Archaeological Evaluation of the Proposed A14 Ellington to Fen Ditton: 2009 *(Volume I)*

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and Robin Standring

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by the Cambridge Archaeological Unit (CAU) between April and November 2009, along the corridor for a proposed re-routing ('off-line') and widening ('on-line') of the A14 road between Ellington (NGR 518800 271900) and Fen Ditton (548955 / 261219). This work represented the first phase of trenching evaluation in support of Chapter 18 of the Environmental Statement and was commissioned by Costain Skanska Joint Venture on behalf of the Highways Agency.

*This stage of evaluation fieldwork was undertaken in order to investigate **13** principal areas of the proposed road (the 'Scheme') between Brampton and Girton, each with a known or high potential for archaeological remains. Part of the 'on-line' section of proposed widening between Bar Hill and Oakington had previously been evaluated by the CAU as part of the proposed Northstowe new town development and was not subject to further work.*

Background research and three phases of non-intrusive survey were employed along the Scheme as a means of locating archaeological remains for further investigation by archaeological trenching. Archived air photos were studied in order to map crop-marks of archaeological features and subsequent geophysical survey greatly enhanced these results by mapping many geophysical anomalies which were thought to indicate buried archaeological remains. A fieldwalking survey was undertaken in two phases in order to recover surface artefact scatters that were indicative of archaeological sites.

The evaluation trenching targeted the results of the non-intrusive surveys as well as giving an even coverage across the proposed scheme footprint. This work consisted of a 4% trenching sample of each area, with a further 1% deployed on a judgemental basis, in response to the archaeology encountered. In Areas C2 and N, the presence of deep alluvial deposits resulted in sampling through a system of machine cut test pits which could be immediately backfilled.

In total, the 13 areas (84.4 hectares) were evaluated with 37,021 square metres of archaeological trenching. As a result of this evaluation, 20 individual sites have been identified along the Scheme spanning the Late Neolithic to Anglo-Saxon periods (c. 4,000 BC to 600 AD).

Three Neolithic sites were identified, Sites 4, 7 and 15. Sites 4 and 7 were a series of Neolithic pits located on the Brampton gravel terrace at Area B1. Site 15 (Area N1) comprised preserved 'lower peat' layers adjacent to the River Ouse that contained worked flint and a single worked wooden post. The post has been scientifically dated to the Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age.

Two Later Prehistoric sites were discovered, Site 11 (Area M1) and 16 (Area R2), both comprising a series of ditches and pits with little artefactual material to enable a more precise date.

Seven Middle Iron Age sites were identified spread throughout the Scheme. At Site 1 (Area A) evidence for Middle Iron Age activity was recorded along the edge of a palaeochannel and appeared to represent the northern periphery of a settlement. At Site 6 (Area B1) Middle Iron Age activity was evidenced by a series of ditches which formed several enclosures. At Site 12 (Area N1) several ditch lines were recorded, forming a Middle Iron Age enclosure on a gravel ridge situated between river palaeochannels. Site 13 (Area C1) comprised two inter-related enclosures, possibly representing a small farmstead and paddock / enclosure with an associated fieldsystem. Site 17 (Area H) was a small part of a possible Middle Iron Age rectilinear enclosure associated with a series pits. Site 18 (Area T1) was a Middle Iron Age settlement located along the edge of a natural rise, comprised of two phases of circular and rectilinear enclosures. At Site 19 (Area K) a Middle Iron Age circular enclosure was recorded which cut through an earlier human burial.

Late Iron Age activity was recorded at Site 2 (Area B1) and Site 9 (Area B2). At Site 2 a series of ditches appeared to represent the southern extent of a large settlement (as indicated by a subsequent geophysical survey). This settlement continued into areas of the Scheme's footprint that were not part of the evaluated area. A series of ditches and pits at Site 9 indicated the northern extent of a Late Iron Age settlement which was situated along the bank of a palaeochannel (outside the Scheme) and continued in use until the 2nd century AD.

Four Romano-British sites were recorded at Sites 3 (Area B1), 10 (Area M1), 14 (Area C1) and 20 (Area K). Sites 14 and 20 both appeared to represent higher status settlements with dark midden-type deposits, evidence of buildings nearby and a number of Roman coins found at Site 14. At Sites 3 and 14 evidence for industrial activity was identified with a possible corn-drier present at Site 3 and a large quantity of charcoal rich features at Site 14.

Anglo-Saxon settlement was identified at two sites in Area B1, Sites 5 and 8. These were comprised of a series of potential grubenhäuser (termed sunken feature buildings) and timber built structures which continued outside of the Scheme boundary.

INTRODUCTION

This report compiles the findings of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by the Cambridge Archaeological Unit (CAU) between April and November 2009, along the corridor for a proposed re-routing ('off-line') and widening ('on-line') of the A14 road between Ellington (NGR 518800 271900) and Fen Ditton (548955 / 261219), hereafter referred to as 'the Scheme'. This work represented the first phase of trenching evaluation in support of Chapter 18 of the Environmental Statement and was commissioned by Costain Skanska Joint Venture on behalf of the Highways Agency.

Background

The Environmental Statement includes an archaeological background study which was undertaken by Atkins Heritage as part of the wider assessment of the cultural heritage potential of the scheme (Highways Agency 2009, Vol 1, Chapter 18). This study included an assessment of the wider archaeological and historical context of the Scheme, incorporating detailed information from the Historic Environment Record and will not be repeated here. The background study was further supplemented by primary research in the form of non-intrusive archaeological investigations in order to locate buried features or artefact concentrations:

- *Aerial Photographic Assessment* – A study of archived aerial photographs of the proposed Scheme was commissioned by Atkins and undertaken by Air Photo Services in 2003 (Palmer 2003). The study plotted crop mark and earth work evidence of archaeology as well as evidence of past ground disturbance. The assessment incorporated a 200m wide swathe either side of the proposed road scheme. In 2009 a further survey was commissioned on the Brampton terrace gravels by Lafarge Aggregates.
- *Fieldwalking* – An initial transect walk was undertaken along the entire Scheme route in order to locate artefact scatters in the ploughsoil. This was followed by a more in-depth gridded survey at key areas of higher potential (Anderson *et al.* 2009).
- *Geophysical Survey* – Three separate surveys were undertaken. Initially, Pre-Construct Geophysics was commissioned by Atkins to survey sections of the Scheme (Pre-Construct Geophysics 2007). A second survey was undertaken by Bartlett-Clark Consultancy on behalf of the CAU for areas that had not been accessible during the initial survey, plus the location of proposed reservoirs/flood alleviation associated with the Scheme (Bartlett 2009b). Bartlett-Clark Consultancy was also commissioned by Lafarge Aggregates to undertake a survey of the Brampton terraces either side of the proposed road route adjacent to evaluation Area B1 (Bartlett 2009a).

In selecting areas for evaluation fieldwork, the Scheme was assessed according to archaeological potential based upon the results of the above surveys and twenty four main evaluation areas lettered from A to X were identified (see Environmental Statement Vol 3B, Appendix J4). In summary, the selected areas fitted three main criteria of archaeological potential:

1. areas with known archaeological sites or probable features shown by previous non-intrusive investigation: Areas A, B1, B2, C1, C2, E, F, G, H, I, K, L, N1, O, P, R2, T1,
2 areas with a high potential for archaeology based on proximity to known archaeology and/or suitable topography: Areas D, M1
3 areas with some archaeological potential based upon topographical / geographical setting: Areas N2, Q, R1, S, U, V, W, X, T2

This 2009 evaluation fieldwork was undertaken in order to investigate those areas that fitted the first two of these criteria, and targeted 13 of these areas in total (see Figure 1). Areas E, F, I and L were not available for evaluation during the work programme

Part of the 'on-line' section of proposed widening and associated infrastructure (Area J) had previously been studied by the CAU between 2004 and 2006 as part of a major evaluation undertaken for the proposed Northstowe new town development situated between the Longstanton and Oakington junctions. The investigation was undertaken along the northern edge of the A14 near Bar Hill and incorporated an aerial photographic study, geophysical survey and evaluation trenching. Three sites were identified (the nomenclature from that investigation has been maintained) and these were:

- Site XII – An extensive enclosure system dating to the later Iron Age with a sub-circular double ditched enclosure, which formed part of a much larger enclosure system. This was subsequently overlain by an early Romano-British system (Evans & Mackay 2004).
- Site XXVI – A series of fieldsystem enclosures possibly related to Site XXVII (Evans *et al.* 2006).
- Site XXVII – A dense Romano-British settlement formed by a main enclosure with its interior sub-divided by small square and quasi-circular paddocks. An extensive assemblage of artefactual material was recovered which, along with the features in the evaluation, suggested that this was a very dense, multi-phased Romano-British settlement and substantial building (Evans *et al*. 2006).

Aims, objectives and research design

The principal objectives of the 2009 evaluation were to determine the presence/absence, extent, date, state of preservation and significance of any sub-soil archaeological features within the Scheme.

These objectives were defined by Atkins Heritage within the brief for evaluation and further defined within the Environmental Statement as part of the wider assessment of cultural heritage (Hewson 2008, Environmental Statement, Vol 1, Chapter 18):

- to determine the extent and value (importance) of any archaeological remains within the footprint of the Scheme such that the significance of the Scheme can be reported.

- to provide information to inform a mitigation strategy, whether that should be *preservation in situ* or *preservation by record*.

These core objectives were supplemented by national and wider regional research questions to be addressed by the evaluation which are outlined in detail by the Environmental Statement (Vol 3B, Appendix J3) and the Cambridge Archaeological Unit in a Written Scheme of Investigation (Standring & Evans 2009).

These research questions focused on how the Scheme could contribute to an understanding of past rural settlement ('research') and to what extent selected methods of assessment had been successful in locating and characterising archaeological remains throughout the scheme on differing geologies ('methodological').

The main local research questions are summarised below.

(i) To what extent the location and distribution of prehistoric and Roman agrarian, settlement and 'ritual' landscapes varied between gravel terrace and claylands within Cambridgeshire and how the results of the evaluation conformed/differed to established settlement models.

The majority of the 2009 evaluation (**50.4% 41.78 hectares**) was to be undertaken on gravel terrace deposits, and it was on these that the full range of archaeological sites were anticipated; with settlement expected to concentrate adjacent to water sources (river or stream valleys, *etc* see Dawson 2000). The large quantity of known prehistoric funerary and 'ritual' monuments on the wider Brampton Terrace and Ouse Valley have received study in the last 40 years, but the full extent, character and relationship of these monuments requires further study, particularly in addressing themes of transition from monument to settlement dominated landscapes.

There is therefore the potential to contribute to a spatial and temporal, landscape-scale understanding of archaeology on a key part of the Cambridgeshire gravels, especially in relation to the social and ritual definitions of the landscape of the Ouse Valley.

The evaluation will provide an opportunity to study a swathe across the Cambridgeshire claylands, offering the potential to examine aspects of continuity and change from the Neolithic to the Late Saxon periods.

Of the remaining evaluation sample of the claylands (**49.6%, 41.12 hectares**), the recent fieldwork at Longstanton (Evans *et al.* 2006, 2007), Ely (Evans 2000, 2002), Papworth-Everard (Patten 2009), and on the A428 (Abrams & Ingham 2008) was expected to provide insights on the range of archaeological sites which can occur on these 'heavier' soils. While low density traces of earlier prehistoric usage / 'visitation' – Mesolithic to Bronze Age – were expected, the vast majority of sites were expected to be of Middle/later Iron Age and Roman date. The clayland sites were envisioned to be large, robust and 'obvious' Iron Age and Roman settlements, and based on the results from the Longstanton investigations these were expected to occur at densities of 2.6 and 1.4 sites per square kilometre (see Evans *et al.* 2008).

Locally, the large scale nature of the Scheme has the scope to reveal most about the location and distribution of Iron Age settlements (particularly on the claylands), as well as the opportunity to contribute to our understanding of the development of the Iron Age agrarian economy through new evidence for Iron Age agricultural settlements and fieldsystems. The Scheme also crosses the hinterland of the Roman town of Godmanchester, potentially contributing to our understanding of the development of town on the surrounding countryside by placing the evidence for Roman activity within the Scheme in the wider landscape.

(ii) To what extent the evaluation supported or contradicted the results of non-intrusive surveys (air photo plotting, geophysical survey and fieldwalking) and how this contributed to an overall assessment of archaeological potential throughout the route.

Based on other local work such as the evaluation at Longstanton adjacent to the A14 (Evans *et al.* 2006, 2007), it was considered that the 'robust' Iron Age and Roman archaeology would be clearly visible upon geophysical surveys of the route. Widespread evaluation trenching both of geophysical 'targets' and other areas along the route would establish to what extent these types of sites were 'visible' to non-intrusive surveys and provide assessment of confidence on the overall archaeological evaluation.

Whether Neolithic, Bronze Age and Early Iron Age activity could be recovered by the evaluation would also be addressed. These sites are considered to be less suitable to discovery by some forms of non-intrusive survey, and indeed evaluation trenching (when compared to the large enclosed Iron Age and Roman sites). Widespread trenching at a 5% sample density, guided in some areas by positive fieldwalking results, was considered to be a useful methodological 'control' for locating these types of prehistoric sites.

The fieldwalking survey (Anderson *et al*. 2009) demonstrated that prehistoric worked flint was present in the top-soil at a number of locations along the route (where there was not always a corresponding indication of archaeological features on either air photos or geophysical plots). Evaluation trenching would be used to determine whether the fieldwalking had located robust 'sites' with cut features or whether the finds represented a form of 'ploughsoil archaeology'. The finds of later potential settlement evidence such as Saxon pottery during the fieldwalking of the Brampton terrace was an unusual occurrence (D. Hall *pers. comm*.) and this was thought to indicate the location of a nearby settlement, a hypothesis which could be further tested by evaluation trenching.

Archaeological features were found by air photo assessment in the Scheme, but only upon lighter gravel soils (Palmer 2003). In general, heavy clay soils only register crop marks of archaeological features during drought years (Mills and Palmer 2007). The majority of the Cambridgeshire clays, including the Scheme are not covered by the 'drought' photography that has yielded successful results for the Boulder Clay of Bedfordshire and local areas of Cambridgeshire around St Neots. It was expected that evaluation trenching would effectively fill this gap in knowledge and test whether sites identified on gravel areas also continued onto the clay.

Methodology

An evaluation by trial trenching was commissioned to investigate those areas of higher archaeological potential where landowner access had been granted for the 2009 works. Trenches were targeted upon possible features recorded by the geophysical and aerial photographic surveys, and upon areas of high potential identified during the fieldwalking survey (see above).

The initial trenching sample constituted a 4% by area sample, targeting possible features and aiming to give an even coverage of individual evaluation areas (a standard interval sample was maintained along the linear length of the Scheme). These trenches were then supplemented by 1% judgemental trenching in response to the archaeology encountered. In Areas C2 and N1, the deep alluvial deposits resulted in sampling through a system of machine-cut test pits which could be immediately backfilled.

The trenches and test pits were excavated using a 360º tracked machine with a 2m wide toothless ditching bucket and supervised by an experienced archaeologist. Trenches were confined to the route of the proposed Scheme, within restricted and pre-determined areas (proposed road corridor, bridges, junctions and flood alleviation schemes).

Trenches were machine excavated down to a level where any and all archaeological features were visible; these were planned and hand excavated by a team of experienced archaeologists. A sample of the archaeological features encountered were hand excavated in order to fully characterise the site. Where the wholescale excavation of important (and partially exposed) features would have had a detrimental effect, only limited investigation was undertaken sufficient to characterise the feature e.g. burial, structural remains *etc*. Linear features were sectioned where appropriate to obtain the best results, for example at terminals and junctions. Pits, postholes, and other discrete features were sample excavated and at a minimum half-sectioned. Features which were too deep to be fully excavated within the confines of a 2m wide trench were augured, in consultation with Atkins Heritage and the Cambridgeshire Archaeology Planning and Countryside Advice (CAPCA) Officer.

All of the exposed features were scanned with a metal detector and the finds were assigned individual numbers and plotted. Environmental sampling (20l samples) followed guidelines outlined in *Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation* (English Heritage 2002). Samples were taken from suitable contexts (e.g. waterlogged or charcoal rich) across the site and were analysed for molluscan and macro-botanical remains. Where encountered human remains were left *in-situ*, covered and their location recorded.

In order to sample artefact densities within the sub-soil and top-soil deposits, a 100 litre hand sorting of soils was undertaken ('bucket sampling') along the length of the Scheme. This was undertaken at 100m sample intervals where the proposed route bisected clay geologies and at 50m intervals on gravel (Standring & Evans 2009).

Trench and test pit recording sheets were completed for all trenches and test pits. These recorded the section profiles and geological variances of the trenches or test pits. Accompanying these sheets were scale plans of all archaeological features (at 1:50), detailed written records of excavated features, sections drawn at a scale of 1:10 and digital photographs taken. The Unit-modified version of the MoLAS recording system was employed throughout with all excavated stratigraphic events assigned feature numbers (F.#) and all contexts assigned individual numbers ([context #]). The excavation areas, and trenches were fixed to the Ordnance Survey (OS) grid and a contour survey undertaken with an advanced Global Positioning System.

The report has been divided into four evaluation sectors (AS 1-4) grouped by geology / topography and each sector split into evaluated areas. This enables a more convenient analytical framework to facilitate discussion of key research questions. A brief discussion for each Area (A-T1) is given with appropriate specialist reports embedded in the fieldwork results. Each sector is discussed in detail in the final discussion in the context of relevant aims and objectives and key research questions. The report is presented in the house prose style of the Cambridge Archaeological Unit with feature numbers appearing in bold the first time they are encountered in the text (**F.#**). The specialist reports are incorporated into the sections on the individual areas with technical details provided in 10pt text.

Results Summary

In total 13 areas were trial trenched, culminating in 37021m² of archaeological trenching (Figure 1.).

Area	Area Size (m²)	Number of Trenches	Total Evaluated (m²)	Identified Sites
A	9747	6	482.1	1
B1	110909	69	5546.5	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8
B2	63102	19	1763.4	6 and 9
C1	80719	35	3959.0	13 and 14
C2	11664	4	401.4	14
D	40204	21	1549.0	-
G	43297	17	1919.4	-
H	5525	3	394.0	17
K	58425	32	2814.8	19 and 20
M1	94935	41	4174.8	10 and 11
N1	56546	18	2123.5	12 and 15
R2	67700	26	3227.7	16
T1	186289	71	8665.3	18
Total	**829062**	**362**	**37021**	

Table 1: Total areas and identified sites

As a result of these evaluations a series of sites have been identified along the proposed Scheme and each of these have been assigned their own unique 'site' number. These sites have been characterised based upon their geographical and temporal location, and as a result some sites straddle multiple lettered areas e.g. C2 and C1 or B1 and B2, and some occur within the same area (multi-phased sites with an obvious hiatus or distinctiveness are given different site numbers).

Site Number	Area	Period
1	A	Middle Iron Age
2	B1	Late Iron Age
3	B1	Romano-British
4	B1	Neolithic
5	B1	Anglo-Saxon
6	B1 & B2	Middle Iron Age
7	B1	Neolithic
8	B1	Anglo-Saxon
9	B2	Late Iron Age/Early Romano-British
10	M1	Romano-British
11	M1	Bronze Age/Iron Age
12	N1	Middle Iron Age
13	C1	Middle Iron Age
14	C1 & C2	Romano-British
15	N1	Late Neolithic/ Early Bronze Age
16	R2	Late Prehistoric
17	H	Middle Iron Age
18	T1	Middle Iron Age
19	K	Middle Iron Age
20	K	Romano-British

Table 2: Assigned sites, location and date

For analytical convenience the results have been organised into four evaluation sectors (AS 1-4) of the route running west to east and grouped by their topographical /geological location. Each investigated area is reported on within these sectors as a landscape block with an overview of the archaeology in this vicinity. Finally, an overall discussion of the known archaeology is presented at the end of the report.

Sector	Name	Proposed Route section	Areas	Sites
AS 1	The Brampton Terrace	Off-line route	A, B1 and B2	1 to 8
AS 2	The Ouse River Valley	Off-line route	B2, C1, C2, M1 and N1	9 to 15
AS 3	The Boulder Clay	Off-line route	D	
AS 4	The Southern Clays	On-line route	G, H, K, R2 and T1	16 to 20*

Table 3: Sectors of the report grouped by geology, showing the areas and sites within each one. *This will include the Northstowe sites (Evans *et al*. 2007)

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FIELDWORK RESULTS

The Scheme traverses a wide and varied landscape which encompasses both gravel and clay geologies and varying topography including low lying and fertile gravel terraces, river and stream valleys, and a variety of clay 'uplands' that include Boulder, Oxford, Ampthill, Gault and Kimmeridge Clays. The results, comprising twenty identified 'Sites' have been presented from west to east along the route, beginning with Area A (Site 1) adjacent to Ellington and finishing at Area K (Site 20) adjacent to Girton (Figure 1). Results have been grouped into four sectors, each corresponding to a cohesive geological and topographical 'unit' which also broadly corresponds with the types of archaeological sites found e.g. Neolithic/Bronze Age remains being found only on the gravels. This allows for a fulsome discussion of results by sector allowing the sites to be referenced to the immediate and differing archaeological context of each topographical/geological zone.

THE BRAMPTON TERRACE – AS 1

This first archaeological sector incorporates those individual sites (Figure 2) located towards the western end of the project on the Brampton terrace gravels. The sites included here (Sites 1-8) were found within Areas A and B1, with some overlap into Area B2 (the majority of B2 is included within The Ouse River Valley – AS 2). A brief summary of each area follows:

> ***Area A:*** *A total of six trenches and two open areas were excavated to the west of Brampton village. A palaeochannel was identified within two of the trenches with evidence for a small ditch cut along one edge which contained Middle Iron Age artefacts (Site 1).*
>
> ***Area B1 and B2:*** *A total of 89 trenches were excavated across areas B1 and B2 to the west of Brampton. Neolithic activity was recorded as a series of discrete features (Sites 4 and 7). An Iron Age presence was recorded throughout both areas B1 and B2, with Late Iron Age settlement activity present at the northern end of B1 (Site 2) and a Middle Iron Age enclosure system to the south (Site 6). Romano-British settlement activity, including enclosure ditches, were identified within the centre of Area B (Site 3). Within Area B1, Anglo-Saxon activity was recorded with evidence for settlement in the form of several Grubenhäuser and post-built structures (Sites 5 and 8).*

Area A Ricky Patten (Figure 3)

Area A was situated at 11m AOD (Above Ordnance Datum) to the west of the village of Brampton (NGR 519308 271492). The underlying geology was characterised by First/Second terrace gravels (British Geological Survey Sheet 187). Area A was 9747m² located towards the southern edge of a cultivated field, which at the time of the evaluation contained a wheat crop. To the east of Area A was the A1, to the north Brampton Hut services and to the south and west open fields. This phase of the evaluation was undertaken between 11th and 13th May 2009.

A geophysical survey was undertaken in 2007 along the proposed route of the Scheme through Area A (Preconstruct Geophysics 2007). This identified the presence of a possible palaeochannel, but no archaeological cut features.

Trench No.	Length (m)	Orientation	Top-soil (m)	Sub-soil (m)	Total Depth (m)	Archaeology	Geology
65	25	NE-SW	0.50	0.40	0.90	None	Terrace gravels
66	49	NW-SE	0.39	0.30	0.69	Palaeochannel/ Iron Age	Terrace gravels
67	25	NE-SW	0.45	0.43	0.88	Palaeochannel	Terrace gravels
68	25	NE-SW	0.37	0.33	0.70	None	Terrace gravels
69	46.9	NW-SE	0.36	0.28	0.64	Post-Medieval	Terrace gravels
70	25	NE-SW	0.46	0.27	0.73	None	Terrace gravels

Table 4: Trench information from Area A

Results

Six trenches and two small open areas were excavated totalling 483m². Archaeological activity was recorded within three of these trenches, a 'brush drain' in Trench 69, and artefactual material caught along the edge of a palaeochannel in Trenches 66 and 67. Two small judgemental areas were excavated to further investigate the archaeological remains encountered.

Trench 65

Trench 65 was located at the northern end of the evaluated area. No archaeological features were recorded within this trench.

Trench 66

Trench 66 was located along the spine of the proposed route towards the northern end of the evaluated area. The remnants of a northeast-southwest orientated palaeochannel were recorded throughout the majority of this trench and Trench 67. The first of the two open areas was excavated off this trench to further investigate the palaeochannel. Recovered from along the western edge of the channel were fragments of Middle Iron Age pottery (9 pieces; 20g) and animal bone (16 fragments; 48g). This material was within what appeared to be a linear feature (**F.152**; Table A1.1; Figure 4) aligned

along the edge of the channel. This was sealed between alluvial deposits suggesting that the channel may have been seasonally dry. This linear feature, and the artefacts recovered, indicate the presence of Middle Iron Age activity within the landscape, while the absence of further features would suggest that it occurred outside of the evaluated area.

Trench 67

Trench 67 was cut at right angles to, and abutting, Trench 66 and was dominated by the presence of the palaeochannel identified in Trench 66. A single flint blade and six fragments of pottery were recovered from the western edge of the palaeochannel within this trench; however, there was no trace of the linear feature recorded in Trench 66.

Trench 68

Trench 68 was located within the centre of the evaluated area. No archaeological features were recorded within this trench.

Trench 69

Trench 69 was located along the centre line of the proposed route, and upon machining two features were identified (Table A1.2). Initially, what appeared to have been a posthole was identified at the southeast end of the trench and as a result a small box was excavated around it to determine the presence or absence of further structural features; however, upon excavation it was apparent that it was animal disturbance within a tree throw. At the northwest end of the trench **F.138** was a northeast-southwest 'brush' drain which, rather than containing a clay pipe, had been filled with a series of large stones to aid drainage. No artefactual material was recovered from this feature; however, it was most likely to be of post-Medieval origin.

Trench 70

Trench 70 was located towards the southern end of the evaluated area. No archaeological features were recorded within this trench.

Specialist Reports

The Flint (Lawrence Billington)

Excavations at Site A recovered a single blade-like flake of probable Neolithic date from the palaeochannel in Trench 67.

Faunal Remains (Vida Rajkovača)

Faunal remains represented the hand collected material. Identification of the assemblage was undertaken with the aid of Schmid (1972), Hillson (1999) and reference material from the Cambridge Archaeological Unit, Grahame Clark Zooarchaeology Lab, Department of Archaeology in Cambridge. The same methodology was carried out throughout the assessment of the Scheme and so will not be repeated for each faunal remain report, except where it differs.

Eight animal bones from one context were recovered during the evaluation of Area A. These were found in Trench 66 (F.152), five of which were identifiable to species (Table 5). One cattle tooth, several ovicaprid (sheep/goat) teeth fragments and one ovicaprid humerus were analysed as well as fragments of an unidentified medium-mammal skull, tibia and metapodial. The preservation of the material was quite poor and the material was highly fragmented. No measurable or ageable specimens were noted in this sub-set. The material was found in association with Middle Iron Age pottery and a similar date is therefore assigned for the bone.

Species	NISP
Cow	1
Ovicaprid	4
UMM	3

Key: UMM & ULM = Unidentified Medium and Large Mammal / UUM = Unidentified Fragment. These differ from the unidentified counts as these are calculated on the basis of element identification (for UMM & ULM) and total fragments (for UUM) (corresponding to Σ in brackets).

Table 5: NISP and MNI counts for contexts in Area A.

Discussion (Figure 5)

The evaluation at Area A identified the presence of Middle Iron Age activity within the vicinity (Site 1). The palaeochannel recorded within Trenches 66 and 67 could have acted as a focus for this activity and the presence of a single possible cut feature along the edge of the channel would suggest that this was on the periphery of any activity. The ditch itself could have been cut during a dry spell in the channel in an attempt to either improve the water flow, or to create a flow of water along the western edge. The quantity of pottery and animal bone recovered, along with the presence of charcoal and burnt clay, suggests that this represents peripheral activity. The results from various aerial photographic and geophysical surveys to the south have highlighted the presence of a large, probable Iron Age settlement (Preconstruct Geophysics 2007). The activity recorded here appears to be the edge, or northern extent, of this settlement and the utilisation of a wet environment.

Area B1 Adam Slater (Figure 6)

Area B1 was situated between 12.2m and 19.3m AOD to the west of Brampton within the land associated with Brampton Lodge Farm (centred NGR 519575-269770). The site was bounded to the southeast by the current carriageway of the A1 (separating Area B1 from Area B2) and was transacted by Grafham road and by a narrow east-west brook. Numerous services were located within the northern part of the evaluated area, which restricted the location of some trenches. The underlying geology was characterised by Terrace Gravels (British Geological Survey) within the majority of the site, with a transition to clays being identified in Trenches 22, 23 and 24 within the western extent of the evaluation area. The evaluation of Area B1 occurred between the 29th April and the 29th May 2009 within agricultural land, with Trenches 12 to 39 within un-harvested wheat, Trench 22 within un-harvested oilseed-rape and Trenches 40 to 64 within open pasture.

Sixty-nine trenches were excavated within Area B1 totalling 5546.5m². Archaeological features were identified within all but 14 of the trenches (Trenches 13 to 17, 22, 35 to 39, 43, 63 and 64). Archaeological features comprising of Neolithic pits, Middle to Late Iron Age and Gallo-Belgic enclosures, boundaries and occupational activity, later Romano-British enclosures, agricultural features and quarrying, Anglo-Saxon activity and numerous undated, Medieval, post-Medieval linear features were identified throughout the excavated area. The site demonstrated a notable downward slope from the north to south with numerous 'natural' terraces and the distribution of archaeological remains was identified to be located within well defined sites, largely by period (Sites 2-6).

Trench No.	Length (m)	Orientation	Top-soil (m)	Sub-soil (m)	Total Depth (m)	Archaeology	Geology
12	26.4	E-W	0.3	0.28	0.58	Iron Age pits and ditches, post-Medieval	Terrace gravel
12A	22.4	NNE-SSW	0.33	0.18	0.5	Iron Age ditches	Terrace gravel
12B	23.5	N-S	0.3	0.27	0.57	Iron Age pits, postholes, ditches	Terrace gravel
13	57.7	N-S	0.33	0.19	0.52	None	Terrace gravel
14	22.6	E-W	0.38	0.3	0.68	None	Terrace gravel
15	46.7	N-S	0.28	0.28	0.55	None	Terrace gravel
16	23.7	E-W	0.29	0.3	0.59	None	Terrace gravel
17	29.5	NE-SW	0.38	0.26	0.63	None	Terrace gravel
18	38.6	E-W	0.4	0.23	0.63	Iron Age Pit	Terrace gravel
18A	30.3	N-S	0.28	0.28	0.55	Postholes	Terrace gravel
18B	9.9	N-S	0.3	0.3	0.6	None	Terrace gravel
19	47.8	N-S	0.3	0.23	0.53	Ditch	Terrace gravel
20	38.0	E-W	0.35	0.28	0.63	None	Terrace gravel
21	46.9	N-S	0.48	0.23	0.71	Gallo-Belgic Ditch	Terrace gravel
22	18.0	NW-SE	0.32	0.25	0.58	None	Boulder Clay
23	35.4	NE-SW	0.36	0.39	0.76	Modern Field Boundary	Boulder Clay & Terrace gravel
24	43.9	NE-SW	0.36	0.42	0.7	Ditch, Pit	Terrace gravel
25	19.1	NW-SE	0.36	0.22	0.58	Ditchess	Terrace gravel

26	24.2	E-W	0.41	0.37	0.78	Ditch, Gallo-Belgic ditch	Terrace Gravel
27	94.5	N-S	0.46	0.48	0.94	Modern disturbance	Terrace Gravel
28	24.6	E-W	0.42	0.36	0.78	Ditch	Terrace Gravel
29	49.7	E-W	0.38	0.34	0.72	Late Iron Age pit, Roman quarry, Roman Ditch	Terrace Gravel
30	28.4	N-S	0.47	0.32	0.79	Roman linear features	Terrace Gravel
30A	46.9	NE-SW	0.35	0.32	0.67	Roman linear features	Terrace Gravel
30B	25.8	N-S	0.39	0.41	0.8	Roman linear features	Terrace Gravel
31	24.3	E-W	0.42	0.35	0.77	Roman linear features	Terrace Gravel
32	10.9	N-S	0.38	0.38	0.76	Roman Linear features, inhumation	Terrace Gravel
33	29.8	E-W	0.35	0.28	0.63	Roman Ditches, Pits	Terrace Gravel
34	30.6	ENE-WSW	0.38	0.39	0.77	Roman Linear feature	Terrace Gravel
35	28.9	N-S	0.4	0.35	0.75	None	Terrace Gravel
36	24.2	N-S	0.39	0.28	0.67	None	Terrace Gravel
37	28.1	E-W	0.45	0.41	0.86	None	Boulder Clay
38	38.9	N-S	0.31	0.24	0.55	None	Terrace Gravel
39	22.8	E-W	0.28	0.31	0.59	None	Terrace Gravel
40	13.6	E-W	0.35	0.27	0.62	Roman, post-Medieval	Terrace Gravel
40A	38.6	N-S	0.28	0.13	0.4	Roman	Terrace Gravel
41	10.5	N-S	0.34	0.28	0.62	Roman	Terrace Gravel
41A	43.4	E-W	0.36	0.29	0.64	Roman	Terrace Gravel
42	10.6	ENE-WSW	0.33	0.14	0.47	Linear features, Neolithic Tree-throws/ Pits	Terrace Gravel
42A	47.6	NNW-SSE	0.28	0.22	0.5	Linear feature, Neolithic Tree-throws/ pits	Terrace Gravel
42B	9.3	NNW-SSE	0.26	0.13	0.49	Anglo-Saxon, ditches	Terrace Gravel
43	51.1	NNW-SSE	0.25	0.18	0.43	Linear feature	Terrace Gravel
44	29.9	NNW-SSE	0.32	0.14	0.46	Anglo-Saxon Grubenhäus	Terrace Gravel
45	63.3	ENE-WSW	0.34	0.17	0.51	Linear feature, post-Medieval, postholes/ pits	Terrace Gravel
45A	36.2	NNW-SSE	0.35	0.29	0.61	Post-Medieval quarry	Terrace Gravel
46	59.4	ENE-WSW	0.31	0.14	0.45	Grubenhäus, post-Medieval quarry	Terrace Gravel
47	46.9	NNW-SSE	0.37	0.26	0.63	None	Terrace Gravel
48	25.1	NNW-SSE	0.36	0.22	0.58	pit, ditch	Terrace Gravel
48A	38.8	NNW-SSE	0.33	0.25	0.58	Grubenhäus, linear feature	Terrace Gravel
49	20.0	ENE-WSW	0.34	0.15	0.49	Anglo-Saxon pit, ditch, posthole	Terrace Gravel
49A	100.7	NNW-SSE	0.29	0.28	0.57	None	Terrace Gravel
50	75.8	NW-SE	0.34	0.2	0.54	Neolithic pit, Iron Age ditches, Iron Age Pit, Enclosure, Furrows	Terrace Gravel

50A	10.1	NE-SW	0.29	0.26	0.65	Iron Age ditch	Terrace Gravel
50B	52.6	NE-SW	0.28	0.23	0.51	Furrows	Terrace Gravel
51	48.0	NE-SW	0.32	0.15	0.47	Prehistoric Linear features, postholes	Terrace Gravel
52	99.0	NW-SE	0.32	0.11	0.43	Iron Age Enclosure, Prehistoric Linear features	Terrace Gravel
53	47.9	NE-SW	0.24	0.23	0.47	Gully Terminus	Terrace Gravel
54	47.9	NE-SW	0.29	0.21	0.5	Prehistoric ditch, pit	Terrace Gravel
55	37.7	NW-SE	0.33	0.24	0.57	Linear features	Terrace Gravel
56	49.4	ENE-WSW	0.31	0.13	0.44	Linear features	Terrace Gravel
56A	36.8	NW-SE	0.27	0.17	0.44	Anglo-Saxon Pit, Ditches	Terrace Gravel
56B	25.9	ENE-WSW	0.27	0.17	0.44	Linear features	Terrace Gravel
57	40.4	NNE-SSW	0.28	0.1	0.3	Linear features/ Furrows	Terrace Gravel
58	59.7	NNW-SSE	0.29	0.1	0.38	Linear features/ Furrows	Terrace Gravel
59	75.6	NE-SW	0.21	0.06	0.27	Iron Age Ditch	Terrace Gravel
60	37.4	NE-SW	0.3	0.06	0.36	Linear feature	Terrace Gravel
61	48.9	N-S	0.3	0.08	0.38	Linear features	Terrace Gravel
62	38.7	NW-SE	0.36	0.16	0.52	Linear features	Terrace Gravel
63	40.3	E-W	0.48	0.19	0.67	None	Terrace Gravel
64	36.8	NE-SW	0.43	0.59	1.02	None	Terrace Gravel

Table 6: Trench information from Area B1

Results

Trench 12

Trench 12 was located within the northern part of the evaluated area (Figure 7). A large irregular, sub-rounded feature was located within the western end of the trench. A 1m x1m sondage excavated within the eastern side demonstrated that at least five inter-cutting pits were present (**F. 171, F. 173, F. 174, F. 175, F.176**; Table B1.1), of which the deepest was 0.4m. An auger survey of the centre of the conglomeration revealed a maximum depth of 0.8m centrally. No material culture was recovered from the pits, although its proximity to the Late Iron Age linear features/ enclosures in adjacent trenches strongly indicates an Iron Age date. A northeast-southwest orientated ditch, seemed to correspond with the multiple re-cut 'enclosure' ditches present within Trench 12A, and was located adjacent to and respecting the pit cluster.

Three narrow, shallow north-south aligned linear features, **F. 105**, **F. 106** and **F. 145** were identified within the eastern end of the trench and are likely to represent Medieval or post-Medieval plough bases; F. 145 truncated the potentially Late Iron Age enclosure ditch and it is likely that F. 105 continued into Trench 12A and truncated the enclosure ditches there (as **F. 111**).

Trench 12A

Trench 12A was located within the northern limit of the evaluated area (Figure 7) and was dug to identify the continuation of linear features located within Trench 12. A series of Late Iron Age ditches were identified. The deepest appeared to form the southeastern axis of a rectilinear 'enclosure', formed by **F. 113**, a 0.83m deep northeast-southwest orientated ditch, which showed at least three phases of re-cutting (F. 112, **F. 114, F. 115** and possibly **F. 111**; Table B1.2); the primary re-cut containing Late Iron Age pottery. A probable returning northwest-southeast aligned ditch was also identified.

Trench 12B

Trench 12B was the northernmost trench within the evaluated area (Figure 7) and was located to identify the extent of the probable Late Iron Age pit cluster within Trench 12 as well as to assess the continuation of Late Iron Age linear features within Trench 12A. Two northeast-southwest aligned linear features corresponding with F. 129/ F. 130 and F.131/ F. 134 within Trench 12A were identified, as well as three possible postholes/ small pits (all unexcavated).

Trench 13

Trench 13 was located centrally within the north of the evaluated area, to confirm the presence of a northeast-southwest aligned linear feature identified during the geophysical survey (Preconstruct Geophysics 2007). No archaeological features were identified within this trench.

Trench 14, 15, 16 and 17

Trenches 14, 15, 16 and 17 were located centrally within the north of the evaluated area. No archaeological features were identified within any of these trench.

Trench 18

Trench 18 was located centrally within the northern part of the evaluated area. A single pit, **F. 128** was identified towards the western end of this trench (Table B1.3). The pit was circular, with a maximum depth of 1.18m, definite undercutting sides and a flat base (Figure 8). Compacted silty clay fills typical of gradual 'silting' were evident throughout the pit, with most containing high densities of burnt stone, charcoal and frequent animal bone suggestive of nearby occupational activity: potentially associated with the pits/ postholes identified within Trench 18A. The upper fill contained Middle Iron Age pottery and it is probable, taking the profile of the pit into consideration that it could be dated to this period and may have represented a discrete storage pit.

Trench 18A

Trench 18A was located within the northern part of the evaluated area, adjoining Trench 18, adjacent to pit F. 128, to identify the presence of associated archaeological remains (Table B1.4). Two small pits/ postholes were present within the northern part of this trench, which although potentially associated with Middle Iron Age pit F. 128 were devoid of any archaeological material culture.

Trench 18B

Trench 18B was located within the north of the evaluated area, adjoining the eastern end of Trench 18 (foreshortened due to the proximity of buried services), and placed as to assess the extent of archaeological features associated with pit F.128 within Trench 18. No archaeological features were identified within this trench.

Trench 19

Trench 19 was located centrally within the northern part of the area of evaluation and adjoined to the centre of Trench 20. A single, shallow northwest-southeast aligned linear ditch **F. 190** (Table B1.5) was located within the northern end of this trench; undated, F. 190 did not continue into the adjacent Trench 18A.

Trench 20

Trench 20 was located within the north of the evaluated area, abutting the southern end of Trench 19. No archaeological features were identified within this trench.

Trench 21

Trench 21 was located centrally within the northern part of the evaluated area and was excavated to identify the presence of an east northeast-west southwest aligned linear feature recorded during the geophysical survey (Preconstruct Geophysics 2007). The ditch was located within the southern end of the trench and was the only archaeological feature present. **F. 103** (Table B1.6) was a shallow ditch containing a high quantity of Late Iron Age/ early Roman period pottery (169 sherds, 1980g from a 1m slot). Morphologically, F. 103 was similar to **F. 126**, aligned north to south within Trench 26 and is likely associated with this, forming the northern side of an early Romano-British enclosure.

Trench 21A

Trench 21A was an extension to Trench 21 tracing the continued orientation of ditch F. 103. The ditch was identified as continuing in a west-south-westerly direction without deviation for the length of the trench (18m), an alignment that would suggest an association with **F. 122** within Trench 26.

Trench 22

Trench 22 was the westernmost trench within the evaluated area and the only trench to be located entirely on clay. No archaeological features were identified within this trench.

Trench 23

Trench 23 was located within the far west of the northern part of the evaluated area and contained a wide, deep drainage ditch/ post-Medieval field boundary aligned north-south and marking the transition within the underlying geology from gravels to clay. A cluster of modern clay field drains was located in the base and it is likely to represent a fairly recent feature, although possibly re-utilising an older field boundary.

Trench 24

Trench 24 was located to the west of the northern part of the evaluated area, targeting the presence of a short north-south linear feature and a potentially ferrous register identified during geophysical survey (Preconstruct Geophysics 2007). No linear feature was located within the trench and the only archaeological features present was a small circular pit/ posthole **F. 118**, truncated by a small pit **F. 119** (Table B1.7). The pit contained small quantities of burnt flint at the base and frequent charcoal throughout the fill suggesting nearby occupation. No datable material culture was recovered from either feature.

Trench 25

Trench 25 was located to the west of the northern part of the evaluated area. Two archaeological features were present within this trench. A circular pit **F. 116** was truncated by a shallow northeast to southwest aligned ditch **F. 117** (Table B1.8). Neither feature contained any datable material culture.

Trench 26

Trench 26 was located to the west within the northern part of the evaluated area and was located to identify the presence of a north-south aligned linear feature and a northeast-southwest aligned linear feature recorded by the geophysical and aerial surveys (Preconstruct Geophysics 2007). Both the linear features were identified within the trench. A narrow north-south orientated ditch, **F. 122**, contained small quantities of Late Iron Age or Early Roman period pottery. This was likely to be contemporary with F. 103 within Trench 21/ 21A and represent the western side of a Late Iron Age/ Early Romano-British enclosure.

Several irregular cut features (**F. 142, F. 143** and **F. 144**; Table B1.9) were located within the western end of the trench; likely to be pits or possible termini of ditches

(Figure 8). These were truncated by wide, deep northeast-southwest aligned ditch **F. 141**. Several highly abraded crumbs of potentially prehistoric pottery and a single undiagnostic flint, all likely to be residual, were present within the upper ditch fills, but no datable material culture was recovered.

Trench 27

Trench 27 was located centrally within the northern part of the evaluated area. Two small areas of burning, containing broken fragments of modern brick were identified within the sub-soil.

Trench 28

Trench 28 was located westerly within the north of the evaluated area, and excavated to identify the north-south continuation of Early Romano-British ditch F. 122 in Trench 26. This ditch was not located within this trench. A single undated northwest-southeast aligned ditch, **F. 183** (Table B1.10), was located towards the west end of the trench.

Trench 29

Trench 29 was located centrally within the northern part of the evaluated area (Figure 8), placed to identify a strong geophysical signature as well as a linear feature recorded on both geophysical and cropmark surveys (Preconstruct Geophysics 2007). It revealed a northeast-southwest aligned linear feature (unexcavated) continuing into Trench 31 to the south (as **F. 205**) likely to be a continuation of the Romano-British enclosure system also identified within Trenches 30, 32, and 33. A cluster of irregular, inter-cutting pits, containing abraded Middle and Late Iron Age pottery, **F. 124**, **F. 136**, **F. 137**, **F. 146** (Table B1.11) could indicate the presence of an Iron Age settlement, but are more likely to be quarry pits associated with the later Romano-British enclosures/ settlement, with residual pottery inclusions.

Trench 30

Trench 30 was located centrally within the evaluated area (Figure 8) and was placed to identify linear features highlighted by the cropmark survey. An east-west aligned linear gully, with indications of segmentation or the presence of a palisade was located within the south of the trench, **F. 126** (Table B1.12), likely to be associated with the early Romano-British enclosure ditches identified within Trenches 30A, 30B, 40, 40A, 41 and 41A. Linear feature **F. 127** (unexcavated) crossed the trench, continuing from Trench 30B to the west.

Trench 30A

Trench 30A was located centrally within the north of Area B1 (Figure 8), excavated to identify the continuation and alignment of linear features from surrounding trenches and a north-south aligned linear feature identified during the geophysical survey, as well as the continuation of an east-west aligned linear feature identified during the cropmark survey (Preconstruct Geophysics 2007). East-west aligned Romano-British linear feature F. 127 continued (unexcavated) from Trenches 30 and 30B within the northeast of the trench. A north-south aligned linear feature, **F. 139** (Table B1.13), likely associated with the Romano-British enclosures within Trenches 30B, 41 and 41A was identified centrally within the trench.

Trench 30B

Trench 30B was located centrally within the evaluated area and was excavated to trace the continuation and alignment of ditch F. 123 from Trenches 29, 30 and 31, as well as other linear features identified in surrounding trenches (Figure 8). F. 123 was indeed located within the northern end of the trench (unexcavated) adjacent to a small, circular pit or large posthole, **F. 125**.

An east-west aligned linear feature, **F. 139** (Table B1.14) was identified as continuing into Trenches 30 and 30A to the immediate west. Small quantities of both Early and Mid Roman period pottery were recovered from the fills of F. 139.

Trench 31

Trench 31 was located centrally within the evaluated area; transecting the southern end of Trench 32. It was placed to identify the alignment of the northeast to southwest orientated ditch identified within Trenches 29 and 30 (linear feature **F. 123**; Table B1.15; Figure 8), and to expose any features that may have been located inside the Romano-British enclosures. No internal features were exposed.

Trench 32

Trench 32 was located centrally within the evaluated area and was placed to target east-west aligned linear features identified within both the aerial and geophysical surveys (Preconstruct Geophysics 2007), as well as a distinct isolated anomaly (Figure 8). Within the trench were located two east-west aligned parallel linear features, **F. 109** and **F. 110** (Table B1.16), potentially associated with northeast to southwest aligned linear feature F. 123 within Trenches 29, 30 and 31. Both F. 109 and F. 110 were identified as continuing into Trench 33 to the east.

A single human burial, **F 102**, was located within the northern end of Trench 32, which is likely to be the cause of a discrete anomaly identified during the geophysical survey (Preconstruct Geophysics 2007). A sub-rectangular grave cut with rounded ends contained a single, extended inhumation with the head at the north. No grave

goods were identified during either the cleaning or metal detector survey and the skeletal remains were left *in situ* (see Figure 9).

Trench 33

Trench 33 was located centrally within the evaluated area and was placed to identify the continuation of east-west aligned linear features F. 109 and F. 110 from Trench 32, as well as a north-south aligned linear feature identified during the geophysical survey (Preconstruct Geophysics 2007). F. 110 continued through the centre of Trench 33. A possible north-south aligned ditch, **F. 162**, likely to be a continuation of ditch F. 120 within Trench 34 and small pit/ posthole, F. 161 with unclear stratigraphic relationships were also identified. North-south aligned linear feature; **F. 108**, truncated by a pit, **F. 107** (Table B1.17), within the eastern end of the trench contained small quantities of Roman period pottery and was also likely to be associated with F. 109 and F. 110. A northeast to southwest aligned linear feature (F. 104) within the eastern end of Trench 33 contained Early Roman period pottery.

Two small central extensions to the trench, revealed the presence of small pits/ postholes as well as what appeared to be the terminal of an east-west aligned linear feature, seeming to correspond with F. 109 within Trench 32 and likely to be associated with F. 108.

Trench 34

Trench 34 was located centrally within the evaluated area (Figure 8), placed to investigate the presence of a north-south aligned linear feature detected during the geophysical survey (Preconstruct Geophysics 2007). A single north-south aligned linear feature; **F. 120**, was located within the eastern end of the trench, which was likely to be a continuation of F. 108 within Trench 33. A small pit or posthole, **F. 121** truncated the fills of the ditch. No material culture was recovered from either feature.

Trench 35, 36, 37, 38 and 39

Trenches 35, 36, 37, 38 and 39 were located to the far east of the north of the evaluated area. No archaeological features were identified within these trenches.

Trench 40

Trench 40 was located centrally within the evaluated area, immediately south of the Grafham road and was excavated to investigate the presence of north-south and east-west aligned linear features identified during the geophysical survey (Preconstruct Geophysics 2007). Within western end of the trench was identified four parallel northeast-southwest aligned linear features, **F. 150**, **F. 151** and **F. 184**, seemingly re-cut by **F. 185** (Table B1.19). Two large irregular pits (unexcavated) were present adjacent to these linear features; all the linear features produced small quantities of

Early and Mid Roman period pottery. During the evaluation, it was noted that the geology within the western end of Trench 40 was of less compact sandy gravel than the remainder of Area B1. No clear edge to the geology was identified, although it appeared quite localised. It was possible that the looser geology represented the infilling of a Roman period quarry pit and the pits and linear features crossing it were in fact later agricultural features containing residual pottery. Proximity to the current Grafham road made closer examination of the extent of such a quarry impracicable.

Within the eastern end of Trench 40 was located a shallow north-south aligned gully, **F. 182**, with an associated posthole, **F. 181**, both of which contained moderate quantities of later Roman period pottery. The alignment of F. 182 strongly suggested an association with the later Romano-British linear features identified within Trenches 30, 30A and 30B and was likely to also be associated with **F.178** within Trench 41.

A small cluster of inter-cutting pits was identified at the junction of Trench 40 and Trench 41 (**F. 193, F. 194** excavated) containing small quantities of Early Roman period pottery. No association was made between the pits and nearby linear features although it is likely that they represented internal features to an enclosed area.

Trench 40A

Trench 40A was located centrally within the evaluated area and was placed to investigate the presence of an east-west aligned linear feature identified during the geophysical survey (Preconstruct Geophysics 2007). An east-west aligned linear feature was located centrally within the trench: A primary cut, **F. 159** likely to have continued into Trench 41 (as **F. 179**) contained no datable material culture, although a single sherd of likely residual Neolithic pottery was recovered and is potentially early to mid Roman in date. F. 159 was re-cut by **F. 158**, which although containing no material culture appeared contiguous with narrow gully **F. 178** within Trench 41 as well as with **F. 182** within Trench 40. Within F. 158 was a thick basal deposit of charcoal and large fragments of burned wood. Overlying this was a compacted deposit of rounded and sub-rounded cobbles of various geologies and showing varying degrees of heat cracking, forming a flat surface. Infrequent charcoal was found between the stones. Fills consistent with the abandonment of the ditch sealed the cobbled surface (Figure 9). The initial use of such a feature as F. 158, suggests a need for a concentrated and consistent heat source, whilst the large intact fragments of wood are suggestive of a slow, largely anaerobic burning process. The use as a corn/ seed drying kiln appeared to be the most likely use of F. 158; however, the full extent of the feature was not defined.

Trenches 41 and 41A

Trench 41 was located centrally within the evaluated area; placed to investigate an east-west aligned linear feature identified during the geophysical survey (Preconstruct Geophysics 2007), as well as to define the orientation of linear features previously identified within surrounding trenches (Figure 8). Within the northern end of the trench, an east-west aligned linear feature, **F. 178** was re-cut by narrow gully **F. 179** (Tables B1.21a and B1.21b). Both of which corresponded with linear features

identified within Trench 40. No indications of the possible corn drying kiln (F. 159), were present within F. 179.

A second east-west aligned linear feature, **F. 196** was located centrally within Trench 41and Trench 41A was excavated to fully identify its orientation. Ditch F. 196 showed two associated postholes, likely contemporary and contained small quantities of earlier Roman period pottery; suggesting an association with north-south and east-west aligned linear features within Trenches 30, 30A and 30B, forming a rectilinear enclosure.

Trench 42 and 42A

Trenches 42 and 42A were situated centrally within the evaluated area (Figure 10), located on a slight plateau within the otherwise moderately steep slope of the remainder of Area B1. Several irregular features and two linear features were recorded within these trenches, and these were suggestive of Neolithic activity within or close to the trenches.

Three irregular pits with leached out fills were located within the western end of the trench; Neolithic pottery was recovered from two of them, **F. 199** (4 sherds, 14g) and **F. 200** (3 sherds 6g) both features were sub-rounded with steeply sloping sides and narrow irregular bases. **F. 197** was much less well defined and potentially represented a tree-throw. A small pit or posthole, **F. 203** was located adjacent to F. 200, but did not contain any material culture and could not be definitively associated with the pits.

Two linear features were also present within Trench 42. **F. 202,** aligned northeast-southwest was located within the eastern end of the trench and was not present within Trench 42B, suggesting a termination or change of alignment. **F. 198**, was also aligned northeast-southwest, located adjacent to the pits (Table B1.22). Two sherds of Neolithic pottery (14g), likely residual were present within the fill.

Trench 42A was extended from Trench 42 in order to ascertain the true alignment of F. 198 as well as to expose any further potentially Neolithic features; F. 198 continued in a northeast to southwest alignment. No further features were present within Trench 42A.

Trench 42B

Trench 42B was located centrally within the evaluated area and was situated to the south of Trench 42/ 42B to identify the extent of both the Neolithic occupational activity identified within Trench 42 as well as Anglo-Saxon activity identified within Trench 44 to the immediate west (Figure 10). Within Trench 42B, a single northwest-southeast aligned linear feature, possibly associated with F. 198 in Trench 42 was identified, along with four irregular pit or tree-throw features likely to be contemporary with the Neolithic features identified within Trench 42. A large, irregular sub-rounded feature, similar in size to the Anglo-Saxon Grubenhäus identified within Trench 44 was located towards the south of Trench 42B, and the

presence of three small pits/ postholes, similar to those within Trench 44 may also be of a similar date.

Trench 43

Trench 43 was located centrally within the evaluated area. No archaeological features were identified within this trench.

Trench 44

Trench 44 was located centrally within the evaluated area (Figure 11), immediately adjacent to the western limit of the proposed road corridor and was excavated to investigate two distinct anomalies, which appear associated with five similar isolated anomalies identified during the geophysical survey beyond the limit of the road corridor (Preconstruct Geophysics 2007).

Located centrally within Trench 44 were a group of four small pits or postholes (**F. 154, F. 155**, **F. 156** and **F. 157**; Table B1.23), which could have been structural in origin. No datable material culture was recovered from any of the pits/ postholes.

A discrete pit or isolated posthole **F. 163** was located within the southern end of the trench which, like the cluster to the north, could not be dated. This appeared to correspond with the southern of the two discrete geophysical anomalies, and could have been related to a larger feature to the west beyond the immediate limit of the road corridor (Preconstruct Geophysics 2007; Bartlett 2009a).

Within the far north of Trench 44 was a large, shallow sub-rectangular pit, **F. 140**, which was excavated in quadrants. Two postholes, **F. 147** and **F. 148** were present within the northeast and southwest quadrants of the pit. Whilst no datable material culture was present within the postholes, the main fill of F. 140 contained 38 large sherds of Early Anglo-Saxon pottery (1276g), 768g of animal bone and a single Late Roman period Barbarous Radiate coin. The morphology of the pit and postholes and the find assemblage and density certainly indicate that F. 140 represents a sunken floored building or *grubenhäus*.

Trench 45

Trench 45 was located centrally within the evaluated area (Figure 11). The eastern end of the trench comprised of the large post-Medieval quarrying identified throughout Trench 45A. A single undated posthole, **F. 164** was located adjacent to the quarry and whilst it may have been associated with the extraction process, no direct association could be made. A single north-south aligned linear feature, **F. 201** (Table B1.24), crossed the centre of the trench; the fill of which contained four small fragments of Neolithic pottery (8g), which could have been residual and related to the Neolithic activity core identified within Trench 42 to the north, and was otherwise undated.

Trench 45A

Trench 45A was located centrally within the southern half of the evaluated area, adjoining both Trenches 45 and 46 (Figure 11). Trench 45A was targeted to expose the edge of the large circular gravel 'borrowpit' associated with the 20th century redevelopment of the A1 within an area of concentrated Anglo-Saxon pottery identified within the field-walking phase (Anderson 2009). The trench was located to assess the potential for the survival of archaeological features. The depth of the quarry pit varied between 0.8 and 1.7m, with no earlier archaeological material exposed and it is likely that the initial top-soil and sub-soil removal prior to gravel quarrying truncated any existent Anglo-Saxon features, the material culture being returned within the backfill during reconsolidation (see discussion, *below*).

Trench 46

Trench 46 was located centrally within the evaluated area (Figure 11). The eastern end of the trench largely demonstrated the extent of the post-Medieval quarrying present within the whole of Trench 45A and the eastern end of Trench 45. An irregular depression, filled with gravelly clay located centrally within the trench, **F. 188** was thought to be an extension of these extraction works.

A sub-rectangular pit, **F. 186**, was located, but not completely exposed within the western end of the trench. A small posthole, **F. 187** (Table B1.25) was identified within the northeast end of the pit. No datable material culture was recovered from either pit or posthole, but it was thought to represent a sunken floored building, or *grubenhäus*, similar to that within Trench 44.

Trench 47

Trench 47 was located centrally within the evaluated area and was adjoined to the eastern end of Trench 46. No archaeological features were identified within this trench.

Trench 48

Trench 48 was located centrally within the evaluated area (Figure 11), excavated to investigate an east-west aligned linear feature and isolated anomaly identified within the geophysical survey (Preconstruct Geophysics 2007). Within the southern end of the trench was a shallow, east-west aligned ditch, **F. 149** (Table B1.26), which continued into Trench 48A to the west and appeared to roughly respect the alignment of the stream immediately to the south and seeming to respect the geophysical results.

A single pit or posthole, **F. 177**, was located centrally within the trench, corresponding with the discrete geophysical anomaly (Preconstruct Geophysics 2007). No datable material culture was recovered from the fills.

Trench 48A

Trench 48A was located centrally within the evaluated area and was located to target a distinct geophysical anomaly thought to correspond with that which indicated the presence of Anglo-Saxon *grubenhäus* F. 140 within Trench 44 (Preconstruct Geophysics 2007). The anomaly indeed corresponded with a large, sub-rectangular feature (unexcavated) with high concentrations of charcoal, burnt bone and potentially Anglo-Saxon pottery within the upper fill and likely indicative of an Anglo-Saxon *grubenhäus*. A narrow east-west aligned linear feature was also identified, which was seemingly a continuation of F. 149 within Trench 48.

Trench 49

Trench 49 was located centrally within the evaluated area, located roughly parallel to the east-west running brook that bisects Area B1 (Figure 11). Immediately to the south of Trench 49 was a conserved Environment Levy Scheme (ELS) strip, which restricted trench extension towards the stream. An undated narrow, northeast-southwest aligned linear feature, **F. 153**, was located within the western end of the trench and may have been associated with F. 149 within Trench 48. A circular pit, **F. 160** was located centrally within the trench with a relatively small diameter for its depth and near vertical sides. The fill of F. 160 was compacted with a greenish hue, suggestive of cess deposition. Three sherds of Anglo-Saxon pottery were recovered from the fill as well as a small quantity of animal bone and heat affected clay; all suggestive of domestic waste disposal.

A second pit **F. 166** was located within the eastern half of the trench with less well defined edges and did not contain any datable material culture.

Several small sub-rounded depressions or possible postholes were also present within the trench, (**F. 167, F. 168** and **F. 169**; Table B1.27) none contained any datable material culture although fragments of burned stone within F. 169 further suggests nearby occupational activity.

Trench 49A

Trench 49A was located centrally within the evaluated area, as an extension to the south of Trench 49 and restricted in length due to a preserved ELS strip. Trench 49A was dug to ascertain whether pit F. 160 within Trench 44 was isolated and whether linear feature F. 149 continued east-west. No archaeological features were identified within this trench and it is likely that F. 149 changed orientation and continued in a northeast-southwest direction, through Trench 49 as F. 153.

Trench 50

Trench 50 was located centrally within the southern part of the evaluated area (Figure 12), located to target a distinct, small rectilinear and linear feature identified during aerial survey. The trench contained sixteen archaeological features.

Indications of a Neolithic presence were identified from a single shallow pit, **F. 211** within the southern end of the trench (Table B1.28). F. 211 contained Early Neolithic Mildenhall pottery (134g) as well as a large quantity of flint (28 worked) and a significant number of hazelnut shells, typical of Mesolithic and Early Neolithic activity. No other features were dated as Neolithic.

Two sides of a small, rectilinear ditch, **F. 208,** were identified at the junction of Trenches 50 and 51, corresponding with that identified by the aerial survey. The exposed terminus of F. 208 was excavated and was shown to contain very little material culture with small quantities of bone (40g) as well as 7 relatively unabraided fragments of Middle Bronze Age pottery (see Knight *below*). The enclosure showed a possible entrance to the northwest. No features could be associated with the enclosure.

The majority of the features within Trench 50 could be dated by pottery to the Iron Age and were represented by a large sub-circular pit (**F. 229**) with moderate to steeply sloping sides, becoming steeper with depth. Excavation was halted at 1.5m for issues of safety but a discernable water-table had been encountered (Figure 12). The presence of water as well as the numerous silty, gravelly 'collapse' fills suggests an original use as a well. Sherds of Middle Iron Age pottery were found consistently throughout the fills of the pit, as well as infrequent animal bone.

