Frogmary Farm
South Petherton
Somerset

An Archaeological Evaluation & Excavation Report

May 2017

context one
HERITAGE & ARCHAEOLOGY

Looking after the past, today…

Frogmary Farm
South Petherton
Somerset

for

C1 project code: C1/EVA & EXC/17/FFS

Bragg Agricultural Services

Report

Prepared by	Clare Randall, Archaeological Officer
Date	20/05/17

Approved by	Cheryl Green, Post-excavation Manager
Signed	
Date	30/05/17

Issue	01

ARCHAEOLOGICAL DETAILS

Client project/scheme ref.	N/A
Planning Application ref.	N/A
Local Planning Authority	South Somerset District Council
Historic Environment Record ref.	37338
Collecting Museum	SWHT
Museum accession code	TTNCM 8/2017
OASIS reference	contexto1-276064

C1 STAFF

Director, Historic Environment Consultant	Richard McConnell BA (Hons), MCIfA
Fieldwork Manager, Osteoarchaeologist	Stuart Milby BSc (Hons), MSc, PCIfA
Post-excavation Manager, Historic Buildings Archaeologist, Stone Specialist	Cheryl Green FSA, BA Hons, PhD, MCIfA
Illustrator, Project co-ordination, Historic Buildings Archaeologist	Tara Fairclough BA (Hons), PCIfA
Archaeological Officer, Animal bone Specialist, Archivist	Clare Randall FSA, BA (Hons), BSc (Hons), MSc, PhD, MCIfA
Senior Field Archaeologist	Peter Fairclough BA (Hons)

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Cover image: the Site following excavation, looking west. ©Context One Archaeological Services Ltd

Summary

Context One Heritage and Archaeology (C1) carried out the first part of a phased programme of archaeological field evaluation through trial trenching with a subsequent area excavation, in support of a planning application for a new silage storage area at Frogmary Farm, South Petherton, Somerset. The project was commissioned by Mr P Hanson of The Landscape Practice on behalf of their client, Frogmary Farm Limited (formerly Bragg Agricultural Services).

The evaluation was requested by the Local Planning Authority (LPA), South Somerset District Council (SSDC). Following the discovery of archaeology, it was agreed that targeted excavation should be carried out.

A number of features were identified, which included a ditch dating to the later Neolithic, or more likely the earlier Bronze Age, a ditch and kiln/furnace dating to the Romano-British period and an undated ditch and pits. Activity in the area in the earlier Neolithic and the Middle Bronze Age is also attested by the finds from the Site. In the later Romano-British period the area was probably part of an agricultural landscape, the features identified being involved in arable production and other small-scale industrial uses, and situated on the periphery of a settlement area. This is likely to relate to a previously known large deposit of settlement debris immediately south of the Site on the line of the A303. This Site, whilst producing a modest number of features and artefacts has provided useful information about the use of the local landscape in the Romano-British period and evidence for a previously unknown prehistoric land boundary or monument.

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1. Introduction

1.1 Context One Heritage and Archaeology (C1) carried out Phase One of an archaeological field evaluation through trial trenching, with additional targeted area excavation, in support of a planning application for a new silage storage area at Frogmary Farm, South Petherton, Somerset (the 'Site') (**Figure 1**). Phase Two of the field evaluation will be carried out at a later date. The project was commissioned by Mr P Hanson of The Landscape Practice on behalf of their client, Frogmary Farm Limited (formerly Bragg Agricultural Services).

1.2 The evaluation was requested by the Local Planning Authority (LPA), South Somerset District Council (SSDC) on the advice of Mr Steven Membery (Senior Historic Environment Officer, South West Heritage Trust (SWHT)). During an on-site meeting with Mr Membery, it was agreed that further mitigation would be required should the development proposals be approved. This took the form of targeted excavation across an area where archaeology was found, and ran consecutively from the evaluation.

1.3 The programme of archaeological works comprised five elements: the production of a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) which set out the project strategy; field evaluation through trial trenching; area excavation; post-excavation and report production (this document); and archive deposition.

1.4 The requirement follows advice by Central Government as set out in the *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF) (DCLG 2012).

2. The Site

2.1 The Site (centred on NGR ST 41983 15921) covers 2.8 hectares and is located *c.* 1km to the south-west of South Petherton, immediately north of the Ilminster bypass (A303) (**Figure 1**). Frogmary Farm is situated adjacent to a biodigester complex and is made up of a combination of pastoral and arable land, with the Site currently acting as a storage area for silage and spoil heaps. The Site largely occupies ground that slopes downwards to both the south and east and ranges from 58m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) to 64m aOD. The recorded geology for the Site is Bridport Sand Formation Sandstone (BGS, 2017) and the soils are freely draining slightly acid loam (CSAIS 2017).

2.2 The Site is surrounded by an 18th century turnpike road (**HER PRNs: 26166, 24692, 26178** & **24694**) and the Somerset Historic Environment Record (HER) lists several other monuments in the immediate vicinity. These include; a cropmark enclosure to the south-east (**HER PRN: 15857**); a later prehistoric cropmark enclosure (**HER PRN: 32981**) to the north-east; and perhaps most notably, a Roman settlement at Frogmary Lane, Seavington St Michael, to the south (**HER PRN: 55337**).

3. Archaeological aims and research objectives

3.1 The principal objectives of the evaluation were to:

- determine the presence or absence of archaeology on the site;
- determine the character of any archaeological remains;
- provide information about the character, date, integrity, state of preservation and quality of the archaeological resource, in accordance with *Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2014).;
- where possible, provide information regarding the extent of any archaeological remains observed within the evaluation trenching;
- recover environmental information, to provide further information relating to the former environment of the area;
- provide sufficient information to enable further mitigation strategies to be determined, where appropriate

3.2 The research objectives were to:

- determine whether there was any evidence specifically relating to the adjacent Roman settlement at Frogmary Lane;
- determine whether there was any evidence specifically relating to the prehistoric cropmarks noted on the HER

3.3 In the event, archaeological features were observed during the evaluation. Further objectives for the excavation phase were to:

- Fully characterise the nature and extent of the features encountered during the evaluation and more fully address the two research objectives

4. Methodology

4.1 All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) 2014a), *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation* (CIfA 2014b) and in accordance with the *Somerset County Council Heritage Service Archaeological Handbook* (2011). C1 adhered to the Code of Conduct of the CIfA (2014c), and Regulations for Professional Conduct (CIfA, 2014, rev. 2015) at all times during the course of the evaluation. The fieldwork methodology is summarised below.

