

LAND EAST OF DAYS ROAD, CAPEL ST. MARY, SUFFOLK

An Archaeological Excavation



Jonathan Tabor

CAMBRIDGE ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNIT
UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE



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SUFFOLK**

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Volume I: Excavation Report

Jonathan L. Tabor

with contributions by Katie Anderson, Sue Anderson, Grahame Appleby, Anthony Breen, Lawrence Billington, Matt Brudenell, Natasha Dodwell, Andrew Hall, Vida Rajkovaca, Simon Timberlake and Anne de Vareilles

Illustrations by Andrew Hall

Cambridge Archaeological Unit
University of Cambridge

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Summary

An archaeological excavation was undertaken by the Cambridge Archaeological Unit (CAU) in advance of a residential development at Capel St. Mary, Suffolk between February and October 2009.

Excavations revealed a multi-period site with four main phases of occupation dating to the Late Bronze Age, the Middle Iron Age, the Early Roman period and the 12th-14th century AD. A further three possible phases of archaeological activity - dating to the earlier prehistoric period, the Saxon period and the 11th century - have been identified largely through surface finds and residual material in later features, while the site's final archaeological phase is represented by post-medieval enclosure ditches.

Evidence of earlier prehistoric activity was limited to surface and residual finds and the earliest confirmed occupation of the site dates to later prehistory. Late Bronze Age settlement remains comprised pits and post holes and included a pit which yielded a regionally significant assemblage of c.500 sherds of Post Deverel Rimbury pottery together with large amounts of burnt stone/flint. Evidence of a more substantial settlement during the Middle Iron Age comprised a large enclosure ditch within which were the remains of two roundhouses and a number of probable storage pits as well as clusters of postholes and small pits.

A simple post-built structure dating to the 1st – 2nd century AD situated within a contemporary field system represented Early Roman activity at the site and was potentially part of the estate of the villa recorded at nearby Windmill Hill in Capel St. Mary.

The majority of the archaeological features excavated belonged to the 12th-14th century AD and appear to represent a substantial, and potentially relatively wealthy, farmstead. The remains of up to five structures including an impressive aisled building, possibly a hall, were excavated. Other features included a flint lined well, a large number of pits and post holes, quarries, possible ovens/kilns, cobbled surfaces and ditches representing a number of phases of land division.

The recovery of a 13th century lead seal matrix which belonged to Albreda, widow of Robert of Brantham, from a medieval pit is an important find and offers a rare opportunity to combine future archaeological and documentary research. It has been established that the 'de Braham' family held land in Capel in 1287 and in 1354 acquired Boynton Manor. A 'Roberto de Braham de Capeles' also signed one of the (undated) Dodnash charters (other signatories were 'active' in the period 1252-1285). Further research is required to establish whether Albreda could have owned or lived on the site in the late 13th century, and whether the sudden decline in the early 14th century relates to her subsequent death.

Initial post-excavation assessment suggests that the Late Bronze Age, Middle Iron Age and 12th-14th century remains should be considered as regionally significant, each having the potential to further our understanding of the respective periods as well as address a number of research aims as laid out in the research agenda for the region.

INTRODUCTION

An archaeological excavation was undertaken by Cambridge Archaeological Unit (CAU) in advance of a residential development at Capel St. Mary, Suffolk between February and October 2009. The development area (centred on TM 0875 3855) comprised 1.2ha of former agricultural land to the east of Days Road to the north-west of the village (Figure 1).

The work followed a phase of archaeological desk-based assessment and evaluation (comprising fieldwalking, metal detector survey and trial trenching) undertaken by Archaeological Solutions Ltd in 2008/2009 (Smith and Sutcliffe 2009).

The project was undertaken on behalf of Orwell Housing Association Ltd. Work was carried out in accordance with a project design specification produced by the CAU (Standring 2009) produced in accordance with a brief issued by Jess Tipper of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (Tipper 2009). *The site code is CSM 030.*

Location, topography and geology

The development area is located *c.*300m to the north-east of the historic core of Capel St. Mary and some 7km to the south-west of Ipswich (Figure 1). The site is situated at a height of *c.*47m OD and slopes gently from east to west.

Capel St. Mary lies on the transition between two topographical zones determined by geology, the central Suffolk clay uplands and the glacial and river terrace gravels of coastal Suffolk. The underlying geology of the excavation area itself is London Clay, overlain by drift deposits of Till (BGS 1991).

Archaeological background

A full account of the archaeological and historical background of the area is detailed in a desk-based assessment (Smith and Sutcliffe 2009). The archaeological background is summarised below:

Earlier prehistoric

Mesolithic sites are known at Barham and Sproughton to the north-east of Capel St. Mary, and a Neolithic causewayed enclosure is known at Freston to the east, however, evidence of earlier prehistoric activity within the immediate area is limited to surface finds of worked and burnt flint. A small number of Mesolithic or Neolithic worked flints have been recovered from *c.*125m to the south of the Days Road site, whilst worked and burnt flint ranging in date from the Early Mesolithic to the Late Bronze Age has been recovered during fieldwalking to the south-west of Capel St. Mary.

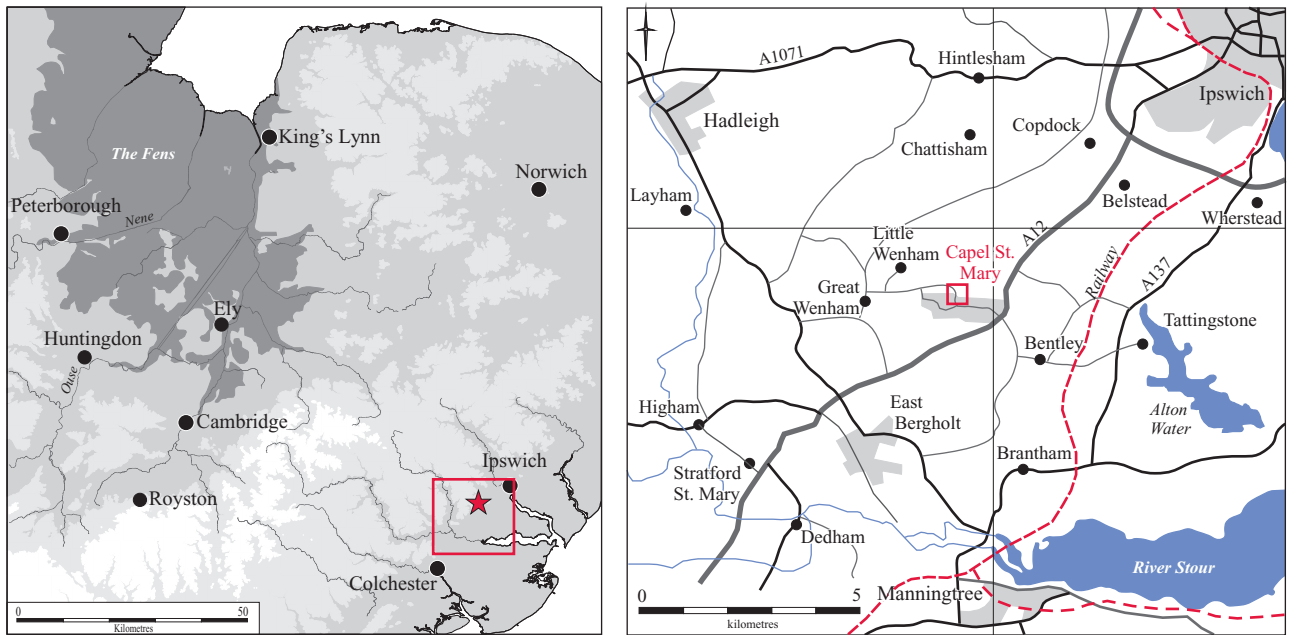


Figure 1. Location plan and excavation area

Bronze Age

Known Bronze Age sites - largely barrows/ring ditches and metalwork finds - in south-east Suffolk tend to cluster along the major river valleys on the lighter soils. To the north, the scarcity of known sites in the clay 'uplands' suggests that this area was probably still heavily wooded during the Bronze Age (Martin in Dymond and Martin 2009). Evidence of Bronze Age activity in the Capel St. Mary area is limited to pottery fragments from three Early Bronze Age Collared Urns recovered from an unknown context during building work in the village.

Iron Age

Once again, known Iron Age sites in Suffolk tend to be most dense along the lighter soils of the river valleys, although during this period expansion of settlement and field systems into the clay uplands also took place (Martin in Dymond and Martin 1999). The lack of known sites on the clay uplands may also be in part due to a recovery bias; cropmarks – through which many of the sites are known - tend to be much clearer on lighter soils when compared to the heavier clay soils (Mills and Palmer 2007). In Capel St. Mary, three ditches containing probable Iron Age pottery sherds were recorded during an archaeological evaluation to the south-west of the Days Road site and appear to represent elements of a more extensive field system in the area (Meredith 2006).

Roman

While evidence for prehistoric activity is relatively limited, Roman remains are much more widespread in Capel St. Mary and the surrounding area. The route of Pye Road, the Roman road connecting the major settlements at London and Caistor-by-Norwich via Colchester, is thought to follow the course of the present day A12 to the east of Capel St. Mary. The road network was probably established during the military campaigns of the 1st century AD (Plouviez in Dymond and Martin 1999) and Pye Road no doubt provided the impetus for much of the subsequent settlement in the area. To the south of Capel St. Mary, for example, work along the verges of the A12 undertaken at Latinford Bridge in 1927 exposed midden deposits and a number of 1st century AD cremations indicating Roman occupation in the area (PSIA 1951).

The most significant Roman remains at Capel St. Mary comprise a villa site on Windmill Hill to the south-west of Days Road. The site was first excavated in 1927 following the discovery of a pair of bronze lion figurines in a garden. Initial excavations revealed a Roman midden deposit with finds including pottery, window glass, animal bone, plaster, iron objects and tile. Subsequent excavations in 1946-48 and 1966 in the area around the initial findspot have produced further finds including 1st and 2nd century AD pottery, painted wall plaster, glass tesserae and bronze objects as well as a layer of opus signinum associated with a cobbled floor surface and the remains of a kiln (PSIA 1951 and 1967). Such finds, particularly the glass tesserae and painted wall plaster, as well as unsubstantiated reports of traces of hypocaust and walls, indicate a site of considerable status. In addition, re-used Roman

building material incorporated into the wall-fabric of the nearby Church of St. Mary provides further evidence of a once substantial Roman building in the vicinity.

Further Roman finds in the village have been unearthed during small scale building works and include a number of cremations, unstratified pottery, a coin of Gallienus (260-268 AD) and ditches representing a field system. The evidence suggests a strong Roman presence in Capel St. Mary, which probably extended into the 3rd and 4th centuries AD.

Medieval

Although evidence of Anglo-Saxon activity is notably absent from the archaeological record, Capel St. Mary is listed in the Domesday survey of 1086 indicating the presence of a pre-Conquest settlement.

Archaeological evidence for the later medieval period is also surprisingly scarce and largely limited to finds of unstratified pottery and metal findspots. As such the majority of evidence of Capel St. Mary's medieval history comprises standing historic buildings. Twelve medieval Listed Buildings are located in Capel St. Mary and nearby Little Wenham, of which most are timber framed and date to the 15th-16th centuries.

The Church of St. Mary in Capel St. Mary dates to at least the 14th century although potentially Norman elements are present in the church architecture.

Located in Little Wenham to the north-west of the Days Road site, Wenham Castle is a Grade I listed fortified manor house dating to c.1270-80 and is one of the earliest brick buildings in East Anglia. The Church of St. Lawrence in Little Wenham also has 13th century origins.

Post-medieval – modern

The post-medieval period is also well-represented in the historic buildings record. Within close proximity to the Days Road site are *Ladysmead*, a timber framed cottage dating to c.1600, which is located on the west side of Days Road, and a 16th-17th century rectory.

A Tithe map of 1838 shows the Days Road site itself as divided into two separate fields bearing the names Catesbray (north) and Barn Pightle (south). Tithe records indicate that the site was under arable cultivation during this period. The Tithe map is reproduced in the desk-based assessment (Smith and Sutcliffe 2009) and discussed in detail below (see below, Breen).

In the 20th century Capel St. Mary saw substantial growth due to its location within the commuter belt of Ipswich.

Methodology

The CAU's excavations at Days Road were undertaken in four phases in order to facilitate on site storage of topsoil as well as to enable the release of defined areas to the contractor following the completion of archaeological excavation. Phases 1-3 were undertaken between February and June 2009, while Phase 4 was undertaken in October 2009 following the dismantling of the overhead power lines which previously bisected the site.

- Phase 1 comprised nine trial trenches undertaken in order to better define the extent of archaeological activity in the south of the site.
- Phases 2-4 comprised the open area excavation of the remainder of the development area.

Topsoil and subsoil layers were removed using a 360° tracked excavator fitted with a toothless bucket and operating under direct archaeological supervision at all times.

The site was located using an advanced Global Positioning System (GPS) with Ordnance Datum (OD) heights obtained and potential archaeological features were planned at a scale of 1:50, and 1:20 where required. All potential features were sample excavated by hand and archaeological finds were retained. Environmental bulk soil samples were taken from selected features. A written record of all archaeological features was created using the CAU recording system (a modification of the MoLAS system) and sections were drawn at an appropriate scale.

Following consultation with SCCAS, a number of the large quarry features were hand excavated to a safe working depth before being 'bottomed' using a 360° tracked excavator. In this way it was possible to record the full profile of the features.

Metal detector survey of all exposed archaeological horizons and features was undertaken using XP detectors. All metal finds recovered during the survey were plotted according to the established site grid.

RESULTS

The additional trial trenching which was undertaken in order to more closely define the area of archaeological activity identified only two features which fell outside the site of subsequent open area excavation (see Figures 1 and 2). These comprised a modern sewer trench and a potentially Iron Age ditch which is discussed below in the Phase III Iron Age section.

Open area excavation revealed a multi-period site with four main phases of occupation dating to the Late Bronze Age, the Middle-Late Iron Age, the Early Roman period and the 12th-14th century AD (Figure 2). A further three phases of archaeological activity have been identified largely through surface finds and residual

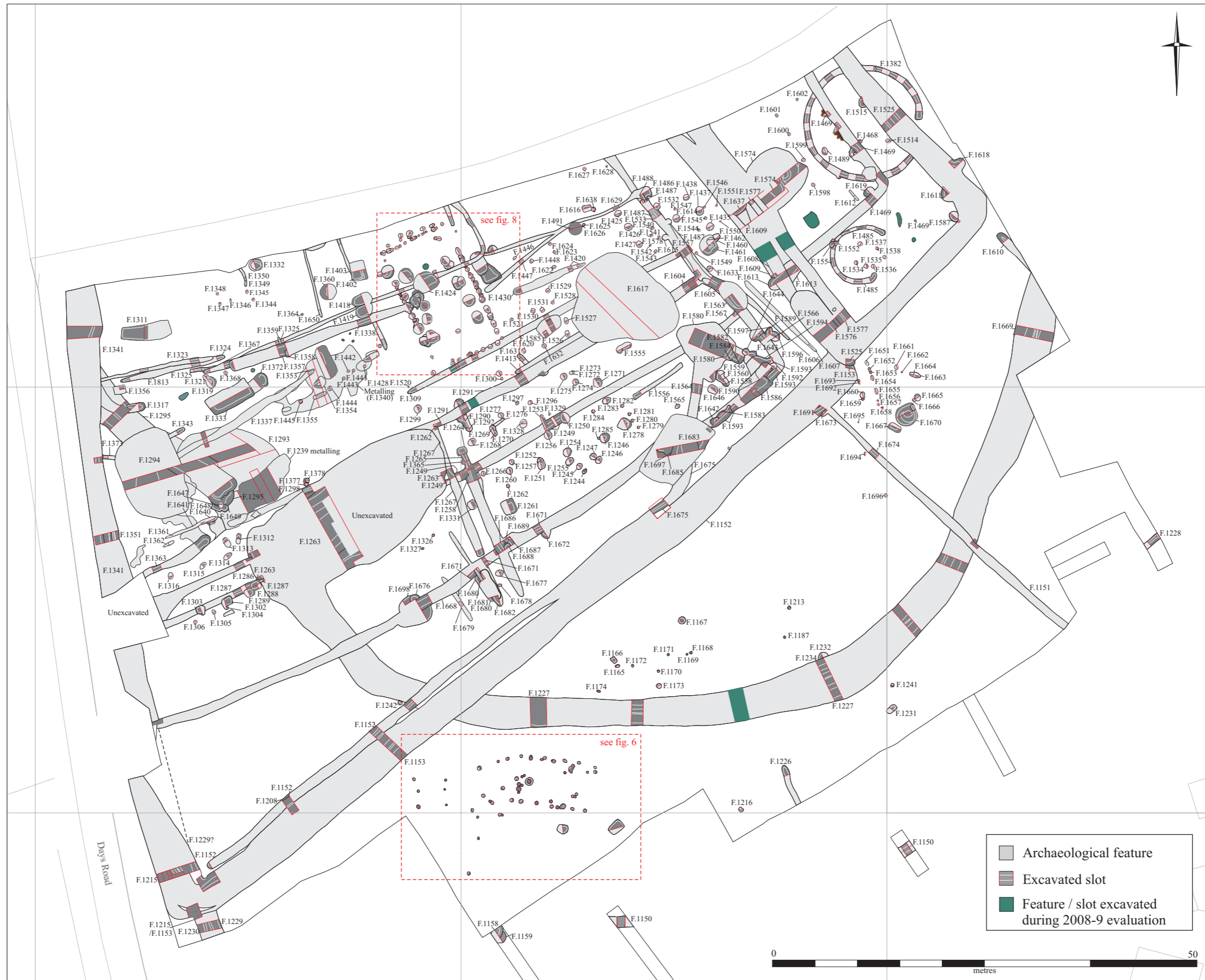


Figure 2. Plan of archaeological features

material in later features, while the site's final archaeological phase is represented by post-medieval enclosure ditches.

The archaeological horizon was sealed by between 0.3m and 0.45m of overburden comprising topsoil up to 0.35m thick and, in the eastern half of the site, a thin layer of subsoil c.0.1m thick. Although the site was clearly truncated – presumably largely by ploughing – preservation was generally good with little evidence of deep ploughing or disturbance below the topsoil/subsoil. As a result, features such as areas of cobbled surface – which survived in slight hollows – and a flint-lined well, survived relatively in tact.

Phase I: Mesolithic – Early Bronze Age

Evidence of activity pre-dating the Late Bronze Age was limited to worked flint, which occurred as surface finds or as residual material in later features. Worked flint finds (see below, Billington) include a Mesolithic to earlier Neolithic bladelet and several retouched pieces including a fine Late Neolithic – Early Bronze Age scraper from Iron Age pit F.1360. In terms of raw material procurement, all of the worked flint was manufactured from flint nodules occurring naturally on site or in the vicinity.

Phase II: Late Bronze Age

The earliest occupation remains at the Days Road site comprised a group of Late Bronze Age features in the east of the excavation area (Figure 3):

The most significant of the Late Bronze Age features was pit **F.1670** which yielded a total of 528 sherds of Post Deverel Rimbury Plainware pottery (see below, Brudenell). The pit was sub-circular and measured 2.58m in diameter by up to 0.65m deep (see Figure 4). The majority of the pit's finds assemblage, which also included a relatively large assemblage of animal bone (see below, Rajkovaca), was recovered from a rich charcoal primary fill containing large amounts of burnt stone/flint. Such pits containing heat shattered stone and flint are generally interpreted as cooking pits whereby 'hot rocks' are transferred from a fire into a water-filled pit in order to heat it (see below, Timberlake). However, pit F.1670 had no clay lining and in an unmodified state seems unlikely to have held water for any length of time despite the relatively high clay content of the natural till deposit into which it was cut. The rounded profile of the pit was also markedly different from other trough-like pits often found associated with burnt stone/flint deposits. An alternative scenario could involve burnt stone/flint debris that had accumulated close by – possibly as midden, given the presence of large amounts of pottery and animal bone - being cleared into pit F.1670. The degree of degradation of charcoal recovered from pit F.1670 is minimal (see below, de Vareilles), suggesting that this material would have been buried relatively soon after burning. A second smaller pit (**F.1665**) to the north-east of F.1670 also produced Late Bronze Age pottery and animal bone.

To the north, a group of 17 postholes (**Fs.1651-64**, **F.1666** and **F.1693-95**), three of which yielded Late Bronze Age pottery, would appear to be associated with pit F.1670. Eight of the postholes (Fs.1651-1658) formed a convincing alignment; while

this could be interpreted as simply a fence line or windbreak, the possibility that it represents the remains of a structure – along with the other postholes in this feature group – should also be considered. The ‘domestic’ finds assemblage from F.1670 is a clear indication of Late Bronze Age occupation and the presence of contemporary structural remains on site should be expected.

A second loose cluster of Late Bronze Age features was located *c.*20m to the north-west of pit F.1670. The feature group comprised, a posthole (**F.1539**) and two inter-cutting pits (**F.1552** and **F.1554**) truncated by Iron Age roundhouse gully F.1485, which produced late Bronze Age pottery. In addition, a short gully or ‘slot’ (**F.1612**) measuring 1.6m long by 0.06m deep contained a burnt fill which also yielded Late Bronze Age pottery.

Two isolated postholes (**F.1565** and **F.1626**) were the only other features which can be assigned a Late Bronze Age date at present although residual Late Bronze Age pottery was recovered from later features including Iron Age enclosure ditch F.1227 and roundhouse F.1382.

Phase III: Middle to Late Iron Age

Evidence of Iron Age occupation of the Days Road site included the remains of two roundhouses, as well as settlement-related pits and postholes, located ‘inside’ a substantial enclosure ditch (Figure 3). The projected course of the enclosure ditch, which extended beyond the edge of excavation to the north-west and north-east, suggests that a large proportion of the Iron Age settlement remains unexcavated to the north of the site.

The enclosure ditch

The main enclosure ditch (**F.1227** and **F.1295**) extended across the site, from north-east to north-west, in a broad curve, defining the extent of the Iron Age features to the north. The ditch was between 2.7m and 4.64m wide by between 0.72m and 1.36m deep, and contained up to 12 largely clayey silt fills (see Figure 4). The ditch profile, although variable, was characterised by steep sides and a narrow tapered base. An entrance was recorded to the south-west although only one ditch terminus (**F.1295**) was recorded due to the truncation of the terminus of the eastern arm of the enclosure ditch (**F.1227**) by medieval quarry pit F.1263. A substantial posthole (**F.1647**) set into ditch terminus **F.1295** suggests a gate structure of some kind may have existed over the entrance. A total of nine sections were excavated across the ditch, which yielded a total of 514 sherds of largely Middle Iron Age – with smaller quantities of Late Iron Age – pottery (see below, K. Anderson), as well as animal bone, worked flint and occasional fragments of fired clay loomweights (see below, Timberlake).

No *in situ* bank associated with the main enclosure ditch survived – not surprising given the shallow topsoil and the degree of post-Iron Age activity on the site. However, a clayey silt layer observed in the excavated sections of the ditch, which appeared to have washed in from the ‘inside’ of the ditch, suggests a bank may once have existed on the interior of the enclosure. Theoretically, if a bank was present, a

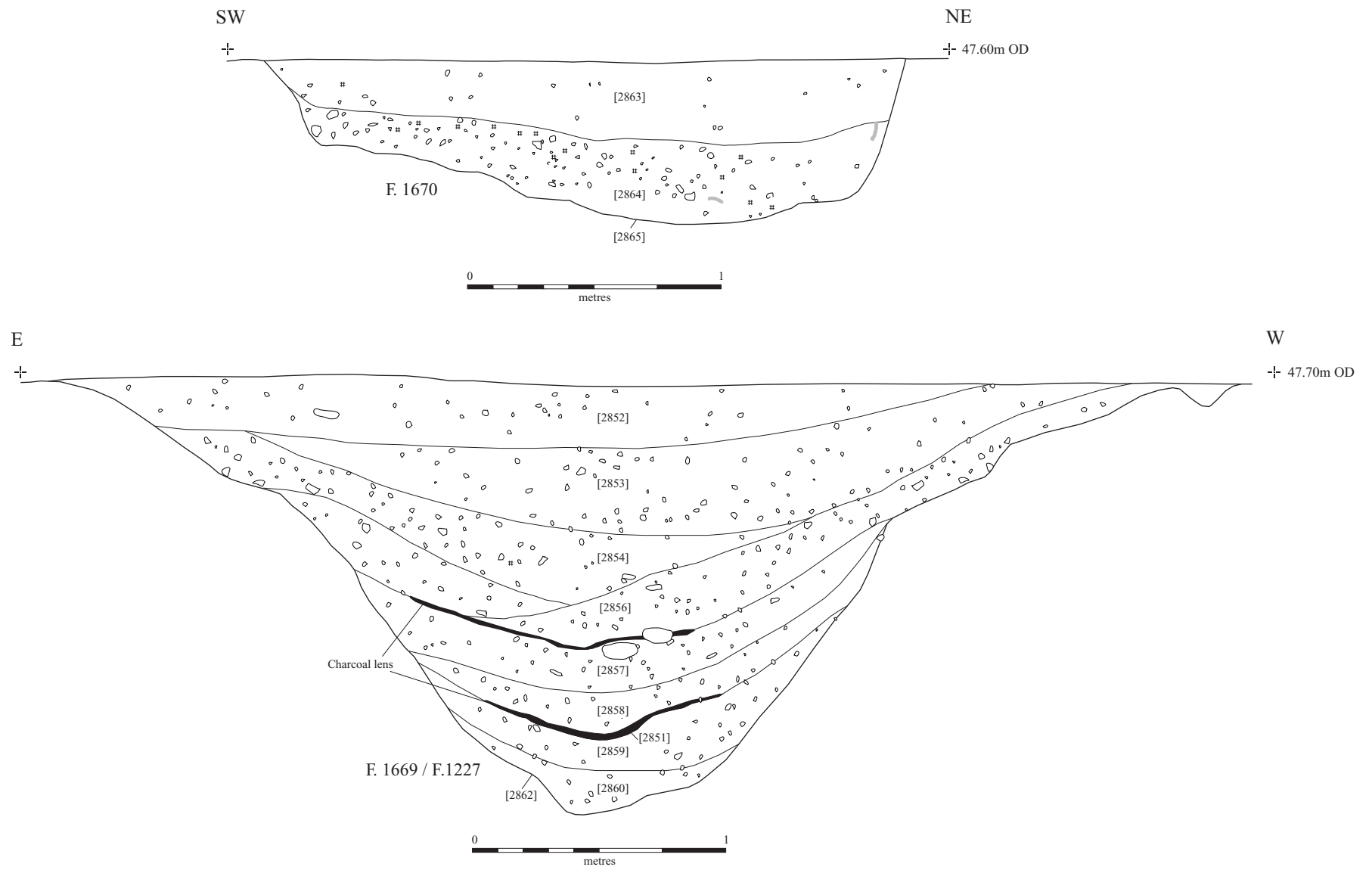


Figure 4. Sections of Late Bronze Age and Middle-late Iron Age features

corresponding 'blank' area, devoid of Iron Age features, should occur on the inside of the ditch. As such, the presence of a cluster of broadly contemporary pits (see below, Fs. 1165-1174 etc.) on the immediate interior of the enclosure ditch undermines the interpretation slightly, although certainly not sufficiently to dismiss it on these grounds alone.

Structures

In the northern corner of the excavation area penannular gullies marked the site of two Iron Age roundhouses:

Structure 1

The site of Structure 1, the larger of the two roundhouses, was marked by a gully (**F.1382**) measuring *c.*14m in diameter with a south-east facing entrance (Figure 5). The gully itself measured between 0.57m and 0.81m wide by between 0.14m and 0.31m deep. Alternate 1m segments (15 segments in total) of the feature were sample excavated and produced a finds assemblage comprising 160 sherds of Middle Iron Age pottery, animal bone and a significant number of fragments of triangular fired clay loomweights.

On the interior of roundhouse gully F.1382 five postholes / pits were recorded as well as two areas of disturbance associated with later, medieval ditch F.1469, which truncated Structure 1. The five postholes / pits (**F.1468**, **F.1470**, **F.1489**, **F.1514** and **F.1515**) did not form a clear pattern and it is unclear whether they were structural components. Postholes F.1468 and F.1515 did, however, produce Middle Iron Age pottery suggesting that the features are contemporary with roundhouse gully F.1382.

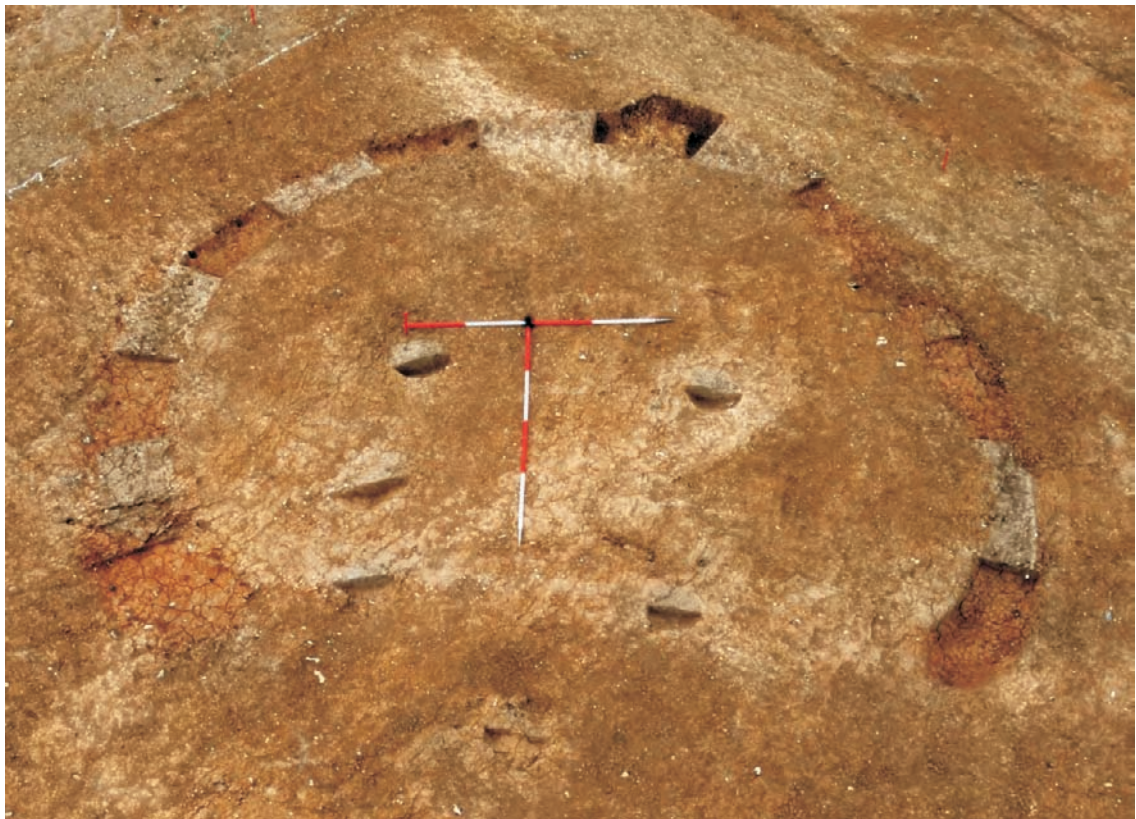
Immediately to the west of Structure 1, a linear arrangement of five postholes (**Fs. 1598-1602**) - one of which (F.1599) produced two sherds of Late Iron Age pottery - marked a fence line, potentially a windbreak, which may have been associated with the structure.

Structure 2

Approximately 5m to the south of Structure 2, a smaller roundhouse, Structure 2, was located (Figure 5). The horseshoe-shaped roundhouse gully (**F.1485**) measured *c.*7m in diameter with an entrance to the south-east. Once again, alternate 1m segments of the gully were excavated (a total of eight sections), which measured between 0.33m and 0.64m wide by between 0.05m and 0.2m deep. The fills of the roundhouse gully yielded 50 sherds of Middle Iron Age pottery and animal bone. On the interior of the gully six postholes were recorded. Of these, postholes **F.1534** and **Fs.1536-8** appear to form a four-post structure measuring *c.*2.5m across. Whether this is contemporary with gully F.1485 or represents a different phase of structure on the same site is unclear although F.1534 produced two sherds of Middle Iron Age pottery. Of the remaining two postholes, **F.1535** is undated but potentially associated with the structure, and F.1539 produced Late Bronze Age pottery (discussed above).



Structure 1



Structure 2

Figure 5. Middle Iron Age structures

Pits and postholes

A further 24 pits and postholes have been identified as Iron Age either from finds assemblages or by association with dated features.

Pits F.1332, F.1360, F.1424, F.1434, 1460 and F.1676

Four of the Iron Age pits were relatively large and deep measuring between 1.1m and 2.5m in diameter and by between 0.38m and 0.79m deep, each was steep sided with a flattish base. Pit **F.1676** occurred in relative isolation in the south-west of the settlement enclosure and produced 55 sherds of Middle to Late Iron Age pottery as well as two small re-fitting human skull fragments. Pits **F.1360**, **F.1424** and **F.1434** – which was truncated by burnt stone-filled pit **F.1440** – occurred in a cluster in the north of the excavation area. These three pits were less finds-rich and yielded just 25 Middle Iron Age pottery sherds between them. Two further pits - **F.1332**, to the north-west of pit F.1360 and **F.1460**, to the west of Structure 2 - produced no dating evidence but were very similar in form to the other Middle Iron Age pits and seem likely to have been contemporary. No direct evidence of the function of the pits was encountered, although that they were utilised as storage pits is perhaps the most obvious interpretation.

Fs.1165-1174, F.1187, F.121 and F.1232

A cluster of five pits (**Fs.1165-67**, **F.1173** and **F.1232**) and eight small pits or ‘postholes’ (**Fs.1168-72**, **F.1174**, **F.1287** and **F.1213**) were located in the far south of the Iron Age settlement enclosure. Five of the pits produced Middle Iron Age or Middle – Late Iron Age pottery while F.1172 yielded a single sherd of Early to Middle Iron Age pottery and was one of the few potentially earlier Iron Age features on site. A number of the pits, most notably F.1165, F.1167 and F.1232 contained frequent burnt stone fragments. Only small areas of *in situ* burning were encountered (around F.1170 and F.1171) and as with Late Bronze Age pit F.1670 the interpretation of the features themselves as ‘cooking pits’ is not entirely convincing, however, the high incidence of burnt stone and charcoal in the pit fills does once again suggest re-deposited hearth debris.

