] and [500] contained three sherds of Iron Age pottery.

**F.115** – Pit, sub-square in plan, orientated northeast-southwest and measuring 1.33m long, 1.25m wide and 0.40m deep. Cut [506] had moderately sloping convex sides leading to a rounded base through gradual breaks of slope. Four fills were identified [502], [503], [504] and [505] with frequent charcoal

inclusions. One worked flint was retrieved from [502]. Pit F.115 was truncated by ditch F.116 and pit F.117.

**F.116** – Ditch, straight linear re-cut and eastern extension of F.129, aligned northeast-southwest and measuring 52m in length. Predominantly a shallow U-shape in profile with concave sides and rounded base. Sampled in five 1m slots. **Slot 12** measured 1.25m wide by 0.40m deep. Cut [509] had moderately sloping concave sides leading to a rounded base through gradual breaks of slope. Fill numbers were duplicated to record diversity of material through interaction with pit F.117. Upper fill [507/517]; [507] produced Iron Age potsherds, animal bone, worked flint and burnt stone; [517] had no finds. Lower fill [508/518] was a sterile re-deposited natural but [518] had frequent charcoal inclusions (sample <25> for C14). **Slot 18** measured 0.5m wide by 0.10m deep; cut [579] had moderately sloping sides leading to a rounded base through imperceptible breaks of slope. Fills [576], [577] and [578], one piece of animal bone recovered from [576]. **Slot 19** 0.52m wide by 0.12m deep. Cut [579] had moderately sloping sides leading to a rounded base through imperceptible breaks of slope. Fill [610] produced two potsherds and one worked flint. **Slot 28** measured 0.84m wide by 0.24m deep, cut [647] had moderately sloping sides leading to a rounded base through imperceptible breaks of slope. Fills [644], [645] and [646]. Finds recovered from [644] and [645]; Iron Age potsherds, animal bone, worked flint and burnt stone. **Slot 29** measured 0.42m wide by 0.11m deep. Cut [581], butt-ended, had moderately sloping sides leading to a rounded base through imperceptible breaks of slope. Fill [580] had no finds.

**F.117** – Pit, sub-rectangular in plan, orientated northeast-southwest and measuring 1.33m long, 0.75m wide and 0.38m deep. Cut [516] had moderately sloping straight sides leading to an irregular rounded base through gradual breaks of slope. Six fills were identified [510], [511], [512], [513], [514] and [515]. Upper fills [510] – [512] consisted of fine silts becoming fine silty sands with no finds but occasional charcoal inclusions. Lower fills [513] – [515] had no finds but contained frequent large ‘chunks’ of charcoal. Pit F.117 truncated pit F.115 and was itself truncated by ditch F.116.

**F.118** – Posthole, sub-oval in plan, measuring 0.68m long, 0.44 wide and 0.19m in depth. Cut [521] had steep straight sides leading to a narrow oval base through sharp breaks of slope. Fill [520] had no finds.

**F.119** – Posthole, sub-circular in plan, measuring 0.24m long, 0.21 wide and 0.06m in depth. Cut [523] had steep slightly concave sides leading to a rounded base through sharp breaks of slope. Fill [522] contained one sherd of Iron Age pottery.

**F.120** – Posthole, sub-oval in plan, measuring 0.53m long, 0.44 wide and 0.11m in depth. Cut [525] had moderate concave sides leading to a flat oval base through gradual breaks of slope. Fill [526] had no finds but represented a filled post-pipe. Fill [524] contained one sherd of Iron Age pottery and one animal bone.

**F.121** – Posthole, circular in plan, measuring 0.29m diameter and 0.15m in depth. Cut [528] had steep straight sides leading to a flat base through sharp breaks of slope. Fill [527] contained three flaked flints.

**F.122** – Posthole, circular in plan, measuring 0.40m diameter and 0.12m in depth. Cut [530] had moderately sloped straight sides leading to a flat base through gradual breaks of slope. Fill [529] had no finds.

**F.123** – Posthole, circular in plan, measuring 0.40m diameter and 0.16m in depth. Cut [532] had moderately sloped straight sides leading to a flat base through sharp breaks of slope. Fill [531] had no finds.