4.2 C1 gave notification of the commencement of works to the SWHT, and arrangements were made for a representative to visit the Site. Mr Membury visited the Site on 14 March 2017 and agreed alterations to the schedule of evaluation trenches (Tr) to be excavated and the expansion of Tr5 to an area excavation.

4.3 The archaeological evaluation comprised 11 machine excavated trenches, each measuring 30m long x 1.6m wide. Originally there was an allocation of 17 trenches which equated to a 3% sample of the Site area. However, due to the Site currently being used as a silage store, the evaluation was split into two phases. Phase One saw the excavation of trenches 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16 and 17. It was intended to excavate three trenches (Trs 14, 15 & 18) in the south-western corner of the field but this was not possible as they were beneath existing spoil dumps. Trench 19 was added as a replacement. The remaining five trenches (Trs 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6) will be excavated in Phase Two, following removal of the silage. Initial results from Tr5 led to the decision to open a 20m x 30m area for excavation. All trenches and the excavation area were laid out according to a pre-defined trench plan (see **Figure 1**) using Ordnance Survey (OS) co-ordinates with a TopCon GRS1 RTK GPS unit.

4.4 A 360-degree tracked or 3CX (back hoe) type machine equipped with a toothless (grading) bucket, was used to remove topsoil/overburden under the constant supervision of C1 archaeological staff. Machine excavation continued until archaeological features or natural geology was encountered.

4.5 Once machine work was completed, the trenches were examined and, where necessary, cleaned using hand tools. Core details of each trench were recorded with a C1 digital evaluation trench sheet. This included logging a representative section of the trench to allow an understanding of the stratigraphy. A digital photograph of each trench in plan and a representative section was taken.

4.6 The excavation of each archaeological context was, wherever possible, carried out in such a way as to produce at least one representative cross-section. Small discrete features were fully excavated; larger discrete features half-sectioned (50% excavated); and long linear features were sample excavated along their length (usually a 10% sample) with investigative excavations distributed along the exposed length and to investigate relationships with other features.

4.7 All manually excavated archaeological features/deposits were recorded using standard C1 *pro-forma* feature intervention recording forms and/or context forms in digital format using iPad mini tablets. Stratigraphic relationships were recorded using a "Harris-Winchester matrix" diagram. Soil colours were logged using a Munsell soil colour chart. Features were drawn on dimensionally stable media at suitable scales, 1:20 for plans and 1:10 for sections. All archaeological remains were levelled to Ordnance Datum.

4.8 A photographic record of the evaluation and excavation was prepared, and involved the sole use of digital images. This included images illustrating both in detail, and general context, the principal features. The photographic record also included working shots to illustrate more generally the nature of the archaeological operation mounted.

4.9 Sampling for palaeoenvironmental material was carried out by members of the excavation team. The sampling strategy reflected the complexity of the site and its spatial and chronological extent. This strategy was determined using guidance set out by English Heritage (Campbell et al. 2011).

5. Results

5.1 The deposits and features encountered during the excavation are listed and described in **Appendix 1**, and summarized in **Table 1** & **2**. In the text, context numbers for cuts appear in square brackets, e.g. [1-004]; layer and fill numbers appear in standard brackets, e.g. (1-002). Numbers are prefixed with the recorder's personal identifying number. Features were also assigned a feature number which appear here prefaced with an F.

SOIL SEQUENCE AND GEOLOGY

5.2 The topsoil across all the evaluation trenches (e.g. 7-500, 7-600 etc) (**Plate 1** & **2**) was a friable dark grey sandy silty clay with occasional small angular stones, with a more compacted dark greyish brown sandy clay with occasional small angular sandstone fragments in Tr8 (7-800). The topsoil was uniformly 0.30-0.40m deep. This overlay a subsoil (e.g. 7-501, 7-901 etc) of firm yellow sand or yellowish brown sandy silt with variable amounts of small rounded to angular sandstone pieces and ironstone, generally 0.50-0.60m deep, slightly shallower in Tr9 (0.40m), and deeper in Tr13 (0.80m). This subsoil overlay natural deposits of generally firm brownish yellow sand and clay with small rounded sandstones and ironstone or yellowish brown sandy silt with angular gravels (e.g. 7-502, 7-902 etc).

5.3 A number of archaeological features and deposits were identified under the subsoil in Tr 5, Tr8 and Tr9, and in the area excavation centred on Tr5. Some of these could be assigned a likely date based on finds within their fills or by stratigraphic relationships.

5.4 *Prehistoric*

A single large ditch F7 can be assigned to the prehistoric period on the basis of pottery and flint which likely dates to the later Neolithic or earlier Bronze Age. The ditch comprised a substantial linear cut on an east to west alignment, running along the length of the excavation area (**Figure 2; Plate 3**). The cut had steep straight sides and flat base, measuring 1.81-1.90m wide and 1.05-1.25m deep. The ditch was examined in two interventions (cuts [3-2103] and [7-2003]) and generally contained a series of three fills (**Figure 3; Plate 4**). These were sandy silts of a range of yellowish brown hues, with variable amounts of sub-rounded quartz. The primary fills varied in the two interventions with (3-2104) (0.04m thick) and (7-2004) (0.35m thick), and the latter context containing prehistoric pottery and flint. The secondary fills (3-2105) and (7-2005) were similar sandy silts, up to 0.54m thick. Fill (3-2106), a friable brownish sand distributed along the northern side of intervention [3-2103], may represent a collapse of the edge of the feature, indicating that it was long enough to be subject to weathering. The final fills, (3-2107) and (7-2006), had little evidence of laminations and were evidently formed rapidly. All of the ditch fills were derived from the surrounding natural deposits and there was little evidence of them incorporating large amounts of charcoal or other organic material.