The relationship of the above pits and postholes to the conjectured bank associated with enclosure ditch F.1227 is discussed above and it is possible – especially given the fact that F.1232 is cut by ditch F.1227 – that these pits represent a slightly earlier phase of open settlement, prior to the establishment of the ditched enclosure.

Pit F.1667

Pit **F.1667**, located immediately to the west of Late Bronze Age pit F.1670 was notable for its assemblage of 76 sherds of Middle Iron Age pottery and animal bone. To the west of **F.1667** a posthole (F.1694) produced 12 sherds of Late Iron Age pottery and is one of the few convincingly Late Iron Age features on site.

Of the three remaining Iron Age pits/postholes two (**F. 1529** and **F.1630**) occurred in relative isolation and yielded Middle Iron Age pottery, while pit **F.1587** was located to the south of Structure 1 and was almost certainly contemporary. Three other undated pits to the south of Structures 1 and 2 (**F.1611**, **F.1618** and **F.1619**) also seem likely to be Iron Age features given their location.

Ditch F.1150

The additional trial trenching undertaken in order to evaluate the area of limited archaeological activity in the far south of the Days Road site identified one further possible Iron Age feature. Ditch **F.1150**, identified in Trenches 15 and 16, as well as in Trench 7 of the initial archaeological evaluation (Smith and Sutcliffe 2009), produced two sherds of Middle to Late Iron Age pottery. Undated 'ditch terminus' **F.1158**, in Trench 11, was potentially a continuation of F.1150 although it did appear to occupy a slightly different alignment.

Phase IV: Early Roman

While small amounts of Early Roman pottery occurred as residual material in later features across the site, Roman features were limited to the south of the site where the remains of a simple post built structure and associated pits were located, together with elements of a contemporary field system (Figure 6):

Structure 3

Located in the south-west of the excavation area, Structure 3 comprised 30 truncated postholes (see Appendix A for details). The structure, which was aligned east to west, was rectangular and measured *c.*8m by *c.*5m (see Figures 6 and 7). An eroded hollow may represent the former position of an entrance at the east. Located close to the west end of the structure, a posthole (**F.1195**), which was significantly larger than the other structural postholes, potentially marked the position of a load bearing, ridge support post. A small assemblage of mid to late 1st century AD Roman pottery was recovered from five of the structural postholes, including F.1195, which had also been back-filled with Roman brick and tile fragments (see below, K. Anderson). In addition, a fragment of worked bone, possibly from a knife handle, was recovered from posthole F.1222 (see below, Rajkovaca).

To the west of Structure 3, a further eight truncated postholes may represent some kind of lean-to structure. To the west of this, a possible six post structure (**Fs.1160-61**, **Fs.1210-1212** and **F.1214**) occupying the same east-west alignment as Structure 3, was located. In itself the structure is relatively convincing, however, the only finds recovered from the postholes comprised a single sherd of 13th-14th century pottery and a single sherd of 19th century pottery. Although this may be intrusive material (two intrusive post-medieval sherds were also recovered from Structure 3 postholes) - not surprising given the truncated nature of the postholes - it must cast some doubt on the structure being contemporary with Structure 3.

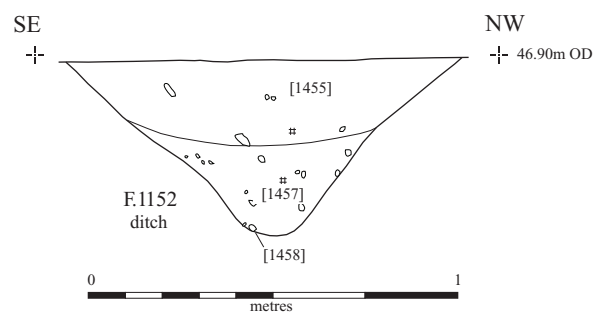
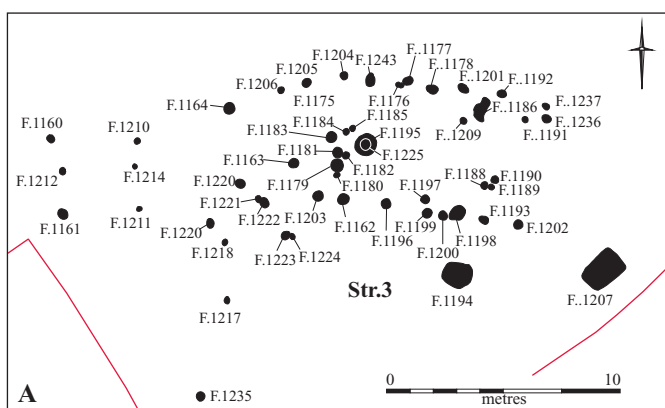
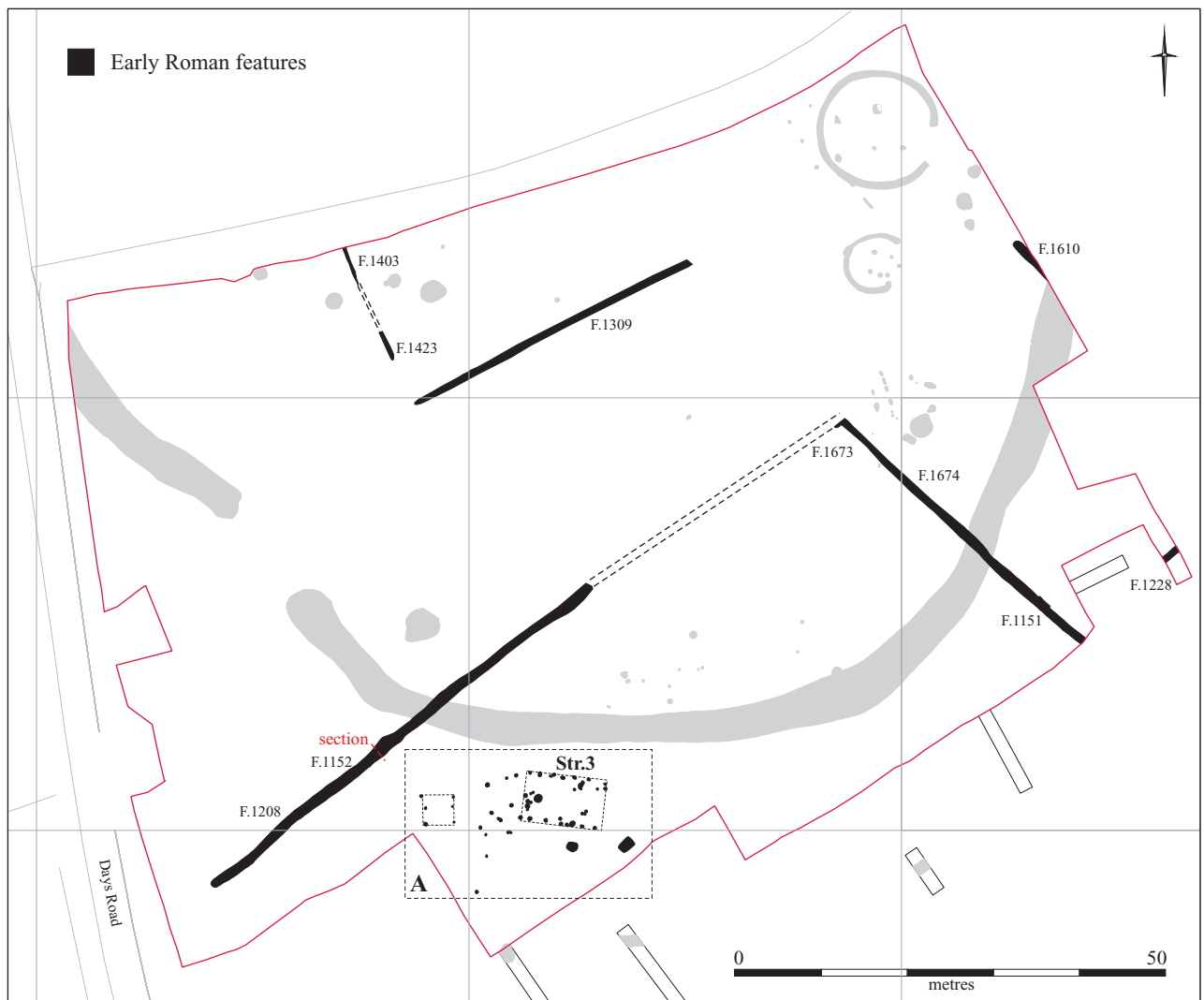


Figure 6. Phase IV. Early Roman features



Figure 7. Structure 3, Early Roman

A group of six postholes to the south-west of Structure 3 (**Fs.1217-19**, **Fs.1223-24** and **F.1233**) were almost certainly associated with the Roman building. Three of the postholes yielded early Roman pottery. To the south-east of Structure 3, pits **F.1194** and **F.1207** produced small assemblages of mid to late 1st century/Early Roman pottery.

Land division

The early Roman period also evidently saw the establishment of the first clearly defined field system on the site. Three ditches can be confidently dated to this period; **F.1152**, **F.1228** and **F.1673/74** all produced small amounts of early Roman pottery. F.1152 was aligned south-west to north-east and was recorded for a length of c.60m before being truncated by post-medieval enclosure ditch F.1153. To the south-east of F.1153, the Roman boundary continued at a right angle to ditch F.1152 as ditch F.1673/74, which was recorded for a length of c.36m. Ditch F.1228 to the east of F.1673/74, which produced a single sherd of early Roman pottery, clearly represents a further branch of the field system and undated ditch **F.1618** - the terminus of which was exposed at eastern extent of the excavation area - could also be part of the Roman field system.

Two further features, ditch **F.1309** and gully **F.1423** (possibly a heavily truncated ditch), align well with the Early Roman field system, and together with gully **F.1403** almost certainly form part of it. Pottery sherds from F.1309 and F.1423 were provisionally identified as 10th-11th century, however, given the fact that greyware forms in use in both the Roman period and the Late Saxon period are often virtually indistinguishable (see below, S. Anderson) it seems highly likely that they are indeed Roman in date. As with the Middle Iron Age and potentially Early Saxon assemblages (see below), the potentially Late Saxon material from Capel St. Mary should be reappraised in relation to the Early Roman assemblage as part of the further post-excavation analysis.

It is immediately apparent that the Early Roman field system formed the basis for the subsequent medieval phases of enclosure, which are effectively modifications of the original Roman layout. As such, it seems likely that medieval phases of ditch have completely truncated earlier Roman ditches in some instances; 13th century ditch F.1487 (see below), for example, must surely also mark the position of an earlier continuation of Roman ditch F.1674, likewise, ditch F.1267 (see below) may have truncated a continuation of Roman ditch F.1423.

Roman brick and tile in later features

Almost a third of the ceramic building material (by fragment count) recovered from site was Roman in date. With the exception of F.1195, all of this material came from later, medieval features such as the large quarry pits (see below). The scale of Roman occupation, particularly the limited size of Structure 3, would suggest that this material is not directly associated with Roman period activity at the site and its presence is more likely to be the result of re-use during the medieval period. The exact source of the Roman brick and tile – which included flanged *tegulae* and

imbrices (see below, S. Anderson and K. Anderson) - is unknown but the villa site at Windmill Hill to the west of the site is certainly a good candidate. Similar re-use of Roman building material is recorded at the c.14th century Church of St. Mary in Capel St. Mary.

Phase V: Saxon

A small assemblage of pottery sherds, recovered as residual material in later features has been identified as possibly Early Saxon (see below, S. Anderson); no features appear to date to this period. While the presence of the pottery may be the result of the activities of an Early Saxon population living close by, the similarity of the Early Saxon pottery fabrics with Iron Age fabrics should be noted. Consequently, reappraisal of the 'Early Saxon' pottery in comparison to the Iron Age assemblage should be undertaken in order to confirm or dismiss the potential Early Saxon presence in the landscape.

Phase VI: Medieval (11th century)

Saxo-Norman period activity at the Days Road site appears to have been comparatively limited certainly within the excavation area. Although pottery dating to the 10th-11th century was recovered from the excavations, as well as a larger assemblage of more broadly dated 11th-13th century material, no features can confidently be dated to this period. Sherds identified as possibly 11th century from ditches F.1309 and F.1423 appear more likely to be Early Roman, as discussed above.

Phase VII: Medieval (12th-14th century)

The vast majority of the later medieval features at Days Road appear to belong to a period between the 12th and early 14th century probably peaking in the 13th century (Figure 8). Features dating to this phase were almost all located to the north and north-west of post-medieval ditched enclosure F.1153/F.1341, which probably originated as a boundary in the 13th century (see below).

Land division

Across the northern half of the site a series of linear medieval ditches representing multiple phases of land division/enclosure that extended beyond the limit of excavation to the north and west were recorded. The ditches were all on a NE-SW or NW-SE alignment and were confined to the area north of post-medieval enclosure ditch F.1153/F.1341. The pottery assemblages recovered from the ditches indicate that the majority are broadly 12th-13th century with no significant time lapse between phases. However, through analysis of spatial and stratigraphic relationships between ditches, a sequence of enclosures culminating in F.1153/F.1341 can be suggested (see Figure 9):

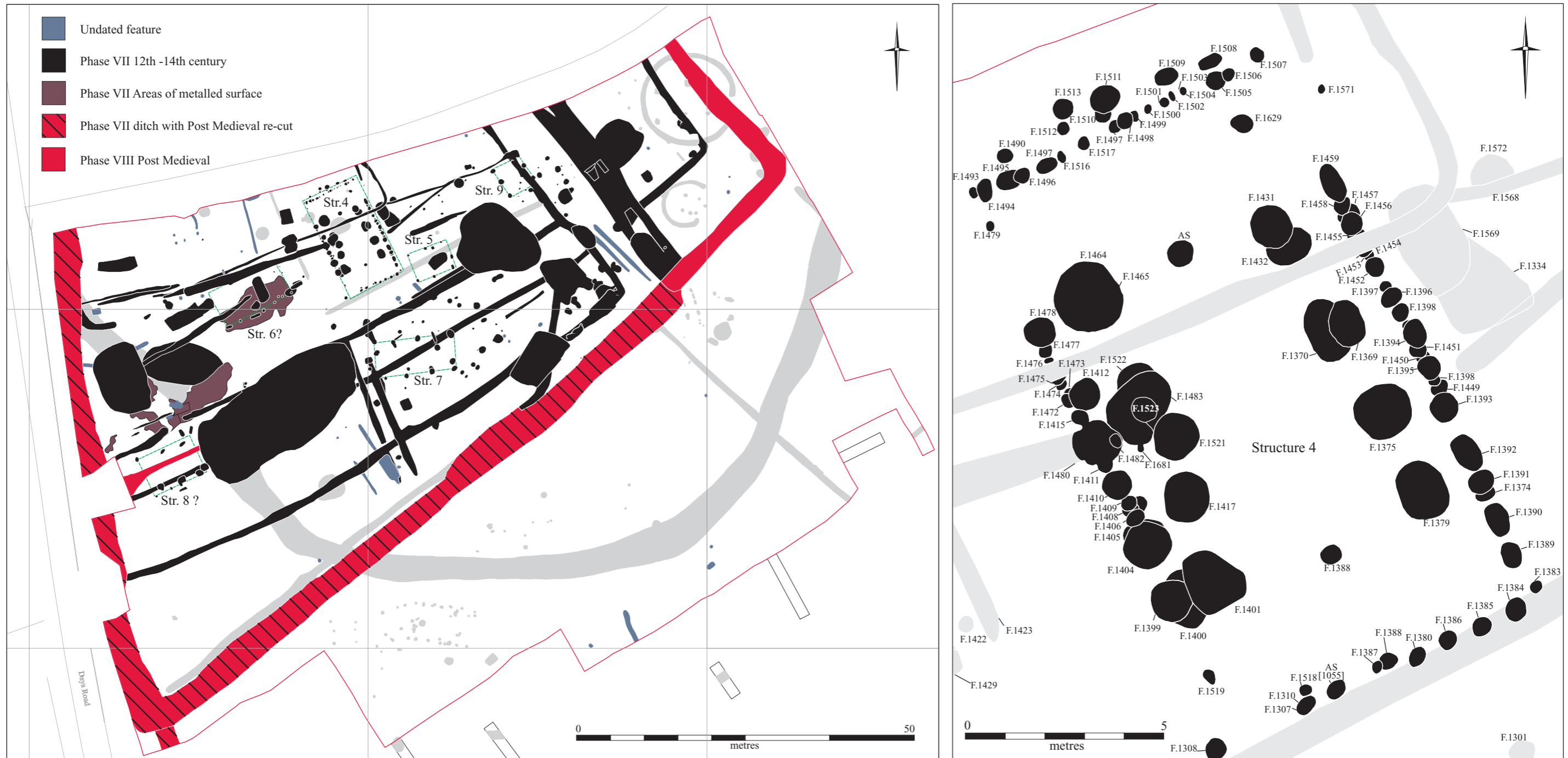
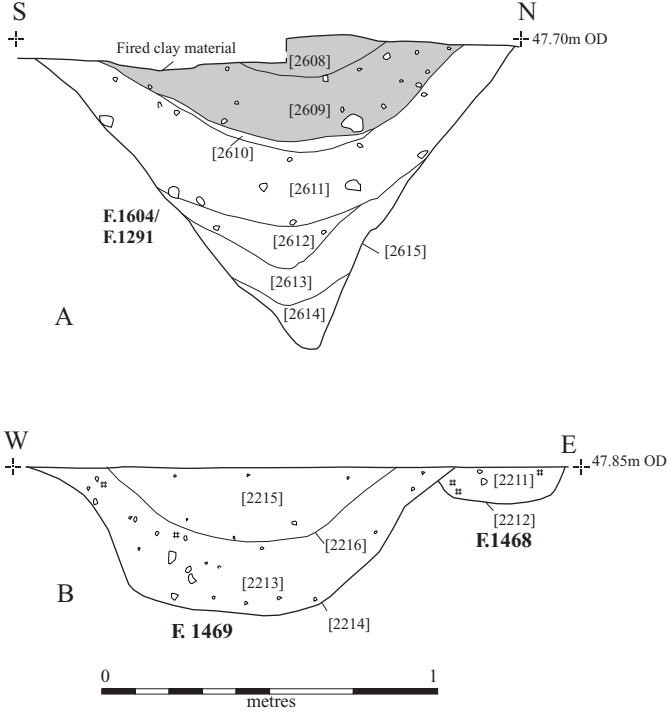
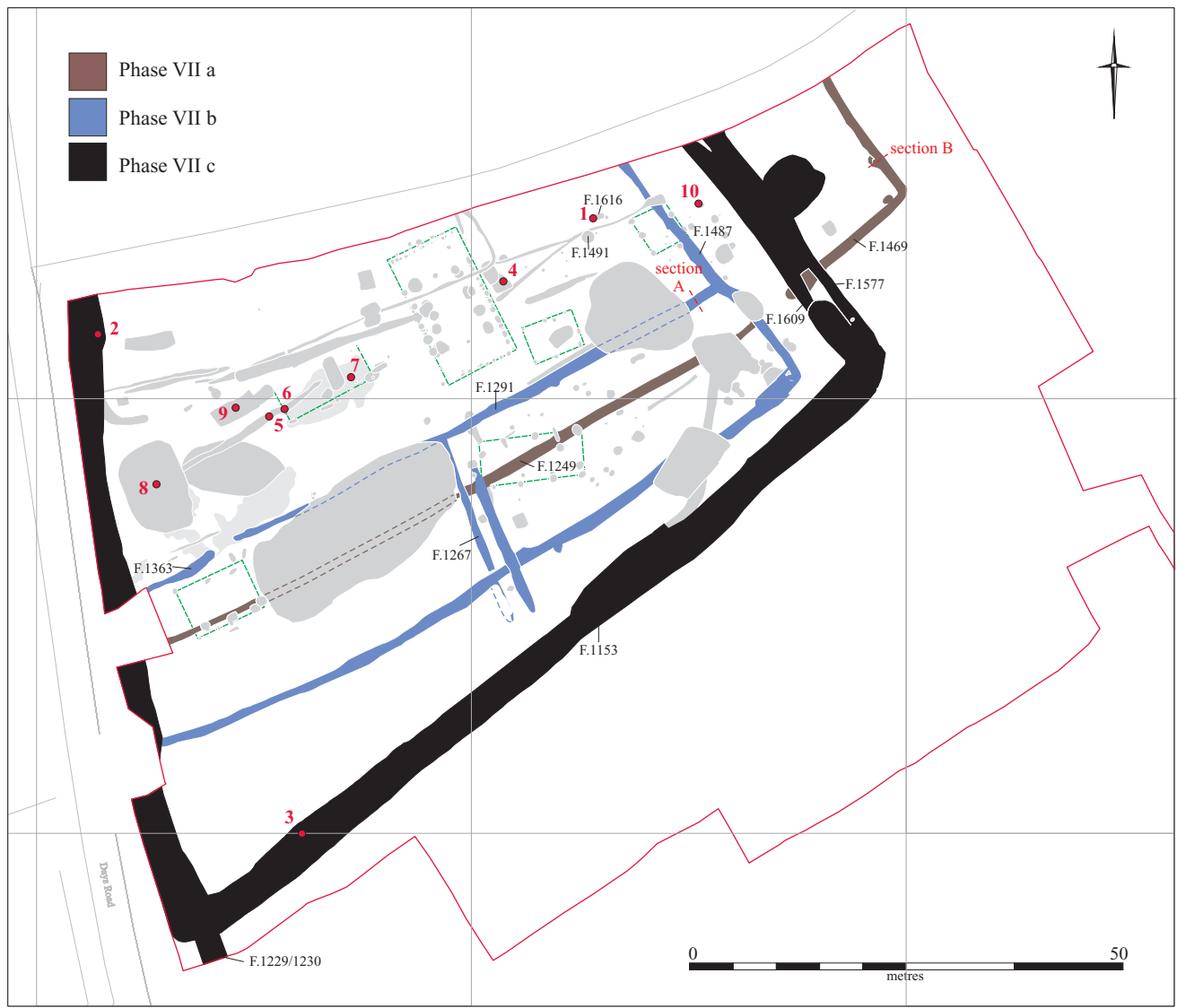


Figure 8. Phase VII and VIII. Medieval, Post-Medieval and undated features



1. 12th-13th century seal matrix Sf.150, <1482>
2. Dome-shaped mount <1301>
3. Double frame pendant Sf.4 <1305>
4. Fine book or casket mount Sf.100 <1308>
5. Buckle plate Sf. 109 <1309>
6. Conical stud Sf. 110 <1310>
7. Composite strapend Sf. 119 <1311>
8. Annular buckle Sf. 127 <1313>
9. Iron door or window latch <1340>
10. Iron finial? <1348>

Figure 9. Phased plan of Medieval enclosures with significant Medieval metal detector finds locations

Phase VII(a) (12-13th century)

The first clear phase of medieval land division comprised ditches **F.1249** and **F.1469** which formed the south/south-eastern corner of a rectilinear enclosure with a probable entrance *c.*5m wide to the south-east. Ditch F.1287 was aligned south-west to north-east and recorded for a length of *c.* 80 m. F.1469, a continuation of F.1287, was aligned south-west to north-east before turning at a right angle to the north-east. Its total length measured *c.*36m. A small assemblage of 12th-13th and 13-14th century pottery was recovered from the various ditch fills.

Phase VII(b) (13th century)

Later in the 13th century the boundary layout was altered so that the main ditched enclosure was shifted slightly to the south and west. The enclosure boundary was marked by ditch **F.1487/F.1671**, which once again extended beyond the edge of excavation to the north and west. It was recorded for a length of *c.*85m on a south-west to north-east alignment before turning and extending for a further 30m on a south-east to north-west alignment. A range of 12th-13th and 13th-14th century pottery was recovered from the ditch fills.

During the same period, sub-division of the southern part of the main Phase VII(b) enclosure (F.1487) was undertaken in order to create two smaller ditched enclosures. Ditches **F.1291** and **F.1363**, aligned south-west to north-east and **F.1267**, aligned south-east to north-west, formed a small south-eastern enclosure measuring 16m wide by 37m long and a south-western enclosure 18m wide by 40m long. A range of 12th-13th and 13th-14th pottery types recovered from the ditch fills indicate a broadly 13th century date, however, 78 sherds of late 12th century to early 13th century pottery recovered from F.1291 suggest Phase VII(b) is still relatively early in the 13th century.

For both Phases VII(a) and (b) it could be speculated that a fore-runner of F.1341 (discussed below) could mark the eastern side of the enclosure. However, as F.1341 lies only partially within the excavation area and at its western extremity it is not possible to interpret the feature and its relationship with other elements of the enclosures with any confidence.

Phase VII(c) (13-14th century)

The latest phase of medieval enclosure formed the basis of the ensuing post-medieval land division and was largely formed by ditch **F.1153/F.1341**, the location of which coincides approximately with the edge of the modern day Days Road before turning to the north-east. Excavation of F.1341, a post-medieval feature, revealed a number of earlier ditch phases (**F. 1351** and **F.1352**), which yielded 12th-13th century pottery. The earlier ditches had been largely truncated by the final post-medieval ditch and suggest that F.1341/F.1153 is only the final version of a long-lived boundary. A third side of the enclosure was formed by **F. 1609**, which was aligned south-east to north-west and was recorded for a length of *c.*30m extending beyond the limit of excavation to the north. Ditch F.1609 was cut by **F.1577** which evidently marks a slight eastward

shift of the boundary at a later date. Ditch F.1609 yielded 12th-13th century pottery whilst F.1577 produced 12th-14th and 13th-14th century pottery.

Ditch **F.1229** and ditch re-cut **F.1230**, which extended in a south-eastward direction from the south-western corner of the Phase VII(c) enclosure, produced 11th-13th century pottery – as well as one, possibly intrusive, 16th-18th century sherd – and also probably belonged to Phase VII(c).

The entire width of the Phase VII(c) enclosure was exposed within the excavation area and defines the southern limit of the medieval remains on the site suggesting it marks the final expansion/enlargement of the medieval enclosure. In the post-medieval period there appears to have been little change to this basic field layout which persisted into the 19th century and is marked on the 1838 Tithe map.

Unphased ditches

A number of ditches can be broadly dated to the medieval period but remain unphased at present:

F.1265, a short length of ditch *c.*19m long and aligned south-east to north-west, produced 12th-13th century pottery and could be contemporary with either the Phase VII(a) or Phase VII(b) enclosures.

Ditches / gullies **F.1338** and **1430** also yielded broadly 13th century pottery and are of unknown function although F.1338 should perhaps be considered alongside the drainage features associated with Structure 4, discussed below.

Finally, ditch **F. 1564**, which produced 12th-14th century pottery, occupied a markedly different alignment (north to south) to the main enclosure system. As such, it seems likely that this was not part of the main field layout and had a more specific function, possibly associated with quarry pits F.1580 and F.1683 (see below). A continuation of F.1564, to the south of quarry F.1683, ditch **F.1675** apparently connected/draind into enclosure ditch F.1153.

Structures

Six medieval structures all probably dating to the 12th-13th century were identified within the excavation area, five of which were potentially contemporary (see Figure 8). While the identification of Structure 4 is beyond doubt, the identification of the remaining five structures is to some extent conjecture.

(For individual Feature numbers and descriptions see Appendix A)

Structure 4

A major structure was recorded in the north of the excavation area. Structure 4 comprised the posthole remains of an aisled building located on a south-east to north-

west axis and measuring some 15m long by 8.5m wide (Figures 8 and 10). The outer walls of the building were marked by lines of postholes/post settings; disturbance caused by post removal, as well as potential post replacement, made individual postholes difficult to identify, however, slightly less-disturbed sections of wall suggest the posts were spaced *c.*0.5m apart with daub or cob presumably filling the gaps. On the interior of the building, two rows of four load-bearing aisle posts were spaced between 1m and 1.5m apart. The size of the post settings – up to *c.*1.5m in diameter – suggests they held large timbers which potentially supported a first floor. Two ridge-supporting posts were recorded at each end of the interior *c.* 3m from the north-western and south-eastern outer walls respectively. A cross-entry (two opposing entrances) was located at the north-eastern end of the building with one further possible entrance located in the south-west corner.

Drainage for the building was provided by a north-east to south-west aligned gully (F.1325) which bisected the structure between the 3rd and 4th aisle posts (south-north). Drainage gully F.1325 is a confluence of gullies F.1359 (originating to the north) and F.1568 (originating to the east, and connecting to ditch F.1487) and drained downhill to the west. Two large, probably contemporary, pits (F.1418 and F.1419) to the west of Structure 1 may have been sumps into which drain F.1325 flowed. To the west of the pits, a continuation of F.1325 together with gullies F.1323 and F.1324 appear to represent an extension / overflow to allow direct drainage into the 12-13th century cut of ditch F.1153. To the east of the building, drainage gully F.1447, which branched from F.1568, also appears to have been related to Structure 1.

No clear evidence of the function of the building, such as a domestic hearth, was encountered although this certainly does not rule out that this was a domestic building. It seems highly likely that shallow features such as a hearth or beam slots/postholes marking internal divisions - which may once have existed - would have been truncated by later ploughing. A pottery assemblage dating broadly to the 12th-14th century – with probably residual 11th century elements – was recovered from the structural postholes and associated drainage features. Diagnostic sherds, from the drainage features in particular, suggest occupation in the mid to late 13th century, while the building had clearly fallen out of use by the 14th century.

Structure 5

Located at the south-east corner of Structure 4 the remains of a six-post structure potentially represent a small ancillary building. Structure 5 was rectangular, measuring *c.*5.5m by *c.*4m, and was aligned south-west to north-east. In addition to the main structural postholes a further two postholes (F.1531 and F.1527) are probably associated. A hollow (F. 1585) on the interior of the structure possibly resulted from activity within the structure and yielded 13th century pottery. Dating evidence from the structure itself was limited to a small number of 11th-13th century pottery sherds recovered from posthole F.1526 and 12th-13th century sherds from associated posthole F.1527.

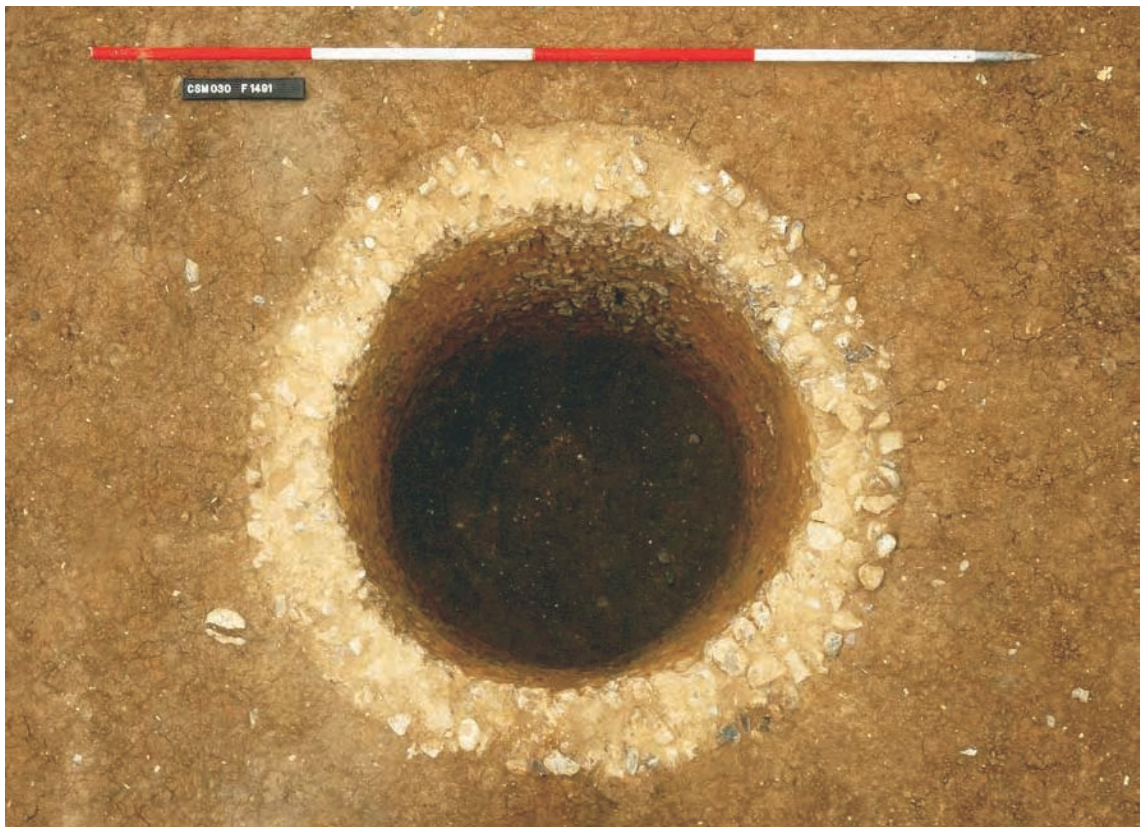


Figure 10. Medieval Structure 4 (top) and well F.1491 (bottom)

Structure 6

Approximately 5m to the west of Structure 4, a third possible structure located on a south-west to north-east axis was exposed. A clearly defined alignment of six postholes and two short, steep sided trenches potentially marked a south-east facing wall. However, further evidence of walls or structural features was restricted to two postholes (**F.1372** and **F.1358**) to the north-west and in many ways Structure 6 was the least convincing of the potential structures at Days Road.

In the area around Structure 6, a concentration of accumulated debris including a large number of iron nails, on a remnant cobbled surface (**F.1340**) was recorded (see Figure 11). The relationship of the remnant cobbled surface - which measured 12m in length by 5m wide - with Structure 6, and whether it represents a pre-existing cobbled yard surface on to which Structure 6 was potentially built, or a purpose built floor surface, is unclear. However, the fact that surface F.1340 extends beyond the potential floor plan of the building suggests the former. The finds assemblage recovered from F.1340 also included pottery, a number of iron horseshoes, animal bone, oyster shell and tile, and suggests a 13th century date. The surface was sampled by excavating alternate metre squares in order to allow for any future analysis of finds distribution. Two features potentially associated with the cobbled surface, **F. 1433**, a hollow less than 0.1m deep and **F.1354**, a pit, both yielded similar finds assemblages to F.1340.

An alternative interpretation of 'Structure 6' and the associated cobbled surface could be that, rather than a building, they represent the route of a fence line and track/pathway. The spatial distribution of some of the more significant metal finds (see Figure 9) recovered from site – which has a clear linearity coinciding with the alignment of 'Structure 6' and the cobbled surface - would certainly support this (see below, Hall). Finds including a 12th-13th century seal matrix (see below) and a book or casket mount could well represent casual loss along the route of a pathway.