Two parallel linear ditches, orientated northwest to southeast were located within the south of the trench. The southern ditch **F. 235** was over 1.3m in depth and showed at least two phases of re-cutting (**F. 237** then **F. 238**). All three phases contained infrequent sherds of Middle Iron Age pottery. This ditch appeared to form the northeast side of an enclosed area, the northwestern side within Trenches 52 and 58. Fills from the multiple re-cuts, specifically the first re-cutting, F. 237, suggest the presence of a collapsed bank to the southwest, inner side of the enclosure. 4m to the north, a second, shallower ditch, **F. 210**, ran parallel to F. 235. Middle Iron Age pottery was recovered from the fills suggesting some form of contemporaneity between the two. No return was identified within Trench 53 to suggest it formed an 'outer' ditch around the enclosure system.

Seven small pits or postholes were located within Trench 50 in close proximity to the Middle Iron Age ditches. **F. 204** contained Middle Iron Age Pottery, whilst **F. 206**, **F. 207, F. 224** (unexcavated), **F. 225** (unexcavated), **F. 227** and **F. 228** were devoid of material culture. No discernable pattern could be observed within the arrangement of the postholes although it is likely that they were associated with the cluster of similar features within adjacent Trench 51. A northeast-southwest aligned linear feature, **F. 205**, located within the pits may be related to them although no dating was ascertained for it.

Within the northern end of Trench 50 were located two east-west aligned very shallow linear features, **F. 218** and **F.219**, thought to be remnants of Medieval and post-Medieval furrow bases, neither being visible within adjacent Trench 50B. F. 218 appeared to truncate an equally shallow linear feature (**F. 214**) which although likely to be of a similar date and function, contained a single fragment of probably residual Roman period pottery.

Trench 50A

Trench 50A was located within the south of the evaluated area and represented a small extension to the east of Trench 50A (Figure 12), primarily to ascertain the relationship between southeast-northwest orientated ditch **F. 226** within Trench 51 and large pit/ well feature F. 229 within Trench 50. A rounded terminal of F.226 (unexcavated) was identified immediately to the east of pit **F. 229** (Table B1.29), suggesting a contemporary Iron Age date for the ditch.

Trench 50B

Trench 50B was located centrally within the southern part of the evaluated area and adjoined the northern end of Trench 50 (Figure 12). Three archaeological features were identified within the trench, one of which, a northeast-southwest aligned ditch, continued into Trench 52, had a soft, silty fill and frequent angular stones in the base this was interpreted as a post-Medieval 'brush' drain and not recorded. A shallow, wide linear feature (F. 214) was aligned east-west and lay parallel to a shallow, narrow gully (**F. 217**). All likelihood is that these represented the bases of Medieval or post-Medieval furrows, similar to those recorded within Trench 50; however the orientation of these features corresponds with the Iron Age ditch and ditch terminus (**F. 226**) within Trenches 51 and 51A, and it is possible that F. 214, which has a similar morphology represents a continuation of such a ditch.

Trench 51

Trench 51 was located within the east of the south of the evaluated area, adjoining the centre of Trench 50 (Figure 12). Seven features were identified within this trench, as well as the continuation of the rectilinear 'enclosure' ditch F. 208 identified within Trench 50 (see above). The results of high levels of rooting were present, which were all tested due to the identified Neolithic presence within adjacent Trench 50 as well as within possible tree-throws within Trench 42 to the north. No material culture was identified within any root-hollows and the loose compaction of the fills suggested they were relatively modern in date. An irregular north-south aligned linear feature, comprising of inter-cutting F. 212 and F. 213 crossed Trench 51. Undated it was unclear as to its exact phasing within the area and the irregularity of the cut suggested the possibility of it being the result of tree-rooting or animal burrowing.

A group of four small pits/ postholes **F. 220, F.221**, **F.223** and **F.287**, two of which were excavated (**F. 220** and **F. 287**; Table B1.30) were located within the eastern end of the trench both of which contained small quantities of Early to Middle Iron Age pottery (one sherd in each). Although F. 220 post-dated ditch F. 226 which was likely contemporary with large Iron Age pit F.229, it contained significant quantities of Hazelnut shell fragments, which is more commonly associated with Neolithic features (such as F. 211 within adjacent Trench 50).

A west northwest-south southeast aligned linear ditch **F. 226**, likely to be of an Iron Age date, respecting pit F. 229 within Trench 50 and 51 (see above) was otherwise

undated by material culture. Ditch F. 226 was truncated by small pit/ posthole **F. 220** containing Iron Age pottery and which suggested a tight relative chronology for the area within the Early to Middle Iron Age.

Trench 52

Trench 52 was located centrally within the southern part of the area of evaluation, adjoined to the western ends of both Trench 53 and Trench 54 (Figure 12) and targeted to identify the presence of two northeast-southwest aligned linear features identified within the aerial photographic survey. Nine features were identified (Table B1.31). Including a continuation of the northeast-southwest orientated 'brush' drain from Trench 50B within the northern end.

A wide northeast-southwest aligned ditch, **F. 260** located at the junction of Trench 52 and Trench 54 contained occasional Middle Iron Age pottery. F. 260 was truncated by **F. 259** on the same alignment and likely to represent a re-cut, which contained small quantities of Middle Iron Age pottery throughout. The orientation of ditches F.260 and F 259 correspond well with the aerial survey and appear to continue into Trench 58 and form the northwestern side of an enclosure system associated with the northwest to southeast aligned ditches within Trench 50. An unexcavated linear feature, following the same orientation as F. 260/ F. 259 was located 3m to the northwest and whilst it may relate to the Medieval and post-Medieval furrows on the same alignment located throughout the field, may also represent a second, outer ditch relating to the enclosures.

Immediately south of F. 260 was a northwest-southeast aligned ditch, F. 233; the fills of which were truncated by re-cut F. 234, both features contained infrequent Middle Iron Age pottery. Immediately to the south was northeast-southwest aligned ditch **F. 248** which was truncated by re-cut **F. 249**, both again contained small quantities of Middle Iron Age pottery. The similarities of F. 233/ F. 234 and F. 248/ 249 in both morphology and material culture suggest a contemporarily, forming two sides of an enclosure, respecting and potentially also associated with the larger 'enclosure' ditches F. 260 and F. 259. A single small pit, **F. 286**, devoid of material culture lay adjacent to F. 233/ F. 234.

Adjacent to and parallel with enclosure ditch F. 248/ F. 249 were two shallower linear features, **F. 288** (excavated) contained no material culture and, although either ditch could be associated with the strong Middle Iron Age presence within the area, they could also be associated with the northeast-southwest aligned furrow bases encountered throughout the southern part of Area B1. A small archaeologically sterile pit, **F. 274** was located within the southern end of the trench.

Trench 53

Trench 53 was located centrally within the southern part of the evaluated area and adjoined the northern end of Trench 52 (Figure 12). A single feature was present within the far eastern end of this trench. **F. 230** was a short, shallow north-south aligned gully terminal (Table B1.32). No date could be given to this feature. The

continuation of Middle Iron Age ditch F.210 from within Trench 50 was also observed within the far end of this trench.

Trench 54

Trench 54 was located centrally within the southern part of the evaluated area (Figure 12). Three parallel north-south orientated linear features (unexcavated), thought to be associated with the Middle Iron Age activity dominant in surrounding trenches, were present centrally within this trench. As was a single small pit, **F. 263** (Table B1.33), which contained Middle Iron Age pottery.

Trenches 55, 56, 56A and 56B

Trenches 55, 56, 56A and 56B were located within the south of the evaluated area (Figure 12) and contained three northeast to southwest aligned linear features (**F. 240, F.216, F. 291**; Tables B1.34a and B1.34b). Thought to represent either a multi-phased boundary, respecting the presence of unidentified features beyond the southern limit of the proposed road corridor and potentially associated with the Middle Iron Age enclosure/ boundary system identified throughout the adjacent area, or to be an extension of Romano-British agricultural systems recorded within adjacent trenches in Area B2 to the southeast.

A single sub-circular pit, **F. 250** within Trench 56 contained small quantities of Anglo-Saxon pottery as well as small amounts of animal bone suggesting a rubbish pit. Two small, shallow pits, **F. 215** and **F. 239,** both containing infrequent charcoal**,** suggestive of use as hearths were located close to, but were not necessarily directly associated with pit F. 250. These may have been contemporary, suggesting localised Anglo-Saxon domestic activity, but also may have been contemporary with the Neolithic 'hearth' identified within Trench 50.

Trench 57

Trench 57 was located within the southern limit of the evaluated area. Three parallel northeast-southwest aligned linear features (**F. 251, F. 252, F. 261**; Table B1.35) were identified within this trench, likely to be Medieval or post-Medieval furrow bases, although the alignment may also suggest an association with the Middle Iron Age boundary and enclosure ditches identified within Trenches 52 and 58 to the west. A single northwest-southeast aligned linear feature, **F. 262** containing small quantities of Middle Iron Age pottery was located within the northern end of the trench; likely to be directly associated with the enclosures.

Trench 58

Trench 58 was located centrally within the south of the evaluated area and was located to identify the presence of a northeast-southwest aligned linear feature highlighted on the aerial photographic survey. The ditch was located and was identified as a continuation of the Middle Iron Age enclosure ditch recorded in Trench

58 (F. 259/ F.260). Two shallow northeast to southwest orientated furrows, **F. 231** and **F. 232,** were located within the north of this trench (Table B1.36, F. 232 containing a single fragment of post-Medieval pottery.

Trench 59

Trench 59 was located east within the southern part of the evaluated area. A single, 0.9m deep north northeast-south southwest aligned linear feature **F. 236** was located within the western end of the trench (Table B1.37). A much shallower re-cut, **F. 241** contained a single, abraded sherd of Middle Iron Age pottery, which may have been residual. No date could therefore be confidently attributed to the ditch.

Trench 60

Trench 60 was located to the east of the southern part of the evaluated area. Two undated features were identified within this trench: A single, well defined posthole (**F. 289**) adjacent to a north northeast-south southwest orientated ditch **F. 290** (Table B1.38). The profile of this ditch was similar to that identified within Trench 59 and it is possible that this represents the continuation of the same undated feature although alignment with the Medieval and post-Medieval furrow bases in adjacent trenches is also suggestive of a later date.

Trench 61

Trench 61 was located within the east of the southern part of Area B1, located to investigate the presence of a northeast to southwest orientated linear feature identified from the aerial survey. Four northeast-southwest aligned linear features were located within this trench. The orientation of the linear features corresponded with the alignment of Medieval and post-Medieval furrows within Trenches 57 and 58. The southernmost of these, **F. 253** (Table B1.39), was excavated and although undated, was shown to be consistent with the furrows elsewhere on the site.

Trench 62

Trench 62 was located within the southwest of the evaluated area. Three linear features were identified within the trench: Two northeast-southwest aligned ditches were interpreted as Medieval or post-Medieval furrow bases; one was excavated, **F. 243**. A northwest-southeast aligned ditch, **F. 242** (Table B1.40), was located within the eastern end of the trench. It could neither be dated through material culture nor through association with or similar alignment to other features.

Trench 63

Trench 63 was located within the south of the evaluated area. No archaeological features were identified within this trench.

Trench 64

Trench 64 was located within the south of the evaluated area. No archaeological features were identified within this trench.

Specialist Reports

The Flint (Lawrence Billington)

The excavations within Area B1 recovered 60 worked flints weighing 258.4g, together with a single un-worked burnt chunk weighing 0.5g. Bucket sampling of sub-soil deposits produced 13 worked flints but the bulk of the assemblage was recovered from cut features, especially pits associated with Neolithic pottery. Most of the remaining material represents residual finds recovered from later features.

Trench	Feature number	Feature type	Chip	flake	bladelike flake	blade	bladelet	scraper	retouched flake	serrated flake	flake core	total worked flint	unworked burnt chunk
42	199	Pit			2							2	
42	200	Pit		1	1	2						4	
46	186	SFB		1								1	
50	211	Pit	5	15	2		3	1		2		28	1
50	229	Pit		1					1			2	
51	220	Pit		4	1							5	
52	249	Ditch						1				1	
56	250	Pit				1						1	
62	242	Ditch		3								3	
50		bucket sample		2	1	1						4	
53		bucket sample		1								1	
55		bucket sample									1	1	
56		bucket sample		3					1			4	
59		bucket sample		1								1	
61		bucket sample		2								2	
		Totals	**5**	**34**	**7**	**4**	**3**	**2**	**2**	**2**	**1**	**60**	**1**

Table 7: Flint assemblage from site B1 by trench and feature

Pits F.199, F.200 and F.211, thought to be Neolithic during excavation produced worked flint assemblages. The assemblages from F.199 and F.200 were small, with two and four pieces respectively and consisted entirely of un-retouched flake and blade products. The presence of blade and blade-like pieces in these features, together with evidence for careful platform preparation and the occasional use of soft hammers, suggests an earlier Neolithic date.

The assemblage from F.211 was much larger, with 28 worked pieces and a single un-worked burnt chunk. The raw material varied, although all were of high quality, with few flaws and a fine grained texture. Whilst the majority of flints bore the abraded cortex typical of secondary sources, a few exhibited a thick chalky cortex suggesting a primary source of chalk flint was also being exploited. A large proportion of the flint was heavily burnt (16 pieces, 57%), resulting in fragmentation and surface spalling. Of the un-burnt pieces none were patinated and were generally in fresh condition. Technologically, the assemblage is typical of earlier Neolithic industries, as demonstrated by a relatively high proportion of bladelets and blade-like flakes. The high quantity of knapping waste and the presence of small spalls and chips in particular indicates that flint working was taking place nearby.

The re-touched component of the assemblage is also characteristic of earlier Neolithic assemblages with a convex end-scraper and two serrated flakes. F.211 yielded a relatively high tool component (10%), suggesting a typical early Neolithic domestic assemblage, with flint working taking place alongside other settlement related activities. The lack of re-fits among the material and the variety in the condition of pieces points toward a probable midden deposit of material that had accumulated elsewhere over a period of time.

A further twelve flints were recovered from other cut features on the site. The Grubenhäus building F.186 contained a single residual flake with a neatly faceted platform of a type often encountered in later Neolithic assemblages. A residual blade-like flake from pit F.220 and blade from pit F.250 support the evidence for Neolithic activity in the general area. A few pieces recovered from features associated with Iron Age pottery probably reflect the expedient use of lithic resources occasionally seen in this period (see Humphrey and Young 1999). Pit F.229 contained a thermal (natural flake) which had been crudely retouched along its lateral edges to create a steep scraper-like edge. Ditch F. 249 produced a minimally re-touched end-scraper manufactured on a large crude, mostly cortical flake. Both of these pieces are typical of the limited and expedient use of scraping and planing tools seen from the later Bronze Age onwards as metal begins to fully supersede flint (Ford *et al* 1984). The remainder of the flints consist of small undiagnostic hard hammer struck flakes, most of which probably represent residual later prehistoric material.

Thirteen worked flints were collected during sampling of sub-soil deposits from the trenches. Probable earlier Neolithic material is well represented by a blade and a blade-like flake from Trench 50 and two flakes from Trench 56 with carefully trimmed platforms. The remainder of the material is largely undiagnostic, consisting of hard hammer struck debitage products.

The excavations in Area B1 recovered lithic material dating from the early Neolithic through to the Iron Age. This material was either a residual component of the fills of later features and the sub-soil deposits, or found in features likely to be contemporary with the deposition of the flints. Of special interest are the earlier Neolithic pit assemblages, especially the substantial assemblage from F.211, which enables a more detailed view of activity in this period than is provided by surface or residual finds.

Earlier Prehistoric Pottery (Mark Knight)

The earlier prehistoric pottery assemblage comprised 45 sherds weighing 192g. The collection was made up almost entirely, of small, abraded pieces (MSW 4.3g), but also included three rim, two neck and three decorated fragments. The assemblage had four main fabric types identified by the predominant inclusion: flint/quartz (Fabric 1), sand (Fabric 2), lost shell ('corky'; Fabric 3), or shell (Fabric 4).

Feature	Context	Number	Weight (g)	MSW (g)	Fabric
198	408	2	14	7	1 & 2
199	411	4	14	3.5	1 & 3
200	413	3	6	2	1 & 3
201	415	4	8	2	1
211	433	25	134	5.4	1 & 3
Totals:	***5***	***38***	***176***	***3.98***	***3***

Table 8: Neolithic Assemblage Breakdown

Feature	Context	Number	Weight (g)	MSW (g)	Fabric
208	437	7	16	2.3	4
Totals:	***6***	***45***	***192***	***4.3***	***4***

Table 9: Bronze Age assemblage breakdown.

An absence of base angles coupled with the accentuated curvature of many of the body sherds and the opposing curvatures of the neck fragments indicated that the predominant forms being represented were carinated hemispherical bowls. The rim forms included out-turned and externally thickened profiles. A single sherd had a post-firing perforation and some of the sherds had been burnt post-breakage. The decoration consisted of rows of impressed dots or incised herring-bone. The predominant fabric was medium hard with poorly sorted flint/quartz (Fabric 1), although some 'corky' wares (Fabric 3) were also present. Combined, all of these attributes demonstrated that the bulk of the assemblage belonged to the Early Neolithic, and in particular the Mildenhall tradition.

Over 70% of the assemblage by weight (134g) or 55% by number (25) came from F. 211. This feature produced the remains of at least four different Mildenhall, bowls including a decorated carinated bowl. Features F. 198, F. 199, F. 200 and F. 201 yielded small assemblages of the same material as F. 211.

The only sherds that did not match these attributes were seven plain body fragments from F. 208, which were shell tempered and made of a hard compact fabric (Fabric 4). These probably belonged to the Bronze Age; either as part of a Middle Bronze Age Deverel-Rimbury urn or part of a Late Bronze Age Post-Deverel-Rimbury form.

Later Prehistoric and Roman Pottery (Katie Anderson)

A total of 568 sherds of later prehistoric and Roman period pottery, weighing 6958g and representing 7.57 EVEs were recovered from the evaluation. All of the material was examined and details of fabric, form, decoration, use-wear and date were recorded, along with any other information deemed important.

The pottery dates spanned the Middle Iron Age through to the late Roman period. The overall mean weight of the assemblage was relatively low, at 12.25g, although there were exceptions to this, including a number of semi-complete vessels, which are discussed in more detail below.

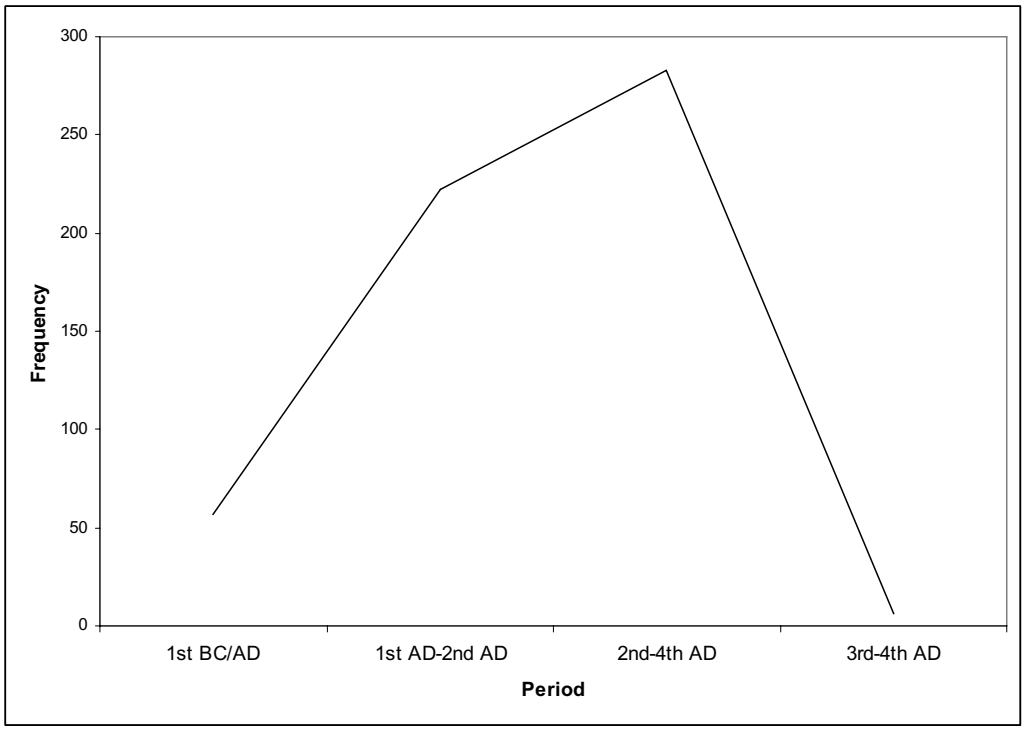

Chart 1: All pottery by period

Fabric	No.	Wt(g)
Black-slipped	61	867
Central Gaulish Samian	2	20
Chalk and shell tempered	1	6
Colour-coat	2	258
Coarse sandy greyware	207	2011
Grey-slipped	1	23
Grog-tempered	8	158
Horningsea greyware	25	408
Nene Valley greyware	1	4
Nene Valley colour-coat	15	213
Oxidised sandy ware	11	79
Pakenham colour-coat	1	5
Red-slipped ware	1	7
Reduced sandy ware	49	718
Sand and chalk-tempered	72	640
Shell-tempered	101	1466
Swanspool white-slipped	5	44
White-slipped	1	2
Whiteware	4	29
TOTAL	568	6958

Table 10: All pottery by fabric

The assemblage comprised a variety of different vessel fabrics, including both local, non-local and imported wares (see Table 10). Middle/Late Iron Age fabrics were predominately sandy (47 sherds, 696g), with smaller numbers of grog-tempered sherds (6 sherds, 152g) and shell-tempered sherds (3 sherds, 12g). The most commonly occurring Roman fabric group were the sandy grey-wares, which represented 40% of the total assemblage. Most of these were un-sourced, with the exception of Horningsea grey-wares; totalling 25 sherds (408g). Shell-tempered sherds commonly occurred, representing 18% of the pottery assemblage. Although the exact source of these is uncertain, shell-tempered wares are known to have been produced at sites around the Cambridgeshire Fens and Peterborough (Vince in Evans forthcoming), which seems a likely source of these wares. Other local coarse-ware vessels included black-slipped wares and oxidised sandy wares. There were a small number of non-local coarse-wares present in the assemblage, namely five Swanspool white-slipped wares, produced in Lincolnshire.

A small number of fine-wares were identified, representing just 5% of the assemblage. Nene Valley colour-coated sherds were the most commonly occurring fine-ware fabric, totalling 15 sherds (213g). These wares broadly date mid 2nd-4th century AD and were produced on a very large scale, and thus are very common in later Roman pottery assemblages in the east of England. A single Pakenham colour-coated sherd was recovered, along with two un-sourced colour-coated sherds. Imported wares comprised two Central Gaulish Samian sherds, weighing 20g. Although imported wares rarely feature highly in rural Cambridgeshire pottery assemblages, this is a particularly low number, especially since the site appears to have been occupied throughout the Roman period, albeit to varying levels of intensity. The lack of imports is often attributed to the date of a site with imports peaking in the earlier Roman period (mid 1st-late 2nd century AD). Therefore, the lack of imports in this assemblage may be related to wealth/status and/or access to wider trade networks, since the site does appear to have been occupied during the earlier Roman period.

Form	No.	Wt(g)
Beaker	1	1
Bowl	10	188
Bowl/jar	66	913
Dish	5	327
Flagon	1	11
Jar	246	3363
Platter	3	131
Unknown	236	2024
TOTAL	568	6958

Table 11: All pottery by form

A range of vessel forms was identified (see Table 11), with jars being the most frequently occurring vessel type, representing 74% of all diagnostic sherds (43% of the total assemblage), typical of Late Iron Age/Roman period rural assemblages. This comprised a variety of different jars, with rim diameters ranging from 12cm to 28cm. A Middle Iron Age scored ware jar was identified, probably dating to the 1st century BC. The range of jars present in the Roman assemblage implies a range of functions, including the preparation and storage of foodstuffs. A small number of jars had

sooting on the exterior, indicative of a vessel being used on a fire, while a further vessel had heavy limescale on the interior, a result of the vessel holding water.

A relatively large number of sherds from bowl/jars were recovered (vessels which tend to be very wide mouthed, but relatively short bodied), totalling 66 sherds, although the majority of these sherds were from a single vessel (50 sherds, 635g). These vessels tend to be Late Iron Age/Early Roman in date, being a 'transitional' vessel type.

Other vessels were less common, comprising ten bowls, five dishes sherds, three platters, and single examples of a beaker and flagon.

Pottery was recovered from a total of 29 different features, as well as spoil, which contained varying quantities of material (see Table 12). For the purposes of this report, a small number of features have been selected for more detailed discussion.

The ditch F. 103 contained 157 sherds of pottery, weighing 1914g and representing 3.31 EVEs. All of the material recovered was Late Iron Age/Early Roman in date, and came from a single context [151]. 72 sherds (640g) came from a single vessel, a carinated jar with a combed band on the shoulder. This vessel was, when re-fitted, semi-complete. A half-complete platter was also recovered from this feature (104g), which although likely to have been locally produced, in terms of vessel form is an imitation of a Gallo-Belgic form. The interior of the vessel had burnished 'V' decoration on the interior of the vessel. A further semi-complete vessel was also collected, comprising 50 sherds (635g) from a wide mouth bowl/jar with a cordon on the neck. Other vessels from this feature included another greyware platter and three carinated bowl/jars.

The nature of the pottery recovered from this feature suggests material was 'fresh' when deposited, and the presence of a number of semi-complete vessels suggests that the vessels had not moved much of a distance between breakage and deposition. The pottery suggests a mid 1st century AD date for the deposition of the pottery, with no evidence of any sherds dating later than the Flavian period (AD69-96).

F. 127 contained 51 sherds weighing 690g, which represented just 0.62 EVEs. The material from this feature dates 2nd-4th century AD. A range of vessels were identified, including a shell-tempered jar, a Horningsea greyware jar, a Swanspool white-slipped vessel and a Nene Valley colour-coated beaker. The majority of sherds were, however, non-diagnostic. It is therefore difficult to date the pottery from this feature any more specifically, since many of the vessel forms are long lived. Therefore, a date of 2nd-4th century AD is given. The pottery from this ditch shows a different pattern of deposition to the material from F.103, with very few refits, and no semi-complete vessels. This may suggests that the material had moved further from where it was broken, or perhaps re-deposited.

A total of 37 sherds of Roman period pottery were recovered from F. 162, weighing 405g and representing 0.44 EVEs. A Nene Valley colour-coated convex dish was recovered, dating 4th century AD, as well as a Nene Valley colour-coated jar, which dates 3rd-4th century AD and a Nene Valley colour-coated bowl with white painted arc

decoration, dating to the 4th century AD. Other vessels included a shell-tempered jar and a greyware jar. This therefore appears to be the latest dating deposit on the site.

31 sherds of pottery, weighing 708g were recovered from F. 178, with a relatively high mean weight of 22.8g. 24 sherds were from a shell-tempered jar (411g), with a beaded rim, dating 2nd-4th century AD. There was also a large sherd from a black-slipped jar and a Nene Valley colour-coated sherd, both dating 2nd-4th century AD.

F. 129 contained 48 sherds of pottery, weighing 713g and date to the Middle/Late Iron Age. This comprised 45 sherds (688g) from a sandy scored ware jar. There was also a base sherd from a grog-tempered vessel, dating to the Middle/Late Iron Age. The presence of the scored ware vessel suggests a 1st century BC date for the pottery from this feature. Middle Iron Age/Late Iron Age pottery was also recovered from F.137 (2 sherds 7g) and F.111.

The Later Prehistoric and Roman period pottery recovered from this site shows evidence of occupation from the Middle Iron Age to the late Roman period, although it is unclear whether this was continuous occupation. The quantities of pottery from the different periods suggest activity was more prolific in some periods than others, with a peak in activity in the mid-later Roman period.

The Roman period pottery suggests a typical Roman period rural site, with evidence for domestic activities coming for the vessel forms present and a quantity of use-wear evidence. The site, though having some access to goods from further a field, appears to have got most of its pottery from the local area.

Ft	No.	Wt(g)	MW(g)	EVE
101	7	71	10.1	0.08
103	157	1914	12.2	3.31
104	10	37	3.7	0
107	9	198	22.0	0.2
110	1	32	32.0	0.18
111	1	6	6.0	0
112	7	154	22.0	0
120	2	8	4.0	0
122	46	265	5.8	0
123	1	2	2.0	0
124	3	5	1.7	0
127	53	690	13.0	0.47
129	48	713	14.9	0.15
135	1	6	6.0	0
137	2	7	3.5	0
139	31	160	5.2	0.75
146	1	3	3.0	0
158	5	78	15.6	0.12
161	29	348	12.0	0.22
162	37	405	10.9	0.44
178	31	708	22.8	0.2
179	20	119	6.0	0.48
182	15	78	5.2	0
183	1	1	1.0	0
186	3	15	5.0	0
193	5	42	8.4	0
194	6	80	13.3	0.08
196	12	151	12.6	0
214	1	3	3.0	0
Surface	23	659	28.7	0.89
TOTAL	**568**	**6958**	**12.3**	**7.57**

Table 12: All pottery by Feature

Anglo-Saxon Pottery (David Hall)

The excavated Anglo-Saxon sherds from Site B1 came from seven contexts and amounted to a total of 53 sherds weighing 1.482Kg. All sherds were from hand-made

vessels, and nearly all the fabrics were hard, reduced and contained igneous grits of feldspar and small particles of shiny mica.

The bulk of the sherds were found in the sunken-feature *grubenhäus*, context F. 140. At least three vessels were represented by 38 pieces, one large; with a likely complete profile when reconstructed. One large vessel, when reconstructed, showed a likely complete profile of showed a slightly everted rim and saggy base. Other sherds included a thin piece displaying stamped decoration, and a base exhibiting some vegetable tempering and fragments of igneous rock in the fabric. The pottery from this structure suggests an early Anglo-Saxon date.

Elsewhere, F. 141 produced six sherds, including two upright rims and a base with some vegetable temper. Fragments of a vessel or vessels with slightly everted rims came from F. 250, whilst sherds with oxidised pink surfaces were recovered from Bucket sampling in the vicinity of trenches 56.

Metalwork (Grahame Appleby & Andy Hall)

Only a single copper alloy item, a coin, was recovered from an archaeological feature during the excavations in Area B1. Found in F. 140, the coin <2539> was a *Barbarous Radiate* and dates to the late 3rd century AD.

Item	Ft.	Metal	Description	Wt (g)
<2539>	140	Cu alloy	*Barbarous radiate*. Poor condition, heavily worn. Late 3rd century. 18mm diameter.	2

Table 13: Coins

A total of seven pieces of iron metalwork were retrieved from the area, six from archaeological features. The large nail <2546> probably dates to the post-Medieval period, (although an earlier date is possible), whilst <2544> was recovered from an Iron Age feature.

Item	Ft.	Context	Description	Measurements/ mm	Wt (g)	Date
<2540>	184	376	Unidentified. Very corroded partial rectangular collar or tube fragment.	Width 30.72	21	Undated
<2541>	178	364	Small corroded nail from Romano-British gully.	Length 27.3	8	RB
<2542>	170	329	Narrow corroded rectangular cross-section band in 2 pieces. One terminal bent on itself to provide rounded external edge. ? Possible bracelet/bangle. From pit/ditch terminal of uncertain date.	Thickness 3.8 Width 6.6	10	Undated
<2543>	196	403	Thick, corroded 'disc' object. From a ditch containing 1st-2nd century pottery.	Diameter 36.4 Thickness 19.5	28	R
<2544>	210	439	Very corroded nail or tapering bar fragment recovered from a linear feature containing Iron Age pottery.		3	IA?
<2545>	231	484	Very corroded and disintegrating rectangular flat object in several pieces. Recovered from a furrow.	Length 41 Width 27	25	Post-Med?
<2546>	-	-	Trench 14 bucket sample. Large square-sectioned handmade nail in good condition.	Length 84.7	21	Post-Med

Table 14: Metalwork from Area B1

The metal items found in Area B1 form an unremarkable assemblage. The objects appear to have been accidentally lost or disregarded and provide little evidence for metal use in the area.

Faunal Assemblage (Vida Rajkovača)

A total of 508 animal bones coming from 71 contexts have been recovered during the evaluation at Area B1. This report will outline the results following the zooarchaeological analysis of the material. Faunal remains represent the hand collected material recovered from features dated to Early, Middle and Late Iron Age, Late Iron Age/ Early Roman, Roman and Anglo-Saxon period as well as from some otherwise undated features.

This area has produced the significant amount of bone recovered from the features that range in date from the Iron Age to the Anglo-Saxon period. Iron Age and Anglo-Saxon components seem to be the two dominant components of this assemblage (Table 15). The overall preservation of the material was moderate. Based on the chronology of the material, five sub-sets were created in order to study the site and they will be quantified in separate tables.

Groups	**Number of contexts (out of 71)**	**Number of fragments (out of 557)**	**%**
Iron Age	27	210	38
Late Iron Age/ Early Roman Period	6	35	6
Roman Period	16	90	16
Anglo-Saxon	5	106	19
Undated	17	116	21

Table 15: Sub-division based on the chronology of the material

Iron Age
Animal bone material was recovered from 27 different contexts, amounting to 210 bone fragments, 91 (66%) of which were possible to assign to element and further 47 (22%) to species. Preservation of the material ranged from moderate to poor and the material was highly fragmented. This is reflected in the high numbers of unidentified mammal bones which could only be assigned to size category. The representation of species is impoverished with only four domestic species present (Table 16).

SPECIES	**NISP**	**%NISP**	**MNI**
Cow	26	55	2
Ovicaprids	12	25	2
Horse	8	17	1
Dog	1	3	1
ULM	76	72 (Σ=138)	-
UMM	22	19 (Σ=138)	-
UUM	65	0 (Σ=163)	-

Key: UMM & ULM = Unid. Medium and Large Mammal / UUM = Unid. Fragment. NB: Species percentages are out of 47. These differ from the unidentified counts as these are calculated on the basis of element identification (for UMM & ULM) and total fragments (for UUM) (corresponding to Σ in brackets).

Table 16: NISP and MNI counts for Iron Age contexts in Area B1

Four bones were noted bearing butchery marks and the actions performed include potsizing of the ribs, meat and marrow removal, as well as bone working. Fragment of sheep/ goat tibia has been fashioned into a gouge. This tool (81mm long) has a characteristic oblique cut across the shaft to produce the

working end which is pointed and it also has polished appearance on both the tip and the shaft. It is suggested that this represents a hide working tool and parallels with similarly dated objects were found on Haddenham (Site V, Mackreth 2006: 208). One ageable specimen was recorded in this sub-set and that was an ovicaprid mandible aged to 6 to 8 years (Grant 1982).

Late Iron Age/ Early Roman Period

This component of the assemblage yielded 35 fragments of bone, ten of which were identifiable to species (Table 17). Remains of a cow, sheep/ goat and horse were positively identified as well as one roe deer specimen. Livestock species are represented with mandibular elements only which could imply the import of meat bearing bones. However, as this is such a small sub-set, it is likely that this is just a result of a poor preservation. One instance of butchery activities was observed as a series of chop marks on a cow mandible probably demonstrating disarticulation.

SPECIES	NISP	%NISP	MNI
Cow	4	40	1
Ovicaprids	3	30	1
Horse	2	20	1
Roe deer	1	10	1
ULM	15	15 (Σ=24)	-
UMM	9	8 (Σ=24)	-
UUM	1	1 (Σ=25)	-

Key: UMM & ULM = Unid. Medium and Large Mammal / UUM = Unid. Fragment. NB: Species percentages are out of 10. These differ from the unidentified counts as these are calculated on the basis of element identification (for UMM & ULM) and total fragments (for UUM) (corresponding to Σ in brackets).

Table 17: NISP and MNI counts for Late Iron Age/ Early Roman contexts in Area B1

Romano Period

The preservation of the material within this sub-set ranged from moderate to quite good resulting in a number of ageable and measurable specimens. Romano-British component of this assemblage totalled 90 assessable fragments, 34 (38%) of which were identifiable to species. Cow are the predominant species (Table 18), followed by two other main 'food species': ovicaprids and pigs. Horse was also positively identified in this sub-set. Although cattle dominate the NISP counts, sheep/ goat category is well represented within MNI counts with two individual animals present on site.

SPECIES	NISP	%NISP	MNI
Cow	26	76	2
Ovicaprids	5	15	2
Horse	2	6	1
Pig	1	3	1
ULM	13	72 (Σ=24)	-
UMM	22	10 (Σ=24)	-
UUM	21	1 (Σ=56)	-

Key: UMM & ULM = Unid. Medium and Large Mammal / UUM = Unid. Fragment. NB: Species percentages are out of 34. These differ from the unidentified counts as these are calculated on the basis of element identification (for UMM & ULM) and total fragments (for UUM) (corresponding to Σ in brackets).

Table 18: NISP and MNI counts for Romano-British contexts in Area B1

Five cattle and two ovicaprid specimens were possible to age. Cattle mandibles were adult and senile individuals (Grant 1982), whereas cattle metacarpal and femur were aged to 0-2.5 and 0-3 years respectively (Silver 1969). Ovicaprid mandibles demonstrated the age at death of 6-12 months and 1-2 years respectively (Grant 1982). One example of butchery was noted performed on a cattle scapula and the action was unclear.

Biometrical data was drawn from the measurements of two complete cattle specimens and follow von den Driesch (1976: 86, 92). Withers height calculations follow the conversion factors of Matolsci and Fock for cattle (see Von den Driesch and Boessneck 1974). Calculations were derived from cow tibia, measuring 110 cm and cow metacarpal measuring 120 cm which is in the middle of the size range.

Anglo-Saxon
Five Anglo-Saxon contexts produced large quantity of bone, amounting to 106 fragments, 19 (18%) of which were identifiable to species. Material demonstrated quite good state of preservation: of 106 bones recorded, 19 were moderately preserved compared to 87 of quite good preservation. Although small, this sub-set shows a varied species representation with all three main livestock species represented, as well as some evidence for exploiting of the wild faunal resources (Table 19). The majority of bone has been assigned to size category and medium-sized mammals are a dominant group. Due to the high fragmentation, it was not possible to obtain any ageing or measuring data. Butchery marks were noted on *c.*10% of the material mostly demonstrating pot sizing of the ribs, disarticulation and skinning. In addition to this, red deer antler tine has been sawn off possibly to be worked into a tool.

SPECIES	NISP	%NISP	MNI
Cow	11	58	1
Ovicaprids	4	21	1
Pheasant	2	11	1
Red deer	1	5	1
Pig	1	5	1
ULM	30	29 (Σ=85)	-
UMM	54	54 (Σ=85)	-
UUM	2	1 (Σ=87)	-
UUB	1	1 (Σ=87)	-

Key: UMM & ULM = Unid. Medium and Large Mammal / UUM = Unid. Fragment. NB: Species percentages are out of 19. These differ from the unidentified counts as these are calculated on the basis of element identification (for UMM & ULM) and total fragments (for UUM) (corresponding to Σ in brackets).

Table 19: NISP and MNI counts for Anglo-Saxon contexts in Area B1

Undated features
A number of features remained undated producing the total of 116 bones, 80 (69%) of which were possible to assign to element and further 22 (19%) to species. This sub-set shows an impoverished representation of species with cattle being the predominant one (Table 20). Single ageable specimen recorded in this sub-set was a cow mandible aged to 1-8 months (Grant 1982). Two examples of butchery were noted: four fine cut marks recorded on a dog third metacarpal and two cut marks recorded on an unidentified medium mammal metapodial bone.

SPECIES	**NISP**	**%NISP**	**MNI**
Cow	17	77	1
Ovicaprids	2	9	1
Dog	2	9	1
Horse	1	5	1
ULM	44	42 (Σ=58)	-
UMM	17	16 (Σ=58)	-
UUM	33	0 (Σ=94)	-

Key: UMM & ULM = Unid. Medium and Large Mammal / UUM = Unid. Fragment. NB: Species percentages are out of 22. These differ from the unidentified counts as these are calculated on the basis of element identification (for UMM & ULM) and total fragments (for UUM) (corresponding to Σ in brackets).

Table 20: NISP and MNI counts for undated contexts in Area B1

The great majority of the bone material analysed has been assigned to domestic species which is in keeping with most archaeologically recovered assemblages in Britain. The results from these analyses reflect the importance of livestock species such as cattle and ovicaprids in Iron Age, Romano-British and Anglo-Saxon economy systems.

Cattle, ovicaprids, horse, pig and dog are represented, as well as red deer, roe deer and pheasant remains as the only evidence for the use of wild fauna on site. The importance of ovicaprids in the Iron Age (Cunliffe 2005: 415) and cattle in Romano-British economy (King 1999: 180) are well-known and Anglo-Saxon husbandry

regimes favoured sheep/ goats (Crabtree 1996:63). However, small, these sub-sets have produced somewhat similar results. Ageing data showed that a number of cows and sheep/ goats were kept after they reached maturity and some were slaughtered at the early stages. This sub-set is too small for drawing conclusions about the economy, but it is certain that a number of cattle and ovicaprids were kept for their secondary products such as transport, traction, wool and milk. Saw marks noted on the antler are also important, since it is believed that saw marks are indicative of bone working and not butchery (Seetah, 2007, PhD Thesis, University of Cambridge, unpublished).

Overall body part distribution shows a slight over-representation of teeth and mandibular elements with a small number of meat-bearing bones which is typical for the sites where joints of meat were exported from the site. However, it is likely that this could be the result of the quite poor overall preservation, as teeth tend to survive better. The predominance of domestic species on these sites suggests that there was little time or inclination for hunting in the communities probably engaged in raising crops and animal husbandry.

Although very small and coming from the evaluation, this assemblage produced some valuable measuring and ageing data, as well as some butchery information. It would not be possible to base the studies of the economy, nor the examination of the social aspects of subsistence and food-sharing on such a small sample. Further archaeological work, therefore, help elucidate these.

Environmental Assessment (Anne de Vareilles)

A total of six samples from Area B1 contained charred archaeobotanical remains. A little soil disturbance is evident in the form of modern rootlets, intrusive seeds and the blind burrowing snail (*Ceciloides acicula*).

Iron Age pit, F. 128 [223] Trench 18
This feature contained no wild plant seeds or gathered nuts but a few cereal grains. The sample was also unusually rich in bone fragments, corresponding well with the animal bones recovered during the excavation of this feature.

Late Iron Age/ Gallo-Belgic gully, F. 103 [151] Trench 21
A little charcoal, a spelt glume base (*Triticum spelta*), one grass seed and a possible lentil were recovered. Lentils are not usually found before the Roman period when they are thought to have been introduced.

Romano-British cobbled feature F. 158 [326] Trench 40a
The sample produced a very large flot of almost pure charcoal. The quality and quantity of pieces suggest they were either *in situ* or found in primary deposition. No plants other than wood appear to have been used as fuel.

Grubenhäus, F. 140 [258] trench 44
A little charcoal, two wheat grains (*Triticum* sp.), two spelt glume bases and one grass seed were recovered.

Neolithic pit, F. 211 [443] trench 50
Apart from a little cereal the sample was rich in hazel-nut shell fragments (*Corylus avellana*). Hazel-nuts readily preserve when charred and show how wild foods were an important component of the Neolithic diet.

Iron Age posthole, F. 220 [463] trench 51
A little cereal chaff, some arable weeds and over 200 hazel-nut shell fragments were found. The assemblage provides evidence for arable farming on clay-rich soils and the frequent or copious consumption of hazel-nuts.

Sample Number		**120**	**103**	**123**	**110**	**100**	**116**
Context		443	151	463	223	326	380
Feature		211	103	220	128	158	186
Feature type		Pit	Gully	Post-hole	Pit		Gruben-haus
Phase / Date		Neo	LIA	I.A/ Saxon	I.A/ Saxon	RB	Saxon
Trench		50	21	51	18	40a	46
Sample volume - litres		10	5	6	10	19	6
Flot volume - mililitres		10	1.5	19	7.5	520	5
Flot fraction examined - %		100	100	100	100	100	100
large charcoal (>4mm)		-	-	+	-	+++	+
med. charcoal (2-4mm)		++	+	++	++	+++	+
small charcoal (<2mm)		+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++
vitrified charcoal			-				
parenchyma - undifferentiated plant storage tissue		+			+		
Cereal grains							
Triticum cf. *spelta*	spelt wheat				1		
Triticum spelta / diccocum	spelt or emmer				2		
Triticum sp.	wheat type indet.			1	2		2
Triticum / Hordeum	wheat or barley				1		
cereal grain fragments indet.		3		1	2	1	
Cereal chaff							
Triticum spelta glume base	spelt chaff		1	5			2
T.spelta/dicoccum glume base	spelt or emmer chaff	1					
Triticum sp. glume base	glume wheat chaff			6			
Triticum sp. rachis internode	glume wheat chaff			-			-
Non cereal seeds							
Corylus avellana	Hazel-nut shell fragment	72		200+			
Fallopia convolvulus	Black bindweed	1				2	
cf. *lens culinaris*	possible Lentil		1				
Anthemis cotula	stinking chamomile			4			
large Poaceae indet (>4mm)	grass family seed			5			1
medium Poaceae indet. (2-4mm)	grass family seed		1	2			
Poaceae fragment indet. - wild or cultivated grass seed frag.		4		1			
seed indet.					1		
Ceciloides acicula –Blind burrowing snail							++
Bone fragments >2mm (<2mm)					++ (+++)		
Intrusive seeds		+	-	+	-	+	+
Modern rootlets		P	P	P	P		P

Key: '-' 1 or 2; '+' <10; '++' 10-50; '+++' >50 items. P = Present

Table 21: Plant macro-remains from bulk soil samples.

Burnt stone (Simon Timberlake)

F.158, (context [326], Trench 40A), a cobbled feature of likely Roman date, contained a high quantity of burnt stone, from which a grab sample was taken. This sample included 30 fractured or near complete fire-cracked cobbles varying in size between approx 50mm x 30mm and 190mm x 110mm x 80m. the stones weighed between 14g and 3720g. The average size of cobble or fragment, however, was around 110mm x 90mm, whilst the mean weight was 652g (total weight = 19570g).

The stones show every sign of having been burnt *in situ*, moreover of having been reasonably carefully selected and collected from the glacial drift (probably washed-out into the riverine terrace gravels), both on the basis of lithologies and their size. This sample suggests that medium dense and moderately well cemented quartzitic sandstone cobbles have been chosen by preference. A few fragments of burnt flint (*c* .10%) may have been accidental inclusions; however, the grab sample may not be fully representative, given that a much higher percentage of igneous erratic cobbles were noted amongst excavated material on site.

Discussion

The distribution of archaeological features throughout Area B1 allowed for the identification of seven localised 'sites' (Site 2- Site 8), which, with the exception of Site 3 and Site 6, were generally restricted to a single period (Figure 13). Site 6 extended into the northwest part of Area B2, a similarity of archaeological features suggesting it to have continued under the current carriageway of the A1.

Neolithic (Sites 4 and 7)

Neolithic activity was identified via a series of discrete features in two distinct areas (Trenches 42 and 42A within Site 4 and Trench 50 within Site 6). Site 4 was limited to Trench 42 and 42A, comprising of F. 199 an indistinct feature which was interpreted as either a pit or a tree-throw and F. 200, a small pit. Both features contained Neolithic pottery and blade-based flints. Residual Neolithic pottery was also recovered from F. 198, a probable later ditch. Depositional similarities to Site 4 are known from elsewhere, with the identification of Neolithic material within tree-throws having been interpreted to be of comparable significance to deliberately dug features (e.g. Evans *et al*. 1999; Evans and Hodder 2006). 'Tree clearance' of a Neolithic date has been previously identified during excavations at Huntington Racecourse, revealing that Neolithic dated flints and pottery had also been disposed of or deposited within tree-throws (Macaulay 1995).

Site 7 was located within the later prehistoric Site 6. A single definitively Neolithic pit (F.211) was located within Trench 50. Although it did not contain any pottery, it did contain a large quantity of Early Neolithic flint (Billington, above). The flint, some of which appeared to be un-worked nodules, all showed signs of *in situ* burning. Fragments of charred hazelnut shell identified within the fill of the pit strongly suggest an occupational site with localised flint working. Contemporary flint recovered during the bucket sampling programme was localised around the area of

this occupation (Trenches 50, 53, 55 and 56), indicative of a stronger Neolithic presence than was revealed by the sub-surface archaeological remains exposed in the trenches. No definitively structural elements could be associated with the possible hearth F. 211.

Although not dated by material culture, and also potentially associated with nearby Anglo-Saxon activity, the two small hearth-like pits identified within Trench 56 (F. 215 and F. 239) demonstrated similar morphology to F. 211, and may have been contemporary, suggesting more widespread Neolithic activity across the site.

A strong corpus of excavated Neolithic sites and find-spots have been identified in the vicinity of Sites 4 and 7, placing these within a much wider landscape of Neolithic activity, the closest being the chance discovery of two polished stone axes approximately 450m northeast of Site 4. Approximately 1km south of Site 7 Neolithic pits were also excavated at Buckden gravel quarry, with a Late Neolithic Beaker pit excavated at Park Road (south of Brampton), between two arms of the Alconbury Brook (Welsh 1993). An area of Neolithic monumental activity north of the village has also been identified and includes a mortuary enclosure, cursus and hengiform monument (Malim, 1990, 1991). These appear to respect the micro-topography (Malim 2000) as well as the location of a palaeochannel from the network of which Alconbury Brook is part.

In light of this seeming focus of Neolithic monuments and settlement related activity on the numerous existing and former channels of the Alconbury Brook system, it is interesting to note that the small stream following the base of the slope on which Site 4 is located, as well as the northern edge of the flat plain on which Site 7 is located, is a tributary of the same water network, and may be suggestive of a stronger Neolithic presence south of Brampton.

The wider geophysical survey, extending beyond the Scheme (Bartlett 2009b) shows the presence of a very large, curvilinear feature, over 100m in diameter to the west of Site 7 outside of the Scheme (Figure 6). Very tentatively, this could be evidence of causewayed enclosure or a large henge monument (although a later prehistoric attribution cannot be discounted from the available evidence). Topographically, examples of such Neolithic monuments that are located within lowland areas and not immediately adjacent to a river are commonly sited close to a tributary watercourse, sometimes even incorporating the watercourse into their perimeters. In many cases higher ground was available nearby, but the lower areas were deliberately chosen (Oswald *et al*. 2001). As already mentioned, a tributary of the Alconbury Brook complex was located between Sites 4 and 7, at the base of the moderately steeply rising hill to the north that defined the majority of the evaluated area. Similarly, approximately 100m southeast of Site 7, the geophysical and cropmark survey confirmed the presence of a cropmark previously identified within the HER record (Preconstruct Geophysics 2007; Bartlett 2009a). Approximately 45m in diameter, the geophysical results show a circular feature, with less well defined readings possibly representing gaps within the north and south sides suggestive of a hengiform monument or ring-ditch, both comparable in form to those identified to the north of Brampton.

Later Prehistoric (Site 6)

No features of a definite Bronze Age date were identified within the entirety of Area B1 and only a single feature contained any material culture dated to this period. The terminal of F. 208, otherwise thought to represent an Iron Age square barrow or small enclosure (see below), produced seven sherds of a later Bronze Age vessel. Although likely to be residual, the sherds showed very little abrasion and were unlikely to have travelled far to their final location. The bucket sampling survey identified very low quantities of Bronze Age pottery; a single sherd of abraded Middle Bronze Age pottery was recovered from the sub-soil of Trench 54.

Middle to Late Iron Age activity was recorded throughout Area B1. Towards the southern end of the site a series of linear features and pits were recorded within Trenches 50 to 52 and 54 to 59, dated by relatively scant quantities of pottery to the Middle Iron Age. Loosely aligned on a northeast-southwest grid the linear features consisted of several large re-cut ditches (F. 235 - F. 237) forming the northeast edge and F. 259 with F. 260 forming the northwest 'side' of the system; both corresponding with a co-axial pattern visible on both the geophysical and aerial surveys (Preconstruct Geophysics 2007; Bartlett 2009a). Internal features or sub-divisions of the enclosed area were identified within Trench 52, with what appeared to be two sides of a smaller enclosure (F. 233/ F. 234 and F. 248/ F. 249) associated with a northwest-southeast linear feature identified from a cropmark. The full extent of the enclosures were not defined to the southwest; although a single linear feature identified on the geophysical survey as continuing beyond the southwest limit of the proposed road corridor appears to represent a single ditch rather than part of an enclosure system. The utilisation of linear boundaries as an axis for Middle Iron Age enclosures is a commonly identified feature on contemporary sites (Cunliffe 2006), with the ditches often suggesting an earlier network of land division dating to the Early Iron Age or even Bronze Age.

The alignment of the probable enclosures was mirrored by the northwest - southeast aligned linear feature F. 226, identified within Trenches 50A and 51, which respects the presence of large pit (F. 229). The fills of the pit demonstrated multiple layers of silting and gravel slumping consistent with use as a well/ watering-hole. The relatively high quantity of pottery recovered from the pit (114 sherds, 360g) and the presence of a worked bone implement (Rajkovača, above) suggest a nearby location of domestic activity. The presence of a Middle Iron Age cluster of small pits or postholes within Trench 51, and also within Trench 50, may relate to this activity, although whether they represented structural elements was not clear.

One of the most distinct cropmarks identified from the aerial and geophysical surveys was a small enclosed rectilinear area located centrally within Trench 50 (Preconstruct Geophysics 2007; Bartlett 2009a). Previously identified as a possible square barrow, this feature was shown as approximately 10m square with a well defined break to both the southeast and northwest. Trench 50 indeed identified the location and orientation of the feature; the eastern terminus, northwest facing opening F. 208, was identified and, with the exception of probably intrusive Middle Bronze Age pottery (see above) and a small quantity of animal bone (40g) was devoid of material culture. No internal features of a domestic nature were identified within the enclosed space of the ditch, suggestive of it indeed representing a 'square barrow'. Although the alignment of the

sides corresponded well with the northeast-southwest, northwest-southeast alignment of the Middle Iron Age linear features/ enclosures within Site 6, a definitive purpose of the enclosed area could not be determined.

Outlying linear features on the same general alignment as the enclosures were identified throughout the southern extent of Area B1 and within the northwest of Area B2; although undated and on a similar alignment with the Medieval and post-Medieval furrows identified across Site 6. It is likely that a wider landscape of Middle Iron Age activity was present, although less well defined, away from the core represented by enclosures and possible settlement. Cropmarks and the wider geophysical survey suggests that the 'main' enclosed area ended immediately south of the limit of evaluation, suggesting a core of enclosures approximately 150m in length utilizing a linear feature that continued more than 300m southwest to the edge of the surveyed area (Preconstruct Geophysics 2007; Bartlett 2009a). Similarly aligned linear features were identified within the south of the surveyed area, as well as immediately north of Site 6, close to the possible hengiform/ ring-ditch to the east of Site 4 and 5, and appear to be forming a series of co-axial boundaries. The definitive dating for cropmarks that do not have an immediate association with features investigated during the evaluation will always be tenuous; and the possibility that Iron Age enclosures could utilise a pre-existing fieldsystem may suggest the possibility that the Middle Iron Age presence in Area B1 was indeed confined to Site 6, with a wider ranging earlier, possibly Bronze Age fieldsystem more wide-ranging beyond the proposed road corridor.

Late Iron Age (Site 2)

The northernmost trenches of Area B1 contained a concentration of Late Iron Age archaeological remains comprising a wide, deep, northeast-southwest aligned ditch (F. 113), re-cut by a steeper sided deeper ditch (F. 112; Figure 7); the fills contained small quantities of Late Iron Age pottery (6 sherds, 154g). F. 112/ F. 113 appeared to terminate and respect the large cluster of potentially contemporary pits (F. 135, F. 171, and F. 179) within Trench 12. The terminus of a potential return of F. 112/ F. 113 suggests the presence of a rectilinear boundary or enclosure with a southwest facing entrance.

A second wide, yet shallower northeast-southwest aligned linear feature (F. 130), re-cut once (F. 129), was identified within Trenches 12A and 12B, and contained Late Iron Age pottery. A single shallow pit or posthole (F. 132) within Trench 12A appears closely associated with the enclosure ditches, and it is likely that a further three, unexcavated postholes within Trench 12B are contemporary.

Parallel with F. 112/F. 113 and F. 129/ F. 130 was a series of five northeast to southwest aligned shallow gullies; F. 111 and F. 115, both containing Late Iron Age pottery, truncated the upper fills of enclosure/ boundary ditch F. 112. Gully/ ditch F. 131 truncated pit/ posthole F.132, and, along with F. 133 and F. 134, appeared to truncate the northwest-southeast aligned return of the Middle to Late Iron Age ditches (F. 112/ F. 113).

The Late Iron Age activity exposed within Site 2, is, when the trenches devoid of archaeological features to the south are considered, apparently marking the periphery of activity during this period. The geophysical survey of the environs of Area B1 showed a series of at least seven adjacent rectilinear enclosures on a northwest-southeast by northeast-southwest alignment (Preconstruct Geophysics 2007; Bartlett 2009a). These extended approximately 170m northwest from Trenches 12 and 12A, forming part of what appears to be a network of contemporaneous rectilinear linears and enclosures. These appeared to extend to the west of the surveyed area, potentially representing a larger Later Iron Age complex. A denser area of geophysical results lay to the northwest of this probable complex, with what appear to be a series of curvilinear enclosures with several parallel linear features potentially representing tracks or droveways. This suggests a phase of Earlier Iron Age activity than that identified within Site 2, with a later redevelopment occurring in the Later Iron Age. The location of the Late Iron Age features identified within Site 2 corresponds well with the crown of the natural slope within the landscape and the formation of a generally flat terrace heading to the north and northwest beyond the area of investigation.

Late Iron Age/ Romano-British (Site 3)

Within the centre of the evaluated area, three distinct phases of Romano-British activity were identified; a small number of very early Romano-British or immediately pre- Romano-British, Flavian (69-96 AD) rectilinear ditches appeared to have been replaced by earlier (1-2nd century) and then later (2nd-4th century) Romano-British activity. Two shallow linear features were definitively dated to the earliest Romano-British or Gallo-Belgic phase: F. 103 within Trench 21 and F. 122 within Trench 26 appear to respect each other and form two sides of a rectilinear enclosure with an east northeast-west southwest orientation. A possible southeastern side of the enclosure was identified within Trenches 40 and 40A (F. 184 & F. 185, although this is based purely on similarities in orientation). A focus of deposition of pottery was identified within the northernmost slot of Trench 21, with 157 sherds (1914g) from a 1m intervention recovered, with 72 sherds (46% of the overall assemblage) originating from the same vessel. The un-abraded condition of the pottery suggested a primary deposition event, and this, combined with the quantity suggests a nearby structure may exist, not exposed within the excavated trenches. The identification of a lentil within the fill of the same ditch (de Vareilles, above) is also suggestive of an occupational rather than agricultural use of the linear features, as lentils were generally imported rather than cultivated, even during the immediate pre-conquest period (Neal 1990).

A second phase of rectilinear enclosure, dated by pottery to the early Roman period (1st-2nd century) was identified to the south of the Gallo-Belgic enclosure. North-south and east-west aligned ditches identified within Trenches 30, 30A, 30B, 41 and 41A suggest a rectangular enclosure with outer ditches associated with postholes (ditch F. 196 and posthole F. 195 within Trench 41A for example) and suggestive of a palisade, with less well-defined internal divisions (such as F. 126 within Trench 30B). This feature had an irregular profile consistent with a foundation trench for upright timbers. A cluster of small, inter-cutting pits within Trench 40 were the only internal features identified within the enclosed area, containing small quantities of pottery of

contemporary date. The sherds recovered from the ditches, whilst in smaller quantities than that recovered from the previous phase, showed a similarity in type with higher status domestic wares recovered; platters and bowls of both imported and locally made types. These suggest that, although a change of alignment was made during the early Roman period, the potential for an otherwise domestic core within or close to the enclosure is likely.

A series of later Romano-British (2nd-4th century) linear features appear to have overlaid or possibly extended the 1st-2nd century enclosure phase, and although generally respecting the north-south, east-west alignment appeared less formally laid-out, with the northeast corner being narrowed to respect the presence of a series of probable quarry pits within Trench 29. Pits and postholes potentially associated with this later phase of enclosure were identified within the northern part of the enclosure, although the quantity of pottery and animal bone recovered, suggests, like the previous phase, to be more agricultural than domestically related. The southernmost east-west aligned ditch of this phase, F. 128/ F. 179 re-cut by F. 178 within Trenches 40A and 41 contained the thick charcoal and wood deposit sealed by compacted heat-affected cobbles. The suggestion of slow, regular heating of stones within what appears to be an outlying ditch of an agricultural enclosure strongly suggests the on-site drying of agricultural produce. Crop-marks forming what appear to be an enclosure on a similar alignment to the northern side of this enclosure were identified immediately to the west of Trenches 30 and 30A, which may represent a contemporary enclosure.

A grave (F. 102) was located immediately north of the identified northern limit of later Romano-British activity: The preserved skeleton (left *in situ*) was extended, on its back with its head to the south. No material culture was identified associated with the grave to allow any association with any of the phases of Gallo-Belgic or Romano-British activity. The rarity of burials associated with Gallo-Belgic settlements, and the preference of cremation during the later Roman period suggests it to be associated with the 1st-2nd century enclosures.

The three phases of Romano-British activity identified within Site 3 show a localised transformation of activity away from the later Iron Age site (Site 2), potentially in the immediately pre-conquest or conquest period, with a rectilinear enclosure, with an otherwise unidentified occupation core nearby. Whether this indicated a complete abandonment of the '*older*' Late Iron Age settlements, or whether the decidedly Romanised settlement was an addition to a contiguous Iron Age landscape was not resolved during the evaluation, although the seemingly deliberate relocation to an area 400m away from any Late Iron Age features certainly suggests an intention towards a '*newer*' style of occupation. The quantity of early, Gallo-Belgic pottery identified within the enclosure ditch also suggest a higher status of occupation, although the absence of any definitively dated contemporary fieldsystem raises questions as to how a redeveloped 1st Century farm worked.

The change in alignment from the earliest, Flavian occupation within Site 3, to the axis that defined the Mid and Late Romano-British occupation certainly suggests some form of redefinition, again abandoning the 'older' style of settlement and replacing it with a well defined possible structure and subsequently by an irregular later Romano-British enclosure. The formality of the 1st and 2nd century archaeology,

comprising a rectilinear outer ditch, 75m in length and at least 25m in width, augmented by postholes suggests use as either a domestic structure, with at least one internal timber wall, or as an agricultural enclosure.

