

The Addenbrooke's Access Road, Clay Farm, Trumpington, Cambridge.

The 2008 Investigations: Sites 4 & 7



Nick Armour
Matthew Collins

CAMBRIDGE ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNIT
UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE



**The Addenbrooke's Access Road, Clay Farm
Trumpington
Cambridge**

The 2008 Investigations: Sites 4 and 7

Nick Armour

Matthew Collins

With specialist contributions from Rachel Ballantyne, Simon Timberlake
and Vida Rajkovača

Graphics by Bryan Crossan

© Cambridge Archaeological Unit
UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE
August 2008

Report No. 843

Site 4: ECB 2848

Site 7: ECB 2849

Summary

The Cambridge Archaeological Unit carried out two open-area investigations on the Addenbrooke's Access Road construction corridor between the 3rd and 28th March 2008. These represented the final two phases of works started in April 2007. Site 4 and Site 7 were on low-lying farmland within a dry valley located to the south of Cambridge between Hobson's Brook and Addenbrooke's Hospital.

Site 4 revealed former field boundaries and drainage ditches of post-medieval date. A series of 20th century pits, postholes and gullies identified on the site were linked to the agricultural shows that were held on the land from 1948 until the 1960s.

Site 7 revealed a total of 41 individual features of which 24 were ditches or ditch re-cuts, poorly dated by three stratified and three unstratified potsherds to the Late Iron Age to later Romano-British periods. A trackway and rectilinear field system was identified. Associated with these was a well or watering hole dated to the Iron Age from which a fragment of saddle quern was retrieved. The remaining features consisted of eight undated rectilinear construction trenches, possibly part of a medieval warren, seven undated pits and one utilised treethrow.

The importance of the excavations lay in their position within the landscape. They confirmed that historic and prehistoric occupation within the Hobson's Brook valley was confined to the valley sides and that associated field systems and tracks largely avoided the damper base.

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION.....	1
Geology and topography.....	1
Archaeological background	1
Methodology	5
RESULTS.....	6
SITE 4.....	6
Overview.....	6
Excavation	6
Conclusion	6
SITE 7.....	9
Overview.....	9
Dating	9
Sequence.....	9
Primary Enclosure Ditch.....	9
Droeway Ditches	11
Droeway Extension.....	11
Drove Disuse	12
Re-cutting of Primary Enclosure.....	12
Re-alignment.....	14
Pits.....	14
Group I.....	14
Group II.....	14
Watering-hole.....	15
Rectilinear gullies.....	15
Post-Medieval	16
HAUL ROAD WATCHING BRIEF	16
Overview.....	16
Northeast ditch cluster	16
Northwest ditch cluster	18
DISCUSSION.....	18
APPENDIX 1: ANIMAL BONE.....	24
APPENDIX 2: ENVIRONMENTAL REMAINS.....	25
APPENDIX 3: WORKED STONE	30
APPENDIX 4: FEATURE DESCRIPTIONS	31

INTRODUCTION

The Cambridge Archaeological Unit (CAU) carried out archaeological investigations on the Addenbrooke's Access Road construction corridor, Sites 4 and 7, between the 3rd and 28th March 2008. Site 4 was at NGR TL 455 542 and Site 7 was centred on NGR TL 460 545, approximately 0.5km southwest of Addenbrooke's Hospital and 0.33km north of Nine Wells (Figure:1). The work followed the archaeological methods statement (Dickens, 2006) and specification approved by the Archaeology Section, CAPCA, Cambridgeshire County Council and was commissioned by Mike Davies of the Major Transport Infrastructure Delivery Team on behalf of Cambridgeshire County Council.

Geology and topography

Both sites are situated within the low-lying land of the Addenbrooke's plain, the former flood plain of the Hobson's Brook, which runs roughly north to south and is flanked by higher ground to the east and west. To the south is Nine Wells, the springs cut into a slight rise in the chalk which provide the source of the Conduit, whilst behind these the chalk ridges of the Gog Magog Hills and Wandlebury begin to rise.

The underlying geology on the west side of Addenbrooke's consists of chalk marl (The West Melbury Marly Chalk Formation of the Lower Chalk) overlain in places by thin patches of relict gravels which belong to the Second and Third Cam Terraces (BGS 2002). The chalk is cut in places by sand and silt-filled palaeo-channels as well as shallow silt-filled solution hollows.

Archaeological background

The Addenbrooke's Access Road construction corridor has been the subject of a desktop assessment (Appleby 2004; Dickens 2002), aerial photographic and geophysical surveys (Palmer in Dickens *ibid.*; Johnson 2005) and trial trenching evaluation (Evans *et al.* 2006). Aerial photographic assessments identified extensive crop marks to the north of Site 7 but failed to reveal any features in the locale of Site 4 (Evans *ibid.*). The evaluation identified linear features in Trenches 87, 89 and 105; a continuation of the supposed track way seen as cropmarks and confirmed in the 2020 Lands evaluation trenches (detailed below).

Previous investigations along the Addenbrooke's Access Road corridor were carried out in the summer of 2007 (Armour 2007; Timberlake 2007). Sites 1, 2, 5 and 6 were to the west of Shelford Road and revealed the presence of Iron Age settlement and field systems extending south from an area identified in recent excavations as an area of intense Iron Age settlement; in particular at the sites of The former Plant Breeding Institute (Kenny 1999; Hinman 2001), 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 southwest of that site (Brudenell 2006). The Access Road Site 1 indicated that the

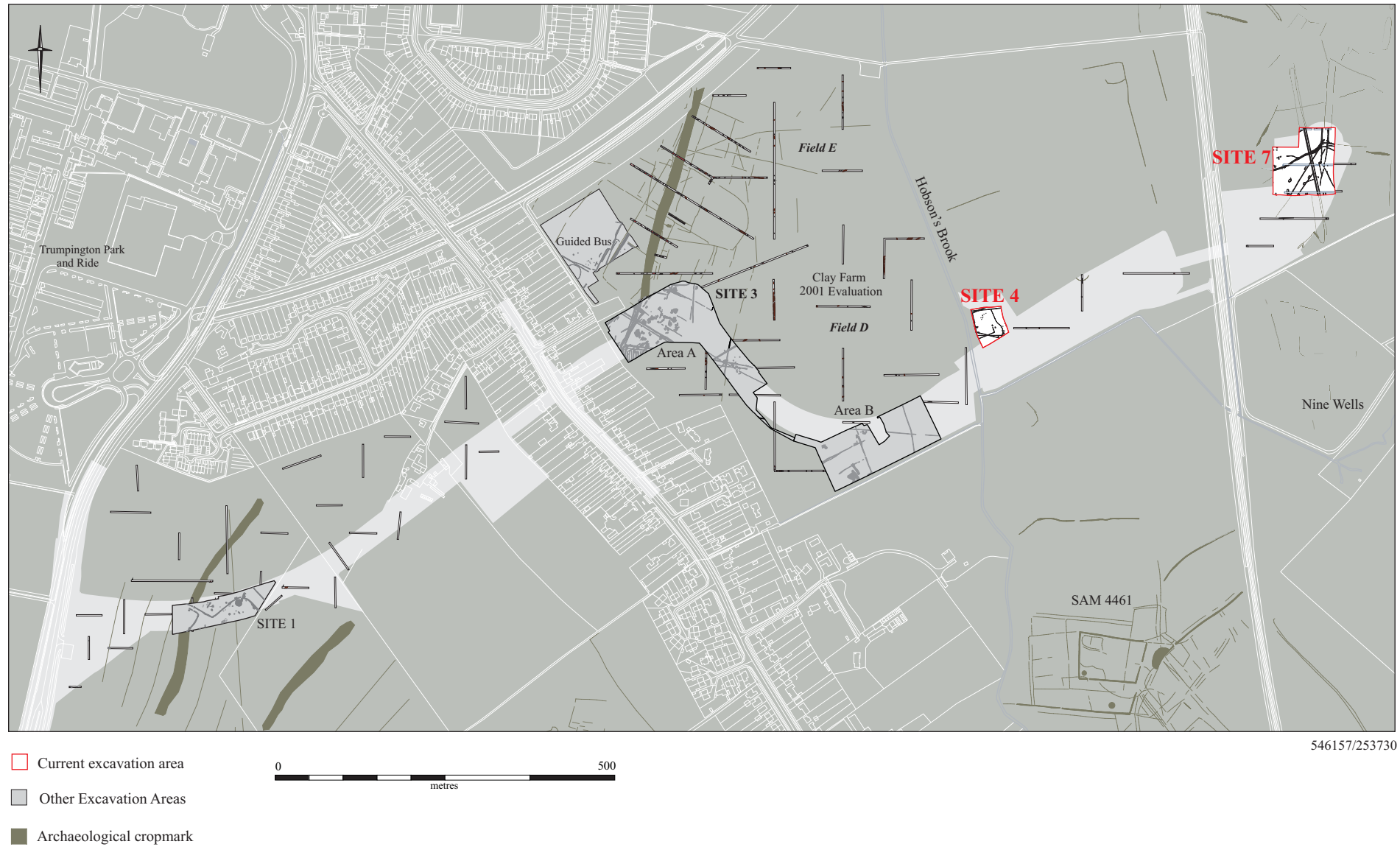


Figure 1. Location of Sites 4 & 7 excavation areas with proposed road corridor and previous archaeological interventions

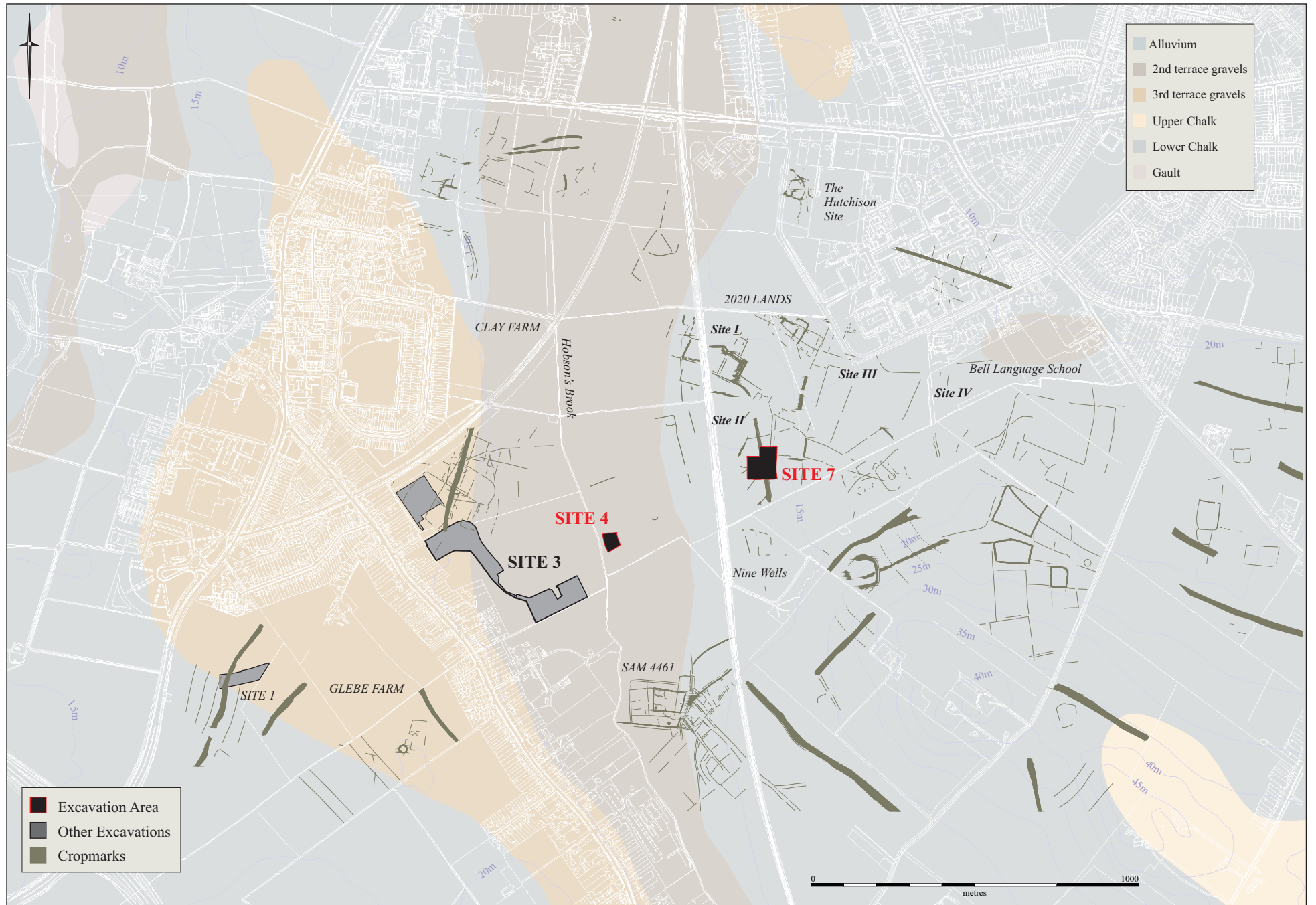


Figure 2. Topography, Geology and Cropmarks

Based on the Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map with the permission of the controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright. University of Cambridge Licence No.AL 550833

Iron Age settlement area continued sporadically to the southeast and revealed a drove-way, well, pits, four-post structures, and pit burials dating from the Early to Middle Iron Age (Armour 2007).

The Access Road Site 3 followed the road corridor eastwards for approximately 500m from the rear of properties along Shelford Road and stopped 100m west of Hobson's Brook (Timberlake 2007). Most of the archaeological features were concentrated in the north-western part of the site with Middle Bronze Age land use characterised by a northwest to southeast aligned rectilinear field system, probably of paddocks. From the fill of one of these came the partial remains of a Deverel-Rimbury urn. The most prominent activity at this period, however, was the establishment and re-cutting of a large enclosure ditch. This followed the edge of the field system and was seen as a cropmark (Palmer, *ibid.*) and was identified in the 2007 Guided Bus Route excavation (Collins *forthcoming*). Associated with this was a number of Middle Bronze Age burnt stone spreads and pits, including a pair of pits with a probable cooking function.

There was no evidence for a Later Bronze Age to Middle Iron Age presence on this site and Late Iron Age occupation activity was confined to a poorly developed field system and the edge of a north-south aligned ditched trackway which seemed to follow the edge of the valley terrace northwards. Early Romano-British cultivation beds may have indicated the presence of an as yet unknown villa/farmstead beyond the excavation area. However, by 80-100 AD activity at Site 3 had ended. Additionally, numerous 20th Century features were revealed that were related to the agricultural shows which took place at Clay Farm during the 1950s-60s.