A south-west to north-east aligned gully (**F.1337**) almost certainly represents a drain which ran downhill from the site of 'Structure 6' to the south-west. Whether this should be interpreted as a drain associated with a building or a pathway is obviously dependant on the final interpretation of 'Structure 6' which clearly requires reappraisal. The gully yielded a single sherd of 12th-14th century pottery.

Structure 7

Structure 7 was located immediately to the south of Structure 4 within the south-eastern sub-enclosure of the main 12th-13th century Phase VII(b) enclosure. The area of the structure was cluttered with postholes, pits and possible timber slots (totalling 32 in number) and a number of possible building plans can be proposed. Indeed it is possible that multiple structures are represented within the posthole pattern. One possible building plan comprises eight large postholes forming an east to west aligned structure and measuring 12.5m in length by 5.5m wide. The postholes produced pottery broadly dating to the 11th-14th century with an emphasis on the 12th-13th century, once again suggesting possible contemporaneity with Structure 5.

The structure is almost certainly directly associated with the function of the south-eastern sub-enclosure in which it was situated. To the east, a line of four postholes (**F.1279**, **F.1281**, **F.1282** and **F.1290**), positioned at right angles to **F.1556**, a steep sided trench, potentially represents a pen or structure of some kind. Post/stake holes F.1279 and F.1290 yielded 11th-13th and 13th century pottery respectively, while gully F.1556 produced 12th-14th century pottery, suggesting this feature could well have been contemporary with Structure 7.

Structure 8

A possible building was also situated in the south-western sub-enclosure of the main 12th-13th century Phase VII(b) enclosure. Structure 8 comprised 10 postholes forming a rectangular building with a further two postholes (**F.1312** and **F.1313**), to the north, also potentially associated. The structure was aligned south-west to north-east and measured 8m in length by 6m side. It was located opposite the possible entrance to the south-western sub-enclosure and once again would appear to be directly linked with the function of the sub-enclosure. A single sherd of 12th-14th century pottery was recovered from posthole **F.1314**.

Although interpreted as a 12th-13th century structure some degree of ambiguity regarding its date remains. A small number of abraded Early Roman (**F.1288**, **F.1302**) and Middle Iron Age (**F.1303**) pottery sherds were recovered from three of the structural postholes and posthole F.1313, just to the north, also yielded a Middle to Late Iron Age pottery sherd. However, given the clear stratigraphic relationship between the structural postholes and 12th-13th century ditch F.1249, the pottery sherds are almost certainly residual.

Structure 9

A possible six post structure, Structure 9, was located to the east of Structure 4 and aligned south-east to north-west. It measured c.5m in length by c.4m wide. The postholes yielded 12th-14th century pottery as well as probably residual 11th century material. While this suggests the structure may be broadly contemporary with other medieval structures on site, the fact that two of the postholes cut ditch F.1487 – part of the main Phase VII(b) enclosure – indicate it is probably slightly later.

Clustered around Structure 9, a total of 20 postholes and post pits were potentially associated with the proposed structure but do not appear to have formed part of it (**F.1435**, **Fs.1437-38**, **F.1462**, **F.1533**, **Fs. 1540-47**, **Fs.1549-51**, **F.1578**, **Fs.1614-15** and **F.1633**). A number of the postholes/pits produced broadly 12th-14th century pottery although none can be securely dated based on finds.

Well F.1491

To the east of Structure 4 a flint-lined well was exposed (see Figure 10). The well (**F.1491**) was circular in plan and had an internal diameter of 1.06m and an overall diameter of 1.48m. The well lining was constructed largely of unworked flint nodules

bonded with a sandy mortar. The well shaft interior was also evidently once rendered with the same sandy mortar although only traces of it remained. The uppermost in-fill of the well was hand excavated to a maximum safe depth of 1.2m and yielded largely 16th-18th century pottery suggesting the well was not completely back-filled until well into the post-medieval period. Having established with Orwell Housing Association Ltd. that the well would be preserved *in situ*, no further excavation took place although the well was hand augered in an attempt to determine the total depth. The well was augered to a depth of 3.9m below the ground surface before the compaction of the clayey silt fills made it impossible to continue, no definite base was encountered. Despite the relatively late pottery from the upper fills, given the lack of post-medieval occupation evident at the Days Road site, the feature is interpreted as contemporary with the medieval occupation. The well did, however, truncate drainage gully F.1568, which is associated with Structure 4, suggesting it may well post-date the building itself.

Cobbled surfaces

In addition to cobbled surface F.1340 sporadic patches of cobbled surface were recorded over much of the north-west of the excavation, a more in-tact cobbled surface (**F.1239**) was located to the north-west of Structure 8. F.1239 comprised a surface of rounded cobbles, chalk fragments and flint nodules and measured *c.*13m by *c.*4m. The surface was approximately linear in form and while it could be interpreted as a trackway, it is perhaps more likely that it is a remnant of a more extensive surface which has been truncated elsewhere by subsequent ploughing. Smaller patches of remnant cobbled surface recorded to the west of F.1239, as well as cobble layers sunken into the top of earlier features such as F. 1333 and F.1294 provide further evidence that a more extensive yard surface once existed in the north-west of the site. Possible wheel ruts (**F.1361** and **F.1362**), aligned south-west to north-east (parallel to ditch F.1291 to the south) were recorded to the west of F.1239, cutting through remnants of the cobbled surface. A small amount of 13th-14th century as well as post-medieval pottery and clay pipe fragments were recovered from the surface of F.1239. However, given that such finds were effectively within the modern plough soil directly overlying the cobbled surface, they should not be regarded as dating evidence for the feature which is most likely to be associated with the main 12-14th century occupation of the site.

Pits

In addition to the quarry pits discussed below, two main types of medieval pit were encountered; small, relatively shallow, probably 'domestic' pits and tank-like features, which were generally larger:

'Domestic' pits

A total of 16 pits, which are loosely described as 'domestic', were exposed within the excavation area and almost certainly belong to the 12th-13th century occupation of the site. Classified as 'domestic' largely due to their proximity to structures and in

some cases their finds assemblages, these pits were generally much smaller and shallower, with a much less ‘formal’ profile/form than the tank-like pits discussed below. The pits ranged in size from between 0.69m and 1.7m in diameter by 0.14m and 0.62m in depth. No evidence was encountered to suggest whether the pits were dug solely for the disposal of rubbish – although this would appear to have been the final use of most – or whether they had a different primary function such as small scale clay extraction.

Three pits are of particular note having produced significant finds assemblages. Of these, **F.1334** and **F.1569** were located immediately to the east of the eastern wall of Structure 4. Some 366 sherds of largely 13th-14th century pottery were recovered from F.1334 along with relatively large amounts of animal bone and oyster shell. F.1569 produced 92 sherds of early to mid 13th century pottery as well as a fine copper alloy rectangular book or casket mount. The fact that F.1569 truncated F.1334 suggests both features belong to the early-mid 13th century and are probably contemporary with Structure 4, although no clear stratigraphic relationship with the structure or associated drainage gully F.1325 survived.

Pit **F.1616**, located 15m to the east of Structure 4, yielded one of the most significant finds recovered from the Days Road site in the form of a cast lead seal matrix (Figure 11; see below, Hall). The seal matrix was inscribed “*S’ ALBRED’ REL’T’ ROB’ D’ BRAHA*” (Seal of Albreda widow of Robert of Brantham). Initial documentary research has produced encouraging results regarding the identification of the widow Albreda in historical sources and reference to a Robert de Braham is made in a number of late thirteenth century documents (see below, Breen). A small assemblage of largely 13th century pottery was also recovered from what was otherwise an unremarkable feature.

Of the 12 remaining pits none produced large finds assemblages although all yielded broadly 12th-14th century pottery. The majority of the pits were located in the vicinity of structures - eg. **F.1271**, **F.1278** and **F.1283** to the east of Structure 7 - and would appear to have an association with them.

Tank-like pits

Seven, more substantial, steep-sided pits (**F.1261**, **F.1311**, **F.1333**, **F.1402**, **F.1563**, **F.1576** and **F.1586**) were recorded across the north-western half of the excavation area. The pits measured between 1.78m and 5.9m in length by between 0.75m and 1.6m deep with steep sides and a flattish base. The sequence of back-fill in all of the pits comprised initial natural silting followed by a deliberate backfill of soil and subsoil. In some cases, F.1563 for example, debris such as burnt clay/daub and ashy/charcoal deposits had been incorporated into the upper fills while other pits, such as F.1586, contained a number of rich charcoal/ash layers containing relatively large amounts of burnt grain(see below, de Vareilles).

The exact function of the pits is currently unknown although the regularity of their form – the steep sides and flat base – suggests they were potentially ‘tanks’ of some sort, possibly related to an industrial process. Certainly the steep sides of pits such as F.1311 (see Figure 12) along with their regular – very deliberate – shape and profile



Impression

Figure 11. Medieval cobbled surface F.1340 (left) and the 12th / 13th century seal matrix from F.1616 (right)



Figure 12. Tank-like pit F.1311 (top) and possible oven base F.1583 (bottom).

suggests that they were not merely quarry pits. No firm evidence of a waterproof lining was recorded and the natural silty clay subsoil was not impermeable (as witnessed on site during wet weather), however, a timber lining could potentially have been removed or decayed *in situ* leaving no trace. Environmental samples taken from a number of the pits produced evidence of general crop production and processing on site but contained nothing to indicate the specific function of the pits (see below, de Vareilles). Finally, none of the pits were found in close association with postholes or any other features as to suggest they were covered or had associated structural elements.

Once again, the pottery assemblages from the majority of the pits, was 13th century or 12th-14th century in date and F.1586 can be fairly confidently dated to the second half of the 13th century due to the association of over 100 sherds of largely mid-late 13th century pottery with a charred grain deposit. Despite this, for most of the pits the deposition of accumulated site debris such as burnt clay/daub into the in-fill suggests that the pottery probably reflects the main occupation of the site rather than necessarily the date of the pits themselves. In addition, pits F.1563 and F.1586 truncated Phase VII(b) enclosure ditch F. 1487 suggesting that the pits potentially slightly post-date the main occupation of the site associated with Structure 4.

Ovens

The remains of two potential ovens/kilns also truncated the Phase VII(b) enclosure and potentially slightly post-date much of the more 'domestic' activity recorded on site. Both of the features were heavily truncated and comprised scorched oven bases, with no trace of any surviving above ground superstructure. The most convincing of the two potential ovens was roughly linear in form (measuring 2.5m long by 0.9m wide) and comprised a scorched oven base (**F.1583**) accompanied by a possible stoke hole to the west (**F.1642**). Subsequent layers of scorching and 'ashy' deposits up to 0.2m thick suggest the oven was cleaned out and re-used over a period of time (see Figure 12). A very limited finds assemblage comprising only a few sherds of pottery suggest a broadly 13th century date. The second oven (**F.1590**) comprised a sub-square deposit of fired clay, possibly an oven floor, overlying a sequence of 'ashy' deposits. One further possible oven (**F.1685**) was represented by patch of scorching in the side of quarry pit F.1683 which suggests an additional oven may have existed to the south-west of F.1583 before being truncated by the slightly later quarry.

The relationship between the ovens, particularly F.1583 / F.1642, and pit F.1586 is potentially significant and the large amount of burnt grain in the latter may be an indication that the features represent the remains of corn drying ovens. The large amount of fired clay in many of the surrounding features, pit F.1563, quarry pit F.1617 and ditch F.1291, for example, may also be associated with the oven features. While the source of the fired clay deposits could be burnt daub from one or more of the structures it is equally conceivable that it represents the remains of oven superstructures and floors which have effectively been flattened when the site fell into disuse.

Quarry features

A series of five large pits, interpreted as quarry pits were located within the main Phase VII(c) enclosure. By far the largest quarry, **F.1263**, measured 27m in length by 10.5m wide by 1.98m deep and contained a sequence of silty fills suggesting a gradual, natural in-filling of the feature (Figure 13). The sides of the quarry pit were stepped, unlike the tank-like pits, evidently to provide access to the pit and the broad steps appeared to be roughly metalled, presumably in order to consolidate the ground. The remaining four quarry pits (**F.1574**, **F.1580**, **F.1617** and **F.1683**) ranged in size from 7.5m to 12.5m in diameter and from 1.25m to 2.04m deep. As with F.1263 the sequence of fills suggested a largely natural, gradual in-filling of the features, although F.1617 in particular had large dumps of material such as burnt clay / daub incorporated into its backfill. The presence of such deposits as well as the finds assemblages from the pits, discussed below, indicates that the quarries were unsurprisingly utilised for the disposal of a variety of accumulated debris.

Each quarry pit yielded a varied finds assemblage reflecting the nature of the back-filling. The primary fills of the majority of the quarries yielded solely 12th-14th century material suggesting that they date broadly to this period although the quarries also contained a mixed assemblage of both residual material and material incorporated into the upper quarry fills at a much later date. The presence of 16th century pottery in the upper fills of F.1263, for example, indicates that this feature remained, to some extent 'open' - but almost certainly not in use - into at least the 16th century. Other finds from the quarry pits included animal bone, metalwork (largely iron nails) and Roman, medieval and post-medieval brick and tile.

The five quarry features appear to have been broadly contemporary and given the fact that the pits truncated elements of the Phase VII(a) and Phase VII(b) enclosure system suggests that – as with the potential ovens and a number of the tank-like pits - they post-date much of the c.13th century 'domestic' activity recorded on site. As such it would appear that the quarry pits represent subsequent phases of quarrying contemporary with the Phase VII(c) enclosure towards the end of the 13th century following likely abandonment or relocation of the main 'domestic area'. The mix of silty clay and chalky subsoil with frequent chalk and flint nodules, which was extracted from the quarries, evidently had a number of potential uses. The silty clay may well have been used to produce daub/cob, for example, whilst utilisation of the chalk and flint nodules is clearly demonstrated in the construction of the cobbled surfaces and the well lining (F.1491).

Hollows F.1293 and F.1294

Two large hollows, **F.1293** - measuring 10m in diameter by 0.2m deep - and **F.1294** - measuring 6.1m in diameter by 0.23m deep – were located in the west of the excavation area and sealed Middle Iron Age enclosure ditch F.1295. Both features contained a single clayey silt fill and yielded a mixed finds assemblage of largely 13th-14th century pottery, metalwork, animal bone, brick and tile and oyster shell. Both features are interpreted as hollows, rather than cut features, which probably resulted from erosion – possibly associated with animals being kept in this area of site. The presence of a mixed finds assemblage, which also contained limited post-



Figure 13. Medieval quarry F.1263

medieval material, as well remnants of metallised surface (see above) which had 'settled' into the hollow, suggest the features filled through a gradual process of natural silting over a relatively long period.

Phase VIII: Post-medieval

Post-medieval remains were limited and indicate that the site had been abandoned by this period and turned over to agriculture. Post-medieval pottery and brick / tile was recovered from the upper fills of large features such as the quarry pits, however, only two features are of post-medieval date, reflecting the sites status as agricultural land during this period. As described above, the Phase VII(c) enclosure ditch persisted into the post-medieval period and part of it is depicted on an 1838 Tithe map. The post-medieval enclosure ditch (**F.1153**, **F.1341** and **F.1525**) yielded 18th-19th century pottery (as well as residual Early Roman and 12th-14th century material), post-medieval metalwork, bottle glass, brick and tile, and animal bone including the semi-articulated remains of a dog. One further post-medieval feature comprised ditch **F.1286**, which linked medieval quarry pit F.1263 to post-medieval enclosure ditch F.1341. Evidently, F.1263 still existed as a hollow that periodically held standing water which required draining into the closest field ditch during the post-medieval period.

Undated

The vast majority of features on site have been dated either through chronologically diagnostic finds assemblages or through association with dated features, however, a small number remain undated and therefore, unphased:

Gullies / Ditches

A number of the undated gullies (**F.1343**, **F.1351**, **F.1403** and **F.1570**) in the north-west of the excavation area appear likely to have had a drainage function and be contemporary with 12th-13th century occupation of the site. Two heavily truncated gullies (**F.1679** and **F.1681**), only short lengths of which survived, are also undated although their alignment suggests they could date to the Early Roman period. A further three undated gullies / ditches (**F.1226**, **F.1606** and **F.1607**) do not appear to be associated with any of the phases of field division and are of unknown function.

Posthole and pits

A total of 31 postholes and pits remain undated / unphased. Of these, only one group of postholes (**Fs.1434-38** and **F.1364**) formed a convincing cluster and were potentially associated with a gully extending beyond the edge of excavation to the north-west (**F.1349**). No clear structural form was identifiable however, and the only find from any of the features was a single sherd of 11th-13th century pottery which is insufficient to confidently date the feature group. The remaining postholes / pits did not form part of a convincing posthole cluster and occurred in relative isolation. It

seems likely that the majority of these features, largely located in the north-west of the excavation area, belong to the 12-14th century Phase VII.

Cremation F.1241

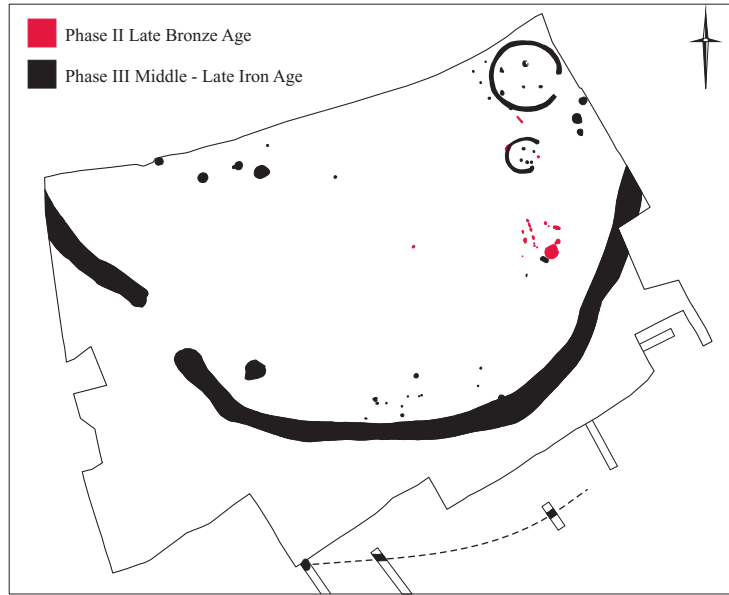
A single truncated and undated possible cremation contained within a small pit was located immediately to the south-east of Iron Age enclosure ditch F.1225 in the south-east of the excavation area. The remains were extremely fragmentary and could not be positively identified as either human or animal (Dodwell, see below). Given the proximity of Late Bronze Age, Iron Age and Roman remains the feature could feasibly date to any of these periods.

DISCUSSION

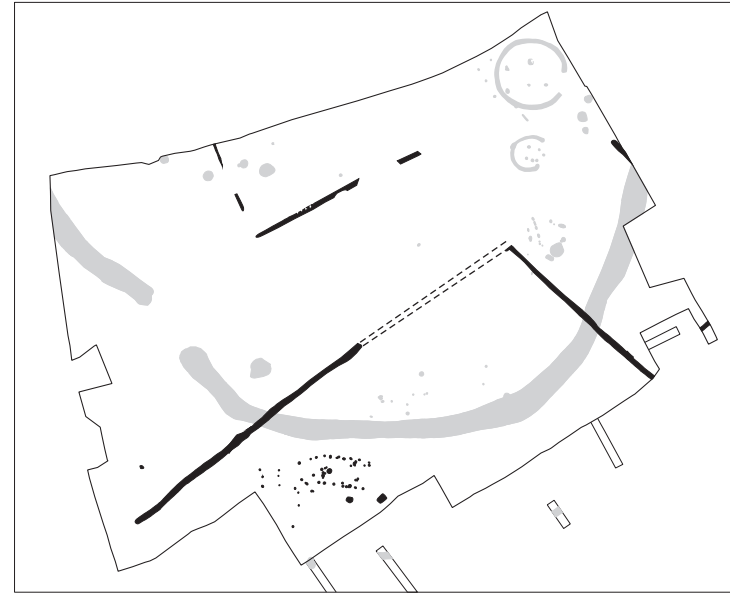
Site chronology

The archaeological remains at Days Road are multi-period and represent eight phases of archaeological activity and four phases which can be defined as ‘occupation’ (Figure 14). As such chronological development is key to our understanding of the site. Whilst evidence of earlier prehistoric activity is present, it was restricted to surface and residual finds and in the absence of *in situ* archaeological deposits and features does not require further discussion. The same can be said regarding the tentative evidence of Saxon and Saxo-Norman activity on the site. The major occupation phases recorded at the Days Road site belong to the Late Bronze Age (Phase II), the Middle to Late Iron Age (Phase III), the Early Roman period (Phase IV) and the 12th-14th century (Phase VII). A decline in pottery use from the 14th onwards (see below, S. Anderson) clearly marks the abandonment of the site which was then seemingly turned over to pasture or cultivation in the post-medieval period (Phase VIII).

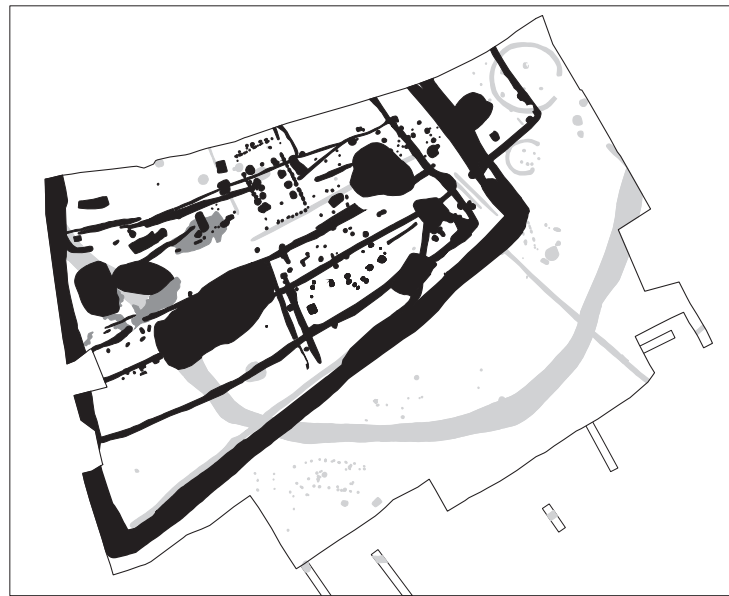
An interesting aspect of the site’s chronology lies in the fact that although evidence for occupation spans the period between the Late Bronze Age and the 14th century AD, occupation was apparently not continuous, in fact no evidence of continuity between distinct periods/phases was recorded. While it can be argued that archaeological features, which potentially represent continuous settlement of the Days Road site could lie beyond the limit of the current excavations, based on the evidence recovered, at least three clear breaks in occupation are evident. Firstly the apparently ‘early’ Late Bronze Age pottery forms (see below, Brudenell) and the lack of Early Iron Age remains suggest that a break in occupation took place between the Late Bronze Age and Middle Iron Age periods. Secondly, the limited Late Iron Age activity suggests a break in occupation/activity prior to the Early Roman period (see below, K. Anderson). Finally, the site appears to have fallen into a decline following the Early Roman period with no evidence of occupation in the ensuing period until the establishment of the 12-14th century settlement.



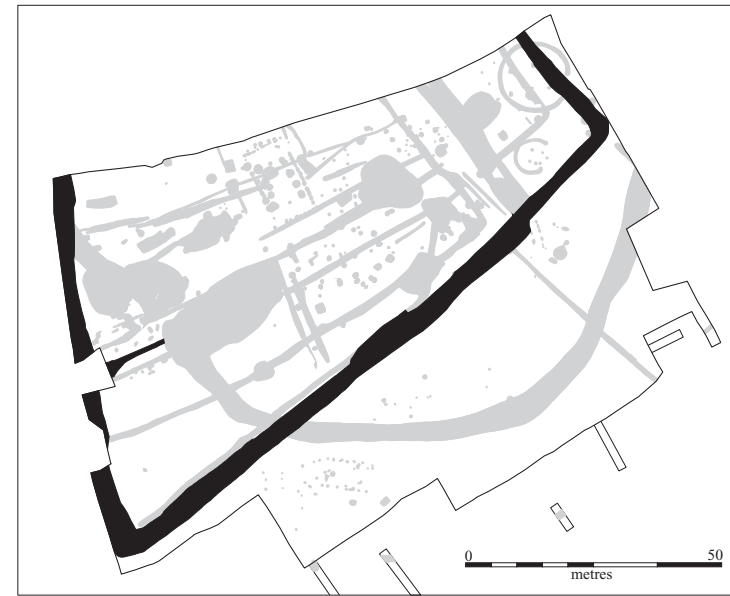
A. Prehistory



B. Early Roman



C. Medieval



D. Post Medieval

Figure 14. Chronological development of the Days Road site

Late Bronze Age

The Late Bronze Age remains excavated at Days Road, although comparatively few in terms of number of features, are of increased significance largely due to pit F.1670 and its associated pottery assemblage. As discussed above, the evidence suggests that pit F.1670 was not a cooking pit as such and the burnt fills probably reflect the disposal of midden material rather than *in situ* material. The 528 sherds of Post Deverel Rimbury pottery, weighing 5853g, recovered from the pit is a significant pottery assemblage, particularly as it came from a single feature. Comparable assemblages of Late Bronze Age pottery in the region, in terms of sherd count, have been recovered from pits at Barham (307 sherds from a single pit; Martin 1993) and Ipswich (965 sherds from six pits; PSIA 1995). The features were interpreted as an oven, in the case of Barham, and as ritual features associated with cremated bone and an undated inhumation at Ipswich. In this sense the features from both sites appear very different to pit F.1670. Two pits recently excavated at West Caistor in Norfolk (Timberlake et al. 2009) are perhaps more comparable; the pits were of similar dimensions to pit F.1670 and yielded 420 sherds of Post Deverel Rimbury pottery, weighing 6870g, associated with a series of dumping episodes.

The pottery deposited in F.1670 would appear to derive from accumulated midden - a theory supported by the apparently varied degree of abrasion observed on individual sherds, representing a mixed post-breakage history (Brudenell, see below). Whilst this conflicts slightly with the lack of degradation evident in charcoal from F.1670 (de Vareilles, see below), it also serves to emphasise the mixed nature of the material deposited in the pit. The presence of animal bone and a possible loomweight fragment suggest a domestic context for the pit and along with the pottery assemblage must indicate the presence of Late Bronze Age settlement in the near vicinity. Whilst no definite structures were recorded the group of postholes to the north of pit F.1670 could be interpreted as such.

The environmental and faunal remains from pit F.1670, although limited, reflect an established mixed farming economy - evidence was found of both processing and consumption of grain together with fragments of cattle and sheep/goat bone.

In terms of the wider environmental and landscape setting, the Days Road site provides further evidence that although the lighter soils of the Breckland and coastal areas may have been preferred, by the Late Bronze Age expansion of settlement into the claylands was taking place (Martin 1998). Indeed, it has been observed that Late Bronze Age metalwork finds often cluster around the edge of the claylands leading to suggestions that this peripheral zone was in fact an attractive place to settle given the presence of an accessible source of wood which was required in abundance for metalworking (*ibid.*). Further analysis of the assemblage of charcoal from pit F.1670 in particular could potentially shed light on the environment of this transitional zone, as well as on the selection and use of wood (de Vareilles, see below).

Middle to Late Iron Age

Although a small number of Early to Middle Iron Age pottery sherds were recovered from the excavations at Days Road, the occupation remains belong to the Middle to Late Iron Age with a clear peak in activity during the Middle Iron Age. The full extent of the Iron Age settlement remains unknown although it can be estimated that between a fifth and a half of the settlement as a whole was exposed within the excavation area. Although not knowing the full extent of the remains inhibits interpretation slightly, the proportion excavated suggests a site on the scale of a substantial enclosed farmstead or small settlement. Structures 1 and 2 are, in many ways typical of houses of this period in Suffolk where early post built structures give way to penannular or annular ring gully structures in the Middle Iron Age (Martin 1998). However, at Days Road the presence of domestic material - most notably large dumps of fired clay and loomweight fragments - in the gully of Structure 1 in particular, may suggest that the ring gullies are not structural elements (despite the lack of internal postholes) and represent eaves-drip gullies. The difference between Structures 1 and 2 in terms of both size and finds assemblages, as well as their apparent contemporaneity, suggest that while Structure 1 was almost certainly a domestic dwelling, Structure 2 was probably an ancillary building of some sort. As such the structures would appear to represent one household. Up to six possible storage pits as well as numerous smaller pits and postholes were recorded within the excavation area, however, the majority of a typically domestic Middle Iron Age finds assemblage came from the roundhouse gullies and the enclosure ditch.

Environmental samples and animal bone suggest a mixed farming economy during the Middle Iron Age. Cattle bone was prevalent in the animal bone assemblage (Rajkovaca, see below) with smaller amounts of horse, sheep/goat and pig as well as wild species such as red deer and roe deer. The quantity of plant remains recovered from Iron Age features was relatively low (de Verailles, see below) but does indicate the continued use of the early prehistoric crop naked barley. In terms of the wider environment the presence of stinking chamomile appears to confirm the cultivation of the heavy clay soils although preliminary assessment of the molluscan remains suggest areas of woodland were also present in the near vicinity. The presence of red deer and roe deer in the faunal assemblage also suggests that woodland or 'wild'/uncultivated areas were located in relatively close proximity to the site.

The Middle Iron Age settlement at Capel St. Mary is an important addition to the growing compendium of Iron Age settlement sites in Suffolk which far from being sparsely populated during the Iron Age increasingly appears to have been widely settled. Once again, although the lighter soils were probably favoured this did not prevent the further expansion of settlement on to the claylands (Martin 1998). The enclosed settlement at Days Road, however, is in marked contrast to the recently accepted view that settlements in the region were largely open villages and farmsteads (*ibid.*). The Days Road site with its substantial enclosure ditch clearly defining an interior settlement area does not fit into the model of 'wandering villages' with non-permanent boundaries as proposed by Hill (1998). Furthermore, enclosed or 'defended' sites in Suffolk appear to be the exception rather than the rule with sites such as the *oppidum* at Burgh (Martin 1988) and the probable ritual enclosure at Barnham (Martin 1998) generally being considered of special status – no evidence of

‘ritual’ or high status was recovered from Days Road (the presence of partial human remains, as in pit F.1676, being relatively common on Iron Age domestic sites).

Closer parallels to the Days Road settlement potentially occur across the county border in Essex (eg. at Bradfield) although evidence is limited to cropmarks and the majority of curvilinear enclosures are effectively undated and of unknown function (Priddy and Buckley, 1987). The Iron Age settlement at Capel St. Mary suggests that a diverse range of settlement morphology probable exists within the region – as has been observed in Essex (Germany 2007) – and that enclosed settlements occur alongside more open ‘wandering’ settlements.

Early Roman

Following the apparent abandonment of the settlement site in the Late Iron Age and an ensuing period of ‘inactivity’, the mid to late 1st century AD saw the establishment of a field system and reorganisation of the landscape. The field system was aligned north-west to south-east by north-east to south-west and truncated the preceding Middle Iron Age settlement enclosure without reference to its boundary. The ditches recorded at Days Road would appear to be part of an extensive Roman field system in the Capel St. Mary area, which has been recorded, on the same alignment in a number of small scale building projects in the village (eg. Meredith 2009). The contemporary Structure 3 is best interpreted as an agricultural building such as a barn. Little evidence of occupation was recovered from the Roman features and a pottery sherd count of *c.*100 largely small, abraded sherds is not suggestive of a domestic context.

The Days Road site was undoubtedly part of an extensive agricultural landscape probably belonging to the estate of the 1st-2nd century AD villas at Windmill Hill, to the west of Days Road. The presence of Roman brick and tile as residual material in later, medieval features probably derives from the re-use of building materials, possibly from the villa site itself, during the medieval period, a practice also seen at the *c.*14th century Church of St. Mary in the village.

12th-14th century

Chronological development of the 12th-14th century settlement

As discussed above, although a small assemblage of probably Saxo-Norman pottery was recovered from the Days Road excavations, the medieval occupation of the site is considered to have been initiated no earlier than the 12th century. Due to a relatively mixed pottery assemblage which shows little chronological definition between features, the medieval site chronology is currently best discussed in terms of the development of land division and changing boundaries.

The alignment of the sequence of medieval enclosures at Days Road follows that of the pre-existing Early Roman field system suggesting that the Roman field layout was either utilised or visible at least, throughout the Saxon period and into the 12th century. Given that the medieval pottery assemblage (see below, S. Anderson) suggests that the site was occupied into the 14th century, at least three phases of land

division between the 12th and 14th centuries have been proposed (Phases VII(a)–(c)). The field boundaries, all ditches, appear to represent an expanding sequence of enclosures, presumably changing form and being enlarged depending on land use.

How exactly many of the structures, particularly Structure 4, and significant features such as well F.1491 and pit F.1616 fit in to this sequence requires further appraisal. Presently, that the majority of the medieval occupation remains belong broadly to the 13th century and are contemporary with Phase VII(b) enclosure seems most likely. Structures 7 and 8, for example, appear to be situated within sub-enclosures of the Phase VII(b) enclosure. The end of this ‘domestic’ phase of medieval occupation at Days Road may well be marked by the large medieval quarries which truncated and therefore post-dated the 13th century Phase VII(b) enclosure. How the potential oven features and tank-like pits fit into this chronology needs to be explored. Do they belong to a ‘domestic’ phase or a later more ‘industrial’ phase suggested by the quarries during the late 13th / early 14th century?

The medieval pottery assemblage from the Days Road site suggests that it was largely abandoned by the 14th century. At this point in time, the presence of debris such as the dumps of fired clay in the quarry features and ditches, suggests the site may well have been ‘flattened’ and turned over to agriculture albeit maintaining the Phase VII(c) field layout.

A tighter chronology of the medieval occupation of the site should be one of the main objectives of the continued post-excavation analysis. That few features had a clear stratigraphic relationship to any of the enclosure ditches is unfortunate, however, further assessment of the finds assemblages combined with the proposed site phasing will hopefully elucidate the site chronology in this respect.

Site context, function and status

The 12th-14th century remains at Days Road clearly represent a significant site, which was apparently detached from the medieval village of Capel St. Mary to the south. The site is some distance from the medieval core of the village and there is no evidence, archaeologically or historically that the village ever extended this far. As such there is little within our existing knowledge of the medieval landscape in the Capel St. Mary to aid interpretation of the site.