The third phase, showing a redevelopment or augmentation of the more formalised structure during the 2nd to 4th centuries still suggests the presence of a nearby settlement, although the presence of a corn drying kiln within the southern ditch does support a more outlying agricultural purpose. The alignment of the enclosure in respect of potentially Romano-British quarry pits in Trench 29 also suggests the use of gravel in agricultural purposes; tracks and droveways being the most common. Similarly sized and dated enclosures, but with less pottery, identified from within the ditches were exposed within Area B2 (Site 9) 850m to the southeast. These were most likely associated with the 'settlement' identified close to excavations approximately 500m further southeast (Burrow and Foard-Colby 2006). Whilst the narrow constraints of an evaluated road corridor do not expose a wider swathe of landscape, it is possible to postulate that if the mid to late Romano-British component of Site 3 was a settlement core, and that the 2006 excavation suggested another, located nearby, then a distance of approximately 1300m lay between them.

The wider geophysical survey (Bartlett 2009a) did not show any sites adjacent to the proposed road corridor that categorically could be identified as Romano-British, although an area approximately 1200m north of Site 3 showed a series of linear features on a north-south, east-west alignment that may be traces of a Romano-British fieldsystem/ droveway.

Anglo-Saxon (Sites 5 and 8)

Two distinct areas of Anglo-Saxon activity were identified within Area B1: the northernmost, Site 5, revealed sunken floored buildings, potentially representing *grubenhäuser* of similar size. These were identified within Trench 44 (F. 140) and Trench 46 (F. 186), as well as probable, unexcavated examples within Trench 42B and 48A. A single, seemingly rectilinear post-built structure was identified adjacent to F. 140 within Trench 44. Discrete features of a comparable date identified within Trenches 48 and 49, including a potential cess/ rubbish pit F. 160, suggest a residential settlement that appeared to respect the 'hillside' to the north, being situated at the base of the slope . The identified *grubenhäuser* all appeared, with the exception of F. 186, as strong individual anomalies within the geophysical survey (Preconstruct Geophysics 2007; Bartlett 2009a). A further four similar readings located to the immediate west and southwest of Trench 44, outside of the proposed road corridor, suggest a robust settlement of at least six *grubenhäuser*.

During the pre-excavation fieldwalking survey (Anderson *et al.* 2009), the top-soil overlying the extensive post-Medieval quarrying identified within, and to the east of Trenches 45, 45A and 46 produced a significant quantity of Anglo-Saxon pottery (fieldwalking Site 1) which could have originated within domestically related features, truncated during later quarrying. Although there were no geophysical anomalies beyond the eastern limit of the proposed road corridor corresponding with those to the west, it is probable that the settlement contained more structures

extending towards the current carriageway of the A1 (Preconstruct Geophysics 2007; Bartlett 2009a).

In light of the strong Anglo-Saxon presence within Site 5, it is possible that some, if not all of the otherwise undated linear features within Trenches 42, 42A, 42B and 49 could be associated with a later Anglo-Saxon settlement, and that linear feature F. 149 within Trench 48 was also contemporary and delineated the northern side of the stream or brook that is still present at the base of the hill today.

The second, smaller area of Anglo-Saxon presence within Area B1, Site 8, was located in the far southeast corner of the evaluated area within Trenches 55, 56, 56A and 56B. This comprised a deep, rounded pit F. 250, containing a small quantity of Anglo-Saxon pottery and animal bone, likely to be domestic refuse. Two small hearth-like features, F. 215 and F. 239 adjacent to the pit, could not be directly associated with it, but were potentially part of a smaller settlement or features associated with the periphery of a larger settlement centred elsewhere. The outlying nature of this group of features is reinforced by the presence of a series of curvilinear gullies and ditches identified within the trenches which, although lacking datable material culture, were recorded as curving, seemingly respecting a feature or features located beyond the evaluated area and potentially under the current A1 road.

Medieval/ post-Medieval

Relatively little Medieval and post-Medieval activity was identified throughout Area B1, with the exception of occasional pottery and even plastic land drains. Furrow bases were infrequent, with three post-Medieval examples identified within the gravels of Trench 12. A multiple re-cut, deep, wide north-south aligned ditch within Trench 23 appeared to mark the transition between terrace gravel to the east and clay to the west. Although likely to represent an older field boundary, the latest re-cut was utilised to house several pottery drains and filled with sand.

The southernmost area of B1, the lower flat terrace of Site 6, contained the highest frequency of furrow bases. Generally aligned in a northeast to southwest direction they were evenly spaced at approximately 7m apart. No material culture was recovered from any of the furrow bases, although an estimated date of 14th to 16th century was suggested (David Hall, *pers.comm*.).

THE OUSE RIVER VALLEY – AS 2

Sector 2 details the results of evaluation within the Ouse River Valley between the outskirts of Brampton and Offord Cluny, spanning the River Ouse. The areas included here are Areas B2, C1, C2, M1 and N1 and finds represent a broad spectrum of human activity from the Neolithic to Roman periods (Sites 9-15). Whilst the span of activity is similar to Sector 1, the topographic setting of the Ouse Valley has also influenced key findings - namely a Bronze Age Barrow with preserved mound and deeply stratified sediments preserving a lens of 'lower peat' associated with preserved wood and artefacts adjacent to the River Ouse (Figure 14). A brief summary of each area follows:

> ***Area B2:*** *A total of 19 trenches were excavated within Area B2. Middle to Late Iron Age pits and ditches were recorded within the western half of the site and have been discussed in Sector 1 – The Brampton Gravels (Site 6). Romano-British enclosures, boundary ditches, a possible trackway and quarrying were present in the eastern half of the evaluation (Site 9).*
>
> ***Area C1:*** *A total of 35 trenches were excavated across Area C1. Middle Iron Age settlement was identified as a series of sub-circular enclosures and boundary ditches (Site 13). Romano-British settlement occupation was recorded within the western half of the evaluation area comprising of possible structures and industrial activity associated with a palaeochannel (Site 14).*
>
> ***Area C2 and N1:*** *A total of 33 trenches and 22 test pits were excavated across areas C2 and N1. Activity within both was a continuation of the Romano-British settlement at Area C1 (Site 14) as well as further Iron Age enclosure (Site 12). The test pits across both areas identified a series of palaeochannels (former courses of the River Ouse?). Preserved peat deposits were recorded close to the River Ouse, within which were significant quantities of burnt and fire-cracked flint and stone. Also present within the peat and cutting into the underlying gravels was a wooden post of Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age date (Site 15).*
>
> ***Area M1:*** *A total of 41 trenches were excavated across Area M1. An Early Bronze Age Barrow monument and possible occupational area was identified on a ridge overlooking the Ouse basin as well as a Middle Iron Age occupational zone within it (Site 11). Possible Romano-British land use was recorded within the west of the area (Site 10) and undated field systems were identified throughout the area.*

Area B2 Adam Slater (Figure 15)

Area B2 was situated between 13.88m and 16.39m AOD to the west of Brampton within the land associated with Brampton Lodge Farm (centred NGR 520050 269300). The site was bounded to the northwest by the current carriageway of the A1 (separating Area B2 from Area B1), to the south by the A141 (Buckden road) and a small stream. The area was transected in the north by a small agricultural track. The underlying geology was characterised by Terrace Gravels with a notable rise in the watertable visible within the southernmost trenches, Trench 80, Trench 81 and Trench 82, suggesting a significant change in geology at that location. The evaluation of Area B2 occurred between 21st May and 4th June 2009. It comprised agricultural land, with all trenches in un-harvested corn.

Trench No.	Length (m)	Orientation	Top-soil (m)	Sub-soil (m)	Total Depth (m)	Archaeology	Geology
71	58.5	NW-SE	0.35	0.29	0.64	Late Iron Age/Roman	Terrace gravel
72	27.0	NE-SW	0.35	0.38	0.73	Late Iron Age/Roman	Terrace gravel
73	53.0	NW-SE	0.29	0.39	0.67	Late Iron Age/Roman Quarrying	Terrace gravel
74	58.0	NW-SE	0.28	0.37	0.65	Medieval/post-Medieval Furrows	Terrace gravel
75	43.5	NE-SW	0.29	0.23	0.52	Medieval/post-Medieval Furrows	Terrace gravel
76	65.3	NE-SW	0.31	0.28	0.59	Late Iron Age/Roman	Terrace gravel
77	100.0	NW-SE	0.3	0.44	0.74	Roman Enclosure ditches, pits, Medieval/post-Medieval Furrows	Terrace gravel
78	49.3	NE-SW	0.3	0.31	0.61	Late Iron Age/ Roman. Medieval/post-Medieval Furrows	Terrace gravel
80	52.6	NW-SE	0.32	0.27	0.59	Late Iron Age/Roman	Terrace gravel
81	24.7	NW-SE	0.26	0.29	0.55	Late Iron Age/Roman	Terrace gravel
82	54.0	NW-SE	0.27	0.26	0.53	Late Iron Age/Roman	Terrace gravel
83	24.3	NE-SW	0.3	0.39	0.69	Late Iron Age/Roman Quarrying	Terrace gravel
84	30.2	N-S	0.3	0.1	0.4	Undated Linear features	Terrace gravel
85	19.1	E-W	0.29	0.16	0.45	None	Terrace gravel
86	59.4	NNW-SSE	0.32	0.31	0.63	Undated Linear feature, Posthole	Terrace gravel
87	24.3	NE-SW	0.29	0.23	0.52	Medieval/post-Medieval Furrows	Terrace gravel
88	60.5	NW-SE	0.31	0.13	0.44	Medieval/post-Medieval Furrows	Terrace gravel
89	27.0	NE-SW	0.32	0.26	0.58	Late Iron Age/Roman	Terrace gravel

Table 22: Trench information from Area B2

Results

Nineteen trenches were excavated within Area B2 totalling 1763.4m². Archaeological features were identified within all but one of the trenches (Trench 85), comprising Middle to Late Iron Age pits and ditches; Romano-British enclosures, boundary

ditches, a possible trackway and quarrying being present within the evaluated area. Notable zones of Late Iron Age, transitional and early Romano-British occupation were identified and numerous, Medieval and post-Medieval agricultural furrows crossed throughout the excavated area.

Trench 71

Trench 71 (Table B2.1) was located centrally within the evaluated area (Figure 16). Two undated parallel east-west aligned shallow ditches, **F. 265** and **F. 301**, potentially forming part of the Late Iron Age/ Romano-British agricultural system and an undated, although likely to be contemporary pit, **F. 297**, were identified within this trench.

Trench 72

Trench 72 was located centrally within the evaluated area (Figure 16), and contained the continuation of the two northwest-southeast aligned trackway/ droveway ditches from Trenches 78 and 76 (**F. 268** and **F. 269**), as well as north-south aligned linear features consistent with the Medieval/ post-Medieval agricultural features identified throughout Area B2.

Trench 73 and 83

Trench 73 was located centrally within the southwest of the evaluated area; an expansive area of irregular, inter-cutting quarry pits (**F. 296**; Table B2.2) was located within this trench (Figure 16). A maximum northwest-southeast extent of the quarrying was identified. The addition of Trench 83 identified the north-eastern extent of the quarrying, although the location of Trench 73 at the southern edge of the proposed road corridor precluded the identification of a southern extent.

Trench 74

Trench 74 was located centrally within the northwest of the evaluated area. A series of six north-south aligned linear features (two excavated, **F. 307** and **F. 312**; Table B2.3) contiguous with the Medieval or post-Medieval agricultural furrows within Trenches 87 and 88 were identified. A single, undated east-west aligned linear feature, also likely to be an agricultural feature, was located within the south of the trench.

Trench 75

Trench 75 was located to the south of the northwest of the evaluated area and revealed the continuation of Medieval and post-Medieval agricultural furrows from Trench 74 (Table B2.4).

Trench 76

Trench 76 was located centrally within the evaluated area (Figure 16). It contained the continuation of parallel northwest-southeast linear ditches F. 268 and 269 from Trenches 72 and 78 (unexcavated), as well as a single ephemeral north-south aligned linear feature, likely to be associated with the Medieval and post-Medieval agricultural furrows identified across the evaluated area (Table B2.5). The rounded butt-end of a narrow north-south aligned gully or shallow ditch, **F. 264**, was located within the trench, the alignment suggesting further association with the late agricultural features.

Trench 77and 79

Trenches 77 and 79 were located centrally within the evaluated area (Figure 16) and revealed the presence of four north-south aligned Medieval or post-Medieval agricultural furrows (one excavated, **F. 272**; Table B2.6). Three sides of what appeared to represent a rectilinear Romano-British enclosure were identified by the presence of two northeast-southwest aligned linear features within Trench 77 (**F. 270** and **F. 271**) and a northwest-southeast aligned ditch (unexcavated) within Trench 79. A second, unexcavated, although potentially contemporary linear feature was identified aligned parallel to F. 271. A single small pit, **F. 273**, was located 'within' the enclosure, and whilst it may also be contemporary with the enclosure itself, it was of similar morphology to the Middle Iron Age pits identified within adjacent Trench 78.

Trench 78

Trench 78 was located centrally within the evaluated area (Figure 16). Two sub-circular pits, **F. 294** and **F. 306** (Table B2.7) were located within the northeast of the trench, the latter containing 25 sherds (72g) of Middle Iron Age pottery. Two parallel northwest-southeast aligned linear features, F. 268/ 269, representing a ditch and re-cut, and F. 293 were located within the southwest of the trench and were identified as continuing into both Trench 76 and Trench 72.

Trench 80

Trench 80 was located centrally within the far southeast of the evaluated area (Figure 17). It contained features consistent with a settlement core of a likely Late Iron Age to Roman period date (Table B2.8). Several large, sub-circular to sub-rectangular pits, **F. 257** (containing a single sherd of Roman period and a single sherd of Late Iron Age pottery), **F. 272**, and a cluster of inter-cutting pits **F. 308** were located throughout the trench. Five smaller pits or large postholes were located close to and were likely contemporary with the pit cluster (two excavated **F. 305** and **F. 304**), suggestive of a structural element.

Continuation of Romano-British occupation beyond the Late Iron Age to Romano-British transition was represented by a northwest-southeast aligned ditch, **F. 266,** the excavated fills of which contained 35 sherds (188g) of 2nd to 4th century pottery. F. 266 truncated posthole **F. 267**, containing 14 sherds (50g) of Late Iron Age pottery as well as a potentially contemporaneous, unexcavated pit. A second ditch, northeast-southwest aligned was possibly contemporary with F. 266 and potentially formed the corner of a Romano-British enclosure.

Trench 81

Trench 81 was located within the southern corner of the evaluated road corridor adjacent to Trench 80 (Figure 17). The presence of features similar to those identified within Trench 80 (Table B2.9) indicated the continuation of the settlement focus beyond the southern extend of the evaluated area; two sub-rectangular pits, one of which (**F. 258**) contained 19 sherds (32g) of very late Iron Age/ Early Roman period pottery, consistent with that recovered from features in Trench 80. Two circular pits (unexcavated) were also present. A single, unexcavated northeast-southwest aligned ditch potentially represented an enclosure ditch similar to those within Trench 80. Two northeast-southwest aligned gullies (one excavated, **F. 314**) could not be dated.

Trench 82

Trench 82 was located within the far southeast corner of the evaluated area and appeared to contain features representing a more peripheral occupational zone (Figure 17), away from a central core represented by features within Trenches 80 and 81. Two linear features, aligned east northeast-west southwest, **F. 277** and **F. 276** (Table B2.10), were identified, the latter appearing to be segmented. Both contained small quantities of Late Iron Age and Early Roman period pottery. A third narrow linear feature, aligned northeast-southwest, **F. 278**, and truncating F. 277, contained more robust quantities of Late Iron Age pottery (6 sherds, 220g). An unexcavated linear feature, aligned north northwest-south southeast, was located within the western end of the trench, perpendicular to both F. 276 and F. 277. The alignments of F. 276 and F. 277, as well as the unexcavated linear feature within Trench 82 correspond well, both by date and alignment with the linear features identified within Trenches 80 and 81.

Trench 84

Trench 84 was the northernmost of the evaluated trenches within Area B2, located adjacent to the current A1 carriageway and close to Area B1 trenches. Two shallow northwest-southeast aligned linear features were present within the trench, (**F. 295** and **F. 298**; Table B2.11), neither of which were dated through material culture. The alignment of the linear features, however, corresponded with similar features of a potentially Iron Age date immediately adjacent to Trench 84 within area B1.

Trench 85

Trench 85 was located within the northern part of the evaluated area, immediately adjacent to the current carriageway of the A1. No archaeological features were present within this trench.

Trench 86

Trench 86 was located within the northern part of the evaluated area, adjacent to the current carriageway of the A1 and close to B1 trenches. A single, undated post or stakehole (**F. 300**; Table B2.12) was located within the south of the trench. A northwest-southeast aligned ditch **F. 302**, crossed the trench and contained a single sherd of Middle Iron Age pottery. Its alignment corresponds with the shallow linear features extending from Trench 84 into Area B1, although no corresponding feature aligned with F. 302 was located in B1.

Trench 87

Trench 87 was located centrally within the northwest of the evaluated area. A northwest-southeast aligned linear feature (unexcavated), potentially associated with the Iron Age ditches identified within Trenches 84 and 86, as well as within Area B1, crossed the trench. A second linear feature, aligned north-south (unexcavated), corresponded with the Medieval and post-Medieval furrows identified across the area.

Trench 88

Trench 88 was located centrally within the evaluated area and contained six north-south aligned linear features (unexcavated). The equal spacing, approximately 7m between the linear features and alignment suggested, that they represented a core of Medieval or post-Medieval agricultural furrows.

Trench 89

Trench 89 was located at the east side, centrally within the evaluated area. A single east-west aligned linear feature, continuing from Trench 71 to the west, was identified within the southern end of the trench.

Specialist Reports

The Flint (Lawrence Billington)

Excavations at site B2 recovered two worked flints from the sampling of sub-soil deposits. A single platform core was recovered from Trench 77. It bears narrow blade-like scars and careful platform trimming suggestive of a Mesolithic or earlier Neolithic date. A single undiagnostic hard hammer struck secondary flake was collected from Trench 78.

Trench		Flake	Single platform core	Totals
77	Bucket sample		1	1
78	Bucket sample	1		1
Total		**1**	**1**	**2**

Table 23: Flints recovered from Area B2 by trench and type

Later Prehistoric and Roman Pottery (Katie Anderson)

A small assemblage, totalling 75 sherds (461g) and representing 0.21 EVEs was recovered from site B2. All of the material was analysed and details of fabric, form and date were recorded along with any other information deemed important.

The majority of the assemblage was Roman in date (*c.* 90%), with just 10% dating from the later Prehistoric period. The Roman sherds were generally small and abraded, reflected by the mean weight of the assemblage, which was just 6.1g.

A narrow range of vessel fabrics were identified (see Table 24). Middle/Late Iron Age material was represented by five grog-tempered sherds (203g), which were larger and in better condition than much of the Roman pottery. Sandy greywares were the most commonly occurring fabric in the Roman period. Early Roman buff sandy wares were also well represented, although 12 of these were from a single vessel. A single imported ware was identified, comprising a decorated body sherd from a central Gaulish Samian bowl (2nd century AD). Finewares in the assemblage were limited to three Nene Valley colour-coated body sherds, dating mid 2nd-4th centuries AD.

Fabric	No.	Wt(g)
Buff sandy	20	24
CG SAM	1	16
CS GW	43	151
Grog-temp	5	203
NVCC	3	45
Oxidised sandy	1	3
Reduced sandy	2	19
TOTAL	**75**	**461**

Table 24: All pottery by fabric

A very limited range of vessel forms were identified (see Table 25), as most of the pottery was non-diagnostic, unsurprising given the size and condition of the assemblage. Thirteen jar sherds were identified, two of which were from different Middle/Late Iron Age grog-tempered jars, and 11 of which were from an Early Roman greyware jar. The Samian sherd represented the only bowl in the assemblage.

Form	No.	Wt(g)
Bowl	1	16
Jar	13	185
Unknown	61	260
TOTAL	**75**	**461**

Table25: All pottery by form

The material was collected from six different features. Feature 266 contained 35 sherds, weighing 188g, which included three Nene Valley colour-coated sherds and a greyware sherd with impressed 'X' decoration. The Samian sherd was also recovered from this feature, thus giving a date range of mid 2nd-4th century AD. Feature 258 contained 19 sherds, weighing 34g, of which 11 sherds were from a single vessel (a greyware jar), dating to the early Roman period. 13 sherds weighing 15g were collected from Feature 177, of which the majority (12 sherds, 13g) came from an Early Roman buff ware vessel. The pottery recovered from Feature 278 totalled five sherds weighing 203g, and included two grog-tempered jars and one large grog-tempered body sherd. The vessels from this Feature date d to the Middle/Late Iron Age, with a suggested 1st century BC date.

The small quantity of pottery recovered provides little useful information about the site. The evidence suggests some form of occupation from the Middle Iron Age to the later Roman period in the vicinity; however, the quantity of material implies this occupation was not continuous. The fabrics and forms present suggest a typical small, rural settlement, with some evidence of domestic activity.

Faunal remains (Vida Rajkovača)

A total of 101 fragments of bone were recovered from four features in Area B2 (F. 277, F. 278, F. 282 and F. 306), of which 11 (10.9%) were possible to assign to species.

F. 306 was dated to the Middle Iron Age and produced 11 cattle specimens and a number of unidentifiable highly fragmented bones, assigned to a size category. Only one long bone fragment was recovered from F. 278, which was dated to the Late Iron Age. A fragmented medium mammal rib was found in F. 277, dated to the early Roman period. One feature remained undated and yielded two fragments of unidentifiable medium sized mammal bones. It was not possible to obtain any ageing or measuring data due to the large fragmentation and poor preservation. No signs of butchery or pathology were noted in this sub-set.

Environmental Assessment (Anne de Vareilles)

Sample Number		**127**
Context		661
Feature		306
Feature type		charcoal rich pit
Phase / Date		L.I.A / Early RB
Trench		78
Sample volume - litres		8
Flot volume - mililitres		10
Flot fraction examined - %		100
large charcoal (>4mm)		+
med. charcoal (2-4mm)		++
small charcoal (<2mm)		+++
Non cereal seeds		
Corylus avellana	Hazel-nut shell fragment	1
Intrusive seeds (waterlogged seeds, age indet.)		-
Modern rootlets		P

Key: '-' 1 or 2; '+' <10; '++' 10-50; '+++' >50. P = present

Table 26: Plant macro-remains and mollusca from bulk soil samples

A single sample from Area B2 was processed: 8L were taken from context [661], a probable Middle Iron Age pit, F. 306. The flot contained a moderate amount of charcoal and a single fragment of hazel-nut shell. The presence of modern rootlets and one or two modern seeds point to a little disturbance.

Discussion

Late Iron Age/Romano-British

Archaeological remains of Iron Age and Roman period date formed the majority of activity recorded within Area B2, focused towards the southern end of the area in Trenches 71, 72, 73, 76 to 82 and 83 (Figure 18). Although the presence of potential Iron Age linear features within the northernmost Trenches, 84, 86 and 87, corresponded with features within Area B1 immediately to the west suggest a more widespread utilisation of the area in later prehistory, these can be more closely associated with the south of Area B1 than with the remainder of B2 (Site 6).

The northeast-southwest orientated linear features within Trenches 84, 86 and 87, correspond in alignment with linear features identified within the south of Area B1, with F. 298 within Trench 84 appearing to continue into Trenches 50A and 51 of Area B1 as F. 226, a shallow ditch with similar morphology. Although it didn't contain material culture, its terminus respected large Iron Age pit, F. 229. The regularity of the northeast to southwest linear features, however, being between 70 and 80m apart suggests a more structured system than is common in the Iron Age, and whilst the linear features themselves are likely to be Early to Middle Iron Age in date they could well respect earlier, Bronze-Age agricultural systems which have otherwise been undated by material culture. The extent of heavy agricultural activity in the Medieval and post-Medieval periods, attested to by the concentration of furrows in both the southeast of Area B1 and northwest of Area B2, may have removed a more recognisable Bronze Age presence, leaving the more robust Early and Middle Iron Age features.

The earliest firmly dated features were identified within Trenches 77 and 78 as a small cluster of pits, one of which (F. 306) contained Middle Iron Age pottery. No direct evidence of on-site occupation or structural components was identified, suggesting the Middle Iron Age presence within Area B2 to be peripheral to a settlement core not located within the area.

The focus of Later Iron Age, transitional and early Romano-British activity, suggestive of a settlement core was located further southeast than the Middle Iron Age activity; the far southeast of the area: Trenches 80, 81 and 82 contained a series of linear features and pits which appeared to define a settlement. The majority of artefacts recovered from Area B2 were from features within these three trenches; 71 sherds (279g) of pottery were found in Trench 80 and 41 sherds (266g) in Trench 82. During the evaluation, this area had a locally higher watertable; the excavated features themselves contained alluvially rich deposits and were sealed by a sub-soil of alluvium and, although no palaeochannel was identified it is likely to have lain to the south of the evaluated area and may explain the location of the settlement at this point. The decline in frequency of features within Trench 82 compared to Trenches 80

and 81 suggest that the settlement continued south or southeast along the edge of the possible palaeochannel; features were comparatively shallow and waterlogged deposits were not encountered. The dates of the features suggest a Late Iron Age settlement presence potentially utilising the local water source that continued in use up to the at least the 2nd century. As the full extent of any settlement and exact location and developmental sequence of the nearby palaeochannel lay outside of the proposed road corridor, no conclusions of timescales of settlement and abandonment can be made. It is possible, however, that the rise in watertable, noted throughout the region at the latter end of the 2nd century (French 2003) may have caused a shift in settlement to a dryer location. Trenches 76 to 79 were targeted upon a series of linear features identified by the geophysical survey (Preconstruct Geophysics 2007; Bartlett 2008). These were revealed to be a series of small enclosures (F. 270, F. 271 and F. 293), which may have been part of an infield system, potentially for livestock between the settlement to the southeast and more open fields to the northwest.

Trenches 73 and 83 revealed traces of Romano-British quarrying. This was identified as a series of pits which had been cut into the natural gravel deposits. It is likely that these quarries were utilised in the construction and upkeep of nearby settlements; most likely to provide metalling for roads or trackways. Two possible narrow trackways were identified as radiating from the location of the quarry pits: one, which was traced through Trenches 72, 76 and 78 as a pair of parallel ditches (F. 268 and F. 269) appeared to be heading towards the waters-edge settlement core in the southeast of the site, whilst a second double ditched trackway or boundary was identified within Trench 71 (F. 265 and F. 301), aligned east-west and potentially heading beyond the limit of the road corridor.

The Romano-British element of Area B2 was located approximately 1km southeast of the core and probably contemporary Gallo-Belgic and Early Romano-British settlement identified within the centre of Area B1 (Site 3), and it is likely that the two settlement cores represented small farmsteads spaced along the landscape. Whilst the full extent of the area B2 settlement was not exposed, excavations by Northamptonshire County Council Field Archaeology Unit approximately 450m to the southeast, between Areas B2 and M1 revealed the presence of Romano-British ditches interpreted as representing a second to fourth century stock enclosure within a wider system of field boundaries (Burrow & Colby 2006). It is likely that the contemporary Romano-British enclosures within Area B2 (Site 9) as well as the more discrete linear features within the western trenches of Area M1 (Site 10) were directly associated with this activity.

Medieval/post-Medieval

Medieval cultivation was recorded throughout Area B2. The remnants of furrows were recorded within each trench and these correlated to those identified during the geophysical survey (Preconstruct Geophysics 2007; Bartlett 2008); with the greatest density of surviving examples being present centrally within the evaluated area (Trenches 74, 77, 87 and 88), curiously in an area where Prehistoric and Romano-British activity appears less frequent. The majority of the furrows were aligned north-south, corresponding with surviving upstanding furrows identified within Area M1, as well as several areas around Brampton and Buckden.

Area C1 Ricky Patten (Figure 19)

Area C1 was situated at between 12.40m AOD and 20m AOD, to the north of Offord Cluny (NGR 522500 268150) within a barley field. Area C1 was targeted upon the junction of the Scheme and the B1043 along with an area for a possible balancing pond (together this formed a 'T' with spurs to the northeast, west and southwest). The underlying geology was Boulder Clay, overlain with River Terrace gravels (British Geological Survey Sheet 187). The site was located towards the base of a natural clay rise and to the east of the current course of the River Ouse, and abutting the East Coast mainline. The natural clay outcropped within the northeastern portion of the site where the ground began to rise, while the remainder of the evaluation exposed the river terrace gravels into which the features were cut. This phase of the evaluation scheme was undertaken between the 2nd and 19th June 2009.

A geophysical survey was undertaken on the route of the Scheme (Pre-construct Geophysics 2007). This identified a set of parallel, east-west ditches forming a probable trackway. Along this were a series of rectangular and sub-rectangular enclosures representing an array of settlement enclosures. This activity was primarily identified in the western spur, along the main road corridor, with further evidence for enclosures recorded to the south within the footprint of the access road. A large sub-circular enclosure was also recorded which suggested that there was at least two phases of activity.

Trench No.	Length (m)	Orientation	Top-soil (m)	Sub-soil (m)	Total Depth (m)	Archaeology	Geology
90	38.0	N-S	0.3	0.33	0.67	Roman	Gravel
91	88.7	N-S	0.26	0.22	0.49	Roman	Gravel
92	25.0	N-S	0.24	0.29	0.37	None	Gravel
93	25.7	E-W	0.28	0.25	53.6	None	Gravel
94	198.9	E-W	0.26	0.21	71.6	Roman	Gravel
95	52.7	E-W	0.24	0.26	0.7	Roman	Gravel
96	90.4	N-S	0.3	0.32	0.74	Roman	Gravel
97	24.8	N-S	0.38	0.25	0.64	Roman	Gravel
98	77.0	N-S	0.28	0.28	0.67	Iron Age/ Roman	Gravel
99	27.2	N-S	0.31	0.25	0.58	Iron Age/ Roman	Gravel
100	10.2	E-W	0.28	0.23	0.51	Roman	Gravel
101	73.7	N-S	0.35	0.48	0.83	Roman	Gravel
102	102.2	N-S	0.26	0.28	0.54	Iron Age/ Roman?	Gravel
103	58.7	N-S	0.21	0.46	0.68	Roman/post-Medieval	Boulder Clay
104	59.7	NE-SW	0.29	0.25	0.54	None	Boulder Clay
105	25.6	NW-SE	0.24	0.23	0.47	None	Boulder Clay
106	58.7	NE-SW	0.24	0.25	0.5	None	Boulder Clay
107	48.0	E-W	0.29	0.24	0.46	Roman/post-Medieval	Boulder Clay
108	47.6	E-W	0.26	0.2	0.46	Post-Medieval	Boulder Clay
109	50.8	N-S	0.31	0.2	0.44	Roman/post-Medieval	Boulder Clay
110	50.0	N-S	0.3	0.22	0.51	Roman	Gravel
111	24.1	NW-SE	0.3	0.2	0.5	Post-Medieval	Gravel

112	127.0	NE-SW	0.35	0.2	0.55	Iron Age/ Roman	Gravel
113	99.3	NE-SW	0.31	0.26	0.58	Iron Age/ Roman	Gravel
114	28.0	E-W	0.3	0.26	0.56	Iron Age/ Roman?	Gravel
115	75.7	NE-SW	0.33	0.26	0.6	Iron Age/ Roman?	Gravel
116	26.0	NW-SE	0.36	0.2	0.56	Post-Medieval	Gravel
117	60.0	N-S	0.27	0.25	0.52	Iron Age/ Roman	Gravel
118	15.2	N-S	0.35	0.47	0.82	Roman	Gravel
119	10.9	N-S	0.35	0.22	0.57	Roman	Gravel
120	17.9	N-S	0.23	0.2	0.6	Roman	Gravel
121	75.0	E-W	0.25	0.25	0.5	Iron Age/ Roman?	Gravel
122	100.0	N-S	0.35	0.18	0.53	Iron Age/ Roman?	Gravel
123	25.0	E-W	0.41	0.1	0.51	Iron Age/ Roman?	Gravel
124	18.8	E-W	0.36	0.2	0.56	Channel/ Roman	Gravel

Table 27: Trench information from Area C1

Results

Thirty-five trenches were excavated totalling 3,959m². Archaeological remains indicated activity which spanned the Middle Iron Age to the later Roman periods. A substantial series of Iron Age enclosures were recorded within Trenches 94, 98, and 99 with features of a similar date present throughout. Intensive Romano-British activity was identified within the western and southern portion of the evaluation area in Trenches 90, 94 to 97, and Trenches 112 to 124. Intensive activity was associated with a possible palaeochannel in Trenches 95, 120 and 124. Romano-British occupation was also evidenced by a dark charcoal rich deposit preserved by the sub-soil within the western portion of the evaluated area in Trenches 94 and 96, along with several Roman coins and fragments of tile, brick and mortar.

Trench 90

Trench 90 was excavated extending from Trench 94, at right-angles to its mid point (orientated to the south). Six features were identified within Trench 90 (Table C1.1), four linear features and two possible pits or terminals. Two of the probable ditches could be traced through into Trenches 96 where they were excavated; the two possible pits were only partially exposed in the trench one of which was excavated (**F.550**). The two linear features excavated were **F.590** and **F.596**, both of which were orientated northeast-southwest on a separate alignment to the unexcavated ditches. These two ditches were cut parallel to each other and seemed to form a series of enclosures along with features in Trenches 94, 96 and 97. Although undated, possible pit F.550 was located within close proximity to F.590 and this contained fragments of a complete Roman vessel which could indicate a date for the enclosure ditch.

Trench 91

Trench 91 was located towards the western most end of the evaluated area. During the fieldwalking survey of Area C1 (Anderson *et al.* 2009; identified as Site 3 East) a high concentration of struck flint was recovered from this area (towards the East Coast mainline). This trench was positioned to determine the presence or absence of cut features associated with these artefacts. In total seven features (Table C1.2) were recorded within the trench, four linear features (**F.501**, **F.502**, **F.507**, and **F.510**), two postholes (**F.508** and **F.509**) and a stakehole (**F.506**). Due to the potential for these features to have been prehistoric in origin they were all excavated. Three of the linear features were east-west orientated ditches (Figure 20), with F.502 a re-cut of F.501 and F.507 located *c*. 9m to the north. These were aligned parallel and appeared to extend east-west across the evaluated area, with F.507 recorded within Trenches 119, 90, 96, and 98. Between ditches F.502 and F.507 was stakehole F.506 and posthole F.508, both of which were located towards the southern edge of F.507. Their function was unknown. The fourth linear feature, F.510, was a narrow gully orientated northwest-southeast, on a similar alignment to features within Trenches 94, 96 and 97. The third posthole was a single small and shallow posthole with no associated features.

A single bladelet from F.501 was the only struck flint recovered from this trench, while two fragments (27g) of late Iron Age/early Roman period pottery were recovered from ditch F.507. In conjunction with features recorded elsewhere it would seem likely that all the features recorded within this trench were of Iron Age or Roman date.

Trench 92

Trench 92 was located towards the northeast end of the evaluated area, near the East Coast mainline. This trench was located to investigate a possible linear feature identified from a cropmark which was not visible on geophysical survey (Pre-construct Geophysics 2007). Neither this feature, nor any other archaeological feature was identified within this trench.

Trench 93

Trench 93 was located towards the northeast end of the evaluated area, near the railway line. This trench was located to investigate a potential feature or anomaly identified by the geophysical survey (Pre-construct Geophysics 2007); however, no archaeological features were identified.

Trench 94

Trench 94 was *c*. 200m in length and aligned east-west along the spine of the road corridor (Figures 20 and 23). Extending perpendicular to this were Trenches 90, 96, 98 and 99 at approximately 50m intervals along the length of Trench 94 (with the

exception of Trench 99 which was *c*. 25m from the eastern end). This trench (94) was targeted upon a series of cropmarks and geophysical results which suggested the presence of an Iron Age or Romano-British settlement (Pre-construct Geophysics 2007). In total, 29 features were recorded within the trench (15 ditches, 13 pits or postholes, and the remnants of a furrow; Table C1.3), the majority of which could be traced through into the surrounding trenches, or were associated with features within other trenches (in particular Trenches 96 and 99). As a result, many of the features in Trench 94 were left unexcavated with a single linear feature (**F.555**) and one pit (**F.558**) excavated (Figure 21).

The features within Trench 94 indicated two different forms of activity occurred at different points along the trench. The features recorded towards the western end of the trench contained darker, charcoal rich deposits and appeared to suggest an area of intensive activity, possibly industrial. The two excavated features were located within this area and both supported the idea of an area of intense activity. Feature 555 was a north-south orientated ditch with a very distinct, vertical sided profile, and a charcoal rich tertiary capping. The pit (F.558) was located to the immediate east of F.555 and had a similar charcoal rich deposit. Both of these features contained a significant assemblage of material. This included 59 fragments (912g) of pottery from F.555 of a late Roman date, along with five fragments (506g) of *Tegula*, indicating the presence of a tiled, roofed structure nearby. Further activity was recorded by the presence of eight fragments (158g) of 'furnace' slag from F.555 and a further 16 fragments (270g) from F.558, which would suggest the possibility of industrial activity occurring here.

The features towards the eastern end of Trench 94 were on different alignments to those to the west and these contained much paler deposits with very little, if any, charcoal present. These features were not as densely clustered as those to the west and corresponded with a cropmark/geophysical plot for a series of sub-rectangular enclosures of presumed Iron Age origin (Pre-construct Geophysics 2007). These features were excavated in Trench 99 and will be discussed there.

Trench 95

Trench 95 was aligned parallel to Trench 94 and perpendicular to Trench 96, towards its southern end (Figure 20). A further three trenches (118, 119 and 120) were excavated in association with this trench to investigate some of the features exposed. Upon initial excavation a single linear feature was recorded extending along the length of the trench at its eastern end and into Trench 96, where it was excavated (**F.503**). This ditch continued to the middle of Trench 95, where it appeared to terminate. During the metal detector survey of the trenches a total of ten Roman coins were recovered spread across the top of this ditch as if they had been spread or thrown over this area. A small open area was cut along the northern edge of the trench in an attempt to better expose the ditch where it appeared to terminate. It became evident that the ditch was cut into a large pit or well, **F.570** (Figure 20; Table C1.4), which in itself was associated with the remnants of an old channel (see Trench 119). A dark, organic deposit was present as a tertiary fill in all of these features and was probably deposited by the channel (see below).

In Trench 94 a section was excavated into the possible well, and upon reaching 1.3m deep the excavation was stopped for safety reasons. The deposits represented a series of slumping episodes and natural silting. Two fragments (20g) of pottery and a single struck flint were recovered from [1213] which indicated that the feature was of Roman period or later date; its association to the ditch F.503 would suggest that it was of 3rd to 4th century date.

Trench 96

Trench 96 was located through an area where the geophysical survey indicated intense activity (Pre-construct Geophysics 2007), representing a continuation of the activity in Trenches 94 and 95 (Figure 20). In total, 21 features were recorded (Table C1.5), 15 ditches, five pits or postholes, and a possible cremation; due to the potential for human remains within this feature it was left unexcavated. A single ditch and possible pit were only partially exposed and these were also left unexcavated. Together, these features suggested an area of intensive settlement, and this was further supported by a dark, charcoal rich deposit which was sealed by the sub-soil (Figure 22). This deposit appeared to represent a preserved soil horizon which was also identified within the upper fills of some of the features and was most prevalent at the junction of Trenches 94 and 96. A small box along the edge of the trench was machined down to the top of this deposit and a hand dug section was then excavated to determine whether this deposit contained material culture itself. The deposit was predominantly comprised of silt which contained a 'well sorted' mix of charcoal, but very few artefacts. A significant quantity of material was recovered from the features within this trench with a total of 79 sherds (1616g) of Roman period pottery (2nd to 4th century AD), 189 fragments (4740g) of animal bone, and 7 pieces (438g) of tile. Together the artefact densities and the presence of a dark soil horizon suggest some form intensive activity. Two pieces (910g) of metalwork slag was recovered from **F.504**, which along with the evidence from Trench 94 could suggest that this involved some industrial activity. A section was excavated through F.503, the east-west ditch which was recorded within Trench 95. The dark organic tertiary deposit overlay gravel slumping and silt deposits and appeared to represent the final deposition in the feature, possibly a flooding or inundation event (Figure 21). A further two coins were recovered during the excavation of this feature, one of which dated to the 4th century AD, House of Constantine (330-350AD).

Trench 97

Trench 97 was targeted upon a series of cropmarks and geophysical results (Pre-construct Geophysics 2007). Eight features were recorded within Trench 97 (Table C1.6), five pits or postholes and three linear features. Two of the linear features shared an alignment and a tertiary deposit similar to those excavated in Trench 96 and it was possible to trace one of these through into that trench where it corresponded with F.589. The third linear feature (**F.582**) was excavated as its alignment differed, it was more east-west orientated. This was most likely the remnant of a furrow and its alignment was shared by other features interpreted as furrows.

Of the five pits/postholes a sample were excavated, **F.583**, **F.584**, and **F.585**. These were grouped towards the northern end of the trench and may represent the remnants of a structure; however, no artefactual material was recovered from any of them, and none were convincing as structural elements.

Trench 98

Ten features were recorded in Trench 98 which was cut perpendicular to Trench 94 across its eastern end, parallel to Trench 99 (Figure 23). These features represented aspects of a series of apparent Iron Age enclosures identified by the aerial photographic and geophysical surveys, and exposed here and within Trenches 94 and 99 (Pre-construct Geophysics 2007). None of these features were excavated in Trench 98, but sections were excavated where they were exposed in Trench 99 (see below).

Trench 99

Trench 99 extended perpendicular from Trench 94 and parallel to Trench 98 (Figure 23) in an area where the aerial photographic and geophysical survey suggested a series of possible Iron Age enclosures were located (Pre-construct Geophysics 2007). Two enclosures were identified, a large sub-circular enclosure which extended through Trenches 94, 98 and 99, and a smaller rectangular enclosure located on the southeast edge of the larger enclosure, and present in Trenches 94 and 99. A section through both of these enclosures was undertaken within Trench 99. The smaller enclosure was formed by a single deep ditch, **F.521** (Figure 23). From this ditch six sherds (6g) of Middle Iron Age pottery were recovered along with 23 fragments (101g) of animal bone which included the mandible from a six month old piglet and the phalanx of a horse.

The larger enclosure comprised a series of seven inter-cutting ditches (**F. 542**-**F. 545** and **F. 547**-**F. 549**), all of which were much shallower than the ditch for the smaller enclosure. While the smaller 'internal' enclosure only appeared to have been cut once, the 'external' larger enclosure had under gone multiple re-cuts, the sheer comparative size of the internal enclosure ditch would suggest that it could have remained active throughout the life of the multiple ditches. Little artefactual material was recovered from the re-cut ditches but two sherds (44g) of Middle Iron Age pottery was retrieved from F. 542 suggesting that the enclosures were contemporary.

A Romano-British ditch (**F. 546**) cut through the boundary of the larger enclosure; this was traced through into Trench 94 and 98. Upon excavation a fragment of 3rd to 4th century pottery was recovered (228g).

Trench 100

Two features were recorded in Trench 100, a single ditch and posthole. This trench was targeted upon a possible linear feature identified by the aerial photographic and geophysical surveys (Pre-construct Geophysics 2007). The ditch was associated with the Iron Age enclosures recorded and investigated to the north in Trenches 94, 98, and

99, and as such was dated to the Iron Age. None of the features in this trench were excavated.

Trench 101

Eleven features were recorded within Trench 101 (Table C1.8), including the remnants of a furrow (**F. 523**), a pit (**F. 518**), a possible posthole (**F. 526**), and eight linear features comprising of ditches (**F. 514**, **F. 516**, **F. 517**, **F. 522**, **F. 524**, and **F. 525**) and gullies (**F. 519** and **F. 520**). The discrete features F. 518 and F. 526 were unrelated and neither appeared to indicate the presence of structures or settlement activity. The pit F. 518 was only partially exposed in the trench and no artefacts were recovered from it. The posthole F. 526 was truncated by F. 525 and very little survived of it.

Two ditch alignments were recorded. One orientated east-west was comprised of F. 517, F. 520, and F. 523 and appeared to continue the Romano-British alignment recorded in Trenches 90, 91, 95, and 96 to the west and Trenches 112 and 113 to the south. The second alignment was orientated northwest-southeast and F. 522, F. 524, and F. 525 shared this alignment, which was more akin to the Middle Iron Age system recorded to the west in Trenches 96, 97, 98, 99, and 100.

The features within this trench appeared to represent activity on the periphery of a settlement, as was identified in all the trenches in this 'middle area' of the site (Trenches 101 to 111). The settlement itself was located to the south and west, while the ditches and gullies here were part of a system of landscape division, of fieldsystem and infield enclosure.

Trench 102

Trench 102 was located to the east of Trench 101 and offset slightly to the south. A total of four features were recorded in this trench (Table C1.9), three probable ditches and a small pit (**F. 541**). The three ditches were left unexcavated as it was possible to trace each one through into Trench 101 where they had been excavated. The pit was small and similar to F. 518 in Trench 101, suggestive of low intensity activity.

Trench 103

Trench 103 was located on the edge of the underlying Boulder clay with patches of gravel present throughout its length. Five features were recorded within the trench (Table C1.10), two of which were the remnants of post-Medieval cultivation furrows. At the eastern end of the trench was **F. 527** a northwest-southeast orientated ditch, there was no datable material recovered during the excavation of this ditch; however, it did share an alignment with a series of features within this part of the site. Trenches 101, 102, 107, 109 and 110 all exposed ditches which were on a similar orientation and formed part of a potential Iron Age or Romano-British fieldsystem. Feature **531** was a northeast-southwest gully which was aligned parallel to a modern field drain and was on the same alignment as the two furrows recorded within this trench. There

was no dating evidence associated with this feature, but it was probably associated with the post-Medieval or modern features and may have been a 'brush' drain. A small undated pit or posthole, **F. 532**, was excavated adjacent to a furrow.

Trench 104

Trench 104 was located towards the northern most point of the evaluated area, along the spine of the road. At this point the landscape began to rise to the north with Boulder clay deposits exposed within the trench. No archaeological features were recorded within this trench.

Trench 105

Trench 105 was located towards the northern most point of the evaluated area, between trenches 104 and 106. The topography and geology were the same as in Trench 104, only this trench was slightly higher up the slope. No archaeological features were recorded within it.

Trench 106

Trench 106 was located at the northern most point of the evaluated area. The topography and geology were the same as in Trench 104, only this trench was higher up the slope. No archaeological features were recorded within it.

Trench 107

Trench 107 was located towards the base of the topographical change within the landscape. This trench was part of three trenches, including trenches 108 and 109, which abutted each other to form an 'F'-shaped arrangement of trenches. These trenches were situated away from the main core of activity towards the south and west, and as a result only three features were recorded (Table C1.11). These represented three linear features; **F. 528** a northwest-southeast orientated gully, **F. 529** a northeast-southwest orientated ditch, and **F. 530**, the terminal of a north northeast-south southwest orientated gully. During the excavation of all of these features no dating evidence was recovered and so they could not be assigned to any period. None of them appeared to represent the remnants of furrows; however, F. 528 was on the same alignment as the furrows recorded elsewhere in the evaluation. The presence of both Iron Age and Romano-British activity could indicate that F. 529 and F. 530 were created during these periods. If this were the case then they would appear to represent the continuation of the fieldsystem identified in Trenches 101 and 102.

Trench 108

Trench 108 was a part of the 'F'-shaped arrangement of trenches and was targeted upon a possible geophysics anomaly within an area of potential furrows. A single

feature was recorded within Trench 108 aligned northwest-southeast (Pre-construct Geophysics 2007). Upon excavation it was evident that this was the remnants of a post-Medieval furrow. There were no other features within the trench to indicate what the geophysics survey had identified, but the anomaly was located upon the furrow.

Trench 109

Trench 109 was part of the 'F'-shaped arrangement of trenches, and had been targeted upon a series of probable furrows. As with Trenches 107 and 108, Trench 109 was located at the base of a natural clay rise and as a result its excavation revealed the underlying boulder clay. A single ditch, **F. 557**, was recorded (Table C1.12) orientated northeast-southwest towards the southern end of the trench. A preliminary metal detector survey of the feature prior to its excavation located a Roman coin of *Crispus Caesar* dated 317 to 326 AD, but no further artefacts were recovered during the excavation of the ditch. The presence of a Roman coin would suggest that the ditch was Romano-British in origin, which was probably part of a fieldsystem which extended to the northeast of the occupation. The remnants of two furrows were also recorded within the trench along with a modern field drain.

Trench 110

Trench 110 extended north-south from the northeast end of Trench 112. A single ditch (**F. 566**) and small lozenge-shaped pit (**F. 572**) were recorded at its southern end (Table C1.13). The ditch contained four sherds (164g) of 2nd to 4th century AD pottery, and as such shared the same alignment as the Romano-British activity recorded throughout the evaluated area.

Trench 111

Trench 111 was excavated at the junction with Trenches 110 and 112. A single furrow was recorded which upon testing had survived to a depth of less than 0.10m.

Trench 112

Thirty-two features were recorded within Trench 112 (Figure 24; Table C1.14), 19 ditches or gullies and 13 pits or postholes. It was possible to trace many of the linear features through into Trench 113. Only two of these features were excavated, **F. 564** and **F. 565**, two north-south orientated gullies which were located at the northern most end of the trench, separated from the other features. The remainder of the ditches and gullies either continued through into Trench 113, where they were excavated, or were part of the same system. Together, these features represented a series of fieldsystem enclosures associated with the activity to the northwest. Many of the linear features here were closely spaced and probably represented a series of horticultural ditches of Roman date. Similar systems have been identified at Bear's Croft Farm, Godmanchester (Patten 2009a) and Papworth-Everard (Patten 2009b).

Trench 113

Seventeen features were recorded in Trench 113 (Figure 24; Table C1.15), 16 ditches or gullies and a possible pit. The majority of these were excavated with only two ditches and a potential terminal left unexcavated. The two alignments recorded elsewhere were present here; one northwest-southeast with three ditches, **F. 535**, **F. 539**, and **F. 562**, on this orientation, and the other north-south with nine of the ditches, **F. 534**, **F. 536**, **F. 537**, **F. 538**, **F. 540**, **F. 559**, **F. 560**, and **F. 574**, on this orientation. Although elsewhere these two orientations appeared to represent a Middle Iron Age and a Romano-British alignment, the features within this trench suggested that this may be too simple an interpretation, and that within the areas of intense activity alignments may be mis-representative (especially within a 2m wide trench). Pottery dating from the 2nd to 4th century AD was recovered from various features on both alignments. One ditch, **F. 515**, which was located towards the northeast end of the trench, was on a north northwest-south southeast orientation, and this contained fragments of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery along with Middle Iron Age pottery. This confusion within the alignments could indicate that they do not all represent continuous linear features, but that there were variances within the linear features, sinuous prehistoric boundaries or circular/sub-circular enclosures.

Trench 114

Trench 114 was excavated perpendicular to Trench 113 at its southwest end forming an 'L-shaped' trench (Figure 24). A single linear feature was recorded which continued into Trench 113 and forming part of a series of fieldsystem enclosures, possibly a division between horticultural plots to the north and more open enclosures to the south. This feature was left unexcavated.

Trench 115

A total of eight features were recorded within Trench 115 (seven linear features and a single pit). Trench 115 was located to the southwest of Trenches 112, 113, and 114. As such the features exposed represented a continuation of the enclosures excavated in these trenches. None of the features in this trench were excavated.

Trench 116

Trench 116 was located between Trenches 115 and 117 spanning the width of the proposed road corridor (Figure 25). A post-Medieval/modern ditch was recorded towards the northwest end of the trench. Three initial pits were tested towards the southeast end of the trench, but these were periglacial, silts trapped within the soft sand and gravel natural matrix.

Trench 117

Ten features were recorded (two of these, a single linear feature and solitary posthole, were left unexcavated; Figure 25; Table C1.16) within Trench 117 along with a spread deposit (**F. 580**) and a natural gravel hollow (**F. 569**). The majority of the features were aligned north-south, east-west on the presumed Romano-British alignment, and three of these features (**F. 568**, **F. 577**, and **F. 579**) produced Roman period pottery (2nd to 4th century AD). Two features, **F. 567** and an unexcavated gully perpendicular to F. 567, indicated a second northeast-southwest alignment; however, no datable material was recovered from either feature. These features represented a continuation of the activity to the north, both in the zone immediately adjacent in Trenches 112 to 115, and within the zone to the north in Trenches 90 to 100. Cropmark evidence for the area in between both of these zones suggests that this activity does continue throughout the field and all these features were part of a large and widespread settlement.

Trench 118

Trench 118 was excavated perpendicular to Trench 95, extending to the north along the edge of the open area in an attempt to determine the limit of F. 570 (see Figure 20). This was the only feature recorded within this trench, and had been investigated in Trench 95. A single ditch appeared to extend from Trench 90 through Trench 91 and 96; however, it was not present here due to its apparent truncation by F. 570.

Trench 119

Trench 119 was excavated perpendicular to the western end of Trench 95, forming an 'L' at this end of Trench 95 (see Figure 20). A single ditch (**F. 500**) and pit were recorded. The ditch was also recorded within Trenches 90, 91 and 96 where it had been excavated (in Trench 91 and 96) and so was not excavated here; however, during the metal detector survey the fragile fragments of a thin bronze sheet were recovered.

Trench 120

Trench 120 was excavated extending to the south off Trench 95, opposite F. 570, and was cut to further investigate the nature of the probable well and ditch (see Figure 20). The remnants of a possible channel were recorded along the length of the trench and so a further trench was cut at the southern end, Trench 124, to further elucidate its dimensions, and obtain a complete profile. A series of three auger holes were cut along its length in order to obtain a rough profile, these showed that the channel got deeper to the north going from 0.30m to 0.53m deep; further investigations were undertaken in Trench 124.

Trench 121

Trench 121 was cut through an area for a proposed balancing pond. This trench, along with Trenches 122 and 123, was cut to determine whether the activity encountered in within the northern area (Trenches 90-100 etc.) continued to the south (Trenches 112-117). Eight features were recorded, seven linear features and a potential pit. These features represented a continuation of the features recorded in Trenches 112 and 113; as such these were left unexcavated.

Trench 122

Trench 122 was cut through an area for a proposed balancing pond along with Trenches 121 and 123. A total of 23 features were recorded, 17 linear features and six possible pits. These features represented a continuation of the activity recorded in Trenches 112, 113 and 121 to the south, and Trench 123 and the trenches to the north; as such the features recorded here were left unexcavated.

Trench 123

Trench 121 was cut through an area for a proposed balancing pond along with Trenches 122 and 123. A total of 16 features were recorded, all linear features. These represented a continuation of the activity recorded both to the north and south and along with the evidence from Trenches 121 and 122 showed that, although multi-phased, activity did continue across the evaluated area.

Trench 124

Trench 124 was excavated in an attempt to further elucidate the nature of the possible channel recorded within Trenches 95 and 120 (see Figure 20). This feature was initially interpreted as an ancient channel based upon a dark black organic deposit which was spread throughout with an alluvial deposit capping it. The section excavated through it here revealed that rather than being a natural channel it appeared to have been a series of cut features which ultimately became inundated (Table C1.17). It is possible that it was utilised as a water source, transporting water from possible river inlets to the west (Area C2 exposed the presence of old water courses between Area C1 and the current River Ouse). As with F. 503, the organic deposit overlying these features represented a tertiary capping with the underlying features containing silt and gravel rich sequences. A modern field drain cut through this feature and upon exposure a large quantity of water flooded from it (in fact it was possible to trace this drain throughout the field as a line of crop which had grown considerably higher than that surrounding it), thus making the excavation of part of this feature difficult. The channel remnant (**F. 593**) was present within the centre of the spread and two pits (**F. 592** and **F. 594**) and a ditch (**F. 595**) were cut along it edges (Figure 26).

Specialist Reports

The Flint (Lawrence Billington)

The excavations at Area C1 produced a total of 54 worked flints weighing 410g. The vast majority of the assemblage was recovered as a residual component in the fills of Iron Age and Romano-British ditch systems, with a small proportion of material possibly representing contemporary Iron Age flint working. As the majority of the assemblage was residual it is discussed here period by period. There was a complete lack of diagnostic retouched forms and, therefore, dating relies exclusively on the technological traits of individual pieces.

The condition of the assemblage was varied, but most displayed edge damage and there was a high proportion of breakage, 42% of the assemblage, excluding chips, was broken. Patination was rare, with a heavy patina only present on two pieces; both were fine bladelets likely to be of Mesolithic date from features 546 and 514.

Trench	Feature number	Feature type	chip	chunk	Flake	bladelike flake	blade	Bladelet	retouched flake	flake core	TOTALS
90	590	Ditch			6		1				7
90	596	Gully							1		1
91	501	Ditch						1			1
96	511	Ditch			4						4
96	587	Ditch			1						1
99	521	Curvilinear			1						1
99	542	Ditch			3		1	1			5
99	546	Ditch			2						2
101	514	Ditch			5	1				1	7
101	516	Curvilinear			2						2
101	522	Ditch			2						2
110	542	Ditch								1	1
110	572	Pit	1								1
112	565	Ditch	1		1	1					3
113	515	Ditch	2	1	6						9
113	539	Ditch		1							1
117	580	Spread			1						1
94		bucket sample			1	1					2
102		bucket sample			2						2
112		bucket sample	1								1
		Totals	5	2	37	3	2	2	1	2	**54**

Table 28: All flint by type

Mesolithic and earlier Neolithic technologies are characterised by an emphasis on careful core reduction geared towards the production of narrow flakes and blades. A number of these distinctive blade based products were recovered from the excavations and probably reflect activity during this period. Ditch F. 590 contained a small concentration of flints with these characteristics, including a

blade and two flakes with carefully trimmed platforms. Three blade products were also recovered from ditch F. 542, including a fine, heavily patinated bladelet which is likely to be of Mesolithic date. Similar bladelets were found in the fills of ditches F. 501 and F. 565.

Although this material demonstrates a human presence in the Mesolithic and earlier Neolithic it is impossible to characterise the activities they represent. Small assemblages of residual blade based material such as this probably represent occasional settlement or task specific activity in the area by highly mobile groups.

The bulk of the assemblage was made up of undiagnostic hard hammer struck flakes. Most of these were clearly debitage products and 50% of complete flakes had maximum dimensions of less than 30mm. Most of these flakes have been struck from plain, unprepared platforms with a low flaking angle and show little concern for the morphology of the flake or core maintenance. These products were typical of relatively expedient flake based industries of the later Neolithic onwards, although the casual nature of much of the material suggests a Bronze Age date is perhaps more likely for the majority of the assemblage. Some of the material from Iron Age contexts may represent contemporary flint working, but the lack of diagnostic pieces makes it very difficult to separate this from the residual assemblage.

Two cores from ditches F. 514 and F. 542 reinforce the impressions from the flake material. Both have multiple platforms and no attempt had been made to prepare platforms or control the shape of the core. The removals appear to have been made exclusively with a hard hammer and the flake scars were broad and somewhat irregular, typical characteristics of expedient later prehistoric reduction strategies.

A single flake, from ditch F. 546, bears technological traits that could be closely linked to a specialised form of later Neolithic core reduction. This large broad flake had multi-directional flake scars across its dorsal surface and had been struck from a heavily faceted platform. Such flakes are a characteristic product of the working of discoidal, 'levalloisoid' cores (Saville 1981), a specialised core type of the later Neolithic used for the production of large blanks for use as tools.

The assemblage from Area C1 consisted of a low density of mostly residual flint work caught up in the fills of later cut features. The material attests to prehistoric activity from the Mesolithic to, at least, the later Bronze Age and, although the size and nature of the assemblage makes an interpretation of this activity difficult, it does provide a glimpse of earlier episodes of habitation than those represented by the cut features.

Later Prehistoric and Roman Pottery (Katie Anderson)

An assemblage totalling 163 sherds, weighing 3376g and representing 6.5 EVEs, was recovered from Area C1. All of the material was analysed and details of fabric, form and date were recorded along with any other significant information.

The bulk of the assemblage was Roman in date, with later Prehistoric material representing just 6% of all sherds. The later Prehistoric material comprised six sandy sherds, three shell-tempered sherds and one grog-tempered sherd. All of this material was non-diagnostic and therefore no vessel forms could be identified, making specific dating of this pottery problematic. The fabrics do, however, suggest a 1st century BC/AD date.

A much wider variety of vessel fabrics were identified in the Roman component (see Table 29). The most commonly occurring fabric was shell-tempered wares, which represented 38% of the assemblage. The exact origin(s) of these vessels is unclear; however, shell-tempered pottery is known to have been produced at sites across northern Cambridgeshire, and around Peterborough. It is therefore likely that these

vessels were produced within this region. Coarse, sandy greywares were also prominent, representing 30% of the assemblage. This included two Horningsea greyware sherds, dating 2nd-4th century AD. The remaining greyware sherds were un-sourced; however, the nature of Roman pottery production and supply implies that these were also likely to have been produced locally.

Fabric	No.	Wt(g)
Buff sandy	1	29
Colour-coat	1	3
CS GW	47	721
Grog tempered	1	10
Hadham red-slip	1	19
Horningsea GW	2	107
Imit bb	4	234
Micaceous sandy	1	4
NVCC	28	981
Oxidised sandy	4	23
Pakenham cc	1	2
Reduced sandy	5	50
Shell-temp	62	843
WW NV	5	350
TOTAL	**163**	**3376**

Table 29: All pottery by type

Finewares were moderately well represented, with 28 Nene Valley colour-coated sherds (981g) recovered. These wares broadly date mid 2nd-4th century AD. A late Roman Hadham red-slipped sherd was also identified, dating 3rd-4th century AD. Finally, one Pakenham (Suffolk) colour-coated sherd and one unsourced colour-coated sherd were recovered, broadly dating 2nd-4th century AD. There were no imported wares identified in the assemblage, which is perhaps due to the period in which this site appears to have peaked (3rd-4th century AD), and may have been after the peak in Roman imported wares in Britain.

Form	No.	Wt(g)
Bowl	19	640
Dish	5	258
Flagon	2	155
Jar	28	696
Mortaria	5	350
Unknown	104	1277
TOTAL	**163**	**3376**

Table30: All pottery by form

A number of different vessel forms were identified in the Roman element of the assemblage, although most of the sherds were non-diagnostic body sherds (see Table 30). Jars were the most frequently occurring form, as is the norm in Roman assemblages, with a moderately high number of bowls (19 sherds, 640g). Although this represented just five vessels, 15 sherds (479g) were from a complete Nene Valley

colour-coated, beaded, flanged bowl, dating 3rd-4th century AD. Two further Nene Valley beaded, flanged bowls were identified, along with two greyware beaded bowls, dating 2nd-3rd century AD. Five dishes were recorded, which included both fineware and coarseware examples. These were all straight-sided versions, dated 2nd-3rd century AD.