Romano-British

5.5 Two features in Tr5 (and seen more extensively in the expanded excavation trench) could be assigned to the Romano-British period, a ditch and a kiln/furnace. Ditch F2 (**Figures 2** & **3**; **Plate 5**) examined in two interventions ([7-504] and [7-509]) was positioned on an east-north-east to west-south-west alignment, and had moderate straight sides and sloping base, measuring 1.30m wide and 0.38-0.55m deep. This had a single fill (contexts (7-503) and (7-508)), a dark greyish brown silty clay (**Plate 6**). This contained pottery and residual flint. A kiln or furnace, F3, was positioned over the ditch. The cut constituted a key-hole shape [7-510], having an overall length of 0.98m with the chamber positioned over the infilled ditch F2 (**Figure 2**; **Plate 7**), apparently utilising the depression afforded by the upper fill. The flue pointed north, and the whole feature was shallow, at 0.15m deep. The fills comprised the heat-affected natural deposits around the flue (7-506),

with the primary fill a reddish black sandy clay with frequent charcoal (7-505), up to 0.13m thick, and a final fill (7-507) of dark yellowish brown sandy clay, up to 0.15m thick. A series of eight stake-holes were positioned around the outline of the flue ([2-2000] – [2-2007]), with four along the west side, two positioned at the north end, beyond the cut of the flue, and two along the east side (**Figure 3**; **Plate 8**). A further stake-hole [2-2008] was positioned within base of the flue at the north end. These were between 0.05m and 0.07m in diameter, and varied in depth between 0.02m and 0.16m. They appear to relate to a superstructure over the flue constructed of stakes pushed into the ground to a variable degree, although the shallowness of a couple of the stakes might indicate that some truncation of deposits has taken place. The stake-holes were filled with a light olive brown sandy silt with charcoal flecks (contexts (2-2009) to (2-2017)), which was the same in each stake-hole, and probably was derived from the remnants of the materials used in the kiln construction.

Undated

5.6 Two undated pits were located in Tr9 and an undated ditch in Tr8. The ditch, F5 (**Figures 2** & **3**; **Plate 9**), examined in a single intervention [7-804] was aligned west-north-west to east-south-east and had moderate straight to slightly concave sides and a concave base, measuring 1.0m wide and 0.30m deep. This had a single fill of dark greyish brown silty clay (7-803), but no dateable finds were recovered. Pit F1 (**Figures 2** & **3**; **Plate 10**) was a sub-circular cut [7-904] on a north-east to south-west alignment, measuring 0.95m x 0.49m with steep straight sides and curving base, and 0.51m deep. This had a single fill (7-903) of dark yellowish brown sandy silt and contained frequent charcoal lumps and flecks. The adjacent, smaller, pit F6 (**Figures 2** & **3**; **Plate 11**) was a sub-circular cut [7-906] on a north-east to south-west alignment, measuring 0.46m x 0.26m, having steep straight sides and a concave base and 0.12m deep. It contained a single fill (7-905) of dark yellowish brown sandy silt with frequent charcoal lumps and flecks. Both of these features appear to have been filled in single depositional events. A large deposit in the south-western part of the excavation, F8 (**Figure 2**; **Plate 12**) was thought to be a pond, but is most likely of modern origin; excavation was discontinued due to acrid fumes.

Table 1. Feature summary

FEATURE TYPE	EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE	NO. OF FEATURES	FEATURE/ & CUT NUMBERS
Ditches		1	Exc F7 [3-2103] (3-2104) (3-2105) (3-2106) (3-2107) [7-2003] (7-2004) (7-2005) (7-2006)
	Romano-British	1	Tr5 F2 [7-504] (7-503) [7-509] (7-508) Exc F2
	Undated	1	Tr8 - F5 [7-804] (7-803)
Deposit	?Modern	1	Exc F8 (7-2014)
Kiln/furnace Associated Stake-holes	?Romano-British	1	Tr5 F3 [7-510] (7-505) (7-506) (7-507) Exc F9 [2-2000] (2-2009) [2-2001] (2-2010) [2-2002] (2-2011) [2-2003] (2-2012) [2-2004] (2-2013) [2-2005] (2-2014) [2-2006] (2-2015) [2-2007] (2-2016) [2-2008] (2-2017)
Pit	Undated	2	Tr9 F1 [7-904] (7-903)
			Tr9 F6 [7-906} (7-905)

Table 2. Feature & context information

FEATURE NO.	CONTEXT NO'S & DESCRIPTION	FIGURE & PLATE REFS	FINDS
Ditches			
Tr5/Exc -F2	[7-504] (7-503) [7-509] (7-508) Linear cut on a ENE-WSW alignment, with moderate straight sides and sloping base. 1.30m wide and 0.38-0.55m deep with a single fill of 10 YR 4/2 soft dark greyish brown silty clay with occasional rounded sandstone fragments <0.10m. [7-2007] (7-2008) (7-2009) [7-2010] (7-2011) [7-2012] (7-2013) Linear cut on a E-W to NE-SW alignment with steep straight to moderate concave sides and flat or sloping base, generally with a single fill of 10 YR 5/4 soft yellowish brown or 10 YR 4/6 friable dark yellowish brown sandy silt with variable sandstone inclusions. A secondary fill of 10 YR 4/6 friable dark yellowish brown sandy silt occurred in intervention [7-2007].	Figure 2 & 3; Plates 5 & 6	Pottery and flint
Exc F7	[3-2103] (3-2104) (3-2105) (3-2106) (3-2107) [7-2003] (7-2004) (7-2005) (7-2006) Linear cut on a E-W alignment with steep straight sides and flat base, 1.81-1.90m wide and 1.05-1.25m deep. A primary silt of (3-2104) 2.5 YR 5/4 friable light olive brown sandy silt, 0.04m thick or (7-2004) 10 YR 4/6 firm dark	Figure 2 & 3; Plates 3 & 4	Pottery and flint