Although hindered by the limited extent of the excavation area - from which we do not yet know the true size and extent of the medieval site to the north and west – the results of the excavation at Days Road have provided a great deal of evidence regarding the potential function and status of the site. Structure 4, dated broadly to the 13th century, is almost certainly the most significant medieval feature at Days Road and its function and status – specifically whether the remains represent a large aisled barn or an aisled hall - could well be key to understanding the site as a whole. At present, that Structure 4 is the remains of an aisled hall appears more likely. While the probable drain running through the building is perhaps suggestive of a barn, the majority of aisled barns in Suffolk are later medieval in date and a 13th century for such a building seems unlikely. The presence of a cross-entry is suggestive of a domestic context (Blair 1993) and the apparent absence of attached service buildings, a common characteristic of medieval halls, certainly does not rule out Structure 4

being an aisled hall. Structure 5, for example, could well represent a detached service building and the presence of further buildings to the north – beyond the edge of excavation – cannot be ruled out. The size of Structure 4 (15m long by 8.5m wide) is also impressive and comparable to the 12th-14th century structure at the Cedars Field moated site near Stowmarket (S. Anderson 2003), which was 17m long.

The recovery of the 12th-13th century seal matrix which belonged to Albreda, widow of Robert of Brantham is an important find and offers a rare opportunity to combine archaeological and documentary research. Although caution is required before establishing a direct link between the site and an individual find, this does provide intriguing questions that can be, in part, supported by archaeological evidence. Documentary research in Ipswich Record Office has not located any direct evidence concerning medieval ownership of the site. The name of ‘Roberto of Braham de Capeles’ is a signatory to the Dodnash charter (undated but likely to be from between 1252 and c.1285), so was clearly a man of some status and a landowner. The inquisition of Roger de Braham in 1287 references land held in ‘Capele and Boyton’ In 1353 the manor of Boyton (today Boynton) is recorded as being vested in Sir John Braham, so clearly they were already a local family of some note (see below, Breen). If the site was owned by Robert and passed to Albreda on his death as a ‘dower’ (some time in the late 13th century), then the sudden decline in the early 14th century might correspondingly relate to her death. Whilst this is speculative at present, the recent identification of a number of documents deposited by Queen’s College at Cambridge University Library relating to the de Braham family and their later ownership of Boynton Manor may shed some light on both the chronology and ownerships of the de Braham family in Capel St. Mary (see below, Breen).

Further research should not, however, be limited to the status of the site and the potential identification of its residents. A range of activities were clearly undertaken on the site, apparently culminating in more industrial activities such as quarrying, probably when the site was abandoned in the 14th century. The animal bone assemblage and environmental remains – which includes large charred grain deposits such as that from F.1586 – have the potential to further our understanding of the local economy during the 13th century and further post-excavation work will hopefully more closely identify the nature of activities undertaken on site. Possible parallels for features such as the tank-like pits and the possible ovens

CONCLUSION

The excavations at Days Road, Capel St. Mary revealed an important multi-period site with remains ranging in date from the Late Bronze Age to the post-medieval period. The individual phases of occupation appear to have been discrete, with no real evidence of continuity. Initial post-excavation assessment suggests that three of the eight phases of activity should be considered regionally significant each having the potential to further our understanding of the respective periods as well as address a number of research aims as laid out in the research agenda for the region (Brown and Glazebrook 2000).

Phase II: Late Bronze Age

Late Bronze Age pit F.1670 yielded an impressive assemblage of over 500 sherds of Post Deverel Rimbury pottery. This represents an important assemblage and has considerable potential with regards to refining the pottery typologies of the region and their chronology. The faunal assemblage and environmental remains from F.1670 also have the potential to further our understanding of the economy and environment of the area during the Late Bronze Age.

Phase III: Middle Iron Age

The Middle Iron Age enclosed settlement is one of very few such sites recorded in Suffolk and is in marked contrast to the model of open settlement proposed for the region by Hill (1998) suggesting a more diverse range of settlement morphology existed within the region than previously thought. Further analysis of the artefactual and environmental assemblages could potentially provide a context for the Iron Age site and further our understanding of the rural economy and environment during the Middle Iron Age. At present our understanding of the Iron Age in Suffolk is based on a small number of sites and the Days Road site is an important addition to the archaeological record.

Phase VII: 12th-14th century AD

The medieval settlement at Days Road represents a significant rural site. The presence of Structure 4, a possible aisled hall, suggests that the site was of relatively high status and further research is required regarding its place within the wider locale. The recovery of the seal matrix of Albreda, widow of Robert of Brantham, is an important find and documentary research of the family has the potential to provide a historical link to the site and shed light on its historical context and status. The results of the excavation have the potential to address a variety of research themes such as settlement diversity, rural medieval buildings, craftsmanship and industry, and the agrarian economy; all identified as 'gaps in knowledge' by the regional research framework (Wade in Brown and Glazebrook 2000).

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SPECIALIST STUDIES

The Flint - Lawrence Billington

A total of 180 worked flints (2160.4g) together with 42 (1156.6g) unworked burnt flints were recovered from the excavations. The worked flints were generally found in low densities as a residual component in the fills of later features. The majority of the flint work appears to represent a later prehistoric industry, and several Iron Age features contain assemblages that are probably broadly contemporary with the features. The assemblage is discussed as a whole before examining significant feature assemblages.

Raw materials appear to derive exclusively from the abundant flint available in the local boulder clay. This takes the form of generally good quality nodular flint, sometimes of large size. The nodules have usually been affected by thermal (frost) fracturing, with incipient fractures, and re-corticated split surfaces. The condition of the assemblage is good and fresh, patination was very rare, consisting of an occasional light blue sheen.

F./SF No.	Feature type	chip	irregular waste	flake	bladelet	rejuvenation	irregular core/flaked piece	single platform flake core	two platform flake core	end scraper	sub circular scraper	misc scraper	retouched flake	notched flake	total worked	burnt unworked	burnt unworked weight
1227	Ditch	1	3	33		1		1							39	9	282.4
1434	Pit		7	25			3	1	1			1			38		
1360	Pit	4	3	13			5				1		1		27	1	59.8
1382	round house gully	2		8											10	2	48.5
1150	Ditch		1	5											6		
1153	Ditch			3											3		
1485	round house gully			3											3	2	55.4
1249	Ditch		1	1											2		
1264	post hole			2											2		
1287	Ditch			1									1		2		
1295	Ditch			2											2		
1375	post hole			2											2		
1554	Pit	2													2		
1563	Pit			2											2		
1578	Pit			2											2		
1152	Ditch												1		1		
1161	Pit			1											1		
1196	post hole	1													1		
1215	Ditch													1	1		
1231	Ditch			1											1		
1250	Pit			1											1		
1263	quarry pit									1					1		
1293	hollow						1								1	3	37.7
1309	ditch			1											1		

F./SF No.	Feature type	chip	irregular waste	flake	bladelet	rejuvenation	irregular core/flaked piece	single platform flake core	two platform flake core	end scraper	sub circular scraper	misc scraper	retouched flake	notched flake	total worked	burnt unworked	burnt unworked weight
1333	Pit			1											1		
1334	Pit											1			1		
1341	ditch			1											1	1	18
1359	gully									1					1		
1365	post hole			1											1		
1369	post hole			1											1		
1370	post hole			1											1	1	3.5
1371	ditch			1											1	1	63
1384	post hole												1		1		
1395	post hole									1					1		
1426	Pit			1											1		
1433	hollow			1											1		
1450	post hole			1											1		
1469	ditch			1											1		
1478	post hole			1											1		
1508	post hole			1											1		
1569	Pit			1											1		
1576	Pit			1											1		
1577	ditch			1											1		
1586	Pit											1			1		
1660	post hole												1		1		
1665	Pit			1											1	5	15.8
1667	Pit			1											1		
1669	ditch			1											1		
1676	Pit			1											1		
1681	ditch			1											1		
sf 12					1										1		
sf 14				1											1		
surface				1											1		
1160	Pit															2	2.7
1340	metalled surface															1	21.6
1357	ditch															1	206.7
1423	ditch															1	11.5
1448	post hole															3	110.4
1579	Pit															1	85.3
1612	gully															5	90.4
1670	Pit	2		1											3		
1692	post hole															1	21
1693	post hole															1	2.1
total		10	15	128	1	1	9	2	1	3	1	3	5	1	183	41	1135.8

Table 1: Flint assemblage breakdown

The assemblage is dominated by an expedient, ad hoc, flake based technology; probably in part a response to the abundance of local raw material but also reflecting technological traits typical of later prehistoric (Middle Bronze Age and later) flint work (see Ford *et al.* 1984). Flakes are generally broad and of irregular morphology, with thick striking platforms. Hard hammers were used throughout the reduction sequence and platforms are often either cortical or on natural breaks, indicating that striking platforms were rarely formally prepared. The low proportion of non-cortical

flakes reflects a lack of core maintenance and little concern with the economic use of raw material, an impression supported by the relatively high numbers of cores and flaked pieces (9.2%) in the assemblage. The cores are dominated by informal pieces that defy conventional classification. All have been worked in an unstructured way; platforms are untrimmed and often peppered with incipient cones of percussion from misplaced hammer blows.

Alongside this irregular flake based material are occasional pieces that show rather different technological traits and probably represent earlier activity. A fine bladelet collected as small find 12 is the sole representative of Mesolithic or earlier Neolithic blade based technology. A small number of flakes are of more controlled morphology than the bulk of the debitage. Thinner and with centrally aligned arrises used to guide the form of the flake these pieces may reflect later Neolithic or Early Bronze Age flint working.

		No.	%
reduction	Primary	8	5.7
	Secondary	95	67.9
	Tertiary	37	26.4
platform type	Plain	67	57.3
	Shattered	5	4.3
	Faceted	1	0.9
	Linear	2	1.7
	natural surface	18	15.4
	Cortical	22	18.8
	> 1 scar	2	1.6
scar direction	Single	96	84.2
	single blade	2	1.8
	Opposed	1	0.9
	multi	15	13.1
termination type	Normal	90	73.8
	Hinged	27	22.1
	Plunging	5	4.1

Table 2: Flint types

Retouched pieces

Alongside flint working the use of flint tools is attested by the presence of 13 retouched pieces (7.2% of the assemblage) and 22 pieces with macroscopically visible utilisation (12.2%). The retouched forms are restricted to scrapers and retouched, generally edge trimmed, flakes. The scrapers include a fine later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age sub circular scraper, discussed below, and a range of more expediently produced forms. These are generally consistent with the technological traits seen in the assemblage as a whole and although not strictly diagnostic may reflect later prehistoric tool use. The same applies to the retouched flakes although the fine invasive retouch on a flake from F. 1660 suggests a later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age date for this piece.

Feature Assemblages

Iron Age enclosure ditch F. 1227 produced the largest assemblage of flint, 39 worked pieces and 9 burnt unworked chunks. However, these flints derived from a total of 13 separate contexts, whilst flint was invariably present within the feature it was not deposited in quantity, probably becoming accidentally incorporated into the feature as it filled up. The assemblage from this feature is typical of the later prehistoric flintwork from the site and consists entirely of unretouched flake based material, including a residual earlier Neolithic or Mesolithic core rejuvenation flake. Although no retouched pieces were recovered four flakes showed signs of use, two as cutting flakes and two with wear consistent with use as a scraper.

Pit F. 1434 contained a 38 struck flints. Only one retouched piece was recovered, an expediently produced scraper. Much of this assemblage represents waste from flint working with cores and irregular flaked pieces. The technological character of the material and the lack of formal tools is suggestive of later prehistoric flint work, from the Middle Bronze Age onwards.

The 27 worked flints from pit F. 1360 are dominated by flake based waste very similar to the material from F. 1434 and F. 1227, again consistent with a later prehistoric date. However, a number of pieces, including several fine flakes and an elaborately retouched sub circular scraper are more typical of Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age assemblages. It is possible that the cruder waste material reflects an expedient use of the abundant local raw material in this period, giving the appearance of a later technology. It is, however, also possible that this assemblage is genuinely mixed, with residual Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age material within a predominantly later prehistoric assemblage.

A small assemblage of eight worked flints was recovered from round house gully F.1485. Including three utilised flakes this material may be broadly contemporary with the structure.

The flint assemblage from the site is dominated by evidence for later prehistoric flint working with small amounts of earlier material. Particularly striking is the paucity of evidence for Mesolithic or earlier Neolithic flintwork. Later Neolithic and Early Bronze Age material is only slightly better represented including at least some of the ambiguous assemblage from pit F. 1360. Although the later prehistoric flint is not closely dateable, its frequent occurrence in Iron Age ditch F. 1227 and in the round house gully F. 1485 suggests it relates to the Iron Age settlement of the site. It is only in recent years that the use of flint in the Iron Age has received sustained attention (e.g. Humphrey 2003, 2004). It is clear that whilst some communities at this time were making no use of flint, others, as at Capel St Mary, continued to make extensive use of lithic resources. At Capel it can be argued that the continued use of flint is at least partly linked to the abundance of local raw material.

Late Bronze Age Pottery – *Matt Brudenell*

The excavations yielded 631 (6852g) sherds of Late Bronze Age Plainware PDR pottery, with a mean sherd weight of 10.9g. The assemblage can be broadly dated

between c. 1100-800 BC, although it contains a number of characteristics which suggest that it may belong towards the earlier half of this range. The ceramics were recovered from 20 features, including pits, postholes, ditches, gullies and ring gullies; pit F.1670 yielding by far the largest assemblage. However, 48 sherds (534g) from ten of these features were residual, being found alongside later Iron Age and post-Roman wares. Overall the assemblage was in fairly good condition, despite most sherds being of small size (66% classified as small (<4cm in size); 32% as medium (4-8cm in size); 2% large (>8cm in size)).

The ceramics were fully recorded following the recommendations laid out by the Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group (PCRG 1997). Sherds weighing less than 1g were recorded as crumbs (38g in total), and were excluded from analysis.

Assemblage characteristics

Burnt-flint gritted sherds dominated the assemblage, notably the coarseware fabric F2 (Table 3). The addition of crushed burnt-flint is characteristic of Late Bronze Age PDR assemblages across Suffolk, and most of East Anglia. By weight, 70% of the pottery had burnt-flint inclusions; 12% displayed a combination of burnt-flint and sand, and 10% had burnt-flint and voids (dissolved calcareous inclusion?). The remaining 8% was shared between sherds with grog and burnt flint; voids; burnt-flint and quartz grains, and sand inclusions.

It is possible that some of flint-tempered pottery identified as residual in later Iron Age contexts was in fact of Iron Age date. Later Iron Age potting traditions in Suffolk, Norfolk and parts of Essex did include the use of crushed burnt-flint filler; some of which is clearly recognisable at Capel St. Mary (see K. Anderson's Iron Age report); however, these 'residual' sherds had coarse ill-sorted flint grit inclusions, with a texture more reminiscent of later Bronze Age ceramics than those of the Iron Age. However, the *potential* for the miss-assignment of material should be highlighted (though even if this were the case, the figures presented would not be significantly skewed).

Fabric	Group	No./wt. sherds	% of fabric (by wt.)	No./wt. sherds burnished	% of fabric burnished (by wt.)	MNV	MNV burnished
F	Flint	8/16	0.2	-	-	1	-
F1	Flint	50/960	14.0	-	-	4	-
F2	Flint	341/3637	53.1	-	-	15	-
F3	Flint	11/100	1.5	4/62	62	3	1
F4	Flint	10/75	1.1	5/52	68	1	1
FG1	Flint and grog	8/80	1.2	-	-	1	-
FG2	Flint and grog	2/15	0.2	-	-	-	-
FQ1	Flint and sand	49/384	5.6	-	-	5	-
FQ2	Flint and sand	30/423	6.2	7/133	31.4	2	1
FQ3	Flint and sand	1/21	0.3	1/21	100	1	-
FQ11	Flint and quartz	2/122	1.8	-	-	-	-
FV1	Flint and voids	66/688	10.0	-	-	2	-
Q1	Sand	1/2	>0.1	-	-	-	-
V1	Voids	52/329	4.8	-	-	1	-
TOTAL	-	631/6852	100.0	17/267	3.9	36	3

Table 3: Quantified pottery. MNV = minimum number of vessels calculated as the total number of different rims and bases identified.

Fabric types

Flint tempered fabrics

- F1: Moderate to common coarse and very coarse flint (mainly 2-6mm in size)
- F2: Sparse to common coarse flint (mainly 2-4mm in size)
- F3: Moderate to common finely crushed flint (mainly under 1mm in size)
- F4: Sparse to moderate finely crushed flint (mainly under 1mm in size)
- F: Small sherds with flint inclusions to fragmented or abraded to assign to a more specific fabric category

Flint and voids fabrics

- FV1: Moderate medium flint (1-2mm) and moderate medium voids (mainly 1-2mm) in a sandy clay matrix.

Flint and sand tempered fabrics

- FQ1: Sparse or moderate medium flint (mainly 1-2mm) in a sandy clay matrix
- FQ2: Sparse to moderate coarse flint (mainly 2-4mm) in a sandy clay matrix
- FQ3: Sparse finely crushed flint (mainly under 1mm) in a sandy clay matrix

Voids and sand fabrics

- V1: Moderate coarse and very coarse sub-oval voids (mainly 2-4mm) and rare medium and coarse flint (1-3mm) in slightly sand clay matrix.

Flint and grog fabrics

- FG1: Moderate medium and coarse flint (mainly 1-3mm) and sparse medium and coarse grog (1-3mm)
- FG2: Sparse coarse flint (2-4mm) and sparse to moderate coarse grog (2-4mm)

Burnt flint and quartz gain fabrics

- FQI1: Common coarse to very coarse burnt flint (mainly 2-4mm), with moderate sub-rounded quartz grains (mainly 1-2mm).

Sand tempered fabrics

- Q1: Moderate sand

The assemblage was composed of jar and bowl forms well represented in other Late Bronze Age PDR assemblages from across Eastern England. In general, relatively few forms were identifiable owing to the small size of the assemblage and the fragmented condition of the sherds. However, based on the total number of different rims and bases, the assemblage included a minimum of 36 vessels, with a rim EVE of 1.07 (26 different rims, 10 different bases). In total, 12 vessels were sufficiently intact to allow form to be identified, included 34 sherds (800g), representing 5% of the assemblage by sherd count or 12% by weight. All but one of these vessels derived from pit F.1670; the other being residual in F.1667. Un-burnished coarseware jars (Class I) were most prolific: forms including plain straight sided 'cylindrical-shaped' jars with direct rims, plain jars with slightly in-turned or 'hooked' rims, and a plain shouldered jar with relatively long inward sloping neck and short everted rim. Typologically, the first two of these three vessel forms have 'early tendencies', recalling the bucket/barrel-shaped urns of the Middle Bronze Age Deverel Rimbury tradition. This perhaps signals that the assemblage is relatively early in the PDR sequence – something which needs to be tested through radiocarbon dating. The two other form assignable vessels were plain but burnished/carefully smoothed fineware bowls (Class

IV); one a small round-bodied bowl with upright rim from F.1670; the other a deep round-bodied bowl with everted neck from F.1667.

Burnishing (encompassing careful smoothing) was rare in the assemblage, with only 17 sherds (267g) treated. This represents just 4.7% of the assemblage by sherd count or 3.9% by weight. Such low frequencies are not uncommon. Patterns emerging from the analysis of a range of recently excavated Late Bronze Age sites from across East Anglia suggest that burnishing frequencies below 10% are the norm, implying that finewares formed a minor component of most assemblages. Burnishing was restricted to just four of the 14 different fabric groups identified, principally those with the finer, better-sorted inclusions which facilitate smoothing, such as fabrics F3, F4 and FQ3. The general correlation between grit size and burnishing implies that that clays and tempers were carefully selected with this treatment in mind. Burnishing was not, therefore, an afterthought or alternative option at the end of the production process. Rather, the creation of finewares would have been planned from the primary stages of ceramic production.

As another form of surface treatment, decoration was as equally rare as burnishing, with only 6 sherds (187g) embellished, potentially deriving from just two different vessels. The decoration was restricted to the coarsewares, and included two fragments of a finger-tipped neck cordon (86g), three shoulder sherds with finger-tip impressions (67g), and one finger-tipped rim-top (34g). The decorated rim sherd and one of the shoulder sherds each had a small pre-fired perforation hole on their necks (probably being part of the same vessel) which had not penetrated all the way through the vessel wall. Again, this kind of decorative treatment is more common of Deverel Rimbury vessels, and may be another trait which indicates the assemblage is early in the PDR sequence.

Distribution and deposition

Feature no	Feature type	Residual?	No. sherds	Wt. (g)
1295	Ditch	Y	1	5
1302	Pit	Y	2	7
1370	Posthole	Y	2	9
1382	Ring gully	Y	15	171
1485	Ring gully	Y	2	18
1534	Posthole	Y	2	16
1539	Tree throw	-	1	2
1554	Pit	-	4	129
1565	Posthole	-	8	53
1612	Gully	-	5	75
1626	Posthole	-	1	9
1652	Posthole	-	2	30
1660	Pit	-	4	16
1665	Pit	-	29	150
1667	Pit	Y	7	133
1668	Ditch	Y	6	67
1669	Ditch	Y	10	88
1670	Pit	-	528	5853
1691	Ditch	Y	1	10
1693	Posthole	-	1	11
TOTAL	-		631	6852

Table 4: Quantified pottery per feature

The total quantity of pottery per feature is presented in Table 4. The only feature-assembly worthy of more detailed comment is that from pit F.1670. By weight this yielded 85.4% of total Late Bronze Age assemblage, including 11 of the 12 form assigned vessels (sherd sizes: 65% small; 33% medium; 2% large). The pottery was recovered from contexts [2863] (131 sherds, 1319g) and [2864] (397 sherds, 4534g), with 13 refitting sherds found between them. The assemblage comprised of a mixed dump of ceramics, with sherds in varying states of abrasion and fragmentation indicative of vessels with different post-breakage histories. Overall there were 86 refitting sherds in this feature-assembly, some between burnt and un-burnt sherds (36 burnt sherds in total).

To date, this is one of only a small number of Late Bronze Age ceramic assemblages recovered from excavations in Suffolk. It is therefore of some importance, and deserves to be published in full. The assemblage belongs to the Plainware phase of the Post-Deverel Rimbury ceramic tradition (Barrett 1980) which is conventionally dated between *c.* 1100-800 BC. However, some of the vessels forms and decorative treatments evident in the assemblage from pit F.1670 have affinities with the earlier Deverel Rimbury pottery tradition, suggesting this group may be early in the PDR ceramic sequence. Typologically, this assemblage may be transitional, and could date between the 10th and mid 12th century BC - *i.e.* before a more a varied range of shouldered jar and bowl forms appear in the Late Bronze Age repertoire (around *c.* 1000 BC?). At present there is only a limited understanding of when vessel forms diversify during the course of the PDR Plainware phase. It is therefore imperative that groups such as this are AMS radiocarbon dated. More than any other county in Eastern England, Suffolk requires radiocarbon dates for its later prehistoric pottery assemblages. At present there is only one published date in association with a Late Bronze Age pottery group from Suffolk at Barham (Martin 1993, 38). This was obtained from a bulk sample of un-specified charcoal from combined contexts, and has yielded a date with a wide error margin. This is of little use in creating a refined chronology, and the continued lack of certainty about the date of Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age assemblages in Suffolk remains a serious impediment to the interpretation of the settlement record.

Iron Age and Roman Pottery - *Katie Anderson*

A large assemblage totalling 1141 sherds of pottery, weighing 8028g was recovered from the excavations. All of the material was examined and details of fabric, form, usewear, decoration and EVE (estimated vessel equivalent) were recorded along with any other information deemed significant. For the purposes of this report, the material has been separated into period, with the prehistoric material discussed separately from the Roman pottery.

Assemblage Composition

The pottery ranged in date from the Early/Middle Iron Age to the Early Roman period; albeit in varying quantities (Table 5). Middle Iron Age pottery dominated the assemblage, representing 73% of the total assemblage (88% when incorporating the EIA/MIA and MIA/LIA material). The assemblage was primarily comprised of small

and medium sized sherds, as is highlighted by the relatively low mean weight of 7g. There were however, some exceptions to this and some larger, less abraded sherds were recorded. It should be noted that 10% of the assemblage (105 sherds, 495g) were identified as being residual within later features.

Date	No.	Wt(g)
Early/Middle Iron Age	21	128
Middle Iron Age	832	6235
Middle/Late Iron Age	148	901
Late Iron Age	28	297
Late Iron Age/Early Roman	13	64
Early Roman	99	403
TOTAL	1141	8028

Table 5: All pottery by period.

A range of prehistoric fabric types were identified (see below), with four broad groups identified, based on the primary inclusion, comprising flint, grog, sand and shell. Within these categories there were 13 different fabric types identified:

Flint

F1 – Moderate small burnt flint, often poorly sorted, within a fine to medium sandy matrix.

F2 – Common to abundant burnt flint in a sandy matrix.

F3 – Rare fine flint (up to 1mm) in a sandy clay matrix with common silver mica.

Grog

G1 – Small to medium sized moderate grog (up to 1mm) in a sandy clay matrix.

G2 – Common to frequent grog in a sandy matrix.

Sandy

Q1 – Fine to medium sand, with rare to occasional large quartz inclusions (1mm).

Q2 – Fine sandy clay matrix with common silver mica.

Q3 – Medium sandy matrix with vegetable temper and voids.

Q4 – Medium sandy matrix with moderate to common rounded chalk inclusions (0.5mm).

Q5 – Medium to coarse sandy matrix with occasional large to very large quartz inclusions (1-2mm)

Q6 – Medium sandy matrix with occasional to common black iron ore inclusions.

Q7 – Medium to coarse sand, occasionally with silver mica.

Shell

S1 – Common fossil shell in a medium sandy matrix.

The fabrics occurred in varying quantities (Table 6), with sandy wares being the most commonly occurring, with fabric Q1 representing 48% of the prehistoric assemblage. Flint-tempered sherds were also well represented (25%). Grog and shell tempered fabrics were limited.

Fabric	No.	Wt(g)
F1	206	1553
F2	35	254
F3	18	120
G1	6	164
G2	5	27
Q1	503	3361
Q2	133	917
Q3	36	348
Q4	28	158
Q5	50	546
Q6	1	18
Q7	3	28
S1	17	131
TOTAL	1041	7625

Table 6: All prehistoric pottery by fabric

Late Iron Age and Early Roman pottery represented just 12% of the assemblage and comprised primarily small sherds, with a mean weight lower than the total assemblage, of just 4g. This is possibly due in part to the residual nature of some of the material, but might also be because this site did not represent the main focus of activity during the Late Iron Age and Early Roman period.

Fabric	No.	Wt(g)
Buff sandy ware	3	13
Coarse sandy greyware	29	151
Fine sandy greyware	54	186
Oxidised sandy ware	12	49
South Gaulish Samian	1	4
TOTAL	99	403

Table 7: All Roman pottery by fabric

Fine sandy greyware fabrics, which were often micaceous, were the most commonly occurring, followed by coarse sandy greywares, which is typical of Roman rural assemblages (Table 7). Although no definite sherds from known kiln sites were identified, it is likely that most of these fabrics would have been made locally. The exception to this was a single sherd of South Gaulish Samian which broadly dates mid-late 1st century AD. This sherd was residual (Feature 1253) and comprised a very small and abraded fragment; therefore the vessel form could not be identified.

A minimum of 65 different vessels were identified, most of which are Middle Iron Age in date. Of these, 48 were jars, 12 were bowl/jar and five were bowls. There was a range of rim types for each of these categories, and vessels occurred in a variety of sizes, which is a reflection of different functions. Plain rounded rims and slightly everted rims were the most common rim types. Due to the condition of much of the assemblage, very few vessel profiles were identified, and thus details of exact vessel forms are limited. However, a small number of slack shouldered jars and rounded

shouldered jars were identified. The jars had rim diameters ranging from 10cm-20cm, with 10cm being the most frequently occurring. F.1382 contained a semi-complete jar with sooting on the interior towards the base, suggesting that this vessel had been used for cooking.

10% of the assemblage was decorated, with burnishing being the most common form of decoration, occurring on 85 sherds. Ten sherds had incised decoration, with a further six vessels having fingertip decoration on the rim.

Feature Analysis

Due to the large number of features excavated on this site, only a small number of features have been selected for more detailed analysis.

The largest quantity of material recovered from a single feature was from enclosure ditch F.1227, which had 367 sherds, weighing 2520g. The material was collected from several different slots along the length of the ditch. Pottery dated from the Early/Middle Iron Age to the early Roman period, with several contexts containing pottery of mixed dates. The majority of sherds were Middle Iron Age in date, however, due to the mixed nature of the deposits, it is unclear as to exactly how early or late this feature is. 18 different jars were identified, including four plain rim vessels. Two bowl/jars were also recorded. Given the quantity of material recovered from this feature, it is likely that it acted as one of the main areas for the deposition of domestic refuse, a view which is supported by the quantity of animal bone recovered from the feature (see Rajkovača below).

F.1669, a continuation of enclosure ditch F.1227, contained 90 sherds weighing 851g. Seven different jars were identified, including two everted rim jars and one vessel with 'cable' type decoration on the rim. A further bowl/jar was also identified. The pottery was primarily dated Middle Iron Age, however there were a small number of sherds dating Middle/Late Iron Age.

F.1382, a roundhouse gully, contained 160 sherds of pottery, weighing 1247g. The material was predominately Middle Iron Age, although there were a small number of Early/Middle Iron Age sherds and Middle/Late Iron Age sherds. Ten jars were identified, including one rounded shouldered vessel which was semi-complete. Three bowl/jars and one bowl were also recorded, thus the pottery from this feature can be considered to represent a domestic assemblage.

Much of the Late Iron Age and Roman pottery was residual within later features. The exceptions to this were 18 sherds (50g) which were recovered from ditches, F.1152 and F.1153. These sherds were early Roman in date (mid-late 1st century AD), and comprised fine and coarse sandy greyware sherds, including one angular beaded rim jar.

30 sherds of early Roman pottery were recovered from a series of postholes, which make up a rectangular structure (Structure 3) in the south-west of the site (Table 8). Although this is not a large quantity of material, that early Roman pottery was recovered from several different postholes, and that no earlier or later material was identified, suggests this was an early Roman structure. The sherds primarily

comprised fine, micaceous sandy greyware sherds, most of which were non-diagnostic. The exceptions to this were one base sherd (F.1207) and one ‘rippled’ body sherd from F.1194.

Ft	Date	No.	Wt(g)
1190	Mid-late 1st AD	3	12
1194	Mid-late 1st AD	11	36
1195	Mid-late 1st AD	6	19
1198	Mid-late 1st AD	1	1
1201	Mid-late 1st AD	2	4
1203	Mid-late 1st AD	1	2
1207	ER	6	42
	TOTAL	30	116

Table 8: Pottery from Structure 3 post holes

The assemblage recovered from this excavation provided evidence for occupation from the Early/Middle Iron Age to the early Roman period, although this is unlikely to have been continuous given the limited evidence for Late Iron Age activity. The peak in activity was during the Middle Iron Age, however due to the condition of the assemblage and the lack of vessel forms identified; there is little opportunity for more specific dating of the pottery from this period, with stratigraphic relationships providing a better idea of sequence. The forms and fabrics recorded are somewhat typical of assemblages of this date in Suffolk, being dominated by sandy wares. Most of the pottery is likely to have come from the local area.

In terms of Roman activity, the pottery implies that activity did not continue beyond the mid/late 1st century AD. The relatively small quantity of Late Iron Age and Roman pottery suggests that occupation was not as intensive as it had been during the Middle Iron Age. This may also indicate that the focus of the settlement during the Late Iron Age and early Roman period had moved elsewhere, with this area becoming peripheral.

Post-Roman Pottery – Sue Anderson

A total of 2588 sherds of pottery weighing 24,027g was collected from 253 contexts in 173 features. Table 9 shows the quantification by fabric; a summary catalogue by context is included as Appendix B.

Quantification was carried out using sherd count, weight and estimated vessel equivalent (EVE). The minimum number of vessels (MNV) within each context was also recorded, but cross-fitting was not attempted unless particularly distinctive vessels were observed in more than one context. A full quantification by fabric, context and feature is available in archive. All fabric codes were assigned from the author’s post-Roman fabric series, which includes East Anglian and Midlands fabrics, as well as imported wares. Form terminology for medieval pottery is based on MPRG (1998). Recording uses a system of letters for fabric codes together with number codes for ease of sorting in database format. The results were input directly onto an Access database.