Five mortaria sherds were identified, which represented just two vessels, both of which were Nene Valley whitewares. One of the vessels was a wall-sided form, which dates 3rd-4th century AD. Finally, two Nene Valley colour-coated flagons were recorded, including one pinched mouth form, which dates 3rd-4th century AD.

Pottery was recovered from 16 features as well as spoil, although only four contained more than ten sherds (see Table 31). Ditch F. 503 contained 33 sherds weighing 970g and representing 1.52 EVEs. The majority of sherds in this feature were late Roman in date (3rd-4th century AD), although there were a small number of residual earlier Roman sherds present. Vessels identified included a Nene Valley colour-coated pinched mouth flagon, and a beaded, flanged bowl, along with several shell-tempered jars.

Eighteen sherds weighing 243g were collected from gully F. 536. This included four sherds from a Nene Valley whiteware mortaria (120g), and a Horningsea greyware vessel. The pottery from this feature was dated 2nd-4th century AD. Ditch F. 538 contained 25 sherds of pottery (353g), which included both Late Iron Age/early Roman pottery and later Roman pottery, which suggests some longevity to the feature, although the earlier sherds were smaller and more abraded, perhaps suggesting redeposition.

Small pit F. 550 contained 18 sherds weighing 580g, of which 15 (479g) were from a complete Nene Valley colour-coated, beaded, flanged bowl, dating 3rd-4th century AD.

Ft	No.	Wt(g)	%
503	33	970	1.52
505	4	53	0.09
507	2	27	0
511	2	53	0
524	8	26	0.12
533	1	52	0.1
536	18	243	0
537	8	87	0.08
538	25	353	1.32
539	8	63	0.1
542	2	43	0
546	1	230	0.3
550	18	580	1
551	3	54	0
553	3	26	0
558	7	61	0
Spoil	20	455	1.87
TOTAL	**163**	**3376**	**6.5**

Table 31: Pottery Analysis by Feature

The later Prehistoric material does not appear to be residual, although it occurs in only small quantities in a few ditch features; F. 507, F. 538, F. 539 and F. 542, thus perhaps suggesting an earlier phase of activity.

The pottery recovered from this Area suggests limited activity prior to the mid 2nd century AD, although the presence of Middle/Late Iron Age and earlier Roman pottery implies there was a presence during these periods, although on a small scale.

The Roman pottery indicates that the settlement continued strong into the 4th century AD. The fabrics and forms present were representative of a rural, domestic settlement, although a slightly higher than average number of finewares suggests this site may have been slightly wealthier.

Tile (Katie Anderson)

A sizable assemblage of Roman period tile was recovered from the site, totalling 35 fragments, weighing 4016g. This included 11 tegula roof tiles, three floor tiles and two flue tiles. The recovery of this material suggests a Roman period building in the vicinity, and the size and quantity of the fragments recovered suggests this may be fairly near-by, potentially within the footprint of the Scheme.

The Metalwork (Grahame Appleby & Andy Hall)

A total of 18 pieces of copper alloy (17 coins, *nummi*, and one ring) were recovered from Area C1, in addition to nine fragments (with numerous smaller pieces) of a copper alloy vessel or sheet. The coins were predominantly mid 4th century AD, with a single late 3rd century example and no earlier. All were in low dominations.

Catalogue	Small Find	Trench	Feature	Context	Description
3009a		96	503	1005	Very poor condition. Possibly two figures/soldiers with standards between them on reverse; max diameter 15mm, 2g. Probable 4th century, House of Constantine *c.* 330-350 AD.
3009b		96	503	1005	Very corroded and worn, max. diameter 12mm, <1g. Unidentifiable.
3010	52	95			*Barbarous radiate*. Heavily worn and in very poor condition; max. diameter 16mm, 1g. Late 3rd century AD.
3011a	54	95			Reasonably good condition; max. diameter 14mm, 1g. Encircling wreath on reverse with inscription [VOT...] Obverse has portrait with possible jewelled diadem. Julian II or Jovian (?), 360-364 AD.
3011b	54	95			Very poor condition, corroded and unidentifiable; max. diameter 14mm, 2g.
3012	53	95			Pale and corroded, very worn surfaces; max. diameter 12mm, <1g. Undated.
3013	55	95			Good condition with two Victories facing each other on reverse. Portrait with jewelled diadem on obverse; max. diameter 14mm, 2g. House of Constantine, 340-350 AD.
3014	56	95			Heavily corroded, unidentifiable; max. diameter 15mm, 1g. Undated.
3015	58	95			Heavily corroded, unidentifiable; max. diameter 17mm. 2g. Undated.
3016	59	95			Heavily corroded, unidentifiable; max. diameter 13.3mm. 1g. Undated.
3017	60	95			Corroded and heavily worn, unidentifiable; max. diameter 17mm. 1g. Undated.
3018	61	95			Heavily corroded, unidentifiable; max. diameter 15mm. 1g. Undated.

3019	63	97			Two soldiers facing each other with single standard between them on reverse and portrait with jewelled diadem on obverse; max. diameter 14mm, 2g. House of Constantine, 330-350 AD.
3020	64	109			Coin of CRISPUS CAESAR with helmeted head, with captives seated on the ground either side of a standard with VIRTVS EXERCIT and VOX XX on reverse. 317-326 AD.
3027	66	96			Two soldiers with a single standard on the reverse and a jewelled diademed portrait on obverse. First half of the 4th century AD – 300-350 AD.

Table 32: The coins

Catalogue	Small Find	Trench	Feature	Context	Description
3008	50	119	500	1000	Several fragments from a copper alloy vessel or sheet. The fragments are from a thin-walled vessel or sheet, most likely the former, with a thickness of <1mm; two fragments have evidence of reduction through clipping and sheering. Two fragments are perforated; one piece has three aligned perforations. The largest fragment is L-shaped with a thicker 'upper' edge, indicative of a rim 1.8m thick. A band, 21mm wide, has been folded over the sheet and riveted in place – a clear cut mark is visible on the outer surface – and a perforation is present above one rivet, possibly for a suspension loop or chain. Total weight 33g. There are no obvious refitting fragments, but the thickness and patina of the pieces suggest that these fragments are from a single object. The tapering thickness of the largest piece and the folded and riveted band suggest that these may be from a hanging vessel or similar.
3026		94	555	1152	Recovered from the upper fill of a north-south oriented ditch this is a plain round cross-sectioned ring; diameter 26mm, internal diameter 21mm; weight 2g. Ubiquitous suspension loop or ring commonly found on prehistoric and Roman period sites. Context of its recovery indicate this example is of later 1st to 4th century in manufacture.

Table 33: Copper alloy artefacts

A total of 25 iron objects and fragments were recovered. All of the pieces were very corroded and, with the exception of the nails, undiagnostic.

Catalogue	Small Find	Trench	Feature	Context	Description
3021		96	503	1005	Partially melted nail fragment recovered from the upper fill of an east-west orientated ditch from which contained 3rd – 4th century pottery. Length 35.6mm, weight 11g. Roman period.
3022		96	511	1034	Two possibly re-fitting nail/bar fragments recovered from an east-northeast – west-southwest oriented ditch; total length *c*. 87mm, weight 17g. These are dated to the Roman period on the basis of associated pottery.
3023	57	95			Heavy slightly rectangular bar *c.*124mm long and *c*. 36mm wide, weighing 665g. The surface was blackened and clearly melted in places. Probably modern and unidentified; possible smelting billet.
3024		94			Bucket Sample. Two corroded fragments; a rectangular cross-sectioned bar and rectangular object. The bar measures 101mm in length, weighs 62g and has a slight curvature. Probably a tine or similar from a harrow. The rectangular object measured 45.1mm x 35.4mm and weighed 35g. Approximately 9mm thick, this was most likely from a piece of agricultural machinery. Both objects were probably post-Medieval in manufacture.
3028		96		1149	Buried soil. Small bar or nail fragment 25.4mm long, weighing 2g. Undated.
3029		94	558	1150	Two very corroded nail fragments recovered from a pit; total weight 16g. Dated to the Roman period on the basis of associated pottery.

3030		94	555	1152	Seven iron objects recovered from the upper fill of a north-south oriented ditch, with a total weight of 186g. All of the pieces were heavily corroded and included at least one complete nail (93.3mm long, 34g), two nail fragments (49mm long, 11g; 28.3mm long, 5g), two curved fragments (probably clenched or bent nails, 23g), a rectangular fragment (53mm x 24.5mm, 28g), and a bar measuring 118.5mm in length (86g). The bar appeared bulbous towards the centre, although this may have been a result of corrosion.
3031		94	555	1152	Rectangular bar recovered from the upper fill of a north-south oriented ditch. The edges were slightly curved towards one end. Length 37.4mm, width 15.6mm, weight 6g.
3032		94	555	1156	Recovered from a north-south oriented ditch, three fragments of heavily corroded and concreted iron, with a total weight of 76g. The largest two lumps refitted, with a rectangular cross-section apparent on the tapering piece. This measured 60.1mm in length and the cross-section measured 19.45mm x 18.3mm. A fragment of mineralised and carbonised wood adhered to the outer surface. This was possibly the end of a spike or tool.
3033		113	561	1166	Recovered from a furrow. Possible rectangular binding, heavily corroded with concretions. Length max.73mm, max. width 16.6mm, weight 15g. Either Medieval or post-Medieval in date, probably the latter.
3034		117	577	1206	Fragment of tube or curved sheet, 51.47mm, weight 17g. Unidentified – recovered from an undated northwest-southeast oriented ditch.
3035		96	587	1238	Two very corroded nail fragments recovered from a northwest-southeast oriented ditch. Largest fragment, with the head attached, measured 53.8mm in length and weighed 16g. The smaller fragment, which was missing its head, measured 35.7mm long and weighed 4g. These were undated.
3036	65	97			Complete nail, bent through 90º. Length (total) 63mm, weight 11g. Probably used as a clench/cleat. These were undated.

Table 34: Iron artefacts

With the exceptions of the coinage and the possible copper alloy vessel the metalwork assemblage is, in itself, unremarkable; however; the coin dates suggest that most of the activity dates to the 4th century AD, a date in broad concordance with the pottery evidence from the site.

Faunal Remains (Vida Rajkovača)

A small assemblage of animal bone, totalling 294 fragments, was recovered from 52 contexts during the evaluation. These faunal remains represented hand collected material recovered from features dated to the Middle Iron Age and the Roman period, as well as from some undated features. Based on the chronology, three sub-sets were created in order to study the site and the material will be quantified and considered separately (Table 35). This report outlines the results following the zooarchaeological analysis of the material. The assemblage demonstrated an overall preservation which ranged from moderate to poor.

Groups	Number of contexts	Number of fragments	Percentage (%)
Middle Iron Age	8	22	7
Romano-British	30	211	72
Undated	14	61	21

Table 35: Sub-division based on the chronology of the material

Eight contexts were dated to the Middle Iron Age and produced 22 fragments of animal bone, nine of which were identifiable to species (40%). Only three fragments were recorded as well preserved,

compared to 19 poorly preserved fragments. The sub set is dominated by four main domestic species: sheep/ goat, cattle, horse and pig. All of the four species are represented with loose teeth and mandibular elements. One pig mandible was aged to 7-14 months (Grant 1982).

Species	NISP	%NISP	MNI
Ovicaprids	4	44	1
Cow	2	22	1
Horse	2	22	1
Pig	1	12	1
ULM	7	1 (Σ=10)	-
UUM	6	0 (Σ=22)	-

Key: UMM & ULM = Unid. Medium and Large Mammal / UUM = Unid. Fragment. NB: Species percentages are out of 9. These differ from the unidentified counts as these are calculated on the basis of element identification (for UMM & ULM) and total fragments (for UUM) (corresponding to Σ in brackets).

Table 36: NISP and MNI counts for Middle Iron Age contexts

Romano-British features yielded 211 fragments of bone recovered from 30 contexts. Of these, it was possible to assign 141 to element (67%) and a further 66 (31%) to species. The material demonstrated moderate state of preservation. Domestic species dominate the assemblage with the two main 'food species' (cattle and ovicaprids) accounting for *c.* 90% of the sub-set.

Species	NISP	%NISP	MNI
Cow	40	60	2
Ovicaprids	19	29	3
Horse	4	6	1
Pig	2	3	1
Mallard	1	2	1
ULM	59	46 (Σ=141)	-
UMM	28	28 (Σ=141)	-
UUM	58	1 (Σ=211)	-

Key: UMM & ULM = Unid. Medium and Large Mammal / UUM = Unid. Fragment. NB: Species percentages are out of 66. These differ from the unidentified counts as these are calculated on the basis of element identification (for UMM & ULM) and total fragments (for UUM) (corresponding to Σ in brackets).

Table 37: NISP and MNI counts for Romano-British contexts

Butchery marks were observed on 16 specimens (*c.* 8%) and general points include: axial splitting of the bones for marrow removal; chop and cut marks on the diastema and the ascending ramus of mandibles which can be attributed from the disarticulation from the skull; chop marks at major joints, as well as a series of random cut marks. In addition to this, one scapula was recorded with the characteristic butchery marks indicative of the curing process and include removal of the processes coracoideus and spina.

Epiphyseal fusion data indicated that cattle were maintained into adulthood, as evidenced by three specimens aged 2-3 years of age (Silver 1969). This suggests that meat was more important than milk or traction, since these specimens were from cattle of prime beef age (1 ½-3 ½ years). The age of sheep/ goat was varied with one metacarpal aged 0-18 months, one mandible 2-3 years and another mandible 4-6 years of age (Grant 1982). It was only possible to age one pig specimen, a mandible aged 0-2 months of age.

Sheep was identified based on the presence of a complete astragalus (Boessneck 1969: 351). This specimen was female and butchery marks were apparent, typical of skinning. Non-metric trait was observed on a cow mandible whose second lower premolar was absent. This absence is thought to be congenital and many cases of partial anodontia have been observed in conjunction with hereditary ectodermal dysplasia, but this is unproved (Ohtaishi 1972). A similar example was recorded from Earith, Cambridgeshire (The Camp Ground- Period II; Higbee 2004).

Biometric data was available for cattle which followed the conversion factors of Matolsci and Fock for cattle (see Von den Driesch and Boessneck 1974). Two specimens were measured and the withers height estimates were 1.08m and 1.18m.

The animal bones from undated features demonstrated a good level of preservation, but yielded an impoverished representation of species (Table 38). Cattle were the predominant species, followed by sheep/ goat and horse. Of 61 fragments, 39 (64%) bones were assigned to element and a further 23 (38%) to species.

Species	NISP	%NISP	MNI
Cow	19	83	1
Ovicaprids	3	13	1
Horse	1	4	1
ULM	35	14 (Σ=39)	-
UMM	1	1 (Σ=39)	-
UUM	2	1 (Σ=61)	-

Key: UMM & ULM = Unid. Medium and Large Mammal / UUM = Unid. Fragment. NB: Species percentages are out of 23. These differ from the unidentified counts as these are calculated on the basis of element identification (for UMM & ULM) and total fragments (for UUM) (corresponding to Σ in brackets).

Table 38: NISP and MNI counts for undated contexts

Butchery marks were observed on five of the specimens, three of which included vertical bone splitting for marrow extraction. Epiphyseal fusion data for the cattle showed that two specimens were killed in their first year (Silver 1969). One mandible was recorded as senile (Grant 1982), and one ovicaprid mandible gave the age at death of 1-2 years. Withers height calculations were drawn from a complete cow metatarsal being at the top of the range at 1.23m and identified as male (see Von den Driesch and Boessneck 1974).

The assemblage is dominated by livestock species; cattle, sheep/ goat, pig and horse, and these results reflect the importance of livestock species Iron Age and Romano-British economy systems. The results from Area C1 reflect the importance of cattle in the Romano-British economy and diet, as indicated by the equal element representation, extensive butchering and the ageing data recovered from the assemblage. The relative frequency of the body part elements showed that all parts of the beef carcass were represented from all periods, suggesting that local slaughter and consumption was occurring. The element count for ovicaprids showed the predominance of mandibular elements with the near complete absence of meat bearing joints. Ageing data indicated that cattle and ovicaprids were kept until they reached maturity and used for their secondary products, while pigs were slaughtered during their first year.

This assemblage has produced some valuable biometric, ageing and sexing data as well as examples of butchery actions typical for the period and a non-metric trait observed on a cow mandible. Many aspects of the assemblage have been characterised as distinctly Roman, but more information is needed if we are to resolve to which extent this site was Romanised as well as whether it just continued with more native Iron Age traditions.

Environmental Assessment (Anne de Vareilles)

The environmental samples from four Romano-British features were analysed for this assessment report. One waterlogged and three charred samples were analysed. The

basal fill of F. 503 [1005] was thought to have been connected to the palaeochannel F. 593 and, therefore, waterlogged. Consequently only 500ml of [1005] was processed as a waterlogged sample. During sorting however, it became clear that [1005] had no waterlogged seeds, but was in fact very rich in charred remains; the remainder of the sample should be floated for further assessment. A little soil disturbance is evident in the form of modern rootlets and intrusive seeds. Nomenclature follows Zohary and Hopf (2000) for cereal, Stace (1997) for all other flora and an updated version of Beedham (1972) for molluscs. All macro-remains are listed in Tables 39 to 40.

A sample from a Romano-British ditch, F. 555 [1152], in Trench 94 was analysed. Seven or eight grains of spelt (*T.* cf. *spelta*) and possibly emmer (*T. spelta/diccocum*) wheat were retrieved. No other plant remains were found other than frequent charcoal and one unidentified wild plant seed.

A sample from a second Romano-British ditch, F. 503 [1005], in Trench 96 was analysed. The small sample produced a flot extremely rich in wheat (probably only spelt) processing waste. Both the amount of chaff and the number of arable weed seeds far outweigh the quantity of grain. Apart from chaff and wild seeds, the sample consisted of broken and often vitrified fragments of grain and wild grass seeds. Wheat was processed on a large scale and/or frequently, and the waste burnt without the addition of much charcoal and discarded into this ditch. It seems oat (*Avena* sp.) may have been an accepted crop contaminant (perhaps intentional) since many oat awns, but only two seeds were found. The cereal was probably grown locally on clay-rich soils, as is suggested by the numerous seeds of scentless mayweed (*Anthemis cotula*).

A sample from a Romano-British watering hole, F. 570 [1215], in Trench 95 was analysed. Although the sample was not waterlogged it contained evidence of a wet past in the form of a few dried waterlogged seeds and other plant parts. No grains, but 90 glume bases, probably all of spelt wheat, were recovered. Some wild plant seeds were also found which could all have been arable weeds.

A sample from the palaeochannel, F. 593 [1258], in Trench 124 was analysed. The preservation in this sample is excellent. As so many plant remains have survived it was not deemed necessary to analyse more than half the flot for this assessment. The sample contained a few charred and waterlogged cereal remains, which probably relate to the crop processing activities seen in F. 503. About 37 waterlogged wild species were noted, most of which are aquatic or semi-aquatic plants that grew in and on the banks of this channel. Such plants include buttercups (*Ranunculus* sp.), ragged-robin (*Lychnis flos-cuculi*), narrow-fruited water-cress (*Rorippa microphylla*), rushes (*Juncus* sp.), and a sedge (*Carex* cf. *hirta*). Other plants are indicative of open, disturbed or arable land. These occurred in fewer numbers, possibly because they grew further away. Fat-hen (*Chenopodium album*), common chickweed (*Stellaria media*), weld (*Reseda luteola*) and hemp-nettles (*Galeopsis* sp.) show that the area around the palaeochannel was not wild, but an open landscape used for arable or other activities.

The three charred samples indicate that the intense processing of crops was undertaken within this area, with waste material being incorporated into the ditch fills. The by-products of the cereal production may have been used as a convenient fuel.

The sample from the palaeochannel demonstrates that the area was inhabited and/or used for industrial (including agricultural) practices. The preservation is excellent and further archaeobotanical, entomological and palynological samples would provide a better understanding of this landscape should further archaeological work be undertaken.

Sample Number		**202**	**203**	**207**
Context		1152	1215	1005
Feature		555	570	503
Trench		94	95	96
Sample volume - litres		10	5	0.5
Flot volume - mililitres		22	8.5	10.5
Flot fraction examined - %		100	100	100
large charcoal (>4mm)		++		-
med. charcoal (2-4mm)		+++	-	-
small charcoal (<2mm)		+++	+	++
vitrified charcoal		-		
Cereal grains				
Triticum cf. *spelta*	spelt wheat	1		28
Triticum spelta / diccocum	spelt or emmer	2		16
Triticum sp.	wheat type indet.	2		6
Triticum / Hordeum	wheat or barley	1		
cereal grain fragments indet.		2		34
Cereal chaff				
Triticum spelta glume base	spelt chaff		59	268
T.spelta/dicoccum glume base	spelt or emmer chaff		13	77
Triticum sp. glume base	glume wheat chaff		18	1000+
Triticum sp. germinated embryo	indeterminate wheat			9
Triticum sp. rachis internode	glume wheat chaff		5	+
indet. cereal awn fragments				++
Non cereal seeds				
Chenopodium album	Fat-hen			3
Atriplex patula/prostrata	oraches		1	
Rumex cf. *obtusifolius*	Broad-leaved dock		1	8
Medicago / Trifolium sp.	medics or clover			3
Anthemis cotula	stinking chamomile			23
Tripleurospermum inodorum	scentless mayweed		1	
Eleocharis sp.	Spike Rushes		1	
Avena sp. (awn frag.)	oat wild? (awn frag)			2 (+++)
large Poaceae indet (>4mm)	grass family seed		5	44
medium Poaceae indet. (2-4mm)	grass family seed		2	53
small Poaceae indet. (<2mm)	grass family seed			10
Poaceae fragment indet. - wild or cultivated grass seed frag.				1000+
seed indet.		1		1
Damp / Shade loving Mollusca				
Cochlicopa lubrica / lubricella				+
Vallonia excentrica / pulchella				+
Oxychilus/Aegopinella				-
Catholic species				
Trichia sp.				+
Small amounts of slag or metal work debris				-
Intrusive seeds (waterlogged seeds, age indet.)		-	(+)	
dried waterlogged plant tissue, age indet. - stems, roots, etc			P	
Modern rootlets		P		P

Key: '-' 1 or 2, '+' <10, '++' 10-50, '+++' >50 items. P = Present

Table 39: Plant Macro-Remains and Mollusca from the Bulk Soil Samples

Sample Number		204
Context		1258
Feature		593
Feature type		palaeochannel
Phase / Date		
Trench		124
Sample volume - millilitres		500
Flot fraction examined -%		50
Charred Remains		
Triticum spelta glume base	Spelt wheat chaff	1
T. spelta/dicoccum gl. base	Spelt or Emmer chaff	1
Triticum sp. basal gl. base	Hulled wheat lower ear chaff	1
<2mm charcoal		+
Waterlogged Remains		
Triticum sp. spikelet fork	Hulled wheat chaff	1
R. acris/repens/bulbosus	Buttercup	+
Ranunculus sceleratus	Celery-leaved Buttercup	++
R. Subgen, *BATRACHIUM*	Crowfoot	+++
Urtica dioica	Common Nettle	+
Chenopodium album	Fat-hen	+
Stellaria media	Common Chickweed	+
small *Cerastium* sp.	Mouse-ears	+++
Lychnis flos-cuculi	Ragged-robin	+++
Persicaria maculosa	Redshank	-
Persicaria lapathifolia	Pale Persicaria	-
Elatine hexandra	Six-stamened Waterwort	++
Rorippa microphylla	Narrow-fruited W.-cress	+++
Reseda luteola	Weld	++
Epilobium cf. *parviflorum*	Hoary willowherb	++
Berula erecta	Lesser water-parsnip	+
Aethusa cynapium	Fool's Parsley	-
Apium nodiflorum	Fool's Water-cress	+++
Galeopsis sp.	Hemp-Nettles	-
Galium aparine	Cleavers	-
Sambucus nigra	Elder	-
Bidens tripartita/frondosa	Trifid Bur-marigold	+
Juncus sp. type 1	Rushes	+++
Juncus sp. type 2	Rushes	+++
Eleocharis sp.	Spike Rushes	-
Carex cf. *hirta*	Hairy sedge	++
trigonous *Carex* sp.	trilete Sedge seed	-
small Poaceae	small wild grass	++
Indeterminate wild plant seeds		+
Oogonia	Algae 'seeds'	++
Insect fragments		++

Key: '-' 1 or 2, '+' <10, '++' 10-50, '+++' >50 items.

Table 40: Plant Macro-Remains and Mollusca from the Bulk Soil Sample 204

Discussion

Area C1 was located at the interface of a gravel terrace and a Boulder clay outcrop marked by a pronounced topographic rise. This geological change appeared to determine the distribution of settlement archaeology - where intense activity was encountered on the lower lying gravel terrace, none was evident on the clay rise. The site was located *c*. 750m to the east of the River Ouse and the activity encountered here, although not as intense, continued into Area C2 where palaeochannels suggested that the river may have been much closer to the site than it is at present (see Area C2 and N1). The activity identified here appeared to represent two distinct phases of occupation, one occurring during the Middle Iron Age and the other in the late Roman period (Figure 27).

Middle Iron Age (Site 13)

Despite the presence of lithic material in the top-soil no cut features of the Neolithic or Bronze Age periods were identified. The earliest cut features dated to the Middle/Late Iron Age and represented two inter-related enclosures and a series of boundary ditches which extended across the evaluated area. Within Trenches 94, 98 and 99 sections of the two inter-related enclosures were recorded along with a series of boundary ditches extending to the southeast (Figure 27).

These enclosures were identified by the geophysical survey as a small sub-circular enclosure (F. 521) located along the southwest edge of a larger, more circular enclosure (F. 542) (Pre-construct Geophysics 2007). The lack of artefactual material from these features would suggest that they were most likely part of an agricultural complex rather than an intensive settlement. The smaller enclosure may have surrounded a small farmstead, while the larger enclosure was an associated paddock or agricultural enclosure. The presence of ditches extending away from these enclosures and spread throughout the southeast portion of the evaluation (such as F. 515 in Trench 113), indicated that these were part of a much larger system of enclosures and boundaries.

Romano-British (Site 14)

The Iron Age activity continued into the Roman period which was characterised by an intensification in the settlement and related activities. This activity appeared to be focused around channel F. 593 towards the western edge of the site, and it was here that an intensive arrangement of ditches and gullies were identified along with charcoal rich features indicating industrial activity. Fragments of tile and mortar were also recovered from features within this area suggesting that a building may be located close by. The quantity of material culture and large number of Roman coins (14 in total) recovered and the nature of the deposits, suggests that this was probably a small but intensively utilised settlement focused upon production (possibly metalwork). The dark earth deposit was also present within the upper fills of a number of the features associated with the palaeochannel. From one of these, F. 555, a large quantity of metalwork slag was recovered along with several fragments of Roman period pottery and animal bone. The ‘grubby’ nature of the deposits recorded within

Trenches 94, 95, and 96 along with the metalworking slag suggested some form of industrial activity was also occurring within this area. The environmental analysis further indicates that crop processing was also occurring, indicating that the settlement had wider activities taking place 'off-site' – an agricultural hinterland.

Aligned with the channel were several linear features which could all be traced between successive evaluation trenches. These formed a series of Romano-British enclosures associated with the channel and represent a series of settlement enclosures, some of which could have enclosed tile roofed structures, either domestic or workshops. The presence of these forms of structure, along with the large quantity of material (including a high concentration of 14 coins) would attest to the presence of a settlement of some status and importance (which continues outside of the evaluated area).

To the east of this settlement core, Trenches 112 and 113 exposed several closely spaced linear features. These linear features contained very little material culture and there was none of the dark earth deposits as had been identified to the west. These features may have been the remnants of a series of horticultural plots, such as lazy beds, suggesting that this area was located on the edge of the settlement. Further evidence of dark earth deposits was recorded within Trenches 116 and 117 within linear features and pits suggestive of a continuation of the settlement identified to the west.

Towards the end of the Roman period this settlement was abandoned and there was no evidence found to suggest that it continued into the Anglo-Saxon period. The tertiary fill of the channel was a black organic deposit, which suggests that by this time (the late Roman period as indicated by the coins recovered from this layer) the water level was rising and quite possibly the area was becoming saturated. This organic deposit was capped by an alluvial layer, which was similar to an alluvial deposit identified throughout this area of the site sealing the charcoal rich deposits within Trenches 94 and 96. This layer appeared to indicate the flooding of the site towards the end of the Roman period.

Medieval/ post-Medieval

The northeastern portion of the evaluated area (Trenches 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108 and 109) was located upon the edge of a natural hill which rose to the north and it was here that the underlying Boulder clay deposits were identified. There was no evidence for the continuation of Iron Age features on the clay and only a single Romano-British fieldsystem ditch was recorded. Medieval and post-Medieval cultivation was recorded throughout the evaluated area continuing up the hill.

Area C2 and Area N1 Ricky Patten with Matthew Collins (See Figure 28)

Areas C2 and N1 were located adjacent to each other and separated only by a field boundary. Initially, these two areas were to be investigated at different times; however, they were ultimately undertaken as part of the same fieldwork exercise and so are reported on here as one. These two areas were located approximately 1.5km northwest of Offord Cluny (NGR 521932 269318) to the west of Area C1. Area C2 was situated at between 9.58m AOD and 11.14m AOD, directly adjacent to the East Coast mainline which separated it from Area C1. Area N1 was situated at between 9.45m AOD and 10.55m AOD, along the eastern bank of the River Ouse. The areas encompassed two fields, one arable field and the other pasture, with both Areas C2 and N1 occupying the same field, partially divided by a field boundary. The underlying geology was Oxford Clay, overlain with river terrace gravels (British Geological Survey Sheet 187). This phase of the evaluation scheme was undertaken between the 2nd and 21st of September 2009.

A geophysical survey was undertaken of these two areas prior to the evaluation (Bartlett 2009b). This identified two sets of linear features which appeared to form a rectangular enclosure located within the centre of the survey. Associated with this was a cluster of pits concentrated within the northern half of the enclosure. A few pits were also identified towards the East Coast mainline. These were interpreted as a continuation of the activity evidenced in Area C1 to the east. Throughout the eastern half of the survey area linear anomalies were recorded which were interpreted as ridge and furrow on a gravel 'island' surrounded by alluvium. Towards the River Ouse only natural features were recorded. In contrast, fieldwalking results of this 'island' revealed a large concentration of Mesolithic and Neolithic flint, comprising both debitage and characteristic tool types (Anderson *et al.* 2009). This 'ploughsoil archaeology' was clearly visible due to intensive ploughing of the non-alluviated part of this 'island' – from at least the Medieval period and possibly earlier.

The location of these two areas on the bank of the River Ouse meant that a slightly different trenching strategy was required. Rather than simply cutting a series of trenches throughout a methodology comprising trenching and test pitting was employed to determine the presence and location of any archaeological or palaeo-environmental deposits associated with the River Ouse. Where trenches encountered deep alluvial and peat deposits they were stopped for health and safety and a series of test-pits excavated.

Trench No.	Length (m)	Orientation	Top-soil (m)	Sub-soil (m)	Total Depth (m)	Archaeology	Geology
226	47.7	E/W	0.25	0.45	0.9	None	Gravel
228	86.3	N/S	0.38	0.4	1.63	Yes	Gravel
228A	16.5	E/W	0.27	0.3	0.5	Yes	Gravel
228B	14.3	W/E	0.42	0.5	1.42	Yes	Gravel
228C	4.6	W/E	0.3	0.3	1.2	None	Gravel

Table 41: Trench information from Area C2

Thirty-three trenches were excavated totalling 2524.94m² (401.41m in Area C2 and 2123.53m in Area N1) and this was supplemented with 22 test pits excavated across

Areas C2 and N1. Archaeological activity was recorded within both areas and was associated with a series of palaeochannels. Boundary ditches recorded in Area C2 were a continuation of the settlement evaluated at Area C1, with an isolated Romano-British gully recorded within Area N1. A series of ditches in Area N1 formed part of the enclosure identified by the geophysical survey and were dated to the Iron Age (Bartlett 2009b). Test pitting exposed a preserved peat deposit close to the River Ouse, and from here significant quantities of burnt and fire-cracked flint along with stone were recovered. Also present within the peat and cutting into the underlying gravels was the remnant of a single wooden post.

Trench No.	Length (m)	Orientation	Top-soil (m)	Sub-soil (m)	Total Depth (m)	Archaeology	Geology
210A	10	N-S	0.25	0	1.15	None	Gravel
210B	3.1	N-S	0.25	0	1.15	None	Gravel
210C	14.6	W-E	0.25	0	1.05	None	Gravel
211	25	N-S	0.20	0.5	0.60	Yes	Gravel
212	29	E-W	0.27	0.5	0.80	None	Gravel palaeochannel
213	25.6	N-S	0.18	0.61	0.63	None	Gravel
214	44.7	E-W	0.30	0.47	0.83	Yes	Gravel palaeochannel
215	24.2	N	N/S	0.25	0.15	-	0.5-0.6
215A	18.7	N	W/E	0.22	0.60	-	0.7-0.95
216	44.7	E-W	0.28	0.38	0.70	Yes	Gravel palaeochannel
216A	20	N-S	0.26	0.33	0.59	Yes	Gravel
217	24.8	N-S	0.30	0.4	0.72	Yes	Gravel
218	22.8	N-S	0.25	0.45	1.00	Yes	Gravel
219	24.7	N-S	0.72	0.3	1.50	None	Gravel
220	25	N-S	0.30	0.43	0.77	None	Gravel
220A	26.8	W-E	0.24	0.45	0.8	None	Gravel
221	25	N-S	1.00	0.65	0.75	Yes	Gravel
222	52	W-E	0.20	0.45	0.58	Yes	Gravel
222A	17	N-S	0.31	0.4	0.77	None	Gravel
222B	15.9	N-S	0.31	0.25	0.55	None	Gravel
224	99	W-E	0.32	0.48	1.23	Yes	Gravel
224A	31.8	N-S	0.32	0.48	0.73	Yes	Gravel
224B	8.5	N-S	0.20	0.32	0.8	Yes	Gravel
225	24.4	N-S	0.25	0.72	0.95	None	Gravel and clay
226	47.7	E-W	0.25	0.45	0.9	None	Gravel

Table 42: Trench information from Area N1

Results – Area C2

Area C2 represented a terrace edge which extended to the east throughout Area C1. The area was dominated by the presence of a palaeochannel or an alluvium-filled tributary channel associated, at one time, with the River Ouse. Test pits and trenches were excavated to help characterise this part of the landscape.

The Test Pits

Test Pits 1 and 2 were excavated to determine the depth of alluvial deposits, and therefore of the palaeochannel which was recorded within Trench 228A (Figure 29). Test Pit 1 was located towards the western end of Area C2, with Test Pit 2 positioned between it and Trench 228A. The depths of these test pits indicated that the deepest point was in Test Pit 2, with the levels rising towards the west. These two test pits indicated the presence of a small, alluvium-filled tributary channel, with a large quantity of sandy colluvium having accumulated from the surrounding gravels.

Test Pit No.	Size (m)	Top-soil (m)	Sub-soil (m)	Alluvium (m)	Other (m)	Total Depth (m)	Archaeology	Geology
1	1.8 x 3	0.3	-	0.6	Clay 0.4	1.3	None	Gravel
2	1.8 x 3	0.3	0.45	0.9	Clay 0.2	1.85	None	Gravel

Table 43: Test pit information from Area C2

Trench 228

Trench 228 was located adjacent to the East Coast mainline railway at the eastern end of Area C2. Two parallel ditches (**F. 960** and **F. 961**; Table C2.1) were recorded and these were orientated northeast-southwest following the eastern edge of a palaeochannel (Trenches 228A to 228C). Of the two ditches, F. 961 was only recorded within this trench, with F. 960 also present within Trenches 228A, 228B, and 228C. In this trench F. 960 was truncated by a large modern field drain and as it had been excavated in the other trenches (as **F. 957** in Trench 228A) it was left unexcavated here. A section was excavated through F. 961 and 11 fragments (199g) of animal bone and a single small abraded pot sherd (4g) of Late Iron Age/early Roman date were recovered. These ditches were on the same orientation as the Romano-British features identified to the east in Area C1 (see Area C1); this alignment appeared to have been based upon that of the palaeochannel to the west.

Trench 228A

Trench 228A was extended off the southwest end of Trench 228 and was excavated in order to locate the edge of a palaeochannel which had been identified in Test Pits 1 and 2. As the trench sloped downwards to the edge of the palaeochannel, overlying deposits correspondingly increased in depth and consisted of mixed sandy clays derived from colluvial and alluvial deposits. Aligned parallel to the edge of the palaeochannel was ditch **F. 957**, which was cut through the lower colluvial and alluvial layers and sealed by later deposits (Table C2.2). This sequence suggested that the ditch had been cut whilst the channel was still active, possibly when the channel was being utilised by the settlement in Area C1 prior to its inundation.

Trench 228B

Trench 228B was cut at right-angles from the western side of Trench 228 towards its northern end. As with Trench 228A, the trench rapidly sloped downwards to the edge

of the palaeochannel with overlying deposits becoming correspondingly deeper. A section was excavated through ditch F. 960 (Table C2.3) here and a similar depositional sequence to that in Trench 228A was recorded.

Trench 228C

Trench 228C was the most northern trench, placed perpendicular to Trench 228. The continuation of F. 960 was recorded here (Table C2.4), again aligned along the eastern edge of the palaeochannel. A section through F. 960 showed a similar sequence to elsewhere along its length; no material was recovered from it.

Results – Area N1

Area N1 was located between the palaeochannel evidence in Area C2 and the current course of the River Ouse. A series of test pits and trenches were excavated in an attempt to characterise the topography and geology of this area. As a result a series of gravel ridges and alluvium filled channels were identified. Two separate gravel ridges were recorded; a wide ridge, aligned parallel to the terrace edge in Area C2 was present through the centre of Area N1 (the 'island' identified by fieldwalking (Anderson *et al.* 2009)). The evaluation confirmed the settlement activity recorded by the geophysical survey but did not locate any evidence of in-situ Mesolithic or Neolithic deposits (Bartlett 2009b). The second ridge was located close to the current River Ouse and was a narrow, low-level ridge which would probably only have been visible in prehistory.

The Test Pits

In total, 17 test pits were excavated in Area N1 (Figure 30) in an attempt to investigate the deep alluvial deposits and clays located along the edge of the River Ouse. These test pits showed that the underlying geology rose towards this end of the area with the presence of the low lying gravel terrace before sloping down into the former river channels with the deposits reaching depths in excess of 3.6m. Within the test pits adjacent to the River Ouse deep deposits were recorded overlying the gravels, consisting of alluvial layers overlying a preserved 'lower peat' which had formed during the Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age. Within the peat in Test Pits 2 and 11 was a significant quantity of burnt and fire-cracked stone. In Test Pit 11 a fragment of a wooden post was recovered which had been driven into the underlying gravels indicative of riverside activity (Site 15). A sample extracted from this post returned a radiocarbon date of 2190 to 2180 and 2140 to 1940 Cal BC (2 Sigma, 95% probability; Beta-270667).

Test Pit	Top-soil (m)	Sub-soil (m)	Alluvium (m)	Peat (m)	Other	Total Depth (m)	Archaeology	Geology
1	0.3	0	1	0	gravelly sand 0.2	1.5	None	Gravel
2	0.3	0	2.9	0.4	N/A	2.5	None	Gravel
3	0.3	0	1.25	0.9	N/A	2.55	None	Gravel
3a	0.4	0	1.3	0	N/A	1.7	Pit	Gravel

4	0.3	0	0.85	0	N/A	1.15	None	Gravel
4a	0.3	0	0.85	0	N/A	1.15	None	Gravel
5	0.3	0	1	0	N/A	1.3	None	Gravel
6	0.3	0	1.1	0	sand & marl 0.4	1.8	None	Gravel
7	0.3	0	0.75	0	N/A	1.05	None	Gravel
7a	0.3	0	0.75	0	N/A	1.05	None	Gravel
8	0.3	0	2	1.3	N/A	3.5	BF	Gravel
9	0.3	0	1.7	0.9	N/A	3.1	BF	Gravel
10	0.2	0	1.7	1	N/A	2.9	BF	Gravel
11	0.3	0	2	0.5	stony silt 0.2	2.5	wooden posts	Gravel
12	0.2	0	1.3	1	N/A	2.5	BF & F	Gravel
13	0.3	0	1.4	0	N/A	1.7	None	Gravel
14	0.2	0	1.55	0	N/A	1.75	None	Gravel
15	0.2	0	1.1	0	N/A	1.3	None	Gravel
16	0.3	0	1.45	0.2	N/A	1.95	None	Gravel
17	0.3	0	2.1	1.2	N/A	3.6	None	Gravel

Table 44: Test pit information from Area N1

Trench 210A

Trench 210A was orientated north-south from Test Pit 4 in order to determine the extent of the low gravel ridge identified within Test Pits 1, 4A and 5. With the recovery of a small pit (F. 965) in Test Pit 3A/Trench 210B, Trench 210A was excavated to investigate the potential for more features located just off the edge of the gravel ridge. Upon excavation no archaeological features were present.

Trench 210B

Trench 210B was excavated off Test Pit 3A after the discovery of a small pit **F. 965** (Table N1.1) cut within the alluvial deposits. The trench was cut to enable the safe excavation of this feature. The pit contained burnt stone and flint, but no datable material; however, the presence of the pit within alluvial deposits indicates that it was cut during a dry period.

Trench 210C

Trench 210C was located perpendicular to Trenches 210A and 210B, orientated northwest-southeast. No archaeological features were present, although the trench did demonstrate the presence of a gravel ridge *c*. 10m wide located between two alluvium-filled channels.

Trench 211

Trench 211 was orientated north-south parallel to the edge of the gravel ridge. No archaeological features were recorded, although a layer of dark silt overlain with a patchy layer of white marl was present above the terrace gravels (Table N1.2). This

indicated the presence of a spring-fed pool on the surface of the gravel terrace where these deposits had subsequently formed. Two 1m^2 test pits were excavated in order to evaluate the potential for artefacts within these layers, but none were recovered.

Trench 212

Trench 212 was excavated perpendicular to the deep alluvium channel, on the western edge of the large gravel ridge. No archaeological features were present within this trench, although towards its western end the underlying gravel began to slope steeply downwards with the overlying deposits becoming correspondingly deeper consisting of alluvial clays. This represented the eastern edge of a palaeochannel which extended through Trenches 214 and 216.

Trench 213

Trench 213 was excavated parallel to the edge of the large gravel ridge to investigate the potential for edge activity. No archaeological features were present.

Trench 214

Trench 214 was excavated perpendicular to the western alluvial channel upon the large gravel ridge. This trench was cut to investigate the western edge of the ridge and a northwest-southeast linear feature identified by the geophysical survey (Bartlett 2009b). The excavation of the trench exposed the southern terminal of a ditch, **F. 964**, which appeared to continue into Trenches 215 and 216 where it was recorded as **F. 950** (Table N1.3). This formed part of the Iron Age enclosure which occupied the area between two palaeochannels. At the western end of the trench the underlying gravel began to slope steeply downwards forming the eastern edge of the palaeochannel which bisected the evaluated area north to south.

Trench 215

Trench 215 was excavated perpendicular to Trench 216 to investigate a linear feature identified during the geophysical survey of this area (Bartlett 2009b). Cut at an angle through this trench was F. 950, which ran obliquely along much of the trench, but was never fully exposed. This feature was excavated in Trench 216.

Trench 215A

Trench 215A was excavated in order to investigate the potential for features within the enclosure formed by ditches F. 950 and **F. 966**. No features were recorded within this trench.

Trench 216

Trench 216 was excavated perpendicular to the alluvial channel recorded within Trenches 212 and 214. This channel was identified at the western end of the trench and aligned almost parallel to it was F. 950, a northwest-southeast orientated ditch. This ditch was cut by a later ditch, **F. 951** (Table N1.4), which followed the same alignment. These formed the western side of the enclosure identified by the geophysical survey with the presence of F. 951 indicating the enclosure had been maintained or re-used (Bartlett 2009b).

Trench 216A

Trench 216A was excavated perpendicular to Trench 216 in order to investigate a possible turn in ditch F. 950 which was identified by the geophysical survey (Bartlett 2009b). A single ditch, **F. 966** (Table N1.5), was excavated and this appeared to form the northern edge of the enclosure. Here the enclosure boundary was more substantial than it had been in Trench 216; the base of this feature could not be reached due to the rapid flooding of the trench.

Trench 217

Trench 217 was the most northern trench within the area. No archaeological features were identified, although two natural tree-throws were present. Both these features were test excavated but contained no artefacts.

Trench 218

Two features were recorded within Trench 218; **F. 954**, an east-west ditch, and **F. 956** (Table N1.6), a tree-throw. Upon excavation it was possible to determine that the tree-throw was sealed by overlying alluvial deposits and from within its fill was recovered a Late Mesolithic/Early Neolithic bladelet. The ditch F. 954, however, cut through these deposits and was sealed only by top-soil. That it was sealed only by top-soil would suggest that it was of post-Medieval origin (a fragment of Middle to Late Iron Age pottery was recovered; however, this could be intrusive).

Trench 219 and 220

Trenches 219 and 220 were located towards the southern part of the evaluated area and no archaeological remains were identified.

Trench 220A

Trench 220A was cut perpendicular to Trench 220 and was excavated to evaluate whether the Romano-British activity identified in Trench 222 extended to this part of the evaluated area. No archaeological remains were present.

Trench 221

Trench 221 was excavated perpendicular to Trench 222 and parallel to the eastern edge of the large gravel ridge. Two features were identified; a small pit, **F. 958**, and posthole **F. 959** (Table N1.7). Both of these features were cut through the sub-soil with no artefactual material recovered from either. These were probably post-Medieval in date.

Trench 222

Trench 222 was located to target two possible linear features highlighted by the geophysical survey (Bartlett 2009b). Cut perpendicular to this were a further two trenches; Trench 222A was located of the northern edge of the trench, *c.*40m along from the eastern end, and Trench 222B was excavated from the southern edge of Trench 222, *c.* 9m from the eastern end. Of the two linear features recorded by the geophysics only one appeared to represent an archaeological feature, **F. 955** (Table N1.8), a northwest-southeast ditch. During the excavation of this feature two nearly complete Roman period pots were recovered (one 1st to 3rd century AD and the other 2nd to 3rd century) along with fragments of a third Middle to Late Iron Age vessel. This was the only feature within Area N1 to contain Roman period pottery, and so the only confirmed feature of this date. Although located on the west side of the palaeochannel in Area C2, it would appear to indicate that the Romano-British activity from Area C1 and C2 were contiguous.

Trench 222A and 222B

Trenches 222A and 222B were excavated in order to determine whether ditch F.955 extended to the west (222A) and east (222B), but no archaeological remains were identified.

Trench 223

Trench 223 was orientated north-south and was excavated along the western edge of an alluvial filled channel. No archaeological features were recorded with the trench.

Trench 224

Trench 224 was orientated east-west, with Trench 224A cut perpendicular to the north at its western end, and Trench 224B to the south, *c.* 10m from the same end (see Figure 29). Both of these trenches were excavated to further elucidate features which were only partially exposed by Trench 224. Trench 224A was cut to expose an oblong pit **F. 952**, and this feature is discussed with that trench. Trench 224B was cut to further expose F. 953. This feature was an oval pit with natural silting deposits (Table N1.9), but no datable material and was similar to F. 952. Both of these features appeared to represent examples of the pits identified by the geophysical survey

(Bartlett 2009b). The pits were sealed by the sub-soil, but no datable material was recovered from either of them.

Trench 224A

Trench 224A was initially excavated as a small box 5m by 4.50m to further investigate an oblong pit F.952 which had been partially exposed within Trench 224. The trench was then extended to investigate ditch F. 954 in Trench 218. It was possible to trace this feature through into Trench 224A as **F. 962**, an east-west orientated ditch which was on the same alignment. This ditch cut through an alluvium deposit (Table N1.10) which is thought to have formed during the Roman period, and therefore suggesting a post-Roman date. Also excavated was **F. 963**, a curvilinear gully, which also cut through the alluvium, again suggestive of a Roman period date. Neither of these features contained any datable material.

Trench 224B

Trench 224B was orientated north-south, perpendicular to Trench 224, in an attempt to further clarify F. 953. As a result it was possible to determine the character of F.953, which was an oval pit rather than the terminal of a ditch (see Trench 224). No other features were present within the trench.

Trench 225

Trench 225 was orientated north-south, with a second trench, 226, positioned at its northern end to form a 'T'-shape. Both of these trenches were cut predominantly into the alluvium deposits; no archaeological features were identified.

Trench 226

Trench 226 was orientated east-west from the northern end of Trench 225 to form a 'T'-shape. As with Trench 225, no archaeological features were recorded.

Specialist Reports

The Flint (Lawrence Billington)

A total of 25 worked flints (217.6g) were recovered from the excavations at area N1. The majority of these derived from sub-soil deposits sampled during trenching; only four flints were found within the fills of cut features. A single undiagnostic secondary flake (7.2g) was found during the excavation of F. 957 in area C2.

The condition of the assemblage is generally poor; 48% of the pieces were broken and edge damage was observed on most pieces, no doubt due to their origin in superficial, disturbed deposits. Raw material appears to have been exclusively good quality

secondary flint, probably selected from the local gravel terraces. No primary, chalk flint was present.

It is clear that the assemblage represents a palimpsest of flint working and use from the Mesolithic into the Bronze Age. Few formally diagnostic pieces were recovered and dating, therefore, generally relies on a crude division between earlier Neolithic and Mesolithic blade based technologies and later, Late Neolithic and Bronze Age, flake based material.

Trench/TP no.	**Feature No.**	**Type**	chip	chunk	flake	Bladelet	rejuvenation flake	bladelet core	flake core	end scraper	**total worked flint**
211		Sub-soil							1		1
213		Sub-soil			1					1	2
214	964		1								1
216a		Sub-soil			2						2
216a	966				1						1
218	956	tree-throw				1					1
221		Sub-soil			1		1				2
222		Sub-soil			3						3
222	955				1						1
223		Sub-soil			1		1	1			3
224		Sub-soil		1	2						3
224		Top-soil			2						2
224a		Sub-soil			2						2
TP 12		peat deposit			1						1
		Total	1	1	17	1	2	1	1	1	**25**

Table 45: All flint by type

Earlier material is well represented by debitage products demonstrating a carefully structured and economical blade-based reduction strategy. A small concentration of such material was recovered from Trench 223, including a fine, extremely well worked-out bladelet core of probable Mesolithic date and a core rejuvenation flake, struck to correct difficulties encountered during the reduction sequence. Further pieces bearing traits typical of Mesolithic/earlier Neolithic technologies include two flakes from sub-soil sampling in Trench 224. A fine, probably Mesolithic, bladelet from tree-throw F. 956 may be broadly contemporary with the infilling of this feature.

The remainder of the assemblage is made up of flake-based products. Although some of the flakes may be the more expedient products of earlier technologies, most display a markedly different approach to core reduction more typical of Late Neolithic and Bronze Age technologies. Striking platforms are generally large and hard hammers appear to have been used throughout the reduction sequence. The flakes are of varied morphology and little attempt has been made to control the form of removals. The flake core from Trench 211 demonstrates similar technological traits, with several uncorrected errors and relatively squat flake scars.

The only retouched tool recovered was a small end scraper from sub-soil sampling in Trench 213. Such forms are not strongly diagnostic, being made and used throughout prehistory, but the regular convex morphology of the scraper edge and the fine retouch suggests a Neolithic or Early Bronze Age date.

A single flake was recovered from peat deposits of a former channel sealed by alluvium in Test Pit 12. A partly cortical, relatively thin flake with regular dorsal scars it is probably a Late Neolithic or Early Bronze Age product.

Later Prehistoric and Roman Pottery (Katie Anderson)

A single black-slipped sherd weighing 4g and dating to the Late Iron Age/early Roman period, was collected from F.961 in Area C2.

A total of 98 sherds of pottery weighing 785g were recovered from the evaluation of Area N1. All of the material was analysed and details of fabric, form, decoration, usewear and date were recorded, along with any other information deemed important.

The bulk of the assemblage was from a single feature (F.955 in Trench 222), a ditch which contained 93 sherds of pottery weighing 740g. Interestingly, this represented just three vessels, two of which could be refitted to form semi-complete vessels from [1823]. The first was an abraded Nene Valley colour-coated cornice rim beaker, dating mid 2nd-3rd century AD. The second vessel was a black-slipped jar with, dating mid 1st-3rd century AD. Finally a shell-tempered sherd dating Middle/Late Iron Age (2g) was recovered from [1854].

Three further Middle/Late Iron Age sherds were identified, comprising two sherds from F.954 and one sherd from F.951.

Faunal Remains (Vida Rajkovača)

Two features (F. 957 and F. 961) in Area C2 yielded three fragments of poorly preserved animal bone, two of which were identified as cattle radius and ulna. These two specimens are both from the right portion of the carcass and, based on their size they are most likely to be part of the same animal.

Two fragments of unidentifiable eroded and poorly preserved animal bone were recovered from Area N1. These were identified as a fragment of cattle-sized tibia and sheep-sized limb bone fragment.

Environmental Assessment (Anne de Vareilles)

Both waterlogged and carbonised plant remains were recovered. The three waterlogged samples were taken near to the river Ouse underneath the Bronze Age alluvium. Levels of preservation varied between the samples suggesting water-table fluctuations; no seeds were recovered from Test Pit 2, whereas Test Pit 9 exhibited good continuous waterlogged conditions. The three samples with charred plant remains did not contain any waterlogged material, but were rich in modern rootlets. The latter indicate soil disturbance, though the effects of such intrusions upon the potential archaeological record is impossible to measure. Mollusc shells were present in waterlogged Test Pit 17 and F.961 in Trench 216, in low quantities.

Ditch, F. 961 [1839] Area C2
The only archaeobotanical remains recovered were around 12 pieces of charcoal. A few snail shells from two species (*Vallonia costata* and *Oxychilus* or *Aegopinella* sp.) were found that might suggest the interior of the ditch was damp whilst the ground surface was dry and open. Their occurrence in such low quantities render any interpretation tentative and is either a result of post-depositional preservation factors, or a sign that layers accumulated quickly (before snail communities had time to establish themselves).

Ditch, F. 957 [1828] Area C2
The flot from this sample was a little smaller than that from F. 961 but contained a very similar assemblage to the one described above, except that no snail shells were found.

Waterlogged samples from peat in Test Pits 2, 9 and 17
The sample from test pit 2 was rich in fragments of waterlogged wood, rootlets (possibly modern) and carbonised wood. No seeds were found which suggests that the peat has dried out on several occasions. Consequently only the stronger (lignin-rich) wood has survived. The concentration of charcoal in the 500ml sub-sample is high and the remainder of the sample should therefore be floated for carbonised remains.

Test pits 9 and 17 both contained a wide range of taxa, although they are clearly better preserved in test pit 9 where seeds and species occurred in higher quantities. Some typical arable weeds were found, such as goosefoot (*Chenopodium* sp.), oraches (*Atriplex prostrata/patula*), common chickweed (*Stellaria media*) and knotgrass (*Polygonum* sp.); however, these plants were not densely represented and the majority of the assemblage is from a wet meadow or fen type environment. Plants such as buttercups and crowfoot (*Ranunculus* spp.), water-pepper (*Persicaria hydropiper*), various types of mint, pondweeds (*Potamogeton* sp.), sedges (*Carex* sp.) and rushes (*Juncus* sp. and *Eleocharis* sp.) all point to a permanently wet natural environment. Seeds from alder (*Alnus glutinosa*), elder (*Sambucus nigra*), a prunus type (probably sloe) and brambles (*Rubus* sp.) were recovered from test pit 17 and point to damp open woodland or fen-carr. Stinging nettles (*Urtica dioica*), silverweed (*Potentilla anserina*) and black horehound (*Ballota nigra*) grow well on disturbed soils, and therefore provide evidence for some human and/or animal interaction.

Charred samples from F. 955 [1823], F. 952 [1825] and F. 954 [1817]
The samples were very similar in containing only a little charcoal and some modern rootlets. One small grass seed was found in F. 955 and one unidentified seed in F. 952. No other plant remains were recovered.

The features sampled in Area C2 revealed no archaeobotanical information on economic practices and uncertain evidence for human occupation. Area N1 seems to have supported some human interaction since the Neolithic, although no evidence for settled occupation was found. The evidence is in the form of charcoal representing ancient fires lit by visitors to the floodplain.

The Neolithic floodplain was very wet and densely vegetated. The slow-flowing river and its edge were richly covered in lush aquatics, such as buttercups, crowfoot, pondweeds, and tall rushes and sedges. Plants favouring damp soils continue out into the floodplain, where trees of alder, elder and sloe also grew. There are indications that the area was disturbed by humans and/or herded animals, but whether that translates to arable, pastoral farming or a favourite fishing spot cannot be ascertained from only three samples. Pollen preservation is likely to be good and would help answer such questions.

Sample Number		**352**	**353**
Context		1839	1828
Feature		961	957
Feature type		Ditch	Ditch
Phase / Date			
Trench		228	228a
Sample volume – litres		8	7
Flot volume – millilitres		1	<0.5
Flot fraction examined - %		100	100
Charcoal			
large charcoal (>4mm)		-	-
med. charcoal (2-4mm)		-	-
small charcoal (<2mm)		+	+
roots and parenchymous tissue			-
Modern straw fragments		P	P
Modern rootlets		P	P
Mollusca	**Habitat**		
Vallonia costata Müller	open & dry, e.g. grass, leaves	+	
Oxichylus / Aegopinella sp.	generally damp and shady	-	

Key: '-' 1 or 2; '+' <10; '++' 10-50; '+++' >50 items. P = Present

Table 46: Plant macro-remains and mollusca from bulk soil samples in Area C2.

Sample Number		**356**	**358**	**362**
Context		Peat layer by Ouse		
Feature		T.P. 2	T.P.17	T.P.9
Feature type		Test pit	Test pit	Test pit
Phase / Date		Neolithic		
Sample volume - Litres		0.5	0.5	0.5
Flot volume - mililitres		50	110	230
Flot fraction examined -%		100	100	50
Wood				
large charcoal (>4mm)		++		
med. charcoal (2-4mm)		++	+	
small charcoal (<2mm)		+++	+++	
waterlogged twig fragments		+++	++	
modern, intrusive rootlets		P?		
Waterlogged seeds				
Ranunculus acris/ repens/ bulbosus L. - Buttercups			++	++
Thalictrum cf. *flavum* L.	Common Meadow-rue		-	
Thalictrum minus L.	Lesser Meadow-rue			-
Urtica dioica L.	Common Nettle		++	+
Alnus glutinosa (L.) Gaertner	Alder seeds		+++	-
Alnus glutinosa (L.) Gaertner	Alder cones		++	
small *Chenopodium* sp.	Goosefoots		-	-
Atriplex patula L./*prostrata* Boucher ex DC - Oraches				-
Stellaria media (L.) Vill	Common Chickweed		-	-
Lychnis flos-cuculi L.	Ragged-robin		-	
Persicaria hydropiper (L.) Spach	Water-pepper		+	
Polygonum sp.	Knotgrass			-
Rumex conglomeratus L.	Clustered dock		++	
R. conglomeratus/ obtusifolius/ sanguineus - Dock			++	
Rumex sp.	Dock			-
Rubus sp.	Bramble		+	
Potentilla anserina L.	Silverweed			++
Prunus cf. *spinosa* L.	Sloe stone fragment		-	
Apium nodiflorum (L.) Lag.	Fool's Water-cress			-
long, narrow Apiaceae	Carrot family seeds			-
Stachys sp.	Woundworts			-
Ballota nigra L.	Black Horehound			+
Lamium sp.	Dead-Nettle		-	
Lycopus europaeus L.	Gipsywort		-	
Mentha sp.	Mint		+	++
Plantago major Ssp. *intermedia* (Gilib.) Lange - Greater plantain				-
small *Galium* sp.	Bedstraws		-	

Sambucus nigra L.	Elder		-	
Carduus/Cirsium sp.	Thistles			+
Bidens cf. *cernua* L.	Nodding bur-marigold			-
Alisma plantago-aquatica L.	Water-plantain		-	
large *Potamogeton* sp.	Pondweeds			-
Juncus sp.	Rushes			+++
Eleocharis sp.	Spike Rushes		+	+
large trigonous *Carex* sp.	trilete Sedge seed		-	+
large lenticular *Carex* sp.	flat Sedge seed			+
small Poaceae	small wild grass			-
Indeterminate wild plant seeds				5
Mollusca	**Habitat**			
Lymnaea truncatula Müller	shallow waters & flooded pastures		-	
Carychium minimum Müller/ *tridentatum* Risso - damp / wet			+	
Vallonia excentrica / pulchella	open damp and/or dry		-	
Oxychilus / Aegopinella sp.	shady and damp		-	
Bivalvia: *Pisidium* sp.	fresh water bivalve		++	-

Key: '-' 1 or 2; '+' <10; '++' 10-50; '+++' >50 items. P = Present

Table 47: Plant macro-remains and mollusca from bulk soil samples in Area N1.

The Palaeoenvironment (Steve Boreham)

The British Geological Survey map of the area (BGS Sheet 187) shows the Boulder clay of the eastern valley side along with a small alluvium-filled tributary channel located to the north of the evaluation trenches), a gravel terrace (undifferentiated Terrace 1-2), and an alluvial floodplain near the River Ouse. From the test pits and evaluation trenches it was possible to determine that the Boulder clay was rather thin and had been soliflucted downslope from the valley side, over the river gravel that seemed to underlie the floodplain. The small alluvium-filled tributary channel identified on the map was identified in Area C2, and it was possible to determine that it had received a large amount of sandy colluvium from both the valley side to the east and the gravel terrace to the west. The gravel terrace itself appeared to have had a number of spring-fed pools on its surface, which had accumulated as organic (peaty) pond muds and marls. These deposits most likely formed quite early in the Holocene.

The current course of the River Ouse appears to have been inherited from a course deeply incised at the end of the last glacial period. This was subsequently filled by early Holocene (Mesolithic to Neolithic) peats and mid-Holocene (Neolithic to Bronze Age) river silts. The alluvium deposits (the Roman period silt) on-stepped the earlier sediments; however, they did not cover the crest of the terrace gravel 'ridge' identified within Area N1 (Trenches 211 to 224). At the edge of the main river channel, a small pit (F.965) containing burnt flint was recorded beneath the river silts. With the exception of the gravel 'ridge', it would seem that the focus for human activity during the Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age was the 'edge' or bank of the river.

Should further archaeological work be undertaken the area around the 'river-edge burnt flints' would be recommended, together with some dating and palaeo-environmental reconstruction of the environment at the time of the human activity. This would entail detailed sampling of the river peat/river silt sequence. It would also be worth characterising the organic pond sediments and marls that occur in the low points on the gravel 'ridge'. The eastern alluvium/colluvium filled channel is to some extent less interesting.