	yellowish brown sandy silt with occasional sub-rounded quartz fragments <0.01m, 0.35m thick. The secondary fills, (3-2105) 10 YR 5/6 friable yellowish brown sandy silt, or (7-2005) 10 YR 4/6 firm dark yellowish brown sandy silt with occasional sub-rounded quartz fragments <0.005m, 0.31-0.54m thick, and (3-2106) 10 YR 6/4 friable brownish yellow silty sand along the northern side of [3-2103]. The final fills comprised (3-2107) 10 YR 6/6 friable brownish yellow silty sand, and (7-2006) 10 YR 4/6 firm dark yellowish brown sandy silt with occasional sub-rounded quartz fragments <0.02m.,0.35-0.72m thick with few visible laminations - rapid deposit.		
Tr 8 -F5	[7-804] (7-803) Linear cut on a WNW-ESE alignment with moderate straight-slightly concave sides and concave base 1.0m wide and 0.30m deep with a single fill of 10 YR 4/2 Soft dark greyish brown silty clay with occasional rounded sandstone fragments <0.10m.	Figure 2; Plate 9	NA
Deposit			
Exc F8	(7-2014) 10 YR 6/8 Firm yellowish brown silty sand with occasional angular & rounded sandstone fragments. Area of waterlogged ground not fully excavated.	Figure 2	NA
Kiln/furnace and stake-holes			
Tr5 F3	[7-510] (7-505) (7-506) (7-507) Linear cut on a NW-SE alignment with moderate concave sides and flat base, 0.98m long and 0.15m deep. The heat affected boundary of the cut with the underlying natural deposits (7-506) was 10 4/8 firm red silty clay. This was filled with a primary fill (7-507) of 7.5 YR 2.5/1 firm reddish black sandy clay with frequent charcoal, and an overlying fill (7-505) of 10 YR 4/4 firm dark yellowish brown silty clay, with frequent limestone fragments <0.50m.	Figures 2 & 3; Plate 7 & 8	NA
Exc – F9	[2-2000] (2-2009) [2-2001] (2-2010) [2-2002] (2-2011) [2-2003] (2-2012) [2-2004] (2-2013) [2-2005] (2-2014) [2-2006] (2-2015) [2-2007] (2-2016) [2-2008] (2-2017) Stake-holes, largely vertical of 0.05-0.07m in diameter and 0.02-0.16m deep filled with single fills of a uniform nature of 10 YR 5/4 Firm Light olive brown sandy silt with charcoal flecks.	Figures 2 & 3; Plate 7 & 8	NA
Pit			
Tr9 – F1	[7-904] (7-903) Sub-circular cut on a NE-SW alignment, with steep straight sides and curving base, 0.95m x 0.49m and 0.51m deep with a single fill of 10YR 4/6 soft dark yellowish brown sandy silt with occasional rounded sandstone fragments <0.05m, frequent charcoal lumps and flecks.	Figures 2 & 3; Plate 10	NA
TR9 – F6	[7-906} (7-905) Sub-circular cut on a NE-SW alignment, with steep straight sides and concave base 0.46m x 0.26m and 0.12m deep with a single fill of 10YR 4/6 Soft dark yellowish brown sandy silt with occasional rounded sandstone fragments <0.05m, frequent charcoal lumps and flecks.	Figures 2 & 3; Plate 11	NA

6. The finds

6.1 A small assemblage of artefacts was recovered during the archaeological investigations. These included pottery, fired clay, flint, worked stone and slag, most of which came from the two ditches, F2 and F7. The pottery, flint and worked stone were washed, air-dried and bagged in preparation for assessment.

THE POTTERY, BY RICHARD TABOR

6.2 The prehistoric pottery comprised six wall sherds weighing 17g, all from (7-2005) in ditch F7, deriving from two vessels. Two 13mm thick sherds included common grog (<3mm) and rare flint (<2mm). In contrast four sherds from a vessel of indeterminate thickness included abundant fine to medium (<2mm) and sparse coarse burnt angular flint and sparse grog (<3mm). The inclusions of the flint in the first group are like to be incidental rather than deliberate inclusions, whereas those in the second group are plainly deliberate additives. In either case the sherds would appear to have been made from non-local, imported fabrics. The use of grog is prevalent in the earlier Bronze Age in this part of Somerset and is associated in particular with Beaker pottery. However, flint tends to be a feature of Middle to Late Neolithic pottery in the area and offers a more probable date of manufacture.

6.3 The assemblage of Roman pottery comprised 17 sherds weighing 372g derived from two stratified contexts and one unstratified. The fabrics ranged from fine sandy to medium quartz. Three quartzitic sherds also included grog.

6.4 The diagnostic forms from (7-503) in ditch F2 include a large dropped flange mortarium with traces of an off-white coat, a sharply everted rim and an out-curving rim below which is the scar of a dropped flange. A large

wall sherd is from a coarse grey ware storage jar. A shoulder fragment is in South West White Slip Ware, a fabric circulating from the South West peninsula to Wiltshire during the later 2nd and early 3rd centuries (Tomber and Dore 1998, 192). The everted rim is unlikely to be earlier than the third century and a mid- to late 3rd century date would be appropriate for the coated mortarium fragment (Leach 1982, 155).

6.5 There were no diagnostic forms from (7-2008) in F2, but the sherds included diagnostically mid-third to late fourth century fabrics. New Forest ware included a single wall fragment from an indented beaker and one from a parchment ware vessel. A coarse grey ware sherd derived from a large storage jar of similar date.

References

Leach, P. 1982, *Ilchester, volume 1. Excavations 1974-5*. Western Archaeological Trust

Tomber, R and Dore, R, 1998, *The National Roman Fabric Collection: A handbook*. London

THE FLINT, BY RICHARD TABOR

6.6 The flint assemblage comprised 16 pieces weighing a total of 144g. Ten pieces (97g) were from (7-2005) in ditch F7, three(13g) from (7-2008) in ditch F2, and three were unstratified finds (34g). Three fragments from (7-2005) had lost their structure due to exposure to intense heat and two from (7-2008) were heat affected. The remaining material is discussed by context.