Closer to Access Road Sites 4 and 7, within the immediate hinterland of Addenbrooke's (Figure 1), recent work includes four evaluations and one excavation undertaken by the CAU. This includes the evaluation fieldwork carried out in 2004 across the Bell Language School paddocks to the south-east of the hospital which identified elements of a Romano-British field system and evidence of later Iron Age settlement (Brudenell 2004), and the 2002/2003 Hutchison Site excavations immediately to the north of the current sites (Evans *et al.* 2004). The latter uncovered moderately dense archaeology which included phases of later Mesolithic/Neolithic activity, some later Bronze Age settlement, and a main period of occupation dating to the later Iron Age and Early 'Conquest Period' Roman which included both pottery kilns and a cemetery (cremation and inhumation) that lay just to the north of a Roman Road.

Three of the evaluations concerning the 2020 Lands re-development of the Addenbrooke's site centred on three fields located immediately to the north of Site 7 (between Robinson Way and the railway line). The first of these evaluations consisted of a single trench (the Elective Care Evaluation) placed alongside the Robinson Way hedge. This revealed Roman ditches and pits containing pottery of the 1st to 3rd centuries AD (Tipper 2003; Mackay 2004), whilst a second and larger area was evaluated for part of the Guided Busway route which lay between the railway line and Robinson Way, the latter revealing similar archaeology dominated by pottery of the 2nd to 3rd centuries AD (Cessford & Mackay 2004).

A fieldwalking survey was undertaken within the Addenbrooke's environs in 2004 to investigate the interior of specific cropmark enclosures. Between November 2004 and January 2005 the whole area of the 2020 Lands was investigated with selected areas undergoing geophysical survey (including a magnetic susceptibility survey as well as a magnetometer survey, focussing on a complex of cropmark enclosures. In addition, approximately 2725m of trenching (a 2.5% sample of the area) was undertaken across all three of the fields to the north of Access Road Site 7 (Evans & Mackay 2005). Within the southern half of this area four main groups of archaeological features and cropmarks were identified. This included a complex of double ditched enclosure 'cells' and surrounding paddocks located close to the railway line and was labelled Site I. The presence of Late Iron Age pottery initially implied that this was an Iron Age settlement (Evans & Mackay *ibid.*). However, samples sent for Carbon 14 dating returned a Middle Bronze Age date (cal.1600-1400BC) for the core ditches, suggesting a long period of re-use and augmentation (Evans *pers.comm.*).

South of this site was a complex of pits, ditches and a well/watering hole (labelled Site II) associated with pottery from the 1st century BC to the 1st century AD, suggesting a continuation of occupation from the Late Iron Age through to the Early Roman period, whilst several hundred metres to the northeast of this towards the top of the field was a series of interlinked rectilinear paddocks suggesting a further settlement complex, Site III, dating to the Late Roman period (3rd century AD). At the far eastern end of the field, close to Robinson Way, was yet another small area of Late Iron Age settlement (Site IV).

The Clay Farm fields to the west of the railway line were subject to a further trenching evaluation during the spring of 2008 (Slater 2008). This confirmed the Middle Bronze Age date of the primary enclosures and identified ephemeral later Iron Age additions to the system. Few Romano-British features were identified with the exception of a series of probable agricultural beds, a common feature of this landscape. A series of three rectilinear gullies or slots were identified in the far northwest of the evaluation area close to Long Road. Although undated these were tentatively interpreted as medieval warrens or agricultural pens. Overall, the evaluation reinforced the apparent lack of settlement or enclosure activity within the damper valley floor, presumably of marginal use until the more advanced drainage techniques of the 19th and 20th centuries made agricultural exploitation possible.

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 using a Total Station EDM. 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. Linear features were sampled at 10m intervals in order to test find density variation within ditches. Further slots were placed to explore stratigraphic relationships or where observation suggested further information would be gained.

All work was carried out in strict accordance with statutory Health and Safety legislation and the recommendations of SCAUM (Allen and Holt 2002). The site code was ALR08:7. Within this report, feature numbers are shown in bold (**F.702**) and context numbers are shown in square brackets ([7217] – [7220]).

RESULTS

SITE 4 – *Matthew Collins*

Overview

The development area comprised 0.22 hectares located on land just to the east of Hobson's Brook and approximately 1.2km southwest of Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge. The site was situated on a mixture of 2nd Terrace gravels and Lower chalk marl at a height varying slightly from 12.80m OD along the north edge of the excavation to 13.10m OD along the southeast edge.

Excavation

Except for several undated treethrows, all of the features on site were deemed to be either post-medieval or modern. The post-medieval phase consisted of three ditches, whilst the modern phase comprised an enclosure, several square pits and numerous postholes, some of which appeared to form a small rectangular structure.

Conclusion

The results of this excavation match those of other nearby archaeological works. For instance several evaluation trenches, approximately 100m to the north, revealed no features dated to before the post medieval period (Slater 2008). Similarly, the south-eastern part of Access Road Site 3, an open area excavation on the opposite side of Hobson's Brook, was equally devoid of features that could be dated to before that period (Timberlake 2007).

The post-medieval ditches mostly represent former field boundaries except for **F.407**, which was primarily for drainage. The series of modern pits, postholes and enclosure ditch identified on this site are almost certainly linked to the Agricultural Show that used to be held on this land from 1948 up until the 1960s.

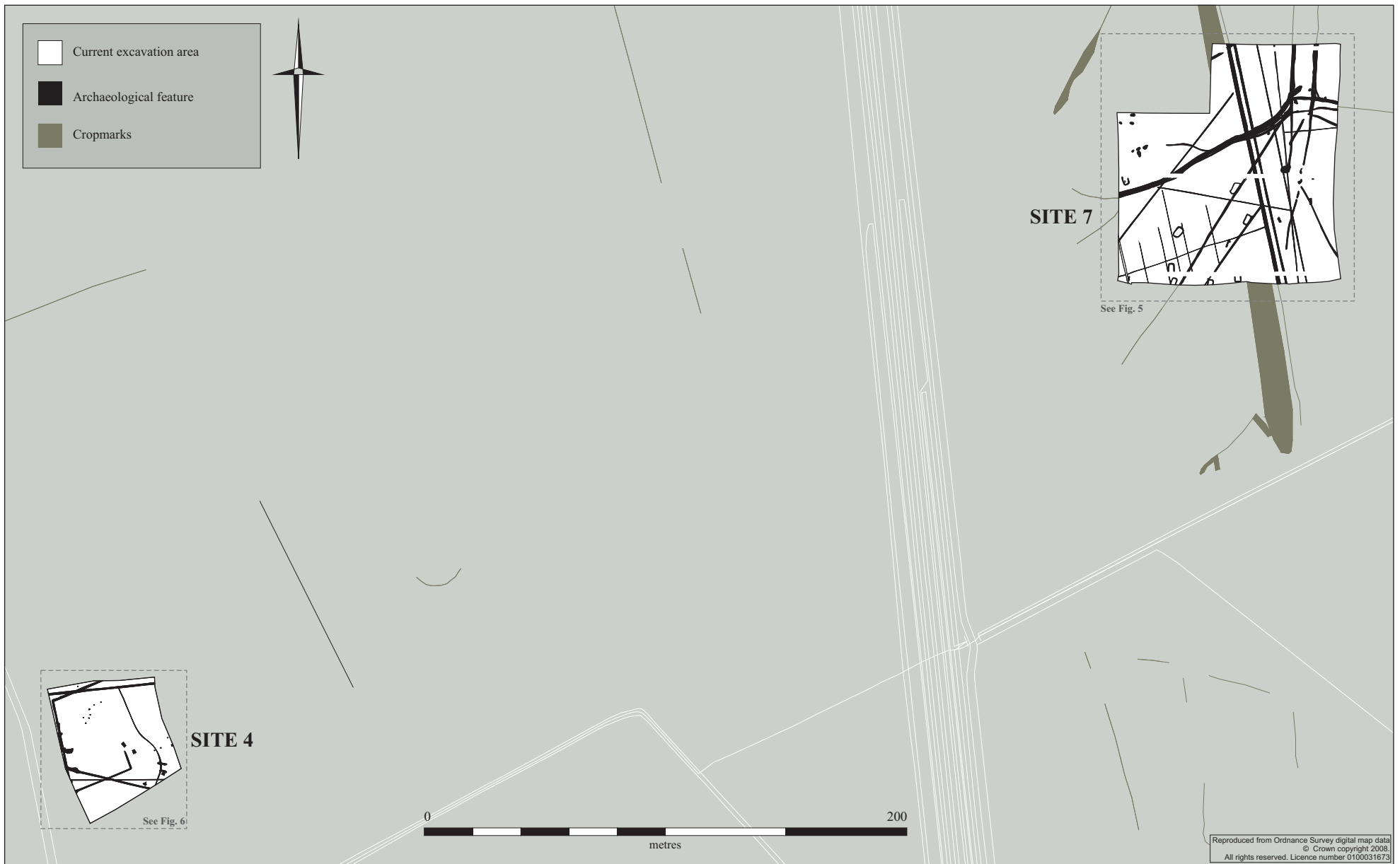


Figure 3. Sites 4 and 7.

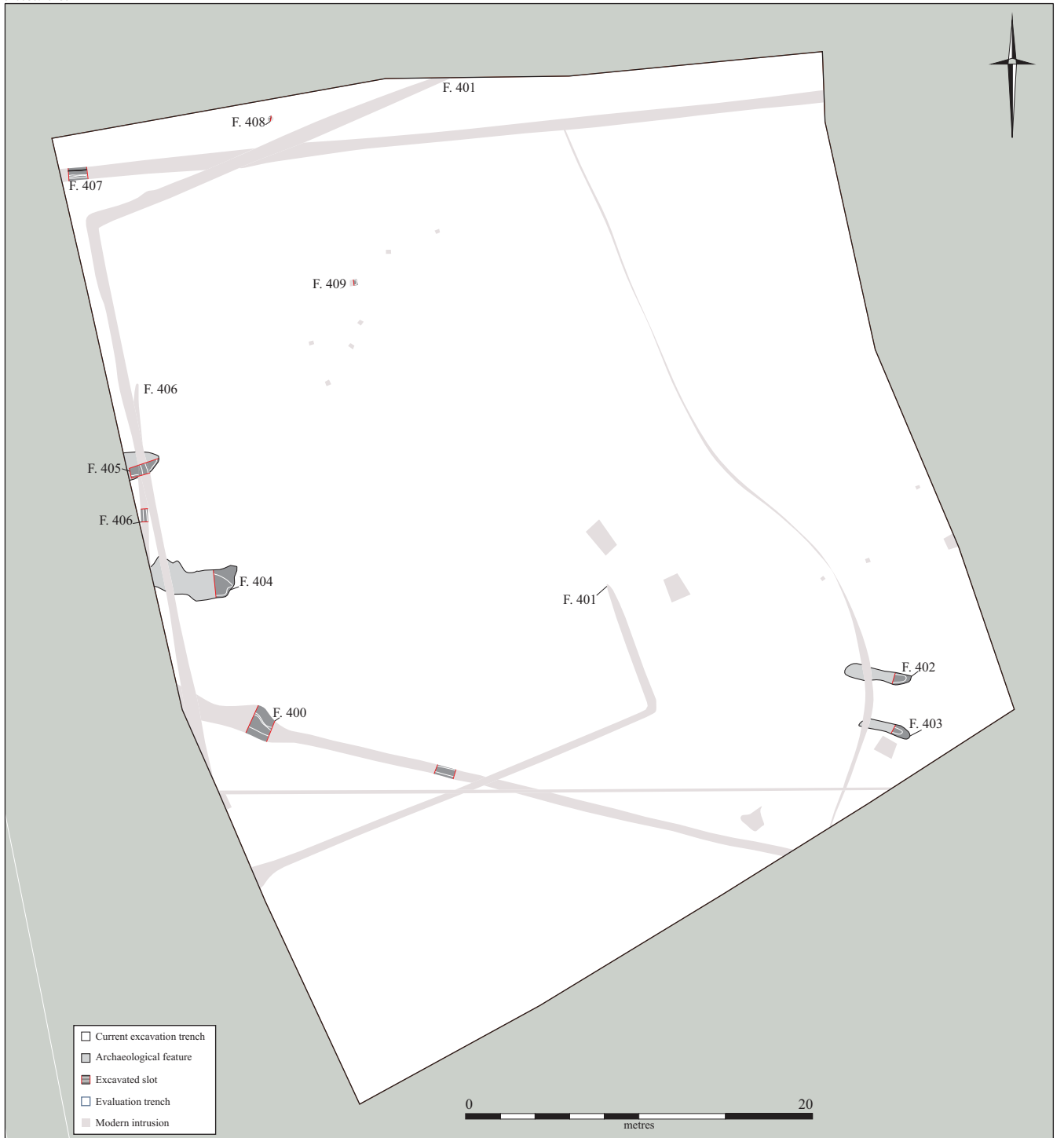


Figure 4. Site 4.

SITE 7

Overview

The excavation area, which covered a total area of 0.95ha, was the most easterly of the seven sites along the Addenbrooke's Access Road corridor. A total of 40 individual features were recorded of which 24 were ditches or ditch re-cuts, eight were rectilinear construction trenches and seven represented probable man-made pits. One was a possible cremation burial deposited within a pit formed through natural disturbance, probably a treethrow. A total of 51 sample slots of 1.00m lengths were excavated through the linear features. These produced only two stratified sherds of pottery, a further two having been recovered as surface finds during machining.

Dating

Most of the features revealed by the 2008 excavations remain undated. The number of features from which potsherds were recovered represented only around 5% of the total. As a result the site phasing was gathered into a sequence primarily through stratigraphic relationship and spatial context rather than being based on the scant dating evidence.

Sequence

Primary Enclosure Ditch

The earliest feature in the sequence was ditch **F.714** of which approximately 104m was revealed within Site 7. Originally on a north to south alignment the ditch changed direction ten metres from the northern edge of the excavation area and curved towards the west-northwest. Ten slots were excavated through the feature revealing a uniform profile with moderately steep straight or slightly convex sides leading to a wide slightly rounded base. The ditch was relatively substantial and measured 1.10m to 1.50m wide and 0.40m to 0.50m deep. The sections revealed several linear hollows in the base and an irregularity to the sides that suggested it had been cut back to natural and cleaned out. Eventually, the ditch was filled with a pale grey fine sandy silt with gravel lenses, probably the result of natural silting-up over time. No finds were recovered from the ditch so the earliest phase of the sequence remains undated.