Discussion

The evaluation of Areas C2 and N1 revealed a series of ancient channels and tributaries of the River Ouse, interspersed with low lying gravel terraces or 'islands' (Figure 31). Activity encountered here (in both Areas C2 and N1) spanned the later Neolithic through to the Roman period, with much of the later periods a continuation of activity recorded within Area C1.

Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age activity was recorded along the edge of the River Ouse. The burnt flint and post sealed by the substantial alluvial deposits indicates the potential presence of significant archaeological remains in this area (Site 15). Further archaeological work would be required to provide more information and clarify the nature and extent of any archaeological remains. The burnt flint deposit could represent just a small dump; alternatively, it could indicate the presence of a burnt mound. Similarly the wooden post could be a discrete post, possibly to tether something like a fish trap at the edge of the stream, or it may be associated with a crossing point over the river. During the fieldwalking of Areas C1, C2 and N1, Mesolithic and Neolithic flint was recovered from the ploughed fields (Anderson *et al.* 2009) and, although no cut features were identified, this would indicate that later Neolithic and Bronze Age activity was occurring within this wetland zone and on the terrace gravels to the east – it only now being preserved where it is sealed by deep alluvial sediments. Further archaeological work would be required to try and characterise the archaeology in this environment, possibly through further trenching, however, these would need to be designed around the depths of deposits (they are likely to be *c.*2.5m in depth) and probable water issues as a result of the proximity to the River Ouse.

The larger of the gravel ridges or 'islands' encountered within Area N1 showed quite dispersed archaeology dating from the Iron Age and Roman periods with no evidence for actual settlement activity. A series of linear ditches in the northern half of the ridge appeared to represent part of an Iron Age enclosure with a series of associated pits (Site 12). A lack of material culture from any of these features would suggest that this represented small-scale activity, possibly a utilisation of the wet river edge rather than settlement. Evidence for Middle Iron Age occupation was recorded at Area C1 as enclosures and potential fieldsystem, and it seems probable that this activity continued through into Area N1 and the exploitation of the wet environment here.

Within Area C2 the western edge of the gravel terrace was identified extending throughout Area C1. The two probable Romano-British ditches recorded here represent a continuation of the activity recorded in C1 and appeared to mark the boundary between the settlement to the east and the channels to the west. This Romano-British settlement appeared to utilise its position near the waters edge, with evidence for industrial type activity identified towards the western limit of Area C1. A single ditch in Trench 222 (F.995) was probably associated with the Romano-British activity to the east in Areas C1 and C2, suggesting that this ridge was still in use at this time.

Area M1 Adam Slater (Figure 32)

Area M1 was situated between 11.35m and 15.16m AOD between Brampton and Buckden within the land associated with Brampton Lodge Farm (centred NGR 520750 268600). The underlying geology was characterised by the transition between Terrace Gravels and underlying silty clays (British Geological Survey). Deep deposits of geological clays were identified in Trenches 326 and 326A and associated palaeo-river gravels were identified within Trench 324. The evaluation of Area M1 occurred between the 9th November and the 4th December 2009: Trenches 300 to 306 were located within a harvested wheat-field, whilst Trenches 307 to 331 were located within open pasture. A gap of 80m was left un-trenched between Trench 306 and Trench 307 due to the presence of upstanding ridge and furrow earthworks.

Forty one trenches were excavated within Area M1 totalling 2632.8m². Archaeological features were identified within all but thirteen of the trenches (Trenches 300, 301, 306, 307, 313, 314, 316, 322A, 323, 323A, 324, 326, 326A).

Topographically, Area M1 was located to the immediate north of and slightly downslope from the raised east-west orientated gravel terrace immediately west of the floodplain of the River Ouse. Area M1 showed a gradual uphill slope from west to east before sloping more sharply downwards towards the wider River Ouse floodplain at the western end of the site, a slope that appeared to be mirrored by the end of the gravel ridge. A large lake formed by previous gravel extraction was located at the eastern end of Area M1, in an area potentially formed by a palaeochannel of the Ouse. The majority of the archaeological features within M1were located close to or on the ridge marking the highest point of the evaluated area, and on the steeply sloping slope down to the river basin.

Probable Romano-British linear features that could be associated with Late Iron Age and Early Romano-British occupation within the south-east of Area B2 as well as with previously evaluated Romano-British occupation identified between Areas B2 and M1 (Burrow & Foard-Colby 2006) were identified within the east of Area M1; and were identified as forming Site 10.

Archaeological features comprising of multiple undated linear features of numerous orientations were identified throughout the site. An Early Bronze Age Barrow was identified, with a potentially earlier, Late Neolithic foundation. Bronze Age fieldsystems likely to respect the location of the barrow complex were identified throughout the eastern part of the evaluated area. The easternmost limit of the evaluated area also demonstrated a strong Middle Iron Age focus (Site 11).

Trench No.	Length (m)	Orientation	Top-soil (m)	Sub-soil (m)	Total Depth (m)	Archaeology	Geology
300	57.7	NW-SE	0.32	0.26	0.58	Tree-throws	Gravelly Clay
301	21.7	N-S	0.32	0.50	0.82	None	Gravelly Clay
302	66.3	NNW-SSE	0.3	0.4	0.7	Tree-throws	Gravelly Clay
303	34.3	SSW-NNE	0.25	0.5	0.75	Posthole	Gravelly Clay
304	86.6	NNW-SSE	0.24	0.38	0.62	Roman?	Gravelly Clay
305	40.6	NNE-SSW	0.28	0.52	0.8	Roman?	Gravelly Clay

306	25.8	NNW-SSE	0.35	0.26	0.61	None	Gravelly Clay
307	37.3	NNE-SSW	0.36	0.25	0.61	None	Gravelly Clay
308	14.9	NNW-SSE	0.29	0.32	0.61	Prehistoric Ditch	Gravelly Clay
309	46.5	NNW-SSE	0.35	0.38	0.73	Furrow	Gravelly Clay
310	101.4	NNW-SSE	0.38	0.38	0.76	Prehistoric Ditches	Gravelly Clay
311	17.2	NNW-SSE	0.31	0.38	0.69	Prehistoric Ditch	Gravelly Clay
312	69.3	NNE-SSW	0.32	0.34	0.66	Furrow	Gravelly Clay
313	36.9	NNE-SSW	0.37	0.3	0.67	None	Gravelly Clay
314	27.1	NNW-SSE	0.38	0.52	0.9	None	Gravelly Clay
315	90.5	NNW-SSE	0.1	0.6	0.7	Early Prehistoric curvilinear, Early Iron Age, Middle Iron Age, Furrow	Gravelly Clay
316	33.4	NNE-SSW	0.37	0.46	0.83	None	Gravelly Clay
317	20.1	NNW-SSE	0.3	See Below	0.9	EBA barrow mound	Gravelly Clay
317A	13.4	NNE-SSW	0.25	See Below	0.75	EBA barrow mound	See Below
318	50.5	NNW-SSE	0.2	See Below	0.8	EBA Barrows, Cremations, Iron Age ditch, Furrow	Gravelly Clay
318A	14.6	NNE-SSW	0.3	See Below	0.8	EBA Barrow, Cremations, Iron Age ditch, Undated postholes.	Gravelly Clay
319	81.3	NNW-SSE	0.3	0.2	0.5	Undated Posthole	Gravelly Clay
320	27	NE-SW	0.25	0.4	0.65	Undated Ditch	Gravelly Clay
321	34.7	NW-SE	0.15	0.4	0.55	Undated pit	Gravelly Clay
322	69.4	NNE-SSW	0.25	0.35	0.6	Undated Ditches	Gravelly Clay
322A	29.5	NNW-SSE	0.25	0.35	0.6	None	Gravelly Clay
322B	9.7	NNE-SSW	0.25	0.4	0.65	Undated Ditch, Medieval Ditch & Pit	Gravelly Clay
323	51	NNW-SSE	0.3	0.1	0.4	None	Gravelly Clay
323A	30.4	NNE-SSW	0.3	0.2	0.5	None	Gravelly Clay
324	123	NNW-SSE	0.3	0.2	0.5	Middle Iron Age Linear feature	Gravelly Clay / Silty Clay
324A	33.3	NNW-SSE	0.2	0.4	0.6	None	Gravelly Clay
325	55.3	NNE-SSW	0.2	0.4	0.6	Bronze Age Linear feature	Gravelly Clay
326	64.8	NNE-SSW	0.2	1.05	1.25	None	Blue-Grey Clay
326A		NNW-SSE	0.25	1.0	1.25	None	Blue-Grey Clay
327	47	NNW-SSE	0.2	0.4	0.6	Iron Age Ditch, Undated Ditch	Terrace Gravel
327A	32.8	E-W	0.2	0.4	0.6	Iron Age Ditch	Terrace Gravel
328	40.5	NNW-SSE	0.2	0.3	0.5	Neolithic flint, Iron Age ditches	Terrace Gravel
329	74	NNW-SSE	0.2	0.6	0.8	'Pond' Deposits	Terrace Gravel/ Silty Marl-Clay
330	27.6	SSE-NNE	0.2	0.7	0.9	'Pond' Deposits	Silty Marl-Clay
330A	24.3	NNW-SSE	0.2	0.6	0.8	'Pond' deposits, linear features	Silty Marl-Clay over gravel
331	18.5	NNE-SSW	0.3	0.3	0.6	Iron Age Pit Cluster	Terrace Gravels/ Silty Marl-Clay

Table 48: Area M1 Trench descriptions

Results

Trench 300

Trench 300 was the westernmost trench within the evaluated area. No archaeological features were identified within this trench. A large sub-oval tree-throw was located centrally within Trench 300; a 1m excavated slot produced no material culture.

Trench 301

Trench 301 was located within the far west of the evaluated area. No archaeological features were identified within this trench.

Trench 302

Trench 302 was located within the west of the evaluated area. Two irregular sub-circular tree-throws were located within this trench, neither of which contained any material culture when excavated.

Trench 303

Trench 303 was located within the west of the evaluated area. A single undated posthole, **F. 1105** (Table M1.1), was located centrally within the trench.

Trench 304

Trench 304 was located within the west of the evaluated area. Two undated, irregular sub-circular pits or tree-throws were located within this trench (**F. 1100** and **F. 1101**; Table M1.2), similar in profile and fill to those identified within Trenches 300 and 302. A single posthole (**F. 1104**) was located centrally within the trench. A narrow, east-west aligned ditch, **F. 1103** crossed the trench, which was potentially associated with **F. 1124** within Trench 305.

Trench 305

Trench 305 was located within the west of the evaluated area. A single shallow north-south aligned linear feature (**F. 1142**) with a rounded terminal at the southern end was located within this trench (Table M1.3). The alignment and morphology of this ditch appears to respect F. 1103 within Trench 304.

Trench 306

Trench 306 was located centrally within the west of the evaluated area. The only archaeological feature within this trench was the rounded terminal of south-north aligned ditch/ gully F. 1142 (see Trench 305).

Trench 307

Trench 307 was located centrally within the evaluated area. A single shallow brush/ field drain was located within the south of the trench. No archaeological features were identified within this trench.

Trench 308

Trench 308 was located centrally within the evaluated area; an undated irregular, sub-rounded pit (**F. 1109**; Table M1.4) was located within the eastern end of the trench. A narrow north northwest-south southeast aligned linear feature (**F. 1107**), which was also identified within adjacent Trench 310, crossed the trench. This ditch was not located within Trench 307, suggesting a termination or change of alignment.

Trench 309

Trench 309 was located within the west of the evaluated area. A single, shallow north northwest-south southeast aligned ditch (**F. 1172**; Table M1.5) corresponded with the alignments of the upstanding ridges visible within the adjacent field. No other archaeological features were located within this trench.

Trench 310

Trench 310 was located centrally within the area of evaluation. The continuation of north northwest-south southeast aligned linear feature **F. 1107** from Trench 308 was present within the western end of the trench (not excavated). Two linear features were located within Trench 310: north northeast-south southwest aligned linear feature, **F. 1110,** extending into Trench 311 and **F. 1114**, a north northwest-south southeast aligned linear feature (Table M1.6). The upper fill of F. 1114 was truncated by a small circular posthole, F. 1117. The corresponding alignments of the two linear features along with F. 1107 suggest an association, potentially components of a co-axial system.

Trench 311

Trench 311 was located centrally within the evaluated area. The continuation of north, northwest-south southeast aligned linear feature F. 1110 was identified within the eastern end of the trench (unexcavated).

Trench 312

Trench 312 was located centrally within the evaluated area. A single north northwest-south southeast aligned linear feature, **F. 1173** (Table M1.7), potentially representing a Medieval or post-Medieval furrow ran lengthways along the trench.

Trench 313

Trench 313 was located centrally within the evaluated area. A modern pipe drain was identified within the northern end of the trench. No archaeological features were identified within this trench.

Trench 314

Trench 314 was located centrally within the evaluated area. A modern pipe drain was identified within the western end of the trench. No archaeological features were identified within this trench.

Trench 315

Trench 315 was located within the central area of M1 and was positioned to cross the well defined ridge marking the transition from gradual uphill slope from the west to a steeper downhill slope to the east. Several linear features were identified within this trench (Table M1.8), although the full extent of these could not be assessed due to the immediate limit of proposed road corridor to the south and the presence of the barrow mound to the north (Trenches 318, 318A). Several short linear gullies, **F. 1125, F. 1127** and **F. 1141**, were stratigraphically the earliest of the exposed archaeological remains. Truncated by a group of intercutting northeast-southwest aligned gullies (of an Early Iron Age date), as well as a larger northeast-southwest aligned ditch, **F. 1128,** and potentially curvilinear ditch **F. 1140**. A north-south aligned linear feature (**F. 1146**) was also present which showed a shallow, furrow like recut, **F. 1144**, which was also recorded within Trench 318. A similarly shallow linear feature, aligned north northeast-south southwest was located within the western end of the trench.

With the exception of furrow F. 1144, none of the northeast by southwest aligned linear features within Trench 315 were identified within the 'barrow' trenches, F 317 and 318A and potentially respect the location of the mound. The presence of such a density of archaeological remains suggests a core of activity to the south of the barrows, extending further up onto the terminus of the gravel ridge itself.

Trench 316

Trench 316 was located centrally within the evaluated area. A modern pipe drain was located within the southern end of the trench. No archaeological features were identified within this trench.

Trenches 317, 317A, 318, and 318A

Trenches 317, 317A, 318 and 318A were located centrally within the evaluated area, located on a low ridge formed by the transition from a gradual uphill slope from the west to steeper downhill slope to the east (Figures 33 to 35). Excavated to investigate

the presence of concentric curvilinear features shown on the geophysical survey and originally incorrectly interpreted as being the result of interference nearby electric fence (Bartlett 2008), the trenches revealed a complex of ring-ditches and cremations overlain by mound material as well as later features truncating the mounds (Tables M1.9 and M1.10).

Stratigraphically the earliest of the exposed archaeological remains were that of a shallow ring-ditch, (**F. 1115**), with an estimated diameter of 19.6m. A possible opening orientated towards the southeast was shown by the presence of a possible rounded terminus (**F. 1168**) which could not be investigated further due to an overlying *in situ* buried soil horizon. The ring-ditch enclosed and was filled by the fills of a collapsed mound (**F. 1129**) a maximum of 0.9m in surviving height and comprising of up-cast, generally pale sandy silts. A darker deposit of silty clay, potentially representing a turf deposit ([2301], [2307]) overlay the collapsed barrow deposits. The mound sealed a thin, compacted deposit of a potentially buried soil horizon ([2303], [2279]). Two Neolithic flint blades were recovered from the fills of the ring-ditch, which although they represented the sole datable material culture from the feature, were so similar to the flint assemblage recovered from Bucket sampling from sub-soil within the majority of the site, and it is likely they represented a residual presence of earlier activity.

Three pits or linear features, **F. 1165** and **F. 1164** and **F. 1163**, were identified within the profile of Trench 118 as truncating the earlier mound/ mound collapse deposits F. 1129. No use could be assigned to these features as a full extent in plan could not be seen, and no material culture was recovered from them.

Following the seeming collapse of the mound F. 1129 and the apparent accumulation of a turf layer, a second, deeper and wider ring-ditch (**F. 1118** and **F. 1143** in Trenches 318 and 318A respectively), with an estimated diameter of 49.6m was dug, providing material for a central mound (**F. 1130**). The primary deposit of this secondary mound being a thick gravelly material ([2300], [2309]) immediately overlying [2301], [2307], the buried turf line of the primary barrow.

A cluster of 12 cremation deposits (unexcavated) were identified within the eastern end of Trench 318 (**F. 1131, F. 1132, F. 1133, F. 1134, F. 1135, F. 1136, F. 1137, F. 1138** were located in plan, with **F. 1169, F. 1162, F. 1167, F. 1170** identified within the trench profiles): two contained vessels, of Deverel Rimbury type (identified *in situ* by Knight *pers. comm*). The cremation deposits were placed into pits which truncated a buried horizon ([2278], [2279]) as well as the underlying geology, suggesting that the buried soil horizon was associated with and surrounded the primary barrow.

The slumping of the secondary mound appeared to have been partially the cause for the infilling of the outer ditch (F. 1118, F. 1143). The two excavated slots (one within the west of Trench 318 and one within the south of Trench 318A) contained Middle Bronze Age pottery and Bronze Age flint. The fills of the western ditch slot were compacted silty clays with multiple lenses of slumping deposits whilst the southern slot fills were generally softer, more homogenous, moist fills, with occasional, thick visible slumping deposits. A contrast in the quantities of material culture recovered from the two comparable slots could be seen: the 1m wide slot within the western side of the ditch containing 4 sherds (5g) of pottery whilst the southernmost slot containing

22 sherds (83g). The moist nature of the fills of F. 1143 may provide a future reservoir for preserved organic material.

The upper fills of secondary barrow, F. 1130, finally slumped, filled and sealed the ditch, although a still extant mound of at least 0.95m in height was preserved. Trench 317 was cut to expose any sub-surface features underlying the secondary barrow and the slumping deposits were exposed within the sections. Trench 317A crossed the highest area of preserved barrow material. Although it was not dug to expose geology, it stopped within barrow fills to preserve any *in situ* buried soil horizons. The recorded section of Trench 317A exposed the same sequence of primary mound collapse, F. 1129, the gravelly up cast, construction and slumping of the secondary mound F. 1130.

A narrow, roughly east-west aligned ditch, **F. 1111**, was located within the eastern end of Trench 318; truncating the cremation deposits within the eastern end of the trench as well as the secondary barrow material. A single sherd of pottery which although, non-diagnostic, but potentially of an Early Iron Age date, was contained within the fill of the ditch. This was likely to be associated with either the sequence of recut gullies/ ditches within Trench 315, or with the Middle Iron Age ditches/ settlement areas located by Trenches 324, 327A, 328, 330A and 331, more closely associated with ditch F. 1147. Four small postholes were located adjacent to the southern side of F. 1111, (two excavated, **F. 1112** and **F. 1113**). No direct association was found between the ditch and postholes; the fills of which contained a high level of cremated material, and could have been earlier.

Several other features were recorded as truncating the secondary mound/ collapsed mound material F. 1130: these were likely to represent a Medieval or post-Medieval furrow (**F. 1166**) and a series of regular, potentially modern deep-plough scars seen to follow both an east-west and north-south alignment.

Trench 317 and 317A:

No specific sub-surface features were excavated within Trenches 317 and 317A. The continuation of the larger barrow ditch from Trench 318 was not located, likely being beyond the northern extent of Trench 317. Trench 317A was not excavated to geological 'natural' as the presence of *in situ* barrow fills were identified below sub-soil and, as the presence and character of the barrows had been identified, it was decided not to truncate them further. The profile of exposed barrow deposits were recorded, with a stratigraphic sequence consistent with the slumping of the secondary barrow (F. 1130) identified within the western end of Trench 318: buried soil deposit [2279], final slumping [2400] and post-collapse ground build-up/ consolidation deposit [2298]. The extent of post-Medieval/ modern ploughing was demonstrated within Trench 317 and 317A, with a large number of relatively deep plough-scars truncating the uppermost barrow deposits.

Trench 319

Trench 319 was located within the eastern part of Area M1, following the direction of the steeper eastward slope down to the Ouse floodplain. A single isolated and undated posthole, **F. 1153** (Table M1.11), was located within the eastern end of the trench.

Trench 320

Trench 320 was located within the eastern part of Area M1, immediately to the east of the barrow, marking the crown of the ridge and the beginning of the downwards slope to the east. A single unexcavated north northwest-south southeast aligned linear feature **F. 1147**, continuing from Trench 322, 322B was located within this trench.

Trench 321

Trench 321 was located within the eastern part of Area M1, immediately to the east of the barrow marking the crown of the ridge and the beginning of the downwards slope to the east. A single irregular pit, **F. 1152** (Table M1.12), was located centrally within the trench. A modern drain crossed the trench.

Trench 322

Trench 322 was located centrally within the eastern part of the evaluated area, and defined the eastern side of the crown of the ridge prior to the slope to the east down to the Ouse basin. Two linear features were identified within this trench (Table M1.13): **F. 1151**, within the southern end of the trench, was an east-west aligned gully, with a fill very similar to the sub-soil within the trench. No material culture was recovered from this linear feature, likely to be Medieval or post-Medieval in date. A second linear feature, **F. 1147**, was northwest-southeast in alignment and extended into Trench 322B. Of a similar profile to, and alignment with the linear ditches identified throughout the evaluation area, it is probable that F. 1147 represented part of a later prehistoric fieldsystem.

Trench 322A

Trench 322A was located within the east of the evaluated area, placed to identify the extent of ditches identified within Trenches 322 and 322B. No archaeological features were found within this trench.

Trench 322B

Trench 322B was located centrally within the eastern side of the evaluated area, on the eastern side of the crown of the ridge before the slope to the Ouse basin to the east. Trench 322B was placed to follow the alignment of linear feature F. 1147 from Trench 322. Two linear features and a shallow pit were located within Trench 322B

(Table M1.14): linear feature F. 1147, continued on a northwest-southeast alignment from Trench 322, continuing into Trench 330. A north northeast-south southwest aligned linear feature, **F. 1150**, with narrow profile and rounded terminal contained locally made, course Medieval (13th-15th century) wares (Cressford pers.comm), and a fragment of quern stone. F. 1150 was located within the western end of the trench. F. 1150 was not located within Trench 322 or any of the surrounding trenches and is likely to represent a localised event, possibly structural. An undated shallow pit, **F. 1156**, lay immediately adjacent to the terminal of F. 1150, and although not containing any material culture, had a fill similar to the lower fill of the linear feature suggesting a contemporary date.

Trench 323

Trench 323 was located centrally within the east of the evaluated area. No archaeological features were identified within this trench. The trench was machined down to the top of the alluvial silty clays identified within Trenches 326 and 326A, in an attempt to identify the edge of the palaeochannel as well as identify any features within the upper levels of the alluvium. No archaeological remains were identified and the full eastern extent of the alluvium was not reached due to the southern limit of the road corridor. A northern side is likely to have been exposed within the southern end of Trench 323A.

Trench 323A

Trench 323A was located within the east of the evaluated area. No archaeological features were identified within this trench. The exposed geology at the base of the trench was largely compacted gravelly clay terrace gravels, although the southern end of the trench contained large quantities of looser gravels which are likely to have been associated with the palaeochannel exposed within Trenches 323, 326 and 326A.

Trench 324

Trench 324 was located centrally within the eastern part of the evaluated area, placed to follow the eastern slope down to the Ouse flood plain. One archaeological feature was located within Trench 324 (Table M1.15): linear feature **F. 1161**, likely to be a continuation of F. 1148 within trench 328. The fills of F. 1161 demonstrate a similarity with the peaty deposits identified within the 'pond' of Trenches 329, 330, 330A and 331. No material culture was recovered from F. 1161.

Trench 324A

Trench 324A was located centrally within the east of the evaluated area. No archaeological features were identified within this trench.

Trench 325

Trench 325 was located centrally within the eastern end of the site. A single northwest-southeast aligned linear feature (unexcavated) was located within the southern end of the trench. The alignment of the ditch suggests that it is associated with the fieldsystem identified throughout the central and eastern parts of Area M1.

Trench 326

Trench 326 was located centrally within the east of the evaluated area. Unlike all other trenches within Area M1, with the exception of Trench 326A, the top-soil [2200] overlay a deep deposit of compacted sandy silty clay alluvium (with a maximum depth 1.05m) and the geological natural comprised of blue-grey clay. The presence of such an alluvial build-up, especially raised up a slope such as Trenches 326/ 326A suggests a glacial origin possibly representing a part of a very old palaeochannel of the Ouse basin. No archaeological features were identified within this trench.

Trench 326A

Trench 326A was located centrally within the east of the evaluated area. Unlike all other trenches within Area M1 with the exception of Trench 326, the top-soil [2200] overlay a deep deposit of compacted sandy silty clay alluvium (with a maximum depth of 1.16m) and the geological natural comprised of blue-grey clay. The presence of such an alluvial build-up, especially raised up a slope such as Trenches 326/ 326A suggests a glacial origin possibly representing a part of a very old palaeochannel of the Ouse basin. No archaeological features were identified within this trench.

Trench 327

Trench 327 was located within the southern side of the eastern end of the evaluated area. The trench was located to confirm the orientation of linear feature **F. 1148** from within Trenches 328 and 327A as well as to identify any associated features. Ditch **F. 1158** was identified as continuing on an east northeast-west southwest alignment and was not excavated.

Trench 327A

Trench 327 was located within the southern side of the eastern end of the evaluated area. The trench was located to confirm the orientation of linear feature F. 1148, from within Trenches 328 and 327 as well as to identify any associated features. Ditch F. 1158 was identified as continuing on an east northeast-west southwest alignment and was not excavated.

Trench 328

Trench 328 was located centrally within the eastern end of the evaluated area. A northeast-southwest aligned linear feature, **F. 1148** (Table M1.16)**,** was identified within the trench, which continued into Trenches 324 and 330A. Residual Neolithic flint and Middle Iron Age pottery was recovered from the fill of the ditch.

A wider ditch, aligned north northeast-south southwest was located within the western end of Trench 328. A primary cut, **F. 1159/ 1160**, with steeply sloping sides had an up cast bank on the western side and contained fills of compacted sandy clays. At least one major recut was made by **F. 1158**; slightly narrower but deeper 'V' shaped cut which appeared to be on the same alignment as the earlier ditches. An up cast bank, likely to be associated with F. 1158, was located on the eastern side. The fills of F. 1158 were mostly similar to the earlier ditch with small quantities of flint and a mix of Neolithic and early Middle Bronze Age pottery although an upper fill, F. 2360, contained moderate quantities of Late Bronze Age pottery.

Trenches 329, 330, 330A and 331

Trenches 329, 330, 330A and 331 were located within the north-eastern limit of the evaluated area of M1. A well defined bowl-like depression was observed within the eastern end of Trench 329 (Table M1.17), the southern end of Trench 331, the entirety of Trench 330A and intermittently within Trench 330. A 2m square sondage was excavated through the fills of the depression within Trench 329. The depression consisted of a geological base of loosely compacted sandy gravels, potentially associated with those identified within Trench 323A as being riparian deposits as part of a periglacial palaeochannel (see Trenches 323, 326 and 326A). Overlying the geological natural was a deposit of archaeologically sterile clay-marl ([2356]). A lower sub-soil of waterlogged, compacted sandy peat ([2355]) sealed this deposit. [2355] did not contain any visibly evident archaeological component (charcoal, timber, pottery, bone). The western and northern extent of the peat formation was identified within Trenches 330 and 331, and although the edge was not identified to the south, the only trace of the deposit was the fills within linear feature **F. 1161**, suggesting an edge close to Trench 324.

A continuation of linear feature F. 1161 from Trench 324 was noted within Trench 330A (unexcavated), which appeared to be sealed by [2355]; suggesting a Middle Iron Age or later date for the formation of the deposit. Adjacent to the northern side of the depression, on a distinct rise was a cluster of inter-cutting pits, **F. 1157** (two excavated, **F. 1154** and **F. 1155**; Table M1.18), containing Middle Iron Age pottery as well as residual Neolithic flint, were located within the northern end of Trench 331. The pottery contained within the pits appeared to be broadly contemporary with that contained within linear feature F. 1161. The pits were truncated to the south by a modern drain.

Specialist Reports

Flint (Lawrence Billington)

A total of 74 worked flints were recovered from the evaluation trenches in Area M1: 56 of these were recovered during the excavation of features whilst 18 were recovered from sub-soil deposits sampled during the trenching. The flint was subject to a rapid assessment in order to broadly characterise the date and nature of the assemblage. The condition of the assemblage is varied, with pieces from excavated deposits generally being in good, fairly fresh condition. Material from the bucket sampling, however, is invariably edge damaged and slightly rolled. For the purposes of this report the flint is divided into three sub-groups; material from round barrow-contexts, from other cut features and from the bucket sampling.

20 flints were recovered from contexts relating to the multi-phased round barrow. In the assessment of this sub-set of the main assemblage, particular emphasis was placed on attempting to identify flint-work of final Neolithic/ Early Bronze Age date that may have been associated with activity during the construction and use of the monument. It is immediately apparent however, that much of the material is residual; consisting of blade-based material typical of Mesolithic and Early Neolithic technologies. This is seen most clearly in the presence of two blade cores, one from F. 1143 [2328], a fill of the secondary, outer barrow ditch; and one from F. 1130 [2299], a deposit forming part of the secondary mound. Blades, bladelets and blade-like pieces were also recovered from F. 1115, F. 1143, and F. 1130. A fine end-scraper manufactured on a blade bank was recovered from F. 1115, the primary barrow ditch.

Although not highly diagnostic, the majority of flake-based debitage is likely to reflect flint work of Late Neolithic or Early Bronze Age date, potentially being associated with the construction or use of the barrow. The flakes are generally small, partly cortical pieces made of good quality secondary flint, presumably from local terrace gravel deposits. Concentrations of flint of this character were recovered from the primary barrow mound F. 1129 (3 flakes) and the fills of secondary barrow ditch, F. 1118 (9 flakes). No formal tools of this date were recovered but a retouched flake from otherwise undated linear feature F. 1108, may date to this broad period.

Feature Number:	Feature Type:	Flake	Blade	Bladelet	Bladelet Core	End Scraper	Retouched Flake	Total:
1115	Primary Ring-ditch		1	1		1		**3**
1143	Secondary Ring-ditch		1		1			**2**
1129	Primary Mound	3						**3**
1108	Ditch						1	**1**
1118	Secondary Ring-ditch	9						**9**
1130	Secondary Mound			2				**2**
	Sub-total	**12**	**2**	**3**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**20**

Table 49: Flint recovered from the 'barrow complex'

The 36 flints from cut features share many of the same characteristics as those recovered from barrow contexts. Only two features contained more than four flints. None of the assemblages gave the impression of coherence, being comprised of

material of varying condition and technological traits. It is likely that they represent residual material caught up in the fills of later features.

Mesolithic/ Earlier Neolithic material is well represented by two blade cores and five blade based products from F. 1157, as well as six blade based products from F. 1158. Later technologies (Late Neolithic/ Early Bronze Age), make up the bulk of the remainder of the assemblage, consisting of waste flakes and two flake cores.

Feature Number:	Feature Type:	Chip	Chunk	Flake	Blade	Bladelet	Flake Core	Bladelet Core	Total:
1114	BA Ditch			1					**1**
1147	BA Ditch			2					**2**
1148	BA Ditch	3							**3**
1150	Medieval Ditch			1					**1**
1152	Pit			1					**1**
1155	Iron Age Pit	1		2		1			**4**
1157	Iron Age Pit	1	1	4		1	1	2	**10**
1158	BA Ditch			5	1	5	1		**12**
	Sub-total	**6**	**1**	**17**	**1**	**7**	**2**	**2**	**36**

Table 50: Flint recovered from non-barrow features

18 flints were recovered from Bucket sampling. In common with the rest of the flint assemblage, blade based Mesolithic/ Early Neolithic material is well represented by six blade-based products and a blade core, against a background of later material in the form of waste flakes and chips.

Feature Number:	Feature Type:	Chip	Flake	Blade	Bladelet	Bladelet Core	Retouched Flake	Total:
Tr 315	Bucket Sample		1		3			**4**
Tr 310	Bucket Sample	1	2		1			**4**
Tr 312	Bucket Sample		1					**1**
Tr 319	Bucket Sample		4			1		**5**
Tr 324	Bucket Sample		1	1				**2**
Tr 329	Bucket Sample				1		1	**2**
	Sub-total	**1**	**9**	**1**	**5**	**1**	**1**	**18**

Table 51: Flint recovered from bucket sampling

The flint assemblage from the evaluation of Area M1 demonstrates a high level of Mesolithic/ Early Neolithic activity; the signature of which appears to be solely represented by flint-work incorporated into later features. The varying condition and raw materials of this earlier material make it clear that this does not represent a discrete period of occupation and probably contains material from across centuries, if not millennia in this landscape.

In light of the discovery of the round barrow it is notable that the flint assemblage does not contain any retouched forms strictly diagnostic of Neolithic/ Early Bronze Age activity; however, the majority of the flake based debitage from the site reflects flint-working in this period.

Earlier Prehistoric Pottery (Mark Knight)

Derived from seven separate contexts the assemblage comprised 54 pieces weighing 111g. The majority of the fragments were small (mean sherd weight 2.05g) and most were abraded. The pottery included extremely hard thin-walled, compact pieces as well as softer, thick-walled soapy or corky sherds. Seven different fabric types were identified adding to the mixed character of the assemblage. Feature sherds were rare and comprised a single base angle and a decorated body. As most of the assemblage was made up of small featureless sherds it was not easy to attribute type or period beyond characterising the material by fabric.

Trench	Feature	Context	Number	Weight	Fabric
318A	1111	2229	2	2	1
	1118	2248	4	5	6
318A	1143	2327	18	62	3, 5, 7
	1147	2331	1	1	4
328	1158	2360	25	27	1
328	1158	2361	3	11	2, 3
318		bucket sample	1	3	2
Total:	***5***	***7***	***54***	***111g***	***7***

Table 52: Assemblage Breakdown

Fabric Series

Fabric 1: Very hard (compact) with frequent (angular) crushed quartz and quartz sand (varying amounts of admixture). **Late Bronze Age**

Fabric 2: Hard with common med-large grog and occasional burnt flint. **Early bronze Age**

Fabric 3: Medium with moderate small shell and sand. **Middle Bronze Age**

Fabric 4: Very hard (compact) with frequent (rounded) quartz sand. **Late Bronze Age**

Fabric 5: Hard with frequent small rounded (black) grog and common sand. **Early/Middle Bronze Age**

Fabric 6: Medium hard with frequent (poorly sorted) burnt flint and common sand. **Early Neolithic**

Fabric 7: Hard with abundant small grog and common sand. **Early Bronze Age**

Ring-ditch F. 1143 produced the two feature sherds - a base angle (Fabric 5) and a body fragment decorated with fingertip impressions and incised lines (Fabric 7). It also produced a collection of small plain body sherds that included thick corky (lost shell) pieces (Fabric 3) as well as thinner pieces of the same fabric. The decorated fragment looked like a fragment of Beaker pottery whereas the base angle could have come from a vessel of early or middle Bronze Age date. The plain body sherds, especially the corky pieces, were probably Deverel-Rimbury type.

In contrast the tiny fragments from F. 1158 [2360] were of a type of fabric and had the appearance of pieces of Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age pottery. These sherds were extremely hard and well fired and included pieces which had oxidised interior and exterior surfaces sandwiching an un-oxidised core. It is rare for earlier prehistoric potsherds to exhibit this kind of profile.

Two plain body pieces (Fabrics 2 & 3) from F. 1158, but this time from [2361], were earlier in date and were comparable to the material from F. 1143.

The earliest potsherd, a plain body fragment made of fabric type 6, was probably Early Neolithic in date but this was found along side a similarly small sherd of Roman origin.

The rest of the assemblage comprised small sherds that were little bigger than crumbs and incorporated Early Bronze Age (Bucket Sample/Trench 318) and Late Bronze Age (F. 1111 and F. 1147) material.

Later Prehistoric and Roman Pottery (Katie Anderson)

A small quantity of pottery totalling 28 sherds, weighing 99g, was recovered from the evaluation of Area M1. All of the pottery was analysed, and details of fabric, form, decoration, use-wear and date were recorded.

The pottery dated from the Middle Iron Age to the early Roman period, although the size and the condition of the assemblage make ascertaining whether occupation was continuous problematic.

Date	No.	Wt (g)
Middle Iron Age	3	32
Middle/Late Iron Age	13	27
Late Iron Age	2	4
Early Roman	3	4
Iron Age	2	5
Romano-British	5	27

Table 53: All pottery by date

A variety of fabrics were identified, of which sandy wares dominated with 17 prehistoric sherds and three Roman wares, representing 81% of the assemblage. Other fabrics included two grog-tempered sherds, three shell-tempered sherds and one sand and vegetable-tempered sherd.

Due to the condition of the assemblage, only one vessel form was identified, comprising a small plain rim sherd from a Middle/Late Iron Age coarse-ware jar.

Faunal Remains (Vida Rajkovača)

A small assemblage of faunal remains has been recovered Area M1 amounting to 15 bone specimens, eight of which were identified to species. The material was highly fragmented and state of preservation ranged from moderate to poor with a number of bones showing signs of surface flaking and erosion.

Trench 310 (Site 11)
Ditch F. 1114 dated to the Middle Bronze Age has produced two fragments of tooth enamel which have been identified as cow.

Trench 318A (Site 11)
One fragment of unidentifiable mammal bone has been found in Early Bronze Age barrow ditch F. 1143.

Trench 328 (Site 11)
Two fills within Bronze Age ditch F. 1158 produced a small quantity of well preserved faunal material. Fill [2360] contained a number of cattle-sized and sheep-sized unidentifiable skull and limb bone fragments. In addition to this, fragments of cattle scapula, red deer antler tine and a pig incisor were positively identified. Fill [2362] has yielded two bone specimens, both of which were identified to species; namely dog femur and a cow carpal.

Trench 331
Two excavated pits within the Middle Iron Age pit group located in trench 331 contained animal bone. Pit F. 1155 has produced a porous and fragmented cow metatarsal whose distal epyphisis was unfused giving the age at death of 0-2 years (Silver 1969). Pit F. 1157 yielded a single fragmented sheep-sized limb bone fragment.

Zooarchaeological analyses have demonstrated the presence of a faunal record which varies in preservation, quantities of bone and species representation depending on the period/ phase of occupation. The assemblage has produced the remains of both domestic (cow, pig and dog) and wild species (red deer). Remains of red deer could imply that hunting was practiced on site which is in keeping with the period (Bronze Age), however red deer is represented with antler fragments which could have been shed and collected.

Environmental Assessment (Anne de Vareilles)

All plant remains were preserved through carbonisation. Modern rootlets and seeds indicate soil disturbance, which may account for the very low concentrations of macro-remains. A rich and varied molluscan assemblage was recovered from F. 1158.

Bronze Age Barrow Ditch F. 1143 [2329]
The sample contained no plant remains other than an insignificant spread of charcoal dust. No other artefacts were found.

Late Bronze Age Boundary Ditch F. 1158 [2360]
An interesting range of snail shells were recovered that relate to two environments. Some of the species, such as *Clausilia dubia* and *Balea perversa*, provide evidence for woodland with damp and shaded undergrowth. However *Vallonia costata*, the most abundant snail in the assemblage, prospers on dry and open grassland bare of trees or appreciable scrub. The snail assemblage therefore suggests that a woodland environment was cleared to create an open area delineated by F. 1158, which was presumably constructed just after the woodland was destroyed. The latter activity may have generated the reasonably high concentration of charcoal recovered.

Iron Age Pit F. 1154 [2349]
This sample was the only one to contain any cereal remains. Three glume bases from the popular Iron Age wheat crop spelt (*Triricum spelta*), and three cereal grains were found. These remains, along with the micro artefacts recovered, point to an inhabited area

'Pond' deposit [2355]
The sample was not waterlogged, only charred seeds were recovered from the flot. Given that the deposit was observed to be a pond or possible natural watering hole, it would appear that it did indeed hold standing water. However, the soil conditions have since changed allowing oxygen to penetrate sufficiently deep into the layers for the complete decomposition of any ancient plant remains.

Molluscan evidence for Middle Bronze Age woodland clearance and the establishment of field boundaries was found in F. 1158. Given the lack of waterlogged plant remains and the good preservation of snail shells, future excavations should purposefully and carefully sample for natural snail deposits in order to gain a deeper understanding of the changing prehistoric environment.

The pant remains and artefact fragments from the Iron Age pit are suggestive of a nearby settlement where people would have de-husked spelt for consumption.

Sample Number		**380**	**384**	**383**	**385**
Context		2329	2360	2349	2355
Feature		1143	1158	1154	
Feature type		barrow ditch	boundary ditch	Pit	"peaty" pond?
Phase / Date		B.A.	M.B.A.	I.A?	
Trench					
Sample volume - litres		8	40	10	10
Flot volume - mililitres		too biased by modern rootlets			
Flot fraction examined - %		100	100	100	100
Charcoal					
large charcoal (>4mm)		-	+++		-
med. charcoal (2-4mm)			+++	+	+
small charcoal (<2mm)		+	+++	++	+++
Cereal grains					
cereal grain fragments indet.				3	
Cereal chaff					
Triticum spelta L. glume base	spelt chaff			2	
Triticum spelta L. spikelet fork	spelt chaff			1	
Non cereal					
Rumex conglomeratus/obtusifolius/sanguineus - Dock					
Potentilla sp.	Cinquefoils		1		
Odontites vernus (Bellardi) Dumort.	Red Bartsia				1
Indeterminate seed				1	1
Indeterminate seed head					1
Mollusca	**Habitat**				
Lymnaea truncatula Müller	shallow waters & flooded pastures		++		
Anisus leucostama Millet	seasonal ponds & ditches		+		
Carychium tridentatum Risso	damp areas: leaf mould, moss, …		++		
Cochlicopa lubrica/ lubricella			+	-	
Vertigo sp.			++		

Vallonia costata Müller	dry, open grassy and bare ground		+++		
V. excentrica/ pulchella			+++	-	
Clausilia cf. *bidentata* Ström	woods, hedges, tree-trunks and walls		+		
Balea perversa L.	tree-trunks and walls, rarely on ground		+		
Ceciloides acicula Müller	blind burrowing snail			-	
Trichia sp.			++		
Discus rotundatus Müller	leaves, moss, under logs,…		++		
Vitrea crystallina Müller	damp areas: leaf mould, moss, …		-		
Oxychilus/ Aegopinella sp.			+		
Other Biological Items					
>4mm bone				-	
>4mm bone fragment			+	-	
>4mm burnt bone fragments			+		
frog bone				-	
Modern intrusions (rootlets and seeds)		P	P	P	P
Other Artefacts					
>4mm pottery sherds				+	
>4mm burnt clay			-		+
>4mm flint			-		

Key: '-' 1 or 2; '+' <10; '++' 10-50; '+++' >50 items. P = Present

Table 54: Plant macro-remains and mollusca from bulk soil samples.

Discussion

The distribution of archaeological material within Area M1 corresponds well with the topography of the evaluated area and demonstrates both a river-edge and hinterland presence adjacent to the Ouse, as well as respecting the transitional geologies/soil/topography between gravel terraces (Figure 36). The earliest of the identified landscape features were the deep alluvial deposits within Trenches 326, 326A and the loose river gravels forming the base of Trench 323A, which, although archaeologically sterile, demonstrated the presence of an early palaeochannel of the River Ouse to the east; a geological entity that has been noted previously within the Ouse basin (Reynolds 2000), particularly in relation to faunal remains and early human occupation. Finds of Mammoth and other mammalian bones have previously been identified within the gravels to the south-west of the site at the Midland Railway Pit (Roe, 1968) and within the landfill to the immediate north.

The raised, wide gravel terrace immediately to the south of Area M1 would naturally be a focus for settlement/ agricultural activity, with the more peripheral activities associated with prehistoric land division/ usage being restricted to the lower, more water retentive geologies such as the clayey-gravel exposed in the majority of the trenches. Indeed, the aerial photography survey (Palmer 2003), as well as results from the 1999 flight for the Millennium Map (www.googleearth.com) and previously identified crop marks along the gravel ridge (HER 06799) demonstrate the presence of archaeological activity likely to represent enclosures and possible trackway. The focus of the gravel ridge as a 'preferred' occupation can be demonstrated by the density of archaeological material identified during the evaluation of Area B1 as well

as the dense results shown by geophysical survey and plotting of crop-marks (Bartlett 2008).

The westernmost area of the evaluation at Site 10 (Trenches 300-306), which was furthest south from the gravel terrace, contained several tree-throws, which although undated, suggest a less intensively cultivated area than the rest of M1. The compacted nature of the fills within the tree-throws may indicate a certain level of antiquity.

A notable variation in the depths of sub-soil was noted across Site 11; most significantly between Trenches 307 and 315/318 where it became gradually thicker and then rapidly shallower by Trench 320. Trenching in these areas exposed a landscape much more undulating than is visible today. The sub-soil contained a high colluvial component, likely washed down from the higher southern terrace prior to, during and following archaeological activity within the area. The majority of identified Medieval and post-Medieval furrow bases were identified as truncating the colluvium. Truncation of the sub-soil during the prehistoric and Roman period was also noted, but to a lesser extent. The alignment of the linear features within Trenches 308, 310, and 313 correspond with the linear features dated as Middle Bronze Age within Trenches 327, 327A and 328, as well as within Trenches 320 and 322. The relatively high concentrations of Mesolithic/ Neolithic flint present both residually within later features and within the Bucket sampling of the sub-soil throughout the site suggests strong and continuous prehistoric presence within the evaluated area.

Early Prehistoric (Site 11).

No features were uncovered within the trenches of Area M1 that could be firmly dated earlier than the Early Bronze Age. Flints of a Mesolithic and Early Neolithic date were identified within the Bucket Sampling survey, with the highest concentration of blade based flints within Trenches 310, 311, 315 and 319; potentially marking the higher ground adjacent to the Ouse Basin. Residual flintwork of the same period was identified from within both primary and secondary barrow ditches, and associated mounds. Similarly a Mesolithic flint scatter has been previously identified on the gravel ridge, south-west of the evaluated area as well as within Area N1 (fieldwalking site 3 West (Anderson *et al.* 2009)) on the opposite side of the Ouse. The highest concentration of blades and bladelets was from the presumed bank collapse of deeper boundary ditch (F. 1158) within Trench 328, potentially reflecting a Bronze Age truncation of a Mesolithic/ Early Neolithic flint concentration closer to the river. A small quantity of Mesolithic flints was identified adjacent to the west side of the Ouse immediately north of the evaluation area which is likely to be of the same transient nature.

Bronze Age (Site 11) - The Barrow Complex

The undulating nature of the geology determined that the ridge marking the top of the slope overlooking the Ouse basin was, primarily, more pronounced in antiquity, with a steeper rise from the west than demonstrated by current topography. Secondly, the apex of the ridge itself was, in fact further east than the location of the barrows (Trenches 320 and 321); the visible ridge of the current topography being created by

the barrow itself and emphasised by the consolidation of a deeper sub-soil deposit around the surviving mound. The location of a barrow on a 'false' ridge such as this conforms well to barrow locations regionally (Lawson 1986), as does the location overlooking the flood-plain of the Ouse. The use of an earlier mound which was then used as foundation for an Early Bronze Age barrow has regional comparisons such as Butcher's Rise, Barleycroft, (Evans and Knight 1998), and Barnack (Donaldson 1977, Woodward 2002) and Langtoft, Lincolnshire (Hutton *forthcoming*).

The presence of cremations between the two ditches of the barrows is not without precedent. It is likely that the cremations are contemporary with the second phase mound, seen as they are, to be truncating a buried soil horizon associated with the primary phase of the monument. A similar positioning of cremation deposits was seen at Barleycroft (Evans and Knight 1998), where the cremations were focussed within the south-eastern quadrant of the enclosed area. The same spatial distribution of cremations in relation to an 'inner' ditch of comparable dimensions to the Area M1 example was recorded at Langtoft (Hutton, *forthcoming*), which was completely devoid of a later 'outer' ditch.

A geographically closer example of barrows of comparable size and phasing were located approximately 2km north of Area M1, where four ring-ditches of varying sizes were excavated along with a barrow comprising of a primary ditch and assumed mound, 17m in diameter, with pits containing Beaker pottery. Two outer ditches, with no associated mound, surviving and measuring 23m and 33m in diameter (White, 1966) encompassed the primary mound, and although concentric to each other, did not entirely respect the primary ditch, truncating it on the south-eastern side. Of the two small ring-ditches, 7-9m in diameter adjacent to the barrows, one was partially excavated and revealed the presence of a cremation, complete with urn. The presence of an urned cremation suggests a certain level of contemporaneity with the secondary mound and cremations of the M1 barrow, and may indicate a similarity between the primary mounds of both complexes.

Whilst no material culture was recovered from the numerous linear features and curvilinear gullies identified within Trench 315, immediately to the south of the barrows complex, it is curious to see that the quantity of material culture recovered from the south side of the in-filled barrow ditch (F. 1143) was much higher than that recovered from the western slot of the same ditch. This suggests a settlement located to the south of the barrows with the possible curvilinear within Trench 315 being representative of the periphery of this settlement. However, the proximity of the smaller ring-ditches to the barrow of White's excavation (*ibid*) of a comparable diameter (although also similar to a Bronze Age structure) may suggest that the presence of outlying ring-ditches within proximity to Area M1 is a possibility.

Bronze Age - The Fieldsystem

Throughout Site 11, a series of linear features were found, largely undated by material culture, which could be placed onto a broadly north-east to south-west alignment. The only datable material culture to be recovered from any of these features was from the furthest east, nearest to the Ouse basin (F. 1159/ 1160, recut by F. 1158) within Trench 328, which contained a comparatively large assemblage of Middle Bronze

Age pottery. This linear feature, as well as suggesting a nearby Middle Bronze Age settlement, could indicate a general dating for the fieldsystem as a whole. The presence of a similarly wide north-west to south-east aligned linear feature within Trench 325 could suggest that it, and F 1159/1160 and F. 1158 formed the south-eastern and north-eastern sides of a more substantial outer boundary to the inner ditch system identified within Trenches 310, 311, 320 and 322.

The environmental samples taken from fills of recut ditch F. 1158 suggested it to be contemporary with a phase of localised deforestation; suggesting that the slope to the river was not intensively utilised for agriculture until the Middle Bronze Age.

The lack of any definitive Bronze Age linear features truncating the barrow monuments suggests the location of the monument was respected within the working landscape. The use of barrows as focal 'nodes' both influencing and augmenting later Middle and Late Bronze Age fieldsystems has been recorded at numerous regional landscape sites; for example Chatteris (Hunn 1992) as well as at Barleycroft (Evans and Knight 1998) with the fieldsystems extending over a much wider area than is available within the confines of a road-corridor.

Iron Age (Site 11)

The stratigraphically later features within Trench 315, a series of inter-cutting linear gullies, date through scarce pottery finds to the Early Iron Age; and appear to represent either a boundary or enclosure. This is likely to be peripheral to a core of activity beyond the southern extent of the road corridor and may be associated with the rectilinear crop-marks identified at the top of the ridge to the south.

A stronger Middle Iron Age presence was located within the eastern end of the evaluated area, represented by a linear feature and a cluster of pitting. The linear feature (F. 1148) on a noticeably different alignment to the potentially Bronze Age fieldsystem was aligned north-north-east to south, south-west and ran downslope from the end of the gravel ridge in the south to the 'pond' feature in the north-east corner of Site 11. The cluster of Middle Iron Age pits (F. 1154, 1155, 1157) lay on the opposite side of the 'pond' on a slight ridge to the north. The quantity of recovered pottery certainly suggested a nearby settlement focus.

The presence of the peaty 'pond' deposit within Trenches 229, 230, 230A and 231 appeared to be indicative of a spring within a depression associated with the edge of the river Ouse floodplain. It is possible that the location of a lake, formed from modern gravel quarry-pits immediately to the east of the evaluated area and the Iron Age features was originally part of palaeochannel of the Ouse and the location of the probable Middle Iron Age settlement adjacent to this would suggest a deliberate utilization of the water-source. The slightly 'peaty' lower sub-soil which appears to fill the pond was sterile of material culture. Environmental samples showed a similar level of sterility. As the Middle Iron Age linear feature within Trench 324 was itself filled by the same sub-soil, it is likely it formed soon after the ditches and settlement went out of use.

The quantity of Iron Age activity within the vicinity of the evaluated area is much larger than Bronze Age material. Emergency rescue excavations at the gravel quarry to the north of Area M1 revealed Iron Age pits with pottery and loom weights. The proximity to the Middle Iron Age pits within Area M1 appears to be relevant, as both suggest occupation and a more centralised core of occupation to the north and north-west of that identified during the evaluation. Numerous Iron Age pottery finds associated with excavations within Buckden Pit gravel quarry to the south-east of Site 11, within the higher gravel terrace, show a more widespread occupation, including a pit containing high quantities of carbonised grain and pottery. Whilst the distribution of such localised settlement areas cannot accurately be plotted, their full extent not yet revealed, it is possible, when the Middle and Late Iron Age settlement components identified within Areas B1 and B2 are considered, to suggest a dense Iron Age settlement pattern with nucleated cores (farmsteads?), with associated fieldsystems distributed across the landscape.

Romano-British (Site 10)

The two shallow linear features, aligned on a north-south and east-west alignment, identified within the eastern area of the evaluated area potentially represent a periphery of the Romano-British settlement core and agricultural system previously identified immediately to the west (Burrow and Foard-Colby 2006); the apparent outlying nature of the linear features correspond in both alignment and morphology with the Romano-British fieldsystems identified within the majority of Area B1. As with Iron Age sites and find-spots, there has been a strongly noted presence of Romano-British activity on the wider gravel terraces, the majority of it to the north of the evaluated area. Occasional Roman period pottery and a Romano-British settlement were identified within the Buckden gravel quarry south of Area M1. To the north a Romano-British ditch was identified prior to the construction of the landfill site immediately north-east of the Romano-British elements of Site 11, and may have been directly associated with the settlement identified immediately east of it (Burrow and Foard-Colby 2006). Brampton village itself appears to overlie a hub of Romano-British activity with identified fieldsystems, possible settlement ditches and stray finds of Roman period coins. If therefore the seeming centre of Romano-British activity would be within the environs of Brampton village, it may be pertinent to suggest that the axis of any Romano-British activity, such as that within both Site 10 and Site 9 would be focussed in that direction. Such a distribution would explain both the lack of Roman period material within Site 11, and its presence immediately to the north at the adjacent landfill site.

The Brampton Road excavations (Burrow and Foard-Colby 2006) produced dates suggestive of a 2nd to 4th century occupation. Features found within the south of evaluated Area B2, Site 9 to the immediate north-west of this site revealed the presence of an Early (1st-2nd century) Romano-British settlement overlying a Late Iron Age settlement close to a palaeochannel. A series of later paddock like enclosures, quarries and possible trackways, extended north-west from the settlement and it would appear they were contemporary with the previously excavated site and with the linear features within the west of Area M1.

Medieval/ post-Medieval (Site 11)

The most distinctive Medieval and post-Medieval features identified within the evaluated area of M1 was the surviving and (not trenched) ridge and furrow system visible between Site 10 and Site 11. Furrow bases on a similar north-south and north-east to south-west alignment were identified throughout the western and central area of Site 11, frequently only visible within the colluvial sub-soil and overlying earlier archaeological remains; the most visible example being the truncation of barrow deposits with furrow F. 1166.

A single datable feature could be attributed to the Medieval period, a short narrow possible fence/ palisade F. 1150 within Trench 322B, provisionally dated to the 13th-15th century. No function or associated features were identified and apart from the ridge and furrow systems, no intensive Medieval activity was identified within the vicinity of the proposed Scheme. A stronger presence of Anglo-Saxon occupation was found during rescue excavations of the Buckden landfill site immediately to the north, with *grubenhäuser* and domestic materials being exposed.

The preservation of the Site 11 barrow complex, on the ridge overlooking the River Ouse may in part be due to Medieval/ post-Medieval agricultural practices. The initial interpretation of the area of barrow activity as being itself a geological ridge was caused by what appears to be either deliberate or accumulative sub-soil build up peripheral to the main collapse of the mounds ([2298] within trench 318 for example). Whether this was because the barrows were located at the eastern edge of easily farmed land prior to the steep descent towards the river, and thus caused the formation of a 'head' at the edge of the furrows or was deliberately raised to allow easier digging of furrows, was not resolved during the evaluation.

THE BOULDER CLAY – AS 3

This sector investigates the areas of Boulder Clay and Oxford Clay between the outskirts of Offord Cluny and Hilton where they join the Fen Drayton gravel terraces (Figure 37). During this phase of evaluation, only Areas D1 and D2 were evaluated through trial trenching; with further work planned for 2010. Other archaeological investigations within this area, along with field walking, air photo and geophysical surveys undertaken as part of this study, have made it possible to begin an examination of the wider context of this sector. A brief summary of this area follows:

> ***Area D:*** *A total of 21 trenches were excavated across Area D. Later prehistoric activity was recorded within one trench in Area D1 as artefactual material, which had been incorporated within a colluvial deposit at the base of a slight rise, and was associated with a single linear feature. Medieval / Post-Medieval agricultural activity was encountered within both D1 and D2 in the form of furrow remnants, with only four of the trenches devoid of any features.*

Area D Ricky Patten (Figure 38)

Area D was situated at between 30.49m AOD and 36.82m AOD to the south of Godmanchester (NGR 526250 267650). The underlying geology was Boulder Clay with pockets of mixed gravel (British Geological Survey Sheet 187) and the site was located towards the top of a clay rise or ridge. Area D was bisected by the A1198, *Ermine Street*, a major Roman road, which connected London (*Londinium*) to York (*Eboracum*).As a result two separate areas, D1 and D2, were identified. Area D1 was located on the western side of the road and D2 on the eastern. Both areas D1 and D2 were sited within, and surrounded by, cultivated fields. This phase of the evaluation was undertaken between the 22nd and 26th June 2009.

A single transect was undertaken as part of the geophysical survey of Area D, towards the northern edge of what was to become Area D1, missing Area D2 and continuing to the east beyond this evaluation (Bartlett 2009b). No features of archaeological interest were highlighted on the survey, with only potential ridge and furrow evident; none of the trenches were targeted on geophysics anomalies as a result.

Twenty-one trenches were excavated totalling 1,549m²; 14 trenches (1,027m²) in Area D1 and seven trenches (522m²) in Area D2. Later prehistoric activity was recorded within one trench in Area D1 as artefactual material, which had been incorporated within a colluvial deposit at the base of a slight rise, and was associated with a single linear feature. Post-Medieval agricultural activity was encountered throughout both areas in the form of furrow remnants, with only four of the trenches devoid of any archaeological features.

Trench No.	Length (m)	Orientation	Top-soil (m)	Sub-soil (m)	Total Depth (m)	Archaeology	Geology
125	23.4	NE-SW	0.31	0.17	0.51	None	Boulder Clay
126	43.0	E-W	0.31	0.25	0.56	Post-Medieval	Boulder Clay
127	21.0	N-S	0.3	0.28	0.58	Post-Medieval	Boulder Clay
128	47.2	E-W	0.25	0.24	0.49	Post-Medieval	Boulder Clay
129	24.2	E-W	0.24	0.49	0.63	Post-Medieval	Boulder Clay
130	47.1	N-S	0.24	0.16	0.4	None	Boulder Clay
131	48.1	E-W	0.3	0.14	0.44	Prehistoric/Post-Medieval	Boulder Clay
132	47.3	N-S	0.3	0.2	0.5	None	Boulder Clay
133	48.4	E-W	0.29	0.29	0.58	Post-Medieval	Gravel
134	21.2	N-S	0.4	0.21	0.68	Post-Medieval	Boulder Clay
135	50.0	E-W	0.35	0.23	0.58	Post-Medieval	Boulder Clay
136	23.5	N-S	0.28	0.11	0.39	Post-Medieval	Boulder Clay
137	46.9	E-W	0.23	0.15	0.38	Post-Medieval	Boulder Clay
138	22.4	E-W	0.28	0.17	0.45	None	Boulder Clay

Table 55: Trench information from Area D1

Trench No.	Length (m)	Orientation	Top-soil (m)	Sub-soil (m)	Total Depth (m)	Archaeology	Geology
139	42.0	E-W	0.33	0.17	0.5	Post-Medieval	Boulder Clay
140	24.3	N-S	0.25	0.14	0.39	Post-Medieval	Boulder Clay
141	50.4	E-W	0.32	0.22	0.54	Post-Medieval/undated ditch	Boulder Clay

142	23.9	N-S	0.33	0.17	0.5	None	Boulder Clay
143	49.1	E-W	0.38	0.15	0.53	Post-Medieval/undated ditch	Gravel
144	23.1	E-W	0.35	0.18	0.53	Post-Medieval	Boulder Clay
145	48.0	E-W	0.32	0.17	0.49	Post-Medieval	Boulder Clay

Table 56: Trench information from Area D2

Results - Area D1

The vast majority of features encountered within Area D1 were the result of Medieval/post-Medieval cultivation, with furrow remnants present within all but three of the trenches (Trenches 130, 132 and 138). There were a few features of note within three of the trenches (Trenches 127, 131 and 135) and these are discussed below.

Trench 127

Trench 127 was located towards the northwest corner of the evaluated field. At the northernmost end of the trench was a northeast-southwest linear feature (**F. 704**) which was aligned parallel to and alongside a post-Medieval field boundary ditch. This feature was most likely a forerunner to the post-Medieval boundary, and therefore of Medieval or post-Medieval origin.

Trench 131

Trench 131 was located on the southern edge of the Scheme and was cut longitudinally along a natural rise within the field. This trench exposed the base of the rise and a colluvial deposit which had accumulated at this point (**F. 703**). Incorporated within the colluvial deposit were a handful of abraded pottery fragments of early prehistoric (Neolithic or Bronze Age) and Middle Iron Age date (total 11g). These would have been caught up within the formation of the colluvium. Towards the base of the slope was a northeast-southwest orientated linear feature which was very shallow and not wholly convincing (**F. 702**). This feature was overlain by the colluvium, and it was only upon the removal of this deposit that the feature was identified and a fragment of Middle Iron Age pottery recovered.

Trench 135

Trench 135 was located along the spine of the Scheme, adjacent to Ermine Street. A series of modern field drains and post-Medieval furrows were recorded along with a single posthole towards the western end of the trench (**F. 700**). There were no further structural elements associated with the posthole and no artefactual material was recovered from it.

Results - Area D2

Area D2 was dominated by the remnants of Medieval/post-Medieval cultivation with only Trench 142 devoid of any features. These were predominantly furrows and remained upstanding within this area until at least the 1970s (Jensen *pers. com*). Features of note were recorded within two of the trenches (141 and 143) and these are discussed below.