Context (7-2005) Ditch F7

6.7 There were two pieces of cherty flint, although the grain of one was relatively fine, the remainder coming from further afield. Six fragments retained cortex and one was free of cortex. Four pieces retained whole or partial butts of which two displayed abrasion characteristic of core preparation. Wear on one edge of a granular cherty piece with a broad flat butt indicated its use as a cutting tool. One of the pieces with an abraded butt had narrow blade scars and appeared to have had a distal point which had been damaged. The other piece with an abraded butt was a long blade with traces of wear along most of both edges. Whilst long blades can occur in the later Neolithic the abrasion of the butt is consistent with an earlier date, although it should be noted that it is not in fresh condition, hence may not date the context.

Context (7-2008) Ditch F2

6.8 The single unheated fragment was of cherty flint. It had a broad cortical butt which may indicate post Neolithic technology but may equally reflect the poor mechanical properties of the granular material.

Unstratified

6.9 No cherty flint was represented. Two pieces retained some cortex, the third did not. All were worked. A scraper with a flat, 6mm wide, cortical butt had abrupt retouch at its distal end and slight invasive direct retouch on most of one uncorticated side. The unworked edge retained thick cortex. The abrupt retouch implies an Early to Middle Neolithic date. The second piece with cortex had been blunted on all sides by abrupt direct retouch, leading to the complete removal of the butt to give multiple scraping edges. On one side the removal of a spall formed a point. Scars indicated that the tool derived from blade core, probably of Early Neolithic date. The material was fresh allowing that its modification occurred during the initial period of use. The technological expertise exercised on the two scrapers contrasted with the opportunistic coarse, indirect spalling which enhanced a haphazardly created point. The working is unlikely to pre-date the Middle Bronze Age.

Assessment of the assemblage

6.10 The cherty flints may derive from material associated with nearby Pennant sands. The remaining material is from further field, possibly Wiltshire or Dorset. There was no primary material indicative of first stage reduction of a core, hence nothing to indicate that material was brought to site in nodules. Two of the unstratified pieces had earlier Neolithic traits and if allowance is made for the technological limits imposed by granular material the same is true of the small assemblage from (7-2005).

WORKED STONE, BY CHERYL GREEN

6.11 Two stone objects were recovered during the excavation, both from the upper fill (7-2008) of a Romano-British ditch F2. This report follows recommendations for recording stone objects as set out in *The Archaeology of Stone: A report for English Heritag*e (Peacock 1998, table 7.2).

6.12 A large piece of wackestone (SF 2) was roughly squared with two straight edges and a relatively smooth upper and lower surface, measuring 0.14m by 0.12m and 0.09m deep (3kg). The other two sides exhibited fairly clean, unweathered breaks. One surface was covered in peck marks as if from a small-headed chisel, and the grey fabric was reddened probably from being exposed to high temperatures. A small hand-held blue lias whetstone or rubber was broken into eleven fragments weighing a total of 164g. The six larger fragments fitted together, indicating a tapering object measuring over 0.09m long, 0.035m wide and 0.028m deep. The remaining 5 smaller fragments displayed traits that link them to the same object. Excepting the base, which was flat and rough, the edges and surface had a rounded profile and were worn smooth. Both objects were likely to have been associated with the finishing of metal objects.

6.13 It is recommended that both objects are retained for long-term curation as they could be of research interest should comparable material be found in the environs in the future.

References

Peacock, D. 1998 *The Archaeology of Stone: A report for English Heritag*e. English Heritage

THE OTHER FINDS, BY CHERYL GREEN

6.14 Two metal working residues were recovered during the excavation and evaluation. The largest piece (weighing 408g) was derived from a modern deposit (7-2014), with a mixed composition of burnt clay and patches of aeration. The smaller fragment (weighing 6g) was recovered from the fill (7-503) of the Romano-British ditch F2. This had a vitreous appearance and represents a hardened molten trail associated with metalworking. Both residues were likely to have resulted from the working of iron.

6.15 A total of 8 fragments (33g) of fired clay were recovered from the secondary fill (7-2005) of a prehistoric ditch F7. No distinguishing features were present on the surfaces, however there are different degrees of burning varying from blackened to a burnished red.

6.16 It is recommended that the metal working residues are retained for long-term curation as they could be of future research interest.

THE PLANT REMAINS, BY ALYS VAUGHN-WILLIAMS

6.17 This report presents the findings of the analysis of archaeobotanical material recovered during excavations of a Bronze Age and Romana-British site at Frogmary Farm (FSS 17). Nine bulk samples producing charred material were analysed for this report. The aim of this analysis was to identify (1) the function of the contexts sampled; (2) spatial and temporal variation; and (3) evidence relating to the environment.

6.18 The bulk samples were processed by flotation at C1 using 250 micron and 1mm mesh sieves. The dried residues were sorted by eye. The flots were sorted and identifications were made under a low power zoom-stereo microscope. Identifications were made with reference to a personal modern seed reference collection, Capers et al. (2006), Berggren (1981) and Anderberg (1994). Plant nomenclature follows Stace (1997). The results are presented in **Appendix 2**.

Bronze Age

6.19 Two samples from ditch F7 were sampled: sample 7-8 (3-107) and sample 7-9 (7-2005). Sample 7-8 contained occasional grains of wheat (*Triticum* sp.) and one spelt wheat spikelet (*Triticum spelta*). Sample 7-9 contained two grains of barley (*Hordeum* sp.).

Romano-British

6.20 Sample 7-1 (7-503) in ditch F2 contained just one seed from the grass family (*Poaceae* sp.). Sample 7-7 (7-2008) produced a moderately diverse assemblage containing occasional wheat grains and one spelt spikelet,

plus arable weed seeds including goosefoot (Chenopodium sp.), black bindweed (*Fallopia convolvulus*) and bedstraw (*Galium* sp.). Two sloe (*Prunus spinosa*) fruit stones were also preserved.