A very short length of ditch on a similar alignment was seen at the northern limit of excavation. **F.720** was obscured further by an evaluation trench and by truncation by modern ditches **F.711** and **F.712**; however it may well have been identified in the Haul Road watching brief (Ditch H/L; Figure 8) and, if so, could be traced for at least a further 100m towards the northwest.

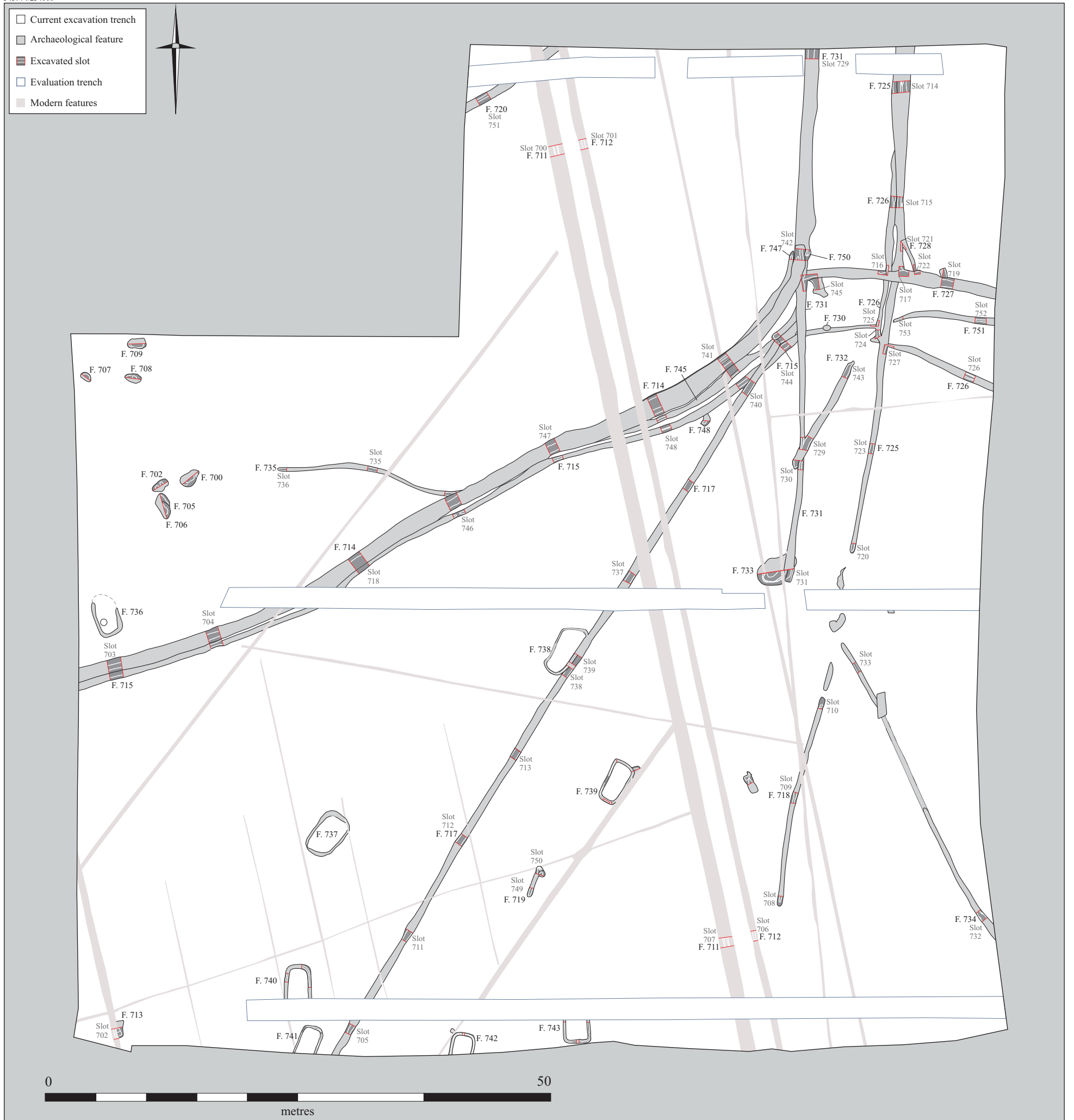


Figure 5. Site 7.

Droeway Ditches

The next event in the sequence was the addition of ditches **F.715** and **F.726** to form a droeway running along the eastern side of the earlier enclosure. Ditch **F.715** was an enhancement or re-cut on the alignment of **F.714** and closely followed the line of the earlier ditch on the southern side for approximately 80m. Never as large as **F.714**, it measured 0.50m to 0.70m wide and 0.15m to 0.20m deep. The eastern end noticeably deviated southwards from ditch **F.714** and apparently became the western entrance to the droeway. The eastern side of the droeway was defined by **F.726** which ran north to south, parallel to the northern part of **F.714** at a distance of approximately eight metres. **F.726** turned sharply to the east-southeast between Slots 724 and 727, roughly seven metres to the south of the point where **F.714** had curved away to the west-northwest. This was opposite the point where **F.715** appears to have originated. A small gully, **F.728**, was cut at an angle to **F.726**, but was truncated by **F.727** to the south and was not seen further.

The profile of **F.726** changed along its length. Towards the north it had shallow sides leading to a rounded base but at the point at which it turned to the east southeast it had vertical sides leading to a flat base and beyond that the lower part was similar but with shallower upper sides. The narrow part was approximately 0.35m wide by 0.25m deep; the wider parts were more variable and measured between 0.70m to 1.20m wide and from 0.20m to 0.40m deep. No finds were recovered from either **F.715** or **F.726**.

Ditch **F.715** appeared to have been re-established in a further episode with the cutting of ditches **F.745** and then **F.749**, which were placed along the northern edge; both were truncated by later ditch **F.731**.

Droeway Extension

Having been established, the eastern droeway boundary was over-cut and the system extended to the south by ditches **F.725**, **F.718** and **F.734**. Ditch **F.725** was 51m long and followed the north to south alignment established by the northern part of **F.726**, which it truncated. It ended at an area of disturbed natural geology which represented two treethrows. Beyond this a further 25m length of ditch, **F.718**, continued the original alignment before ending after approximately 25m. At the northern end of this segment a further ditch, **F.734**, had been cut on a south-southeast orientation and this continued for 32m in that direction before being obscured beneath the eastern edge of excavation.

The more northern parts of **F.725** were fairly substantial and measured 0.80 to 0.90m wide and 0.30m deep. However, these dimensions reduced gradually until the southern end was 0.40m wide and 0.12m deep. Features **F.718** and **F.734** were of similar dimensions in places but were predominantly shallower than this and had suffered truncation through ploughing. Consequently, short lengths of both features were only able to be identified through silt staining washed into the natural geology. This ditch cutting activity was again undated as no finds were recovered from the features.

Drove Disuse

Ditch/Gully **F.730** may represent the first attempt to close off the southern end of the droveway and, with **F.751**, establish a new system aligned east to west. Whilst **F.730** seems to have cut **F.726** to the east its western extent and relationship to **F.715** was lost when that intersection was later truncated by **F.731**. Ditch **F.751**, however, respected **F.725** and terminated short of over-cutting the ditch. Both features were slightly cut, although **F.751** became progressively deeper as it continued towards the east.

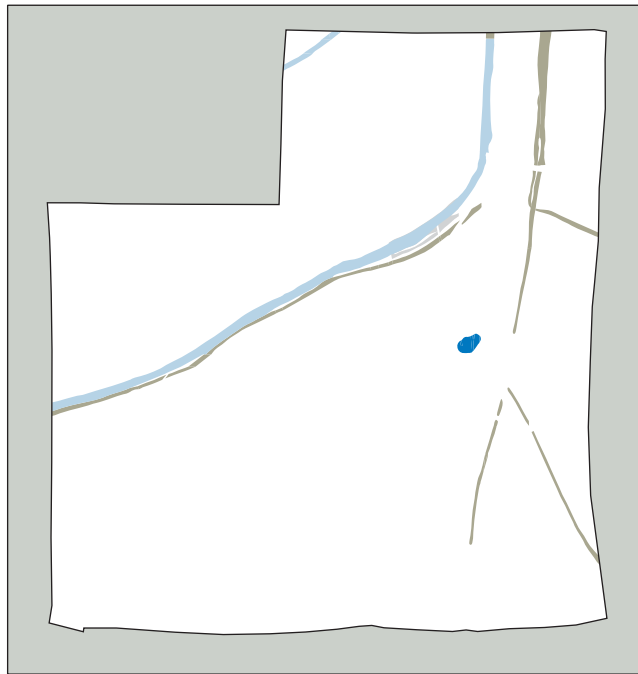
This alignment seems then to have been reinforced with the cutting of **F.727** which permanently closed off the southern end of the drove. Wide but shallow, it was still more substantial than **F.751** and measured 1.05m wide and from 0.20m to 0.30m deep. It was seen to follow an east to west alignment for 18m before being obscured beneath the eastern edge of excavation. It seems probable that at the same time the corner formed by **F.727** and **F.714** was reinforced by the cutting of **F.750** visible from just north of the intersection until it was obscured by **F.731**, roughly 10m further northwards. Three sherds of pottery dating from the Late Iron Age to the Romano-British period were retrieved from the surface of **F.727** whilst machining, unfortunately no further sherds were recovered when the ditch was later excavated.

The eastern droveway ditches then appear to have been enclosed into the wider field system by **F.731** which over-cut **F.714** for 22m and projected southwards from the original opening of the droveway for 31m before terminating. The ditch, which measured between 0.50m to 0.75m width and 0.20m to 0.30m depth, was excavated in five slots revealing steep sides and a rounded base. No finds were retrieved from this feature to aid in dating.

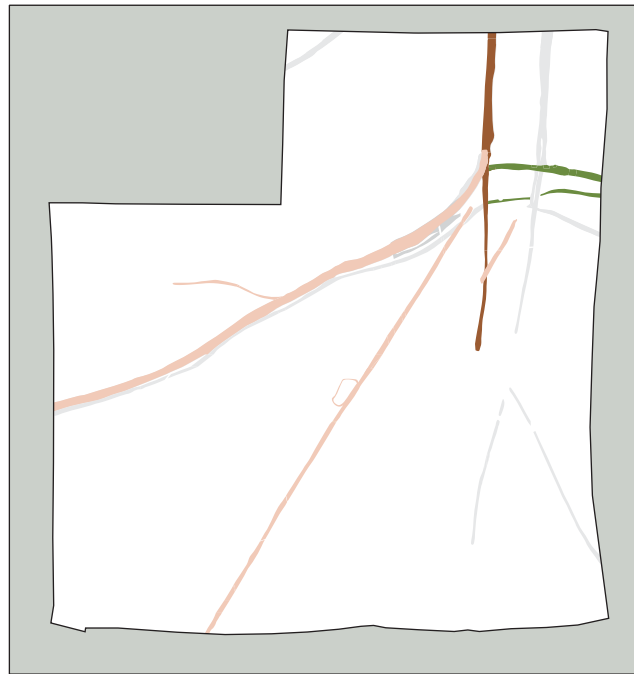
Re-cutting of Primary Enclosure

The intersection between **F.727** and **F.731** provided a starting point for a series of re-cuts that re-established the primary northwest enclosure. The most extensive of these was **F.746**, which truncated **F.731** and then re-cut **F.714** for 85m until it was obscured beneath the western edge of excavation. The profile of **F.746** was observed in eight slots along its length and, although varying in size, was of predominantly steep straight sides leading to a rounded base. The ditch reached a maximum of 1.50m wide and 0.50m deep, but was mostly 1.10m wide and around 0.30m deep. A sherd of Late Iron Age pottery was recovered close to the base and one sherd of Late Iron Age/Early Romano British pottery was recovered from the upper fill.

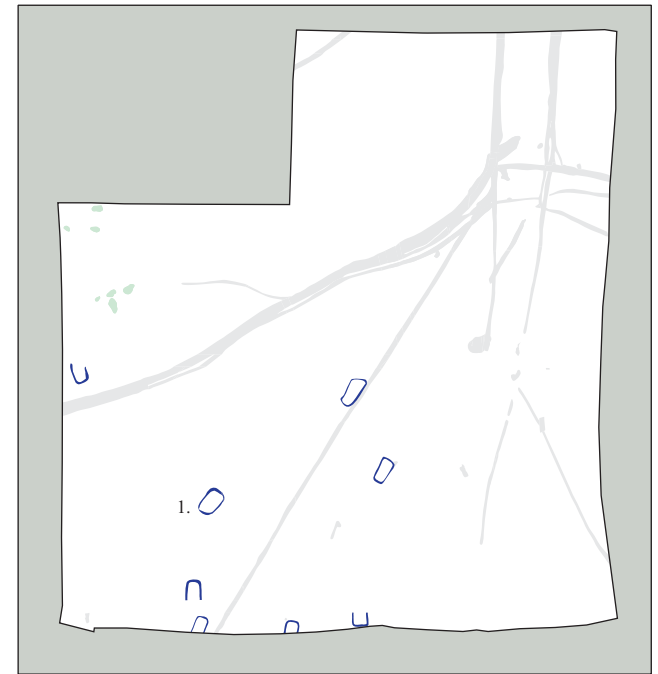
Two gullies, **F.735** and **F.747** were cut along the northern edge of **F.746**, and were therefore the latest features in the sequence to re-define the primary enclosure boundary. It is possible that both features are in fact the same and that the part



- Primary ditch
- Trackway features
- Water Hole / Iron Age



- Disuse of drove / track
- Rectilinear system
- Later activity
- Earlier feature



- Rectilinear gully features
- Undated Pit Cluster
- Earlier feature

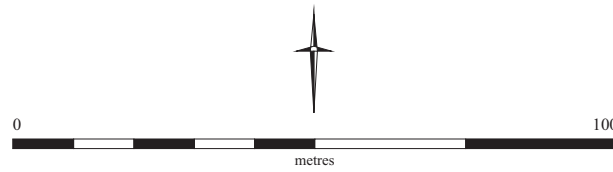


Figure 6. Site 7 Landscape Developments

missing between both lengths was simply lost within the silting of **F.746**. The fact that **F.735** splits from **F.746** and is cut on an east to west alignment might indicate a late movement in the boundary.