Trench 141

Trench 141 was located towards the northeast corner of the proposed Scheme and revealed a single northeast-southwest linear feature (**F. 710**). This feature was very shallow (0.08m deep) and aligned at right angles to the furrows recorded throughout the area. No artefacts were recovered from this feature; however, it would seem most probable that it was associated with the furrow remnants and therefore of Medieval/post-Medieval date.

Trench 143

Trench 143 was located towards the southwest corner of the proposed Scheme adjacent to Ermine Street. The remnants of two very shallow postholes were recorded towards the western end of the trench (**F. 708** and **F. 709**), the largest of which was 0.08m deep (F. 709). There were no artefacts recovered from either of these features, and as a consequence they could not be dated.

Discussion

Area D was targeted upon the A1198, the former route of *Ermine Street*, a known Roman Road which linked London (*Londinium*) to York (*Eboracum*), and the possibility of Romano-British activity which may have been associated with such an important route-way. Despite the close proximity of the trenches to the current road, however, the evaluation revealed no evidence for Romano-British activity associated with *Ermine Street*, or traces of the original road itself. Within Area D1 a colluvial deposit at the base of a rise had incorporated a small quantity of prehistoric pottery suggesting that the landscape was being utilised in some form, at least during the Middle Iron Age. A single possible cut feature was recorded in association with this deposit (F.702); however, its location at the base of natural rise and the shallow nature of the feature could indicate that it was a natural depression where colluvium had been deposited. Recent excavations to the south at Summersfield, Papworth Everard, have identified Late Bronze Age and Iron Age activity within a very similar setting upon a clay ridge (Patten 2009). These sites have both shown that these upland clays were being utilised during the later prehistoric periods. The paucity of material recovered from across the evaluation suggests that any prehistoric activity was centred outside the evaluated area, potentially in fields to the south, where cropmarks and prehistoric finds are associated with a localised gravel terrace.

THE SOUTHERN CLAYS – AS 4

Sector four details the results of areas evaluated adjacent to the southeast ('on-line') end of the proposed Scheme upon the heavy soils of the Ampthill, Gault and Kimmeridge clays. The areas included here are G, H, K, R2 and T1, along with the work undertaken for the Northstowe development where it ran parallel to the current A14 (Figure 39). Area R2 is discussed as part of Area G being on the clay gravel interface at the eastern end of the 'off-line' section of the Scheme. Five sites were identified (Sites 16-20). A brief summary of each area follows:

> ***Areas G and R2:*** *A total of 44 trenches were excavated across Areas G and R2. Later Prehistoric enclosures and evidence for occupation was identified within Area R2, as well as probable Romano-British fieldsystems/ drainage of the lower gravels within both Area R2 (Site 16) and Area G). Deposits were found which indicate that the majority of Area G was not habitable. An alluvium-filled periglacial depression within the gravels of Area R2 further suggests a 'separated' island backwater, the periphery of which showed possible signs of drainage during the Roman period.*
>
> ***Area H:*** *A total of 3 trenches were excavated across Area H. Middle Iron Age linear features, possibly representing the southernmost periphery of enclosed settlement, and a pit containing Middle Iron Age ceramics were identified (Site 17).*
>
> ***Area K:*** *A total of 32 trenches were excavated across Areas K. The evaluation identified activity spanning the Middle Iron Age through to the Roman period. A Middle Iron Age ring-ditch with human remains was recorded (Site 19), while a series of boundary ditches and artefact rich deposits suggested Romano-British settlement and agricultural activity (Site 20).*
>
> ***Area T1:*** *A total of 71 trenches were excavated across Area T1. The topography here was level flood plain to the north, which rose in a series of terraces to the south. It was at the base of these terraces (c. 20m AOD) that archaeological remains were encountered consisting of a series of Middle Iron Age enclosures representing probable settlement activity. This comprised large circular and rectangular enclosure ditches with associated pits and postholes (Site 18).*

Area G and Area R2 Adam Slater (Figures 40 & 41)

Areas G and R2 were situated between 7.4m and 9.1m AOD to the south of Fen Drayton (NGR 533440 267080) with Area R2 located immediately northwest of Area G. The underlying geology was characterised by Terrace Gravels (British Geological Survey) within Area R2 and a notable transition between Terrace gravels and Ampthill clays within Area G. Both Areas were agricultural land, as harvested but unploughed Oilseed Rape fields. The existing carriageway of the A14 formed the northern boundary of both areas. A deep, water filled canalised stream, delineated the northwestern limit of Area R2. The evaluation, of both areas was conducted between the 22nd July and 13th August 2009.

Results - Area G

Seventeen trenches were excavated within Area G, totalling 1919.4m² (Figure 40). Archaeological activity was scarce, with two undated linear features and postholes within the northwest Trenches 182 and 183, which corresponded with the transition from Ampthill clays. The underlying geology of the majority of the evaluated area was Ampthill clay, with higher geological gravels forming the entirety of Area R2 to the west. A single, narrow, northeast-southwest aligned gravel ridge, forming a localised 'spur' was located within Trench 172, where several undated tree-throws but no 'cut' archaeological remains were identified. In response to these results, the judgemental widening of Trench 172, lengthening of Trench 182 and addition of Trench 182A was implemented.

Trench No.	Length (m)	Orientation	Top-soil (m)	Sub-soil (m)	Total Depth (m)	Archaeology	Geology
167	21.5	NE-SW	0.2	0.35	0.45	None	Mixed clay/ gravel
168	68.6	NW-SE	0.29	0.32	0.61	None	Mixed clay/ gravel
170	44.1	NW-SE	0.19	0.28	0.44	None	Mixed clay/ gravel
171	35.0	NE-SW	0.31	0.22	0.53	None	Mixed clay/gravel
172	49.5	NW-SE	0.29	0.32	0.61	Undated tree-throws	Terrace gravel
173	62.0	NE-SW	0.2	0.3	0.50	None	Ampthill Clay
174	63.5	NW-SE	0.2	0.37	0.57	None	Ampthill Clay
175	62.5	NW-SE	0.2	0.35	0.55	None	Ampthill Clay
176	51.5	NE-SW	0.2	0.32	0.52	None	Ampthill Clay
177	62.2	NW-SE	0.24	0.46	0.7	None	Ampthill Clay
178	60.6	NW-SE	0.3	0.4	0.7	None	Ampthill Clay
179	80.9	NE-SW	0.2	0.45	0.65	None	Ampthill Clay
180	60.9	NW-SE	0.23	0.52	0.75	None	Ampthill Clay
181	60	NW-SE	0.35	0.62	0.97	None	Ampthill Clay/ Terrace gravel
182	47.1	NE-SW	0.2	0.55	0.75	Undated	Terrace gravel
182A	29	NW-SE	0.2	0.55	0.70	None	Terrace gravel
183	63.8	NW-SE	0.3	0.4	0.7	Undated	Terrace Gravel

Table 57: Trench information from Area G

Trench 167

Trench 167 was located at the southeastern end of the evaluated area, adjacent to the post-Medieval field boundary marking the southeastern edge of the field and marking the highest point of the evaluated area. No archaeological features were recorded within this trench.

Trenches 168, 170, and 171

Trench 168, 170 and 171 were located within the southeastern end of the evaluated area. No archaeological features were identified within these trench.

Trench 172

Trench 172 was located centrally within the evaluated area. Three undated tree-throws were identified within the southeastern end of the trench although no archaeological features were recorded within this trench.

Trenches 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, and 178

Trenches 173 to 178 were located centrally within the evaluated area. No archaeological features were identified within any of these trenches.

Trenches 179, 180 and 181

Trenches 179 to 181 were located towards the northwestern end of the evaluated area. No archaeological features were identified within any of these trenches.

Trench 182

Trench 182 was located within the northwestern end of the evaluated area. A single undated small pit/ large posthole **F. 850** was identified within this trench (Table G1.1). No associated features were identified.

Trench 182A

Trench 182A was located within the northwestern end of the evaluated area, forming an extension to Trench 182. No archaeological features were identified within this trench.

Trench 183

Trench 183 was located within the northwestern end of the evaluated area. Three archaeological features; two shallow, north-south aligned linear features and a posthole were identified within this trench (Table G1.2). Stratigraphically the earliest feature was posthole **F. 851**, which showed similar morphology and fills as **F. 850** in Trench 182, which was truncated by linear feature **F. 852**, an irregular sided and flat-based ditch with compacted fills. Although undated, both F. 851 and F. 852 are potentially associated with attempts to improve drainage during the Roman period. Linear feature **F. 853**, whilst on the same general alignment as F. 852**,** contained a more humic, less compacted fill similar to the top-soil and is likely to represent a relatively modern field or brush-drain.

Results - Area R2

Twenty-six trenches were excavated totalling 3227.7m² within Area R2 (Figure 41). Archaeological features comprising prehistoric boundaries and occupational activity, as well as Romano-British occupation. Agricultural, quarrying and numerous undated linear features were identified throughout the excavated area with features being present in all but two of the trenches (185 and 186). An extensive area of alluvium, potentially associated with the stream forming the western site boundary, was located within six trenches (192, 193, 195, 196, 198 and 205).

Trench No.	Length (m)	Orientation	Top-soil (m)	Su-bsoil (m)	Total Depth (m)	Archaeology	Geology
184	44.3	WNW/ESE	0.25	0.39	0.64	Roman Linear feature	Terrace Gravel
185	60.1	NNE/SSW	0.32	0.39	0.71	None	Terrace Gravel
186	65.1	WNW/ESE	0.32	0.29	0.61	None	Terrace Gravel
187	58.6	NNE/SSW	0.27	0.31	0.58	Undated Linear feature	Terrace Gravel
188	71.5	WNW/ESE	0.33	0.28	0.61	Prehistoric Enclosure, Undated Linear feature	Terrace Gravel
188A	19.9	ENE/WSW	0.27	0.28	0.55	Prehistoric enclosure.	Terrace Gravel
189	58.9	NNE/SSW	0.28	0.22	0.5	Prehistoric enclosure, undated ditches	Terrace Gravel
189B	19.9	ENE/WSW	0.24	0.22	0.46	Prehistoric enclosure/ boundaries	Terrace Gravel
190	61	WNW/ESE	0.28	0.27	0.55	Prehistoric Enclosure	Terrace Gravel
191	43.8	WNW/ESE	0.24	0.19	0.43	Prehistoric Enclosure, undated ditches and pit	Terrace Gravel
191A	16.1	NNW/SSE	0.27	0.18	0.45	Prehistoric enclosure	Terrace Gravel
192	53.3	NNE/SSW	0.31	0.27	0.58	Alluvium & undated linear features	Terrace Gravel
193	26.5	WNW/ESE	0.26	0.7	0.96	Alluvium	Terrace Gravel
195	15.0	NNE/SSW	0.35	0.4	0.75	Alluvium, posthole	Terrace Gravel
196	72.8	WNW/ESE	0.35	0.32	0.67	Alluvium, Roman ditch	Terrace Gravel
197	35.4	NNE/SSW	0.26	0.28	0.53	Later Prehistoric	Terrace

						occupation	Gravel
198	154.5	WNW/ESE	0.29	0.6	0.88	Alluvium, Prehistoric enclosures, prehistoric occupation & undated ditches	Terrace Gravel
198A	19.4	NNE/SSW	0.22	0.2	0.42	Prehistoric Structure & pits	Terrace Gravel
199	62.6	NNE/SSW	0.22	0.28	0.5	Alluvium & undated linear features	Terrace Gravel
200	60.8	WNW/ESE	0.25	0.35	0.6	Undated linear feature and quarrying	Terrace Gravel
200A	50.3	ENE/WSW	0.31	0.31	0.62	Undated quarrying	Terrace Gravel
201	79	WNW/ESE	0.3	0.3	0.6	Undated linear features	Terrace Gravel
202	62.4	NNE/SSW	0.33	0.35	0.68	Roman occupational & undated features	Terrace Gravel
203	54.1	WNW/ESE	0.32	0.29	0.61	Undated Linear features	Terrace Gravel
204	65.8	WNW/ESE	0.28	0.30	0.58	Undated Linear features	Terrace Gravel
205	176.8	WNW/ESE	0.32	0.36	0.68	Alluvium, Roman Quarrying, undated quarrying, undated features.	Terrace Gravel

Table 58: Trench information from Area G

Trench 184

Trench 184 was located within the southeastern limit of the evaluated area. A single southwest-northeast aligned ditch **F. 923** was located within the northwestern end of the trench (Table R2.1). A single sherd of abraded Roman period pottery was recovered from the fill of the ditch. The orientation of F. 923 corresponds with the downward slope of the gravels towards the clays identified within the adjacent Area G, suggesting it to be a drain, although it did not continue into adjacent Trench 185. The southwest-northeast alignment however corresponds with the series of potentially co-axial ditches identified throughout Area R2, and may therefore represent a component a of Romano-British field system (see Figure 43).

Trench 185

Trench 185 was located within the southeastern limit of the evaluated area immediately adjacent to Area G. No archaeological features were identified within this trench.

Trench 186

Trench 186 was located within the southeastern limit of the evaluated area immediately adjacent to Area G. No archaeological features were identified within this trench.

Trench 187

Trench 187 was located within the southeastern end of the evaluated area. A single narrow east-west aligned linear ditch or gully (unexcavated) was located within the northeastern end of the trench.

Trench 188 and 188A

Trench 188 was located centrally within the south of the evaluated area with Trench 188A extending from its westernmost end (Figure 42). A continuation of the late prehistoric wide linear enclosure ditch **F. 897**/ **F. 913**/ **F. 914** from Trench 189 (see below) was identified within the eastern end of the trench and continued, with a northeast-southwest alignment, for 22m before making a sharp turn to the north.

Two narrow northwest-southeast gullies, **F. 920** and **F. 911** located within the eastern and western ends of the trench respectively appear to correspond with the potentially Romano-British co-axial field system identified elsewhere within Area R2 (Table R2.2).

Four north northeast-south southwest linear features (excavated **F. 891**) and the southern terminal of a north northeast aligned linear feature were identified as being in concordance with identically aligned linear features in Trenches 188, 198, 200, 201, 203, 204 and 205 as the bases of Medieval or post-Medieval furrows. Linear feature **F. 919**, although on a slightly more oblique alignment appears identical to F. 891 and other furrow bases within R2 and is likely to also represent an associated agricultural feature.

Trench 189, 189A and 189B

Trench 189 was located centrally within the southern part of the evaluated area (Figure 42). A sequence of linear ditches was identified as crossing Trench 198, which were further exposed by the addition of judgemental trenches 189A and 189B (Tables R2.3 and R2.4).

Stratigraphically, the earliest feature within the trenches was an irregular curvilinear ditch, **F. 869** (within Trench 189A) on a roughly east-west orientation. Truncating F. 869 within both Trenches 198A and B was an unexcavated, short, wide segment of ditch, aligned east-west with a rounded terminal at both ends. A second wide linear ditch continued, after a gap of 5m on a northeastern alignment for a length of 33m before changing alignment to north-south, the continuation being identified within Trenches 188 and 189. The terminal of the longer length of ditch was excavated and showed a sequence comprised of a primary cut **F. 897**, the fills of which contained a small quantity of animal bone (9g). This was recut, first by **F. 913**, and then by **F. 914**, the fills of the second recut also containing a small quantity of animal bone (256g). The majority of the fills of all three cuts of the ditch terminal were compacted mottled silty clays, suggesting a water-bourne deposition, with frequent gravel lenses to suggest intermittent levels of inundation. The size and obviously well maintained nature of the ditch suggests it may be a boundary, potentially associated with the 'double ditch' identified within Trenches 190, 191, 191A and 198 (See discussion

below). An irregular pit, **F.915**, was cut into the upper fills of the terminal, the single fill of which contained no datable material culture.

Immediately to the north of and parallel with the ditch terminal (within Trench 189) was a narrow, shallow linear ditch (unexcavated) which was likely to be associated with the larger ditch, potentially respecting its terminal, as it was not present within Trench 189B.

A single undated narrow, east-west gully (unexcavated) was present within the northern half of Trench 189.

Trench 190

Trench 190 was located within the southwestern part of the evaluated area (Figure 42). Two north northwest-south southeast aligned parallel ditches (Table R2.5) were located within the eastern end of the trench, continuing through Trenches 191, 191A and 198. The easternmost of the ditches, **F. 896** was 0.77m deep, 2.3m in width with a 'V'-shaped profile and thick gravel filled primary fills that suggested a slumping event from the east, potentially indicating the collapse of an up-cast bank. A second ditch, **F. 917**, lay 3.5m to the west of F. 896, and was shallow, concaved (0.2m in depth, 0.90m in width) and filled with a single compacted silty fill. F.917 was not identified within adjacent trenches although it is likely to be associated with the narrow earlier phased prehistoric ditches F. 869 in Trench 189A and F. 886 within Trench 191. The north-south aligned linear feature, F. 893 within Trench 191A could also be associated with it. F.917 was truncated by **F.916**; a 1.25m wide 0.45m deep, northeast-southwest aligned rounded bottomed ditch, also identified within Trenches 191, 191A and 198. Although potentially contemporary with parallel ditch F. 896 a direct association could not be proven. The ditches would appear to be part of a later prehistoric linear boundary or enclosure system and potentially associated with the structure within Trench 198/ 198A (see discussion below).

Trench 191

Trench 191 was located within the southwestern part of the evaluated area (Figure 42). Seven features were located within this trench (Table R2.6); a narrow, shallow, concaved northeast to southwest orientated ditch, **F. 886** was located within the western end of the trench. F. 886 continued into Trench 191A where it was truncated by 'double boundary' ditch F. 892 (see below). No material culture was recovered from the fills of F. 886. The parallel 'double ditches' identified within Trenches 190, 191A and 198 continued within the eastern end of the trench (unexcavated).

A large, sub-rounded pit, **F. 890** was located within the western end of the trench. Only half exposed at the northern side of the trench, F. 890 was 2.3m in diameter 0.85m in depth with steeply sloping sides. Basal fills of silty clay containing occasional mollusc shell as well as thin lenses of slumping gravel indicate a period of water filling and/ or a variation in the water table, suggesting use as a well or water-hole. The excavated fills of pit F. 890 contained no material culture, although an

association with the boundary/ enclosure system and structure within Trench 198 and 198A is probable.

A single, north northeast-south southwest aligned ditch, **F. 874** was located within the eastern end of Trench 191, continuing into Trench 197. The alignment and morphology of the ditch suggest it is associated with the Medieval or post-Medieval furrow bases preserved within the trenches along the highest gravels. Two highly eroded possible postholes, **F. 877** and **F. 878** were located adjacent to F. 874. The presence of a small quantity of burned clay (6g) from posthole F. 877 may suggest the presence of domestic activity nearby.

Trench 191A

Trench 191A was located centrally within the eastern part of the evaluated area (Figure 42), being excavated as a judgemental addition to confirm the continuation of 'double ditches' identified within Trenches 190 and 191 into Trench 198. The trench did, indeed contain both northwest-southeast aligned linear features (Table R2.7); the eastern ditch **F. 873** was 'V'-shaped in profile, 2.3m in width and 0.88m in depth. Gravel slumping fills from the east, while not as distinct as in **F. 868** (Trench 190), further suggest the presence of an upcast bank. Small quantities of burnt clay (265g) and animal bone (106g) were recovered from the fills. The western ditch, **F. 892**, located 5.5m from F. 868, had a concave profile 1.16m in width and 0.42m in depth, similar to F. 916 within Trench 190.

Ditch **F. 892** truncated northeast-southwest orientated linear feature **F. 893**, which appeared to be congruent with F.886 within Trench 191 but was not located within Trench 198. Further illuminating the presence of an earlier and later series of prehistoric ditches (see discussion below).

Trench 192

Trench 192 was located within the south-western limit of the evaluated area, adjacent to the canalised stream marking the western boundary of the site. The eastern edge of the alluvial channel was identified within the northern end of the trench and a shallow, east-west aligned linear feature, **F. 895** (Table R2.8), containing a fragment of post-Medieval pottery was located within the southern end of the trench.

Trench 193

Trench 193 was located within the southwest limit of the evaluated area close to the stream forming the western boundary of the site. The entire length of the trench comprised alluvial deposits within the alluvial 'channel', also identified within Trenches 192, 195, 196, 197 and 198. It contained no cut features of archaeological interest but did allow a profile of alluvial deposits to be recorded (Table R2.9). All deposits were archaeologically sterile and were based upon compacted sandy gravel natural appearing to be a continuation of the geological 'natural' found throughout the rest of Area R2.

Trench 195

Trench 195 was located within the far western limit of the evaluated area adjacent to the canalised watercourse forming the western boundary of Area R2 and extended from the northwest side of Trench 196. Trench 195 exposed a thick silty gravel deposit ([1756]) within the 'alluvial channel', seeming to form the primary deposition of material with the accumulated silts and clays of the remainder of the alluvial deposition forming on top. The gravel deposit was seen as rising sharply towards the southern end of Trench 195, and was also identified within Trench 196. A single undated posthole, **F. 912** was identified as truncating [1756] within the southern end of Trench 195 (Table R2.10).

Trench 196

Trench 196 was located within the western part of the evaluated area, the western end located adjacent to the canalised stream forming the boundary of the evaluation area. The majority of the trench revealed the presence of the alluvial channel as seen within Trenches 192, 193, 195, 197, 199 and 205 and allowed a detailed profile of the deposits to be made (Table R2.11); the very base of the only identifiable 'channel' was identified (**F. 922**) north-south in orientation, it appeared to have been formed very early in the developmental sequence of the channel deposits. An area of geologically 'natural' gravels, rising rapidly to the north was identified centrally within the trench forming what would appear to be either an isolated gravel island within the northwestern corner of the evaluated area or the beginnings of a larger area of gravels extending westward from area R2 (see discussion below). A single northeast-southwest aligned linear ditch, **F. 912** was located at the southernmost end of the westerly gravel, the fill of which contained an undiagnostic fragment of Roman period tile. It is likely that this ditch respected the edge of the alluvial spread and was part of a Romano-British agricultural or drainage system which seemed to be on the same general alignment as otherwise undated ditches within Trenches 184, 188, 196, 199, 202, 204 and 205. F. 912 was sealed by the uppermost deposits of alluvium.

Trench 197

Trench 197 was located centrally within the western end of the evaluated area and extended southwards from the eastern end of Trench 196. The periphery of the alluvial channel deposits was identified within the northern end of Trench 197, with geologically 'natural' gravels rising rapidly to the south along the length of the trench. A terminus of a single narrow curvilinear feature was located within the southern end of the trench; heavily eroded by ploughing; it was unexcavated, due to shallow depth and ill definition. The proximity of the structural drip gully **F.872** within Trenches 198 and 198A may suggest that this feature represents an associated structure.

Trench 198 and 198A

Trench 198 was located centrally within the western side of the evaluated area (Figure 42). The western end exposed the eastward limit of the alluvially filled channel; the

geological ‘natural’ gravel rose rapidly from the channel edge to approximately half way along the length of the trench where it formed the highest point of gravel within the evaluated area (with the shallowest deposit of top and sub-soil). The double ditches of the possible enclosure (Tables R2.12 and R2.13) continued from Trenches 191 and 191A (F. 892, F. 873) unexcavated as did the undated ditch F. 874 from Trench 191.

Shallow circular ditch **F.872** was located centrally within the trench, extending into judgemental Trench 198A. With a steeply sloping side concaved base and an internal diameter of 8.1m it is probable that F. 872 represented an eaves drip-gully of a roofed structure. A single posthole **F. 885** was located within the enclosed area and could represent a structural support. No material culture was identified within either the eaves drip-gully or posthole; the general sterility of the fills of both, of either charcoal or burnt clay suggests a use peripheral to a main settlement (see discussion below). Within the area enclosed by the eaves drip-gully was an agglomeration of small, shallow, intercutting pits (three excavated **F. 879**, **F. 880** and **F. 881**), which appeared to be contemporary with the eaves drip-gully and may suggest a storage use for the structure. Like the gully and posthole, the pit fills were archaeologically sterile. A single, shallow northwest aligned gully (unexcavated) was truncated by both the eaves drip-gully and pit-cluster.

Twelve narrow, shallow north northeast-south southwest oriented gullies were identified (**F.885**, **F.887** and **F.889** excavated). These were mostly evenly spaced, approximately 7m apart and combined with the shallowness of the top and sub-soil within the eastern part of Trench 198 it is likely they represent Medieval and post-Medieval furrows. The presence of two intercutting linear features, one northeast-southwest aligned and the other north northwest-south southeast were located close to the edge of the alluvial channel within the western half of the trench and are both likely to represent drainage channels leading from the drier, high gravels.

Trench 199

Trench 199 was located centrally within the evaluated area and contained three archaeological features. An irregular sub-rounded (unexcavated) depression within the south of the trench appeared identical to the shallow quarry pits located within Trenches 200, 200A, 201 and 205. Two unexcavated linear features were located centrally within the trench; one, aligned east-west, could not be dated by correspondence with alignments within adjacent trenches whilst the other, aligned north northwest-south southeast, corresponded well with the possible Romano-British agricultural/ drainage system identified elsewhere within the area. Within the northern end of the trench the very edge of a ‘corner’ of the alluvially filled channel was identified.

Trench 200

Trench 200 was located centrally within the evaluated area. The majority of the trench contained similar irregular, sub-rounded shallow strip quarries and tree-throws (unexcavated) similar to those within Trenches 200A and 205 to the immediate north.

Several very shallow north northeast-south southwest aligned linear features potentially representing the bases of ploughed out furrows or brush drains were identified; one of which was recorded as continuing through Trenches 201 and 188 (**F. 891**) and was not excavated. Excavated within Trench 200 was F. 891 (Table R2.14), which showed a similar profile and alignment to the Medieval/ post-Medieval features throughout the evaluated area.

Trench 201

Trench 201 was located centrally within the evaluated area and contained eight features. Four linear features aligned north northeast-south southwest appeared contemporary with the furrows identified within Trench 198, whilst a northwest-southeast aligned linear ditch appeared to correspond with the potentially Romano-British agricultural/ drainage system identified within Trenches 184, 189, 196, 200, 202, and 204. The remaining three features were irregular sub-rounded depressions in the geological natural and appeared to mark the southern extent of the strip-quarrying activity identified within Trenches 200, 200A and 205 to the northwest of Trench 201.

Trench 202

Trench 202 was located within the northeastern side of the evaluated area. It contained a series of three north northwest-south southeast aligned linear gullies, (**F. 900** excavated; Table R2.15), which although close together were orientated to respect the possible Romano-British agricultural or drainage system observed elsewhere on the site. A series of two northeast-southwest orientated linear gullies (**F. 905** and **F. 906**) and one terminal of an associated gully (**F. 907**) were excavated within the centre of the trench. No material culture and date could be attributed to these gullies.

A possible Romano-British structural 'beam' slot gully, **F. 909,** 4.8m in length aligned roughly north-south with rounded terminals at either end, to the west of F. 909 was a small irregular patch of sandy silt, which although likely to be a natural change in the geology within this area, could be representative of an eroded floor/ surface deposit. No material culture was recovered from this or the possible beam-slot. Pit F. **910**, located at the northern terminus of F. 909 with steep, near vertical sides and a flat base contained occasional burned clay and charcoal, further suggesting a nearby occupational focus.

Several discrete, small pits or postholes, **F. 898, F. 988, F. 901, F. 902, F. 903, F 904** and **F. 908** were located throughout the length of the trench. None of which could be dated. F. 908 truncated the terminal of gully F. 907.

An irregular linear feature, possibly associated with the undated ditch features F. 862 or F. 863 within Trench 205 was identified within the northern end of the trench, which may have continued into Trench 204 as F. 883.

Trench 203

Trench 203 was located centrally within the eastern limit of the evaluated area. Two shallow, narrow north northeast-south southwest orientated linear features (unexcavated) were located within the western end of the trench. The orientation and morphology suggested they may be associated with the likely furrow bases located within Trenches 198, 201 and 204.

Trench 204

Trench 204 was located within the eastern limit of the evaluated area adjacent to the westernmost trenches within Area G. Eight linear features were identified within this trench (Table R2.16). Five of these, all aligned north northeast-south southwest were comparable with (or even a direct continuation of) the potential furrow bases identified within Trenches 198, 201 and 203 and were not excavated. Two linear features on a northeast-southwest (unexcavated) and northwest-southeast alignment, (**F. 883**) were identified which could be associated with the possible Romano-British drainage/ agricultural system also exposed within Trenches 184, 188, 196, 198, 201, 202 and 205, although no material culture was recovered. A northeast-southwest orientated linear feature, **F. 882** truncated F. 883 and while it again contained no datable material culture, the compacted nature of the fills suggest it was earlier in date than the Medieval/ post-Medieval furrows.

Trench 205

Trench 205 was located in the north of the evaluated area and exposed a series of linear features as well as evidence of Romano-British and possibly later quarrying (Table R2.17). The orientation and width of the alluvial channel was also shown.

Within the western end of the trench, the full width of the aluvially filled depression within the gravels was exposed. At this point the channel was 17m in maximum width and had a maximum depth of 1.45m.

The trench contained several linear features, all relatively shallow and archaeologically sterile and undated. The northeast-southwest alignment of other potentially Romano-British ditches identified elsewhere in the evaluated area was represented by four linear features within Trench 205. **F. 867** appeared to respect the western edge of the alluvial channel; the fill which was high in silts appeared to have been at least partially inundated with the thickest deposit of alluvium. On the eastern edge of the channel, linear feature **F. 894** appeared to similarly respect the location of the alluvium. Both F. 867 and F. 894 are potentially part of attempts to drain the gravels. On the same seemingly co-axial orientation were otherwise undatable linear features **F. 858** (which truncated small pit/ posthole **F. 856**), **F. 858, F. 862** and **F. 863.**

The only datable feature within Trench 205 was a large, circular, generally straight sided and flat bottomed pit, **F. 924**. The profile and location of the pit suggests it to be evidence of Romano-British quarrying; a single sherd of Roman period pottery was

recovered from this feature. The fills of F. 924 were suggestive of a primary slumping of the sides, and an early phase of infilling followed by a main fill of silty clay alluvium from the adjacent channel. This infilling by alluvial silts, as well as the Roman period pottery suggests a certain degree of contemporality between the quarry and linear feature F. 912 within Trench 196. It also may indicate the deliberate location of a quarry pit, dug laterally as well as vertically on the edge of a natural depression in the gravels.

A series of shallow, irregular depressions within the geological gravels were identified throughout the trench, concentrating within the southernmost part of the trench length (**F. 857, F. 860, F. 861, F. 864, F. 865,** and **F. 868** excavated). All were archaeologically sterile and corresponded with similar irregular features identified within adjacent trenches T200 and T200A. Although undatable, the depressions are likely to represent small scale quarrying.

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Metalwork (Grahame Appleby)

Within Area G, a single ferrous nail was recovered during bucket sampling of sub-soil from Trench 178. With a non-diagnostic square profile and flat head, nails of this type were manufactured from the Late Iron Age until the 19th century when they were largely replaced by circular profiled wire-drawn nails.

Bucket sampling within R2 recovered a single metal object from the sub-soil of Trench 198; unidentified, although likely to be of recent agricultural origin.

Area	Location	Description	Dimensions	Weight
G	Trench 178, Bucket Sample	Small nail with flat-sided vertical head, square profile	25.9mm	2g
R2	Trench 198, Bucket Sample	Large, Narrow, circular cross-sectioned split-ring	Diameter 45.4mm	8g

Table 59: Metalwork from Areas G and R2

Roman Tile (Katie Anderson)

One piece of Roman tile was recovered from Area R2, F. 912, weighing 133g. The form of the fragment is unclear.

Faunal remains (Vida Rajkovača)

A total of six fragmented bone specimens were recovered from three different contexts during the evaluation carried out in 2009. This report outlines the results following the zooarchaeological analysis of the material. Faunal remains represent the hand collected material.

The zooarchaeological analysis followed the system implemented by Bournemouth University with all identifiable elements recorded (NISP: Number of Identifiable

Specimens) and diagnostic zoning (amended from Dobney & Reilly 1988) used to calculate MNE (Minimum Number of Elements) from which MNI (Minimum Number of Individuals) was derived. Identification of the assemblage was undertaken with the aid of Schmid (1972) and reference material from the Cambridge Archaeological Unit. Taphonomic criteria including indications of butchery, pathology, gnawing activity and surface modifications as a result of weathering were also recorded when evident.

Of six bones recorded, four were identified as cattle and one as sheep/ goat. Cattle is represented by loose teeth and fragments of scapula and radius (meat-bearing portions), whereas sheep/ goat is present with a single fragmented horn core. One unidentifiable medium sized mammal fragmented skull was recovered and it was not possible to determine the species.

Species	NISP
Cow	4
Ovicaprid	1
UMM	1

Key: UMM & ULM = Unid. Medium and Large Mammal / UUM = Unid. Fragment. These differ from the unidentified counts as these are calculated on the basis of element identification (for UMM & ULM) and total fragments (for UUM) (corresponding to Σ in brackets).

Table 60: NISP counts for contexts

It is clear that this is a small assemblage and, beyond stating the representation of species on site, no further conclusions are possible.

Environmental Assessment (Anne de Vareilles)

Two bulk soil samples were retrieved for analysis. The samples were processed using an Ankara-type flotation machine. Flots were collected in 300µm sieves and the remaining heavy residues washed over a 1mm mesh. Both flots and residues were dried prior to analysis. Heavy residue components greater than 4mm were sorted by eye, the smaller fractions have been stored for future reference. Sorting of the flots was carried out under a low power binocular microscope (x6–40) in the George Pitt-Rivers Laboratory, McDonald Institute, University of Cambridge. Nomenclature follows an updated version of Beedham (1972) for molluscs.

Modern rootlets and fresh straw fragments indicate soil disturbance by recent ploughing, although the effects of such intrusions upon the potential archaeological record is impossible to measure. Mollusc shells were present in both contexts but occurred in extremely low numbers.

F. 922 [1722] and [1727]
Charcoal and cereal remains were not recovered from either context. The only archaeobotanical finds were two charred grass seed fragments in context [1727] of uncertain provenance. A few snail shells were found that reflect a seasonally wet environment. Their occurrence in such low quantities is either a result of post-depositional preservation factors, or a sign that layers accumulated quickly (before snail communities had time to establish themselves).

The contexts sampled are effectively devoid of archaeological evidence which suggests the area was not occupied. The samples show that the level of disturbance by modern ploughing is potentially high.

Sample Number		**301**	**300**
Context		1727	1722
Feature		922	922
Feature type		basal fills of 'channel'	
Phase / Date			
Trench		193	196
Sample volume – litres		0.5	0.5
Flot volume – millilitres		<0.5	0.5
Flot fraction examined - %		100	100
Non Cereal			
indet. Poaceae fragment (wild or cultivated grass seed)		2	
Modern rootlets		P	P
Modern straw fragments		P	P
Mollusca	**Habitat**		
Lymnaea palustris Müller	marshes, ponds, ditches, by lakes	-	-
L. truncatula Müller	shallow waters & flooded pastures	-	-
L. peregra Müller	most freshwater habitats	-	
Anisus vortex L.	hard, running, vegetated water	-	
Anisus leucostama Millet	seasonal ponds & ditches	-	-

Key: '-' 1 or 2; '+' <10; '++' 10-50; '+++' >50 items. P = Present

Table 61: Plant macro-remains and mollusca from bulk soil samples.

Discussion

The evaluation trenches within Area G revealed the transition between the archaeological sterility of the majority of the site where Ampthill clays formed the geological foundation, and the terrace gravels within the northwestern end of the evaluation area and demonstrated the beginning of archaeological utilisation of the higher terrace gravels continuing into Area R2. Topographically, Area G demonstrated a noticeable downhill slope from the southeast-northwest as well as from Area R2, and was located at the base of a downward slope from the south, continuing on the far side of the current A14, where frequent streams and ponds are located. The lowest point of Area G was within the vicinity of trenches 179, 180 and 181. Sub-soil across Area G, and continuing into Area R2 consisted of colluvially deposited silty clay, originating from the higher ground to the south, being thicker within the lowest areas of the site. The narrow northeast-southwest aligned gravel 'ridge' identified within trench 172 contained the only tree-throws identified within the entire area, further reflecting the ill-drained nature of the area as a whole.

The high frequency of modern field drains identified within the clays attests to the lack of efficient drainage and it is therefore likely that such an area has, until relatively recent times been utilised as seasonal open pasture, associated with nearby settlement sites such as those identified within Area R2 to the immediate west and Area H to the southeast. The location of cut archaeological features within Trenches 182 and 183 reflect the preferred location of occupation on the gravels terrace continuing west and northwest, beyond the limit of Area G (Figure 43). The north-south orientation of the ditches corresponds well with those identified within the rest of Area R2 and for the remainder of this discussion the results from Area G have been combined with the Area R2 archaeological remains, identified as Site 16.

Area R2 represented varied and potentially chronologically dispersed use of the edge of the gravel terrace prior to the less well drained and generally inhospitable clays forming the majority of Area G to the southeast. The presence of what appeared to be a natural channel or depression within the gravels, whether created by periglacial wash or in more recent times and continuing beyond the limits of excavation both to the north and south of Area R2, appeared to isolate the gravels within the majority of the evaluated area into a peripheral 'island'; separated from what appears from aerial survey to be a more densely occupied area to the northeast. The northwest of the evaluated area also appeared to represent either a smaller 'island' within the alluvial channels or the beginning of a more contiguous gravel terrace extending to the west.

The contrast in the quantity of archaeological material located within the gravels as opposed to the complete absence of features within the clays of Area G emphasises the preference towards well drained gravels for anything other than open pastureland. The small Middle/ Late Iron Age settlement identified within Area H is seemingly the nearest archaeological remains identified site within the clays, 1.2km to the east of Area R2.

The archaeological remains within Area R2 and the north-western end of Area G (Site 16) was on the whole undatable due to the almost complete absence of material culture. Reliance on morphology as well as infrequent stratigraphic relationships was the principle method of dating features. A strong later prehistoric presence and definite Romano-British elements were identified across Site 16 as well as attempts at Medieval and post-Medieval cultivation.

Late Prehistoric/ Iron Age (Site 16)

Two phases of potentially late prehistoric activity were identified within Site 16. The earliest of these, represented by two shallow ditches (F.886 and F.893 within Trenches 191 and 191A and F. 869 within Trench 189B) potentially represented an early boundary system restricted to the southern area of the highest, central part of the gravels. Possibly associated with this 'boundary' system was pit F.890 (Trench 191), the basal fill of which showed evidence of standing water through the presence of molluscs.

The second phase of later prehistoric activity was represented by the 'double' northwest-southeast aligned ditches seen within Trenches 190, 191, 191A and 198, the easternmost of which showed definite indications of possessing an associated bank to the east of the ditch; suggesting a defined 'inner' area to the east. Probably contemporary with the 'double' ditches was a redefinition, or extension of the earlier shallow ditch within Trench 189B, by a short segment of a wider more defined ditch which, following a deliberate gap, or entranceway, corresponded with the longer, northeast-southwest aligned ditch F.897. It is likely that this ditch deliberately demarcated the edge of the highest 'crown' of gravels, the fills of which showed indications of frequent flooding requiring several phases of re-cutting. This northeast-southwest aligned 'double' ditch was visible on the aerial photographic survey, and appeared to respect the alignment of a longer cropmark, again of two parallel ditches within the adjacent field to the northeast. No northern or eastern ditches were revealed within the evaluation trenches and it is possible that the natural channel within the

gravels defined the northernmost edge of the enclosed area and the more sharply defined eastern edge of the terrace gravels was a sufficient enough boundary to mark the eastern edge of the settlement. The orientation of the 'double' ditches corresponds well with what may be two closely parallel ditches extending to the northwest; identified by aerial survey (Palmer 2003) in the adjacent field to the west of Area R2, suggesting a continuation beyond the alluvial channel.

The location of the structural 'eaves drip-gully' and internal pit cluster within Trenches 198 and 198A (F.872) as well as the possible remnants of a second unexcavated example within Trench 197, suggests they lay within the enclosed area of the 'double' ditches and southern, deeper ditches. Finds of small quantities of burnt clay from within these ditches as well as small quantities of animal bone suggest contemporaneity, although the almost completely sterile nature of the boundary ditches, pits and structural gully further emphasise the peripheral nature of Site 16 compared with what appears to be a denser occupation to the west and north.

Romano-British

Three features could be tenuously dated to the Roman period by the presence of small fragments of pottery; two linear features aligned northwest to southeast (F. 912, within 196) and northeast-southwest (F. 923, within Trench 184). The alignments correspond well with similar, otherwise undated ditches throughout the site and it is possible that these represent an agricultural use if not an attempt to improve drainage across the site. The remnants of a possible Romano-British structure, represented by a shallow 'beam' slot, pit and possible floor surface within Trench 202 are likely to be associated with this land use. The scarce nature of the Romano-British linear features suggests that the perception of Site 16 as being an outlying periphery of settlement focussed elsewhere. The density of isolated finds of Roman-British material (pottery, coins, 'hoards' and isolated burials within Fen Drayton and its surroundings certainly suggests a Romano-British occupational centre on the north side of the A14.

The third feature to contain Roman period pottery was a probable quarry pit (F.924 within Trench 205) identified within the north of the site adjacent to the alluvial channel. This pit, although much better defined, was potentially associated with the cluster of shallower depressions, also thought to be the remnants of quarry pits within Trench 205.

Alluvial filled depression

The study of the alluvium from within the channel as well as the profile and depths of the channel itself suggested that it was likely to represent infrequent periods of flooding and deposition, after originally being formed through periglacial runoff. The depression was narrower and shallower within the northern part of the site (Trench 205) than in the central (Trenches 196 and 198) and southern areas (Trench 193) and it would seem that the deposition of alluvium was due to the sporadic expansion of a stream or watercourse west of Area R2 rather than representing an actual watercourse. The presence of a straightened, constantly flowing stream originating in the hills to the south of the proposed Scheme and forming the western boundary of the evaluation

area attests to the presence of water in the vicinity and may in fact represent a canalised version of the original watercourse. The only features showing any firm relationship with the alluvium which could also be firmly dated were Romano-British ditch F. 912 and quarry pit F. 924, both of which were apparently filled with the uppermost layers of alluvium. Whilst this does not indicate when the channel was initially formed, it does suggest a final filling during the 1st to late 4th centuries A.D, a period of environmental change and notable rising of the water-table around the fen-edges (French 2003).

Area H Adam Slater (Figure 44)

Area H was situated between 13.4m and 15.3m AOD to the south of Fen Drayton (NGR 534800 266310). The underlying geology was characterised by Ampthill Clays (British Geological Survey). Area H was a narrow strip of agricultural land to the immediate south of the current carriageway of the A14 road, an ELS strip further narrowing the targeted area. At the time of evaluation the wheat had been harvested. This phase of evaluation was undertaken between 17th and 19th August 2009.

Three trenches were excavated totalling 394m². Archaeological activity comprising of Middle Iron Age linear features and pits was identified within one trench (T207).

Trench No.	Length (m)	Orientation	Top-soil (m)	Sub-soil (m)	Total Depth (m)	Archaeology	Geology
207	140.9	WNW-ESE	0.15	0.65	0.8	Iron Age; Colluvial catchment hollow	Ampthill Clay
208	30	WNW-ESE	0.15	0.45	0.6	None	Ampthill Clay
209	26.1	WNW-ESE	0.15	0.45	0.6	None	Ampthill Clay

Table 62: Trench information

Results

Trench 207

Trench 207 was located along the northeastern extent of the evaluated area, aligned parallel with the current carriageway of the A14 and immediately adjacent to a preserved ELS strip at the edge of the field. A notable depression within the clay was noted within the northwestern end of the trench; filled by thicker, archaeologically sterile deposits of both colluvial sub-soil and top-soil. Seen to extend from the southwest of Trench 207, observable as a depression within the top-soil to the north of the trench it was visible as forming part of a culverted drain under the A14.

To the southeast of the depression was a concentration of features all dating to the Middle Iron Age. A northeast to southwest aligned linear feature (**F. 928**) marked the south-eastern limit of the exposed archaeological remains and contained large quantities of Middle Iron Age pottery (67 sherds; 547g), bone (99g) and burnt clay (44g). A second linear feature, 19m to the northwest of F. 928, aligned northwest to southeast (**F. 925**), was largely affected by what appeared to be rooting and appeared to delineate the northwestern extent of the exposed archaeological remains. Neither F. 925 nor F. 928 was exposed within the adjacent Trench 208 and their respective alignments suggested they represented two sides of a rectilinear enclosure.

Between ditches F. 925 and F. 928 were two pits, only partially exposed due to the restrictions on trenching due to the ELS strip to the northeast. The stratigraphically earliest pit, (**F. 926**) contained a relatively large quantity of Iron Age pottery (32 pieces, 201g) as well as animal bone (41g) and a single flint. Pit F. 926 was truncated by second pit **F. 927**, also only partially exposed in depth with moderately steeply sloping sides to a generally flat. A much lower quantity of Iron Age pottery (3 pieces, 12g) and animal bone (8g) was recovered from the fills of F. 927.

Trench 208

Trench 208 was located adjacent to the central section of Trench 207 immediately to the southwest, to identify the extent and nature of any archaeological features continuing from that trench. No Archaeological features were identified within this trench.

Trench 209

Trench 209 was located within the northwestern limit of the evaluated area. No Archaeological features were recorded within this trench.

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Prehistoric Pottery (Katie Anderson)

A total of 87 sherds weighing 770g were recovered from Area H, all of which date to the Middle Iron Age. Details of fabric, form, decoration and date were recorded along with any other information deemed important.

Some 20 sherds were recovered from F. 926, weighing 220g. This included 17 shell-tempered sherds and five grog-tempered sherds. Nine of the sherds were scored. Due to the condition of the sherds, only one vessel form was identified, comprising a jar sherd, although the exact form was unclear.

F. 927 contained three sherds weighing 12g, all of which were sandy, body sherds.

F. 928 contained the largest quantity of material, totalling 55 sherds, weighing 538g. Two jars were identified, comprising one slack-shouldered jar and one neck-less jar with finger-nail decoration on the top of the rim.

Faunal remains (Vida Rajkovača)

A probable Middle Iron Age enclosure represented by two ditches (F. 925 and F. 928) and two intercutting pits (F. 926 and F. 927) containing Middle Iron Age pottery were identified in Trench 207. These features yielded a total of 82 poorly preserved animal bones. This report will outline the results following the zooarchaeological analysis of the material. Faunal remains represent the hand collected material.

Out of 83 bone specimens recorded, 79 (95%) were identifiable to element and further 10 (12%) to species. Medium sized mammals dominate the assemblage, both within the species count and the unidentified mammal count.

Species	NISP
Ovicaprid	6
Pig	2
Cow	1
Horse	1
ULM	15
UMM	55
UUM	3

Key: UMM & ULM = Unid. Medium and Large Mammal / UUM = Unid. Fragment. These differ from the unidentified counts as these are calculated on the basis of element identification (for UMM & ULM) and total fragments (for UUM) (corresponding to Σ in brackets).

Table 63: NISP counts for contexts.

The importance of sheep or goats in the Iron Age economy is well known (Cunliffe 2005: 415). Also, the Iron Age sees cattle and sheep as the main two species reared in large numbers, with the pigs playing a subsidiary role (Maltby 1996). Coupled with the predominance of unidentified medium sized mammals these results fit well with these views. This assemblage did not yield any measurable or ageable specimens and there was no evidence for butchery or pathology recorded on site. Due to the small size of the assemblage, no further interpretation should be attempted.

Environmental Assessment (Anne de Vareilles)

Two Iron Age bulk soil samples were retrieved for analysis. The samples were processed using an Ankara-type flotation machine. All plant remains were preserved through carbonisation. The cereal grains are quite heavily abraded and distorted, and only two small, delicate wild plant seeds have survived. A little fragmented fragile cereal chaff was found, making identification difficult. Modern rootlets and fresh straw fragments indicate soil disturbance by recent ploughing, although the effects of such intrusions upon the archaeological record is impossible to measure.

Middle Iron Age Pit, F. 926 [1750]
The 10 litre sample contained three cereal grains: one hulled barley (Hordeum vulgare sl.), one spelt or emmer wheat (Triticum spelta/dicoccum) and one unidentified fragment. The grains were found associated with seven wheat glume bases (element of chaff) and four or five wild grass seeds. The glume bases are of slept wheat (T. spelta), spelt or emmer and an indeterminate hulled wheat type (Triticum sp.). With more chaff than grain and a few arable weed seeds the assemblage probably represents spelt and/or emmer processing waste.

Middle Iron Age, F. 928 [1754]
The 10litre sample contained one hulled barley grain and 10 hulled wheat glume bases – probably all from spelt and/or emmer. A large, flat sedge seed (Carex sp.) and two or three large wild grass seeds were also found.

Both contexts revealed similar remains which can tentatively be described as poorly preserved cereal processing waste. The original charred waste products must have been much larger and, along with other domestic refuse found in the samples (pottery, bone, etc), provide evidence for settlement related occupation.

Sample Number	**302**	**303**
Context	1750	1754
Feature	926	928
Feature type	Pit	Ditch
Phase / Date	M/L.I.A	M.I.A
Trench	207	207
Sample volume – litres	10	10
Flot volume – millilitres	5	6
Flot fraction examined - %	100	100
Charcoal		
large charcoal (>4mm)	+	
med. charcoal (2-4mm)	++	+
small charcoal (<2mm)	+++	+++
vitrified charcoal	-	
Cereal Grains		
Hordeum vulgare sensu lato (hulled cultivated barley grain)	1	1
Triticum spelta/dicoccum (spelt or emmer wheat grain)	1	
cereal grain fragments indet.	1	
Cereal Chaff		
Triticum spelta L. glume base (spelt chaff)	1	1
T. spelta/dicoccum glume base (spelt or emmer chaff)	3	4
Triticum sp. glume base (hulled wheat chaff)	3	5
Non Cereal Seeds		
large lenticular *Carex* sp. (large flat sedge seed)		1
large Poaceae (>4mm) (large wild grass seed)	2	2
small Poaceae (<2mm) (small wild grass seed)	2	
indet. Poaceae fragment (wild or cultivated grass seed)	1	1
Indeterminate seed		1
Modern rootlets	P	P
Modern straw fragments	P	P
Other Biological Items		
>4mm bone	+	
>4mm bone fragments	+	+
>4mm burnt bone fragments	-	
Other Artefacts		
>4mm pottery sherds	+	
>4mm burnt clay	+	+
>4mm burnt flint		-

Key: '-' 1 or 2; '+' <10; '++' 10-50; '+++' >50 items. P = Present

Table 64: Plant macro-remains from bulk soil samples.

Discussion

The evaluation at Area H identified Middle Iron Age activity within the local vicinity, potentially extending to the northeast towards the present A14 (Figure 45). The narrowness of the proposed road corridor and presence of the existing A14 and environmentally delicate ELS strips restricted the expansion of the trenches to fully characterise the archaeological remains. It is probable however that the two, almost perpendicular linear ditches identified within Trench 207 were contemporary and formed a rectilinear enclosure, and that the pits, which were located within the enclosed area were also contemporary. Although no structural elements were identified, the concentration of pottery, animal bone and burned clay within the linear features and pits, as well as the presence of emmer and wheat chaff and glume bases suggests a settlement comparable with small Middle Iron Age sites in the vicinity of the evaluated area was located nearby.

The area of occupation appears to have been deliberately chosen by topographic factors; a small relatively flat terrace at the base of a steeply rising hill to the south and overlooking a sharp downward slope to the north (beyond the current A14) and significantly higher, at 13-15m AOD than the gravel founded Later Prehistoric settlements identified within Area R2 to the northeast (7.4-9.1m AOD) and adjacent, archaeologically sterile clays of Area G. The presence of a 'colluvial catchment hollow', the contour of which is likely to be periglacial in origin, immediately to the northwest of the Middle Iron Age activity suggests a deliberate location of settlement in an area of better drainage, if not the proximity to seasonally flowing water. The sterility of the colluvial sub-soil within the hollow suggests the depression was not, in itself utilised during the occupation.

Area K Ricky Patten (Figure 46)

Area K was situated at 15m AOD to the west of Girton village (NGR 540900 261700). The underlying geology was characterised by Gault clay (British Geological Survey Sheet 188) with pockets of sand and gravel, in particular towards the northern end of the site. Area K was located immediately southwest of the current A14 within an area of agricultural fields. At the time of the evaluation the field was fallow and overgrown with weeds. An initial evaluation at Area K was undertaken between the 14th and 20th April 2009, and this was informed by the results of a geophysical survey (Preconstruct Geophysics 2007); this investigation was identified as Area K1. Based upon the results of this evaluation a second archaeological investigation was carried out between the 17th and 28th July 2009, and occurred to the north and south of the original evaluation, and as a consequence they were identified as areas K2 and K3.

A series of three transects were surveyed within Area K as part of an initial survey (Preconstruct Geophysics 2007). This survey identified the presence of two sets of features in separate and distinct areas; two interrelated ditches, and a possible ring-ditch. These two areas were targeted during the first phase of the evaluation, with the subsequent evaluation (Areas K2 and K3) expanding upon this.

Thirty-two trenches were excavated totalling 2,835m², 11 trenches (920m²) in Area K1, 14 trenches (1,248m²) in Area K2, and seven trenches (667m²) in Area K3. Areas K1 to K3 were separated only by time, the activity recorded within each evaluation represented only a continuation of the same archaeological remains identified throughout and as such from here on these three areas will be discussed as one and referred to as Area K with no distinction between them.

Trench No.	Length (m)	Orientation	Top-soil (m)	Sub-soil (m)	Total Depth (m)	Archaeology	Geology
1	41	NE-SW	0.26	0.24	0.50	Iron Age/ Roman	Clay/gravel
2	75	NW-SE	0.24	0.21	0.45	Roman	Clay/gravel
3	26	NE-SW	0.26	0.23	0.49	Roman	Clay/gravel
4	50	NE-SW	0.32	0.27	0.60	Iron Age/ Roman	Clay/gravel
5	75	NW-SE	0.32	0.28	0.60	Roman	Clay/gravel
6	26	NE-SW	0.29	0.22	0.51	Roman	Clay/gravel
7	30	NW-SE	0.28	0.28	0.56	Iron Age/ Roman	Clay/gravel
8	40	NE-SW	0.28	0.30	0.58	Iron Age	Clay/gravel
9	20	NW-SE	0.26	0.32	0.58	Iron Age	Clay/gravel
10	40	NE-SW	0.28	0.24	0.52	Roman	Clay/gravel
11	20	NE-SW	0.28	0.24	0.52	None	Clay/gravel
146	50	NW-SE	0.24	0.40	0.64	No	Clay/gravel
147	50	NE-SW	0.30	0.20	0.60	Iron Age/ Roman	Clay/gravel
148	100	NW-SE	0.20	0.30	0.60	None	Clay/gravel
149	78	NW-SE	0.30	0.20	0.50	Iron Age/ Roman, Medieval	Clay/gravel
150	51	NE-SW	0.30	0.20	0.50	Medieval	Clay/gravel
151	50	NW-SE	0.30	0.35	0.65	Iron Age/ Roman	Clay/gravel

152	23	NE-SW	0.28	0.30	0.58	Iron Age/ Roman	Clay/gravel
153	50	NW-SE	0.32	0.22	0.54	Iron Age/ Roman, Medieval	Clay/gravel
154	30	NW-SE	0.30	0.38	0.68	None	Clay/gravel
155	25	NE-SW	0.20	0.20	0.40	None	Clay/gravel
156	55	NW-SE	0.28	0.25	0.53	Medieval	Gault Clay
157	50	NW-SE	0.29	0.24	0.53	Roman	Gault Clay
158	55	NE-SW	0.23	0.30	0.53	Roman?	Gault Clay
159	50	NW-SE	0.28	0.28	0.56	None	Gault Clay
160	30	NW-SE	0.25	0.27	0.52	Roman?	Gault Clay
161	50	NE-SW	0.20	0.35	0.55	None	Gault Clay
162	42	NW-SE	0.27	0.30	0.57	None	Gault Clay
163	54	WNW-ESE	0.21	0.10	0.31	Medieval	Clay/gravel
164	30	NW-SE	0.22	0.20	0.42	Iron Age/ Roman, Medieval	Clay/gravel
165	10	NW-SE	0.30	0.29	0.59	Iron Age, Modern	Clay/gravel
166	25	NE-SW	0.29	0.20	0.49	Iron Age/ Roman	Clay/gravel
Open Areas	17		0.24	0.21	0.45		

Table 65: Trench information from Area K

Results

Trench 1

Trench 1 was located towards the southern end of the evaluated area abutting Trench 2 (Figure 47). Four linear features (**F. 1**, **F. 2**, **F. 27** and **F. 28**; Table K1.1) were recorded within the trench and these were all aligned north-south. Linear features F. 1 and F. 27 were aligned parallel to each other and both contained a dark, artefact rich deposit. A similar deposit was also recorded capping F. 2 and appeared to represent a layer of occupational or 'midden' type material. Feature 28 was the northern terminal of a north-south ditch, 0.6m wide and 0.27m deep. Two small and shallow postholes were recorded towards the western end of the trench (**F. 29** and **F. 30**). The remnants of two furrows were encountered towards the northeast end of the trench, both of which were tested.

Trench 2

Trench 2 was aligned along the spine of the proposed Scheme with Trenches 1, 3 and 10 cut at right-angles off it and two small open areas (Figures 47 and 50). Six linear features (**F. 10**, **F. 16**, **F. 17**, **F. 19**, **F. 31** and **F. 43**; Table K1.2) were recorded along the trench and these were aligned either north-south or east-west and (once traced through to other trenches) appeared to form a series of enclosures and internal divisions. Features 10, 16 and 17 were a series of three inter-cutting ditches aligned east-west with a capping of the dark earth material recorded within features in Trench 1. These were the only ditches within this area which had been re-cut and they appeared to represent a large and significant boundary which had been identified by

the geophysics (PreConstruct Geophysics 2007). These ditches were identified in Trench 10 and appeared to form either the northern or southern boundary of a large enclosure (see Figure 49). Feature 19 was the southern terminal of a linear feature excavated within Trench 3 and appeared to have been cut by ditches F. 10, 16 and 17; however, this relationship was just outside of the limits of the trench. Features 31 and 43 were two narrow, shallow linear features aligned parallel to each other and located *c*. 25m apart within the northern portion of the trench. There was no evidence for the dark, artefact rich deposit present within the linear features to the south, which would suggest that these ditches were part of a fieldsystem extending to the north. Four pits of varying dimensions were recorded throughout the trench (F. 4, F. 11, F. 32 and F. 44). Feature 4 was a sub-circular pit or posthole, 0.65m by 0.51m, which contained several fragments of Roman period pottery, including the pedestal base of a colour coat vessel. Two large stones were also recovered from this feature and although they had not been worked or burnt they may have been the packing for a post. This feature cut F. 32 which was either an earlier pit (1.05m by 0.81m) or may have been the post packing for F. 4. Feature 11 was the very shallow remnants of a small pit (0.06m deep) from which a single metal detector find (22) was recovered. Feature 44 was the southwest portion of a pit which was partially exposed at the northwest end of the trench. The location of this feature towards the northern end of the trench meant that it was difficult to determine the true character of it, but it was cut along its southern edge by linear feature F. 43. The remnants of three furrows were also recorded and tested. A box area was excavated around the juncture of Trenches 2 and 10 to investigate the possibility of a structure indicated by F. 4 in Trench 2; a single pit (F. 33) was recorded *c*. 3m to the west. The remnants of a possible furrow were also recorded (F. 9).

Trench 3

Trench 3 was cut at right angles to Trench 2, extending of its eastern side, and was targeted upon a feature identified in the geophysics survey (Figure 47) (Preconstruct Geophysics 2007). Three linear features (**F. 19**, **F. 20** and **F. 39**; Table K1.3) were recorded within the trench towards the western end where it abutted Trench 2. Features 19 and 39 were two inter-cutting ditches orientated north-south which continued into Trench 2 where they were cut by a later series of ditches (F. 10, 16 and 17) and terminated (Figure 49). Together these features appeared to form the southeast corner of an enclosure that was identified by the geophysics survey (Pre-construct Geophysics 2007). Feature 20 was aligned parallel to F. 19/39 and located c.10m to the east. Associated with these linear features were three discrete features (**F. 40**, **F. 41** and **F. 42**). Feature 40 was a small pit cut into the northern edge of F. 20, F. 41 was an amorphous posthole positioned between the two ditches, while F. 42 was a small posthole located *c.*1m to the south of F. 19/39.

Trench 4

Trench 4 spanned the width of the road corridor with two linear features (**F. 14** and **F. 15**) and the remnants of a furrow (**F. 13**; Figure 47; Table K1.4). The linear features represented large boundary ditches with F. 14 orientated north-south and F. 15 east-west and together they may have formed part of the northwest corner of an enclosure

related to the enclosure ditches in Trenches 2 and 3. Within the confines of the trench these linear features were half sectioned, slots were excavated to the centre point of the feature rather than the entire width.

Trench 5

Trench 5 continued the line of Trench 2 along the spine of the proposed Scheme. Four linear features (**F. 5**, **F. 34**, **F. 35** and **F. 37**; Table K1.5) were recorded within this trench, one (F. 5) orientated north-south and the remaining three east-west (Figure 48). Feature 5 was the northern terminal of a gully or small shallow linear feature which extended from the southeast end of the trench. This feature was not present within Trench 4 to the south and therefore may only have been a short ditch segment. Feature 34 was a steep sided gully which spanned the width of the trench. This feature was very different to any of the others recorded within this area, and with steep sides and a flat base may have represented the remnants of an early field drain such as a brush drain. Feature 35 was a large boundary ditch 1.67m wide and 0.63m deep, *c.* 22m to the north was F. 37 a boundary ditch 0.90m wide and 0.50m deep and was aligned parallel to F. 35. A single posthole (**F. 38**) was recorded against the trench edge towards the northwest end of the trench; this was 0.40m in diameter and 0.20m deep, this was the only discrete feature recorded within this trench. The remnants of several furrows were recorded throughout and these were all recorded and tested.

Trench 6

Trenches 6, 7 and 8 were all located at the northern end of Area K and were originally envisioned as a 'T-shaped' trench with Trenches 6 and 8 forming a single northeast-southwest trench; however the presence of a public right of way split the trench into three. Two features were recorded within this trench (**F. 47** and **F. 48**; Table K1.6), F. 48 was the northern terminal of a ditch which was re-cut or truncated by a later ditch F. 47 (which continued the width of the trench; Figure 48). The remnants of two furrows were recorded with one overlying the earlier features (F. 47 and F. 48), both of which were tested.