**F.124** – Pit, oval in plan, measuring 0.60m long, 0.48 wide and 0.14m deep. Cut [534] had steep straight sides leading to a rounded oval base through sharp breaks of slope. Fill [533] contained 31 Iron Age potsherds.

**F.125** – Posthole, circular in plan, measuring 0.28m diameter and 0.30m in depth. Cut [536] had steep straight sides leading to a flat base through sharp breaks of slope. Fill [535] contained one sherd of Iron Age pottery and two animal bones.

**F.126** – Posthole, circular in plan, measuring 0.32m diameter and 0.18m in depth. Cut [538] had steep straight sides leading to a flat base through gradual breaks of slope. Fill [537], no finds recovered.

**F.127** – Posthole, oval in plan, measuring 0.46m long, 0.44 wide and 0.17m deep. Cut [540] had steep straight sides leading to a flat oval base through gradual breaks of slope. Fill [539] had one Iron Age potsherd.

**F.128** – Posthole, circular in plan, measuring 0.45m diameter and 0.11m in depth. Cut [542] had moderately sloped straight sides leading to a rounded base through gradual breaks of slope. Fill [541] had no finds.

**F.129** – Ditch, aligned northwest-southeast then turning northeast. Eastern terminal obscured by F.116, western extent obscured by limit of excavation. Observed length approximately 58m. F.129 had a distinctive profile which was formed by convex sides dropping steeply to a narrow rounded base. The feature commonly had multiple fills, these being largely slumped natural deposits followed by episodes of erosion-based silting. The ditch was sampled in five slots: **Slot 13**; cut [548] measured 0.72m wide by 0.32m deep, fills [545] and [546] produced worked flint and Iron Age potsherds, [547] had no finds. **Slot 14**; cut [561] measured 0.63m wide by 0.25m deep, fills; [557], which produced Iron Age potsherds, animal bone and one worked flint, [558], [559] and [560], which had no finds. **Slot 17**; cut [599] measured 0.39m wide by 0.23m deep, fill [597] produced worked flint, Iron Age potsherds, animal bone, burnt flint and stone. Fill [598] had no finds. **Slot 19**; cut [614] measured 0.68m wide by 0.25m deep, fills [611], [612] and [613]. Animal bone from [611], other fills sterile. **Slot 31**; cut [659] measured 0.53m wide by 0.39m deep, fills [656], [657] and [658]. [656] produced worked flint and Iron Age potsherds.

**F.130** – Hollow, irregular sub-rectangle in plan, measured 2.20m long by 1.32m wide and 0.10m deep. Cut [543] had very shallow irregular concave sides leading to a relatively flat base. Fill [544] had frequent inclusions of gravel and small rounded pebbles and contained 90 fragments of animal bone, one Iron Age potsherd and fired clay. Interpreted as a hollow filled with a degraded metallated surface.

**F.131** – Ditch, linear re-cut of F.29. overall extent of ditch uncertain, observed length approximately 20.00m. A shallow U-shaped profile with single fill episode, it orientated northwest-southeast and terminated at its eastern end. Identified in two slots: **Slot 13**, cut [550] measured 0.46m wide by 0.08m deep and had moderate sloping sides leading to rounded base. Fill [549] produced no finds. **Slot 31** cut [666] measured 0.32m wide by 0.16m deep and had moderate sloping sides leading to rounded base. Fill [665] produced no finds

**F.132** – Posthole, circular in plan, measuring 0.32m diameter and 0.15m in depth. Cut [563] had fairly steep straight sides leading to a rounded base through gradual breaks of slope. Fill [562], no finds were recovered.

**F.133** – Pit, circular in plan, measuring 0.91m diameter and 0.21m in depth. Cut [565] had fairly steep straight sides leading to a rounded base through gradual breaks of slope. Fill [564] contained six Iron Age potsherds and two fired clay fragments of possible loomweight.