Re-alignment

Two further ditches were cut on a southwest to northeast alignment. The north-eastern end of **F.717** was cut close to the junction of ditches **F.731** and **F.746**, truncating **F.715** and **F.745**, before running on a southwest bearing for 81m and being obscured beneath the southern edge of excavation. **F.732**, a short segment of ditch measuring 12.5m long, was cut parallel to the northern end of **F.717** and cut **F.731**. Both features shared similar wide and shallow profiles suggesting they had been contemporary. **F.732** was slightly shallower, but both features measured between 0.75m and 0.85 in width and between 0.15m and 0.20m in depth and had steep near-vertical sides leading to a wide flat or slightly rounded base. Both were filled by light grey sandy silt fills with frequent inclusions of snail shells; no finds were recovered from either feature.

Pits

Over 40 potential discrete features were tested across the excavation area; these were found to be of predominantly natural origin and had been formed through bioturbation. A total of seven (most probably) man-made pits were identified in two small clusters north of **F.714** and close to the western limit of excavation. A further four potential pits (**F.721** – **F.724**) were excavated but proved to be of natural derivation.

Group I:

This group of three pits and one re-cut (**F.700**, **F.702**, **F.705/F.706**) was closely spaced and shared a common ‘tear-drop’ shape in plan. The fills were a similar mix of silting and backfilling episodes which seemed to have been re-cut or cleaned out several times. Occasional large lumps of chalk were found resting on the base of the features suggesting that the features were being backfilled with the spoil from newly opened pits. Fine basal silting also suggested waterlain accumulations. No finds were recovered from these features and so they remained undated.

Group II:

The second group of pits (**F.707**, **F.708**, **F.709**) were located to the north of Group I and were spaced further apart. These features were less convincingly man-made with the exception of **F.709** which was of similar size and shape to the features of the southern group. Again no finds were recovered to provide dating.

Watering-hole

A further large pit, **F.733**, was located due south of the driveway ditches and had been cut by **F.731**. The feature was substantial (2.70m by 2.15m by 1.02m deep) and was filled by a complicated sequence of deposition suggesting long term use and periodic renewal. Animal bone was recovered (Rajkovača, Appendix 1) along with a small amount of highly friable and fragmentary pottery of Iron Age date. Additionally, a rubbing stone for a saddle quern was also found, amounting to the only evidence from the site as a whole for normal domestic type activities. The most probable interpretation for this feature was that it represented a seasonal watering-hole for grazing cattle or sheep.

Treethrow with calcined bone

F.748 was located on the southern side of **F.715**, which truncated it, close to the intersection with **F.717**. Upon excavation it was clear that the feature was naturally derived from root disturbance, probably in the form of a treethrow. The calcined bone had been deposited within the southern side of the cut when already partially backfilled. The fill was 100% sampled and was processed through a wet sieve. Upon specialist examination the recovered bone was identified as a mixture of unidentifiable larger mammal bones, including skull fragments, and a cow tarsal (Rajkovača, Appendix 1). Differential calcination had occurred due to bone thickness; the cow bone was simply burnt whereas the cranium was fully calcined. This feature was probably best explained as the impromptu use of a naturally created hollow to dispose of cooking waste. However, it is notable that very little charcoal was present in the sample, indicating that the bone had been purposely collected rather than dumped with other burnt material. Discovery of un-burnt small mammalian and amphibian bones in the wet-sieved sample suggested the feature remained open for quite a long time, thus making it less likely to be a ritualised deposit purposely buried (Ballantyne, Appendix 2).

Rectilinear gullies

The remains of eight rectilinear slots or gullies were revealed in the southern half of Site 7: **F.736**, **F.737**, **F.738**, **F.739**, **F.740**, **F.741**, **F.742** and **F.743**. Four of these were incomplete, having been either truncated by a trial trench or were partially obscured beneath the southern limit of excavation. Two of the complete features were beneath ground water, which considerably hampered excavation.

Whilst all eight features were basically similar in plan there was a fair amount of variation in both dimensions and orientation (see Table 1, below). All the gullies were, however, heavily truncated and must never have been particularly deep. Despite extensive excavation no finds were recovered and so they remain undated. The only stratigraphic relationship, between **F.738** and ditch **F.717**, served only to show that it was later than the ditch, having been cut into its surface. Unfortunately, the ditch was undated as well, excepting that it was most probably no earlier than Romano-British. Interpretation of these features remains highly conjectural (see discussion).

Feature	F.736	F.737	F.738	F.739	F.740	F.741	F.742	F.743
Length	3.85m+	4.67m	5.44m	4.30m	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Breadth	2.50m	2.94m	2.55m	2.20m	2.68m	2.40m	2.40m	2.64m
Depth	N/A	N/A	0.10m	0.15m	0.10m	0.07m	0.15m	0.10m
Axis	NNW- SSE	NE-SW	NE-SW	NE-SW	N-S	NNE- SSW	NNE- SSW	N-S

Table 1: Summary of gully dimensions and orientation

Post-Medieval

Two post-medieval ditches, **F.711** and **F.712**, were identified running in parallel on a roughly north to south orientation across the length of the site. Quantities of tile, brick and nails were observed in the fills.

HAUL ROAD WATCHING BRIEF

Overview

A watching brief was carried out on a 400m length of temporary haul road built to service works related to the Addenbrooke's Access Road. A strip of plough soil 4.80m wide was removed by a 360% tracked excavator to the level of the natural formation in advance of the construction, allowing the recording of features observed therein. Having recorded the features they were covered by a geotextile membrane and crushed bricks, added to create the road foundation. Two main areas of activity were identified.

Northeast ditch cluster

This group of features was identified approximately 100m east northeast of Site 7 and consisted of eight ditches and a possible pit (Figure 8). Ditch A was closest to Site 7 and followed a north to south and east to west alignment. Measuring in excess of 2.00m wide it was either a corner or ditch junction with an extension projecting/turning westwards. Ditch B was to the east of Ditch A on a parallel alignment approximately 2.50m away and measured 0.65m in width. Between these ditches was a possible pit approximately 1.50m wide by 2.00m long. Truncated by Ditch B was Ditch G. This feature was unlike the others in that the fill was pale and it appeared to be curving towards the east rather than straight.

At the northern end of Ditch B it intersected with Ditch C, but the stratigraphic relationship could not be established. Ditch C was the same width but followed a northwest to southeast alignment; however, the similarity of fills suggested both ditches were potentially contemporary. Close by, to the east, Ditch D measured in excess of 1.50m wide and again followed a northwest to southeast alignment. Ditch F followed a parallel alignment approximately 10m to the east and measured 1.00m

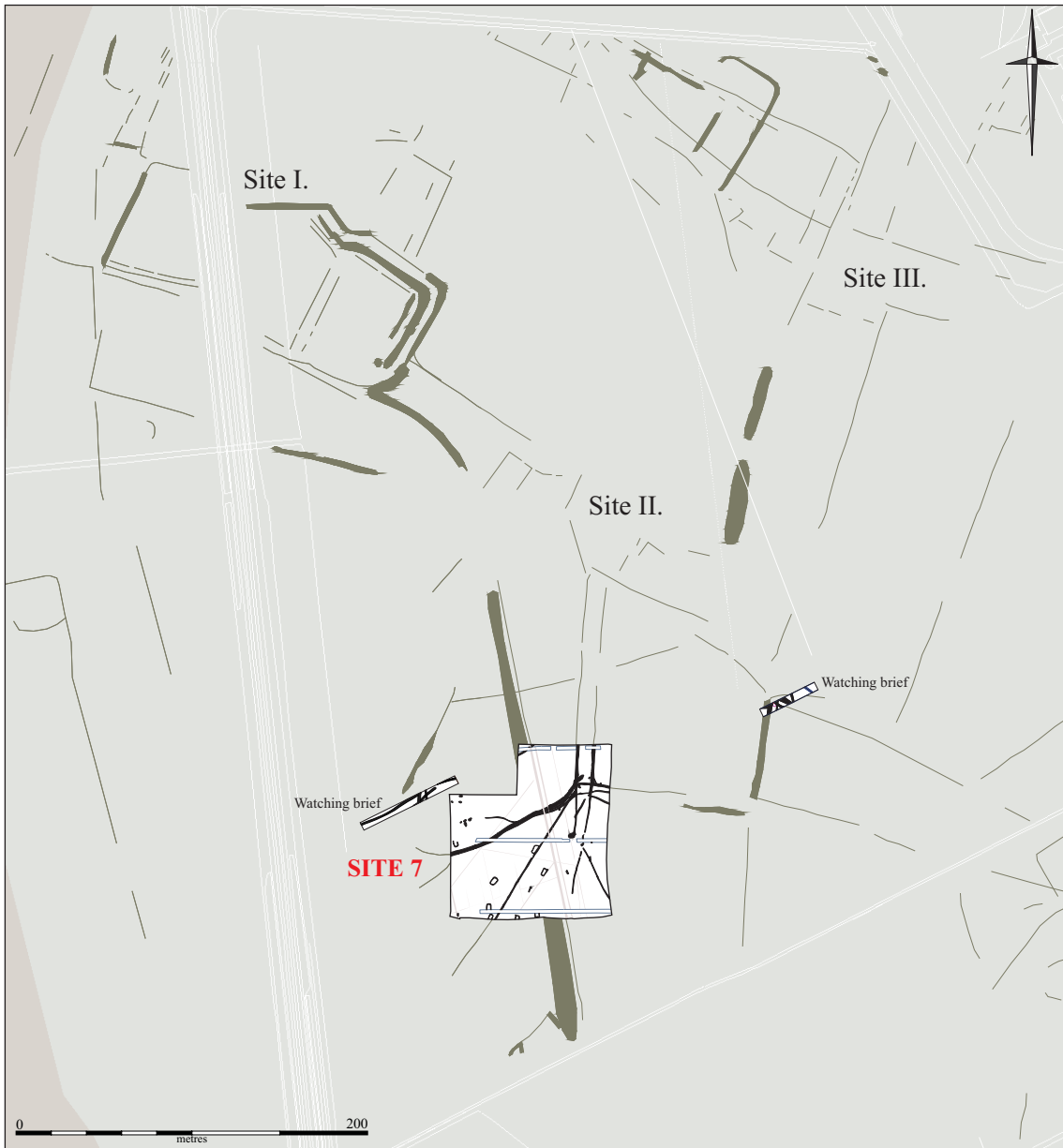


Figure 7. The Relationship of Site 7 to Cropmarks.

- Excavation Area
- Archaeological feature
- Cropmarks
- Modern



Figure 8. Watching brief ditches related to Site 7 features .

wide. Between Ditches D and F lay Ditch E, which measured 0.90m wide and followed a south-southeast to north-northwest alignment.

Northwest ditch cluster

This group of features were located seven metres from the north-western corner of Site 7 (Figure 8). Ditches H and L ran for more than 60m along the length of the strip on a west-southwest to east-northeast alignment, both measuring 0.80m wide. These were very probably the same ditch which, being sinuous, was observed twice and, moreover, appeared to be a continuation of Ditch F.720 seen in Area 7. The butt-end of Ditch I, measuring 1.00m wide, was identified on a southwest to northeast alignment at the point Ditches H and I left and re-entered the road corridor. At this point Ditches K and J truncated the earlier ditches on a north to south alignment. Ditch K was fairly substantial and measured in excess of 1.50m wide whilst Ditch J, which was not parallel, measured 1.00m wide.

DISCUSSION

The Access Road Sites 3, 4 and 7 are the first open area investigations to span the width of the Hobson's Brook valley and gird the southern extent of the proposed development areas. Given the large amount of recent survey and fieldwork undertaken in the Addenbrooke's and Clay Farm areas and the breadth of archaeological remains which this work has identified, it may be noted that Site 7 was in fact richer than suggested by the evaluation phase. A sequence of landscape division and enclosure was revealed that crossed the boundary between the 'infield systems' attached to the settlements on the higher ground and wider pasture or rough grazing along the valley floor. Furthermore, the results of both Site 4 and Site 7 primarily support the conclusions proffered in the Site 3 excavation report (Timberlake 2007). No direct evidence for *in situ* settlement was found within either site, thus confirming the overall picture provided by the fieldwork and aerial surveys of Clay Farm and the 2020 Land projects. Most occupation activity seems to have been confined to the slightly higher 3rd Terrace margins of the Hobson's Brook valley.

Evidence for an earlier prehistoric presence was conspicuous by its absence from Sites 4 and 7, emphasising a similar lack of material recovered during the 2020 Lands trenching and fieldwalking evaluations (Evans and Mackay 2006). It was noticeable on Sites 3, 4 and Site 7 that the secondary, lower, sand and gravel terraces were richly furnished with tree-throws and other root-based disturbance. Despite investigating more than 50 natural features across Sites 4 and 7 only one (F.748) proved to have any finds, the calcined remnants of animal bones, perhaps waste from cooking. Their inclusion in the backfill of a natural feature seems expedient waste disposal rather than meaningful deposition; no other finds were recovered. The sheer quantity of treethrows makes it seem most likely that at any given period the valley floor had a good number of mature trees. The molluscan evidence recovered from environmental samples suggests an environment largely

determined by the height of the water table and seasonal flooding (Ballantyne, Appendix 2).

On Site 3 some of these tree throws at the eastern end of Area A were found in association with a group of pits of indeterminate function containing small numbers of Neolithic blade and flake tools and providing evidence of *in situ* flint-working (Timberlake 2007). Although on that site no direct correlation could be proved, at Sites 4 and 7 the positive lack of Neolithic activity certainly challenged the notion of tree clearance and landscape modification in the Neolithic period. Without the inclusion of cultural material in tree-throws it is hard to show human intent in tree clearance over the natural depletion of trees through aging or environmental degradation. Further work in the area might allow the gathering of pollen samples from dated features and hence give a clearer insight into the prehistoric exploitation of this landscape.

Determining the dating of the ditch sequence revealed within Site 7 was challenging given the lack of pottery recovered from those features; however the stratigraphic relationships proved easier to establish. Much of the relative dating has therefore been based upon the sequence linked to the alignments of those better dated field systems to the north and west. In the terms of the 2020 Lands evaluation report (Evans and Mackay 2006) the occupation areas identified closest to Site 7 were Sites I and II (Figure 7). Although the Carbon 14 dates suggested a Middle Bronze Age foundation date for Site I, no pottery of this date was recovered. A small quantity of flint tempered Late Bronze/Early Iron Age pottery was recovered from both sites; however the principle Site I assemblage was dated to the Middle/Later Iron Age (Brudenell, in Evans and Mackay, 2007). Site II produced a small quantity of Later Iron Age pottery and a larger amount of Early Romano-British sherds. In broad terms the Bronze Age system was based on a northeast to southwest system whereas the Late Iron Age to Early Romano-British system was approximately aligned north to south. A rough outline of these systems have been traced through cropmark analysis (Palmer in Evans *et al.* 2005), although again it should be noted that the excavated areas have revealed a palimpsest of modestly sized ditches only partly identified from the aerial photographs.