Trench 7

Trench 7 was cut along the spine of the proposed Scheme and was initially part of a 'T-shaped' trench (Figure 48). Two linear features (**F. 45** and **F. 50**; Table K1.7) and a modern ditch were recorded within the trench. Feature 45 was a possible curvilinear which may have represented part of an eves-drip gully; however, it appears more likely that it was part of the Romano-British linear system encountered throughout this area. Feature 50 was cut by a later furrow and represented a very shallow ditch to the southeast of F. 45, the presence of the furrow made it difficult to accurately determine its alignment and as such it may have represented part of a ring gully along with F. 45. Two pits were recorded (F. 49 and F. 51) with F. 51 located within any possible structure and F. 49 slightly south. A furrow was recorded towards the centre of the trench cutting across F. 50 and in turn cut by a modern field boundary ditch (F. 24) which contained nails and wire along with the ends of machine cut posts. A single

linear feature at the southeast end of the trench was unexcavated but appeared to represent a probable furrow.

Trench 8

This trench was cut to investigate a possible circular enclosure and two sides of it were revealed during the trenching (Figure 48; Table K1.8). The northeast portion of the enclosure was formed by two inter-cutting ditches (**F. 6** and **F. 21**) and these cut through an earlier feature (**F. 22**) which contained human remains and appeared to represent a grave, (once this was encountered the excavation of the feature was halted and the burial carefully covered and re-interred for subsequent excavation). The southwest portion of the enclosure was represented by a single ditch (**F. 26**) which at this juncture had been truncated by a furrow which had in turn been cut by a later modern ditch (**F. 24**) also recorded within Trench 7.

Trench 9

Trench 9 was extended at right angles off Trench 8 to further investigate the presence of the circular enclosure (Figure 48). Two pits or ditch terminals were recorded (**F. 52** and **F. 53**) at the point where the circular enclosure was expected and these were cut by a later linear feature (**F. 12**) which could be the continuation of a boundary or ditch line identified in Trench 5. Within the confines of the trench any attempt at excavation would have been detrimental to the archaeological remains and so it was decided to leave these features unexcavated (this trench was a later addition to the trenching scheme placed to answer a particular question which it did). A single pit (**F. 54**) was recorded extending from the trench edge within the enclosure and this too was left unexcavated.

Trench 10

Trench 10 was extended off Trench 2 in an attempt to define the extent of the Romano-British activity encountered (Figure 48; Table K1.9). Two linear features were encountered (**F. 7** and **F. 55**), F. 7 was a large Romano-British ditch c.6m wide orientated east-west cut obliquely across the trench which cut two pits along its northern edge (**F. 8** and **F. 56**), This was the same feature recorded within Trench 2 as a series of re-cut ditches (**F. 10**, **F. 16** and **F. 17**) and the width of the ditch here would suggest that all of the re-cuts continued through. Feature 55 was orientated north-south and appeared to represent a boundary extending off F. 7 to the north; however, it did not continue into Trench 2. A single linear feature was recorded towards Trench 2 which was aligned parallel to a furrow; this was not excavated but probably represented the remnants of a furrow. As with Trench 9 this trench was cut to answer a specific question as a result the features were left unexcavated as it was felt to excavate them within the confines of the trench would be detrimental to the archaeological remains.

Trench 11

Trench 11 was excavated out of the confines of the predetermined area but within the corridor of the proposed Scheme. It was cut to attempt to define the extent of the Romano-British activity. No archaeological features were recorded in the trench.

Trench 146

Trench 146 was located at the northern end of the evaluated area. No archaeological features were recorded within this trench.

Trench 147

The opposing terminals of two linear gullies were recorded within Trench 147 (**F. 769** and **F. 770**; Table K1.10). Feature 769 was the southeast terminal of a northwest-southeast linear feature which abutted F. 770 the northwest terminal of a northwest-southeast linear feature, with only a narrow gap of 0.40m between the two. This gap was too narrow to have formed an entrance-way.

Trench 148

Trench 148 was located towards the centre of the proposed Scheme corridor orientated along its length (Figure 50). No archaeological features were recorded within this trench.

Trench 149

Trench 149 was cut as part of a 'T-shaped' trench along with Trench 150. At the juncture of the two trenches was the remnant of a single furrow (**F. 772**). This cut an earlier linear feature, **F. 771** (Table K1.149), a northwest-southeast gully which was aligned with F. 770 in Trench 147. Also within Trench 149 was the continuation of the modern boundary ditch F. 24 identified in Trenches 7 and 8 was recorded towards the southeast end of the trench.

Trench 150

Trench 150 was cut at right angles off Trench 149. The remnants of a single furrow were recorded at its northeastern end continuing into Trench 149.

Trench 151

Trenches 151 and 152 formed a 'T-shaped' arrangement of trenches. Six features were recorded within Trench 151 (**F. 726**, **F. 763**, **F. 764**, **F. 774**, **F. 775** and **F. 776**; Table K1.12)) and these comprised of multiple linear features on differing alignments.

Features 762, 763, and 764 were aligned east-west and represented a series of parallel gullies with F. 762 and F. 763 inter-cutting, indicating the re-cutting of a ditch line, and F. 764 located *c*. 0.85m to the south. This gap could indicate the presence of a hedge between the two ditches demarcating the edge of a probable field enclosure. Feature 776 was orientated north-south at right angles to F. 764 and formed part of the same enclosure system. Unfortunately no artefactual material was recovered from any of these features, however, based upon their alignments and the nature of the deposits recorded they represented the further extension of the Romano-British fieldsystem identified to the south. To the north of these ditches F. 774 and F. 775 were two inter-cutting ditches on different alignments to both each other and the ditches to the south. Feature 775 was the primary ditch, orientated northeast-southwest this was the larger of the two ditches, F. 774 was cut north northeast-south southwest along the northern edge of F. 775. The slightly different orientation of these two ditches suggests that there were at least three different enclosure systems, including the Romano-British system. There was, unfortunately, no dating material associated with these features, either within this trench or elsewhere. The presence of Iron Age activity to the south could indicate that these ditches were associated with this, and so represented two differing phases of Iron Age activity.

Trench 152

Trench 152 formed part of a 'T-shaped' trench along with Trench 151. Two features were recorded within the trench, of which one (**F. 773**; Table K1.13) was excavated, the other continued into Trench 166 where it was excavated (F. 766). Feature 773 was a northwest-southeast ditch/gully and was part of the same system as F. 775 in Trench 151. The other linear feature within this trench, (F. 766 in Trench 166) was orientated more north-south and so could have been part of the Romano-British alignment identified to the south (see below).

Trench 153

Trench 153 was cut towards the northeast edge of the field. The remnants of three furrows were recorded aligned north northeast-south southwest along with the others recorded elsewhere. A single northeast-southwest linear feature was recorded which continued into Trench 164; however, the trench filled with water after it was cut and so the feature was excavated in Trench 164 as **F. 757**.

Trench 154

Trench 154 was located towards the northwest edge of the proposed Scheme corridor. A single linear ditch was recorded, and was orientated east-west, most likely part of the Romano-British fieldsystem. This feature was not excavated.

Trench 155

Trench 155 was cut as an extension to Trench 8 and was excavated in order to determine the presence or absence of any features associated with the ring-ditch (F. 6, F. 21 and F. 26), in particular to determine whether any of the fieldsystem ditches recorded elsewhere had any direct relationship to the ring-ditch. There were no archaeological features recorded within the trench.

Trench 156

Trench 156 was located along the spine of the proposed Scheme corridor immediately south of Trench 2. A single linear feature **F. 755** was recorded (Table K1.14) at the northern end of the trench orientated north-south and formed part of the series of enclosure ditches identified in Trenches 1, 2, 3 and 10, and may even have been the continuation of F. 20 in Trench 3. This feature, along with **F. 760** in Trench 157, represented the southeast corner of the proposed settlement indicated by the dark earth deposit in Trench 1.

Trench 157

Trench 157 was located towards the southwest edge of the proposed Scheme corridor. Five features were recorded (Table K1.15) within the trench and these included the remnants of a single furrow **F. 761**. Towards the centre of the trench **F. 753** was a small narrow gully orientated northeast-southwest and cut through an earlier small and shallow pit **F. 757**. Neither feature contained any artefactual material; however, F. 753 was on the same alignment as the Iron Age ditches to the north. Two linear ditches were recorded towards the northern end of the trench, **F. 754** and **F. 760** and these formed the continuation of the Romano-British settlement activity identified to the north in Trenches 1, 2, 3 and 10. These ditches, and in particular F. 760, appeared to represent the limit of this settlement. The dark earth material identified within Trenches 1 and 2 was not present in either Trench 157 or 156 which would suggest that the deposit was localised rather than representing a settlement wide spread. With the ditches in Trenches 156 and 157 representing the limit of any settlement, the dark earth deposit was most likely the remains of midden material deposited towards the edge of the site.

Trench 158

A single northwest-southeast ditch, **F. 751**, was recorded (Table K1.16) towards the northeast end of Trench 158 which was located northeast-southwest across the southern portion of the road corridor. This ditch appeared to represent a continuation of later prehistoric fieldsystem identified elsewhere within the evaluation, a lack of artefactual material meant this was based upon its alignment and the composition of the deposits.

Trench 159

Trench 159 was located towards the southern end of the proposed Scheme corridor orientated northwest-southeast along its length. No archaeological features were recorded within this trench.

Trench 160

Trench 160 was located towards the southeast corner of Area K orientated northwest-southeast. A single linear feature was recorded **F. 750** (Table K1.17) which appeared to represent the remnants of a northeast-southwest boundary ditch.

Trench 161

Trench 161 was located at the southern end of the proposed Scheme corridor orientated northeast-southwest along its width. No archaeological features were recorded within this trench.

Trench 162

Trench 162 was located towards the southeast edge the proposed Scheme corridor orientated northwest-southeast along its length. No archaeological features were recorded within this trench.

Trench 163

Trench 163 was excavated close to the northeast edge of the proposed Scheme corridor, and as close as was possible to the field boundary and the A14. It has been postulated that the course of the *Via Devana* (a Roman route from Colchester to Chester) was constructed along the same route as the A14 (Lysons' 1803; Babington 1903; Walker 1913; Margary 1973) and this trench was excavated to determine whether there was any traces of the *Via Devana* or associated activity. The remnants of two furrows were recorded towards either end of the trench, but there was no evidence for any other cut features.

Trench 164

Trench 164 was excavated to determine whether the activity recorded within Trench 153 continued to the southwest. Six features were identified which spanned the length of the trench (Table K1.18). Two of these were furrows, of which **F. 758** was recorded (although both were excavated). This furrow (F. 758) cut the western terminal of an earlier ditch **F. 759** which appeared to form part of the Romano-British fieldsystem and probably formed part of a short segment of a linear feature as it did not appear within Trench 153 to the east. Two parallel ditches **F. 757** and **F. 765** were recorded towards the centre of the trench and orientated northeast-southwest, and

were set *c*. 5.60m. Unlike the parallel arrangement in Trench 151 the distance between these two ditches would suggest that they were not part of a hedge boundary but that they could have formed some type of small routeway between fields or enclosures. These parallel ditches were only identified within this trench; Trench 153 to the east exposed only one of the ditches F. 757 continuing indicating that either any routeway was short, or that any enclosure demarcated by F. 765 ended between the two trenches. There was no artefactual material recovered from either of these features; however, they were both on the same alignment as the later prehistoric ditches recorded to the south and west. A single pit **F. 756** was recorded to the southeast of the ditches, this feature was undated.

Trench 165

Trench 165 was excavated across the northwest portion of the ring-ditch arc and was limited (as were the other trenches surrounding the ring-ditch) by the presence of a public right of way; however, it did expose a fourth section of the ring-ditch which was not disturbed by later features. As with the sections of the ring-ditch excavated previously it was evident that the ditch had been re-cut, indicating that there were multiple phases of activity, it had either been utilised successively or maintained (**F. 767** and **F. 768**; Figure 49; Table K1.19). The previous excavated sections of the ring-ditch produced little material to securely date it; however, the excavation of this section yielded a large sherd of unabraded Middle Iron Age pottery.

Trench 166

Trench 166 was excavated towards the northwest edge of Area K in order to trace the course of the two linear features identified in Trench 152. Of these one continued through into this trench, where it was excavated (**F. 766**; Table K1.20); the other, F. 773, was not present. This ditch (F. 766) was the only feature recorded within the trench and orientated north-south it appeared to form part of the later prehistoric fieldsystem identified elsewhere, unfortunately no artefactual material was recovered to ascribe a better date.

Specialist Reports

The Flint (Lawrence Billington)

Two worked flints were recovered from Site K. A quartered or split nodule of good quality flint was found within the fill of ditch F. 10 whilst a heavily patinated secondary flake was recovered from ditch F. 14. Neither piece is chronologically diagnostic.

Trench	Feature No.	Feature type	Flake	Split nodule	Totals
2	10	Ditch		1	1
	14	Ditch	1		1
			1	1	2

Table 66: All flint by type

Later Prehistoric and Roman Pottery (Katie Anderson)

A total of 13 sherds of Middle Iron Age pottery (weighing 111g) and 644 sherds of Roman pottery (weighing 8159g and representing 8.67 EVEs) were recovered from Area K. All of the material was analysed and details of fabric, form and date were recorded along with any other information deemed important. The Middle Iron Age pottery comprised 11 shell-tempered sherds and two sandy sherds, all of which were non-diagnostic.

The assemblage had a mean weight of 12.7g, which is relatively low for a Roman assemblage; however, within this there were a number of large sherds and a semi-complete vessel. The material suggests a peak in the site during the mid/late 2nd-3rd century AD, although there were small amounts of both earlier and later dating pottery.

The range of fabrics present was somewhat limited, being dominated by sandy greywares, as is typical of Roman rural assemblages. Most of these are unsourced, however, a quantity of pottery from the Horningsea kilns in Cambridgeshire, was identified (32 sherds, 1630g). Oxidised sandy wares were well represented (164 sherds 1922g), although as with the greywares, it is difficult to source these wares. Shell-tempered wares represented just 2% of the assemblage, which is lower than might be expected from an assemblage of this date, since shell-tempered pottery is a common component of Roman assemblages in this area.

Finewares represented 9% of the total assemblage. Nene Valley colour-coated sherds were the most commonly occurring vessel fabric, with 50 sherds, weighing 785g, although 38 sherds were from a single vessel. These wares broadly date mid 2nd-4th century AD. Three unsourced colour-coated sherds were recorded, along with two red-slipped sherds, dating 2nd-4th century AD.

Fabric	No.	Wt(g)
Buff sandyware	8	55
Central Gaulish Samian	2	71
Colour-coat	3	65
Coarse sandy Greyware	359	3303
East Gaulish Samian	1	1
Horningsea Greyware	31	1630
Nene Valley colour-coat	50	785
Oxidised sandyware	164	1922
Red-slipped (Harston)	2	32
Reduced sandy	1	5
Shell-tempered	13	169
Whiteware	2	32
Whiteware (Nene Valley)	3	74
TOTAL	**638**	**8074**

Table 67: All pottery by type

Imports were restricted to two central Gaulish Samian sherds, and one very small East Gaulish Samian sherd (1g). One of the central Gaulish Samian sherds was from a Dr18 dish dating to the 2nd century AD. Due to the condition of the remaining sherds,

no vessel forms could be identified; however, the fabrics suggested a 2nd-3rd century AD date.

A variety of vessel forms were identified (see Table 68), although *c*.60% of the assemblage was comprised of non-diagnostic body sherds. Jars were the most common vessel form, representing 69% of all diagnostic sherds, and came in a variety of sizes, with rim diameters ranging between 12 and 40cm. This suggests different functions, although there is a lack of usewear evidence to give a better indication of exact function.

Form	No.	Wt(g)
Beaker	39	534
Bowl	23	294
Dish	13	265
Jar	179	3226
Mortaria	3	74
Unknown	381	3681
TOTAL	**638**	**8074**

Table 68: All pottery by form

Thirty-nine beaker sherds were recorded, although these represented just two vessels, since 38 of the sherds (488g), were from a semi-complete Nene Valley colour-coated vessel, dating later 2nd-3rd century AD. The remaining beaker sherd was also from a Nene Valley colour-coated vessel; however, this could only be dated mid 2nd-4th century AD. Bowls were well represented, and although the total number of sherds was less than for beakers, they represented a larger number of vessels, a maximum of 15 vessels. The bowls were predominantly made up of coarseware examples, although two fineware bowls were identified. Flanged bowls and beaded bowls were the most commonly occurring forms, both of which date to the 2nd-3rd century AD. There were two beaded-flanged bowls in the assemblage, which are slightly later in date (3rd-4th century AD).

Seven dishes (13 sherds, 265g) were recorded, comprising either beaded rim dishes or straight-sided shallow dishes, both of which date 2nd-3rd century AD. As with bowls, these vessels were mainly coarsewares, although there were two fineware examples. Finally three Nene Valley whiteware mortaria sherds were recovered, including one hooked, beaded rim sherd, dating mid 2nd-3rd century AD.

Pottery was recovered from 21 features on the site, as well as the spoil, albeit in varying quantities (see Table 69). For the purposes of this report a small number of features have been selected for discussion.

Feature 19 contained 167 sherds of pottery, weighing 2020g and representing 0.57 EVEs. Of this 117 sherds (1361g) were from an oxidised sandy jar, with combed decoration, dating 2nd-4th century AD. A small East Gaulish Samian sherd was also identified, along with four sherds from a Nene Valley straight-sided dish dating mid 2nd-3rd century AD, which was burnt. Three greyware dishes, dating 2nd-3rd century AD were also identified. The suggested date of the pottery is mid 2nd-3rd century AD.

One hundred and thirty-five sherds of pottery weighing 1169g (0.7 EVEs), were recovered from Feature 20. Thirty-eight sherds (488g) were from a single vessel, a Nene Valley colour-coated indented beaker, which was semi-complete and dated late 2nd-3rd century AD. Other vessels present included three sherds from a Horningsea greyware jar, two greyware flanged bowls and one greyware hooked, beaded rim jar, all of which date 2nd-3rd century AD.

Feature 21 contained 71 sherds of pottery weighing 1141g (0.3 EVEs), which included a Nene Valley colour-coated castor-box and straight-sided dish, both dating mid 2nd-3rd century AD. A greyware beaded-flanged bowl was identified, dating 3rd-4th century AD. The pottery from this feature suggests a mid 2nd-3rd century AD date.

Ft	No.	Wt(g)	EVE
1	9	487	1.75
2	37	465	0.08
3	10	239	0
4	2	57	1
5	5	48	0.12
7	11	182	0.12
10	68	746	2.1
14	4	34	0
15	2	72	0.2
16	55	500	0.32
17	7	89	0.5
19	167	2020	0.57
20	135	1169	0.7
27	71	1141	0.3
30	3	49	0.2
31	9	57	0
33	5	43	0
35	4	31	0.18
40	2	32	0
41	4	11	0
43	13	117	0.12
Spoil	15	485	0.41
TOTAL	**638**	**8074**	**8.67**

Table 69: Pottery Analysis by Feature

The Roman pottery assemblage suggests that site activity peaked during the mid-late 2nd – 3rd century AD, with only a small number of sherds suggesting earlier activity, all of which were residual. Of the assemblage only a small number of sherds indicated activity after the 3rd century AD, which suggests a definite decline.

The fabrics and forms identified are typical for a small rural Roman period settlement, suggesting the bulk of the pottery was supplied from the local area (including Horningsea and the Nene Valley). The lack of imports (two sherds weighing 2g), is perhaps a reflection on the status/wealth of the site, since the period at which the site appears to have peaked is also a time when Samian imports were high. The vessel forms identified suggests the site was primarily domestic in nature.

Tile (Katie Anderson)

Seven fragments of Roman tile were recovered. This included one floor tile and one flue tile with combing on the exterior. The fragments could not be dated any more specifically than Romano-British, however, some were recovered alongside pottery, suggesting a more precise date of 2nd-4th century AD.

Roman Glass (Vicki Herring)

The Rim fragment from a 16cm diameter bowl was recovered from F. 19 in Trench 3. This was characteristic of an early Roman bowl with a base ring made from a colourless glass with a fire rounded edge. The glass had a dull, smooth inner and outer surface with grinding/polishing marks and a wheel cut line was visible on the inside of rim. These bowls are commonly found in Britain, especially in colourless glass, from the late 1st century to the mid to late 2nd century AD (Price and Cottam, 1998).

Faunal Remains (Vida Rajkovača)

A total of 128 fragments of animal bones were recovered from 22 contexts during the evaluation. This report will outline the results following the zooarchaeological analysis of the material. These faunal remains represent the hand collected material recovered from features dated to the Middle Iron Age and Roman period, as well as from some undated features. Based upon the chronology three sub-sets were created to study. The Romano-British sub-set was the dominant one producing significant measuring and ageing data, as well as several examples of butchery practice typical of the period. This assemblage showed quite good preservation, indicating that very little weathering and erosive damage had occurred to the bone. For the purpose of this report, bone material from each of the chronological phases will be considered and quantified separately (Table 70).

Groups	Number of contexts	Number of fragments	Percentage %
Middle Iron Age	3	11	9
Romano-British	17	115	90
Undated	2	2	1

Table 70: Sub-division based on the chronology of the material

Iron Age
Animal bone was recovered from two features of Iron Age origin, F. 21 and F. 26. These produced 11 bone fragments (Table 71), ten of which were possible to assign to element and further three to species: cattle mandible and pelvis and ovicaprid radius. The material showed moderate state of preservation.

Species	NISP
Cow	2
Ovicaprid	1
ULM	2
UMM	6

Key: UMM & ULM = Unid. Medium and Large Mammal / UUM = Unid. Fragment. These differ from the unidentified counts as these are calculated on the basis of element identification (for UMM & ULM) and total fragments (for UUM) (corresponding to Σ in brackets).

Table 71: NISP and MNI counts for Iron Age contexts

Romano-British
The majority of the animal bone recovered during the evaluation was from Romano-British contexts. Two main 'food species' and multipurpose animals dominated the assemblage within both NISP and MNI counts (Table 72), followed by horse and pig. Butchery marks were evident on five specimens (*c.*7%) that suggested primary dismemberment and the preparation of meat joints for curing processes. Two cattle scapulae had the processus coracoideus and the origin of the spine removed which is typical of the dry curing of the meat.

Species	NISP	%NISP	MNI
Cow	29	60	3
Ovicaprids	13	26	2
Goat	1	2	1
Horse	5	10	1
Pig	1	2	1
ULM	26	26 (Σ=114)	-
UMM	20	19 (Σ=114)	-
UUM	20	20 (Σ=115)	-

Key: UMM & ULM = Unid. Medium and Large Mammal / UUM = Unid. Fragment. NB: Species percentages are out of 49. These differ from the unidentified counts as these are calculated on the basis of element identification (for UMM & ULM) and total fragments (for UUM) (corresponding to Σ in brackets).

Table 72: NISP and MNI counts for Romano-British contexts

This small sub-set yielded five ageable specimens, as a result of the good state of preservation. Ageing data for ovicaprids was derived from mandibular tooth wear and fusion of the epiphyses: two specimens were aged 0-12 months and one 3 to 4 years. Pig mandible (Grant 1982) demonstrated the age at death of 27-36 months and cow femur was aged four years (Silver 1969). Goat was positively identified based on a complete horn core (Schmid 1972: 91).

Shoulder height calculations derived from horse metacarpal produced a height of 1.40m or 14 hands (Kiesewalter 1888 in Von den Driesch and Boessneck 1974). The general rule of cut-off in height of what is considered to be a pony at maturity is at 14.2 hands (147cm). There are exceptions to this rule, as the difference between a horse and a pony also takes account of other aspects of phenotype and appearance. Based on this, the specimen analysed here is of pony size. A complete cow metacarpal was used to estimate withers height following the conversion factors of Fock (see Von den Driesch and Boessneck 1974). The calculations came at 1.22m which is at the top end of the size range suggesting that the specimen was a male.

Animal bone was recovered in only two undated features (F. 47 and F. 48) which yielded two bone specimens: fragments of cattle-sized and sheep/ goat-sized radii.

The great majority of the bone material analysed has been assigned to domestic species which is in keeping with most archaeologically recovered assemblages in Britain. This area has yielded 128 fragments, only two of which remained undated. The Romano-British component of this sub-set has produced some interesting results: points of interest in the butchery pattern include the evidence for cured shoulder joints seen in characteristic marks recorded on two cattle scapulae. This is thought to have its origins in the Roman period military, but it could be a proof for the existence of professional butchers (Higbee 2004).

This assemblage is quantitatively inadequate to sustain propositions about animal use but it does provide some basic information for comparison on a superficial level. Being the main providers of meat, it is not surprising that cattle were the dominant livestock species. Spatial analysis of the bone would enhance the study of the patterns of deposition on the site. Furthermore, the study of seasonality could be extremely important and the supporting data could be obtained from the remains of the wild species, as well as from ageing and kill-off patterns of the livestock species. Future research should seek to synthesise the available information not only from the excavations on this site, but also from the excavation of the other contemporary sites in the area.

Environmental Assessment (Anne de Vareilles)

The environmental samples from four features, one from a Middle Iron Age ring-ditch, two from Romano-British settlement ditches, and one from a fieldsystem ditch, were analysed. All macro-remains are listed in Table 73.

Fresh straw fragments indicate soil disturbance by recent ploughing and may explain the near absence of archaeobotanical material. Untransformed seeds that were perhaps once waterlogged occurred in all the samples. Mollusc shells have survived in contexts that have remained close to the alkaline water-table.

Middle Iron Age Ring-Ditch, F. 767 [1438] Trench 165

No charred material was found other than an insignificant amount of charcoal. Some untransformed seeds were recovered, the most frequent being duckweed. Only two snail shells survived.

Romano-British ditch, F. 754 [1408] Trench 157

A little charcoal and seven untransformed wild plant seeds from seven different species were recovered. The provenance of these seeds is unclear, and some may in fact relate to more recent arable ecologies. A few mollusc shells were found, mainly *Anisus leucostama*.

Romano-British ditch, F. 755 [1411] Trench 156

One spelt or emmer wheat glume base (*T. spelta/dicoccum*) and a single piece of charcoal were found. Duckweed seeds were the only untransformed seeds recovered. A few mollusc shells survived.

Ditch, F. 766 [1435] Trench 166

The charred material comprised of very little charcoal, four cereal grain fragments, two spelt glume bases (*Triticum spelta*) and one orache seed (*Atriplex prostrata/patula*). Three wild plant species were represented as seeds which seem to have once been waterlogged: stinging nettle (*Urtica dioica*), knotgrass (*Polygonum aviculare)* and, the most frequent, duckweed (*Lemna* sp.). A few snail species were also recovered and are dominated by *Anisus leucostama*, a snail which lives in seasonal shallow water (it withstands drying).

The contexts have evidently been disturbed by recent agricultural practices which makes teasing information out of the tiny assemblages even more difficult. A seasonally wet environment with shallow, standing water is supported by both the dried seeds and the dominant snail type. It is likely therefore, that the seeds originate from a waterlogged past rather than the modern arable landscape.

None of the features sampled contained assemblages of interest or of known origins. The rare charred remains are unlikely to be *in situ* and were probably dispersed on the ground surface before being naturally included into the feature's fills. Fills have clearly been affected by recent ploughing, the extent of which should be considered when evaluating the site's archaeological potential.

Sample Number		**250**	**251**
Context		1411	1408
Feature		755	754
Feature type		ditch	ditch
Phase / Date		RB	RB
Trench			
Sample volume – litres		10	14
Flot volume – millilitres		<1	<1
Flot fraction examined - %		100	100
Charcoal			
med. charcoal (2-4mm)			-
small charcoal (<2mm)		-	++
vitrified			+
roots and parenchymous tissue			+
Cereal Chaff			
T.spelta/dicoccum glume base (spelt or emmer chaff)		1 c.	
Non Cereal Seeds			
Stellaria media (L.) Vill (common chickweed)			- u/w.
Sagina sp. (Pearlworts)			- u/w.
Polygonum aviculare L. (knotgrass)			- u/w.
Rumex sp. (dock)			- u/w.
Rorippa nasturtium-aquaticum (L.) Hayek - Water-cress			- u/w.
Aethusa cynapium L. (Fool's Parsley)			- u/w.
Lemna sp. (duckweeds)		+++ u/w.	
Modern straw fragments		P	P
Mollusca	**Habitat**		
Lymnaea truncatula	shallow waters & flooded pastures	-	+
Anisus leucostama	seasonal ponds & ditches	+	++
Vertigo antivertigo	marshes, fen, damp meadows		-
Lauria / Pupilla sp.		-	
Helicella itala	dry, grassy including sand-dunes		-

Key: '-' 1 or 2; '+' <10; '++' 10-50; '+++' >50.
P = present' c = charred; u/w. = untransformed or waterlogged; cf. = compares favourably

Table 73: Plant macro-remains and mollusca from bulk soil samples**.**

Discussion

The evaluation of Area K identified activity which spanned the Middle Iron Age through to the Roman period (Figure 51). Ritual activity was present in the form a Middle Iron Age ring-ditch and human remains, while a series of boundary ditches and artefact rich deposits suggested Romano-British settlement and agricultural activity.

A circular feature identified by the geophysics survey was evidenced within Trenches 8, 9 and 165 (Preconstruct Geophysics 2007). This feature was a circular ring-ditch *c.*15m diameter which had been re-cut at least once, and from this re-cut were recovered fragments of Middle Iron Age pottery. One of the sections excavated (within Trench 8) contained fragments of a human skull which appeared to be related to an earlier grave located along the inner circumference of the ring-ditch. The burial appeared to predate the ring-ditch and this suggests that the ring was cut within an area of some pre-existing ritual significance. It may have been associated with an earlier cut of the ring-ditch, part of a pre-existing ritual landscape which continued into the Iron Age. Human remains were also recovered to the south with a fragment of a human jaw bone which was recovered from a Romano-British ditch within Trench

3. This most likely came from an earlier feature which was truncated by the construction of the Romano-British boundary ditch and further alludes to the presence of human burials within this landscape.

The majority of the features encountered were dated to the Roman period and appeared to represent a series of settlement or occupation enclosures with associated fieldsystems. The settlement was identified within Trenches 1, 2, 3, 4, 10, 156 and 157 towards the southern end of the evaluated area. The features within these trenches appeared to represent the southern half, or southeast corner of a settlement core. Present in Trenches 1, 2, 3and 10 was an artefact rich dark earth deposit found within or capping many of the features. This dark earth appeared to represent the remnants of midden material which had been deposited to the southeast corner of the settlement and was caught within the boundary ditches. There was no direct evidence for structures within the evaluation trenches but there presence was suggested by both the dark earth material and the domestic pottery wares recovered, therefore it would seem likely that any structures associated with the settlement were located to the west, probably just outside of the evaluated area. The dark earth deposit only survived within the features themselves and as such was not present within the sub-soil, a result of Medieval and modern agriculture which was evidenced by a shallow nature of the top-soil and sub-soil and the a number of furrow remnants recorded throughout the evaluation.

Extending across the site was a series of linear ditches orientated on at least three different alignments, representing three probable phases of activity. These ditches were smaller and spaced further apart than the settlement ditches, and as such seemed to represent elements of varying fieldsystems. A lack of datable material or relationship meant that it was not possible to securely date any of them; however, one set of ditches were on the same alignment as the Romano-British settlement enclosures and as such it would seem probable that they were associated. These fieldsystem ditches were densest towards the settlement core where they appeared to form a series of infields, to the north the distances between boundaries expanded, transforming into a more open fieldsystem. This system was most likely associated with the Romano-British settlement. The other boundary ditches identified could represent earlier or later aspects of the same system with subtle changes to the ditches over time. The presence of the Middle Iron Age ring-ditch would suggest that these ditches may have been constructed during the Iron Age and that the Romano-British fieldsystem was a continuation of this.

Medieval and modern activity was evident across Area K with the remnants of furrows present within each trench. In association with these, and aligned parallel to a headland was a single modern ditch located towards the northern end of the site.

Area T1 Ricky Patten with Shannon Hogan (Figure 52)

Area T1 was situated at between 12.56m AOD and 19.18m AOD, to the north of Lolworth village (NGR 536700 264800) and within a recently cultivated field. The underlying geology was Ampthill and Kimmeridge Clay (British Geological Survey Sheet 187). The evaluation area was located along the southwest edge of the current A14, spread across three fields in front of Clare College Farm, and was sited at a location identified as a possible flood compensation area. This area was located at the base of a series of natural terraces, which rose to the south as an outcrop of Kimmeridge Clay. The terrace plateau (on which the current farm lies) was outside of the evaluated area; the evaluation focusing on the interface between these rises and a level plain to the north. This phase of the evaluation was undertaken between 12th October and 9th November 2009.

An initial survey was undertaken by Pre-Construct Geophysics along the proposed Scheme route; however, the presence of a gas main obscured the results from this and no archaeological features were identified (Pre-Construct Geophysics 2007). A second survey was undertaken by Bartlett-Clark on an area proposed for flood compensation (Bartlett 2009b). This identified a series of circular and rectilinear enclosures orientated east to west along the base of the terraces, and were linked by a linear arrangement of features. These enclosed internal features, suggesting the presence of settlement activity.

Seventy-one trenches were excavated, totalling 8,665.3m² of machining. Area T1 was located along the edge of an old flood plain of the Boxworth Stream. The southwest extent of the site rose up in a series of terraces and it was on these that the archaeological remains were encountered. The area was also located along the southern edge of the current A14, which is thought to have been constructed along the route of the *Via Devana*, a Roman road from Colchester to Chester, and so a series of trenches were excavated in an attempt to locate the road or roadside activity, whilst having to avoid mains services that ran within the evaluation area.

Trench No.	Length (m)	Orientation	Top-soil (m)	Sub-soil (m)	Colluvium/ Alluvium (m)	Total Depth (m)	Archaeology	Geology
229	37.00	NE-SW	0.13-0.17	0.38	0.65-1.08	1.20-1.58	None	clay
230	75.00	NW-SE	0.15	0.17-0.37	0.10-1.10	0.43-1.58	Iron Age	clay
231	15.00	NE-SW	0.16-0.19	0.25-0.27	None	0.41-0.46	Iron Age	clay
232	59.50	NE-SW	0.18-0.40	0.32-0.95	0.48-0.92	1.11-1.65	Palaeochannel	clay
233	43.75	NNE-SSW	0.24-0.27	0.18-0.29	None	0.42-0.64	Iron Age	clay
234	116.50	NW-SE	0.16-0.33	0.22-0.33	None	0.42-0.61	Iron Age	clay
235	49.50	NNE-SSW	0.20-0.40	0.10-0.28	None	0.38-0.52	Iron Age	clay
236	68.30	NE-SW	0.19-0.38	0.17-0.24	None	0.42-0.55	Iron Age	clay
237	89.90	NW-SE	0.15-0.30	0.15-0.27	None	0.39-0.47	Iron Age	clay
238	41.50	NE-SW	0.20-0.34	0.13-0.24	None	0.33-0.57	Iron Age	clay
239	67.70	NW-SE	0.26-0.37	0.08-0.26	None	0.34-0.60	Iron Age	clay
240	28.40	NE-SW	0.35-0.40	None	None	0.35-0.40	None	clay
241	89.25	NW-SE	0.23-0.47	0.08-0.23	None	0.33-0.63	Iron Age	clay
242	15.00	NW-SE	0.20-0.28	0.14-0.15	None	0.35-0.42	None	clay
243	50.15	NE-SW	0.30-0.38	0.10-0.16	None	0.43-0.54	Unknown	clay
244	110.00	NW-SE	0.25-0.39	None	None	0.25-0.39	Post-Medieval	clay
245	33.50	NE-SW	0.30	None	None	0.30	Iron Age	clay
246	24.00	NE-SW	0.28-0.33	0.13-0.23	None	0.45-0.55	None	clay
247	97.75	NW-SE	0.30-0.50	0.16-0.36	None	0.49-0.66	Iron Age	clay
248	52.00	NE-SW	0.34-0.48	0.24-0.45	None	0.58-0.93	None	clay
249	47.50	NW-SE	0.40-0.45	0.30	0.25-0.65	0.75-1.35	Palaeochannel	clay
250	93.50	NW-SE	0.15-0.37	0.17-0.30	0.20-0.85	0.60-1.40	Palaeochannel	clay
251	34.00	N-S	0.35-0.50	0.20-0.30	0.13-0.22	0.78-1.01	None	clay

252	100.00	E-W	0.23-0.75	0.21-0.30	0.95 (west end only)	0.50-1.50	No	clay
253	31.50	N-S	0.25-0.31	0.20-0.24	None	0.45-0.55	Iron Age	clay
254	58.40	N-S	0.30-0.41	0.24-0.43	None	0.65-0.73	None	clay
255	109.00	E-W	0.30-0.37	0.22-0.34	None	0.59-0.64	None	clay
256	81.50	N-S	0.27-0.33	0.22-0.29	None	0.59-0.61	Iron Age	clay
257	107.80	E-W	0.28-0.39	0.15-0.27	None	0.43-0.60	None	clay
258	57.80	E-W	0.22-0.33	0.10-0.20	None	0.40-0.52	None	clay
259	57.60	E-W	0.15-0.35	0.19-0.28	None	0.37-0.58	None	clay
260	55.70	N-S	0.27-0.30	0.14-0.20	None	0.41-0.50	None	clay
261	88.80	E-W	0.3-0.44	0.08-0.14	None	0.43-0.56	Medieval	clayey gravels
262	75.00	N-S	0.28-0.36	0.13-0.24	None	0.48-0.57	None	clayey gravels
262a	0.50	E-W	0.28-0.39	0.17-0.20	None	0.46-0.59	None	clayey gravels
263	56.05	NW-SE	0.15-0.50	0.15-0.30	None	0.45-0.85	None	gravel/ sand
264	37.40	NW-SE	0.25-0.30	0.20-0.30	None	0.45-0.5	None	Gravel/ sand
265	48.00	N-S	0.32-0.36	0.13-0.15	None	0.46-0.49	None	gravel/ sand
266	82.50	N-S	0.27-0.43	0.15-0.21	None	0.45-0.58	Undated	gravel/ sand
267	32.70	E-W	0.47-0.55	0.02-0.15	None	0.60-0.70	None	gravel/ sand
268	39.00	N-S	0.4-0.51	0.06-0.15	None	0.55-0.60	None	gravel/ sand
269	50.00	E-W	0.25-0.5	0.20-0.30	None	0.50-0.80	None	gravel/ sand
270	24.00	N-S	0.30	0.20-0.30	None	0.50-0.60	Iron Age	clayey gravels
271	47.20	E-W	0.18-0.26	0.19-0.23	None	0.37-0.49	Iron Age	clayey gravels
272	34.50	N-S	0.28-0.35	0.16-0.17	None	0.44-0.52	None	clayey gravels
273	54.70	E-W	0.34-0.45	0.14-0.28	None	0.54-0.62	None	clayey gravels
274	24.50	N-S	0.32-0.37	0.18	None	0.50-0.55	None	clayey gravels
275	154.60	E-W	0.27-0.35	0.2-0.26	None	0.45-0.60	Undated	clayey gravels
276	57.50	E-W	0.30	0.18-0.25	None	0.48-0.55	None	clayey gravels
277	58.50	N-S	0.26-0.33	0.25-0.33	None	0.52-0.60	None	clayey gravels
278	71.00	E-W	0.29-0.37	0.18-0.28	None	0.47-0.60	Undated	clayey gravels
279	59.50	N-S	0.32-0.40	0.1-0.24	None	0.46-0.60	None	clayey gravels
280	57.50	E-W	0.29-0.37	0.17-0.26	None	0.53-0.60	Undated	clayey gravels
281	109.00	E-W	0.26-0.36	0.18-0.35	None	0.51-0.70	None	clayey gravels
282	47.50	N-S	0.15-0.35	0.23-0.38	None	0.45-0.73	None	clayey gravels
283	25.00	N-S	0.25-0.35	0.15-0.20	None	0.40-0.55	None	clayey gravels
284	22.20	N-S	0.50-0.55	0.20	None	0.70-0.75	Undated	clayey gravels
285	14.70	N-S	0.25	0.15	None	0.40	None	gravel/ sand
286	24.40	N-S	0.30	0.20	None	0.50	Iron Age	clayey gravels
287	20.00	N-S	0.25-0.35	0.17-0.23	None	0.42-0.58	None	clayey gravels
288	108.60	E-W	0.20-0.31	0.18-0.24	None	0.40-0.53	None	clayey gravels
289	59.00	E-W	0.20-0.35	0.20-0.28	None	0.48-0.58	None	clayey gravels
290	38.50	N-S	0.24-0.26	0.09-0.16	0.11	0.42-0.44	None	clayey gravels
291	109.50	E-W	0.30-0.40	0.09-0.28	None	0.33-0.68	None	clayey

								gravels
292	58.40	E-W	0.28-0.30	0.17-0.23	None	0.46-0.51	None	clay
293	39.40	N-S	0.32-0.38	0.20-0.30	None	0.52-0.68	None	clay
294	73.30	E-W	0.24-0.35	0.19-0.42	None	0.51-0.75	None	clay
295	63.00	N-S	0.23-0.30	0.14-0.22	None	0.44-0.50	Iron Age	clay
296	30.60	N-S	0.29-0.32	0.20-0.27	None	0.49-0.57	None	clay
297	21.20	N-S	0.30	0.15-0.20	None	0.45-0.50	None	clay
298	50.00	E-W	0.24-0.39	0.23-0.26	None	0.47-0.65	None	clay
299	21.65	E-W	0.29-0.30	0.20-0.21	0.25-0.27	0.75-0.77	None	clay

Table 74: Trench information from Area T1

Results

The evaluation trenches aligned along the edge of the current A14 revealed no evidence for the *Via Devana* or associated features; however, the presence of a farm track and large gas main meant a wide stand-off had to be maintained. Although no evidence of Romano-British activity was recorded during the evaluation here, metalwork of Roman date has been recovered by metal detectorists towards the top of the terrace to the rear of Clare College Farm (Mr. Pearson *pers.com.*).

The majority of archaeological remains encountered were located along the base of the terrace rise, as was identified by the geophysical survey (Bartlett 2009b). It was possible to determine that the enclosures represented the northern edge of a Middle Iron Age settlement (Site 18) which probably extended up the terrace to the south. A large quantity of animal bone (787 fragments, 4449g) and pottery (771 sherds, 3574g) was recovered, and this material was from dark 'grubby' occupation deposits. By combining the evidence from both the evaluation and the geophysical survey it was possible to determine that there were at least 11 separate enclosures and that these enclosures represented two different phases of activity.

All trenches were positioned parallel or perpendicular to the A14, with the exception of Trench 238 and Trench 239, which were on a lightly skewed alignment in order to target a number of geophysical anomalies (Bartlett 2009b).

Trench 229

Trench 229 was located at the southwestern most limit of Area T1. Although not readily apparent from the present land surface, the ground level dropped at the western edge of the area into an ancient channel, the Boxworth Stream. This now exists only as a canalised stream. A thick deposit of alluvium had built up here, which gave the appearance of a very shallow slope on the present landscape. Here, the trench exposed gravel layers derived either from periglacial action or transported by the channel itself. No archaeological remains were revealed in the trench.

Trench 230

Trench 230 was cut at a right angle to Trench 229 and exposed a gradual rise toward the east, the edge of the channel (Figure 53). A thick alluvial layer was recorded at the deeper, western end, gradually dissipating as the trench became shallower. Four

archaeological features were located at the eastern, higher end, of the trench. Features **1082** and **1085** were northeast-southwest aligned linear terminals, whilst **F. 1086** and **F. 1087** were small pit or posthole features. Feature 1085 contained fragments of Middle Iron Age pottery; however, none of the other features yielded dating material. Potentially, F. 1082 and F. 1085 could be the two terminals of an additional sub-rectangular enclosure with an opening to the northeast, and the back end located in Trench 231 (**F. 1083**).

Trench 231

Trench 231 was cut from the eastern end of Trench 230 and at a right angle to it (Figure 53). A partially exposed pit was recorded at the southern end of the trench, but was not excavated. A northwest-southeast linear feature contained Middle Iron Age pottery, and may mark the southwest arm of a sub-rectangular enclosure (see Trench 230).

Trench 232

Located within the old channel route, Trench 232 exposed no archaeological remains, but contained an underlying geology comparable to that of Trench 229 (Figure 54). The lack of archaeological remains in the deeper trenches indicates that settlement activity was confined to the higher ground.

Trench 233

Trench 233 was positioned to investigate a series of geophysical anomalies (Bartlett 2009b), denoting an Iron Age circular enclosure, Enclosure 1 (Figure 53). This enclosure pertains to a series of circular enclosures (Enclosures 1-4), representing an initial phase of Middle Iron Age peripheral settlement activity. A second phase of Middle Iron Age settlement activity was signified by six rectilinear enclosures (Enclosures 5-11), linked by a central boundary, represented archaeologically by a series of pits, linear ditches and linear segments. Almost all of the excavated features contained dateable material, and most of those that did not were located amid areas of dense Middle Iron Age activity, and therefore likely to be contemporary. Analysis of the pottery, environmental and faunal data from the enclosures and other excavated features indicates domestic functionality.

Enclosure 1 was here represented by **F. 1052** and **F. 1088**; the former was a shallow curvilinear feature, whilst the latter was a partially exposed pit or terminus. These two features could form one continuous semi-circular enclosure; however, it is not impossible for the enclosure to exist as a series of pits and/or curvilinear segments.

Toward the centre of Enclosure 1, a small posthole (**F. 1091**), pit or linear terminus (**F. 1089**) and an ambiguous, potential linear feature (**F. 1090**) were excavated. The fill of the latter was a very firm, redeposited natural and, although the feature was not identifiable in plan, in section it clearly cut F. 1089. Features 1089 and 1090 were

probably related to the central boundary line, and thus to the second phase of Middle Iron Age activity.

Trench 234

Two furrows were identified in Trench 234, which were left unexcavated. The activity in the associated Trench 235 was not seen to continue into this trench.

Trench 235

Trench 235 was positioned to target a series of strong geophysical responses and at least 11 separate archaeological features were identified (Figure 53) (Bartlett 2009b). The density, complexity and size of the many inter-cutting features meant that excavation at this time was unlikely to produce a clear characterisation of the features, and thus only a couple of targeted sections were dug to determine the general character of the features. Toward the north end of the trench, a furrow was exposed, initially identified by the geophysical survey (Bartlett 2009b). A possible pit was cut into this furrow; both were left unexcavated.

A northeast-southwest orientated linear feature was excavated (**F. 1084**) and adjacent to this, a shallow pit (or linear terminus) and ditch were augered (Auger 1 and 2). The depths were consistent with other Middle Iron Age features on site, with Auger 1 some 0.36m deep and Auger 2 measuring 0.55m deep. The possible ditch feature (Auger 2) was part of an area of several inter-cutting features, the relationships of which were not clear in plan. Next to this, an exploratory section was excavated through the junction of two inter-cutting gullies (**F. 1093** and **F. 1094**). The section revealed that these gullies are part of a larger sequence of inter-cutting features or re-cut gullies.

South of this, an hourglass pattern of fill, undoubtedly two abutting pits, or linear terminals, were also augered (Auger 3 and 4), which revealed depths of 0.65m and 0.55m respectively. The north arm of Enclosure 5, as seen in the geophysics (Bartlett 2009b), was represented in Trench 235 by F. 1084.

Close to the augered pits, excavation of what appeared to be an east-west orientated linear feature revealed instead five inter-cutting pits or linear terminal features (**F. 1065**, **F. 1066**, **F. 1067**, **F. 1072** and **F .1073**). The pit/terminus cluster potentially formed part of the central boundary line relating to Enclosures 5-11.

An additional linear feature and linear terminus, both orientated west-southwest to east-northeast, the latter of which was excavated, may signify the partial remains of another enclosure system to the south of the central line, or a series of sub-divisions. Two further unexcavated pits were probably also related to the Middle Iron Age activity in this trench.

Trench 236

Numerous large features were exposed in this trench, often masked by furrows, and thus only a few targeted sections were dug to assess the nature of the archaeological

remains (Figure 55). Two pits and at least three linear features were identified, although the deposits encountered covered a large area of the trench making it difficult to determine the actual number of features.

The central boundary line was represented by the northeast-southwest ditch, **F. 1063**. A segment of curvilinear ditch was also excavated (**F. 1092**) and denotes part of Enclosure 2, the possible ring-gully of a roundhouse. A further northwest-southeast linear feature (**F. 1060**) was excavated, and probably relates to the rectilinear enclosure systems.

Trench 237

Trench 237 similarly contained a large number of potentially inter-cutting features, some of which were obscured by furrows (Figure 55). Four auger samples were taken to test potential features. Auger 5 and 6 were taken through the edge and centre of a possible linear feature. The central auger recorded deposits up to 1.35m deep, implying a large ditch feature. According to the geophysical survey (Bartlett 2009b), this ditch probably represented the western extent of Enclosure 6, as the excavated linear feature adjacent to this (**F. 1059**) was discovered to be a furrow.

Two east-west running divisions of an additional rectilinear enclosure system (Enclosure 7) were excavated in Trench 295 (**F. 1081**) and the intersection between Trenches 237 and 295 (**F. 1076**). The latter section demonstrated two earlier linear features cut on the same alignment (**F. 1074** and **F. 1075**) and implies that the enclosure system may have been periodically redefined. Auger samples 7 and 8 revealed a ditch and pit respectively, although their relationships with other features were not clear in plan. The ditch most likely forms part of a sub-division of Enclosure 7.

The central boundary line was represented in Trench 237 by the east-west linear feature **F. 1057**. This feature cut an earlier gully, (**F. 1056**), aligned closer to north northeast-south southwest. An additional two north-south orientated gullies were revealed at the eastern end of the trench, one of which was excavated (**F. 1054**). These differently aligned features represent a phase of activity, prior to Enclosures 5-11, but not necessarily associated with Enclosures 1-4.

Trench 238

One furrow (unexcavated) was exposed at the north end of the trench, whilst toward the middle and south, three gullies (**F. 1030**, **F. 1042** and **F. 1051**) and three pit/linear terminals (**F. 1033**, **F. 1034** and **F. 1035**) were excavated (Figure 53). Feature 1051 was a sharply curving gully, whilst features 1030 and 1042 were linear gullies aligned northwest-southeast and east-west respectively. The latter two did not contain dating evidence, although all three are probably associated with the Middle Iron Age. Feature 1030 was the same feature as **F. 1028**, located in Trench 239, and together formed part of a rectilinear enclosure (Enclosure 8).

The pit, or terminus features, F. 1033, F. 1034 and F. 1035 each contained Middle Iron Age pottery. The former two were in the vicinity of, and thus probably denote, the central boundary line. An additional possible pit feature was left unexcavated.

Trench 239

A circular enclosure, Enclosure 3, was identified by the geophysical survey (Bartlett 2009b) and denoted in Trench 239 by **F. 1027**, and probably by an unexcavated pit/terminus feature adjacent to the eastern boundary (**F. 1041**) of the rectangular enclosure (Enclosure 9; Figure 53). A gully located at the centre of Enclosure 3 (unexcavated) may signify an internal division. The fill of F. 1027 contained lenses of redeposited natural as well as medium to large burnt and un-burnt stones, indicative of a possible structure. This gully is the only feature containing structural material, although given the quantity of domestic waste found in other features, it is likely that the remnants of other structures may exist outside of the evaluation trenches.

As mentioned, F. 1041, with its potential re-cut **F. 1043**, form the eastern limit of Enclosure 9, as identified by the geophysical survey (Bartlett 2009b); the western boundary marked by **F. 1040**. At the centre of these two ditches was a small contemporary pit (**F. 1026**), flanked by a furrow to the west and a potential sub-divisional north-south gully (unexcavated).

Trench 240

Despite being located next to a geophysical response, thought to portray the central boundary line, Trench 240 did not reveal any archaeological features (Bartlett 2009b). This void lends weight to the argument that the central line was comprised of segmented linear features and pit features, as identified in other trenches.

Trench 241

Trench 241 was located toward the mid-point of the site, at the southernmost limit of the evaluation area (Figure 56). A single Middle Iron Age ditch was exposed and excavated (**F. 1061**) and is thought to be a major division, (possibly an enclosure; Enclosure 10), extending southwards, at a right angle to the central line. Feature **1044**, in Trench 245, not only represented the central boundary line, but also marked the northern extent of Enclosure 10 (see Trench 245).

Trench 242

This trench formed a 'T' shape with Trench 265, immediately west of the farm access route, intended to test the limits of the dense area of Middle Iron Age activity. No features were recorded in either trench, indicating a break in activity between Enclosures 1-10 and Enclosure 11 to the southwest (see Trenches 269-271).

Trench 243

A shallow pit (**F. 1010**), partially obscured by a later furrow, was investigated at the northern end of the trench but contained no dateable material. The pit cut into an area of scorched natural, although the cause of this scorching was unclear; the pit contained no burnt material. At the opposite end, a second small pit and possible oblong pit or tree-throw were excavated (**F. 1022** and **F. 1023** respectively). No finds were recovered, although all three features probably relate to the Middle Iron Age activity.

Trench 244

Trench 244 formed the long axis of a staggered cross of trenches, along with Trench 245 extending southwards, and Trench 296 extending northwards and targeted on an area of geophysical results (Figure 56) (Bartlett 2009b). Three furrows were identified at the western end and one at the eastern end of the trench.

At the intersection between these associated trenches, a large expanse of fill was exposed. Two sections were excavated through this area; one where natural could be seen on either side (**F. 1038**) and one at its easternmost limit (**F. 1031**), where a later pit (**F. 1032**) was cut into it. Similarities between features F. 1031 and F. 1038 imply that they are the same curvilinear ditch, forming part of Enclosure 4, with F. 1031 being a terminus (Figure 57). A further segment of this curvilinear ditch was excavated in Trench 245 (F. 1044).

A small linear terminal (**F. 1021**) immediately east of F. 1031 could indicate a separate phase of activity within this area; however, the possibility that it was the remnants of another terminal of Enclosure 4 (forming an 'entranceway' with F. 1031) cannot be ruled out. One small pit at the eastern end was investigated but yielded no finds.

Trench 245

Other than F. 1044, which forms part of the circular Enclosure 4 (mentioned above), a second ditch was excavated at the southern end of the trench (**F. 1049**), where the geophysical survey indicated an existing segment of the central boundary line (Figure 56) (Bartlett 2009b). The fills and form of this Middle Iron Age ditch were comparable to those of ditch F. 1061 in Trench 241 (Figure 57). It is thus suspected that, although F. 1049 probably represented the central boundary line, it also potentially marked the northern extent of a large enclosure (Enclosure 10), of which F. 1061 was the eastern boundary.

Trench 246

A single small, possible pit was revealed in Trench 246, but was not excavated during the evaluation.

Trench 247

Five features were exposed in Trench 247; two northeast-southwest aligned linear features (**F. 1046** and **F. 1068**), a small discrete pit (**F. 1048**), a partially exposed sub-rectangular or sub-oval pit or linear terminal (**F. 1045**), and a small, possible pit (**F. 1047**) cutting F. 1046 (Figure 55). Furrows were highlighted in this area of the site, but a lack of evidence for them in the trench indicates that they were probably confined to the sub-soil deposit.

Middle Iron Age pottery was only recovered from F. 1045, and although F. 1047 contained a piece of Medieval/post-Medieval pottery, the cropmarks of furrows in this locality, imply this pot sherd was potentially intrusive. Despite the other features not yielding any dating material, this trench indicates the potential for additional Middle Iron Age activity on lower ground, to the north of the relatively dense archaeological remains.

Trench 248

Two potential pit features were investigated in Trench 248. these proved to be natural sub-soil patches.

Trench 249

Trench 249 was located immediately east of the present stream, where the land dropped relatively sharply into the old river channel. Subsequently, a thick layer of alluvium had accumulated toward the west end. No features were recorded along the trench, although a deposit of dumped burnt clay and stone ([2063], **F. 1055**) was investigated at the west end, at the deepest point of the trench. Upon excavation, the material did not appear to have been placed in a cut feature, but rather dumped in a wet area, presumably the former water's edge.

The mixing of the burnt clay and stone with scorched soil and silty deposits, in conjunction with the irregularity of the ground surface underneath the deposits, suggests the material was dumped, then thoroughly mixed by both water action and trampling activity. This dump most likely relates to the Middle Iron Age settlement activity up the slope, and further investigation along the old channel edge may produce similar dumping episodes and discarded waste.

Trench 250

A single linear feature (**F. 1050**) was revealed at the east end of Trench 250. The shallow nature of this feature initially argues for it being a furrow; however, three sherds of Late Iron Age pottery were recovered. Hill run-off and extensive ploughing could have dragged pottery fragments down the slope; however, the lack of any Late Iron Age pottery elsewhere on site implies the pottery is associated with F. 1050 or that it at least originated from the environs of Trench 250.

Trench 251, 252, 253, 254 and 255

Trenches 251 to 255 revealed no archaeological remains.

Trench 256

A single sub-rectangular pit feature (**F. 1053**), was recorded in Trench 256, and its form was similar to F. 1045 in Trench 247. Although sparse, the presence of archaeological remains in Trenches 256 and 250 proves the existence of limited activity within northern areas of the site.

Trench 257

A number of anomalies were investigated in Trench 257, but dismissed as sub-soil patches and furrow remnants, with one potential tree-throw recorded at the eastern end of the trench.

Trench 258

Trenches 258 and 297 formed a 'T' shape arrangement of trenches adjacent to the A14, neither of which revealed any archaeological remains. The lack of furrows in the trenches directly adjacent to the A14, a phenomenon also seen in the geophysical survey (Bartlett 2009b), suggests either poorer preservation on the lower lying ground, or that ridge and furrow activity was confined to the southern region of the assessment area, on the higher levels.

Trench 259 and 260

Along with Trench 260, Trench 259 formed a 'T' shape mirroring trenches 258 and 297, and also revealing no archaeological remains. The geology of this trench was extremely mixed, and the remains of furrows created some sub-soil blotches.

Trench 261

Several furrows were investigated in Trench 261, in addition to two potential linear terminals (**F. 1036** and **F. 1037**). No dating evidence was recovered from these features, and their shared alignment with the furrows suggests they could be the remnants of deeper ploughing.

Trenches 262, 262A, 263, 264 and 265

Trenches 262 to 265 (including 262A) revealed no archaeological remains.

Trench 266

One northwest-southeast linear feature was exposed and excavated in Trench 266. No finds were recovered, although this feature was undoubtedly a furrow.

Trench 267 and 268

Trenches 267 and 268 were positioned east of the farm access road, toward the higher level of ground where the majority of archaeological remains were located. The lack of archaeological remains in these trenches, and Trenches 242 and 265 on the west side of the access route, indicates a break in activity between Enclosures 1-10 and Enclosure 11.

Trench 269

Trench 269 formed the southern side of a 'ladder' network of trenches, comprising Trenches 270, 271, 286 and 287, targeted on an enclosure system identified by the geophysical survey (Figure 58) (Bartlett 2009b). This 'ladder' was located in the southeastern part of the site, on the low ridge of outcropping Kimmeridge clay spanning the southeastern edge of the evaluation area. The trench contained three features; a linear feature, a terminal and a possible pit, none of which were excavated. The geophysical anomalies were identified as a rectangular enclosure (Enclosure 11) and recorded in Trenches 271 (**F. 1008**) and 286 (**F. 1020**). The enclosure system was aligned southwest-northeast, extending along the slope of this low ridge.

Trench 270

Trench 270 formed the middle 'rung' of the 'ladder', parallel to Trenches 286 and 287, to the east and west respectively. The trench exposed the northwest limit of Enclosure 11, which was not investigated here. **F. 1009**, a probable linear terminal, was aligned similarly, and potentially related, to the enclosure system. This feature was excavated but yielded no finds. A third ditch, excavated in Trench 271 (**F. 1016)**, was on a different alignment and may relate to a later phase of drainage.

Trench 271

Five linear features, on two separate alignments, and one possible pit feature were exposed in Trench 271. The northeast arm of Enclosure 11 (F. 1008) was excavated and contained a relatively large quantity of Middle Iron Age pottery and an intact mill stone in the lower fill. Interestingly, the trench did not contain a continuation of the northwest boundary, (identified in Trench 270), indicating a break, or possible 'entranceway' in the enclosure. Three parallel ditches, **F. 1007**, F. 1016 and **F. 1017** were aligned closer to the north northeast-south southwest axis. Upon excavation, these features yielded no finds; however, F. 1007 was seen to cut Enclosure 11 (F. 1008). These three ditches, along with a fourth unexcavated parallel linear feature, are aligned down the slope and thus probably represent a phase of later drainage activity.

Trench 272 and 273

These trenches were cut immediately east of the 'ladder' network that exposed Enclosure 11, to test the potential extent of the archaeological remains. Despite the proximity of these trenches to Enclosure 11, no archaeological remains were recorded in the trenches indicating a probable eastern limit to the settlement activity.

Trench 274

Trench 274, cut at the east end of Trench 275, and perpendicular to it, marked the south eastern extent of the evaluation area and revealed no archaeological remains.

Trench 275

The presence of a furrow (**F. 1014**) in Trench 275 indicates that, although not visible on the cropmark survey, ridge and furrow agriculture had occurred across much of the assessment area. Two additional features were recorded in the trench; a shallow pit (**F. 1013**) and a possible linear terminal (**F. 1015**). Whilst the legitimacy of the pit feature is dubious, F. 1015 may represent the terminal of a ditch located in Trench 278 (**F. 1012**) to the north.

Trenches 276 and 277

No archaeological remains were exposed in either Trench 276 or 277, which were located at the eastern limit of the assessment area.

Trench 278

North of, and parallel to, Trench 275, Trench 278 contained two comparable ditches, both aligned northeast-southwest (**F. 1011** and F. 1012). These ditches were located toward the east end of the trench, less than 5m apart. The eastern ditch, F. 1011, contained a fragment of Middle Iron Age pottery. Feature 1012 contained a patch of fill reminiscent of decayed organic matter, and potentially continued to and terminated in Trench 275 (F. 1015, see Trench 275). The linear form of these two ditches suggests they may relate to the second phase of Middle Iron Age activity, and served as either drainage or sub-divisional features.

Trench 279

No archaeological remains were recorded in Trench 279.

Trench 280

Trench 280 formed the central arm of a trio of trenches, comprising trenches 283 and 284, located next to the A14. Two northwest-southeast ditches located in this trench,

(**F. 1002** and **F. 1005**), potentially denote two sides of an enclosure, although the latter could also be the return of **F. 1006** in Trench 284 (see below). The distance of these features from the concentration of Middle Iron Age activity, in conjunction with the lack of finds, potentially suggests a different period of activity; however, the sporadic activity recorded in Trenches 250 and 256, supports the possibility of outlying features associated with the main settlement activity. A small posthole (**F. 1004**) adjacent to ditch F. 1002 was also recorded and similarly contained no dating evidence.