**F.134** – Pit, circular in plan, measuring 0.68m diameter and 0.18m in depth. Cut [567] had shallow straight sides leading to a gently rounded base through gradual breaks of slope. Fill [566] had no finds

**F.135** – Pit, sub-circular in plan, measuring 2.46m long by 1.86m wide and 0.22m deep; excavated in quadrants. Cut [569] had shallow concave sides leading to an undulating rounded base through gradual breaks of slope. Fill [568] contained eleven abraded Iron Age potsherds. F.135 appeared heavily truncated through ploughing.

**F.136** – Posthole, circular in plan, measuring 0.48m diameter and 0.12m in depth. Cut [571] had fairly steep straight sides leading to a rounded base through gradual breaks of slope. Fill [570], no finds were recovered. Cut into the base of F.135.

**F.137** – Posthole, oval in plan, measuring 0.45m long, 0.34 wide and 0.21m deep. Cut [573] had steep sides leading to a flat oval base through gradual breaks of slope. Fill [572] had one worked flint.

**F.138** – Pit, circular in plan, measuring 0.83m diameter and 0.56m in depth. Cut [575] had fairly steep straight sides leading to a rounded base through gradual breaks of slope. Fill [574], no finds recovered.

**F.139** – Posthole, circular in plan, measuring 0.33m diameter and 0.15m in depth. Cut [583] had fairly steep straight sides leading to a rounded base through gradual breaks of slope. Fill [582], no finds.

**F.140** – Posthole, circular in plan, measuring 0.27m diameter and 0.11m in depth. Cut [585] had moderately sloping sides leading to a rounded base through gradual breaks of slope. Fill [584], no finds were recovered.

**F.141** – Posthole, circular in plan, measuring 0.37m diameter and 0.13m in depth. Cut [587] had moderately steep sides leading to a rounded base through gradual breaks of slope. Fill [586] had no finds.

**F.142** – Posthole, circular in plan, measuring 0.28m diameter and 0.14m in depth. Cut [585] had moderately steep sides leading to a rounded base through gradual breaks of slope. Fill [584], no finds recovered.

**F.143** – Ditch, linear in plan, measuring 3.80m in total length revealed between northern limit of excavation and terminal end. **Slot 17** measured 0.51m wide by 0.15m deep. Cut [602] had shallow concave sides leading to a rounded base through imperceptible breaks of slope. Upper fill [600] contained Iron Age potsherds, animal bone, burnt clay, burnt flint and worked flint. Lower fill [601] was redeposited natural.

**F.144** – Pit, sub-oval in plan, orientated northwest-southeast and measuring 1.45m long, 0.85m wide and 0.45m deep. Cut [620] had steep straight sides to the north, shallower concave sides to the south and these both led to a rounded base through gradual breaks of slope. Five fills were identified [615], [616], [617], [618] and [619]. Fill [615] produced 14 Iron Age potsherds and a piece of animal bone; Fill [616] appeared to partly consist of reddened burnt earth with occasional charcoal inclusions. Pit F.144 truncated pit F.147.

**F.145** – Ditch, linear in plan, aligned northwest-southeast and measuring 26.20m in length. Sampled in four slots revealing a predominantly U-shaped profile. **Slot 25** measured 1.10m wide by 0.63m deep; cut [624], fills [621], [622] and [623]. [621] produced 17 EIA potsherds and 27 pieces of animal bone; [623] produced two EIA potsherds, animal bone (11 pieces), one worked flint and burnt stone. **Slot 26** measured 0.88m wide by 0.32m deep; cut [633], fill [632] which produced ten pieces of animal bone. **Slot 27** measured 0.86m wide by 0.19m deep. Cut [605], fills [603] and [604], no finds. **Slot 30** measured 0.77m wide by 0.25m deep; cut [653], fill [652] produced eight pieces of animal bone.

**F.146** – Pit, sub-circular in plan, measuring 0.70m long by 0.60m wide and 0.35m deep. Cut [627] was truncated by F.145 but had steep sides leading to a rounded base through gradual breaks of slope. Fills [625] and [626], which contained 16 pieces of animal bone.

**F.147** – Pit, heavily truncated by later activity but probably circular in plan, measuring at least 0.50m diameter and 0.28m in depth. Cut [629] had fairly steep concave sides leading to a rounded base through gradual breaks of slope. Fill [628] contained four pieces of animal bone.