The Site 7 enclosure ditch **F.714** may have partially followed the alignment of the earlier system, perhaps in parallel with **F.720**. Both these ditches follow a southwest to northeast alignment identified in the 2020 Lands trenching evaluation as a field system radiating out from the main Site I enclosures. Ditch **F.714** changes direction, also following the north to south alignment seemingly established in the later Iron Age. It seems to respect both systems spatially and most likely formed an important part in the localised division of the landscape. This suggestion is perhaps reinforced by the relative age given **F.714** by its place in the sequence and also its importance, indicated by the numerous re-cutting episodes that re-established it over time. The significance of this is the implication that both Site I and Site II were occupied simultaneously in the Late Iron Age but were seen as separate enough initially that the boundary was established. That it was cut at all suggests that the area encompassed by the large multiple-ditched Site I enclosures was still an area of some significance.

The north to south aligned droveway seen on Site 7 has a good parallel with a Late Iron Age trackway on Site 3 which crossed the site on a north to south alignment and followed the eastern edge of the 3rd Terrace. Contemporary with this, the traces of a field/enclosure system was identified also running on a north to south east to west orientation. The Site 7 droveway and a majority of the ditches can be seen from the cropmark evidence to continue northwards until they reach the 2020 Lands occupation Site II. As mentioned previously this certainly appears to have been a Late Iron Age development and suggests that rather than crossing the Hobson's Brook valley the Iron Age inclination was to traverse the higher land on each side. The inferences drawn from this possibility are twofold; firstly, that the valley floor was seasonally impassable, or at least not suitable for herding cattle or driving flocks; secondly, that the north to south axis was set by environmental considerations and that the Late Iron Age expansion into this landscape respected this. Where the Bronze Age landscape had been divided on a northeast to southwest axis, perhaps following a wider precedent, this could be accommodated. When the wholesale enclosure of a much greater area was accomplished in the Late Iron Age there was less room for manoeuvre. Such a theory might explain why certain parts of the local systems identified through aerial photography deviate from the more common northeast to southwest alignments.

The sequence of ditches on Site 7 also suggests changes in the way the land was being used between the Late Iron Age and Early Romano-British periods. The earliest form of the droveway could be seen as a formalisation of an already established farming practise whereby flocks and herds that had been left to graze on the lower chalk hills and in the river valley were gathered and herded around the outside of the primary enclosure ditch. The admittedly sketchy dating available does tend to suggest that the droveway went out of use in favour of a rectilinear field system in the Early Roman period when **F.727** was cut. This may have implications for changes in the way that the landscape was being utilised, for example common grazing being exchanged for more regular fields of pasture or even arable. The earlier extension of the droveway and systems to the south might suggest that changes in land or animal ownership and a consequent segregation of livestock had already occurred.

It therefore seems natural that the apparent creation of a regular rectilinear field system in the Romano-British period should follow elements of both alignments. This was also seen at Site 3 and implies a degree of continuity between the Late Iron Age and Romano-British occupation of the valley, which parallels what has already been found at the Hutchinson and other Addenbrooke's sites. Further work across the valley and in the 2020 Lands area to the north will surely produce more evidence with which to examine the development of field systems in relation to the settlements to which they belonged; most notably the Iron Age re-use of the Bronze age enclosures at Site I and the Romano-British re-organisation of field systems at Sites II and III.

The rectilinear slots identified at Site 7 were of particular interest as they appear to have close parallels with others recently identified west of the railway line (approximately 1.2km to the northwest) during the recent trench evaluation on Clay Farm land (Slater 2008). Those at Site 7 were predominantly aligned northeast to southwest and measured from 4.30m to 5.44m long (where visible) and were more

similar in width, averaging 2.50m. These dimensions agree well with the rectilinear gullies found to the northwest, one was fully revealed and measured 4.50m in length by 2.50m wide (Slater *ibid.*) This feature was fairly well preserved and evidence for a continuous palisade held within the gully, various post holes and an internal division were identified. The features on Site 7 had been heavily truncated through ploughing and the structural details found in the Clay Farm evaluation were missing, however the great similarities of form suggest they are contemporary and fulfilled the same function. Unfortunately, no dating evidence was found to aid in interpretation at either location although at Site 7 some rough stratigraphical associations do help to potentially narrow their date. It was clear that modern drainage channels and land drains truncated them. Rectilinear slot **F.738** was seen to cut ditch **F.717**, itself one of the latest ditches on site, with a probable Late Romano-British date. This tends to suggest that the features are most likely medieval in date, raising several possible interpretations.

The lack of pottery, bone or charcoal within the fills of the gullies suggested a specialist craft or agricultural use rather than settlement related activities. The lack of nearby occupation evidence at either of the two locations may suggest an attempted use of marginal land for agricultural purposes. It is possible that they represent raised beds of herbs such as cumin or other valuable crops such as the saffron crocus or else were seasonal pens for sheltering animals (Slater *ibid.*) The most persuasive interpretation is that they were pens (*clapere*) for holding doe rabbits as part of the management of a larger warren system. These may be the elongated rectangular features seen on the 1699 Thomas Cleer map of Methwold Warren (Williamson 2006) suggesting that the basic rectangular form seen at Site 7 might be an earlier or derivative type.

This latter interpretation is slightly helped by the court rolls of around 1275AD, which contain reference to an incident during which the sheriff seized Henry Martin and his man, “going to his warren at Trumpington” (National Archives). A further record (from 1260-1299AD) from the Priory of St Mary and St Radegund places land owned by Henry Martin close to, if not on, Trumpington moor (Janus Digital Library). The land described as Trumpington moor would appear to have covered most of the Hobson Brook valley from at least as far as Long Road to the chalk escarpment at Nine Wells (Wright 1982). Whilst these records provide tentative evidence at best they do at least give some hope that further work will uncover more convincing information. However, questions remain over the suitability of the valley bottom for rabbit breeding, given the evidence for a predominantly damp, if not wet, environment.

Acknowledgments

The author would like to thank Mike Davies of the Major Transport and Infrastructure Team for commissioning this project on behalf of Cambridgeshire County Council. Thanks to Alison Dickens, Project Manager (CAU), for the help and support given during the excavations and Matthew Collins who supervised Site 4. I would like to thank the CAU excavation staff who dug the site, in often trying conditions; Lawrence Billington, Nick Overton, Dan Britton, Martin Torreson and Marcus Brittain. The site was surveyed by Donald Horne; Jane Matthews and Iain Forbes digitised the plans and Brian Crossan produced the graphics. The excavations were monitored by Andy Thomas (CAPCA).

REFERENCES

- Anderson, K. and Evans, C. 2004. *The Archaeology of Clay Farm, Trumpington: Preliminary Investigations*. Cambridge Archaeological Unit, Report no. 669.
- Appleby, G. 2004. *Glebe Farm, Trumpington: An Archaeological Desktop Assessment*. Cambridge Archaeological Unit, Report no. 631.
- Armour, N. 2007. *Addenbrooke's Link Road, Glebe Farm, Trumpington, South Cambridge: The 2007 Investigations*. Cambridge Archaeological Unit, Report no. 802.
- Brudenell, M. 2004. *Land Adjacent to the Bell Language School, Cambridge: An Archaeological Evaluation*, Cambridge Archaeological Unit, Report no.646.
- Collins, M. Forthcoming. *Cambridge Guided Bus Route: Excavations at Clay Farm, South Cambridge*. Cambridge Archaeological Unit.
- Dickens, A. 2002. *Clay Farm Trumpington, Cambridge. An Archaeological Desktop Assessment*. Cambridge Archaeological Unit, Report no.506.
- Dickens, A. 2006. *Written Scheme for Archaeological Investigation at sites on the Addenbrooke's Access Road*. Cambridge Archaeological Unit.
- Evans, C. 2002. *The Archaeology of the Addenbrooke's Environs: A Desktop Essay*. Cambridge Archaeological Unit, Report no.497.
- Evans, C., Mackay, D. & Webley, L. 2004. *Excavations at Addenbrooke's Hospital: the Hutchinson Site*. Cambridge Archaeological Unit, Report no. 609.
- Evans, C. & Mackay, D. 2005a. *Addenbrooke's 2020, Cambridge Archaeological Evaluation Fieldwork*. Cambridge Archaeological Unit, Report no. 671.
- Evans, C., Mackay, D., & Patten, R. 2006. *The Archaeology of Glebe & Clay Farm, South Cambridge: The 2005 Evaluation*. Cambridge Archaeological Unit, Report no. 708.
- de Vareilles, A.K. 2007. Assessment of Bulk Environmental Samples, Appendix 11 in Timberlake. *The Addenbrooke's Access Road, Clay Farm, Trumpington, Cambridge. The 2007 Investigations, Site 3*. Cambridge Archaeological Unit. Report No.803.
- Grant A. 1982. The use of tooth wear as a guide to the age of domestic animals, in B. Wilson, C. Grigson and S. Payne, (eds.), *Ageing and sexing animal bones from archaeological sites*.
- Greig, J.R.A. 1991. 'The British Isles', pp. 299–334 in W. van Zeist, K. Wasylikowa and K. Behre (eds.), *Progress in Old World Palaeoethnobotany*. Rotterdam: Balkema.

Janus Digital Library, Cambridge; accessed 20-08-08. Records of the Priory of St Mary and St Radegund: Property in Trumpington: Add. 20. www.janus.lib.cam.ac.uk

National Archives; accessed 20-08-08. Court Rolls, document SC 8/201/10050. www.nationalarchives.gov.uk

Palmer, R. 2002. *Aerial Photographic Assessment, Clay Farm*. In Dickens 2002: 23-32

Schmid, E., 1972. *Atlas of animal bones*. Amsterdam: Elsevier.

Slater, A. 2008. *Continued Evaluations at Clay Farm, South Cambridge: The 2008 Evaluations*. Cambridge Archaeological Unit. Report No. 826.

Soil Survey of England and Wales. 1983. *Soils of England and Wales: Sheet 4: Eastern England (1:250,000)*.

Spence, C. 1990. *Archaeological Site Manual*. London: Department of Urban Archaeology, Museum of London.

Stace, C. 1997. *New Flora of the British Isles* (second edition). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Timberlake, S. 2007. *The Addenbrooke's Access Road, Clay Farm, Trumpington, Cambridge. The 2007 Investigations: Site 3*. Cambridge Archaeological Unit. Report No. 803

Williams, D. 1973. Flotation at Siraf. *Antiquity* **47**, 288–92.

Williamson, T. 2006. *The Archaeology of Rabbit Warrens*. Shire Archaeology.

Wright A.P.M. 1982. Trumpington Parish. In *The Victoria History of the County of Cambridge and the Isle of Ely; Volume VIII*. University of London. Oxford University Press.

Zohary, D. and M. Hopf 2000. *Domestication of Plants in the Old World* (third edition). Oxford: Oxford University Press.

APPENDIX 1: ANIMAL BONE – *Vida Rajkovača*

Introduction

A small assemblage of animal bone was recovered from the ALR08:7 site during an excavation carried out in 2008. The overall size of assemblage was 32 fragments, 23 (71.9%) of which were identifiable to element and only a further four (12.5%) identified to species. The assemblage was identified using the CAU reference collection and Schmid (1972).

Preservation

Of ten contexts analysed, only two contexts were moderately preserved, four were quite poor and four showed poor preservation. This equates to a total number of 4 fragments moderately preserved and 28 fragments poorly or quite poorly preserved with significant bone damage or signs of weathering. No signs of pathology or butchery were observed.

Results

The majority of the material was recovered from ditches (**F.714**, **F.717**, **F.726** and **F.731**) and one large pit (**F.733**). Cow mandible was found in **F.733**. According to the mandibular tooth wear for cattle (Grant 1982), individual was an old adult animal. The low percentage of fragments identifiable to species is due in part to the relatively high numbers of fragmented limb bones which could only be assigned to a size category (Large or Medium Mammal).

Species	NISP	MNI
Cow	4	1
ULM	12	-
UMM	16	-

Table 2: Species frequency by NISP (Number of Identifiable Specimens) and MNI (Minimum Number of Individuals)

Key: UMM & ULM = Unidentified Medium and Large Mammal.

Treethrow with calcined bone

F.748 contained calcined bone ([7244]) and fill was sampled 100% and processed through a wet sieve (environmental sample 11). It is likely that this was a natural hollow being used to dispose of cooking waste. One bone specimen was identifiable to species category and it was a fragmented cow metacarpal. Crumbs of unidentifiable calcined bone were also recovered weighing 40 grams.

Conclusion

It is difficult to discuss this assemblage further in the absence of any toothwear data, and near absence of butchery or measurements. However, the general size of the elements would seem to indicate large and medium sized domesticates. Given the generally poor preservation and small size of the sample no further analysis is anticipated.

APPENDIX 2: ENVIRONMENTAL REMAINS – *Rachel Ballantyne*

Methodology

Eleven bulk samples of undated features from Site 7 were submitted for analysis, comprising nine ditch fills, one pit base **F.733**, one rectilinear slot **F.739** and a possible cremation **F.748**.

All samples have been flotation sieved by Dan Britton, using a modified version of the Siraf tank (Williams 1973) at the CAU. Flots (> 300µm) and heavy residues (>1mm) have been dried and then sorted by the author, using a Leica MS5 (x6.3 – x50) binocular microscope for flots, and sorting residues greater than 4mm by eye. The 1–4 mm residues have not been sorted at this stage, but kept for future reference. Full raw data is summarised in Table 3 at the end of this report. Nomenclature follows Stace (1997) for most plants, however for wheat and barley the traditional physiological (as opposed to genetic) classifications in Zohary and Hopf (2000) are followed.

Preservation

Charring has preserved all plant remains. There is no clear evidence of waterlogging, although numerous snail shells of aquatic and semi-aquatic (slum) taxa are present. The few untransformed plant seeds are not therefore distinguishable as intrusive, or the remains of once-waterlogged contexts.

The few charred cereal grains are heavily puffed, distorted and abraded, making their close identification untenable. The low densities of charred plant macrofossils and wood charcoal, and their often poor condition, suggests these items may be displaced heavily in time and space from their original charring context.

Results

The following descriptions are sub-divided into the major feature types that have been sampled.