Trench 281

Trench 281 was cut in between, and parallel to, trenches 278 and 280. No archaeological remains were recorded in this trench, demonstrating that ditches F. 1011 and F. 1012 in Trench 278, and ditches F. 1002 and F. 1005 in Trench 280 did not continue along their projected lines and therefore either terminated or turned prior to Trench 281.

Trench 282

This trench was cut at the very southeastern edge of the evaluation area, and revealed no archaeological remains.

Trench 283

As mentioned above, Trench 283 was associated with trenches 280 and 284. No archaeological remains were exposed in this trench.

Trench 284

At the east end of Trench 280, Trench 284 revealed one shallow, poorly defined, northeast-southwest linear feature (**F. 1006**). The northeast terminus of this feature was exposed, and the lack of any features in Trench 281 to the immediate south, indicates that F.1006 terminated just outside of Trench 284. Alternatively, as implied above, F. 1006 may represent the return of F. 1005, located in Trench 280.

Trench 285

Trench 285 was part of a 'T' shaped arrangement of trenches with Trench 263. This trench contained no archaeological remains.

Trench 286

Associated with Trenches 269-271, this trench revealed three possible pit features and the southeast arm of Enclosure 11, F. 1020, as seen in the geophysical survey

(Bartlett 2009b). Here, the enclosure ditch was considerably narrower and shallower than in Trenches 270 and 271, and was cut by a small oval pit containing bone fragments (**F.1019)**. Feature 1020 could signify a smaller, sub-division of the enclosure; however, a combination of hill-wash and ploughing may have eroded or truncated parts of the enclosure system. The remaining features in this trench were not excavated at this time.

Trench 287

Trench 287 was the westernmost of a ladder of trenches (see Trench 269) and contained no archaeological remains. This indicated that Enclosure 11 did not extend westwards very far beyond Trench 270, although geophysical anomalies in the vicinity of Trench 287 (Bartlett 2009b), and evidence from other trenches indicated that Enclosure 11 was probably linked to contemporary enclosures elsewhere on site by the central boundary line.

Trenches 288-294

Flanking the A14, these trenches were located on the west side of the present stream, but external to the old channel course. The geology displayed typical glacial deposits of mixed clays and sand. No archaeological remains was exposed in any of the trenches. This does not indicate a lack of activity on the west side of the stream, but rather that settlement activity is likely to be confined to the higher ridge, further south, with limited areas of sparse activity on the lower levels, as demonstrated to the east of the stream.

Trench 295

Trench 295 was cut across Trench 237, extending both to the north and south, parallel to Trench 236. The northern end revealed a furrow, but the majority of archaeological remains were located toward the middle of the trench, at the intersection with Trench 237.

As noted above (Trench 237) the large ditch F.1081 formed part of Enclosure 7, whilst the inter-cutting ditches (**F. 1069** and **F. 1070**) and pit feature (**F. 1071**) related to the central boundary line (Figure 57). Three small pits (**F. 1078**, **F. 1079** and **F. 1080**) were excavated to the south of this and all produced Middle Iron Age material. Of interest, the domestic nature of the site is highlighted in particular by the finds recovered from F. 1079, which included burnt pottery and burnt bone fragments, indicative of cooking and household waste.

Trench 296

As stated earlier (Trench 244), Trench 296 was positioned to expose more of the large feature in Trench 244 (F. 1031 and F. 1038), but also to test the potential for the archaeological activity to continue northwards. Archaeological remains did not extend into this trench.

Trenches 297 and 298

Trenches 297 and 298 revealed no archaeological remains.

Trench 299

Trench 299 was cut perpendicular to Trench 251 to further investigate what was originally thought to be a linear feature in Trench 251. Upon excavation, this 'feature' was proved to be a natural anomaly, and no further remains were recorded.

Specialist Reports

The Flint (Lawrence Billington)

A small assemblage of 9 flints (47.7g) was recovered from the evaluation in area T1. Most were recovered as a residual element caught up in the fills of later features. The condition of the assemblage was generally good; only one piece was broken, although two pieces, a chip and a flake from F. 1085, were burnt.

Trench/ Test Pit Number	Feature Number.	Type	chip	chunk	flake	Total Worked Flint
239	1043				1	1
230	1085		1	1	2	4
245	1044				2	2
271	1008				1	1
264		Sub-soil			1	1
		total	1	1	7	**9**

Table 75: List of flints recovered

The assemblage consists almost entirely of undiagnostic waste products. Two flakes, from F. 1044 and F.1085 show some evidence for structured working in the form of platform preparation and blade like dorsal scar patterns. These pieces are likely to relate to Mesolithic or Neolithic flint working.

Later Prehistoric Pottery (Katie Anderson)

A large assemblage totalling 713 sherds, (3499g) was recovered from 16 different trenches. All of the pottery was examined and details of fabric, form, decoration and date were recorded, along with any other information deemed significant.

The assemblage predominately consists of handmade sherds of Middle/later Iron Age date (*c.* 400/300BC-50AD). The assemblage comprised small to medium sized sherds, with a mean weight of just 4.9g. A range of vessel fabrics were identified in the assemblage (see Table 76). Sandy sherds were the most common representing 53% of the total assemblage, as well as occurring as a secondary inclusion in many of the

other sherds. Chalk-tempered sherds were also well represented, totalling 23% of the assemblage. Shell-tempered wares and grog-tempered wares were not as frequent. The composition of the assemblage, in terms of fabric types, is typical of Middle Iron Age assemblage for this part of Cambridgeshire with similar fabric groups identified at numerous sites at Longstanton for example (Webley in Evans *et al.* 2005, Brudenell in Evans *et al.* 2006).

Due to the condition of the assemblage, very few vessel forms were identified, comprising a minimum of 25 jars (totalling 80 sherds) and one bowl. Jar types identified included several slack-shouldered vessels, several plain rim vessels and four beaded rim jars. Decoration was limited to a small number of vessels, comprising ten burnished sherds, two scored wares and one vessel with fingernail decoration on the rim. The most highly decorated vessel comprised 35 sherds (269g) from a small jar which had vertical rows of impressed dots going up to the rim (F. 1076, Tr. 237). This vessel has been identified as Early Iron Age in date, although the decoration is unusual in that it goes as high as the rim (Brudenell pers.comm.). Usewear evidence was limited to two sherds with sooting on the interior of the vessel and one sherd with sooting on the exterior.

Fabric	No.	Wt(g)
Chalk and sand	169	1034
Chalk and shell	1	7
Grog and sand	40	300
Iron ore and sand	1	15
Mica and sand	1	15
Oxidised sandy	3	11
Sandy	382	1476
Shell and sand	25	217
Shelly	44	190
Veg and sand	40	159
Veg and shell	1	9
Veg, chalk and sand	6	66
TOTAL	**713**	**3499**

Table 76: All vessels by fabric

Although pottery was collected from 16 different trenches, the quantities of material varied considerably. For the purposes of this report a small number of trenches and features have been selected for more detailed discussion.

Trench 245 in the south of the site produced the largest quantity of pottery, totalling 147 sherds (543g) from four features. Feature 1038 contained 70 sherds (223g), which included three jars, two burnished vessels and one scored ware. Feature 1044 contained 52 sherds of pottery (200g) which included a jar with fingernail decoration. All of the pottery from this trench was Middle Iron Age in date.

A total of 110 sherds (402g) were recovered from Trench 295, with a further 81 (501g) coming from the cross-cutting Trench 237. Feature 1070 (Trench 295) contained 52 sherds weighing 212g, which included two jars; one slack-shouldered and one with a 'T' shaped rim. Feature 1076, which was located on the intersection between Trenches 237 and 295, contained 68 sherds of pottery, including a large sherd from an 'S' shaped profile Middle Iron Age jar. One of the most interesting vessels within this assemblage was also recovered from this feature, comprising of 35 sherds (269g) from a single, probable Early Iron Age jar. This vessel was decorated with vertical lines of impressed dots. This is the earliest dated vessel from the entire assemblage; however, the sherds it was found alongside with were all Middle Iron Age in date, thus suggesting that this vessel was residual.

Evidence of later activity came from Trenches 239 and 250. A total of 33 sherds (192g) were recovered from F. 1040 (Trench 239). Although the majority of sherds were Middle Iron Age in date, two sherds were identified as being Middle/Late Iron Age, including a sherd from a bowl. Nine later Iron Age sherds (21g) were collected from Trench 250. Given the size of the overall assemblage, this is a very small quantity of material, representing less than 2% in total.

The pottery assemblage is typical of a Middle/later Iron Age assemblage in Cambridgeshire, dominated by plain, sandy-wares. Area T1 lies close to boundary between two different traditions of handmade Later Iron Age pottery, with shelly Scored Wares dominating the region to the north and northwest, as at Over, Earith and Haddenham, while sandy plainware characterises southern Cambridgeshire (Hill & Horne 2003). Although a small number of Late Iron Age sherds were identified, the sherds were too small to be able to determine mode of production; therefore, no definite Late Iron Age wheel-turned pottery was recovered. This suggests that the site was unlikely to have continued beyond the end of the 1st century BC, since if it had, evidence of definite wheel-made late Iron Age pottery would have been expected. With the exception of the single vessel recovered from F. 1076, there was no evidence of earlier activity on the site. The quantity of material recovered suggests that, although this was not necessarily a long-lived site, the level of activity, certainly in the southern end of the site was fairly high.

The Metalwork (Grahame Appleby & Andy Hall)

A total of 18 fragments (927g) of iron were recovered. The iron material was comprised predominantly of nails of unknown date, horse shoes, and fragments of 20th century farm machinery. Along with this were 10 pieces (87g) of copper alloy and one piece (16g) of lead of note, and these are recorded below.

Catalogue	Small Find	Trench	Feature	Context	Description
4185	1	261			Copper alloy loop handle from a single length of copper rod of circular section, both terminals have broken attachments - post-Medieval
4186	5	270			Small copper alloy button 18mm in diameter with an intact loop and traces of gilding on both surfaces - 18th to 19th century
4187	7	287			Small plain lead alloy button (pewter?), 16mm in diameter with a small loop on the back - 18th century
4188	9	259			Copper alloy circular object with two pierced holes - incomplete, possibly part of a cloth seal or circular lid from a more complex object - post-Medieval
4189	10	260			Irregular lump of copper alloy casting spill incorporating a large fragment of slag - undated
4190	11	241			Copper Alloy bar of circular section graduating to thickened terminal, 18th to 19th century
4191	12	259			Copper alloy circular button with a decorative border and traces of gilding, 18th/ early 19th century
4192	13	262			Cast copper alloy ring, heavily worn to interior of one side suggesting prolonged use (horse harness) - late Medieval/ early post-Medieval
4193		238	1042	1994	Fragment of copper alloy sheet
4194	Top-soil	275			Cast copper alloy flower shaped furniture handle with screw attachment to rear - 20th century
4206	3	248			Small conical shaped lead loom-weight, vertical lines on outer surface – Anglo-Saxon

Table 77: Copper alloy and lead artefacts

Faunal Remains (Vida Rajkovača)

Of 71 trenches excavated during this phase of evaluation, 13 contained features with faunal material. The largest quantity of animal bone was recovered from trenches associated with the Middle Iron Age activity (F. 233, 235, 239, 245 and 295). The hand-recovered material demonstrated quite poor preservation and high fragmentation; of the 236 assessable fragments, 152 (64%) were poorly preserved.

Trench	Features
230	1085
233	1052, 1088, 1089, 1090, 1091
235	1066, 1067, 1072, 1073
237	1076
238	1033
239	1026, 1027, 1040, 1041, 1043
241	1061
244	1031, 1032
245	1024, 1038, 1044, 1049
247	1046
271	1008
286	1019
295	1070, 1071, 1078, 1079, 1080, 1081
237+295	1075

Table 78: List of features with faunal material

Taxon	NISP	MNI
Sheep/ Goat	56	3
Sheep	4	1
Cow	43	2
Horse	25	1
Pig	5	1
Dog	2	1
Cattle-sized	39	.
Sheep-sized	40	.
Rodent-sized	1	.
Mammal *n.f.i.*	20	.
Bird *n.f.i.*	1	.
Total	**236**	.

Table 79: NISP and MNI counts for Area T1. The abbreviation *n.f.i.* refers to specimens not further identified.

The majority of features were considered to be of Middle Iron Age date. For the purpose of this assessment, the assemblage has been quantified and considered collectively. Of 236 assessable fragments, 207 (88%) could be assigned to element and further 135 (57%) were identified to species.

All main domestic species (sheep/goat, cattle, pig and horse) are represented and wild fauna is absent from the assemblage. Sheep/goat and cattle, the two most important multi-purpose livestock species, dominate the assemblage. Ovicaprids are the prevalent species, both within NISP and MNI count (Table 79). In addition to this, based on loose teeth, sheep have been positively identified (Halstead *et al.* 2002: 548). Cattle, a major source of meat, are slightly less well represented, followed by horse, pig and dog.

Trench 230
Only four fragments of bone were found in F. 1085, one of which was a sheep/goat tooth fragment. The remainder were unidentifiable.

Trench 233
This trench contained five features with faunal material, none of which were particularly bone-rich. Remains of sheep, cow and pig were positively identified.

Trench 235
Four features within this trench yielded 19 fragments of bone, the majority of which were cattle scapulae, horn core fragments and sheep/goat mandibular elements. Fine blade marks were observed on the cow scapulae.

Trench 237
14 bone fragments were recovered from F. 1076. Preliminary pottery assessment has dated this feature to the Middle Iron Age. Remains of sheep, cow and horse were found alongside some sheep-sized vertebra and limb bone fragments.

Trench 238
F. 1033 yielded a single sheep-sized limb bone fragment.

Trench 239
Five features recorded in this trench have collectively yielded 23 assessable fragments of bone. All of the main livestock species were identified and there is a complete absence of ageing and butchery information.

Trench 241
A single fragment of sheep-sized limb bone was found in F. 1061.

Trench 244
A total of 28 fragments of bone were recovered from F. 1031 and F. 1032, a possible ditch terminus and a pit respectively. The majority of these were loose horse teeth, although cattle and sheep remains were also identified.

Trench 245
Four features have yielded 31 fragments of bone, the majority of which were identified as cattle. Sheep, pig and horse were also present. Two examples of butchery were observed in this sub-set: one was a series of fine cut marks recorded on horse femur and the other were two cut marks noted on the femoral head of a cattle femur. Body part distribution has shown that loose teeth and mandibular fragments are two predominant elements.

Trench 247
Three fragments of bone were recovered from this trench, one of which was identified as a loose sheep tooth.

Trench 271
F. 1008 contained one loose sheep tooth and one cattle-sized limb bone fragment.

Trench 286
Only two fragments were found in this trench; a cattle-sized metatarsal and a sheep/ goat radius.

Trench 295
This trench has yielded that largest collective quantity of faunal material. 62 assessable fragments were collected from seven features, with two ditches (F. 1070 and F. 1081) in particular accounting for 76% of the assemblage (47 fragments). Again, all main domestic species were present, with sheep slightly better represented. One horse ulna and a sheep/goat scapula showed signs of butchery, whilst a sheep/goat metatarsal appears to have been worked. The specimen was found in F. 1081 and it represented diaphysis with a perforation drilled through the middle of the shaft.

Although fairly small, this assemblage is typical for the period. The principles of economy and animal husbandry during the Middle Iron Age have been extensively reviewed and summarised (Maltby 1996, Hambleton 1999). This work has demonstrated an emphasis on the economic significance of sheep and, to a lesser extent, cattle. The majority of material was recovered from the area of dense archaeological features indicative of settlement activity, which corresponds well with the domestic character of the assemblage. The faunal record from this evaluation represents domestic food waste and suggests a community heavily reliant on the management of sheep, cattle and pigs without any interest in specialisations or engagement in hunting for wild animal resources.

Environmental Assessment (Anne de Vareilles)

A total of ten bulk soil samples were taken from features for analysis. All macro-remains are listed in Table 80.All plant remains were preserved through carbonisation. The few cereal grains are fragmented and heavily abraded. They were found in association with vitrified charcoal that indicate very hot fires in which delicate plant remains are unlikely to have survived. Most of the samples contained some snail shells, but not in any meaningful quantities. Types are also recorded in Table 80. Modern rootlets and fresh straw fragments within the samples are a sign of soil disturbance, and although the effects of such disruptions upon the archaeological record are impossible to measure, they may account for the scarcity of ecofacts.

All but one sample contained a general scatter of charcoal inadvertently included into the deposits. The charcoal in F. 1009 ([1029]) occurred in such quantities and level of preservation as to suggest that it was intentionally discarded into the feature shortly after burning. The two small seeds within the assemblage suggest the fire was lit during the summer.

Features F. 1067, F. 1070 and F. 1072 contained one element of a cereal plant each (chaff, grain and grain respectively). Feature 1070 also had some arable weed seeds: 3 to 6 wild grass seeds. These samples suggest the features lay within or close to an inhabited area dependant upon an agricultural economy.

Sample Number		**375/6**	**370**	**371**	**372**	**373**	**374**	**377**	**378**	**379**
Context		2063	1929	1948	2032	2043	2058	2104	2111	2091
Feature		1055	1009	1010	1049	1052	1058	1067	1072	1070
Feature type		Pit								
Phase / Date		**pre MIA**	**MIA**							
Trench					245					295
Sample volume - litres		33	20	20	10	20	15	14	7	15
Flot volume - mililitres (estimates)		2	20	4	2	1	1	4	2	5
Flot fraction examined - %		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Charcoal										
large charcoal (>4mm)			+++	-				+	-	++
med. charcoal (2-4mm)			+++	+				+	+	+
small charcoal (<2mm)		+	+++	++	+	++	+	+++	+++	+++
vitrified charcoal			-					-	-	
parenchyma- undifferentiated plant storage tissue								+	-	-
Cereal Grains										
Triticum spelta / diccocum (spelt or emmer)										1
cereal grain fragments indet.									1	
Cereal Chaff										
Triticum spelta glume base (spelt chaff)								1		
Non Cereal Seeds										
Polygonum / Persicaria/ Fallopia sp. (knotweeds or knowgrasses										1
Potentilla cf. *sterillis* L. (Barren strawberry)			1							
Poaceae frags indet (wild grass seed frags.)										5
Poaceae fragment indet. (wild or cultivated grass seed frag.)										1
seed indet.			1		1					1
Freshwater Mollusca	**Habitat**									
Lymnaea truncatula Müller	shallow waters & flooded pastures				+					
Anisus leucostama Millet	seasonal ponds & ditches				++	-				
Damp/shade Loving Mollusca										
Oxychilus / Aegopinella sp.	generally damp and shady									-
Other Mollusca										
Vertigo sp.			-		-	-		-	-	
Vallonia excentrica / pulchella					+					
Vallonia sp.			-	-						
Trichia sp.					+					
Ceciloides acicula Müller –Blind burrowing snail				-						
Indet. snail									-	
Other Biological Items										
Bone fragments (burnt)								+	+	+(-)
>4mm small bones										
>4mm shell					++					
Other Artefacts										
>4mm pottery sherds								+		+
>4mm burnt clay		+++						++	++	++
>4mm burnt stone									-	
Modern intrusions (rootlets, straw and/or seeds)		P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P

Key: '-' 1 or 2; '+' <10; '++' 10-50; '+++' >50 items. P = Present

Table 80: Plant macro-remains and mollusca from bulk soil samples

Discussion

The evaluation of Area T1 was targeted upon a series of enclosures and linear features identified from the geophysical survey (Bartlett 2009b). These were recorded towards the base of a series of natural terraces which extended to the south outside of the evaluated area. The evaluation aimed to characterise these enclosures and to determine whether they continued across the flat 'floodplain' adjacent to the Boxworth Stream, and whether there was any evidence for the presence of the Roman *Via Devana*. The evaluation revealed that the enclosures appeared to be confined to the terraces and represented a relatively short span of time which encompassed the Middle Iron Age (Figure 59). Although these enclosures represented a single period, two separate and very different phases were recorded with one represented by a series of circular enclosures, and the other by rectilinear enclosures aligned along a central boundary.

The first, and probably earliest, of these phases comprised a series of four circular enclosures, very different to the succeeding phase where the enclosures were rectilinear in form. The enclosures of the first phase were identified as Enclosures 1 to 4, varied in size, with each seemingly representing a different use or function. Enclosure 2 was the smallest and shallowest of the four (0.70m wide and 0.32m deep) and the ring-ditch appeared to form the gully of a roundhouse or similar, single, structure. Enclosure 4 on the other hand, was the largest (*c.* 2.4m wide and *c.* 0.90m deep) with the ring-ditch here acting as some form of substantial boundary. The enclosures appeared to be grouped, with Enclosures 1 and 2 located within close proximity to one another, towards the channel, Enclosures 3 and 4 towards the centre of the site. Enclosures 3 and 4 were very similar to one another, although the ditch for Enclosure 4 was considerably more substantial than Enclosure 3; neither were ring-gullies for a roundhouse. Enclosures 1 and 2 were very different; the ring-ditch for Enclosure 1 was much more substantial and was very much an Enclosure, encircling an area of land, while the ring-ditch for Enclosure 2 was more likely associated with a single structure. These enclosures were arranged following the lower contour of the terrace.

The second of these phases comprised at least seven rectilinear enclosures, identified as Enclosures 5 to 11. These were arranged off a central boundary line which was recorded within Trenches 231, 233, 235, 236 and 237, and the boundary seemingly following the lower contour of the terrace, while the earlier enclosures (1 to 4) did not appear to follow any structured boundary. The enclosures appeared fragmentary with sections extending off either side of the central boundary with enclosures located along both the northern (5, 6, 7, 8, and 9) and southern (10 and 11) side of the boundary, which itself formed one side of the enclosure. Although none of these rectilinear enclosures cut the circular enclosures, the boundary line bisected Enclosure 1, indicating that they did represent two separate phases of activity. During the evaluation the trenches excavated exposed individual sections of the enclosures and the features within, although it was not possible to determine any potential relationships between the two phases.

Both phases of activity were aligned along the same contour and the central boundary associated with Phase 2 appears to have been a representation of this. When plotted together it becomes apparent that this boundary respected the earlier enclosures, only

cutting through Enclosure 1, and with Enclosure 2 along its southern edge and Enclosures 3 and 4 its northern which, as with the earlier enclosures, appeared to follow the lower terrace contour.

Phase 1 Enclosures	Size (m^2)
1	426.6
2	186.1
3	331.1
4	325.9

Phase 2 Enclosures	Size (m^2)
5	152.4
6	152.8
7	262.7
8	289.1
9	508.6
10	
11	293.5

Table 81: Phase 1 and 2 Enclosures

The enclosures from both phases appeared to represent a range of differing activities. Those to the west (and in particular Enclosures 2 to 9) appeared to contain evidence of occupation activity. In Trenches 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, and 295 there were several discrete features, such as pits and postholes which could indicate the presence of structures. The ditches which formed these seven enclosures all contained good assemblages of Middle Iron Age pottery and animal bone, along with dark and 'grubby', charcoal rich deposits, indicative of occupation. The remaining enclosures (1, 10 and 11) contained little artefactual material, and the depositional sequence was comparatively 'clean' with no dark spreads throughout the deposits. These enclosures appeared to represent a different form of activity; an example of this was Enclosure 11. Seemingly located away from the other enclosures, Enclosure 11 was rectilinear in form and orientated northeast-southwest. Of note was the presence of a quern stone which had been placed towards the base of F.1008 (the northeast boundary ditch) in association with a deposit of Middle Iron Age pottery. This would suggest that the core of this settlement, as represented here, was within the centre of the site and that the enclosures at the eastern and western extent represented peripheral activity such as crop processing.

The settlement appeared to have been sited along the southern edge of an ancient river channel (the Boxworth Stream). The evaluation along the edge of the modern cut for this identified a series of alluvial deposits which represented the edge of this channel. Sealed beneath these deposits in Trench 249 was a shallow hollow which contained fragments of burnt stone (a chalk or clunch material) and charcoal, indicating that this was utilised at some point, most likely by the occupants of the Middle Iron Age settlement.

Although no evidence was identified during the evaluation, metal detector finds to the south suggest a Romano-British presence at the top of the terraces. The settlement potentially continued throughout the Iron Age and into the Roman period; the deposits along the edge of the channel suggested that the water level probably rose, flooding the lower contour, saturating this area and pushing human activity further up the contour.

In the Medieval and post-Medieval period the land was cultivated. The geophysical survey identified evidence for ridge and furrow throughout the eastern half of Area T1 and traces of furrows were recorded throughout the evaluation trenches (Bartlett 2009b).

DISCUSSION

The evaluation has targeted large areas of both terrace gravels and clays in Cambridgeshire, in total, covering **82.90** hectares, resulting in the identification of **20** archaeological sites spanning the Neolithic to Anglo-Saxon periods. When combined with the previous Longstanton (Northstowe) evaluations of land within the scheme boundary, this total rises to **111** hectares, or approximately **40%** of the land within the Scheme boundaries.

The results of this work are discussed below in relation to the sectors (AS 1 to AS 4) which correspond to four main geological, topographic and ultimately archaeological zones. The overall methodology of the evaluation is considered in relation to the stated aims of modelling the character and extent of archaeological remains in the Scheme as a whole. The individual objectives and research questions are further considered on a 'landscape scale' for the gravel and clay geologies. The recovery of archaeological sites during the evaluation largely supports established settlement models within Cambridgeshire.

The Brampton Terrace (AS 1) and The Ouse River Valley (AS 2)

The combination of geophysical survey, air photo study and fieldwalking has been effective in locating both large 'robust' occupation sites and indicators of past activity on the gravels of the Brampton terrace and Ouse valley. These non-intrusive surveys have guided the discovery by evaluation trenching of 15 sites or site complexes spanning the Neolithic to Anglo-Saxon periods, the majority of which comprise negative cut features relating to settlement and land division. The work has also located a largely-intact Bronze Age barrow (Site 11) and waterlogged Neolithic / Bronze Age peat layers containing worked flint and preserved wood (Site 15).

Sites 1-8, Brampton Terrace

Sites 1 to 8 (within evaluated Areas A and B1) were located on the First and Second Terrace gravels (British Geological Survey 1:50000, sheet 187) to the east of Brampton village (Figure 61). The location of the gravels mirrors the course of the River Ouse; namely the Ellington and Alconbury Brook network. Topographically, the First Terrace rises gradually to the northwest from the alluvial deposits marking the river basin, whilst the Second Terrace, overlying it, rises much more sharply. Sites 6 to 8 were located within the lower First Terrace (from 11m to 13m AOD) and Sites 1 to 5 were located on topographically higher Second Terrace gravels (from 13 to 19.9m AOD). The topography appears to have strongly influenced the phasing of archaeological activity within these areas and it is this differentiation, with consideration to a wider landscape, and an assessment of the wider geophysical survey (Bartlett 2009a, 2009b) that is discussed below.

The evidence of earlier prehistoric activity was found either side of the stream that formed a natural boundary between the two gravel terraces. Site 7, represented by a hearth and earlier Neolithic flint, was located on the First Terrace, allowing direct

associations to be made between this, seemingly temporary occupation and the preponderance of Late Mesolithic/ Early Neolithic flintwork identified throughout Site 11 within the Ouse basin (see below). Within a wider framework, earlier Neolithic monumental activity within the terraces is scarce; however, an enigmatic 'horned' enclosure located on terrace gravels across the Ouse at Rectory Farm, Godmanchester has been dated to this period (McAvoy 2000). The wider geophysical survey of the gravel terrace undertaken for Lafarge aggregates (Bartlett 2009a, Field 8) located a large curvilinear feature over 100m in diameter – although undated and possibly of later prehistoric date this could also be a causewayed enclosure or large henge.

Site	Area	Period
1	A	Middle Iron Age
2	B1	Late Iron Age
3	B1	Romano-British
4	B1	Neolithic
5	B1	Anglo-Saxon
6	B1 & B2	Middle Iron Age
7	B1	Neolithic
8	B1	Anglo-Saxon

Table 82: Sites identified on the Brampton gravels.

In contrast, Site 4, comprising pits and probable tree-throws containing Mildenhall pottery and flint was situated on the Second Terrace on the northern side of the stream (Alconbury Brook?). This site was of a later date than the temporary settlement identified within Site 7. Similar tree-throws with contemporary pottery have been identified at Huntingdon Racecourse, with a suggestion that this represented a phase of de-forestation possibly associated with agricultural expansion (Macaulay 1995). Geophysical survey results immediately to the east of Site 4 indicated a possible ring-ditch, approximately 45m in diameter, which may possibly represent a henge (Figure 6; Bartlett 2009a). Later Neolithic monumental activity has been identified at Buckden (Evans 1997) with earlier monuments seen at Godmanchester. A complex immediately north of Brampton village (McAvoy 2000), included a cursus and ring-ditches with a possible henge also identified within the wider landscape (Malim 1991; Macaulay 1995).

Definitive Bronze Age activity within the First and Second Terraces of Sites 1 to 6 was very limited. No features were unquestionably dated to this period, although the identification of what appeared to be an un-abraded Deverel-Rimbury potsherd within a potentially Iron Age feature at Site 6 suggests a nearby presence. A possible continuation of the Middle Bronze Age fieldsystem identified within Site 11 may have influenced the very regular arrangement of the Middle Iron Age enclosures/ boundaries at Site 6, with the earlier system either now lost or too poorly preserved to be archaeologically visible.

The Middle Iron Age was represented by two sites of largely different character and topographic location. Site 1, was situated to the far north of the evaluated Scheme footprint on Second Terrace gravels, at 19.9m AOD, whilst Site 6 lay within First Terrace gravels at the base of the Second Terrace, at 12.2m. Site 6 was an extensive system of rectilinear boundaries and enclosures with strong structural elements, as well as a possible well/waterhole. Site 1 was represented by a ditch which appeared to

respect a palaeochannel. The ditch contained Middle Iron Age pottery and domestic detritus, all indicative of activity peripheral to a more defined settlement core. Both sites demonstrated probable continuation visible within both cropmarks and geophysical anomalies (Pre-Construct Geophysics 2007; Bartlett 2009a). The axis that the enclosures of Site 6 appear to respect continued beyond the road corridor to the southwest, whilst a series of irregular sub-rectangular cropmarks located approximately 200m south of the Site 1 palaeochannel suggest the core of the associated settlement is some distance away.

Apart from a temporal similarity, the only common feature between both Sites 1 and 6 was the location of an *in situ*, on site water-source. A single well/ watering hole was identified within Site 6. This was respected by enclosure/ boundary ditches and likely to have been a focal point of domestic and agricultural activity within the site. In contrast, the peripheral nature of the palaeochannel at Site 1 to the associated settlement suggests a more dispersed, and less expansive occupation. The main difference between the two sites is the contrast between the more 'organic' nature of the cropmarks on the geophysical survey of Site 1 and the more co-axial layout of Site 6 (Pre-Construct Geophysics 2008; Bartlett 2009a).

Later Iron Age activity was restricted to the Second Terrace gravels (Site 2), and was exposed in the northernmost trenches of Area B1 at the southeast corner of an enclosure with associated pits/quarries. Geophysical survey demonstrates that this was the corner of a complex system of rectilinear enclosures extending up slope (Pre-Construct Geophysics 2008; Bartlett 2009a). Considering the height and the geology of Site 2, the presence of a perched water-table, and the potential presence of a palaeochannel approximately 200m to the west, suggested that the utilisation of the hilltop was not limited by the lack of local resources. The localised water-table (not present 100m to the south) may well have been the resource enabling settlement here. A larger complex appearing to be a multi-period site was located by geophysical survey (Bartlett 2009a) immediately north of the larger Site 2, which also potentially utilised locally available high levels of ground water.

Three distinct phases of late Iron Age/ Romano-British activity were identified; spanning the 1st to 4th centuries AD. The initial phase of activity (the Gallo-Belgic) at Site 3 appeared to be (based on pottery density) evidence of domestic settlement rather than simple land division. This continued into the Early Roman period (1st-2nd century AD) with the settlement becoming larger and more permanent throughout the later Roman period (2nd to 4th century AD). This activity appeared to be a localised transformation of activity away from the later Iron Age site (Site 2), potentially in the immediate pre-conquest or conquest period. The change in alignment from the earliest settlement within Site 3, to the axis that defined the mid and late Romano-British occupation, suggested some form of reorganisation of the landscape. In the Ouse River Valley there appears to be a change at this time with the Iron Age, semi-permanent settlements replaced by larger, permanent settlements in the Roman period (Dawson, in Dawson 2000).

The third phase of settlement saw a redevelopment or augmentation of the more formalised organisation of the earlier occupation while still retaining elements of the nearby settlement. Agricultural activity was evidenced with a corn drying kiln representing the possible intensification of the settlement. Unlike the earlier activity,

Site 3 does not appear to have been influenced by topography, but was similar to the settings of other contemporary sites found by the evaluation on both gravels and clay lands.

Two distinct areas of Anglo-Saxon activity were identified within the evaluation area at Sites 5 and 8. Site 5 comprised at least six *grubenhäuser* (including those recorded by the geophysical survey; Pre-Construct Geophysics 2008 and Bartlett 2009a), which suggested permanent settlement on the gravels. Site 8 was indicated by a series of discrete features which were potentially part of a smaller settlement, or the periphery of a larger settlement centred elsewhere. This was the only area within the evaluation to date in which Anglo-Saxon activity was present. The Second Terrace river gravels here were being utilised for occupation, as was identified at Site 5 with the presence of approximately six *grubenhäuser*; while the flatter, First Terrace gravels contained the discrete pits and post built structures recorded at Site 8.

Sites 9 to 15 – Ouse Valley

The evaluation of AS 2 comprised an investigation of the gravel terraces either side of the River Ouse between the outskirts of Brampton and Offord Cluny. This incorporated the southeast extent of Area B2, and Areas C1, C2, M1 and N1 (Sites 9 to 15), with a broad spectrum of human activity recorded here spanning the Late Neolithic/ Early Bronze Age (Site 15) to the Roman period (Sites 9, 10, and 14; Figure 62).

Rather unsurprisingly, the Ouse River Valley saw a broad swath of activity which spanned the Early Bronze Age to the Roman period. Earlier activity was recorded throughout this valley zone with Mesolithic and Neolithic flints recovered from all of the evaluated areas representing 'background noise'. This material indicates that during these periods people were moving through the river valley, following the water courses and utilising the resources of this ecotonal environment.

Area	Site	Period
B2	9	Late Iron Age/ early Romano-British
M1	10	Romano-British
M1	11	Bronze Age/ Iron Age
N1	12	Middle Iron Age
C1	13	Middle Iron Age
C1 & C2	14	Romano-British
N1	15	Late Neolithic/ Early Bronze Age

Table 83: Sites identified in the Ouse River Valley

At Area N1 a Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age wooden post was found along the edge of the River Ouse, and was sealed by alluvial deposits. Although not designated as a *Site*, the presence of this post along with a deposit of burnt stones would indicate that the river here was a focus for activity. Site 11, an Early Bronze Age barrow, was situated on the opposite side of the river, atop a gravel rise and it is possible that the wooden post here represented associated settlement activity.

The barrow complex at Site 11 was located on the western side of the River Ouse. A number of Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age monument complexes have been recorded along the Ouse River Valley and these are concentrated on the low areas close to the river and its tributaries. These complexes appear to have been located at *c.* 6km intervals and, although microtopography and the presence of palaeochannels played a role in their location, the regular spacing of these monuments might also be derived from a 'social need', possibly as community markers (e.g. Malim in Dawson 2000). The barrow identified at Site 11 was possibly part of a wider complex of monuments recorded to the north; northwest of Brampton. This comprised a series of Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age monuments, including mortuary enclosures, a cursus, a hengiform feature, and a number of ring-ditches; a similar feature set to that recorded at complexes elsewhere along the river valley (*ibid.*).

Further Bronze Age activity was recorded at Site 11 where a number of ditches were interpreted as Middle Bronze Age fieldsystem enclosures (based upon the pottery recovered from them). The fieldsystem appeared to have been structured around the barrows, with none of the identified ditches cutting through the barrow. A similar relationship between fieldsystems and earlier monuments has been identified in relation to earlier monuments in the Ouse River Valley at both Barleycroft (Evans & Knight 1998) and Chatteris (Hunn 1992). It is thought that the barrows themselves were part of the division of the land, part of a boundary system which was not formalised until the Middle Bronze Age (field boundaries existed, but ditches were not dug). This practice was then continued into the Middle Bronze Age where cremation cemeteries were located along the line of the fieldsystems, a practice which has been recorded at Tanholt Farm, Peterborough (Patten 2003; Evans *et al.* 2009).

Iron Age activity in the Ouse River Valley is characterised by one of three settlement types; the unenclosed or open settlement, the enclosed settlement within a single or double ditched enclosure, and the settlements surrounded by similarly 'focused' enclosures (Dawson, in Dawson 2000). Here, Iron Age activity was identified at four of the sites (Site 9 and Sites 11 to 13), representing activity spanning the 1st millennium BC. Early Iron Age boundaries were identified at Site 11 and appeared to represent the periphery of settlement outside the evaluated area. Although little of this settlement was exposed during the evaluation it would appear to represent the first, open, settlement type, with no evidence for any form of enclosed or 'focused' space. Middle Iron Age settlement activity was evidenced at Sites 11, 12 and 13. At Site 11 this activity consisted of a series of pits which had been dug close to a natural hollow or 'pond', indicative of a natural spring which may have served as a water source. Again, this seems to represent an open settlement, with the focus being upon the possible spring. Site 12 was a Middle Iron Age enclosure located upon a small gravel rise between the River Ouse and a tributary of it. Here the enclosed space was an attempt to define an area between River Ouse and a tributary, potentially crossing point between Site 12 and 13. Site 13 was the most substantial of these settlements and comprised two associated enclosures and a small portion of possible fieldsystem. This suggests a small enclosed settlement. Each of these sites appeared to indicate small-scale, dispersed settlement, a factor which appears to be typical of Iron Age settlement within the Ouse River Valley where they were characterised by the cyclical or seasonal occupation of preferred sites (*ibid.*).

By the Roman period the mobility of these small, cyclical settlements in the Ouse River Valley had probably disappeared (*ibid.*). This new settlement pattern was characterised by Sites 13 and 14, where, by the Late Iron Age, the Middle Iron Age enclosures (Site 13) were no longer utilised, the inhabitants having moved elsewhere; however, in the Roman period the area was re-settled (Site 14). This time the settlement was much more intensively occupied with evidence for industrial production (metalwork slag, burnt deposits, etc.), relative wealth (the number of coins recovered), and tile-roofed buildings, all suggestive of a much more permanent level of occupation, an analogous situation with the findings from the Biddenham Loop (Luke 2008).

There is little evidence for the presence of villas in the lower Ouse River Valley, with those identified concentrated on Godmanchester, and those recorded often located on south facing slopes near a water course (*ibid.*). Site 14 was situated close to the River Ouse and its tributaries, on the southern slope of a clay rise, 4km southwest of Godmanchester. The presence here of both production/industry and apparent wealth within a settlement which spanned the 2nd to 4th centuries may indicate that the site was a villa complex. The river side location would assist both with production and trade whilst at the same time being able to utilise the clay lands to the northeast for agriculture.

All of the sites identified within this sector were situated in response to the water course (the River Ouse and its tributaries). Each site fits within a pattern of settlement and occupation which has been identified throughout the Ouse River Valley (Dawson 2000) with transient Mesolithic and Early Neolithic activity culminating in large permanent settlement all potentially utilising the wetland resources and opportunities for communication and trade.

The Boulder Clay (AS 3) and Souther Clays (AS 4)

The combination of geophysical survey, air photo study and fieldwalking has been effective in locating both large 'robust' occupation sites and smaller indicators of past human activity on the Boulder, Ampthill and Gault clays. These non-intrusive surveys have guided the discovery by evaluation trenching of five sites from the Iron Age and Roman periods. The fieldwalking has also recovered evidence of Mesolithic activity on the clay without locating the strong Neolithic and Bronze Age presence which guided some evaluation trenching on the gravels.

Area D and the Boulder Clay

Trenching to date on the Boulder and Oxford Clays between the River Ouse at Offord Cluny and Hilton village has comprised evaluation of Areas D1 and D2 adjacent to the A1198 (Figure 63). Additional evaluation trenching is planned along the Scheme route on these clays in order to verify results from geophysical survey (Bartlett 2009b) and suitable topographic locations adjacent to water courses.

The minor prehistoric lithic and ceramic finds from fieldwalking and trenching at Area D are evidence of the 'background noise' of activity from the Mesolithic period and an indicator that the vicinity was cultivated from at least the Middle Iron Age period.

The presence of Mesolithic flint on clay is not unusual – these areas having been used for hunting rather than the cultivation of later periods. Area D is part of a terrace above the Hilton 'valley' that contains West Brook, a tributary of the River Ouse. This valley comprises an area of outcropping Oxford Clay with localised gravel deposits – the Boulder Clay of the surrounding uplands having been eroded by river/glacial action. The valley and its environs was probably a favourable movement/hunting corridor for hunter gatherer groups linking to the Ouse valley at the base of the Boulder Clay. The evidence for Mesolithic and early Neolithic activity adjacent to the Ouse is attested by the lithic scatters located at fieldwalking Site 3 West (Anderson *et al.* 2009; Area N1/Sites 14 and 15 within this report).

The colluvial deposit within Area D1 contained abraded prehistoric pottery, probably representing a pocket of surviving cultivation soil from the Iron Age period (the remainder having been truncated by modern ploughing). Although the pottery was difficult to date precisely, this is consistent with evidence of Iron Age cultivation and occupation as evidenced elsewhere on the Scheme route (e.g. Sites 17,18,19) and on the expanses of Boulder Clay in nearby Bedfordshire (Mills 2007).

Area D was selected for evaluation on the basis of its proximity to the Roman Road *Ermine Street* (the course of the A1198); however, no evidence was found for Roman activity at this location either of cut features or artefacts retrieved from the plough soil by 'bucket sampling'. Elsewhere there is evidence that the surrounding lands were cultivated and part of the hinterland of Roman Godmanchester, which lies some 2km to the north. Examples of Roman activity in the near vicinity include a possible Roman beacon *c*. 350m to the north of Area D1 (MCB 3101) and a series of crop-marks adjacent to Lattenbury Farm *c*. 1km to the south-east (a putative villa, MCB 16157).

Crop-mark evidence for the wider vicinity (Palmer 2003) has not produced evidence of either Roman or Iron Age settlement on this section of the proposed Scheme, although this is likely to be because Boulder Clay and Oxford Clay is substantially less responsive than terrace gravel soils for producing crop-marks (Mills 2007).

The finds of Medieval pottery in the ploughsoil in Area D are consistent with the use of these clay lands for Medieval agriculture, these finds probably having been deposited by 'nightsoiling'. Both Areas D1 and D2 (as well as other land between the A1198 and Offord Cluny) were part of the cultivated Medieval hinterland of Godmanchester, being referred to as 'Depden Field' and 'East Garden / Kings Bush' in the pre-enclosure common field system (see Green 1977). Discussions with the landowner revealed that Area D2 had been a pasture field containing ridge and furrow earthworks until it was cultivated in the 1970s (Jensen *pers. comm.*).

Sites 16-20,XXII, XXVII, Southern Clays

The work at AS 4 comprised evaluation on the clay lands within the online Section (southern half) of the Scheme (Areas G, H, K, R2, and T1). This incorporates investigations undertaken ahead of the planned 'Northstowe' development at Longstanton (Evans & Mackay 2004; Evans *et al.* 2007).

From south of Connington the natural underlying geology changed, with terrace gravels to the north giving way to clay geology (Ampthill, Gault, and Kimmeridge). Most of the sites investigated here were situated on clay lands; however, Area R2 was the exception as it was located on the interface of the gravel terrace and Ampthill clay. Seven sites have been identified along a *c.* 9.3km stretch of the route (*c.* 5.2km of the route has been trenched to date). Sites 16, 17, 18, 19 and XII were all dated to the later prehistoric period, in particular the Middle Iron Age, whereas Sites 20 and XXVII were dated to the Roman period (see Table 84 and Figure 64).

Topographically, the sites were located on level plains (Sites 19, 20, XII and XXVII) or towards the base of natural rises (Sites 16, 17 and 18). Of the sites positioned at the base of natural rises two were close to the course of an ancient stream or water course (Site 16 was located on the terrace edge and Site 18 was situated at the base of an outcrop of Kimmeridge clay), while the third was in a natural hollow (Site 17).

Area	**Site**	**Period**	**Geology**	**Topography**
R2	16	Later Prehistoric	Gravel Terrace edge	Stream edge
G			Ampthill clay	Level plain
H	17	Middle Iron Age	Amthill clay	Natural Hollow
T1	18	Middle Iron Age	Ampthill/Kimmeridge clay	Stream edge
Northstowe	XII	Late Iron Age/ Romano British	Kimmeridge clay	Level plain
Northstowe	XXVII	Romano-British	Gault clay	Stream edge
K	19	Middle Iron Age	Gault clay	Level plain
K	20	Romano-British	Gault clay	Level plain

Table 84: Sites identified on the Southern Clays

Pre-Iron Age activity was identified in Areas K and T1. Here it was represented as a few background flints caught within later features. The majority of the material recovered was undiagnostic; however, two pieces recovered from Area T1 were suggestive of possible Mesolithic or Neolithic flint working. Widespread evidence for Neolithic settlement on the clay lands has yet to be identified; instead it is present as a background artefact rather than a feature component. It is thought that this is the result of Neolithic and Bronze Age settlements present on the gravel terraces and along river valleys having a mobile, or 'off-site' element and that these sites (identified through flint assemblages) were probably utilised only seasonally bringing communities to the terrace edges and the clay land resources (Evans in Lane & Coles 2002).

Mills and Palmer suggest that in 'Cambridgeshire, there had been occasional visits by people during earlier prehistoric periods, but serious occupation of the clayland began during the middle-late Iron Age with ditch defined farmsteads and field systems' (Mills & Palmer 2007: 12). Within this stretch of the Scheme the majority of sites

were Middle Iron Age in origin, Sites 17, 18 and 19 all appeared to represent Middle Iron Age settlement activity. It has been argued that this was a deliberate choice, and that due to the semi-permeable nature of the clays they would be able to retain moisture during droughts, produce high yield crops, and would also have been good for pasture (Hinman in Mills & Palmer 2007). Site 19 here differs from the others. This site did not appear to represent settlement, but rather the ritual component of Middle Iron Age activity.

The study of a series of aerial photographs taken in Bedfordshire during the dry summer of 1996 was correlated with a fieldwalking survey undertaken by David Hall (Mills in Mills & Palmer 2007). This indicated that from the Early Iron Age clay land activity began to increase. The background presence of flint indicated the presence of people living and moving across the clays from the Mesolithic through the Bronze Age, and that the small-scale clearance of woodland and the exploitation of natural clearings must have been important factors in these activities. It was within this backdrop of small patchworks of cleared woodland that the use of clays intensified in the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age. Late Bronze Age settlement activity has been recorded at Striplands Farm, Longstanton (Patten & Evans 2005) and at Park Farm, Impington (Murrell 2008). Both of these sites were located on the clay lands (Striplands Farm on Ampthill clay and Park Farm on Gault clay) with settlement structures and pit/wells present.

The investigations for the Northstowe project at Longstanton further indicated this utilisation of cleared woodland (Evans *et al*. 2008). The Longstanton project identified 36 sites, 15 of which were Middle/later Iron Age settlement enclosures. These settlements were generally small and consisted of 'organic' sub-rectangular or sub-circular enclosures, and it is thought that the layout of these was determined by the degree to which landscape had been deforested and cleared. The inference here is that the more 'organic' systems were representative of a wooded environment, while the more rectangular enclosures were suggestive of more open land. It is tempting to see the change in enclosure types at Site 18 as representative of a similar form of patterning, with earlier, sub-circular enclosures constructed along the edge of woodland utilising small clearances. The rectilinear enclosures, in turn, represented post-clearance settlement; there is still an 'organic' element to their arrangement because they are continuing on from the earlier phase of settlement and following the same contour, but with a linear regularity indicated by the central boundary. This interpretation, however, may be too simple and the arrangement of the circular enclosures was also informed by the water course and the contour along which they were sited.

Romano-British settlement activity has been identified north of Cambridge on the clay lands. Site 20 indicated the presence of settlement through a dark, artefact rich deposit which represented the remnants of midden material. As part of the 'Northstowe' development the Site XII locale was characterised as a 'major' Romano-British farmstead. While Site XXVII revealed the plan of a major building complex, including a probable bathhouse range and winged-corridor building, (the status of which was confirmed by the presence of building material, including *tegula*, box-flue and *pedilis* tiles; and metalwork, including a probable stylus, two 1st century AD brooches, bracelets, a decorated mount-fitting, and a complete hipposandal). It was thought that this building was either a villa or some form of official complex. These

Romano-British sites were all located along the line of the current A14, the likely route of the *Via Devana* (the Colchester to Chester Roman road) and were probably able to flourish as a result.

Studies of the Romano-British settlements around northern Cambridge have suggested that they were arranged at approximately 400m to 600m intervals. These are thought to indicate the range of the associated agricultural or pastoral land for each settlement, which appeared to extend onto the clays (*ibid.*). The recent evaluation by the Cambridge Archaeological Unit at North West Cambridge has identified a series of sites which fit this pattern, located along the edge of the gravel terraces and clay lands (Evans & Newman 2010). These sites appear to be contemporary with Site 20 and their location suggests that Site 20 was part of the same wider landscape.

Assessment of methodology

A combination of air photo study, geophysical survey and fieldwalking has provided the basis for subsequent evaluation trenching of the Brampton Gravels (AS 1), the Ouse River Valley (AS 2) and Central and Southern Clays (AS 3 and AS 4). The combination of methods has helped to overcome bias in either the singular methodologies or the 'visibility' of certain types of archaeological remains (both to non-intrusive survey and trenching evaluation).

The lighter soils of the Brampton terrace are more responsive to air photo study than either the alluvium rich Ouse Valley or clay areas. This terrace has therefore provided some strong cropmark indicators of archaeology such as Sites 3 and 6 at Area B1. These indicators from air photos have been enhanced by extensive geophysical survey, which has located archaeological remains both within the proposed scheme boundary, and latterly (after the 2009 evaluation was complete) including supplementary areas for Lafarge aggregates either side of Area B1 (see Figure 6).

The 'combination method' has produced effective results in helping to locate the typically 'hard to find' sites from the Neolithic and Anglo-Saxon periods (often less visible to remote sensing due to fewer linear features, see Wilson 2000). The recovery of an Anglo-Saxon pottery scatter during fieldwalking (FW Site 1) led to reinterpretation of geophysical plots and subsequent targeted evaluation trenching of a number of anomalies that were found to be sunken feature buildings, *grubenhäuser* (Site 5).

Limitations of remote sensing methods were also highlighted in certain circumstances. Geophysical survey and air photo plotting was not effective in understanding the potential for archaeological sites sealed by deep sub-soils or alluvium adjacent to the River Ouse at Areas M1 and N1 (although survey plots did note the presence of palaeochannels). However, the recovery of an extensive Neolithic flint scatter during fieldwalking on a nearby gravel 'island' at N1 (FW Site 3 West), indicated the importance of prospecting deeper sediments. A subsequent targeted test pit programme located deeply stratified Neolithic / Early Bronze Age peat deposits containing worked flint and the base of a wooden post (Site 15).

Similarly, air photos were not judged to be a reliable source for the clay parts of the scheme, there not being suitable 'drought' conditions of photography that would yield reliable indicators of sub-surface archaeological features (Palmer *pers. comm*.). In contrast, however, settlement features were located by geophysical survey on the clay. The Iron Age and Roman Sites 17-20 on Ampthill and Gault Clay were all found through the targeting of geophysical anomalies.

The success of combining these non-intrusive surveys and a robust 5% (by area) trenching strategy can be seen in the range and character of sites that have been recovered on the gravels and clays, including those 'hard to find' sites such as small groupings of Neolithic pits. The evenly spaced evaluation trenching has also provided an effective control or 'double check' on non-intrusive survey methods. The Bronze Age barrow at Site 11 was first identified during trenching – it was not visible on air photos held by the *National Monuments Record* (Palmer 2003), although it was subsequently located on the millennium map coverage of 1999. This feature was also only visible with hindsight on the geophysical survey because there had been interference from an electric cattle fence (Pre-construct 2008).

The wider geophysical survey has demonstrated that in most cases the identified Sites do continue beyond the 2009 evaluation boundary, in some cases outside of the Scheme and in other cases within land that has yet to be evaluated. In particular, an extensive geophysical survey undertaken for Lafarge aggregates has identified the continuation of other probable Iron Age activity within proposed land take to the North of the 2009 evaluation area at Brampton, effectively 'linking' Sites 1 and 2 in Areas A and B1, showing a densely utilised Iron Age landscape (Bartlett 2009a).

Prehistory on the gravel and clay

The strong results for AS 1 and AS 2 indicate the higher archaeological potential of the gravel terraces and relate closely to previously recorded or published archaeological information from the vicinity. The results also add considerably to defining the wider character of past activity on these gravels and clearly show that the greatest number and chronological range of archaeological sites within the proposed A14 scheme is found in the western end (*c*. 6km) of the off-line section.

The evidence for Neolithic activity, Sites 5 and 7 was first indicated by flint scatters found during fieldwalking, the features now perhaps only being the remnants of larger groups of features / buried soils that have been disturbed by millenia of ploughing on the relatively shallow gravel terraces. Flint scatters identified on an 'island' at Area N1 (FW Site 3 West) were only identified in the ploughsoil; no corresponding archaeological features were found despite intensive evaluation trenching. Again this was thought to be due intensive ploughing that had occurred since the Second World War. The potential for deeply sealed / preserved land surfaces within AS 2 was demonstrated by the wider evaluation around the flint scatters at N1, which located lower peats associated with lithic material and an Early Bronze Age wooden post.

Although clear results for Bronze Age land division could not be found at AS 1, it is reasonable to think (based on results from AS 2) that this area was cultivated and part of a wider area of Bronze Age occupation and activity. The largely intact Bronze Age

barrow at M1 / Site 11 is probably one of a wider cluster of monuments that extend beyond the scheme boundaries.

The results of non-intrusive surveys and evaluation on the clays at AS 3 and AS 4 indicated the potential of these clays for widespread occupation from the Middle Iron Age period. When considered alongside results from the Longstanton evaluation, there is also a clear indication of the regular distribution of Late Iron Age and Roman sites, illustrating a 'high density' landscape where farmsteads and settlements would have been closely spaced and within 'eyes reach' of each other. The results also help considerably with defining the wider character of past activity on these clays, supporting the established hypothesis that most sites on these clays are 'robust' and being detected by geophysical survey. Extensive follow-on trenching and top-soil/sub-soil sampling at these locations has not detected any substantial indicators of either Neolithic or Bronze Age activity.

There is unpublished evidence that localised lighter soils associated with rivers and streams ('stream gravels') on the Oxford Clay were being used for occupation and agriculture in the zone between the A1198 and Hilton village which has yet to be extensively evaluated. For example, there are a substantial amounts of crop-marks either side of the West Brook and tributaries within the Hilton 'valley', many consistent with Roman and Iron Age enclosures (web accessed March 2010 - http://www.flashearth.com/?lat=52.286715&lon=-0.11531&z=16.4&r=0&src=msl)

How far these crop-marks reflect an intensely used landscape or a deliberate favouring of pockets of 'lighter' soils is difficult to assess without wider fieldwork. However, recent fieldwalking and geophysical survey of the Scheme route produced only occasional finds on the Boulder Clay that were not of the robust nature one would expect from settlements. Unlike the large expanses of Boulder Clay in Northamptonshire and Bedfordshire, this may reflect that there may have been some deliberate favouring of the nearby terrace or 'stream' gravels simply because there was a choice available (D. Hall *pers. comm.*) An example of this scenario could be Area C1 (Sites 13 and 14) where the large Roman and Iron Age settlement ran up to the geological boundary of the Boulder Clay but stayed firmly on the terrace gravels.

Together, the work undertaken as part of the Scheme, along with previous (Northstowe) and ongoing (North West Cambridge) investigations, is helping to build a better picture of the archaeology of the clay lands. The 'organic' nature of the Iron Age would suggest that they revolved around animal husbandry, garden plots and woodland management. The study of the clay land sites in Bedfordshire (Palmer in Mills & Palmer 2007; Mills in Mills & Palmer 2007) suggests that the small nature of the Iron Age complexes, as well as a lack of any trackways, implies that stock keeping and horticulture were small scale and non-intensive. The Middle Iron Age activity encountered within the current investigation appears to fit this model, with Sites 17, 18 and 19 suggestive of small-scale settlement. In contrast Romano-British settlement activity seemed to flourish on the clay lands, and where present is commonly more extensive than the earlier settlements. With a shift towards more intensive livestock management a readily accessible source of water was required and the presence of trackways appeared. Sites 20 and Longstanton Sites XII and XXVII all appear to represent significant Romano-British settlements (with possible high status buildings), and Sites 20 and Longstanton Site XII were both more substantial than the preceding

Iron Age settlements. These settlements located on the clay lands were most likely supplying larger settlements located on the gravel 'hinterlands' (Evans & Newman 2010) and this time these activities intensified with larger and more complex enclosure systems.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In total **82.9** hectares of the Scheme have been assessed during the 2009 evaluation. Combined with the **28.1** hectares of the Scheme that were assessed by the Longstanton Evaluation, this makes an evaluation total of **111** hectares, or **40%** of the Scheme area. This work has located 20 Sites spanning the Neolithic to Anglo-Saxon periods.

The combination of three non-intrusive surveys and evaluation trenching has been effective in contributing to questions concerning presence/absence and chronological range of archaeological remains within different parts of the Scheme. The greatest number and highest density of Sites (**15**) have been located on the *c*. 6km length of the Scheme that lies upon terrace gravels surrounding Brampton and the River Ouse.

(i) Geophysical survey has identified a series of 'robust' ditched sites on the gravels and clay from the Iron Age and Roman periods, these discoveries being in keeping with other large evaluation fieldwork in Cambridgeshire.

(ii) Anglo-Saxon settlement at Sites 5 and 8 has been identified by a combination of fieldwalking, geophysical survey and evaluation trenching.

(iii) A 5% trenching methodology throughout has allowed a higher degree of confidence for locating sites which may not have been visible to non-intrusive methods, including the Neolithic sites at Site 4 and 7 and Bronze Age Barrow at Site 11.

(iv) Fieldwalking has identified cultural remains that survive only in the ploughsoil e.g. extensive Mesolithic and Neolithic flint scatter in topsoil at Site 12 / FW Site 3 West. These finds were the 'key indicator' that led to evaluation adjacent to the Ouse and the discovery of site 15, a 'lower peat' horizon containing lithic finds and a wooden post – potentially a preserved land surface that had not been disturbed by ploughing.

(v) The evaluation has not to date located evidence of Bronze Age or Early Iron Age settlement on the clays of AS3 and AS4.

(vi) Trenching on the clay has lead to a higher degree of confidence that 'blank' areas in the non-intrusive surveys do not hold archaeological remains e.g. Area D, Area G and large parts of T1.

(vii) The Boulder/Oxford Clay at AS3 between Offord Cluny and Hilton has yet to be extensively assessed by evaluation trenching.

(viii) On the gravel, future evaluation trenching should target areas with additional strong geophysical results on the Brampton terrace which are indicative of continued Iron Age settlement

(ix) On the clay, future evaluation should target locations on the clays which have some geophysical results and are situated adjacent to water courses or on the fringes of gravel terraces. This will provide additional 'control' on whether 'less visible' Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age settlements exist within the Scheme boundaries.

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OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

OASIS ID: cambridg3-77812

Project details

Project name	Archaeological Evaluation of Proposed A14 Ellington to Fen Ditton 2009
Short description of the project	An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by the Cambridge Archaeological Unit (CAU) between April and November 2009, along the corridor for a proposed re-routing ('off-line') and widening ('on-line') of the A14 road between Girton (NGR 541700 261270) and Ellington (NGR 518800 271900) (referred to as the Scheme). In total 13 areas were trial trenched. As a result of these evaluations 20 individual sites have been identified along the Scheme which spanned from the Late Neolithic through to the Anglo-Saxon period. Three Neolithic sites were identified, two Late Prehistoric sites were recorded with little artefactual material to enable a more precise date. Seven Middle Iron Age sites were identified spread throughout the Scheme. Late Iron Age activity was recorded at two of the sites. Four Romano-British sites were recorded and Anglo-Saxon settlement was identified at two sites.
Project dates	Start: 14-04-2009 End: 09-11-2009
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	A14 09 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	3079 - HER event no.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Monument type	STRUCTURE Late Prehistoric
Monument type	STRUCTURE Roman
Monument type	SETTLEMENT Late Prehistoric
Monument type	SETTLEMENT Roman
Monument type	GRUBENHAUS Early Medieval
Monument type	SETTLEMENT Early Medieval
Monument type	BARROW Late Prehistoric
Monument type	FIELD SYSTEM Late Prehistoric
Monument type	FIELD SYSTEM Roman
Monument type	FIELD SYSTEM Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POT Late Prehistoric
Significant Finds	POT Roman
Significant Finds	POT Early Medieval
Significant Finds	COIN Roman
Methods & techniques	'Sample Trenches','Targeted Trenches'
Development type	Road scheme (new and widening)
Position in the planning process	Pre-application

Project location

Country	England
Site location	CAMBRIDGESHIRE HUNTINGDONSHIRE BRAMPTON A14 Improvement Scheme
Study area	37021.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TL 541700 261270 51.9118410595 0.241675302548 51 54 42 N 000 14 30 E Line
Site coordinates	TL 518800 271900 51.9220232625 0.208873835746 51 55 19 N 000 12 31 E Line

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Cambridge Archaeological Unit
Project brief originator	Highways Agency
Project design originator	Robin Standring
Project director/manager	Robin Standring
Project supervisor	Ricky Patten
Project supervisor	Adam Slater

Project supervisor	Matthew Collins
Type of sponsor/funding body	Highways Agency

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Cambridge Archaeological Unit
Physical Contents	'Animal Bones','Ceramics','Environmental','Glass','Human Bones','Industrial','Metal','Worked stone/lithics','other'
Digital Archive recipient	Cambridge Archaeological Unit
Digital Contents	'none'
Digital Media available	'Database','GIS','Images raster / digital photography','Spreadsheets','Survey','Text'
Paper Archive recipient	Cambridge Archaeological Unit
Paper Contents	'none'
Paper Media available	'Context sheet','Correspondence','Drawing','Miscellaneous Material','Notebook - Excavation',' Research',' General Notes','Photograph','Plan','Report','Section','Survey ','Unpublished Text'

Project bibliography 1

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