Description	Fabric	Code	No	Wt/g	Eve	MNV
Early Saxon grass and sand-tempered	ESO2	2.02	3	11		2
Early Saxon coarse quartz	ESCQ	2.03	5	29		3
Early Saxon fine sand	ESFS	2.04	9	25		8
Early Saxon sparse shelly	ESSS	2.07	2	8		2
Early Saxon medium sandy	ESMS	2.22	10	34		8
<i>Total Early Saxon (c. 5th-7th)</i>			29	107		23
Thetford-type ware	THET	2.50	65	282	0.32	61
'Early medieval' sandwich wares	EMSW	2.58	5	46		2
<i>Total Late Saxon (c. 10th-11th)</i>			70	328	0.32	63
Early medieval ware	EMW	3.10	566	3753	1	345
Early medieval ware gritty	EMWG	3.11	83	811	0.07	70
Early medieval ware shelly	EMWS	3.14	1	2		1
Yarmouth-type ware	YAR	3.17	9	60		9
Early medieval sparse shelly ware	EMWSS	3.19	22	111	0.05	17
Early medieval gritty with shell	EMWSG	3.191	6	38		5
Pingsdorf Ware	PING	7.24	2	21	0.05	2
<i>Total early medieval (c. 11th-13th)</i>			689	4796	1.17	449
Medieval coarseware	MCW	3.20	1072	11550	7.67	690
Medieval coarseware gritty	MCWG	3.21	107	1408	1.28	66
Medieval coarseware micaceous	MCWM	3.24	20	237	0.28	12
Hollesley-type coarseware	HOLL	3.42	248	2583	1.75	154
Ipswich medieval coarseware	MIPS	3.44	31	249	0.47	4
Melton shelly ware	MTN1	3.54	1	7		1
Medieval shell-dusted ware	MSDW	3.55	5	55	0.05	5
Medieval chalk-tempered ware	MCWC	3.60	3	26		1
Unprovenanced glazed	UPG	4.00	3	18		2
Colchester Ware	COLC	4.21	101	862	0.26	57
Mill Green Ware	MGW	4.22	5	25	0.16	4
Hedingham Ware	HFW1	4.23	40	328	0.11	24
Ipswich Glazed Ware	IPSG	4.31	28	247	0.08	15
Hollesley Glazed Ware	HOLG	4.32	55	431	0.29	36
Scarborough Phase I	SCAR1	4.41	1	2		1
Yorkshire glazed wares	YORK	4.43	2	4		1
Developed Stamford Ware	STAMC	4.71	1	71	0.32	1
Flemish Blue-Grey Ware	FLBG	7.23	1	36	0.17	1
<i>Total medieval (c. 12th-14th)</i>			1724	18139	12.89	1075
Late medieval and transitional	LMT	5.10	6	44		5
Late Essex-type Wares	LMTE	5.60	6	50		6
Late Colchester-type Ware	COLL	5.61	8	71	0.11	6
Late Hedingham Ware	HFW2	5.62	4	32	0.06	1
Post-medieval redwares	PMRW	6.10	7	118	0.07	3
Glazed red earthenware	GRE	6.12	19	236	0.12	14
Speckle-glazed Ware	SPEC	6.15	1	6		1
Border Wares	BORD	6.22	1	7		1
<i>Total late/post-medieval (c. 15th-18th)</i>			52	564	0.36	37
Late post-medieval unglazed earthenwares	LPME	8.01	6	47	0.21	4
Refined white earthenwares	REFW	8.03	8	29		6
Yellow Ware	YELW	8.13	1	2		1
Porcelain	PORC	8.30	7	8		2
<i>Total modern (c. 19th+)</i>			22	86	0.21	13
Unidentified	UNID	0.001	2	7		2
Total			2588	24027	14.95	1662

Table 9: Pottery quantification by fabric

Early Saxon

Twenty-nine sherds of handmade pottery were probably of Early Saxon date. However it is possible that some may be prehistoric. Those in fine sandy fabrics are particularly difficult to distinguish from Iron Age fine blackwares, especially given the degree of abrasion and lack of any distinguishing sherds. Only one sherd was decorated, having an incised horizontal line. The range of fabrics in this small group is comparable with other Early Saxon groups in the area, but this group contained no granitic tempered sherds. The latter would have been useful in confirming that there was an Early Saxon presence on the site. The small number of sherds present probably indicates dispersal through agricultural use of the land at this period, rather than occupation.

Late Saxon

A small quantity of Thetford-type ware, and the related 'early medieval' sandwich wares, was recovered. The majority of sherds were residual in medieval and later features and most showed some signs of abrasion. Only four rims were present, representing small, medium and large jar forms with late rim types (S. Anderson 2004). The rims were all typical of the ware, and a few body sherds showed signs of the 'girth grooving' commonly seen on Ipswich Thetford Ware. However, most sherds were in relatively soft, fine fabrics with moderate or common mica inclusions. The same fabric was in use in the Roman period and, given the similarity of greyware forms in use during the two periods, it is possible that some of the sherds recorded as Thetford-type ware have been wrongly assigned.

Early to High Medieval

A relatively high proportion of this assemblage comprised pottery of later 11th to 13th century date. This includes both the handmade wares (some of which had wheel-finished rims) classified as 'early medieval' and the wheel-made greywares classified as 'medieval'. In this part of Suffolk, as elsewhere in rural East Anglia, the two methods of manufacture appear to have overlapped during the 12th-13th centuries.

The range of fabrics present during the early and high medieval periods is varied. No attempt has been made to distinguish between the bulk of the coarsewares of unknown origin, but it was possible to identify some wares which were probably made to the east of Ipswich (Hollesley, Melton), in Ipswich itself, and at Colchester. Some coarsewares were similar to Colchester wares but finer, and these may be from other Essex production sites such as Mile End and Great Horkesley (Drury & Petchey 1975). Some Hedingham coarseware is likely to be present amongst the finer greywares and some of the micaceous fabrics. However, micaceous wares were also produced in north-east Suffolk and these may also be represented. Fabrics which are comparable with some identified in Stowmarket and at Preston St Mary (near Lavenham) were also present, but rare, in this assemblage. Studies of other rural sites in the region have shown that most pottery was sourced from production sites within a 25 mile radius (S. Anderson 2006), and this site appears to follow the pattern.

The relatively small proportion of shell-tempered early medieval wares in this group is surprising, as it is a common feature of assemblages from sites around Ipswich and

in north Essex. For example, such wares dominated the early medieval assemblage from a recent excavation at Great Blakenham (S. Anderson 2009a). However the quantities from Colchester urban sites are relatively small (Cotter 2000: 34-37), and a site at Ardleigh produced only sandy EMW (Walker 2009).

Of the early medieval wares, eighteen rims were identifiable as jars, with a variety of forms including everted, beaded/thickened everted and upright beaded types.

The range of forms present in the high medieval group comprised jars, bowls, jugs and skillets. The rim forms indicated that the assemblage continued into the 14th century, although the majority of dateable types belonged to the later 12th and 13th centuries. Rims of both Essex and Suffolk types are present, the former being relatively closely dateable due to work at Rivenhall (Drury 1993).

Glazed wares formed c. 9% of the high medieval group (based on sherd count). This is an average proportion for a rural site. The majority of glazed wares in this group were comparable with those made further up the coast at Hollesley, although it is possible that an as-yet-unknown, more local, kiln was in operation. Ipswich glazed ware occurred less commonly, and there were some glazed vessels amongst the Colchester Ware, with other Essex production sites at Hedingham and Mill Green contributing most of the remainder. A few glazed wares from further afield came from Yorkshire and Lincolnshire.

Imported wares of this period included a small Pingsdorf jar and a possible Flemish jug. The latter was in a gritty fabric with blue-grey surfaces similar to Paffrath Ware, but an overfired version of the local gritty fabric could appear similar. A search for parallels for the jug form will be carried out during the analysis stage.

Late and post-Medieval

With the exception of a single body sherd of yellow-glazed Border Ware from Surrey, all pottery in this group comprised local and regional redwares. There was clearly a decline in pottery use on this site from the 14th century onwards, and whilst some of the late medieval wares could be contemporary with the very latest occupation on the site (their earliest production date would be in the later 14th century) it is likely that much of this small group arrived at the site during manuring activity. The range of identifiable vessels included a jug, two handled jars, two bowls, a jar and a mug. A possible handle or tripod leg in LMT was probably from a skillet. Closely dateable forms are all of 16th/17th century date.

Modern

The small quantity of modern pottery included sherds of plantpot, fragments of refined whiteware table wares, a small piece of yellow ware and some fragments of decorated porcelain. Like the earlier post-medieval material, this small group was probably dispersed across the field as a component of 'night soil'.

Unidentified

Two abraded sherds of fine sandy redwares were unidentified. Both could be Roman, or were possibly glazed wares which had lost their glaze.

Provenance

The site is well stratified and much of the material is derived from sealed contexts. A summary of the pottery by context is provided in Appendix . Table 11 provides a quantification by preliminary phase.

Pot period	Site phase					
	Rom?	Med	Med?	Med/ pmed?	Pmed	Unph.
ESax		25			1	3
LSax	1	43		1	3	22
EMed		567	34	8	8	72
Med		1335	55		18	316
LMed		21				3
PMed	2	19		1	5	1
Modern					19	3
Unident		1				1

Table 11: Pottery distribution (count) by pot period and preliminary site phase

Three sherds of probable post-Roman date were recovered from ?Roman features. One of these was a Thetford-type ware body sherd from post-hole fill [1277] which, as noted above, could be Roman. The two post-medieval sherds were from post-hole fills [1275] and [1309] and were pieces of orange-glazed red earthenware which may be intrusive from the ploughsoil if these contexts are Roman.

The majority of this assemblage was recovered from features assigned to the medieval phase. This includes a small quantity of post-medieval pottery which could be intrusive. Residual pottery is present in both the medieval and the post-medieval phases, and there is a relatively high proportion of medieval pottery which is currently in unphased contexts. Table 12 shows the distribution of pottery by feature type.

Feature type	No	Wt/g	MNV
Pit	1277	13445	798
Quarry pit	132	1582	108
Pit/post-hole	14	136	13
Post-hole/post-pit	223	1370	135
Ditch/gully	595	4081	354
Well	38	259	33
Oven	4	46	4
Depression/hollow	105	1403	62
Metalled surface	186	1422	141
Unallocated	14	283	14

Table 12. Pottery distribution by feature type

The majority of the assemblage was recovered from pits and linear features, with smaller quantities being derived from post-holes and other negative features. A large group was recovered from the metalled surface [1483] from various test-pits. Several vessels occurred in more than one test pit, suggesting that the spread of pottery across this surface was contemporary and the material may have been deliberately scattered as hardcore. Three of the largest single groups of pottery were recovered from large

pits F.1334 (to the east of the aisled building), F1586 and F1683 (at the south-east corner of the enclosure ditch). No grouping information is available at the time of writing, but it will be useful to consider the pottery recovered from the medieval structures and other feature groups at the analysis stage.

This assemblage is one of several recently excavated rural Medieval groups in Suffolk. Such a large assemblage has very high potential to further our knowledge of medieval pottery of this period in the region.

If it is possible to produce a narrow phasing structure for the site, or if a Harris matrix is available, it will be of value to study the distribution of the main medieval wares and their association with earlier and later fabrics in relation to their stratigraphic positions. This may enable a tightening of date ranges for the forms and/or fabrics which will be of value for the study of future Suffolk assemblages. Comparison of the well-dated Essex wares with the Suffolk rim form distributions may also be possible.

Comparison of the assemblage with groups recently excavated at Cedar's Field, Stowmarket (S.Anderson forthcoming), and with unpublished groups from Great Blakenham (S.Anderson 2009a), Ipswich (S.Anderson 2009b) and other Suffolk rural sites, as well as sites in and around Colchester (Cotter 2000; Walker 2009) will help to place the group in context.

Spatial distribution of the pottery will almost certainly be of value in determining the growth and decline of areas within the site, and use of pottery associated with the structures, oven and well.

In summary, the potential of this assemblage is to provide evidence for dating and phasing of the site; pottery use, consumption and possibly manufacture; trade links both within and outside East Anglia; and status of the occupants.

Ceramic building material - Sue Anderson

A total of 615 fragments of CBM, weighing 25,327g, were collected from 117 contexts. A high proportion of the assemblage was abraded to some degree and many fragments had lost their surfaces. This, together with the overall uniformity of fabrics in use in this area from the Roman period onwards, has meant that some identifications are uncertain. These have been noted in the catalogue, and they will be reassessed following final phasing of the site.

The assemblage was quantified (count and weight) by fabric and form. Fabrics were identified on the basis of macroscopic appearance and main inclusions. The width, length and thickness of bricks and floor tiles were measured, but roof tile thicknesses were only measured when another dimension was available. Roman forms were identified with the aid of Brodrigg (1987). The presence of burning, combing, finger marks and other surface treatments was recorded. Roman tile thicknesses were measured and for flanged tegulae, the form of flange was noted and its width and external height were measured. Post-Roman forms were identified from work in Norwich (Drury 1993), based on measurements; other form terminology follows Brunskill's glossary (1990). Table 13 shows the quantification by type and form.

Type	form	code	No	Wt(g)
Roman	Box flue tile	BOX	2	248
	Flanged <i>tegula</i>	FLT	10	964
	<i>Imbrex</i>	IMB	2	129
	Roman tile	RBT	145	8752
	Roman tile?	RBT?	16	432
<i>Total Roman</i>			<i>175</i>	<i>10525</i>
Roofing	Plain roof tile	RT	342	9175
	Plain roof tile?	RT?	4	34
	Ridge tile	RID	5	417
	Pantile	PAN	3	182
	Walling	Early brick	EB	1
	Late brick	LB	53	4188
	Late brick?	LB?	17	426
Flooring	Floor tile	FT	1	62
	Floor tile?	FT?	1	101
<i>Total medieval and later</i>			<i>427</i>	<i>14688</i>
Uncertain	Unidentified	UN	13	114

Table 13: CBM by type and form.

Almost a third of the assemblage by count comprised material of Roman date, much of which was heavily abraded and may have been re-used at a later period. Most pieces were unidentifiable to specific form (RBT), but there were certainly pieces of box flue tile and roofing fragments (flanged *tegulae* and *imbrices*). Thickness measurements were recorded for 46 of the uncertain tiles and it may be possible to suggest functions for some of these at the analysis stage. However, they varied between 12–42mm and probably included further *imbrices*, flanged *tegulae* and some wall or floor bricks. Fabrics ranged from very fine with almost no visible inclusions, to a relatively coarse type with abundant sand. Most Suffolk Roman tile assemblages include fine and medium sandy fabrics which may be either soft or hard, and most sites generally produce a range of these. However, the coarse sandy variety found at this site is unusual. It is possible that these tiles represent a medieval attempt to produce Roman-type wall bricks, and further study of contexts and dating evidence may help to elucidate this.

Plain roofing tile made up a large proportion of this assemblage, a total of 346 fragments. Several fragments had square or circular holes, showing that these tiles at least were peg tiles; no nibs were identified. One hundred and fifty were examples of medieval roof tiles in medium to coarse sandy fabrics, many with reduced cores, and some were decorated with a green/brown lead glaze. Sixty-two fragments may be either medieval or post-Medieval, based on their fabrics. The remaining 134 fragments were likely to be post-medieval. Five fragments of ridge tile were identified, but all were unglazed and there is a possibility that some or all could be Roman *imbrices*; all but one were in fabrics which occurred in both period groups. Three fragments of hand-made pantiles of probable early date (17th/18th-century) were recovered.

Only one fragment of ‘early brick’ in an estuarine fabric was present. This type has a broad date range of 13th-15th centuries (Drury 1993).

Up to seventy fragments of ‘late brick’ were present, although it is possible that some of the more abraded and uncertain fragments could be Roman. Several fragments from ditch F1341 fills (1834) and (1836), for example, were in soft flint and ferrous tempered fabrics and the thickness of one piece (53mm) places it within the range for

both a Roman *bipedalis* and an early post-Medieval brick. Unfortunately the abrasion and loss of surfaces means that identification is uncertain, but the range of CBM from F1341 is largely post-medieval with some residual Roman material. Other late bricks were in fine and medium sandy fabrics typical of the area, and there was one white-firing brick which may have derived from the northern part of the county. Examples which may be late medieval were present, but the majority were probably post-medieval.

Two fragments of floor tiles were in white-firing fabrics. Unglazed floor tiles of this type were common in the post-medieval period. Another white-firing tile of similar thickness was identified as possibly Roman; occasional pieces of flanged *tegula* in this fabric occur on other sites in the region. Both ‘floor tiles’ were abraded and there is a possibility that they too were Roman. The unidentified fragments were generally small and abraded with no surfaces and could belong to any period represented in this assemblage.

The site is well stratified and much of the material is derived from sealed contexts. Pottery and other dating evidence may prove useful in suggesting dates for particular fabrics and forms. The distribution of forms by preliminary phase is shown in Table 14.

Form	IA	IA?	Rom	Rom?	Med	Med?	Med/PMed?	PMed	Unphased
BOX					2				
FLT					5	1			4
IMB						1	1		
RBT			4		78	6	3	23	31
RBT?				1	6		1	1	8
RT		4			188		2	77	71
RT?	1							1	2
RID					3			1	1
PAN								3	
EB								1	
LB					2		2	49	
LB?					1			16	
FT								1	
FT?					1				
UN					6	1	2	3	1

Table 14 Distribution of CBM by preliminary phase.

A few fragments of post-Roman tile occur in Iron Age features: fragments of roof tile in post-hole F1626, and a piece of coarse sandy ?roof tile in enclosure ditch F1227. Although a few fragments of Roman tile occur in features assigned to the Roman phase, the majority of this material was residual in medieval and later features. Some of the CBM currently in the medieval phase is likely to be of post-medieval date, although one fragments of ?late brick is noted as possibly Roman tile. Post-medieval features contain a few pieces of medieval roof tile and the early brick, but the majority of CBM from this group is of post-medieval date.

The majority of fragments were found in ditches, pit fills and quarry fills, with very little from structural features (the main exception being a well). There is some evidence for residuality of material, but this may reflect reuse of earlier material in later structures and is not perceived as a problem in the interpretation of the site. Reuse of material, reflected by the presence of mortar on breaks and other surfaces, was common practice during the medieval and post-medieval periods.

Assessment of potential and methodology for analysis

Further work will be required to complete the CBM analysis once final phasing information is available.

The potential of this assemblage is to provide information on the types of ceramic building material in use at the site during the Roman to post-medieval periods.

Roman, medieval and post-medieval tile and brick form the bulk of this assemblage and provide some evidence for the types of structures present on or near the site during these periods. However, there is evidence that some of the Roman material had been re-used in later structures and it may have been imported to the site specifically for this purpose.

This report provides an outline of the CBM types present in the assemblage, but the material has not yet been placed in context, either within the site itself or within the broader historic environment of the region.

1. Comparison of the assemblage with other large groups of CBM from the region, and smaller local groups, will be possible.
2. Three-dimensional spatial distribution of CBM fabrics and forms in features and structures will be important in studying the taphonomy of the site, and in providing information relevant to the study of social status and land use.
3. In order to reconstruct the types of buildings present in different phases, it will be necessary to integrate the analysis of the ceramic building material with the study of other building material collected from the site (fired clay, stone, wood, plaster/mortar, window glass and fittings), as well as the recorded structural evidence.
4. A report suitable for archive and/or publication will be prepared, together with a revised database which will form the archive catalogue.

Additional Roman tile and brick (F.1195) – Katie Anderson

An assemblage of Roman tile and brick, totalling 253 pieces and weighing 14577g was recovered from the site. Of these 71 pieces of tile, weighing 3596g and 47 pieces of brick or tile weighing 456g were recovered from single posthole, Feature 1195. This is the only Roman feature to have contained tile; the remainder of the tile having come from post-Roman features (see S. Anderson, above). There were no complete or semi-complete bricks or tile in the assemblage, with most pieces being small and fragmented.

Context [1390] contained 12 definite pieces of tile (830g), which included one floor tile, one imbrex tile and ten probable tegula. A further 19 pieces of tile weighing 2766g were recovered from context [1391]. This included several refitting pieces, two floor tiles, one imbrex and at least four tegula, two of which had flanges.

That such a large dump of brick and tile should be deposited in a single posthole is of interest. Although the pieces of tile and brick were relatively small and fragmentary, the presence of several refitting pieces from context [1391] suggests that at least some

of the building material had not moved far from its original place of discard. Closer dating of this tile is problematic. Its association with a small quantity of early Roman pottery does not necessarily rule out that the tile was manufactured and/or deposited after this date.

Metalwork - *Andrew Hall*

Metal detecting was employed throughout the programme of archaeological works, in order to retrieve ferrous and non-ferrous artefacts from the fills of cut features. In addition, several finds were discovered during hand excavation of features. In total 243 artefacts were recovered and they are catalogued and discussed below:

Silver

<1312> Sf 121 F. 1309. A heavily worn shilling of the late 17th or 18th century. The coin measures 24mm in diameter and >1mm in thickness. The surface is tarnished black and little detail remains visible. Two of the four shields on the reverse can just be distinguished. It weighs 9g.

Copper alloy

<1301> F. 1341 [1836] A cast, dome-shaped mount or fitting measuring 26mm in diameter, undecorated. Traces of a shank are visible within the concave reverse. Late Medieval to post-Medieval in date. 13g in weight.

<1302> F. 1433 [2123] A fragment of sheet copper alloy edging of curved profile. This would probably have been attached to a book binding or small piece of furniture. The surface is undecorated. The fragment measures 23mm in length by 9mm in width and weighs 2g. Undated.

<1303> F. 1490 [2264] A fragmentary rectangular sheet of copper alloy with a single pierced hole. Measuring 23mm by 18mm and weighing 1g. Undated.

<1304> Sf 1 Tr. 10 A length of bent copper alloy pipe flattened and closed at one end. The bore is 7mm in diameter and the pipe 110mm in length. This appears to be 20th century in date and most likely a discarded plumbers' off-cut. Weight 21g.

<1305> Sf. 4 A circular frame with a single pierced suspension lug at right angles to the frame. The frame is also pierced just below the lug. Traces of gilding remain on the upper surface of the frame which has a convex profile and flat on the reverse. A close parallel was found during the Grand Arcade excavations in Cambridge (Hall forthcoming), and a further example is published from Winchester (Biddle 1990: 1049). With the latter example, the author suggests this is a harness pendant. The hole below the lug suggests a secondary internal pendant may have been suspended within the outer frame. Such "double frame" pendants are not common but two more elaborate examples are published from Norwich Greyfriars (Emery 2007: 203). Weight 10g.

<1306> Sf. 8. Small, complete plain copper alloy button of 17mm diameter with loop intact. This type of button is often referred to as *Hessian* or *tombak* type. The later refers to the copper / zinc alloy from which the button is made. These are common finds and date from the 18th to 19th centuries. They have both military and civilian associations. Weight 4g.

<1307> F. 1307 [1483] A copper alloy split pin with a ring head and two slightly out-splayed arms or shanks. The pin measured 40mm in length but is incomplete. These fastenings are often used as fixings on axles. Most likely late Medieval or Post-Medieval in date. Weight 6g.

<1308> Sf. 100 F. 1334 A fine copper alloy rectangular mount possibly from a book or casket measuring 40 x 12mm. The mount has traces of gilding surviving on the upper surface which is also decorated with fine engraved scrollwork bordered with small punched dots. The mount has two holes for attachment and a folded "arm" at right-angles to the main face which may have folded around the

edge of whatever this was mounted onto. This is a finely made object probably dating to the 15th or 16th century. Similar examples are recorded within all the major published finds corporuses. Weight 6g.

<1309> Sf. 109 F. 1337 An incomplete rectangular buckle plate formed from a folded strip of sheet copper alloy. Pierced with four holes for attachment to a leather strap. There is also a slot for the pin at the folded end of the plate. Undecorated and measuring 24mm in length by 18mm in width. Weight 2g. Comparable with published examples from London (Egan and Pritchard 2002, p. 111) suggesting a 14th or 15th century date.

<1310> Sf. 110 F. 1337 A conical headed stud of 13mm diameter with a sharply tapering triangular section shank. Similar examples are recorded from Norwich (Margeson 1993: 83). The author suggests they were attached to items of furniture in the 15th-17th centuries. Weight 3g.

<1311> Sf. 119 F. 1340 [1483] A copper alloy composite circular strap-end with a forked spacer, measuring 40 x 29mm. This example has an acorn shaped knob or terminal and its back plate intact. The main body of the strap-end is plain and undecorated. This example has several close parallels from London (Egan and Pritchard 2002: 141). This dates to the 14th-15th centuries. Weight 11g.

<1313> Sf. 127 F. 1294 A copper alloy annular buckle of 42mm diameter complete with pin. The frame is plain and of oval cross section with no constriction or setting for the pin. The latter has a ridged grip. A late Medieval date seems appropriate. Weight 14g.

<1314> Sf. 130 F. 1294 An irregular spherical shaped mass of copper alloy spillage which appears to have fallen as molten metal into charcoal. This is likely to be associated with metal casting (Timberlake *pers.comm.*). The mass measures 50x40x30mm and weighs 140g. Recovered from a Medieval feature and therefore dated as such as association.

<1315> Sf 141 F. 1294 A diamond shaped copper alloy rove or crude escutcheon plate measuring 28mm in length by 15mm in width with a single centrally positioned hole of 4mm diameter. Roves are essentially backing plates to protect the wood from bolts/nails. This example is interesting because it is made in copper alloy not iron. This has led to the alternative explanation of an escutcheon plate from a small piece of furniture. It is probably 15th-16th century in date and weighs 1g.

<1316> Sf 143 A halfpenny of George I (1714-27) measuring 24mm in diameter (the normal dimensions rather than the smaller “dump” issue). Dating to 1720. Heavily worn. Weight 10g.

<1479> Sf. 126 An irregular shaped copper alloy casting spill. 28 x10mm and weighing 5g.

Lead and lead alloy

<1474> Sf. 9 An irregular oval shaped slab of lead with a distinct “step”. Possibly a pot repair. Similar such plug repairs are recorded from Medieval contexts at York (Ottaway and Rogers 2002). This example measures 38x30x10mm and weighs 50g.

<1475> Sf. 107 F. 1336 Casting spill 29x9x3mm, weight 5g.

<1476> Sf. 122 F. 1239 A circular cast lead alloy (pewter?) plug or repair, perhaps from a ceramic vessel, measuring 20mm in diameter by 10mm in height and weighing 18g. Post-Medieval in date.

<1477> Sf. 123 F. 1294 A roughly circular disc-shaped, flat bottomed weight measuring 75mm in diameter and weighing 365g. Such crude “home made” weights are common finds but difficult to date. This example is most likely late Medieval or early Post-Medieval in date.

<1478> Sf. 125 F. 1294 A rectangular sheet of lead rolled / folded into a cylindrical weight measuring 20mm in weight by 15mm diameter. Late Medieval or early Post-Medieval in date. Weight 27g.

<1480> Sf. 142 F. 1294 A rectangular fragment of lead sheet of 2mm thickness, measuring 44x40mm. Weight 20g.

<1481> Sf. 145 F. 1340 [1482] Irregular shaped lead casting waste. Weight 6g

(with Steven Ashley and Andrew Rogerson of Norfolk Landscape Archaeology)

<1482> Sf. 150 F. 1616 [2669] A cast lead seal matrix, flat, palm-like arrangement of seven curling tendrils within concentric mouldings in relief on reverse with un-pierced lug towards upper edge. Circular, 32mm. Cinquefoil, each foil like an ear of wheat. * S' ALBRED' REL'T' ROB' D' BRAhA (Seal of Albreda (OFr.Albree) widow of Robert of Barsham). The A and L are ligatured and there is a horizontal contraction mark above the final A in BRAhA). Weight 20g.

This is a fine example of a 12th-13th century personalised seal matrix belonging to the widow Albreda. It is suggested by S. Ashley that BRAhA may refer to Barsham in North Suffolk; however, a possible alternative within close vicinity to Capel St Mary is Brantham, some 3 to 4 miles to the south east. Further documentary research may well help to identify this individual and help to elucidate any relationship between her and the Medieval site at Capel.

Iron

In total, 218 pieces of iron metalwork were recovered from excavated archaeological features and during metal-detecting of the upper surface of cut features and spoil. Preservation of the assemblage is variable, with many items delaminating and friable. The majority of the assemblage (80%) consisted of nails, studs and tacks. These ranged in dimension from a few millimetres in length to 100+mm and with weights from less than 1g to 28g. All were hand-forged, possessing square or rectangular cross-sections. In addition, there were several fragments of late medieval to Post-Medieval horse shoe fragments, a few fragmentary blades and a possible key. The following finds were worthy of further note:

<1338> F. 1294 [1668] A forged horse shoe, measuring 100mm front to back by 97mm in width. Early post-Medieval in date.

<1340> F. 1333 [1751] A finely forged hinged fitting with pierced loop to upper surface and circular boss at the end of the opposing side. The opposing end forms a hinge with a second, shorter but more elaborate strap which terminates with a tapering point. Outstretched the hinge would measure 130mm in length. Possibly a piece of door or window furniture or a latch from a chest or casket.

<1430> Sf. 83 A knife blade 215mm in length. Post-Medieval in date.

<1348> [2133] A well forged finial of cylindrical form, tapering to a ball shaped terminal. It appears to have attached at the opposing end to a bar at right angles to itself. It measures 74mm in length. Its function and date are unknown; however, it appears to have been part of a finely made iron object.

This is an interesting assemblage of metalwork worthy of further study. Interpretation of several of the iron artefacts would also benefit from X-ray. Within the copper-alloy category, there is core group of later Medieval artefacts of some quality, such as the composite strap-end, the book clasp and harness pendant. A couple of finely forged iron fittings also reflect a sense of “higher status” within the assemblage as a whole. Intriguingly, a plot of the significant late Medieval finds (Figure 9) demonstrates a linear distribution of material in a narrow band oriented east – west. This may well reflect the former orientation of a route way or path, along which objects were discarded or lost into adjacent negative features. Although speculative, it could be argued that this pattern and distribution witnesses the approach to the aisled building.

By far the most important artefact is the 12th or 13th century lead seal matrix reported on above, which would benefit from further research, but which has already provided a tantalising link to an individual living or working in Capel St. Mary during the Medieval period.

It is also interesting to note what wasn't found on the site. No Iron Age or Roman metalwork was retrieved, and no Medieval coinage and very few dress accessories were recovered. In fact, the only coins recovered were post-medieval, a period poorly reflected in terms of earth-fast cut archaeological features.

Worked stone - Simon Timberlake

A small collection of worked stone was recovered, dominated by fragments of quern stone (3.638kg). All of the latter appeared to be of rotary quern; these consisted of fragments of lava quern hand mills, all of which were probably medieval in date. The few examples of whetstone recovered are fairly common items within such contexts and not considered to be particularly significant. A stone rubber recovered from an Iron Age pit appears to be part of a quern/rubber pair. This is interesting as rubbing stones are less frequently found (or recognised) than saddle querns, though the use of a heavy dense crystalline rock, such as might have been sourced in the local glacial drift is probably what one would have expected. Just one possible utilised cobble was recovered from an undated pit. This may have been a redeposited item.

A possible utilised cobble (hammer stone)

<1639> F.1683 [2909] 312g. A weathered fragment of light brown quartzitic sandstone which seems to have been utilised as a hammer on the cracked face, and possibly also on the underside. An example of ad hoc. usage.

Stone rubber

<175> F.1232 [1434] (115 x 83 x 63mm) 1205g. A considerably weathered, but seemingly worked block of dolerite rock, most probably a large cobble recovered as a glacial erratic from boulder clay till or from re-worked gravels. The upper face of this stone appears to have been crudely shaped and pecked or battered around some of the edges, though the evidence for this is masked by the degree of erosion pitting and by traces of spheroidal (onion skin) weathering. The unevenness of the flat underside is slightly problematic here; although the very slight curvature (concavity) of this surface is typical of the wear of saddle quern/ rubber stone pairs, the distinct irregularity of this (plus the lack of polished areas) also suggests some considerable exposure and weathering since its last period of use. Associated with the burnt stone fill of an Iron Age pit; this cobble appears to have been collected from a similar source of material.

Whetstones

<443> F.1294 [1668] (eight fragments: from between 60x20x10mm and 70x25x7mm to 37x10x5mm) Total weight 72g; rather worn fragments of a quartz schist whetstone(s), most of these not of interconnecting pieces. The worked surfaces of these pieces are mostly at 90° to one another, but these are considerably worn and rounded along the edges, almost certainly from use. The evidence is that these whetstone(s) were exceedingly well used – probably to the point of fracture and their resultant disposal. Possibly a rock of Scandinavian origin, perhaps imported as part of the ballast on ships. Medieval.

Rotary quern

<069> F.1207 [1335]: 10+ small fragments 94g. Crumbs of weathered and broken fragments of Niedermendig lava (quern). From a Roman pit, SW corner of site.

<372> F.1263 [1540]: 50x25x20mm 38g. Small nondescript fragment of Niedermendig lava, probably from a quern. From a Medieval quarry pit.

<543> F.1263 [1829]: 100x125x25mm 542g. A rather worn fragment of what appears to be the lower stone of a Niedermendig lava quern. Neither the outer rim nor the edge of the central axle hole for this

survives, though a slight bevelling along one edge of the underside may indicate its proximity to the rim. The furrowed or ridged grinding surface of the stone is just detectable, confirming the considerable degree of wear which may have led to its final breakage. Probably Early Medieval, found with material deposited (backfilled) within a Medieval quarry.

<641> F.1399 [1943]: 90x70x30mm 330g. A nondescript square fragment of what would appear to be an upper or lower rotary quern stone made of Niedermendig lava. Only one original (outer rim surface?) of this stone survives, on which evidence of crude dressing (shaping can be seen). The probable thickness of the quern stone would seem to be in the region of 30mm. Found within a Medieval post pit/setting, perhaps as packing material?

<701> F.1417 [2034]: 120x90x25mm 514g. A less weathered fragment of Niedermendig lava quern with no evidence of rim edges. The flat grinding surface is worn, but shows no evidence of parallel furrows, instead this appears to have been re-dressed by means of pecking with the tip of a small pick (in the Anglo-Saxon or Medieval style; see Watts 2002). The underside of the stone is roughly worked. Most probably Early Medieval. Found within a Medieval post pit/setting, perhaps as packing material.

<724> F.1382 [2060]: fragment 94g. A possible fragment of quern made from a calcareous sandstone, possibly a Cretaceous greensand. Possesses one flat and only slightly pitted face which may have been part of a grinding surface. From the fill of an Iron Age roundhouse gully.

<821> F.1478 [2237]: fragments 6g. Crumbs of weathered fragments of lava quern. From a post hole associated with a Medieval aisled building.

<897> F.1564 [2467]: 45x35x15mm 26g. Fragment of Niedermendig lava, probably from a quern. From a Medieval ditch.

<935> F.1334 [2511]: 40x30x15mm 22g. Small nondescript fragment of Niedermendig lava, probably from a quern. Found in a Medieval pit.

<940> F.1574 [2516]: x2 fragments (largest 60x30x25mm) 76g. Small worn nondescript fragments of Niedermendig lava quern. From a Medieval quarry pit.

<959> F.1577 [2531]: fragment 12g. Weathered fragment of lava quern. From a Medieval? ditch.

<966> F.1578 [2535]: 40x35mm 34g. Small worn nondescript fragment of Niedermendig lava quern. From a large Medieval pit.

<1051> F.1613 [2651]: 60x50x40mm 152g. A small fragment of the outer rim of what appears to be a polygonal shaped lower quern stone made of Niedermendig lava. If this was part of a pot quern, then this would be a quite typical shape for it (Watts *ibid.*). Early Medieval? Found within a Medieval ditch.

<1115> F.1057 (A.S. Evaluation Trench): 130x85x50mm 588g. The outer rim edge of a shallow 'pot quern' (Watts *ibid.*) made of Niedermendig lava. The curvature of the outer surface of this lower stone suggests a quern of just over 500mm in diameter with a pot depression of up to 40mm. The outer rim of this has been moderately well shaped; consisting of a flat-topped ridge some 40mm wide at the top and some 60mm wide at the base, the latter with a pronounced concave inner edge to it caused by the lateral movement and wear resulting from the rotation of the upper stone. No furrow dressing is visible on the grind surface, though this seems to be well worn. The rim appears to have broken off due to the stone being worn too thin at the base. The underside of this stone was made slightly concave, such that the thickness of worn stone at its narrowest point was little more than 10mm. Probably Early Medieval.