Ditches: F.714, F.715, F.717, F.725, F.727, F.731 and F.746

Most sampled contexts contain extremely low amounts of highly fragmented wood charcoal. The only plant macrofossil is one barley grain (*Hordeum vulgare sensu lato*) in [7160] **F.717**; conversely, ditch fill [7214] **F.715** contains no charred remains whatsoever.

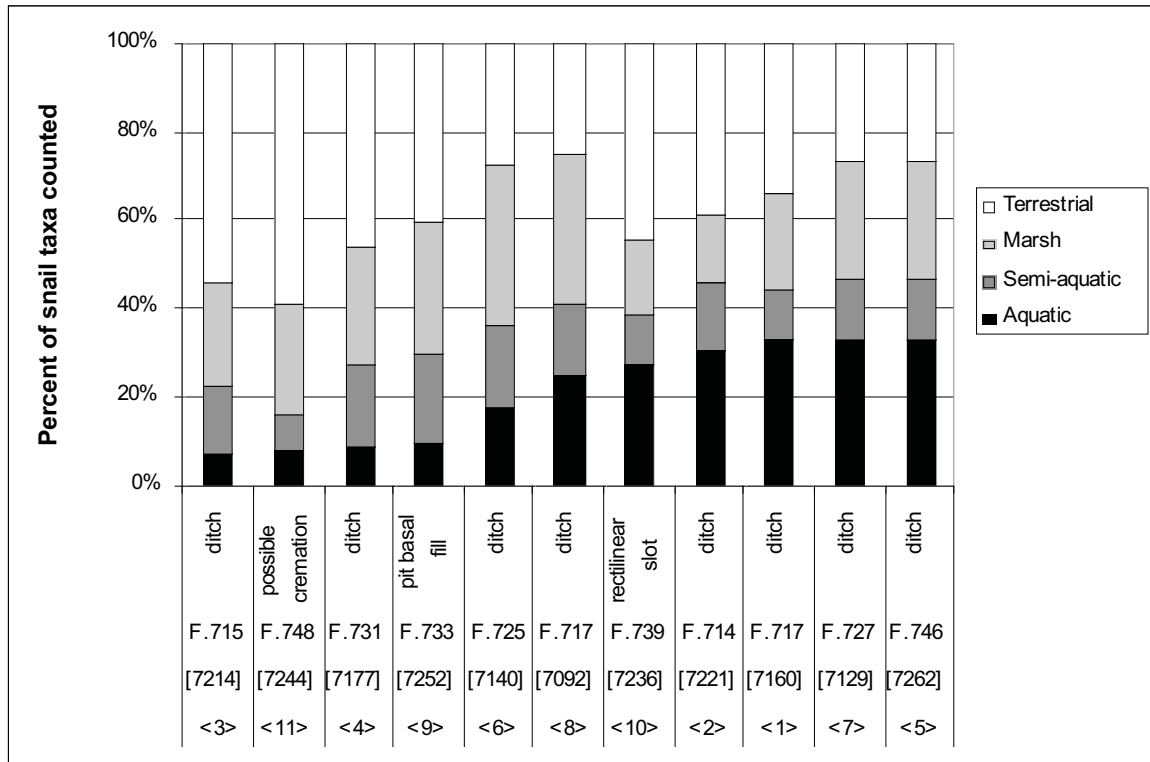
Variable amounts of wetland and terrestrial snails are found in all the ditch contexts. The overall distributions are summarised by habitat in Graph 1, which has been calculated by counting the number of taxa with more than 2 shells in each sample. These results reveal that the wettest sampled features are ditches **F.714**, **F.717**, **F.727** and **F.746**. In each case, there are numerous true aquatic snail types, particularly *Bithynia tentaculata*, *Valvata cristata*, *Lymnaea palustris* and *Planorbis planorbis*. These taxa indicate slow moving water, and can be found under a variety of conditions; *Bithynia* tends to favour large water-bodies, such as rivers and lakes, whereas the other types are more consistent with wet ditches. These ditch fills represent water-bodies that may have become shallow in hot summer months, and which were surrounded by wet vegetation with drier land nearby. The aquatic and semi-aquatic shells are likely to be 'autochthonous' (*in situ*) whereas the marsh and terrestrial shells will be 'allochthonous' (relocated) from vegetation surrounding the ditches. Some of the larger shells, and in particular the *Bithynia*, are likely to represent episodes of inundation or flooding.

Many of the other snail taxa are either semi-aquatic, such as *Lymnaea truncatula* and *Anisus leucostoma*, or are found in marshy places, such as *Carychium tridentatum/minimum*, *Vertigo antivertigo* and *Vertigo angustior*. In ditch **F.725** these types are the most common snails, suggesting that wet vegetation in shallow water was the predominant habitat, with wetter and drier spells according to seasonal trends.

Finally, the terrestrial snail taxa represent a very varied range of types. Some, do not have specific habitat associations, such as *Cochlicopa lubrica/lubricella*, *Cepaea nemoralis/hortensis* and *Trichia hispida/striolata*. Others characterise both shady places (*Lauria cylindracea*, *Aegopinella/Oxychilus* sp.) and quite open land (*Pupilla muscorum*, *Vallonia pulchella/exentrica*). Two ditches, **F. 715** and **F.731**, are dominated by terrestrial types, indicating that these fills were generally damp and only seasonally wet. The varied terrestrial types probably represent the upper edges of the ditches onto the surrounding land, thus explaining their range of habitats. The ditches themselves might be expected to be slightly overgrown, including leaf-litter, whereas the surrounding land may have been quite open.

Pit: F.733 [7252]

This feature includes one indeterminate charred grain and a chaff fragment (glume base) of emmer or spelt wheat (*Triticum dicocum/spelta*), which suggests the fill is neolithic to very early medieval in origin (cf. Grieg 1991). Other artefacts include small unburnt bone fragments, and a burnt flint. The snail taxa are comparable to those from the ditches, but are dominated by marsh and terrestrial taxa (Graph 1); this location was probably dry with seasonal flooding.



Graph 1: Sampled contexts ordered by habitats of main snail taxa (with over 2 shells)

Rectilinear slot: F.739 [7236]

No charred plant remains are present, other than a low number of charcoal fragments. There are also a few small burnt and unburnt bone fragments. As revealed by Graph 1, this is a wet location most similar in range of snail taxa to the wet ditches F.714, F.717, F.727 and F.746. The similarity might represent approximate contemporaneity of these features – with the caveat that slot F.739 is shallower, and would therefore have required a higher water-table to create the same range of snail taxa.

Possible cremation: F.748 [7244]

Two charred indeterminate grains accompany moderate quantities of wood charcoal, which includes ‘twiggy’ fragments from a tree or shrub. There are also small burnt bone fragments and small unburnt bones of amphibians and rodents. The range of snail taxa is dominated by terrestrial types, so suggesting that the context was only seasonally wet. It is difficult to be certain if this is a cremation, or an accumulation of cooking waste – the inclusion of numerous snail shells, and some bones of small vertebrates, suggests that this context formed relatively slowly (unlike many cremation fills).

Conclusions

The very low amounts of artefactual material, including charred plant remains, in all the sampled contexts has precluded any firm conclusions. Human activity in this area appears to have been ephemeral, with settlement itself elsewhere. The one emmer/spelt chaff item in pit F.733 puts some human activity into the likely bracket of neolithic to early medieval, but there is no compositional basis for extension of this dating to the other sampled features.

Cross-comparison between the final stratigraphic matrix, and the range of habitats identified using snail taxa, may reveal long-term lowering or rising of the water-table. It is clear that all sampled features were subject to drier and wetter spells, probably on a seasonal basis. These results compare well to those of de Vareilles (2007) for nearby Site 3 of the Addenbrooke's Access Road where there was good molluscan evidence for seasonally damp to wet conditions in later prehistoric features.

Recommendations

No further work is required on the plant macrofossil assemblage, although these results may provide an important peripheral 'outlier' to the findings at other sites upon Addenbrookes Link Road and at nearby Clay Farm.

Should the excavations be published, then the rich mollusc assemblage requires fuller analysis and interpretation by a properly skilled specialist (including the unsorted 1–4mm residues) as the identifications in this report are provisional. Cross-comparison of the mollusc assemblage with pollen sequences from the deeper ditches would be of benefit; snail habitats are localised, whereas pollen can provide a landscape context.

Radiocarbon dating could be used to date the charred cereal remains, however the more widely occurring wood charcoal is mostly too fragmented and of low density for AMS dating. The very low densities of charred plant remains suggest that their deposition may have included a significant time-lag after plant growth and charring – so radiocarbon dates could provide only an estimate of ditch fill dates.

Feature		F.714	F.715	F.717	F.717	F.725	F.727	F.731	F.733	F.739	F.746	F.748
Context		[7221]	[7214]	[7092]	[7160]	[7140]	[7129]	[7177]	[7252]	[7236]	[7262]	[7244]
Sample Number		<2>	<3>	<8>	<1>	<6>	<7>	<8>	<9>	<10>	<4>	<11>
Feature Type		ditch	ditch	ditch	ditch	ditch	ditch	ditch	pit/basal fill	rectilinear slot	ditch	possible cremation
Phase/Date		?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
Sample Volume/Litres		15	7	4	10	10	14	8	8	10	8	40
Fraction of 10 (>0.5mm) sorted		1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1
Fraction of residue (>4mm) sorted		1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1
Latin Name	English Name/ mollusc habitat											
CEREAL GRAINS												
<i>Hordeum vulgare sensu lato</i>	grain				1							
cereal indet. grain									1			2
CEREAL CHAFF												
<i>Triticum dicoccum/spelta</i>	glume base								1			
NON-CEREALS												
<i>Rumex</i> sp. kernel	Docks kernel			1								
woody stem fragments		-		-		-	-					+
Charophyte oogonium	green algae 'seed'				++					-		-
CHARCOAL												
charcoal volume/ millilitres		<1 ml.	0 ml.	<1 ml.	<1 ml.	<1 ml.	<1 ml.	<1 ml.	<1 ml.	<1 ml.	<1 ml.	1 ml.
large charcoal (>4mm)												
med. charcoal (2-4mm)		-		-		+	-	-	-	-	-	+
small charcoal (<2mm)		+		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	++
- vitrified charcoal								+	+			++
- charred concretion		-				+	+	+	+		-	+
OTHER BIOLOGICAL ITEMS, EXCLUDING MOLLUSCS												
burnt bone fragments												+
bone fragments				++				-	-	+	-	-
small bone												+
burnt flint												
INTRUSIVE BIOLOGICAL ITEMS												
<i>Ranunculus</i> subgen. <i>BATRACHIUM</i> (DC.) A. Gray	crowfoots											-
<i>Fumaria officinalis</i>	common fumitory					-	-					-
<i>Chenopodium album</i> L.	fathen											-
<i>Atriplex prostrata</i> Boucher ex DC. / <i>patula</i> L.	common/spear-leaved orache	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Silene</i> sp.	camplion											-
<i>Fallopia convolvulus</i> (L.) A. Löve	black-bindweed	+										-
<i>Aethusa cynapium</i> L.	fool's parsley											-
<i>Veronica hederifolia</i> L.	ivy-leaved speedwell					-						-
<i>Sambucus nigra</i> L.	elder											-
intrusive roots		+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	+
AQUATIC SNAILS												
<i>Bithynia tentaculata</i> (L.)	quiet rivers & still but large waters	+	-	++	+++		++	-	-	+++	+++	
<i>Bithynia tentaculata</i> (L.) operculum(s)	quiet rivers & still but large waters	-		++	++	+	+			+++	+++	-
<i>Valva cristata</i> (Müller)	slow, muddy water with vegetation	+++	+++	++	++	+++	+++	+	+++	+++	+++	+++
<i>Lymnaea stagnalis</i>	slow or stagnant water				-cf.							
<i>Lymnaea palustris</i> (Müller)	marshy areas, ponds and ditches	+		-	+	++	-			++	+	
<i>Lymnaea peregra</i>	most freshwater environments											
<i>Planorbis planorbis</i> (L.)	ponds and ditches	+	-	-	+++	++				+	+++	
<i>Gyraulus albus</i> Müller	esp. oxygen-poor freshwater, in weeds											-
<i>Hipppeus complanatus</i> (L.)	moist hard water environments	-	-		+							+
<i>Bathymphalus contortus</i> (L.)	weed in flowing/still waters											-
Sphaeriidae indet.	small freshwater bivalve											-
SEMI-AQUATIC SNAILS												
<i>Lymnaea truncatula</i> (Müller)	shallow waters & flooded pastures	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	++	+++	+	++
<i>Aplexa hypnorum</i> (L.)	ponds and ditches											+
<i>Anisus leucostoma</i> Millet	seasonal ponds and ditches	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+	+++	+++	+++	-
MARSH SNAILS												
<i>Carychium tridentatum</i> (Risso) / <i>minimum</i> (Müller)	generally well vegetated; wet/damp	+++	+++	++	+++	+++	++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++
<i>Succinea</i> sp.	damp, waterside vegetation	-	-	+	++	++	++	-	-	+	+	+
<i>Vertigo antivertigo</i> (Draparnaud)	wet places			+	++	++	++	++	++	+++	+++	++
<i>Vertigo angustior</i> Jeff.	marshes	++	++	+	++	+	++	+	++	+	+	+
<i>Punctum pygmaeum</i> (Draparnaud)	leaves & moss in damp, shady places											
TERRESTRIAL SNAILS												
<i>Cochlicopa lubrica</i> (Müller) / <i>lubricella</i> (Porro)	catholic	+	++	-	++	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
<i>Vertigo pygmaea</i> (Draparnaud)	dry, grassy places; occ. marshes	++	+++	++	+++	+	+	++		++	++	+
<i>Pupilla muscorum</i> (L.)	dry, exposed places				++							+
<i>Lauria cylindracea</i> (da Costa)	shady places	++	+	+	++		+	++	+	+	++	++
<i>Vallonia eximica</i> Sterki / <i>pulchella</i> (Müller)	open, damp and/or dry habitats	+++	++		-	+	+	++	++	++	++	++
<i>Cepaea nemoralis</i> (L.) / <i>hortensis</i> (Müller)	variable: woods, grassland, hedges	-	+		-	-	-	-		+	-	-
<i>Trichia hispida</i> (L.) / <i>striolata</i> (Pfeiffer)	catholic	+	+++	-	++	+	++	+++	++	+	++	+
<i>Euconulus fulvus</i> L.	woods and grassy places, incl. marshes									+	-	-
<i>Discus rotundatus</i> (Müller)	moist, sheltered places											-
<i>Aegopinella/Oxychilus</i> sp.	moist & shady places	-	-		+					+	-	-
<i>Cecilodes acicula</i> (Müller)	burrowing snail, probably intrusive	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			+

Table 3: Results of the environmental bulk samples at Site 7.