6.21 Three samples were taken from hearth/kiln F3 [7-510], from contexts (7-505) and (7-507). All three assemblages were dominated by barley grain. Two internodes were also present, one of which was identifiable as cf. 6-row barley (cf. *Hordeum distichon*). Wheat grain was absent but occasional glume bases of spelt wheat were present along with occasional seeds from the grass family. A capsule and seed of wild radish (*Raphanus raphanistrum*) was present in sample 7-6 (7-507). In addition, waste ground / weed seeds were occasional with orache (*Atriplex* sp.), fat hen (*Chenopodium album*) and black bindweed (*Fallopia convolvulus*).

Undated

6.22 Sample 7-2 from pit F1 (7-903) contained occasional grass seeds, one rye seed (*Secale* sp.) and a couple of possible cotyledons from the pea family (Fabaceae) and seeds from the goosefoot family (Chenopodiaceae).

6.23 The archaeobotanical material from these features indicate both spelt wheat and barley were consumed at this site during the Bronze Age. The Romano-British hearth feature [7-510] is a kiln-shaped flue. These kilns were commonly used to parch or dry harvests prior to storage. This served to provide protection from fungal attacks and grain weevil infestations if stored in the spikelet; aid processing (separation of the grain from the chaff); and harden clean grain to aid milling (Van der Veen, 1989).

6.24 The barley was poorly preserved suggesting it had undergone several burning episodes. There was no evidence of grain germination, which can be an indication of malting, although as mentioned the standard of preservation was low. There was also not enough chaff to positively identify the barley species, although the presence of spelt wheat chaff indicates it was cultivated and processed locally.

6.25 Barley was primarily cultivated as a fodder crop and therefore not dried. When it is dried, it is generally an indication of roasting for malting (Hillman, 1982). The fact these grains were so damaged indicates they had remained in the hearth through several drying events. In the absence of malting evidence, it is most probable that the barley represents a spoilt crop that was used as kindling on the fire along with other crop-processing by-products like chaff and arable weed seeds as found at other sites including in various sites in Warwickshire (Palmer, 2006) and in Bathwick (Vaughan-Williams, 2016).

6.26 The remains of sloe stones is a common occurrence with the fruit being harvested from the wild more frequently than today for consumption.

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7. Discussion and conclusion

7.1 The finds from the Site span from the Early Neolithic to the Romano-British period. The flint assemblage, although small covers from the earlier Neolithic to the Middle Bronze Age, whilst the pottery dates from the later Neolithic and/or earlier Bronze Age and the Romano-British period. Three features could be assigned a phase on the basis of the finds.

7.2 Ditch F7 contained a small amount of pottery and flint which has its best local affinities with the later Neolithic or Earlier Bronze Age. The small amounts involved cannot firmly date this ditch to this early date; linear ditches in the area are generally not seen until the latter part of the earlier Bronze Age. As the full extent and plan of this feature is unknown there remains a possibility that it relates to a monument of the later Neolithic. However, the fragmentary state of the pottery implies that it was redeposited, although its fragility suggests this was from close by. The generally unenhanced nature of the fills also supports a contention that the ditch was dug at a relatively early date, and therefore may be analogous to earlier Bronze Age linears known in southern Somerset (e.g. in the South Cadbury area (Tabor 2008)). The small amount of spelt wheat and barley present imply that habitation was probably not far away.

7.3 The Middle Bronze Age flint was recovered from unstratified locations after Site clearance, but there was no indication that any of the undated features might relate to this date. There appears to have then been a hiatus in the use of the area until the later Romano-British period.

7.4 Ditch F2 contained pottery dated to the 2ndor 3rd centuries AD and ran across the Site on an east-west alignment. The similarity of the alignment with the Bronze Age ditch F7 might imply that this was still visible when the later ditch was laid out, and influenced its alignment. The Bronze Age ditch may have been present as a depression, although the lack of Romano-British finds in the upper fills might argue against this.

7.5 The minimal amount of Romano-British material in ditch F2, and further lack in the overlying kiln/furnace (F3/F9) appears to imply that these features were in a peripheral location in relation to settlement, with far less material available for deposition/disposal. The plant remains from the kiln, suggest that it was used for the drying of crops (but not malting), and could be regarded as a corn drier. However, the repeated burning of some of the material also implies it may have been used as fuel, suggesting the kiln/furnace was intended for other processes. Indeed, evidence for very small-scale metal working is suggested by two worked stone objects and a couple of samples of iron working residues. Also, the flue of the kiln/ furnace was enclosed by a stake-structure, which would have created a strong draw and enabled sufficiently high temperatures to be reached for metal working. The plants represented are a typical selection of crop parts and weed seeds for the period and location. The weeds of arable and disturbed ground indicate that production and processing probably took place nearby.

7.6 The ditch F5, positioned to the south-west remained undated. However, the fills, scale, and profile of this linear had affinity with the Romano-British ditch F2, and it is likely that F5 dates to this period. Given the low density of finds in F2, it is unsurprising that there was nothing recovered from F5 given the scale of the intervention. The two pits, F1 and F6, isolated from other features but close to each other, both seem to have been filled in single events involving processes which created charcoal. Neither produced finds, but could be contemporary with the later Romano-British activity represented by the kiln/ furnace. Pit F1 produced a

couple of possible pea family cotyledons; this supports a later date for the feature, as generally the pea family occurs in contexts later than the mid-1st millennium BC.

7.7 It is highly likely that the Romano-British activity on the Site relates to a thick deposit of Roman settlement debris along the line of the A303 at Frogmary Lane, Seavington St Michael (HER PRN: 55337), only *c*. 100-150m to the south-west of the Site. This produced material of a similar 2nd-4th AD century date (Croft 1987). The prehistoric activity on the Site may relate to cropmarks situated a few hundred meters to the east (HER Nos 15857; 32981; 53414 & 55339), although these are largely undated. A Bronze Age palstave and later Bronze Age ring were found in the area in 1842 (HER No 53449).