**F.148** – Pit, sub-circular in plan, measuring 0.90m long by 0.52m wide and 0.39m deep. Cut [631] was truncated by F.145 but had steep slightly concave sides leading to a rounded base through gradual breaks of slope. Fill [630], no finds.

**F.149** – Hollow, irregular and fragmented in plan, measured 8.55m long by 4.05m wide and 0.22m deep. Cut [606] had very shallow irregular concave sides leading to a relatively flat base. Fill [607] had a lower horizon of gravel and small rounded pebbles which contained 5 Iron Age potsherds. Interpreted as a truncated 'worn' hollow filled with degraded metal surfaces.

**F.150** – Posthole, sub-circular in plan, measuring 0.36m long, 0.26m wide and 0.18m deep. Cut [609] had steep sides leading to a flat base through sharp breaks of slope. Fill [608], no finds.

**F.151** – Pit, a large irregular feature truncated by ditch F.145 measuring 4.80m long, 3.50m and a minimum of 0.40m deep. Cut [635] had poorly defined sides within the natural. The upper levels of fill [634] produced small quantities of Iron Age pottery, animal bone and two struck flints, possibly derived from F.145. Interpreted as being of probably natural derivation.

**F.152** – Ditch, linear in plan and measuring 16.00m long, aligned northwest-southeast. Terminal buttends to the north and south. Three separate episodes of excavation were noted for this ditch; a primary cut and two re-cuts. Two slots dug: **Slot 21**; Cut [436] measured 0.82m in width by 0.32m deep. Four fills; [431], [432], 433] and [434], no finds. Re-cut [430] measured 0.70m wide by 0.15m deep and had shallow concave sides leading to a rounded base through imperceptible breaks of slope. Fill [429] had no finds. **Slot 22**; cut [678] measured 1.06m wide by 0.27m deep and had shallow concave sides leading to a broad flat base through gradual breaks of slope. Two fills, [676] and [677] which contained one Iron Age potsherd, two fragments of animal bone, one worked flint and one burnt flint. Re-cut [672] measured 0.63m wide by 0.19m deep and had shallow straight sides which led to a rounded base through imperceptible breaks of slope. Fill [671], no finds.

**F.153** – Pit, sub-circular in plan, measuring 1.30m long by 0.85m wide and 0.18m deep. Cut [639] had shallow concave sides leading to an oval rounded base through gradual breaks of slope. Fill [638] had no finds.

**F.154** – Pit, sub-circular in plan, measuring 0.95m long by 0.70m wide and 0.12m deep. Cut [641] had shallow concave sides leading to an oval rounded base through gradual breaks of slope. Fill [640] had no finds.

**F.155** – Hollow, irregular oval in plan, measured 2.20m long by 1.47m wide and 0.08m deep. Cut [642] had very shallow irregular concave sides leading to a relatively flat base. Fill [643] had frequent inclusions of gravel and small rounded pebbles. It also contained eight pieces of animal bone, one large fragment of quern stone and an iron sickle blade. Interpreted as a hollow filled with degraded metalling.

**F.156** – Pit, sub-rectangular in plan, orientated northeast-southwest and measuring 1.85m long, 0.89m wide and 0.23m deep. Cut [651] was truncated on the southern side by F.116 and had shallow straight sides leading to an undulating rounded base through gradual breaks of slope. Three fills were identified, [648] [649] and [650]; [648] produced two worked flints.

**F.157** – Ditch, linear in plan and measuring 6.00m long as exposed, aligned northwest-southeast. Truncated to the north by ditch F.145 and obscured beneath the southern limit of excavation. Two slots dug: **Slot 30** measured 0.53m wide by 0.19m deep, cut [655] had moderately steep straight sides leading to a rounded base through imperceptible breaks of slope. Fill [654] produced five Iron Age potsherds. **Slot 32** measured 0.86m wide by 0.25m deep, cut [680] had moderately steep straight sides, the eastern being of shallower angle, which led to a rounded base through imperceptible breaks of slope. Fill [679] contained 28 Iron Age potsherds, eight bone fragments and 6 struck flints.