<129> F.1230 [1408]: 50x45x20mm 88g. A small worn fragment of Niedermendig lava quern with traces of one possible right-angled corner to it. Probable thickness of original (worn) quern approx. 20mm. Found within a Medieval/ Post-medieval (?) ditch.

<1641> F.1683 [2909]: 80g x1 fragments. A rather weathered fragment of Niedermendig lava quern (non diagnostic).

<1647> F.1683 [2910]: 28g x2 small fragments. Weathered fragments of Niedermendig lava quern (non diagnostic).

<1665> F.1673 [2933]: 20g v. small fragments. Niedermendig lava quern (non diagnostic).

<1682> F.1674 SF 153: 120mm x 80mm x 70mm thick (x2 adjoining fragments) 894g. Possible broken rim piece of upper (?) stone of Niedermendig lava quern. Medieval?

The possible stone rubber found within the Iron Age pit (F.1232) remains ambiguous given that in both size and shape it resembles a 'bun-shaped grain rubber' (see Curwen 1937), even though its flat underside or rubbing surface is very slightly concave (not dissimilar from a saddle-quern), and seemingly not at all polished, and much more irregular than one would expect; differential weathering following extreme exposure, or perhaps exposure to fire, might account for this. It is interesting therefore that it was found associated with the burnt stone fill of an Iron Age pit, suggesting perhaps its re-use as a pot-boiler or as an oven stone. Interestingly, this type of (heavy) crystalline rock (i.e. dolerite) would be an ideal 'stone of choice' for use as a rubber or saddle-quern (for example note the exceptional and exotic granodiorite saddle quern found at the Must Farm platform – see Timberlake in Knight (forthcoming)), equally this would also make the best type of heat-retaining pot-boiler, and clearly where such cobbles could be found, they were often sought out (see Timberlake 2007 and *forthcoming*).

All of the other examples of quern appear to be from rotary hand mills made of imported Niedermendig lava (from the basalt quern-quarries of Mayen in the Eifel region of Germany; see Horter *et al.*: 1950-1). The production of querns here began in the Neolithic, but were imported into Britain from the Early Roman period up until the Early Medieval period. Generally, there is an increase in size of the millstones over this period, both in diameter and also in the depth of both the lower stones. Stones turned by water power would generally be in excess of 0.61m diameter, suggesting that all the examples recovered from Capel were hand-mills; however, the overall thinness and flatness of the grinding surfaces of some of the stones (which interestingly seems to include a large number of lower stone fragments of a thickness anything between 20-50mm) seem to accord with the type being produced from the Mayen quarries during the Early Medieval period (termed by Horter *et al.*, *ibid.*, as pre-dating AD 1000). Even at that time, the average thickness of manufacture of the thinner lower stones would have been around 50 - 80cm. This suggests the production of lightweight variants, or alternatively a very long currency of use of some querns, repeated re-dressing of stones, and the wearing down of these to the point of fracture. The main development of hand mill querns during the Middle Ages was the introduction of the pot quern. These appear to have been in use within some the main towns such as London and Winchester by the 12th century AD, although there also seems to have been an early introduction of these at large manorial or ecclesiastical sites, which includes the import of lava quern (*ibid.*). Quern <1115> recovered from the Anglo-Saxon evaluation trench appears to be of this form, since the lack of dressing on the underside suggests it was part of a lower stone, yet the greatly reduced depth to the stone remains a mystery. The imported lava quern versions of these were possibly greatly reduced in size compared to home-produced querns made of sandstone and gritstone. Watts suggests that the levy imposed upon the use of hand mills following the introduction of manorial watermills may have led to the increased

destruction or discard of old querns within the domestic context. Archaeologically, we see little difference either in the rate or type of deposition of broken lava querns from the Roman, through the Anglo-Saxon, to Medieval periods. At Capel the discard of worn lava quern into Medieval features such as pits, old quarries, and into post holes (where these flat-sided stones may have been used as post packing) is more or less what one would expect; however, it is perhaps unusual to find so much evidence for the continued use of lava quern over sandstone pot querns, types which one might perhaps expect to see used in a rural setting. Their occurrence within 12th-14th century contexts in Cambridge (for instance at the Grand Arcade; see Timberlake in Cessford *forthcoming*) is perhaps to be expected. Some small weathered and broken-up fragments of lava quern were also recovered from the Roman pit F.1207 at the southern corner of the site.

Stone and burnt stone – Simon Timberlake

Some 28.7 kg of burnt stone and flint was recovered as samples from the fills of features, some of it as primary deposited material (a full catalogue is available in the archive). On the other hand, dressed stone, or even rough stone blocks were conspicuous by their absence, suggesting that all of the buildings, even the footings, were constructed of timber and of plastered daub.

The widespread distribution of burnt and fractured pebble/ cobble stone (so typical of prehistoric cooking places) across the site might suggest that the actual level of prehistoric activity here was actually greater than the number of dated features suggest. Whilst such use of stone is very typical of the Bronze Age, this has also been found in Early Iron Age contexts recently at Broom in Bedfordshire (Slater 2008). At the latter site small clay-lined pits filled with burnt stone were found located just outside of round house settings, and as such were equated with individual domestic ‘family unit’ boilers for food preparation. At Capel St. Mary several Iron Age pits (F.1167 and F.1232 see above) which seemed to be associated with very similar fills containing well chosen sandstone and dolerite pot boilers selected from the Drift, also included cobbles which appear to have been embedded in clay or daub.

The rock types shown to be present within the catalogue of burnt stone seen above suggests there was no exclusive preference for any one particular sort of stone, though more often than not cobbles of sandstone had been used, not infrequently the hard smooth pebbles of Bunter metaquartzite recovered from the gravels of the Drift, and more rarely the heavy, dense igneous rocks suitable as potboilers.

A large pit containing a Late Bronze Age burnt stone and burnt flint feature (F.1670), alongside several smaller ‘satellite’ burnt stone pits (e.g. F.1667) forms one of the major *in situ* deposits of such material at Capel. The presence of a significant amount of accompanying pottery has provided us with very secure dating evidence for the activity associated with these features, whilst the large amount of accompanying charcoal in these sediments could, if needed, provide a C14 date. The presence within this of equi-dimensional shard fragments of burnt and partly calcined flint suggests that hot, but part cooled flint (and stone) shovelled out along with the embers from the base of a fire was then tipped into this potentially water-filled pit, presumably for the purposes of cooking. Why the use of flint (as a poor quality substitute to stone) at this

later date remains something of a mystery. Perhaps this genuinely does reflect the paucity of suitable stone present within the local Drift.

At least one of the cobbles from the Iron Age 'cooking pit' (F.1232) was found to have a bubbly carbonaceous deposit accreting to the daub or clay coating; something which might indicate the presence of a burnt food residue.

Daub and burnt clay – Simon Timberlake

A small but representative sample of burnt clay/daub was examined from environmental samples collected from a number of the features. All of these consisted of the >4mm fraction. A brief lithological description of a selection of these is provided:

Enviro sample <17> F.1563 (2478). The brick-red coloured daub within this had a hard biscuit-like texture which had weathered to a moderately stiff clay around the edges. Crushed chalk made up just <5% of this, and was evenly distributed (clasts between 1 and 7mm diameter), alongside lesser amounts of finely crushed flint and a slightly higher percentage of coarse grains of quartz sand. Humic (dark grey-brown) interlacing of this structure seems to follow the inclusions of straw. The impressions of these inclusions are still quite visible. This material has been described as the 'fired clay dump' forming the upper fill of a Medieval pit.

Enviro sample <181> F.1604 (2609). A similar material to the above, but more voidy, and with coarser inclusions, mostly of gravel-size rounded chalk pebbles and some sub-rounded burnt and patinated flint gravel. The presence of natural worn chalk clasts as well as crushed chalk suggests the direct addition of boulder clay rather than alluvium, suggesting that the underlying clay may have been quarried for this purpose. The gritty texture to the daub mix also suggests the addition of gravel.

Enviro sample <176> F.1590 (2585). Whilst still very compact, this had a slightly more earthy texture, the colour of this being more brown-red than red. The coarse inclusions of small gravel-sized rounded chalk pebbles suggests a similar use of chalky boulder clay. Other inclusions noted included well-rounded pea grit-size flint gravel clasts, some rare fired daub or pottery fragments, and very occasionally small charcoal inclusions.

A fairly large assemblage of burnt clay and daub fragments (11.773 kg) was looked at from another 104 separate archaeological features as well as from 15 excavated test pits.

The distribution of burnt clay and daub was spread quite widely across the site, and moreover this was recovered from Iron Age, Roman, Medieval and Post-medieval features. If nothing else, this attests to the long-term settlement character of the site, given that it is likely that the vast majority of this material was probably associated with the walls or floors of huts or timbered buildings, perhaps subsequently burnt, and the debris then discarded in pits or as floor scatters.

Detailed analysis has been undertaken to examine the range of textural and lithological compositions of the burnt clay/ daub pieces in an attempt to try and discern the period-based and functional differences in this material. Additionally the weight of burnt clay recovered per feature has been recorded, the intention being to

show this in plan in order to try and plot the deposition of this in order to help locate buildings and to demonstrate building style of any of the pre-existing structures.

Lithologically the vast majority (*c.* 75%) of the burnt clay looked at was in the form of clay with a dominant inclusion of crushed chalk, with lesser amounts of flint and of organics such as straw (Type A). Some of these chalk inclusions could have been introduced through the digging and puddling of the naturally occurring underlying chalky boulder clay. Much more likely though we are looking at a mixture of clay, earth, a little water (plus straw) plus added chalk; all of this well mixed and aerated to produce a typical coarse cob plaster. Other fabrics noted included the relatively heavier clay daub which seems to have been mixed wet with dry clay pieces or grog (Type B). In addition, there is a much more organic-rich daub which includes both chaff and straw (Types C1 and C2), a grittier and/or more sandy daub that sometimes contains crushed flint or fine flint gravel (Type D), and finally, a fine grained silty daub (Type E). Some of the latter type seems to have been made from the underlying sandy silts outcropping on site (Type E1), and some from what appears to be a fine loess or brickearth (Type E2). The latter is identifiable from the very fine particles of mica frequently found associated with it. These fine silty daubs may well have been added as a final coat to finish off the exteriors of the plastered buildings or structures. In any event this type of daub (Type E) makes up some 21% of those samples examined. Another fabric type noted was a much looser and more 'earthy' daub which contained inclusions of grit and chalk (Type F). This was found associated with some of the oven structures and hearth pits ranging from the Iron Age (F.1424) to the Medieval (F.1583). These *in situ*. structures, not surprisingly, were associated with large assemblages of burnt clay. Invariably we also find a mixture of different fabric types present within the bulked samples collected from the same context. This would seem to suggest the inhomogeneous nature of these clay (daub) constructions, or perhaps reflect the amount of redeposition which has taken place across the site.

Flat wall (or possibly floor) surfaces were sometimes preserved within the plaster that had been burnt, hardened, and preserved. Where identifiable, most of these wall pieces were made of coarse to medium grained chalky daub (Type A), though some of the smooth surfaces were also preserved within the much finer silty mix (Type E). Thicknesses of coarse daub wall facing up to 60mm+ deep have been noted, though typically the detached pieces of surface walling are much thinner than this.

There seems to be little association between daub fabric type and period. For instance, the chalky daub (Type A) occurred within significant deposited layers in both Iron Age, Roman and Medieval contexts. However, there may yet be some subtle distinction to be found between the size fraction of chalk clasts or the nature of the clay matrix. For example, the finer and silty daub (Type E) does in fact seem to become more common in later Medieval and Post-medieval horizons. The same goes for the more organic textures; both straw and chaff tempered daubs appear more commonly within both structures and dumped deposits in features of later periods. This is particularly so of the deposits found within the Medieval horizons. This same association is to be found in the survival of wall surface fragments; the latter being predominantly a Medieval phenomenon.

The occurrence of burnt daub throughout the whole history of occupation of this site is interesting. Whether or not this reflects the intentional or else unintentional burning

down of huts or wooden buildings, or else the demolishing of deteriorated/ infested wooden and thatch structures and the burning of the wood, remains an interesting question. Perhaps then we are looking at a bit of both from the various different periods of its occupation. However, the occurrence of layers of daub dumped within pits used for depositing rubbish (e.g. F.1563 and F.1590) seems to suggest demolition and levelling, and with it perhaps the burning of old timber, wattle and daub. The occurrence of large amounts of charred grain within the former (F.1563), may on the other hand suggest the destruction of a granary, or else the demolition of clay bread ovens. One such structure however (F.1583) produced only lightly burnt daub.

A larger proportion of the unburnt daub, as well as the more highly fired daub (this is both harder and also more darkly coloured than the typical reddened burnt clay), seems to be associated with the Iron Age features such as the enclosure ditch. This may be a characteristic of the process which led to its destruction, equally this may reflect the presence amongst this of now largely disintegrated and quite unrecognisable fragments of baked clay artefacts such as loomweights (see Worked Clay)

Worked clay – *Simon Timberlake*

The number of worked clay items recovered consisted for the most part of baked clay loomweights (total weight 6.12 kg). A tiny amount of poorly fired clay tile (which is possibly Medieval or Post-medieval in date) also fits into this category.

Loomweights

<233> F.1167 [1251] 1.134kg. Fragments of most of a single triangular baked clay loomweight: 120mm (wide) x 120mm (long) x 60mm (thick), with perforations (15-20mm diam) across each corner for threading yarn (?). Effectively two thirds of this is intact. The clay fabric is red on the exterior, and fired dark reddish brown to grey on the inside. This has inclusions of baked clay and flint grit, perhaps as a temper.

<576> F.1295 [1853] One fragment 74g. Burnt clay with a thin orange-buff-pink coloured oxidised exterior and a dark grey interior. The internal fabric shows the kneaded clay structure and impressions of chaff and crushed chalk inclusions. This piece is a fragment of the triangular corner of a baked clay loomweight and has a section through the angular perforation at this point, the internal surface of this being oxidised red by the fire, and approx. 10mm in diameter.

<579> F.1295 [1855] 192g. Three fragments of the buff coloured external (flat) surface of a baked clay loomweight, one of them with a finger impression in it.

<610> (a) F.1382 [1891] x2 fragments of the triangular (50° angle) corner of a baked clay loomweight with a rectangular x-section and flat surfaces: 150mm x 80mm x 70mm thick (incomplete object (weight 662g). The triangular corner has a central round depression approx. 20mm wide and 10mm deep for the threaded weft plus a (stick-made) perforation through this, the latter being 15mm in diameter and smooth. The clay fabric is voidy and rough with a orange-buff oxidised exterior and a pale grey-brown interior with inclusions of chalk, fractured flint and some organic.

<610> (b) bag of non-diagnostic fragments of possible loomweight(s) Weight 1950g. The loomweight pieces are considerably more voidy and friable, the orange colour of this poorly baked clay suggesting a considerable degree of oxidation. At least one, probably two loomweights are represented here.

<611> F.1382 [1892] a bag of assorted fragments. Weight 1368g. Some of these could be pieces of daub walling, whilst others are certainly parts of the interior(s) of degraded, baked clay loomweights. Several of the flat to slightly convex surfaces (or faces) which are present as loose fragments have a fine silty clay application (or finish) on them possessing a distinctive pink-buff-orange colour.

<615> F.1382 [1893] 70g. A small fragment of well-fired baked clay loomweight with a patch of the buff-coloured flat exterior and pinkish internal fabric (with chalk and flint inclusions) preserved.

<668> F.138 [1698] 48g. An internal fragment of a possible loomweight containing a significant amount of organic (straw impressions).

<687> F.1291 [2007] 78g. Two small fragments of well-fired baked clay loomweight, with a small area of external surface and fabric similar to the above.

<861> F.1529 [2361] 52g. A dense undiagnostic fragment of light brown silty clay with a dark grey interior – this could be a fragment of loom weight?

<1582> F.1669 [2859] x3 fragments, 58g. Burnt clay with impressions of chaff and dark grey interior. The section through a 15mm diameter round hole within this suggests that this is part of the perforation through the corner section of a triangular loom weight; this is oxidised red on the inside, clearly indicating that the perforation was made before the firing.

<1587> F.1670 [2863] x2 fragments. Weight 84g. A fairly solid lump oxidised red on the exterior, and dark grey inside, with evidence for burnt-out chaff and chalk grit inclusions. The somewhat rectangular shape of this is confusing ; this may be part of a large square opening within the top of a loomweight, or possibly is something quite different. The fabric is pretty similar to <233>.

<1590> F.1670 [2864] 350g. Fragments of fired clay, possibly from a disintegrated loom weight. The fabric has bright red exterior and dark grey interior with burnt out organic incl. chaff (hollows) within the matrix. Holes (up to 20mm diam) which pierce this may be the perforations made through the corner(s) of the (triangular) loom weight.

Fired clay tile

<018> F.1153 [1212] 36g, two fragments. Part of the corner of a crudely made red clay ?floor tile, unglazed and poorly fired. From a Post-medieval ditch.

<021> F.1153 [1216] 36g x3 small fragments of a poorly fired red clay ?floor tile. Post-med.

<808> F.1467 [2197] 18g x1 small fragment of a poorly fired red clay ?floor tile. From a Medieval pit.

These large ‘brick-like’ triangular loomweights are fairly typical of Iron Age contexts, and this marks a distinct change from the earlier Bronze Age forms. Appearing at the beginning of the Iron Age, this form continues in use till well into the Romano-British period. For example, five complete loomweights were found at Wardy Hill, Cambridgeshire (Gdaniec & Lucas in Evans 2003: 194 & fig. 93). A very similar shaped loomweight to the Capel St.Mary examples was recently recovered from a Middle Iron Age rubbish pit excavated at High Cross Fields, West Cambridge (Timberlake *forthcoming*). For this reason the occurrence of fragments of a loomweight within the fill of this now securely dated Late Bronze Age burnt flint/stone filled pit (F.1670) is thus quite interesting. Unfortunately, an insufficient portion of this particular artefact survives to make an absolutely positive identification.

The triangular corner (45-50°) at each end of the loomweight appears to have been perforated diagonally using a stick (of approx 10-15mm round diameter) in order to take the weft of the loom yarn. The latter seems to have been wrapped around the

broad end of the triangle (thus heaviest end of the loomweight), a small half-round depression acting as a guide for the weave thread along the middle of (each)? angular edge (see <610> (a)). Composed just of baked clay, it is possible that some of these loomweights could have become so highly fragmented that they would (easily) have been mistaken for burnt daub. This puts into question the assumption (above) that much of the burnt clay examined in fact comes from the daub walling of buildings. Indeed it is possible that one of the typical fabric types used in the making of these loomweights (lumpy clay with chalk inclusions) could have become more widely distributed, thus redeposited throughout later contexts.

Iron slag – *Simon Timberlake*

A small assemblage of iron slag (474g) was recovered from a range of different features.

<922> F.1359 [2503]: 55x45x30mm 114g. Iron slag, probably associated with secondary iron smithing. This may be a fragment broken up from a smithing hearth base, though no clear evidence of this is present. Found within an undated gully.

<360> F.1263 [1536]: 50x45x23mm 82g. Iron slag. Possibly part of a proto-smithing heath; the break on one side suggests that this is broken off from the end of a tuyere, or from a larger slag lump. From a Medieval quarry.

<580> F.1295 [1855]: 11 fragments 96g. Eleven small fragments of a quite bubbly and slightly more heterogenous iron slag (broken up). The slight magnetism of some of the small fragments /powder suggests the presence of remelted hammer scale. Slag droplets can be seen part-fused together within this. From an Iron Age enclosure ditch.

<151> F.1231: 7 fragments 112g. Seven assorted fragments of iron slag, most of this quite light, with a low iron content. These appear to be quite discreet lumps of scoria, rather than broken up metallic-rich material. One of the fragments has a visible inclusion of part-fused hammer scale which is magnetic, another has a fused fragment of hearth lining with visible inclusions of crushed and calcined flint and sandstone gravel-like fragments. Yet others have the appearance of furnace (or fuel waste) slag. From a Medieval/ Post-medieval pit

<089> F.1215 [1365]: 30x25x17mm 22g. A single broken-up (crushed) lump of quite weathered slag. At least one fired sandstone inclusion within the slag is visible. From a Post-medieval ditch.

<1028> F.1605 [2618]: 50x35x20mm 40g. Probably a scrap lump of forged iron (now heavily oxidised) to which has been fused some slag, clay, plus some very small fragments of charcoal. Magnetic. From a Medieval ditch.

<15> F.1153 [1211]: 15x10mm 4g. A small lump of cindery iron slag. From a Post-medieval ditch.

<934> F.1334 [2511]: 4g. A small lump of iron slag. From a Medieval pit.

Non-slag items labelled as 'slag':

<777> F.1433 [2123]: 30x25x15mm 18g. A nodule of goethite (iron oxides/ hydroxides), the exterior of which suggests this is in fact a pseudomorph of a small nodule of iron pyrites (iron sulphide), probably collected from (or derived from) the Chalk. Found within a 'shallow depression' of Medieval date.

<057> F.1197 [1309]: 1g. A very small lump of burnt coal (cinder). Found within a 'Roman' post hole.

<170> F.1215 [1430] 26g. One fragment of unburnt ?anthracite coal

<1681> F.1698 [2957] 18g. Small fragment of vitrified sandy clay – possibly furnace lining. Reddish black with small clasts of chalk encl. and bubbly white-pale yellow surface.

Little can be interpreted from this small assemblage of slag. All of this appears to be associated with secondary iron smithing (forge or blacksmith work), perhaps in the production or repair of small iron objects.

Interestingly, the more heterogenous small fragments of slag such as <580> (which seem to be quite different from the charcoal and coal-fired iron smithing hearth waste recovered from Medieval and Post-medieval features) all appears to be all associated with a sealed and well-defined Iron Age enclosure ditch. Traces of charcoal fuel were observed within one of the slags (<1028>) recovered from a Medieval ditch F.1068, whilst smithing waste (<151>) which contained furnace slag (typical of higher temperature coal hearths) came from a possible Post-medieval pit (F.1231). The discovery of coal cinder within a ‘Roman’ post hole requires some explanation. Whilst a Roman date for this is technically possible, the use of coal at this period does seem rather unlikely, particularly given its rural location. The very small size of these pieces means that we cannot exclude contamination from above.

Miscellaneous finds - *Grahame Appleby*

A total of 150 other miscellaneous finds were recovered from the topsoil and 22 features. These include post-Medieval glass, clay tobacco pipe fragments and a small quantity of tile (4 four fragments; a further nine fragments of undiagnostic brick or tile were also recovered), four pieces of shell and four small pieces of charcoal (F.216).

Human Bone - *Natasha Dodwell*

Two small refitting fragments of adult-sized human skull (3g) were recovered from [2869/75], F.1668. A small quantity (42g) of extremely fragmentary well calcined bone was recovered from F.1241, [1459]. The largest fragment was only 22mm long and the majority of the bone, over 75%, was recovered from the 5-10mm fraction. This combined with the fact almost all of the fragments were limb shafts means that the bone could not be positively identified as either human or animal. There was some longitudinal and horizontal cracking on the fragments and several had a smooth, chalky, slightly weathered appearance. 3g of very fragmentary, calcined animal bone was identified. The unsorted residue <5mm was scanned for identifiable elements; several tiny fragments of tooth crown, either human/animal were recovered.

Faunal remains - *Vida Rajkovača*

The excavations resulted in the recovery of a total of 985 fragments weighing 13608g. The assemblage is comprised of faunal remains recovered during the normal course of hand-excavation (937 fragments - 95%) as well as those recovered from the sieving of the bulk soil samples (48 fragments - 5%). These two assemblages were quantified

and considered separately. Based on the chronology of the material, eight sub-sets were created in order to study the site (Table 15).

Phase	Contexts	NISP	%NISP
1st Phase: Late Bronze Age	5	45	4.8
2nd Phase: Middle Iron Age/ Late Iron Age	53	367	39.2
3rd Phase: Late Iron Age/ Early Roman	9	21	2.2
4th Phase: 11th century	2	2	0.2
5th Phase: 12-13 th century	32	75	8
6th Phase: 13-14 th century	70	331	35.4
7th Phase: Post-Medieval	13	31	3.2
8th Phase: Undated	25	65	7
Total	209	937	100

Table 15. Quantity and provenance of faunal remains (hand-recovered only)

The faunal material was recovered from features that ranged in date from the Late Bronze Age through to the post-medieval period as well as a number of features with no pottery-dating evidence. Faunal material from these sub-sets was quantified and considered separately. Two phases of occupation proved to be particularly rich in animal bones: The Middle/Late Iron Age phase yielded the largest quantity of animal bone (367 fragments; 39.2% of the assemblage), followed by 13-14th century phase (331 fragments; 35.4% of the assemblage).

The zooarchaeological investigation followed the system implemented by Bournemouth University with all identifiable elements recorded (NISP: Number of Identifiable Specimens) and diagnostic zoning (amended from Dobney & Reilly 1988) used to calculate MNE (Minimum Number of Elements) from which MNI (Minimum Number of Individuals) was derived. Identification of the assemblage was undertaken with the aid of Schmid (1972), Hillson (1999) and reference material from the Cambridge Archaeological Unit, Cambridge. Most, but not all, caprine bones are difficult to identify to species however, it was possible to identify a selective set of elements as sheep from the assemblage, using the criteria of Boessneck (1969) and Halstead (Halstead et al. 2002). Unidentifiable fragments were assigned to general size categories where possible. This information is presented in order to provide a complete fragment count.

Ageing of the assemblage employed both mandibular tooth wear (Grant 1982; Payne 1973) and fusion of proximal and distal epiphyses (Silver 1969). Where possible, measurements have been taken (Von den Driesch 1976) and withers height calculations followed the conversion factors of Kiese-walter for horse (see Von den Driesch and Boessneck 1974) and Harcourt for dog (Harcourt 1974:154). Taphonomic criteria including indications of butchery, pathology, gnawing activity and surface modifications as a result of weathering were also recorded when evident.

The site faunal record demonstrated preservation that ranged from quite good to poor, with the majority of the material being moderately preserved (Table 16). A portion of the assemblage was severely weathered with bones having lost zones of cortical bone due to exfoliation. In addition to the poor preservation, high fragmentation could also be observed in loose teeth counts. For each of the three main livestock species (cattle,

ovicaprids and pig), loose teeth have accounted for 40-50% of the overall element count.

Phase	Poor	Quite Poor	Moderate	Quite Good	Mixed	Total	
LBA	14		31			45	
MIA/LIA	8		41	309	4	5	367
LIA/ER	3		5	12	1		21
11th c.			1	1			2
12-13 th c.	2		32	41			75
13-14 th c.	5		149	128	49		331
Post-Med.	1		5	17	4	4	31
Undated	9		10	12	34		65
Total	42		274	520	92	9	937

Table 16: Preservation condition of bone (fragment count) by phase for CSM030

Overall, the assemblage showed a relatively limited range of species. Cattle appear to have been the predominant species in all phases of occupation (Table 17), with the exception of the 13-14th century phase. Sheep/goat and pig were also identified as well as other commonly found domestic species such as horse, dog and cat. There is indication for keeping and/or consuming poultry on site as evidenced by the remains of chicken and domestic goose. A selective suite of ovicaprid bones were positively identified as sheep which could be indicative of the prevalent sheep cohort. A partially articulated dog skeleton was recovered from ditch F. 1215 and it has been counted as one specimen.

Wild fauna seems to have played an important role in the site's dietary practices. This was supported by the remains of red deer, roe deer, hare, pheasant and coot. Unidentified mammal fragment counts appear to reflect the relative importance and predominance of cattle-sized mammals in the Iron Age and sheep-sized mammals during the 13-14th century phase of occupation. Other less well represented phases seem to suggest the same pattern. A number of bird and fish bones were highly fragmented and impossible to assign to species, the majority of which were recovered from the later phases of occupation.

Late Bronze Age

Four pits dated to the Late Bronze Age yielded 45 assessable fragments of bone, the majority of which was identified as cattle or cattle-sized mammal. Both cattle and sheep/goat were represented with mandibular and teeth elements only. Out of the remaining 24 fragments, 12 unidentifiable mammal bone crumbs recovered from pit F. 1660 were recorded as calcined.

Middle Iron Age/ Late Iron Age

The Iron Age sub-set, recovered from 16 different features (pits, ditches, postholes and gullies), produced 367 bone specimens, 326 (89%) of which were possible to identify to element and further 135 (37%) to species. Material showed an overall moderate state of preservation.

Taxon	Phase								Total
	LBA	MIA/LIA	LIA/ER	11 th c.	12-13 th c.	13-14 th c.	Post-Med.	Undated	
Cattle	18	64	2		2	25	1	5	117
Ovicaprid	3	24	2		5	29	6	6	75
Sheep						4			4
Horse		25				4			29
Pig		15	1		2	24	1	9	52
Dog		2				2	1	3	8
Cat		1				1			2
Domestic fowl			1					1	2
Domestic goose						1			1
Red deer		2			1			1	4
Roe deer		2			1	1			4
Pheasant						2			2
Coot						1			1
Hare						1			1
Cattle-sized	5	129	6	1	25	88	14	9	277
Sheep-sized		76	5	1	25	114	6	16	243
Rodent-sized					2	1			3
Mammal n.f.i.	19	27	4		8	19	1	13	91
Bird n.f.i.					3	13	1	2	19
Fish n.f.i.					1	1			2
Total	45	367	21	2	75	331	31	65	937

Table 17: Number of specimens identified to species (or NISP) by phase

Cattle were the prevalent species when both the NISP (NISP=64) and MNI (3 individual animals) methods of quantification are taken into account. All parts of beef carcass were present in the assemblage. Horse was the second most frequent species, although this animal was represented with loose teeth and tooth fragments only. This was followed by ovicaprids and pig, both of which are ‘food species’. Sheep/goat skeletal element count showed that all parts of body carcass are present, whereas pig demonstrated the under-representation of meat-bearing body parts. Dog and cat are present with humerus and tibia respectively. Red deer was positively identified based on a humerus and a calcaneum. As for the other cervid species, roe deer was represented with the mandible and metatarsus. Cattle-sized mammals dominated the unidentified mammal count. This coupled with the high numbers for cattle and horse could be indicative of the economy which favoured large domesticates, where cattle would have been the main meat providers.

Butchery was observed on 24 specimens (c. 7%), the majority of which were cattle and cattle-sized fragments. The actions include disarticulation and meat removal. In addition, cattle-sized limb bone fragment showed signs of sawing which is usually associated with bone working. Gnawing was observed on eight specimens only implying quick deposition of the material.

Ditches and peripheral features produced contained relatively large quantities of faunal material identified as cattle and horse. On the contrary, contexts associated with domestic activities such as postholes and gullies contained higher numbers of

sheep and sheep-sized mammal bone fragments. This pattern of spatial distribution was observed on similarly dated sites across East Anglia such as Colne Fen Site I (Higbee in Evans forthcoming), Haddenham (Serjeantson 2006: 242, 246) and Bradley Fen (Rajkovača in Knight and Brudenell forthcoming). It has to be noted, however, that this is based on a small assemblage.

Middle Iron Age roundhouse gullies F.1382 and F.1485 generated different quantities of bone; with the former producing the total of 51 bone specimens, the majority of which were sheep, and the latter containing a single pig specimen. This could be taken further to suggest that the structure F.1382 bore greater significance than structure F.1485. Alternatively, this could potentially indicate that these two structures were built to serve different purposes, where one was used as a dwelling and other as a storage place.

Late Iron Age/ Early Roman

A small sub-set of animal bone, dated to the Late Iron Age/ Early Roman period was recovered from seven different features: two ditches, two pits and three postholes. Out of 21 assessable fragments, four (19%) showed signs of butchery. Ditches F.1152 and F. 1153 contained more faunal material than pits and postholes.

11th century

A gully and a ditch dated to the 11th century produced two fragments of unidentifiable bone.

12-13th century

25 different features, the majority of which were ditches and pits produced a relatively small faunal record totalling 75 assessable fragments. This sub-set is mainly comprised of the bone material which was not possible to assign to species. Remains of cattle, sheep/goat, pig, red deer and roe deer were positively identified making up only 15% of the sub-set. It is important to note that this is the first phase of occupation where a number of poorly preserved rodent-sized, bird and fish fragments were recorded.

13-14th century

A whole array of features scattered across the site and dated to the 13-14th century generated a relatively important faunal record. The majority of bone was recovered from pits, ditches and metalised surfaces (Table 18; 279 fragments/ 84%).

Feature type	Number of features	Number of contexts	Number of fragments
metalled surface	2	2	118
Posthole	2	2	2
Pit	26	42	122
Ditch	14	16	39
Hollow	3	3	30
Gully	3	3	4
Oven	1	1	16
Total	51	69	331

Table 18: Distribution and quantity of the animal bone for contexts dated to the 13-14th century

Despite the overall quite poor state of preservation with *c.*85% of the assemblage showing signs of weathering and/ or erosion, the range of species identified is fairly varied. All common domestic species were well represented, with sheep, pig and sheep-sized mammals dominating the assemblage. It has to be born in mind, however, that both sheep and pig showed an over-representation of skull, mandibular and teeth elements. The slight paucity of the elements representing meat-joints is commonly interpreted as the result of the export of the joints of high meat value. Cattle is also well represented with all parts of beef carcass present. A number of wild species was also identified, implying that wild fauna played some role in this community's dietary practices. Somewhat similar to the previous phase of occupation, there was a series of rodent-sized mammal, bird and fish bones which were not possible to identify to species level.

Butchery was observed in *c.*8% of the assemblage, mainly on cattle and cattle-sized fragments. Based on the morphology of the pig canines recovered from metalled surface F.1340, both male and female individuals were positively identified.

A cattle metacarpus (F.1340) was recorded with lesions on the joint surfaces of proximal metacarpals which probably resulted from the herniation of small portions of the joint cartilage through the articular surface of the bone. This condition is known as osteochondritis dissecans and it is thought that these result from sudden physical stress or trauma to the joint (Dobney et al. 1996: 38). Another interesting point represents a case of supernumerary teeth (heterotopic polyodontia) or presence of an extra tooth observed on a pig maxilla recovered from pit F.1334. The interpretation of this condition remains unclear; however, non-metrical traits are likely to indicate restricted gene pools of local populations of cattle. Only one measurable specimen (horse 3rd metatarsus) and four ageable specimens (cow, pig and sheep mandibles) were recorded within this sub-set.