KEY:

- 1 or 2 items, + less than 10 items, ++ 10 to 50 items, +++ more than 50 items

APPENDIX 3: WORKED STONE – *Simon Timberlake*

Site 7: F.733, [7250] <014> - 988g - 120 x 80 x 65mm

This has been worked (used as a grinding stone) on at least three surfaces, the main and most worn being the basal and slightly uneven grinding surface. It seems likely that this grindstone was still being used after it broke.

The rock type is extremely dense and heavy – presumably this was chosen because of its weight and hardness. This was made from a cobble of a crystalline and vesicular basic igneous rock, probably a dolerite intrusion, though it contained visible gas cavities and flow-lines. Most likely collected as a cobble (glacial erratic) from the local gravels.

Interpretation: A piece of well-weathered rubbing stone associated with the use of a saddle quern.

APPENDIX 4: FEATURE DESCRIPTIONS

Site 4

F.400 – Post medieval ditch: Aligned NW-SE and cut by modern ditch **F.401** and a field drain. Fill was predominantly mid greyish brown sandy silt with occasional small gravel inclusions. Sampled in two slots: **Slot 400**; cut [4001] measured 0.48m in width by 0.11m deep with moderately sloping sides leading to a slightly rounded base. Fill [4000]. No finds. **Slot 401**; cut [4005] measured 0.80m in width by 0.14m deep with quite steep sides leading to a rounded base. Fill [4004]. No finds.

F.401 – Modern enclosure ditch: It cut ditches **F.400**, **F.406** and **F.407** and was cut by a modern field drain. Fill was mixed yellowish orange sand with patches of mid brown sandy silt. Sampled in one slot: **Slot 402**; cut [4003] measured 0.62m in width by 0.45m deep with near vertical sides leading to a flat base. Fill [4002]. Contained lumps of concrete.

F.402 – Natural feature

F.403 – Natural feature

F.404 – Natural feature

F.405 – Treethrow: Cut by ditches **F.401** and **F.406**.

F.406 – Post medieval ditch: Aligned N-S and cuts treethrow **F.405** and is cut by ditch **F.406**. Fill was mid greyish brown sandy silt with common snail shells. Sampled in two slots: **Slot 402**; cut [4007] measured 0.20m in width by 0.12m deep with steep sides leading to a slightly rounded base. Fill [4006]. No finds. **Slot 403**; cut [4009] measured 0.40m in width by 0.11m deep with steep sides leading to a flattish base. Fill [4008]. No finds.

F.407 – Post medieval ditch: Aligned E-W and cut by ditch **F.401**. Fill was mid greyish brown sandy silt with occasional small to medium sized gravel inclusions. Sampled in one slot: **Slot 405**; cut [4017] measured 0.75m in width by 0.36m deep with very steep sides leading to a flat base. Fill [4014]. Contained drainage pipe.

F.408 – Modern posthole: Circular in plan. Fill [4014] was dark greyish brown sandy silt. Cut [4015] measured 0.32m in diameter by 0.20m deep with vertical sides leading to a flat base. No finds.

F.409 – Modern posthole: Square in plan. Fill [4022] was dark grey sandy silt. Cut [4023] measured 0.36m in diameter by 0.10m deep with vertical sides leading to flat base. No finds.

Site 7

F.700 – Pit: Slightly irregular oval in plan. Fills were mid to dark grey sandy silt with occasional small sub angular stones. Cut [7000] measured 1.30m in width by 0.40m deep with steep sides leading to a flat base. Fills [7001-3]. No finds.

F.701 – Pit: Circular in plan. Fill was light brownish grey silty sand with frequent whitish marl flecks. Cut [7004] measured 0.75m in diameter by 0.16m deep with quite steeply sloping sides leading to a rounded base. Fill [7005]. No finds.

F.702 – Pit: Circular in plan. Fill was light to mid greyish brown sandy silt with occasional small gravel and whitish chalk inclusions. Cut [7010] measured 1.02m in diameter by 0.36m deep with steep sides leading to a rounded base. Fills [7006-9]. No finds.

F.703 – Natural feature.

F.704 – Natural feature.

F.705 – Pit: Sub circular in plan and truncated by pit **F.706**. Fills were predominantly mid to dark greyish brown sandy silt with occasional small gravel inclusions. Cut [7022] measured 1.10m in width by 0.58m deep with quite steep sides leading to a rounded base. Fills [7015-21]. No finds.

F.706 – Pit: Sub circular in plan and truncated pit **F.705**. Fill was dark greyish brown sandy silt with occasional small gravel inclusions. Cut [7024] measured 1.27m in width by 0.25m deep with quite steep sides leading to a rounded base. Fill [7023]. No finds.

F.707 – Pit: Oval in plan. Fill was light yellowish grey silty sand with occasional flecks of whitish marl. Cut [7025] measured 0.72m in width by 0.10m deep with gently sloping sides leading to a flat base. Fill [7026]. No finds.

F.708 – Pit: Oval in plan. Fill was mid greyish brown silty sand with rare small gravel inclusions. Cut [7027] measured 0.91m deep by 0.35m deep with quite steep sides leading to a rounded base. Fill [7028]. No finds.

F.709 – Pit: Irregular oval in plan. Fills were predominantly light to mid greyish brown sandy silt with occasional small whitish marl flecks. Cut [7029] measured 0.89 in width by 0.43m deep with steep sides leading to a rounded base. Fills [7030-33]. No finds.

F.710 – Natural feature.

F.711 – Modern ditch: Aligned N-S, traversed the whole site with a visible length of 102m. Runs parallel to ditch **F.712** with a constant gap of 1.35m between them. It truncated earlier ditches **F.714**, **F.715**, **F.717**, **F.720** and **F.746**. Fills were predominantly mid to dark greyish brown sandy silts with occasional small gravel and chalk inclusions. Sampled in two slots: **Slot 700**; cut [7036] measured 1.45m in width by 0.60m deep with steep sides leading to a narrow rounded base. Fills [7037-39]. No finds. **Slot 707**; cut [7070] measured 1.26m in width by 0.45m deep with steep sides leading to a narrow rounded base. Fills [7065], [7067] and [7069]. No finds.

F.712 – Modern ditch: Aligned N-S, traversed the whole site with a visible length of 102m. Runs parallel to ditch **F.711** with a constant gap of 1.35m between them. It truncated earlier ditches **F.714**, **F.715**, **F.717**, **F.720** and **F.746**. Fills were predominantly a mid to dark greyish brown sandy silts with occasional small gravel and chalk inclusions. Sampled in two slots: **Slot 701**; cut [7040] measured 0.75m in width by 0.32m deep with quite steep sides leading to a flat base. Fills [7041-43]. No finds. **Slot 706**; cut [7064] measured 0.50m in width by 0.18m deep with steep sides leading to a flat base. Fill [7064]. No finds.

F.713 – Ditch: Aligned NW-SE and with a visible length of 19m. It was truncated by a modern field drain. Fill was mid greyish brown sandy silt with occasional large chalk marl inclusions. Sampled in one slot: **Slot 702**; cut [7044] measured 0.55m in width by 0.28m deep with steep sides leading to a flat base. Fill [7045]. No finds.

F.714 – Ditch: Possible enclosure ditch aligned NE-SW that turned to a N-S alignment and had a visible length of 104m. Was re-cut by ditch **F.746** and truncated by **F.731** and modern ditches **F.711** and **F.712**. Fills were predominantly light to mid brownish grey sandy silts with occasional small gravel and chalk marl inclusions. Sampled in seven slots: **Slot 703**; cut [7054] measured 1.25m wide by 0.43m deep with quite steep sides leading to a flat base. Fills [7051] and [7053]. No finds. **Slot 704**; cut [7058] measured 1.25m wide by 0.39m deep with quite steep sides leading to a rounded base. Fill [7057]. No finds. **Slot 718**; cut [7126] measured 1.92m in width by 0.63m deep with quite steep sides leading to a rounded base. Fills [7123-25]. No finds. **Slot 741**; cut [7267] was truncated by ditch **F.746** and gully **F.474** and had a depth of 0.47m with steep sides leading to a flattish base. Fills [7265-66]. No finds. **Slot 746**; cut [7213] measured 1.27m in width by 0.41m deep with steep sides leading to a flattish base. Fill [7212]. No finds. **Slot 747**; cut [7218] measured 1.35m in width by 0.40m in depth with quite steep sides leading to a flattish base. Fill [7217]. No finds. **Slot 748**; cut [7222] was truncated by **F.746** and had a depth of 0.41m with very steep sides leading to a flattish base. Fill [7221]. No finds.

F.715 – Gully: Aligned NE-SW with a visible length of 80m. Has been truncated by modern ditches **F.711** and **F.712**, ditch **F.714** and gully **F.717**. Fill was predominantly mid grey sandy silt with very occasional small gravel inclusions. Sampled in seven slots: **Slot 703**; cut [7055] measured 0.70m in width by 0.21m deep with gradually sloping sides leading to a rounded base. Fill [7052]. No finds. **Slot 704**; cut [7060] measured 0.75m in width by 0.07m deep with gradually sloping sides leading to a concave base. Fill [7059]. **Slot 740**; cut [7280] was truncated by **F.717** and was 0.20m in depth with moderately steep sides leading to a slightly rounded base. Fills [7278-79]. No finds. **Slot 744**; cut [7196] was truncated by **F.717** and was 0.10m in depth with moderately sloping sides leading to a rounded base. Fill [7197]. No finds. No finds. **Slot 746**; cut [7215] measured 0.50m in width by 0.15m deep with quite steep sides leading to a rounded base. Fill [7214] No finds. **Slot 747**; cut [7220] measured 0.50m in width by 0.15m deep with quite steep sides leading to a rounded base. Fill [7219]. No finds. **Slot 748**; cut [7227] measured 0.60m in width by 0.20m deep with quite steep sides leading to a rounded base. Fills [7225-26]. No finds.

F.716 – Field Drain

F.717 – Ditch: Aligned NE-SW which terminates at the NE end and has a visible length of 81m. Has been truncated by modern ditches **F.711** and **F.712** and rectangular enclosure **F.738** and cuts gullies **F.715** and **F.745**. Fill was predominantly mid brownish grey sandy silt with occasional small gravel inclusions and chalk marl flecks. Sampled in nine slots: **Slot 705**; cut [7062] measured 0.73m in width by 0.20m deep with moderately sloping sides leading to a slightly rounded base. Fill [7062]. No finds. **Slot 711**; cut [7079] measured 0.75m in width by 0.19m deep with moderately sloping sides leading to a slightly rounded base. Fill [7078]. No finds. **Slot 712**; cut [7089] measured 0.80m in width by 0.18m deep with steeply sloping sides leading to a flat base. Fills [7090-91]. No finds. **Slot 713**; cut [7093] measured 0.75m in width by 0.14m deep with moderately steep sides leading to a flat base. Fill [7092]. No finds. **Slot 728**; cut [7101] measured 0.75m in width by 0.18m deep with moderately steep sides leading to a slightly rounded base. Fill [7160]. No finds. **Slot 738**; cut [7240] measured >0.40m in width by 0.11m deep with steep sides leading to a flat base. Fill [7239]. No finds. **Slot 739**; cut [7241] measured >0.40m in width by 0.12m in depth with steep sides leading to a flat base. Fill [7239] contained animal bone. **Slot 740**; cut [7282] measured 0.60m in width by 0.20m deep with steep sides leading to a flat base. Fill [7281]. No finds. **Slot 744**; cut [7195] measured 0.87m in width by 0.19m deep with steep sides leading to a rounded base. Fill [7194]. No finds.

F.718 – Gully: Aligned NE-SW with a total length of 25m and truncated by two modern land drains. Fills were predominantly mid-dark grey sandy silt with very occasional small gravel inclusions and chalk marl flecks. Sampled in three slots: **Slot 708**; cut of SW terminus [7083] measured 0.51m in width by 0.22m deep with steep sides leading to a flattish base. Fills [7080-83]. No finds. **Slot 709**; cut [7086] measured 0.52m in depth by 0.18m deep with steep sides leading to a slightly rounded base. Fills [7084-85]. No finds. **Slot 710**; cut of NE terminus [7088] measured 0.47m in depth by 0.09m deep with moderately sloping sides leading to an irregular base. Fill [7087]. No finds.

F.719 – Gully segment: Aligned NE-SW with a total length of 3.5m and truncated by a modern field drain. It also cuts a tree throw at the NE end. Fills were mid grey sandy silts with occasional small chalk flecks and gravel inclusions. Sampled in two slots: **Slot 749**; cut of SW terminus [7072] measured 0.40m in width by 0.10m deep with quite steep sides leading to a flattish base. Fill [7071]. No finds. **Slot 750**; cut of NE terminus [7074] measured 0.50m in width by 0.10m deep with quite steep sides leading to a flattish base. Fill [7073]. No finds.

F.720 – Ditch: Aligned NE-SW with a visible length of 12m. It was truncated by modern ditches **F.711** and **F.712**. Fill was light brownish grey sandy silt with common snail shells and occasional small gravel inclusions. Sampled in one slot: **Slot 751**; cut [7075] measured 0.79m in width by 0.27m deep with steep sides leading to a round base. Fills [7076-77]. No finds.

F.721 – Pit: Sub-oval in plan. Fill was dark greyish brown sandy silt with very rare small chalk flecks. Cut [7095] measured 0.75m in width by 0.20m deep with quite steep sides leading to a flattish base. Fill [7094]. No finds.

F.722 – Pit: Sub oval in plan. Fill was dark greyish brown sandy silt with very rare small chalk flecks. Cut [7097] measured 0.70m in width by 0.27m deep with very steep sides leading to a rounded base. Fill [7096]. No finds.

F.723 – Pit: Oval in plan. Fill was dark greyish brown sandy silt. Cut [7099] measured 0.50m deep with quite steep sides leading to a slightly rounded base. Fill [7088]. No finds.

F.724 – Pit: Sub oval in plan. Fill was mid brown sandy silt with very occasional small gravel inclusions. Cut [7100] measured 0.78m in depth by 0.26m deep with moderately sloping sides leading to a rounded base. Fill [7101]. No finds.