7.8 In summary, this project has identified a ditch dating to the later Neolithic, or more likely the Bronze Age, which would have been a significant feature in its landscape. Some activity of the earlier Neolithic and the Middle Bronze Age is attested by the finds from the Site, although contemporary features were not identified. A hiatus in use of the area then occurred until the mid- Romano-British period, when the area was probably part of an agricultural landscape, the features identified being involved in arable production and other industrial uses, situated on the periphery of a settlement area. This Site, whilst producing a modest number of features and artefacts has provided useful information about the use of the local landscape in the Romano-British period and evidence for a previously unknown prehistoric land boundary or monument.

7.9 Further consideration of these features and finds should be made once Phase Two of the evaluation is completed in the north part of the field.

8. Archive

8.1 The NPPF requires that an archaeological archive arising from development works is made publicly accessible (para. 141). The archive comprises two parts: the paper/digital archive including site records and images; and the artefact/ecofact assemblage. Specialists have recommended retention of the physical archive for further study.

8.2 The archive generated from recording archaeological features/deposits, consisting of born-digital data and digital copies of drawings produced during fieldwork, will be transferred into the care of South West Heritage Trust according to their prevailing guidelines. A digital copy of the report will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service, via OASIS (On-line Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations – http://oasis.ac.uk/england/).

8.3 The artefact/ecofact assemblage is the legal property of the landowner (excluding any items that fall under The Treasure Act 1996). It is usual practice for the landowner to transfer ownership of this assemblage to a receiving institution (usually a museum) once it has been fully assessed and/or analysed. Receiving institutions store the assemblage and make it publicly accessible. Alternatively, the landowner can choose to keep the assemblage, but arrangements must be made to ensure its long-term curation and public accessibility in accordance with NPPF.

8.4 Regardless of the destination of the artefact/ecofact assemblage, an ordered archive will be prepared in accordance with prevailing standards for deposition (Museum and Galleries Commission, 1992).

8.5 Archive deposition will ordinarily be carried out within three months of final report completion. In this case, this timescale will take into account subsequent phases of work.

8.6 A copy of this report will be provided to the client/agent and to the SWHT so that it can be included as part of the county Historic Environment Record.

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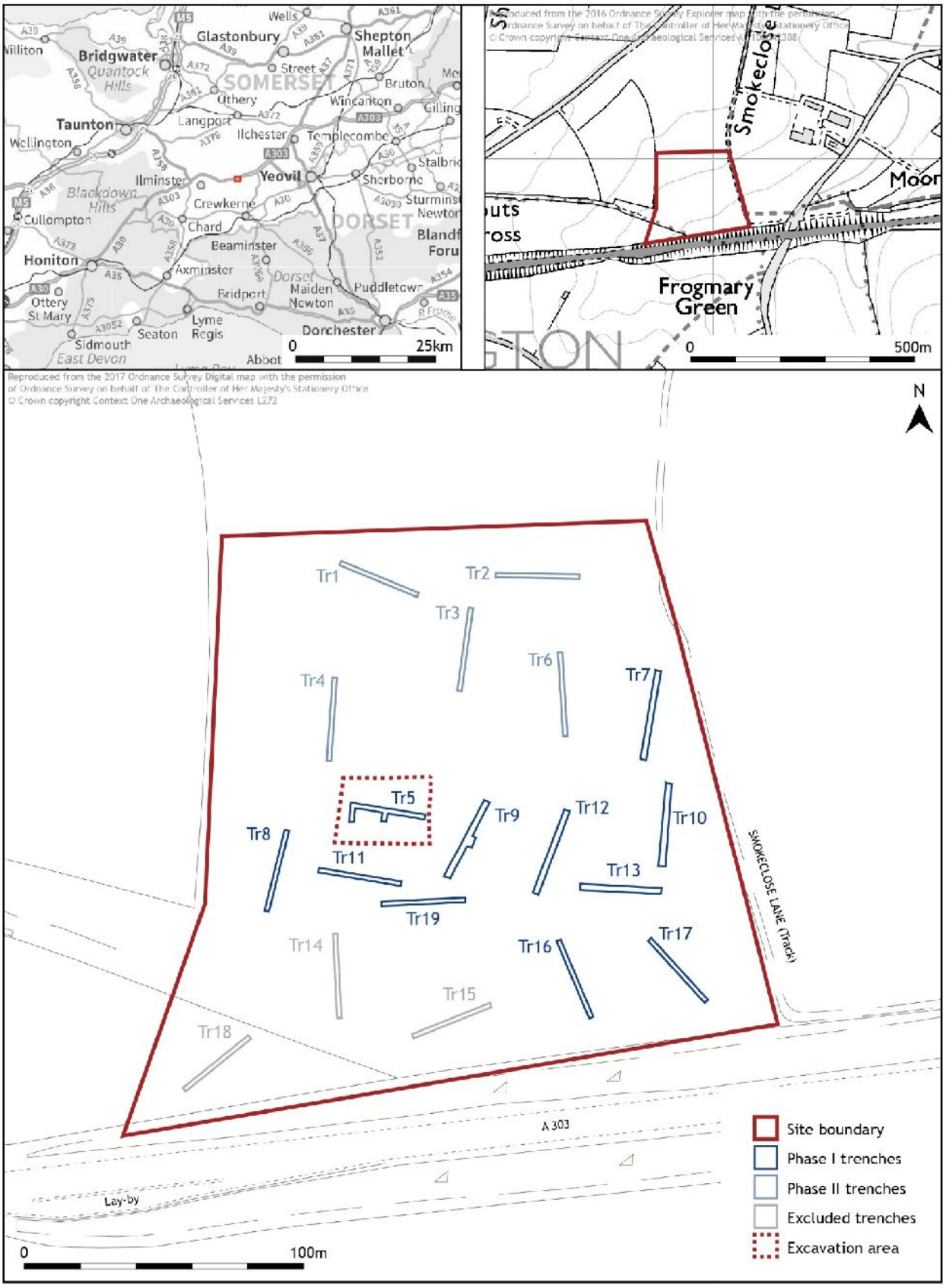