Post-medieval

Thirteen contexts from a range of ditches and pits generated the modest total of 31 assessable fragments of bone, the majority of which was only possible to assign to a size-category. The main point of interest represents the partially articulated dog skeleton found in ditch F.1215. Based on a complete humerus, it was possible to obtain shoulder height estimates which came at 34cm (Harcourt 1974) which is at the lower end of the size range. In general, completely or partially articulated skeletons of dogs are much more common than those of other domestic species. This suggests the potential difference in the treatment of dogs compared to other animals.

Undated

A series of contexts remained undated producing a total of 65 bone fragments. Pig, sheep and sheep-sized mammal fragments dominated the sub-set.

Provisioning and diet

Like many other medieval sites, most of the bones found at Capel St. Mary belong to cattle, sheep and pig. Horse, although slightly less frequent and mostly represented with mandibular and tooth elements, have to be added to the list of the most important animals in the economy of the site.

Domestic livestock species accounted for *c.* 92% of the identified species, with a limited evidence for the exploitation of other species. Cattle appear to be the prevalent species during the prehistoric phases of occupation. Despite the fact that ovicapra showed a slight predominance during the medieval period, cattle were likely to have been the main providers of meat and other secondary products such as milk and traction. Pig was well represented, especially within the two major sub-sets: Middle/Late Iron Age and 13-14th century. The presence of poultry on site, as well as other domestic species such as dog and cat corroborates the idea that this represents a typical domestic assemblage. Insufficient ageing data for all phases precludes further inferences about the site's husbandry regimes; however, it would be important to see which social, cultural or environmental conditions favoured cattle husbandry at time when sheep was being reared in large numbers. This stands for the Iron Age in particular which is commonly considered to be the *Sheep Age* (Albarella 2007: 389). Frequency of sheep seems to have increased in mid-late medieval period (13-14th century). Cattle did not show the same importance during that period, probably as a consequence of the work oxen being replaced by horses, although horse specimens were not found in great numbers.

The changes in patterns of exploitation of animal resources which occurred between the Iron Age and through the medieval period, namely the increased importance of sheep, are probably related to the countrywide tendency documented in both the historical and archaeological sources.

Disposal patterns

The small size of the assemblage does not merit further considerations about disposal patterns and the distribution of taxa and skeletal elements between different areas of the site or different feature types. Numerous taphonomic issues have significantly biased the assemblage, particularly in terms of the types of skeletal element represented. Cattle bones are common from all areas of the site and all feature types, and the proportion is similar to the assemblage as a whole. The proportion of sheep and sheep-sized mammal fragments shows some variation between areas and feature types, namely contexts associated with houses (postholes and gullies), but the differences are marginal. In addition, the skeletal element distribution for the three main species is also biased by differential preservation and fragmentation between teeth and post-cranial elements. Thus teeth are common from all areas of the site and all feature types.

The general characteristics of the Capel St. Mary assemblage, with its relatively low species diversity and a near complete reliance on livestock ‘food’ species, are very much in keeping with the majority of domestic faunal assemblages found across the country. Overall prevalence of cattle and large domesticates could be indicative of the potential specific cultural or environmental factors favouring cattle to sheep or pig. Due to the overall scarcity of ageing data, it is nearly impossible to draw any further conclusions about this site’s economic and subsistence strategies. Further analyses should focus on the representation of different skeletal body parts coupled with mortality profiles with a view to determining which types of productions were the main economic aims, as well as whether any specialisations in certain animal products took place. The intensification of specialist products on rural sites is believed to have influenced the links between centres of craft production and trade, therefore having certain effect on the development of the overall economical trends in the area.

Faunal material from bulk soil samples

Additional material was retrieved from bulk soil samples; these were wet-sieved using a 4mm mesh. The majority of features sampled were Middle to Late Iron Age ditches and two gullies also producing the majority of the identified bone. Middle Iron Age pit F.1360 did not generate any bone during the course of hand-excavation; however, two unidentifiable fragments of calcined bone were recovered from sample 199 (Table 19). Following the assessment of the environmental remains (see de Vareilles this report) it was observed that the same sample also contained abundant charcoal. In addition, posthole F.1195 dated to the Roman period also produced 11 fragments of unidentifiable calcined bone. Pit F.1586 dated to the 12-13th century was relatively rich, yielding a charred sheep mandible and loose teeth as well as unidentifiable fish spine. This feature was also botanically very rich. A number of highly fragmented unidentifiable small mammal bones were recorded; however, these are most likely to represent part of the background fauna. Finally, processing of bulk soil samples has proved that additional bird and fish remains could be retrieved and that these two groups of faunal remains played a certain role in this site’s dietary practices more so in later phases of occupation.

Context	Feature	Phase	NISP	Species / Notes
[1450]	F.1227	MIA/LIA	2	
[1451]	F.1227	MIA/LIA	2	
[1803]	F.1360	MIA/LIA	2	
[1893]	F.1382	MIA/LIA	4	Ovicaprid
[2266]	F.1485	MIA/LIA	4	
[2850]	F.1669	MIA/LIA	1	Cow
[1390]	F.1195	ER	11	
[2573]	F.1586	12-13 th c.	7	sheep mandible/ teeth, unidentified fish bone
[2581]	F.1586	12-13 th c.	4	
[1692]	F.1311	13-14 th c.	2	
[2514]	F.1569	13-14 th c.	2	ovicaprid, unidentified bird bone
[2618]	F.1605	13-14 th c.	5	
[2765]	F.1617	13-14 th c.	2	
Total			48	

Table 19: Quantity and provenance of faunal remains from bulk soil samples

Worked bone - *Vida Rajkovača*

A single fragment of worked bone (<098> [1384]) was hand-recovered from posthole F.1222 which made up a structure (Structure 3) dated to the mid to late 1st century AD. This fragment represents axially split fragment of a cattle-sized bone shaft with no cancellous bone on the inside implying that this is a fragment of a metapodial. Five parallel *c.* 1mm wide grooves were recorded on the bone surface which is slightly exfoliated, but part of the polished surface is still present. It is difficult to interpret its function; however, it could be suggested that this specimen is a fragment of a (knife) handle.

Assessment of bulk environmental samples - *Anne de Vareilles*

Seventeen Late Bronze Age to 14th century AD samples were chosen for analysis and processed using an Ankara-type flotation machine. The flots were collected in 300µm aperture meshes and the remaining heavy residues washed over a 1mm mesh. Both the flots and heavy residues were dried indoors prior to analysis. The >4mm fractions of the heavy residues were sorted by eye by F. Cox and all finds have been added to the tables below. Sorting of the flots and identification of macro remains were carried out under a low power binocular microscope (6x-40x magnification). Identifications were made using the reference collection of the G. Pitt-Rivers Laboratory, university of Cambridge. Nomenclature follows Zohary and Hopf (2000) for cereals, Stace (1997) for all other flora and an updated version of Beedham (1972) for molluscs. All environmental remains are listed in Tables 20-26.

All archaeobotanical remains were preserved through carbonisation. The overall condition of the plant remains is good with fine chaff and many delicate small seeds surviving. One is led to conclude therefore, that the lack of ecofacts in certain features is real and not an outcome of adverse preservation conditions. Middle Iron Age F.1485 and 12th-14th century features F.1291 and F.1569 contained small (<1mm) clumps constituted of agglomerated phytoliths, fine charcoal including burnt grass, calcite crystals and probable clay particles. These could be further defined and the phytoliths identified, not only to species but also to plant part. Certain plant parts, such as grass inflorescences, awns and leaves produce large concentrations of phytoliths when burnt quickly and intensively. Their presence may suggest that the bulk of the original assemblages have been reduced to unrecognisable traces. Mollusc shells other than those of the blind burrowing snail (intrusive *Ceciloides acicula*) are present in ten of the samples where conditions have remained sufficiently basic for their survival. They are discussed in a separate paragraph. Modern rootlets were seen in seven of the samples and point to a low level of natural disturbance across the site.

Late Bronze Age pit, F.1670 [2864]

The 18litre sample generated a very large flot of 300ml of charcoal. Only half of the flot was analysed and produced 30-35 grains, six elements of chaff and 26-29 wild plant seeds. The grains and seeds are clearly secondary to the charcoal which probably represents several nearby burning events; it does not appear to have suffered much degradation before being buried and may have been dumped into the pit directly from the hearth.

Middle Iron Age pit, F.1360 [1803]

The sample produced abundant charcoal, a minimum of 18 cereal grains of wheat and naked barley (*Hordeum vulgare*), less chaff and at least 20 wild plant seeds. The remains seem to have originated from a range of events over time, and show the continued use of the early prehistoric crop naked barley (Greig 1991). The wild plant seeds include stinking chamomile (*Anthemis cotula*) which suggest that heavy clay soils were in use by the Middle Iron Age.

Iron Age enclosure ditch F.1227 [1450] and [1451] and F.1669 [2850], roundhouse gully F.1382 [1893] and roundhouse gully F.1485 [2266]

The remaining Iron Age samples produced small assemblages with few plant remains. Cereal grains are rare and found in highest concentrations in the roundhouse gullies (3 in F.1382 and a maximum of 13 in F.1485). Chaff is even rarer with a total of one spelt wheat glume base (*Triticum spelta*), found in roundhouse gully F.1485. It is uncertain, from only two samples, whether the differences in plant remains between the larger and smaller roundhouses are significant. A common interpretation of such structures is that one was auxiliary to the other and both built for specific functions. This hypothesis however, cannot be explored with the current archaeobotanical data. Wild plant seeds were found in slightly higher numbers, the maximum being 12 in context [2850] of the circular enclosure ditch. The plant remains and other artefacts found in the enclosure ditch suggest that the latter was a recipient for 'rubbish'.

Middle Iron Age pit, F.1424 [2088]

The sample produced one of the smallest assemblages with only a little charcoal, one grass seed and a blind-burrowing snail shell.

Early Roman posthole F1195 [1390]

The feature held an internal post of the rectangular structure. It contained two grains and one other seed, as well as quite a few fragments of other artefacts. The cereal grains show the adoption of free-threshing wheat (*Triticum aestivum sensu lato*) over spelt common in the Iron Age (cf. Greig 1991).

12th-14th century post-hole F.1400 [1949]

More than 55 grains and 30 wild plant seeds were recovered from the 2 litre soil sample. The remains are not dissimilar to the 13th century assemblages, with high densities of grain, fewer wild plant seeds and almost no chaff. The cereal types recovered are also comparable: hulled barley (*Hordeum vulgare* sl.), free-threshing wheat, a little rye (*Secale cereale*) and some oat (*Avena* sp.). Arable weeds such as sheep's sorrel (*Rumex acetosella*), wild radish (*Raphanus raphanistrum*) and other leguminous plants including lentil (*Lens culinaris*) suggest the crops were grown on light, sandy soils.

12th-14th century ditch F.1291 [1613], 12th-14th century ditch F.1605 [2618] and 12th-14th century pit F.1569 [2514]

Free-threshing wheat is the dominant cereal in the assemblages. The other types, of hulled barley, rye and oat, may have grown with the wheat as unintentional but encouraged contaminants. The near absence of cereal chaff is unsurprising since free-threshing is very easily displaced from its chaff during threshing. The separation of chaff from seeds was probably done through a coarse sieve that would retain all straw and chaff leaving loose grain and seeds to pass through. The latter crop product is what appears to be represented in F.1605 and F.1569. Although both features had many arable weed seeds they contained almost three times as many cereal grains, showing that these were crop products not yet fully cleaned. F.1291 was the only one to contain crop waste: many 'weed' seeds with a few lost grains. Six grains of spelt and/or emmer (*T.spelta/dicocum*) were found in F.1569. Although the importance of spelt decreases in Roman-Britain, it is not uncommon to find the occasional grain mixed within other wheat crops during the medieval period. The dominant arable weed seeds are of stinking chamomile which is an indicator of damp, clay-rich soils.

12th-14th century, quarry pits F.1263 [1539] and F.1617 [2765], pit/ditch F.1586 [2573], and 12th-14th^h century pit F.1311 [1692]

F.1586 was botanically very rich with an assemblage of similar proportions to those of the 12th - 13th century described above. Once again, the remains seem to represent coarse-sieving products of a free-threshing wheat crop as well as perhaps barley, oat and/or rye crops. Barley and oat caryopses occur in relatively high proportions, suggesting they may have been individual crops. Chaff finds are relatively low and weed seeds are numerous but not as frequent as the cereal grains. It is not surprising to find almost as many rye rachis internodes as grains since the latter is a hulled cereal and less easily removed from its chaff than free-threshing wheat. Within the non-cereal seeds evidence for a hazelnut and a pea attest to other food plants. The arable weeds point to two different locations of cultivation. Stinking chamomile, scentless mayweed (*Tripleurospermum inodorum*) and red bartsia (*Odontites verna*) are weeds of damp, clay soils, whereas most of the other seeds, including the 176 seeds of vetches or wild peas (*Vicia/Lathyrus*), indicate sandy loams (Hanf 1983). The free-threshing wheat type rivet wheat (*Triticum turgidum*) “was extensively grown in England between the C12th and C14th. [and] was still being recommended for clay soils of low fertility until the 1950s” (Francis 2009:8). Conversely, barley and rye grow well on sandy soils (*ibid.*). F.1263, F.1617 and F.1311 had little charcoal and few other plant remains representing random scatters of burnt waste.

Molluscan remains

The preservation potential for snail shells is good and the current assemblages should ideally be interpreted by a malacologist. The quantity and distribution of samples is insufficient to gain an environmental description of the area through time; however, it is possible that the Iron Age boundary ditch separated the settlement from a wood. The burnt snail in F.1291 was presumably on vegetation gathered for fuel.

Late Bronze Age pit, F.1670 [2864]

The single Bronze Age sample contained evidence for the processing and consumption of grain, which in itself suggests nearby settlement. The large concentration of well preserved charcoal is a rare find and could be identified to explore details on the selection and use of wood. The charcoal is probably associated with the burnt stones that may have been used for cooking.

Iron Age

As is common on many prehistoric sites, plant remains occurred sporadically and appear to be associated with the roundhouses more than any other feature. Although the two circular structures may represent a single dwelling, it would seem that the preparation and cooking of grain occurred at a household level. The finds recovered from the structural gullies were probably accidentally charred and swept aside. Household waste was clearly discarded into the enclosure ditch which seems to have served as a dump even if it had been constructed for other purposes. The presence of stinking chamomile in F.1360 is interesting as it suggests that the sandy soils were not sufficient or adequate for the production of crops; heavier clay soils that are harder to work were also brought under cultivation.

Roman period

The Romano-British posthole contained a general scatter of scarce plant remains and small, fragmented organic and non-organic artefacts. These probably accumulated randomly during the post's lifetime.

12th-14th Centuries

At least three types of assemblages are represented in the eight medieval samples

1. few plant remains accumulated over time from random scatters of burnt debris
2. crop-processing waste where wild plant seeds dominate the assemblage
3. crop products of mostly free-threshing wheat burnt before the weed seeds had been removed.

The last type of assemblage is unusual and rare as it represents a loss. How or why this food became burnt remains open to speculation. Although the number of grains in some of the features is high for an archaeological assemblage, they probably represent under 50 ears and could have been infected, or become in some other way inedible. F.1586 also contained burnt clay or daub which may have lined underground storage pits. The last remnants of a stored crop could have become infected and the whole pit scorched and cleared out for purification.

Both local clay-rich and more distant lighter, sandy loams were cultivated. One cannot say whether soil types were specifically chosen for the requirements of different crops, or whether all soils were used for maximum production.

Sample number		206	199	153	117	118	200
Context		2864	1803	2088	1450	1451	2850
Feature		1670	1360	1424	1227	1227	1669
Feature type		large pit	pit	pit	circular enclosure		ditch
Phase/Date		L.B.A.	MIA	LIA/ER	I.A.		I.A.
Sample volume - litres		18	15	15	15	30	4
Flot fraction examined - %		50	100	100	100	100	100
large charcoal (>4mm)		+++	+++	+	-	-	++
med. charcoal (2-4mm)		+++	+++	-	+	+	+++
small charcoal (<2mm)		+++	+++	++	++	++	+++
parenchyma frags - undifferentiated plant storage tissue		-	+				-
Cereal grains							
<i>Hordeum vulgare sensu lato</i>	hulled barley grain	2					
<i>Hordeum vulgare</i> L.	naked barley grain	1cf.	1				
<i>Triticum</i> cf. <i>dicoccum</i> L.	emmer wheat grain	2					
<i>Triticum spelta</i> / <i>dicoccum</i>	spelt or emmer wheat	15	9		1		
<i>Triticum</i> sp.	wheat type indet.		3				
<i>Triticum</i> / <i>Hordeum</i> sp.	wheat or barley	6	5				
Total whole grain count		26	18	0	1	0	0
cereal grain fragments indet., mostly <2mm		11	++		+		1
Cereal chaff							
<i>Triticum spelta</i>	spelt glume base		3				
<i>T. dicoccum</i>	emmer glume base	1					
<i>T.spelta/dicoccum</i>	spelt or emmer glume base	5	6				
Indet. cereal rachis internode			1				
Non cereal seeds							
<i>Chenopodium</i> sp.	Goosefoot	5	1				
<i>Atriplex patula</i> L./ <i>prostrata</i> Boucher ex DC - Oraches		1, 1M					1
<i>R. conglomeratus/obtusifolius/sanguineus</i> - Dock			3				
<i>Rumex</i> sp.	Dock						3
<i>Prunus</i> sp.	Cherries stone fragments						1
<i>Vicia</i> / <i>Lathyrus</i> sp. <2mm thick	Vetches / Wild Pea		6				
<i>Salvia</i> sp.	Claries						1 cf.
small <i>Lamiaceae</i>	small seed of mint family						1
<i>Odontites vernus</i> (Bellardi) Dumort. - Red bartsia		1	1				
<i>Galium</i> sp.	Cleavers		1				
<i>Sambucus nigra</i> L.	Elder						1
<i>Anthemis cotula</i> L.	stinking chamomile (seed head)		4				
Large Poaceae (>4mm)	large wild grass seed	10	2				
Medium Poaceae (2-4mm)	medium wild grass seed	2					
Small Poaceae (<2mm)	small wild grass seed						2
Poaceae fragment indet. - wild or cultivated grass seed frag.		3	+	1		1	1
Poaceae indet. rachis internode				1			
seed indet. (seed head indet.)		7	2				2
Total seed count (grass fragments not included)		26	20	0	0	0	12

Table 20: Plant macro-remains from the bulk soil samples 206, 199, 153, 117, 118 and 200. Key: '-' 1 or 2, '+' <10, '++' 10-50, '+++>' >50 items. All plant remains are charred. C = charred; P = present; M = modern

Sample number	206	199	153	117	118	200
Feature	1670	1360	1424	1227	1227	1669
Fresh water mollusca						
<i>Lymnaea truncatula</i> Müller					+	
Damp / Shade loving species						
<i>Carychium tridentatum</i> Risso				+++	++	+
<i>Clausilia</i> sp.				+	+	
<i>Euconulus fulvus</i> Müller					-	
<i>Discus rotundatus</i> Müller				+++	++	-
<i>Oxychilus/ Aegopinella</i> sp.				+++	++	-
Dry, open habitats						
<i>Vallonia costata</i> Müller				+	-	-
Catholic / Unkown habitats species						
<i>Vertigo</i> sp.						-
<i>Trichia</i> sp.		-			+	-
<i>Ceciloides acicula</i> Müller –Blind burrowing snail		+	-			
Indet. Specimens						-
Bone fragments (burnt bone fragments)						
Bone fragments (burnt bone fragments)		+(+)		-	+	(++)
Pottery sherds		+	-	-		+
Baked clay				+		+
Worked flint (burnt flint)		-			-	
Modern intrusions (rootlets and untransformed seeds)			P			P

Table 21 continued: Mollusca from the bulk soil samples 206, 199, 153, 117, 118 and 200. Key: ‘-’ 1 or 2, ‘+’ <10, ‘++’ 10-50, ‘+++’ >50 items. All plant remains are charred. C = charred; P = present; M = modern

Sample number		151	161	109
Context		1893	2266	1390
Feature		1382	1485	1195
Feature type		roundhouse gully	roundhouse gully	post hole
Phase/Date		M/L.I.A.	M.I.A.	Roman
Sample volume – litres		14	12	22
Flot fraction examined - %		100	100	100
large charcoal (>4mm)		++	+	++
med. charcoal (2-4mm)		++	+++	+++
small charcoal (<2mm)		+++	+++	+++
Vitrified charcoal		-	+	+
parenchyma frags – undifferentiated plant storage tissue			+	
Cereal grains				
<i>Triticum aestivum</i> sl.	free-threshing wheat	1		1
<i>Triticum</i> sp.	wheat type indet.	1	1	1
<i>Triticum</i> / <i>Hordeum</i> sp.	wheat or barley		2	
Total whole grain count		2	3	2
cereal grain fragments indet., mostly <2mm		1	+	
Cereal chaff				
<i>Triticum spelta</i>	spelt glume base		1	
Non cereal seeds				
<i>Chenopodium</i> sp.	Goosefoot		1	
<i>Atriplex patula</i> L./ <i>prostrata</i> Boucher ex DC	Oraches			1
<i>Vicia</i> / <i>Lathyrus</i> / <i>Pisum</i> sp.	Vetches / Wild Pea / Pea		1	
<i>Tripleurospermum inodorum</i> (L.) Schultz-Bip.	Scentless mayweed	1		
Large Poaceae (>4mm)	large wild grass seed	3		
Medium Poaceae (2-4mm)	medium wild grass seed	2		
Small Poaceae (<2mm)	small wild grass seed		1	
Poaceae fragment indet. - wild or cultivated grass seed frag.		+, 1 whole	2	
seed indet. (seed head indet.)			2	
clumps of phytoliths and burnt grass*			P	
Total seed count (grass fragments not included)		6	5	1
Damp / Shade loving species				
<i>Carychium tridentatum</i> Risso				++
<i>Vallonia excentrica</i> / <i>pulchella</i>				-
<i>Oxychilus</i> / <i>Aegopinella</i> sp.				+
Catholic / Unkown habitats species				
<i>Discus rotundatus</i> Müller				-
<i>Trichia</i> sp.		-		
<i>Ceciloides acicula</i> Müller	Blind burrowing snail	+	++	+
Bone fragments (burnt bone fragments)				
Bone fragments (burnt bone fragments)		++	+	++
Small bones - intrusive?		-		+
Pottery sherds		+	+	+
Baked clay			+	++
Worked flint (burnt flint)		- (-)		
Modern intrusions (rootlets and untransformed seeds)				P

Table 22: Plant macro-remains, mollusca and artefacts from bulk soil samples 151, 161 and 109. Key: '-' 1 or 2, '+' <10, '++' 10-50, '+++>' >50 items. All plant remains are charred. C = charred; P = present. * <2mm wide agglomerations of phytoliths, burnt grass, fine charcoal, calcite and possibly clay.

Sample number		192	131	182	174
Context		1949	1613	2618	2514
Feature		1400	1291	1605	1569
Feature type		p-hole	ditch	Ditch	Pit
Phase/Date		12-14 th C	12-14 ^t C	12-14 ^t C	12-14 ^t C
Sample volume – litres		2	15	10	17
Flot fraction examined - %		100	100	100	100
large charcoal (>4mm)		+		++	++
med. charcoal (2-4mm)		++	+	++	++
small charcoal (<2mm)		+++	+++	+++	+++
Vitrified charcoal				-	
Thorns indet.				-	
parenchyma frags - undifferentiated plant storage tissue			+	+	++
Cereal grains					
<i>Hordeum vulgare sensu lato</i>	hulled barley grain	5		1	5
<i>Triticum aestivum sl.</i>	free-threshing wheat	19		116	
<i>Triticum spelta / diccicum</i>	spelt or emmer wheat				6
<i>Triticum sp.</i>	wheat type indet.	20	6	48	14
<i>Triticum / Hordeum sp.</i>	wheat or barley	8		13	4
<i>Secale cereale</i>	rye		3	17	2cf.
<i>Triticum / Secale sp.</i>	wheat or rye	2		14	
<i>Avena sp.</i>	Oat	1	3	18	1
Total whole grain count		55	12	227	32
cereal grain fragments indet., mostly <2mm		+++	+	+++	++
Cereal chaff					
<i>H.vulgare sl.</i> - barley rachis internode			1		
<i>T. eastivum sl.</i> - free-threshing hexaploid rachis internode		2	1	2	
<i>T. eastivum sl.</i> - free-threshing rachis internode		5		3	
<i>Secale cereale</i>	rye rachis internode			1	
Indet. cereal rachis internode				1	
Indet. cereal culm node	straw nodes	-		-	
Non cereal seeds					
<i>Chenopodium sp.</i>	Goosefoot			3	1
<i>Atriplex patula L./prostrata</i> Boucher ex DC - Oraches			1	2	
<i>Stellaria sp.</i>	Chickweed		1		
<i>Rumex acetosella L.</i>	Sheep's sorrel	1 cf.		1 cf.	
<i>R. conglomeratus/obtusifolius/sanguineus</i> - Dock				1	
<i>Rumex sp.</i>	Dock	1			
<i>Raphanus raphanistrum L.</i>	Wild radish pod frag.	2			
<i>Lens culinaris</i> Medik.	Lentil	1			
<i>Vicia / Lathyrus sp.</i> <2mm thick	Vetches / Wild Pea	3		3	1.5
<i>Vicia / Lathyrus / Pisum sp.</i>	Vetches / Wild Pea / Pea	8		5	
<i>Odontites vernus</i> (Bellardi) Dumort. - Red bartsia			6	4	
<i>Galium aparine L.</i>	Cleavers			2	
<i>Anthemis cotula L.</i>	stinking chamomile (seed head)	1	55	38 (1)	4
<i>Bromus sp.</i>	Bromes			1	
Large Poaceae (>4mm)	large wild grass seed	10	4	11	2
Small Poaceae (<2mm)	small wild grass seed	1	4	2	1
Poaceae fragment indet. - wild or cultivated grass seed frag.		+++	4 whole	+++	4 whole
seed indet. (seed head indet.)		1	3	4	2
clumps of phytoliths and burnt grass*			P		P
Total seed count (grass fragments not included)		30	74	77	11.5

Table 23: Plant macro-remains from bulk soil samples 192, 131, 182 and 174. numbers in brackets (n) represent specimens found in the >4mm heavy residues. * <2mm wide agglomerations of phytoliths, burnt grass, fine charcoal, calcite and possibly clay.

Sample number	192	131	182	174
Feature	1400	1291	1605	1569
Fresh water mollusca				
<i>Lymnaea truncatula</i> Müller		+		
Damp / Shade loving species				
<i>Carychium tridentatum</i> Risso		++, 1C		
<i>Vallonia excentrica / pulchella</i>			-	
<i>Discus rotundatus</i> Müller			+	
<i>Oxychilus/ Aegopinella</i> sp.		-	+	
Dry, open habitats				
<i>Vallonia costata</i> Müller		-		
Catholic / Unkown habitats species				
<i>Vertigo</i> sp.			-	
<i>Trichia</i> sp.			-	
<i>Ceciloides acicula</i> Müller –Blind burrowing snail		++	+++	
Bone fragments (burnt bone fragments)				
Bone fragments (burnt bone fragments)			++	++
Small bones - intrusive?	-			-
Fish scale			-	
Shell			-	+++
Pottery sherds			+	+
Baked clay	++		++	++
Metal				
Modern intrusions (rootlets and untransformed seeds)		P	P	P

Table 24: Mollusca and artefacts from the bulk soil samples 192, 131, 182 and 174. numbers in brackets (n) represent specimens found in the >4mm heavy residues. * <2mm wide agglomerations of phytoliths, burnt grass, fine charcoal, calcite and possibly clay.

Sample number	175	179	190	133
Context	1539	2573	2765	1692
Feature	1263	1586	1617	1311
Feature type	quarry pit	pit	Quarry pit	pit
Phase/Date	12-14 th C	12-14 th C	12-14 th C	12-14C
Sample volume - litres	15	12	14	17
Flot fraction examined - %	100	25	100	100
large charcoal (>4mm)		+	+	-
med. charcoal (2-4mm)	-	++	+	+
small charcoal (<2mm)	++	+++	+++	+++
Vitrified charcoal				-
Thorns indet.		-		
parenchyma frags - undifferentiated plant storage tissue		++	++	
Cereal grains				
<i>Hordeum vulgare sensu lato</i>	hulled barley grain		152	
<i>Triticum aestivum sl.</i>	free-threshing wheat		241	2
<i>Triticum spelta / diccocom</i>	spelt or emmer wheat		14 cf.	
<i>Triticum sp.</i>	wheat type indet.		258	
<i>Triticum / Hordeum sp.</i>	wheat or barley		71	
<i>Secale cereale</i>	rye		28	
<i>Triticum / Secale sp.</i>	wheat or rye			1
<i>Avena sp.</i>	Oat		152	
<i>Hordeum / Secale / Avena sp.</i>	barley, rye or oat grain		17	
Total whole grain count		0	933	3
cereal grain fragments indet., mostly <2mm		1	+++	+
Cereal chaff				
<i>H. vulgare sl.</i> - barley rachis internode			5	
<i>T. aestivum sl.</i> - free-threshing hexaploid rachis internode			18	
<i>T. aestivum sl.</i> - free-threshing rachis internode			14	
<i>Secale cereale</i> rye rachis internode			21	
Indet. cereal rachis internode			11	
germinated embryo, indet.			-	
silicified and burnt barley/ wheat / rye awns			++	
burnt oat awns			+	
Indet. cereal culm node	straw nodes		++	
Indet. cereal culm internodes	straw fragments		+	
Non cereal seeds				
<i>Corylus avellana L.</i>	Hazel-nut shell fragment		1	
<i>Chenopodium album L.</i>	Fat-hen		22 cf.	
<i>Atriplex patula L./prostrata</i> Boucher ex DC - Oraches			11	1
<i>Agrostemma githago L.</i>	Corncockle seed		8	
<i>Persicaria lapathifolia (L.) Gray</i> - Pale persicaria			15	
<i>R. conglomeratus/obtusifolius/sanguineus</i> - Dock			19	
<i>Vicia / Lathyrus sp.</i> <2mm thick	Vetches / Wild Pea		176	1
<i>Vicia / Lathyrus / Pisum sp.</i>	Vetches / Wild Pea / Pea		21	2
<i>Pisum sativum L.</i>	Garden Pea		1	
<i>Solanum nigrum L.</i>	Black nightshade		1 cf.	
<i>Lithospermum arvense L.</i>	Field Gromwell		3	
<i>Odontites vernus (Bellardi) Dumort.</i> - Red bartsia			3	
<i>Centaurea sp.</i>	Knapweeds		1	
<i>Anthemis cotula L.</i>	stinking chamomile (seed head)		94	2
<i>Tripleurospermum inodorum (L.) Schultz-Bip.</i> - Scentless mayweed			3	

Table 25: Plant macro-remains from bulk soil samples 175, 179, 190 and 133. numbers in brackets (n) represent specimens found in the >4mm heavy residues

Sample number	175	179	190	133
Feature	1263	1586	1617	1311
small lenticular <i>Carex</i> sp. small flat sedge		1		
Large Poaceae (>4mm) large wild grass seed		111		
Small Poaceae (<2mm) small wild grass seed		5		
Poaceae fragment indet. - wild or cultivated grass seed frag.		+++	1	
seed indet. (seed head indet.)		6 (2)		
Total seed count (grass fragments not included)	0	502	5	1
Fresh water mollusca				
<i>Lymnaea truncatula</i> Müller	-			
Damp / Shade loving species				
<i>Columella edentula</i> Draparnaud	-			
<i>Vallonia excentrica / pulchella</i>	-			++
<i>Cochlicopa lubrica / lubricella</i>	-			+
<i>Discus rotundatus</i> Müller	+		-	+
<i>Oxychilus/ Aegopinella</i> sp.	+			+
Catholic / Unkown habitats species				
<i>Vertigo</i> sp.	-			-
<i>Lauria cylindracea</i> de Costa			-	
<i>Trichia</i> sp.				-
<i>Ceciloides acicula</i> Müller –Blind burrowing snail		+	-	-
Bone fragments (burnt bone fragments)		++ (++)		+
Small bones - intrusive?		-		-
Shell		+		-
Pottery sherds		-		+
Baked clay		++		
Metal		-		
Modern intrusions (rootlets and untransformed seeds)			P	

Table 26: Mollusca and artefacts from bulk soil samples 175, 179, 190 and 133. numbers in brackets (n) represent specimens found in the >4mm heavy residues

Documentary research – Anthony Breen

This report has been commissioned to identify documentary sources relevant to the archaeological interpretation of this site. During the excavation a seal matrix bearing the name of Albreda de Braham the relict (widow) of Robert de Braham was found. The name of Robert de Braham of Capel appears as a witness in one of the charters of the priory of Dodnash and this report includes a discussion of this document and others relating to the de Braham family, as well as a suggestion for future research associated with publication of the site.

The research has been carried out at the Suffolk Record Office in Ipswich.

The Tithe Map and Apportionment

The 1838 Tithe map for Capel St Mary was examined for the Evaluation Report and a copy of the tithe map printed as Figure 6 in that report. The original scale of the map was '3 Chains to One inch' (ref. FDA57/1A/1b) and the orientation is east west and not the normal geographic convention of north south. The site is divided between two fields shown on the tithe map. The field to the north numbered 155 is described in the apportionment bearing the Tithe Commission's date stamp of 29 August 1838 (ref. FDA57/A1/1a) as 'Catesbray' in arable use and measured at 1 acres 1 rood 35 perches. It was part of a smallholding 8 acres 36 perches then in the possession of Revd Joseph Tweed. The other parts of this landholding were the fields 159 & 159c both described as 'Part of Glebe Field' and 236 a 'cottage and garden'. Revd Tweed was the rector and incumbent of this parish, but these lands were not part of the parochial glebe.

The deeds of this property have not been deposited at the record office in Ipswich.

The glebe lands consisting of 28 acres 2 roods and 20 perches are listed separately and are clearly marked on the map as glebe land. Of the glebe lands the fields 6 'Upper Six Acres' measured at 6 a 3r 29p, 11 'White Horse Field' 6a 2r 26p and 12 'White Horse Green Piece' 1a 1r 36p are not in the immediate area of this site. The strips numbered on the maps 159a, 159b are simply described in the apportionment as 'Glebe'. These are shown to the southeast of this site but not adjoining. The remaining pieces 165 'House, buildings, garden' totalling 4 a 1 r 29 p and the two paddocks 166 3a 0r 10p and 167 1a 1r 10p are to the south of this site though again not adjoining. The earlier description of these pieces as they appear in the glebe terriers are of interest as they are likely to include the names of either the owner or occupier of the adjoining land. The only other piece, listed as glebe, was the churchyard measured at an acre. Apart from White Horse Green Piece then in the occupation of William Collins all the remaining pieces were in the Revd Tweed's occupation. William Collins is named in the apportionment as the landlord of the White Horse Inn numbered 20 on the map.