F.725 – Ditch: Aligned NE-SW with a terminus at the SW end and a total visible length of 51m. Was truncated by two modern field drains and ditch **F.727** and cut ditches **F.726** and **F.728**. Fills were predominantly light to mid greyish brown sandy silt with occasional small gravel inclusions. Sampled in seven slots: **Slot 714**; cut [7103] measured 0.95m in width by 0.32m deep with moderately sloping sides leading to a rounded base. Fill [7102]. No finds. **Slot 715**; cut [7107] measured 0.79m in width by 0.24m deep with moderately sloping sides leading to a rounded base. Fill [7106]. No finds. **Slot 717**; cut [7119] measured 0.40m in width by 0.18m deep with steeply sloping sides leading to a flat base. Fills [7119-20]. No finds. **Slot 720**; cut of SW terminus [7131] measured 0.44m in width by 0.12m deep with steeply sloping sides leading to a flattish base. Fill [7130]. No finds. **Slot 721** – box section; cut [7132] measured 0.28m in width by 0.14m deep with moderately sloping sides leading to a flat base. Fill [7133]. No finds. **Slot 723**; cut [7142] measured 0.50m in width by 0.19m deep with moderately sloping sides leading to a rounded base. Fill [7140-41]. No finds. **Slot 727** – box section; cut [7156] measured 0.29m in width and 0.29m deep with moderately sloping sides leading to a rounded base. Fill [7157]. No finds.

F.726 – Enclosure ditch: Aligned NE-SW before abruptly turning onto a N-S axis with a total visible length of 67m. Was truncated by ditches **F.725** and **F.727** and cut ditch **F.730**. Fill was predominantly mid greyish brown sandy silt with occasional small gravel inclusions and chalk marl flecks. Sampled in seven slots: **Slot 714**; cut [7104] measured 0.93m in width by 0.31m deep with quite steep sides leading to a narrow rounded base. Fill [7104]. No finds. **Slot 715**; cut [7109] was truncated by **F.725** and had a depth of 0.21m with quite steep sides leading to a rounded base. Fill [7108]. Contained animal bone. **Slot 716** – box section; cut [7113] measured 0.25m in width by 0.14m deep with quite steep sides leading to a rounded base. Fills [7114-15]. Contained animal bone. **Slot 724**; cut [7143] measured 0.77m in width by 0.24m deep with steep sides leading to a flat base. Fill [7144-45]. Contained worked flint. **Slot 725** – box section; cut [7148] measured 0.50m in width by 0.25m deep with steep sides leading to a flat base. Fill [7149]. No finds. **Slot 726**; cut [7152] measured 0.90m in width by 0.42m deep with moderately sloping sides leading to a flat base. Fills [7153-55]. No finds. **Slot 727** – box section; cut [7158] measured 0.19m in width by 0.20m deep with steep sides leading to a flattish base. Fill [7159]. No finds.

F.727 – Ditch: Aligned E-W that has a visible length of 18m. Was truncated by ditch **F.731** which is also where it terminates. It cut ditches **F.725**, **F.726** and **F.728**. Fill was predominantly light to mid brownish grey sandy silt with occasional small gravel and chalk marl inclusions. Sampled in five slots: **Slot 716** – box section; cut [7110] measured 0.40m in width by 0.14m deep with steep sides leading to a flat base. Fills [7111-12]. Contained oyster shell. **Slot 717**; cut [7116] measured 0.60m in width by 0.19m deep with steep sides leading to a flat base. Fills [7117-18]. No finds. **Slot 719**; cut [7127] measured 1.05m in width by 0.18m deep with steep sides leading to a rounded base. Fills [7128-29]. Contained animal bone. **Slot 722** – box section; cut [7138] measured 0.30m in width by 0.30m deep with quite steep sides leading to a slightly rounded base. Fill [7139]. No finds. **Slot 734**; cut [7186] measured 0.50m in width by 0.58m deep with quite steep sides leading to a flat base. Fills [7187-89]. No finds.

F.728 – Gully: Aligned NW-SE with a total length of 3.5m was truncated at both ends respectively by ditches **F.723** and **F.727**. Fill was light brownish grey silty sand with occasional small gravel inclusions. Sampled in two slots: **Slot 721** – box section; cut [7134] measured 0.13m in width by 0.10m deep with quite steep sides leading to flat base. Fill [7135]. No finds. **Slot 722** – box section; cut [7136] measured 0.18m in width by 0.04m deep with steep sides leading to a flat base. Fill [7137]. No finds.

F.729 – Treethrow: Slot excavated to determine relationship with ditch **F.726**, which cuts this feature. Cut [7146] measured 0.50m in width by 0.30m in depth with moderately steep, irregular sides leading to an uneven base. Fill [7147]. No finds.

F.730 – Ditch: Aligned E-W with a total length of 6.5m and truncated by ditches **F.726** and **F.731**. Fill was mid yellowish brown sandy, slightly clayey silt with common small gravel inclusions. Sampled in one slot: **Slot 725** – box section: cut [7150] measured 0.30m in width by 0.08m deep with moderately steep sides leading to a rounded base. Fill [7151]. No finds.

F.731 – Ditch: Aligned NE-SW with a total length of 31m. It cuts large pit **F.733**, ditches **F.714**, **F.727**, **F.730** and gullies **F.715**, **F.745** and **F.749**. It was cut by a modern field drain, ditches **F.732**, **F.746** and gully **F.747**. Fill was predominantly dark brownish grey sandy silt with occasional small gravel inclusions. Sampled in five slots: **Slot 718**; cut [7277] measured 1.05m in width by 0.40m deep with steep sides leading to a slightly rounded base. Fills [7122] and [7124]. No finds. **Slot 729**; cut [7163] measured 0.45m in width by 0.15m deep with steep sides leading to a flattish base. Fill [7162]. No finds. **Slot 730**; cut [7171] measured 0.47m in width by 0.22m deep with near vertical sides leading to a rounded base. Fills [7170] and [7177]. Contained animal bone. **Slot 731**; cut [7176] measured 1.03m in width by 0.35m deep with steep sides leading to a flattish base. Fill [7172]. Contained animal bone and pos. worked stone. **Slot 745**; cut [7182] measured 0.48m in width by 0.31m deep with steep sides leading to a flat base. Fill [7183]. No finds.

F.732 – Ditch: Aligned NE-SW with a total length of 11m. Cut by a modern field drain and truncates ditch **F.731**. Fill was predominantly mid grey sandy silt with occasional small gravel inclusions. Sampled in three slots: **Slot 729**: cut [7166] measured 0.69m in width by 0.05m deep with truncated concave sides leading to a moderately flat base. Fills [7164] and [7165]. No finds. **Slot 730**; cut [7169] measured 0.79m in width by 0.15m deep with near vertical sides leading to a rounded base. Fills [7167] and [7168]. No finds. **Slot 743**; cut [7272] measured 0.61m in width by 0.06m deep with concave sides leading to an irregular base. Fill [7271]. No finds.

F.733 – Large pit: Oval in plan and cut by two modern field drains and ditch **F.731**. Fills were predominantly light to mid grey sandy silts with rare-occasional small gravel inclusions with lenses of redeposited natural. Cut [7258] measured 2.70m in width by 1.05m deep whose upper sides sloped gently down to almost vertical lower sides and a rounded base. Fills [7245-57]. Contained pot, animal bone and worked stone.

F.734 – Ditch: Heavily truncated ditch aligned NW-SE with a total length of 32m. Fill was predominantly dark greyish brown sandy silt. Sampled in two slots: **Slot 732**: cut [7179] measured 0.50m in width by 0.10m deep with quite steep sides leading to an undulating base. Fill [7178]. No finds. **Slot 733**: cut [7181] measured 0.40m in width by 0.02m deep with irregular sides leading to an uneven base. Fill [7180]. No finds.

F.735 – Curvilinear gully: Initially aligned E-W before curving to a NW-SE axis with a total length of 18m. It was completely truncated by ditch **F.746**. Fill was predominantly mid grey sandy silt with occasional small gravel inclusions. Sampled in three slots: **Slot 735**; cut [7199] measured 0.47m in width by 0.13m deep with quite steep sides leading to a flat base. Fill [7198]. No finds. **Slot 736**; cut [7201] measured 0.60m in width by 0.06m, with steep sides leading to a flat base. Fill [7200]. No finds. **Slot 746**; cut [7210] was truncated by **F.746** and was 0.08m deep with moderately sloping sides leading to a slightly rounded base. Fill [7209]. No finds.

F.736 – Rectilinear Slot: Unexcavated

F.737 – Rectilinear Slot: Unexcavated

F.738 – Rectilinear Slot: Heavily truncated enclosure aligned by NE-SW that cuts ditch **F.717**. It measured 5.40m long by 2.40m wide with an internal area of approximately 9.60m². Fill was mid reddish grey/brown sandy silt with occasional small gravel inclusions. It was 50% excavated and cut [7238] measured 0.35m in width by 0.05m deep with steeply sloping sides leading to a flattish base. Fill [7237]. No finds.

F.739 – Rectilinear Slot: Aligned NE-SW and cut by a modern field drain. It measured 4.32m long by 2.08m wide with an internal area of 7.10 m². Fill was light to mid greyish brown sandy silt with occasional small gravel inclusions. It was 75% excavated and cut [7234] measured 0.34m in width and up to 0.20m deep. Fills [7235-36]. No finds.

F.740 – Rectilinear Slot: Aligned NE-SW and truncated by an evaluation trench. Remaining enclosure measured 3.40m long by 2.70m wide with an internal area of 6.0m². Fill was mid greyish brown with very occasional small gravel inclusions. It was 40% excavated and cut [7274] measured 0.39m wide by 0.14m deep with steep sides leading to a flat base. Fill [7273]. No finds.

F.741 – Rectilinear Slot: Aligned NE-SW and extending beyond the edge of excavation. Visible enclosure measured 3.30m long by 2.40m wide with an internal area of 5.92 m². Fill was mid greyish brown silty sand with occasional small gravel inclusions. It was 75% excavated and cut [7208] measured 0.34m in width by 0.09m deep with quite steep sides leading to a flat base. Fill [7207]. No finds.

F.742 – Rectilinear Slot: Aligned NE-SW and extending beyond the edge of excavation. Visible enclosure measured 2.20m long by 2.20m wide with an internal area of 3.61 m². Fill was mid greyish brown silty sand with occasional small gravel inclusions. It was 90% excavated, and cut [7284] measured 0.30m in width by 0.14m deep with steep sides leading to a flattish base. Fill [7283]. No finds.

F.743 – Rectilinear Slot: Aligned NE-SW and truncated by an evaluation trench. Remaining enclosure measured 2.35m long by 2.70m wide with an internal area of 4.11 m². Fill was light to mid greyish brown sandy silt with very occasional small inclusions. It was 90% excavated, and cut [7204] measured 0.38m in width by 0.14m deep with steep sides leading to flat base. Fill [7205-06]. No finds.

F.744 – Same as **F.748**.

F.745 – Gully: Aligned NE-SW with a visible length of 23m. It cut gully **F.749** and was cut by ditch **F.746** and gully **F.717**. Fill was predominantly mid grey sandy silt with very rare small gravel and chalk inclusions. Sampled in three slots: **Slot 741**; cut [7270] measured 0.46m in width by 0.16m deep with quite steep sides leading to a rounded base. Fill [7269]. No finds. **Slot 744**; cut [7192] measured 0.77m in width by 0.15m deep with quite steep sides leading to a flat base. Fill [7195]. No finds. **Slot 748**; cut [7229] measured 0.45m in width by 0.13m deep with quite steep sides leading to a rounded base. Fill [7228]. No finds.

F.746 – Recut of ditch **F.714**: Aligned NE-SW with a total length of 85m. It also cuts ditch **F.731** and gully **F.735** and was cut by modern ditches **F.711** and **F.712** and gully **F.747**. Fill was predominantly dark brownish grey sandy silt with very rare small gravel and chalk inclusions. Sampled in six slots: **Slot 703**; cut [7275] measured 1.20m in width by 0.33m deep with quite steep sides leading to a rounded base. Fills [7048-50]. No finds. **Slot 704**; cut [7276] measured 0.80m in width by 0.25m deep with quite steep sides leading to a fairly broad rounded base. Fill [7056]. No finds. **Slot 741**; cut [7264] measured 1.15m in depth by 0.50m deep with steep sides leading to a rounded base. Fill [7261-63]. No finds. **Slot 745**; cut [7186] measured .0.60m in width by 0.34m deep with steep sides leading to a flat base. Fill [7184]. No finds. **Slot 747**; cut [7231] measured 1.18m in width by 0.27m deep with steep sides leading to a broad, slightly rounded base. Fill [7216]. No finds. **Slot 748**; cut [7224] measured 1.50m in width by 0.27m deep with moderately steep sides leading to a broad flattish base. Fill [7223]. Contained pot.

F.747 – Gully: Aligned NE-SW with a total length of 10m. It cuts ditch **F.746** and was cut by two modern field drains. Fill was predominantly mid to dark grey sandy silt with very rare small gravel inclusions. Sampled in two slots: **Slot 741**; cut [7260] measured 0.50m in width by 0.08m deep with gently sloping sides leading to a rounded base. Fill [7259]. No finds. **Slot 748**; cut [7233] measured 0.56m in width by 0.07m deep with moderately sloping sides leading to a slightly rounded base. Fill [7232]. No finds.

F.748 – Possible cremation within a treethrow: Irregular in plan and cut by ditch **F.715**. Fill was dark grey sandy silt with rare small gravels and occasional charcoal inclusions. Cut [7244] measured

0.80m in width by 0.19m deep with irregular sides leading to an uneven base. Fill [7243]. Contained bone.

F.749 – Gully: Aligned NE-SW with a total length of 4.5m. It was cut by ditch **F.731** and gully **F.745**. Fill was mid brownish grey sandy silt with occasional small gravel inclusions. Sample in one slot: **Slot 744**; cut [7190] measured 0.38m in width and 0.17m deep with quite steep sides leading to a slightly rounded base. Fill [7191]. No finds.

F.750 – Ditch: Aligned N-S with a total length of 14m. It was cut by ditch **F.731**. Fill was mid grey sandy silt with rare small gravel inclusions. Sampled in one slot: **Slot 742**; cut [7246] measured 0.71m in width and 0.20m deep with moderately steep sides leading to a rounded base. Fill [7247]. No finds.

F.751 – Ditch: Aligned E-W with a total length of 18m. Fill was mid grey sandy silt with rare small gravel inclusions. Sampled in two slots: **Slot 752**; cut [7288] measured 0.50m in width and 0.31m deep with moderately steep sides leading to a rounded base. Fill [7287]. No finds. **Slot 753**; cut [7290] an irregular butt-end, measured 0.32m in width and 0.07m deep with truncated concave sides leading to a flat base. Fill [7289]. No finds.