**F.158** – Ditch, located in Slot 31 and terminating approximately 1.50m to east of the slot. The western extent was lost through truncation by ditch F.129. Identified for approximately 4.00 m in total this feature appeared to be linear in plan and aligned southeast-northwest. **Slot 31** measured 0.74m wide by 0.44m deep, cut [664] had moderately sloping convex sides leading to a rounded base through gradual breaks of slope. Four fills were identified [660], [661], [662]and [663]. Fill [661] contained one potsherd, five struck flints, animal bone and burnt flint.

**F.159** – Pit, located in the eastern side of F.92, circular in plan, measuring 0.60m diameter by 0.54m deep. Cut [697] had steep straight sides leading to a rounded base through gradual breaks of slope. Fill [696] produced two sherds of Iron Age pottery and two fragments of animal bone.

**F.160** – Pit, located in the southern side of F.92, circular in plan, measuring 0.45m diameter by 0.32m deep. Cut [702] had moderately steep straight sides leading to a rounded base through gradual breaks of slope. Fill [690], no finds.



**F.161** – Pit, located on the western side of F.92, uncertain shape in plan, measuring 1.60m diameter by 0.30m deep. Cut [703] had moderately steep straight sides leading to a flat tilted base through gradual breaks of slope. Fill [694], no finds.

**F.162** – Pit, located in the northern side of F.92, circular in plan, measuring 1.60m diameter by 0.25m deep, not fully excavated. Cut [704] had moderately steep straight sides. Fill [689], produced three Iron Age potsherds and two worked flints.

**F.163** – Posthole cut into the eastern side of F.92, circular in plan, measuring 0.28m diameter and 0.14m in depth. Cut [705] had moderately steep sides leading to a flat base through sharp breaks of slope. Fill [699] produced four Iron Age potsherds and some animal bone.

## **Site 5**

### *Trench 1*

**F.206** – Posthole/Pit, circular in plan, measuring 0.33m diameter and 0.15m in depth. Cut [2020] had fairly steep straight sides leading to a rounded base through gradual breaks of slope. Fill [2019], no finds.

### *Trench 2*

**F.200** – Ditch(?), linear in plan and measuring 1.15m long as exposed, aligned northeast-southwest. Truncates F. 201 to the west, rest obscured beneath the northern trench edge. Feature measured 0.78m wide by 0.13m deep, cut [2003] had shallow straight sides leading to a rounded base through imperceptible breaks of slope. Fills [2000] and [2001], no finds.

**F.201** – Ditch(?), linear in plan and measuring 1.23m long as exposed, aligned northeast-southwest. Truncated to the east by ditch F.200 and was obscured beneath the northern trench edge. Feature measured 0.96m wide by 0.42m deep, cut [2006] had shallow straight sides leading to a rounded base through imperceptible breaks of slope.. Fills [2004] and [2005], no finds.

**F.204** - Posthole, sub-circular in plan measuring 0.45m diameter by 0.31m depth. Cut [2016] vertical straight sides leading to a rounded base through imperceptible breaks of slope. Fills [2012 - 2015], no finds, [2013] might have been natural post packing.

**F.205** – Pit(?), sub-circular in plan, measuring 0.55m long by 0.49 m wide and 0. 27m deep. Cut [2018] had steep sides to west, shallow concave sides to east leading to an oval rounded base through gradual breaks of slope. Fill [2017] had no finds. Probable treethrow.

### *Trench 3*

**F.202** – Ditch terminus(?), linear in plan and measuring 2.10m long as exposed, aligned north-south, but curves eastwards. Truncates F. 203 to the west, rest obscured beneath the trench edges. Feature measured 0.79m wide by 0.30m deep, cut [2008] had shallow straight sides leading to a rounded base through imperceptible breaks of slope. Fill [2007], no finds.

**F.203** – Ditch terminus, linear in plan and measuring 1.98m long as exposed, aligned northeast-southwest. Truncated to the east by ditch F.202 and was obscured beneath the southern trench edge, terminates in a rounded butt before northern trench edge. Feature measured 0.50m wide by 0.26m deep, cut [2010] had shallow straight sides leading to a rounded base through imperceptible breaks of slope. Fill [2009], no finds.