The southern side of this site was within the field numbered 161 on the map and described in the apportionment as the property of Rachel Day and in her own occupation. It was described as 'Barn Pightle' in arable use and measured at 2 a 0r 17 p. It was part of a smallholding of 8 a 0r 34 p consisting of the plots numbered 156 'Upper Field', 160 'Garden', 161 'Barn Pightle', 162 'Orchard Pightle', 163 'Orchard

Piece' and her own 'House and other buildings' numbered 164. She is not listed as occupying any other lands in this parish.

Again the deeds for this property have not been deposited at the record office.

The field name 'Catesbray' appears elsewhere in the tithe apportionment under the lands of Sir Joshua Rowley as does the field-name found amongst the glebe lands, 'White Horse Field'.

Of the parishes 1910 acres the largest property 331a 3r 20p was that under the ownership of the President and Fellows of Queen's College, Cambridge. The college had acquired the manor Boyton Hall in Capel in 1548 (Copinger).

Isaac Everett senior owned a farm of 226a 1r 26p in the occupation of Isaac Everett junior. He also had a tenant occupying the mill. According to Copinger, Isaac Everett held the lordship of the manor of Churchford, 'In 1762 the manor was vested in one Fielding and afterwards in the Everett family. Isaac Everett of Churchford Hall, formerly of Hadleigh died 8th August, 1777, aged 69, and was succeeded by his son Isaac, who dying in 1821, aged 82, was succeeded by his son Isaac, who removed to Wix Lodge, Essex, leaving his son Isaac at Churchford Hall. The last-mentioned Isaac Everett died 7th March 1855, aged 46'.

George Thomas owned another farm of 198a 1r 17p none of his lands were in the immediate area of this site. There were another four farms of over 100 acres, the largest being 138a 1r 21p then the property of William Hollick. William Goodchild owned another farm of 122a 1r 18p that included a further piece called White Horse Field numbered 84 on the map. He also owned a smaller property of 27a 1r 19p. Golding Constable owned another farm of 101a 1r 34p tenanted to William Cooper Brooke and two other smallholdings totalling another five acres.

The remaining large farm of over 100 acres was the property of Sir Joshua Rowley of Tendring Hall. The farm consisting of 112a 3r and 39 p was tenanted to Charles John Hollick. Sir Joshua also owned another smaller farm tenanted to John Aylward and measured at 83a 3r 23p. Aylward's farm included the other field named 'Catisbray' numbered 154 in arable use and measured at 3a 2r 7p. The second field called Catisbray was to the north of the excavated site. There is an earlier map of this farm dated 1789 that then included this field called Kate's Bray.

The Rowley Collection

In the absence of the properties records for the lands of Revd John Tweed and Rachel Day, it is necessary to examine the records of the adjoining properties to identify earlier owners of this site whose names may appear in the abutments of the properties. In the case of Sir Joshua Rowley's property as Catesbray appears as a field name for his own field 154 and that formerly in the ownership of Revd Tweed 155 (part of the excavated site), it is necessary to examine the property records in detail to establish whether or not they had formerly been part of the same property.

The earlier map is in the Rowley of Tendring Hall Collection. The map of a 'Farm occupied by Mrs Sexton' is dated January 1789 (ref. HA108/10/2/6). The map and

survey of the farm is the work of William Cole who also surveyed another farm in Capel then in the occupation of a 'Mr Potter' (ref. HA108/10/2/5). Both farms were then the property of Sir Joshua Rowley and the maps are in a book of plans of his estates in Suffolk. The surnames of Hollick and Aylward are written in pencil on the respective plans. Sir Joshua Rowley's main residence was Tendring Hall in Stoke by Nayland. The map of Mrs Sexton's Farm names the owners of the adjoining properties and the owners of the excavated site were then Mr Day and Mr King though the boundaries of their properties are not shown. In 1789 the total acreage of this farm is given at 78a 3r 4p. In the survey it states 'The White Horse Fields ... these were formerly a part of the farm in the occupation of Mr Potter'.

The main estate collection for the Tendring Hall estate has been catalogued however additional materials have been deposited since. Amongst the items in the additional there is a lease of a farm in Capel dated 29 March 1802 between Sir William Rowley and John Clarke of Capel farmer (ref. HA108: 10515 Box 16). Sir William let the unnamed farm of 78 acres 'in the occupation of John Clarke and Joseph Tweed clerk' for a term of 11 years. The main text is that of a typical agricultural lease and relates to matters of husbandry. There is an additional clause 'Also that the said John Clarke ... shall and will permit ... the said Joseph Tweed rector of Caple aforesaid to use and occupy all that field called the Plough Field containing by estimation four acres and a half ... of the said demised premises and now in the occupation of the said Joseph Tweed for the said term'. Little Plough Field and Plough Field are numbered 173 and 174 on the tithe map and were to the south of the main area of glebe land and on the opposite side of the road.

The other farm in the occupation of Mr Potter was measured at 108a 0r 27p in 1789. It is again mentioned in a mortgage deed dated 11 May 1785. It that year William Rowley raised a loan of £4000 on this farm and others in Stoke By Nayland. The deed gives a full list of the fields attached to the farm and these then included White Horse Field and Tankard Field both then tenanted to William Potter (ref. HA 108/2/15). This farm is depicted on an earlier 'Map of the Farm called Dowlands ... in Capel ... belonging to Mr Samuel Meddowes and now in the occupation of Joseph Gardiner surveyed by Thomas Alefounder' dated 1757 (ref. HD 1620/5). This is an artificial collection containing maps of various unconnected estates.

The lands in Capel had only recently passed to the Rowley Tendring Hall estates. Samuel Meddowes in his will, dated 16 October 1775, entrusted his estates to Samuel Alston of Stoke by Nayland as his sole executor and in April 1777 Alston sold the estates in Capel to John Sherwin who was a trustees for the marriage of Joshua Rowley. Sir William Rowley, Joshua's father had been granted him an annual income at the time of his marriage in 1759 but the full settlement had never been made and remained incomplete at the death of Sir William in 1764. The marriage settlement was finally satisfied in a lengthy deed of 7 skins of parchment dated 3 April 1777. Samuel Meddowes' will is mentioned on the third skin and Samuel Alston's role as executor is described on the following skin. The deed contains a full description of all the property in Capel beginning at the foot of the fourth skin. Each field is named and the properties included the farm then tenanted to William Potter, who was also mentioned in Samuel Meddowes' will. On sixth skin there is the reference to 'Cates Bray three acres one rood and twenty perches'. This was part of the same farm that had previously been the property of John Marven and Elizabeth his wife who had acquired

it through a fine and indenture dated 30 September 1720. Fines were enrolled at the high courts in London and though the records of courts are now at the National Archives, the fines do not contain the full details of the lands. The lands would have been described in the separate indenture but this document is not in the Rowley Collection. The text suggests that the farm as shown on the 1789 map had been more than one property. The farm itself was described as 62a 3r 6p and then other property was then 'The yard belonging to the said messuage called the Plow ... The Home Field ... The Two Acres ... and Cates Bray ... in the whole ten acres two roods and twenty six perches'. In 1777 they had become one property then in the occupation of Samuel Sexton. All this property was then described, as being in 'fee simple' that is freehold (ref. HA 108/2/3 Deed 18b).

Though a number of fieldnames and acreages as given in the deed of 1777 are different to those shown on the later maps, it is still evident that these are the same properties assembled into a single estate in the early eighteenth century.

Glebe Terriers

The Glebe Terriers were returned to either the archdeacon or bishop along with other documents at the time of their visitation of the parishes. The terriers contain a description of the parish buildings and list all the glebe lands. The surviving returns originally delivered to the bishop of Norwich are in a single bundle (ref. FF569/C14/1-31) and cover the years 1633 to 1872 with one earlier undated terrier. The final terrier uses the tithe apportionment numbers to identify the pieces of glebe. All the earlier terriers use a fuller description such as in 1845 that begins with the description of 'A good parsonage house ... standing on 245 yards of ground, Barn and Stables ...' and followed with

'Item one garden containing by estimation one acre more or less abutting upon the Highway leading from Copthorn to Capel Street southward & on the Pond Pightle Northward & one a field in the occupation of William Aylward on the east. Item the Pond Yard and roadway leading from the Parsonage Gate next the King's Highway to the close called Longfield on the North. Item one acre of land called Bean Pightle with the Great Barn, Cart lodge & Stable upon it abutting upon the Highway leading from Tanzy Green to Jarmyn's Gate in the south & west & on the Rectory to the East & on a parcel of Glebe now called Longfield towards the north. Item a parcel of Land called Pond Pightle containing by estimation one Acre and a half more or less abutting upon the garden on the south & on a field in the occupation of William Aylward on the east on a pightle of the Revd J Tweed's & a parcel of Glebe Land called Long Land on the north & on Longfield on the west. Item a parcel of land called Long Land containing by estimation two acres and a half more or less abutting on the Pond Pightle to the south; on two pieces of the Revd Tweed's on the east & west & on a pightle in the occupation of William Ablewhite called Symberly on the North. Item a parcel of land now called Longfield containing two acres more or less abutting in part upon Pond Pightle and in part upon the Revd Joseph Tweed's land towards the east and upon two other pightles called in the terrier of 1675 Waldingfield towards the west and on a Pightle called Simberly on the North & on Bean Pightle towards the south'.

The remaining pieces were at Copthorn 'abutting upon the King's highway upon the north & in part upon the road leading to Tattinstone'. There is then an account of the tithes, church goods such as vestments and books.

It is difficult to identify the positions of these pieces of land in relation to the mapped landscape as shown on the tithe map as they describe an earlier arrangement of the property. Also the name of Rachel Day is absent from the description, however it seems to be the case that William Ablewhite was the occupant of Rachel Day's property.

The descriptions, as given in the earlier terriers, repeat the same text with few amendments. In 1834 instead William Aylward, there is John Aylward and Robert Everitt instead of William Ablewhite, in 1827 Revd Tweed's property is described as 'late Cooks' and Isaac Everitt was the occupant of the tenement called 'Simberly'. In 1820 Mr Cook is mentioned instead of Revd Tweed and Mr Isaac Everitt 'junior'. In 1813 there is William Hayward instead of John Aylward. In the terrier for 1784, the one closest in date the 1789 map of the farm in the occupations of Mrs Sexton, there are the references to the 'close in the occupation of William Howard' but the other details are the same. In the previous terrier dated 1777 (ref. FF569/C14/20) the same date as the deed in the Rowley Collection the details are unchanged.

The previous owners of Sir Joshua Rowley's lands had been purchased the property in 1720. In the terrier of 1723, written in somewhat erratic English; there are the abutments of the orchard include 'on a pightle in the occupacion of William Rogers' who is also mentioned in the abutments of Pond Pightle 'a close of William Rogers' on the east', but then 'on a pightle of Mr Masons and a parcel of glebe coled Long Land'. Long Land abutted on 'two pightles belonging to Mr Mason on the est and west and on a pightle in the occupacion of Samewell Markin north'. The following piece was then described as 'A parcel of land containing two acres more or less and abutteth part upon Pond Pightle and part on a Pightle of Mr Mason's towards the east and on two Pightles in the occupacion of Samewell English westward and on a Pightle coled Simberlies in the occupacion of Samewell Markin northward and on Pond Pightle in the south'.

There is a reference to Samuel English in the 1777 deed 'another messuage ... wherein Samuel English formerly dwelt and since pulled down'.

In 1716 there are William Rogers, Mr Mason, Samuel Markin and Samuel English and these are the names that appear in 1709 and 1706. In 1633, 1636, 1677, 1686 & 1699 all names are omitted from the descriptions.

There is also an undated seventeenth century terrier (ref FF569/C14/2) in which there is a slightly fuller description 'Another parcel of land called by the name of Long Land abutting part upon Sir John Brase his Simberlins towards the north and part upon Chicherlies land towards the east and other head abutting upon the pond pightell towards the south containing by estimacon two acres and a half more or less'. The name Sir John Brase is crossed out. The incumbent of the parish, John Hudson, has signed this terrier. He was the rector of Capel St Mary from 1623-1631 (Venn 1922). Symberly or Simberlies appears in this undated terrier as Simberlins possibly Chamberlain's.

In Copinger's description of the manor of Churchford Hall there is the following

'From John Fitz Ralph the manor passed to his daughter and heir Elizabeth, married to Sir Robert Chamberlain, knt., but seems doubtful; for on the Patent Rolls for 1476 we find a grant of this manor and of Netherhall in Little Waldingfield, together with the advowson of Capel St Mary, to Sir Robert Chamberlain with fine or fee. From the time of this Sir Robert Chamberlain to the time of Fitz Ralph Chamberlain the manor devolved in the same course as the Manor of Gedding in Thedwestry Hundred.

In 1581 it passed to Fitz Ralph Chamberlain, being then acquired by Thomas Appleton and we meet with a fine of the manor and of tenements there and in Capel, Wenham Magna, &c levied by the said Thomas Appleton against the said Fitz Ralph "Chamberleyne", William Gamage and others'.

There is a final undated seventeenth century terrier in the archdeaconry collection (ref. FAA:2701/20/163), it is signed 'Johannes Chaplin rectorem ibidem'. John Chaplin or Chapleyne was vicar of Capel St Mary from 1598-1623 (Venn 1922) and this is therefore the oldest surviving glebe terrier for this parish. The text of this terrier is so different from the later terriers that those parts relating to the rectory site and adjoining lands are worth transcribing in full.

'The mansion house with a barne & stable with the yards & orchards thereunto belonging, containing by estimacion one acre & a half more or lesse the south syde thereof lyeing upon the hie way leading from Capell Streete towards Cophorne & the easthead abutting upon a piece of land called Drasons & on all other parts abutteth upon glebe land belonging to the rectorye aforesaid

Item the Beane Pictell containing by estimacion one acre more or lesse having three syds the east syde abutteth upon the parsonage yarde the west syde upon a common way leading from Capell Streete towards Jermynes, the north syde upon a parcell of glebe land called the barne feilde

The pond pictell containing by estimacion twoe acres more or lesse the east head abutting upon a piece of land called Drasons, the west upon a parcell of glebe called the Barnefeild the south syde upon the orchard of the rectorye & the north syde in parte upon a parcell of land belonging to Wenham Hall & in part upon a parcell of gleebe land

The Barnefield containing by estimacion two acres & a half more or lesse lyeing by certaine land called Waldingfeild on the north syde & on all other parts upon certaine lands belonging to Wenham Hall & upon the gleebe land

Item a parcell of land containing by estimacion twoe acres & a half more or lesse the south end lyeing upon the pond pictell aforesaid & on all other parts upon diverse lands belonging to Wenham Hall'

The remaining parts of the terrier deal with the lands at Cophorne. There is a single reference to Drasons in the abutments of the other undated seventeenth century terrier

(ref. FF569/C14/2) but only in relation to Pond Pightle. None of the later terriers mention Wenham Hall.

The field name Waldingfield does not appear anywhere in the title apportionment.

The Manor of Churchford Hall

There are very few documents relating to the title manor of Churchford and the few that exist are in the Rowley Collection. These are mainly copies of deeds rather than the original documents. In a copy of a marriage settlement dated 17 August 1733 between Richard, Lord Bishop of Winchester, John Willis of Chelsea his eldest son and the Honourable George Fielding of New Windsor, Berkshire Ann his wife and Sarah Fielding 'the only daughter and heir apparent of the said George Fielding' and another two parties, the manor is described as 'All that one moiety or half part the whole part in two equal parts to be divided of all that the manor of Chalford Hall otherwise Churchford Hall otherwise Chestford Hall ... and also all that one moiety ... of all and singular the messuages houses (etc) to the said manor belonging ... and also all that capital messuage tenement manor house or farm called or known by the name of Churchford Hall otherwise Capell Hall in Capell ... demised used occupied or enjoyed containing together by estimation two hundred and three acres or thereabouts ... situate and being in the towns parishes and territories of Capell aforesaid Great Wenham Little Wenham and Roydon ... sometime in the occupation of Anthony Greenling alias Girling formerly of William Strut and now late or heretobefore of Samuel Cook ... and also all that one moiety ... of all that corn water mill or overshot water-mill to the said messuage or farm near adjoining ... in the tenure or occupation of Thomas Lambe ... and also all that moiety ... of all that messuage tenement or farm called or known by the names of Hilarys and Birds ... containing together by estimation thirty nine acres ... in the tenure of the said Thomas Lambe ... and also all that one moiety ... of several pieces or parcels of meadow, pasture, arable called Bulls Pasture and Baals ... containing together by estimation sixteen acres and a half ... in the tenure or occupation of Lee' (ref. HA108/6/9).

Again in the 1777 deed there is a reference to a 'capital messuage called Balles' that contained 49 acres.

The moiety was generally a division of the title to a property not the property itself. The other moiety had passed to Henry Cranmer as described in another copy of a deed dated 19 January 1722. It is interesting to note that the title to the lordship of the manor of Churchford was and had been separated from the farm of Churchford Hall in these deeds. The marriage between Sarah Fielding and John Willis had taken place and the title to the moiety had been used to secure various mortgages. The documents in this bundle continue through to 1790, when Richard Willis of Monmouth sold his title to Gilbert Ironside of Gunnersby Park, Middlesex 'expectant and to take effect on the death of Sarah Willis his mother'. The property was not amended and there is nothing in these documents that explains why they are amongst the Rowley Papers.

In the 1722 deed, Ann Fielding the then wife of George Fielding is described as the daughter of Bezaliel Sherman. According to Copinger's account of this manor 'In 1686 it seems to have been vested in Bezaliel Sherman, for this year he held his first court, and from him it passed to his widow Anne, who two years later held her first

court'. Only a single court roll for this manor has been deposited at the record office in Ipswich. It covers the years 1694-1708 and Anne Sherman is named as the lady of this manor in the final court held on 15 March 1708 (1709) (ref. HA407:6022). There is no catalogue of this collection. In this incomplete roll there are very few references to fields names other than Churchfield, Sandyhill, Osier Yard and Camping Land and a single reference to a tenement called Forths. These fields are recorded in the tithe apportionment as Churchfield 239, Sandyhill 265 and Camping Close 262 all the then property of Isaac Everett.

In a second bundle there are further copies of these document with one addition. In a further assignment of the mortgage dated 14 July 1797 (ref. HA108/6/10) only the lands in Polstead are mentioned. These lands are also mentioned in the text of the earlier documents and it appears to be the case that only the Polstead lands passed to the Tendring Estate.

The Manor of Wenham Combusta or Burnt Wenham with East Bergholt

The manorial records for this manor are in the same uncatalogued collection as the single roll for the manor of Churchford Hall. The court books have been examined as there are the references to lands of the manor of Wenham Hall in an undated seventeenth century glebe terrier.

Apart from the earliest surviving court book all the remaining court books are indexed with the names of the tenants. The surnames Day and Tweed the owners of this site as given in the tithe apportionment do not appear in the indexes to the court books. In court book 5 there are various references a William Sexton including his the admission on 18 April 1810 to 'all those six acres of land by estimation called Carters upon which a tenement was formerly built and also one acre of land next Moore Croft and also five acres of land pasture and wood with the appurtenances called Stubbings Pightle late parcel of the Demesnes of this manor'. This does not appear to have been part of the farm as shown on the tithe maps and the map of 1789 and the previous copyhold tenant of this land was Francis Abbot. At another court held on 16 December 1795 Isaac Everett, the reputed lord of the manor of Churchford according to Copinger, whose name appears in the glebe terriers was admitted to 'all that garden with three acres of land lying in Wenham Called Dowes formerly the estate of Samuel Claydon and also all that piece of land called Magges containing by estimation one acre and an half more or less formerly the estate of Martin Cook and Margaret his wife holden of the said manor by copy of the court roll'. The previous tenant of this piece had been John Grimsey of Ipswich.

A possibly interesting entry is that for Thomas Cooke a free tenant who paid a fine of 1s 4d for the entry to his late father's property on 19 June 1789. No further details are given.

The name 'Mr King' appears on the 1789 map of the farm in the occupation of Mrs Sexton, though not in other sources. In the same court book the only admission for Joseph and William King was on the 29 November 1837 and the entry relates to land in East Bergholt.

In the earliest court book there is the admission on 24 September 1690 of John Hubbert on the surrender of Margaret Cooke widow and Martin Cooke her son to 'all that piece of land called Magges containing by estimation one acre and half'. This piece that was later the property of Isaac Everett, had formerly been the property of John Cooke whose death had been recorded at a previous court held on 11 September 1682. None of these tenement names appear in the tithe apportionment.

The earliest surviving court roll for this manor covering the years 1622-1641 is held at Harvard University in America.

The De Braham

The name of 'Roberto de Braham de Capeles' appears as a witness to one of the Dodnash Charters relating to land in Stratford St Mary (Harper-Bill 1998). In the index his surname is listed under Brantham. The charter is not dated. The names of some of the other witnesses appear in dated documents. Geoffrey of Dodnash appears as a witness to documents ranging in date from 1252 through to 1285, Richard and William de Bruario in a charter dated 1284 and Walter Baldwyn in another charter dated 1301.

Though this is the only charter to mention Robert De Braham, the names of other probable family members appear various charters and other documents from the late twelfth century onwards. The surname is a locative surname and the form Braham appears for Brantham in the Curia Rege Rolls for 1198 (Ekwall 1960). The family were the lords of the manor of 'Braham Hall in Cattiwade', Brantham from at least the late thirteenth century until the late fifteenth century. Other people who used the surname De Braham appear in early Suffolk records but it is not possible to show their relationship to one another in every instance, if such relationship existed. Their status suggests a level of equal wealth and social position that may suggest they were closely related.

There are no De Braham's listed under Capel in the published 1327 Subsidy returns (Hervey). A Benedicto De Braham is listed twice as paying a subsidy of 3s in Tattlingstone and further 3s 2d in 'Villata de Wenham Magna cum Wenham Parva' both the Wenham parishes are listed under this single heading. Of the 14 taxpayers in Tattlingstone, Benedict paid the same amount as another two individuals the remaining 11 taxpayers paid smaller amounts. Of the 26 taxpayers listed under the Wenham parishes, he paid the third highest amount. Possibly another Benedicto de Braham is listed under 'Villata de Naketon cum Leuington & Stratton' in Colneis Hundred as paying 3s. There were 37 listed under that heading and Benedict was one of the three who paid the highest amount of 3s. A John De Braham is listed under Leiston in Blything Hundred as paying two shillings and Thomas De Braham is listed under Coney Weston in Blackbourne Hundred as paying just 12d. There are no other De Braham's listed in these returns.

There is a direct link between the de Braham family and Capel in the inquisition of Roger de Braham:

'Writ of Certiorari, on the complaint of William de Braham that the escheator had taken into the king's hand all the said Roger's lands &c, as if he held of William de

Monte Caniso only, whose lands, &c are in the king's hands, 25 July 15 Edw I' (1287).

All the lands were in Suffolk and they included

'Capele and Boyton. A messuage and garden, 50a arable, 3a wood, 4a pasture, 8a dry pasture, and 41s 8d, yearly rent, held of William de Monte Canizo of Edwardston by service of ½ knight's fee, who held the same of the earl of Oxford by the same service: 30a land and 3a pasture held of Robert de Boyton by service of 1/20 knight's fee; and 50 a land, 7a meadow, 5a pasture an alderwood, and 6s 4d yearly rent held of William de Stratford by service of 2s.

Wenham Combusta 30a land, 15s rent, and 1a meadow held of Master Roger de Holebroc by service of 18d yearly

William his son, aged 22 at the feast of St Michael, 14 Edw I, is his next heir'.

The Latin form 'Monte Caniso' was in French Montchesni, Mont Chesny or Montchensy, Montechensy etc. Hubert de Munchensi or Montchensy held the manor of Edwardstone under Robert Malet in the Domesday Survey. There are also references to a William de Montchensy held the manor of Copdock Hall alias Fitz Raffes in 1263 of the honour of Hedingham Castle. This manor was granted to Robert Fitz Raffe in 1418. He may possibly be the same as William de Munchensy or William de Mont Chesny who at his death in 1286 held the manor of Stratford Hall in Stratford St Mary. There were various Williams, who held the manor of Edwardstone.

The inquisition makes no mention of Robert de Braham, though if William Montchesni who held the manor of Stratford Hall is the same as William of Edwardstone, it seems reasonable that one of his leading tenants should appear as a witness to a charter relating to land in Stratford St Mary.

According to Copinger the 'Manor of Boitwell Hall or Boyton Hall with Groats or Grot's Deny's and Helhouse Lands alias Beames' was 'held in the time of Hen III by Jeffery de Capell of the Honor of Heningham by service of half a knight's fee, and in 1353 was vested in Sir John Braham'.

At the time of the tithe map this manor was the property of Queens College, Cambridge who had acquired the lordship of the manor in 1548. In 1838 the college did not own the excavated site, however there is the small possibility that both Rachel Day and Revd Tweed were copyholders of that manor.

Conclusion

There is no possibility of tracing the history of this site back to the medieval period through the use of records held at Ipswich. The property records for the site have not been deposited at the record office or at least they are not listed in the present catalogues.

Part of the site was a field known as Catesbray and this fieldname was also used for the field to the north. The field to the north was the property of Sir Joshua Rowley of

Tendring Hall at the time of the tithe map and his family had first acquired the property in 1777. The fieldname is mentioned in the deeds of conveyance of 1777 and the field is shown on a map of 1789. The previous transfer of this property was in 1720, but these deeds for that exchange are not at the record office in Ipswich.

The Glebe Terriers describe the lands attached to the rectory and it is clear that this site had never been part of the glebe. Though the glebe lands do not adjoin any part of this site they do adjoin the property of Rachel Day whose name appears as the owner of the southern part of this site in the tithe apportionment. She owned a single block of land containing just over eight acres. Her name does not appear in any of the terriers. The terriers use an archaic description of the site of the rectory and adjoining lands, but it appears to be the case that the land to the north had formerly been a tenement known as Symberly, but in the earliest surviving glebe terrier for the collection that has come from the diocese of Norwich the form of this fieldname is 'Simberlins' possible Chamberlain's. This family had formerly been lords of the manor of Churchford Hall. Other terriers mention members of the Everett family who were the reputed lords of that manor, other terriers mention 'Mr Cook' and a Samuel Cook occupied Churchford Hall according to the deed of 1777, however the earliest surviving terrier in the archdeaconry collection mentions the manor of Wenham Hall. Wenham Hall was the manor of Wenham Combusta or Burnt Wenham. In the surviving manorial court records for these manors there are no mention of the previous owners of this site or reference to the glebe lands. A single reference to a Thomas Cooke in the records of Wenham Combusta states that he was a freeholder of the manor and deeds for Sir Joshua Rowley's lands show that his property was also freehold.

There is some doubt that Copinger's description of the descent of the lordship of the manor of Churchford is correct as the title to the lordship and that of the site of the manor and lands had been separated. The lands of Churchford Farm as shown on the tithe map included Church Field to the west of this site. Land in Churchfield had been partly copyhold.

Though it is not possible to trace the history of this site to the medieval period through the use of records held at Ipswich. The name of Robert de Braham, the former husband of Albreda de Braham whose seal matrix was found during the excavation of this site, does appear in one medieval document of the late thirteenth century. A Roger de Braham held lands in Capel and these are described in an inquisition of 1287. The family appear to be prosperous and their names or at least the names of those who used de Braham as a surname appear in a number of thirteenth century documents. If this site had formerly been the property of a member of this family it would suggest a site of some status, though not their main residence.

Further research

A Sir John Barham is mentioned as the lord of the manor of Boynton Hall in Capel in 1353. The records of this manor were deposited by Queen's College in Cambridge University Library and comprise a substantial quantity of deeds and parchment rolls relating to the de Braham family, including an example of the seal of Robert de Braham.

Further research could be undertaken in order to address the following questions and research themes:

- complete the account as far as possible of the chronology and ownerships of the de Braham family in and around Capel through use of the Queen's College estate records and deeds for Boynton Manor as well as considering the work of antiquarian Frederick Arthur Crisp and his history of Wenham Hall.
- complete research on the seal matrix using the Queen's College Estate records, searching for copies of original seals of Robert and Albreda
- examine records from Ipswich Record Office that relate to the De Reymes family and in particular Albreda De Reymes who may have married Robert de Braham.

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Primary sources

All the primary sources mentioned in this report are held at the Suffolk Record Office in Ipswich.

Manuscript Maps

FDA57/A1/1b Tithe Map Capel St Mary 1838

FDA57/A1/1a Tithe Apportionment Capel St Mary 1838

HA 108/10/2/5 Farm occupied by Mr Potter surveyed by Wm Cole, January 1789

HA 108/10/2/6 Farm occupied by Mr Saxham surveyed by Wm Cole, January 1789

HD 1620/5 'A Map of the Farm called Dowlands ... in Capel ... belonging to Mr Samuel Meddowes and now in the occupation of Joseph Gardiner surveyed by Thomas Alefounder 1757

Deeds Rowley of Tendring Hall Collection

HA 108/2/3 Deeds to an Estate in Capel St Mary 1777-1785

HA 108/6/9 All Copy Documents 1722-1790 Manor of Chalford alias Churchford Hall in Capel messuage called Hillaryes and Birds with 39a, Balls Pasture and Baals in Capel, Great and Little Wenham and Reydon ...

HA 108/6/10 All Copy Documents as in HA 108/6/9 includes an assignment of a mortgage to William Cawston of Polstead 1797

Tendring Hall Additional Records

HA 108:10515 Box 16 'Lease of a farm at Capel from Sir William Rowley to John Clarke, with husbandry covenants 29 March 1802

Glebe Terriers

FAA:2701/20/163 Undated seventeenth century terrier Capel St Mary

FF569/C14/1-31 Glebe Terriers Capel St Mary (Diocesan Collection)

Manorial Records

Un-Catalogued Collection HA407:6022

Manor of Burnt Wenham with East Bergholt or Wenham Combusta cum East Bergholt

Court Book 2 24 April 1690 to 24 October 1695

Court Book 3 28 September 1702 to 8 July 1737
Court Book 4 16 November 1739 to 24 October 1772
Court Book 5 4 October 1773 to 18 June 1855
Court Book 6 13 September 1856 to 14 March 1881

Manor of Churchford Hall

Court Roll 1694-1708 (incomplete)

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OASIS ID: cambridg3-96030

Project details

Project name	Land East of Days Road, Capel St. Mary, Suffolk
Short description of the project	Excavations revealed a multi-period site with four main phases of occupation dating to the Late Bronze Age, the Middle Iron Age, the Early Roman period and the 12th-14th century AD. A further three possible phases of archaeological activity - dating to the earlier prehistoric period, the Saxon period and the 11th century - have been identified largely through surface finds and residual material in later features, while the site's final archaeological phase is represented by post-medieval enclosure ditches. Evidence of earlier prehistoric activity encountered was limited to surface and residual finds and the earliest confirmed occupation of the site dates to later prehistory. Late Bronze Age settlement remains comprised pits and post holes and included a pit which yielded a regionally significant assemblage of c.500 sherds of Post Deverel Rimbury pottery together with large amounts of burnt stone/flint. Evidence of a more substantial settlement during the Middle Iron Age comprised a large enclosure ditch within which were the remains of two roundhouses and a number of probable storage pits as well as clusters of postholes and small pits. A simple post-built structure dating to the 1st - 2nd century AD situated within a contemporary field system represented Early Roman activity at the site and was potentially part of the estate of the villa recorded at nearby Windmill Hill in Capel St. Mary. The majority of the archaeological features excavated belonged to the 12th-14th century AD and appear to represent a substantial, and potentially relatively wealthy, farmstead. The remains of up to five structures including an impressive aisled building, possibly a hall, were excavated. Other features included a stone/flint lined well, a large number of pits and post holes, quarries, possible ovens/kilns, cobbled surfaces and ditches representing a number of phases of land division.
Project dates	Start: 20-02-2009 End: 28-10-2009
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	CSM 030 - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None

Current Land use	Cultivated Land 3 - Operations to a depth more than 0.25m
Monument type	RUBBISH PIT Late Bronze Age
Monument type	ENCLOSED SETTLEMENT Middle Iron Age
Monument type	ROUND HOUSE Middle Iron Age
Monument type	BUILDING Roman
Monument type	AISLED BUILDING Medieval
Monument type	WELL Medieval
Monument type	BUILDING Medieval
Monument type	FIELDSYSTEM Roman
Significant Finds	CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL Roman
Significant Finds	CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL Medieval
Significant Finds	FLINT Neolithic
Significant Finds	FLINT Late Prehistoric
Significant Finds	POTTERY Late Bronze Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Middle Bronze Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	SEAL MATRIX Medieval
Significant Finds	ANIMAL BONE Late Bronze Age
Significant Finds	ANIMAL BONE Middle Iron Age
Significant Finds	ANIMAL BONE Medieval
Significant Finds	LOOMWEIGHT Middle Iron Age
Investigation type	'Open-area excavation'
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16

Project location

Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK BABERGH CAPEL ST MARY Land East of Days Road
Postcode	IP9 2JW
Study area	1.20 Hectares
Site coordinates	TM 0875 3855 52.0055400532 1.041784610720 52 00 19 N 001 02 30 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 46.60m Max: 47.90m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Cambridge Archaeological Unit
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Robin Standing
Project director/manager	Robin Standing

Project supervisor Jonathan Tabor
 Type of sponsor/funding body Developer
 Name of sponsor/funding body Orwell Housing Association Ltd

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Cambridge Archaeological Unit
 Physical Archive ID CSM030
 Physical Contents 'Animal Bones','Ceramics','Environmental','Human Bones','Metal','Worked bone','Worked stone/lithics'
 Digital Archive recipient Cambridge Archaeological Unit
 Digital Archive ID CSM030
 Digital Contents 'Animal Bones','Ceramics','Environmental','Human Bones','Metal','Stratigraphic','Survey','Worked bone','Worked stone/lithics'
 Digital Media available 'Database','GIS','Images raster / digital photography','Spreadsheets','Survey','Text'
 Paper Archive recipient Cambridge Archaeological Unit
 Paper Archive ID CSM030
 Paper Contents 'Animal Bones','Ceramics','Human Bones','Metal','Stratigraphic','Worked bone'
 Paper Media available 'Context sheet','Drawing','Miscellaneous Material','Plan','Report','Section','Survey','Unpublished Text'

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
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