Figure 1. Site setting, trench locations & excavation area

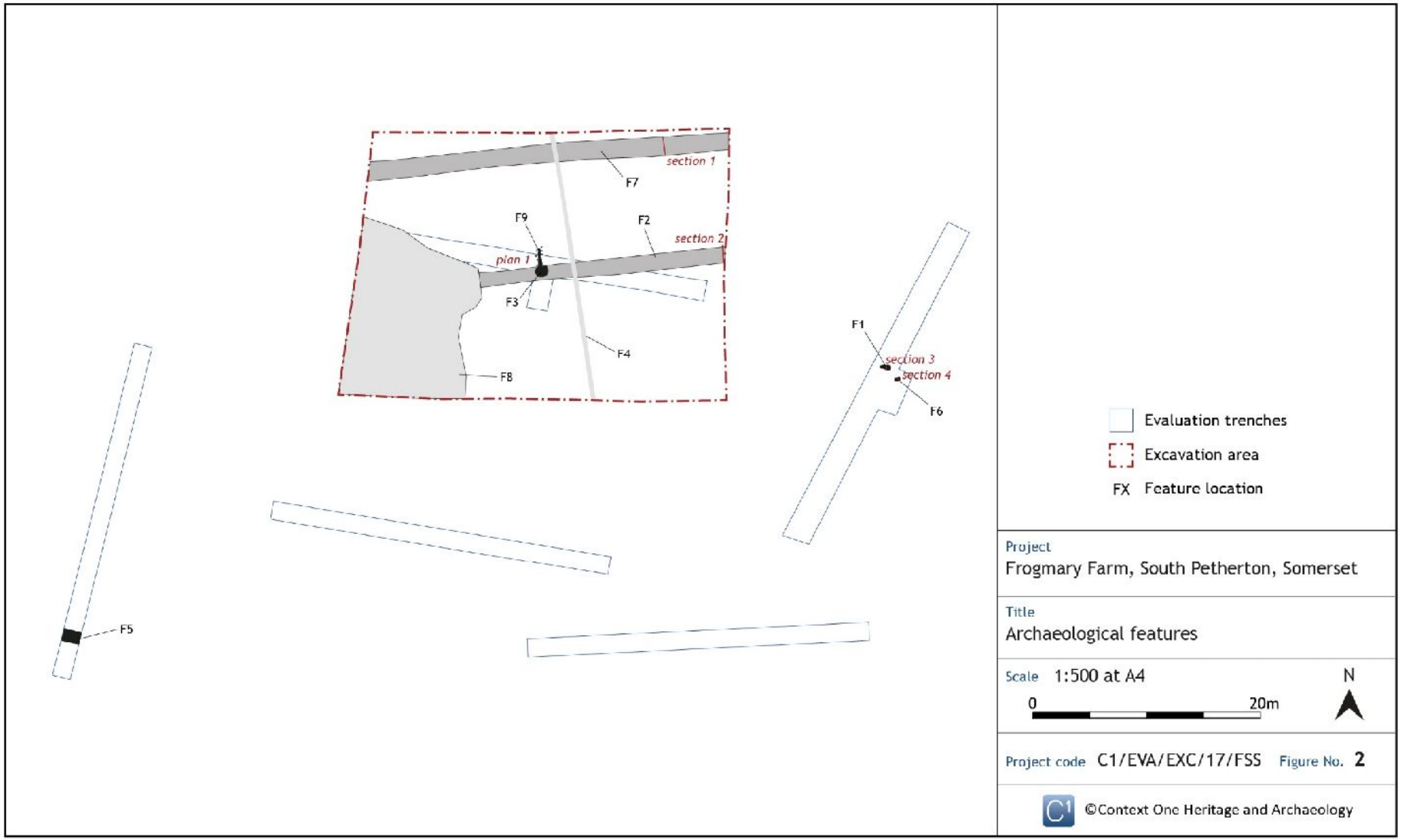
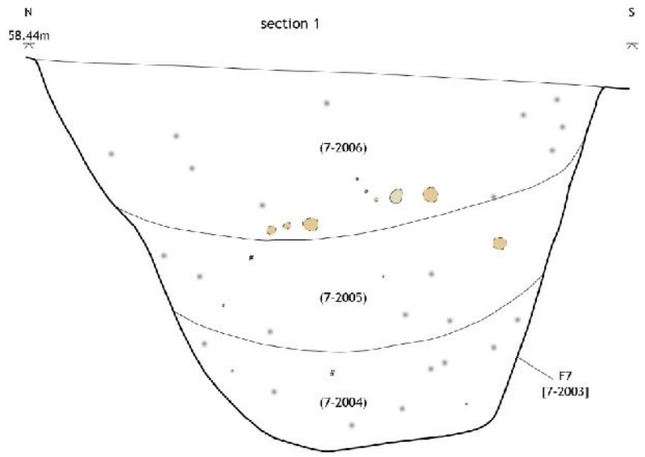
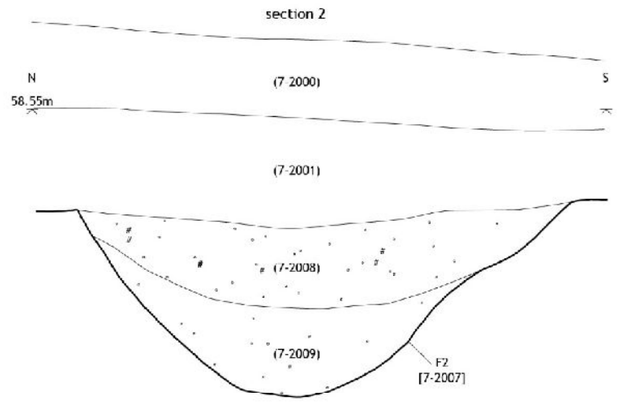
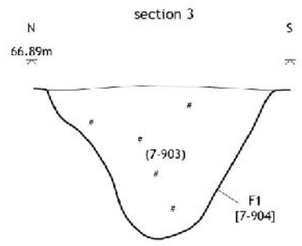
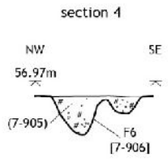


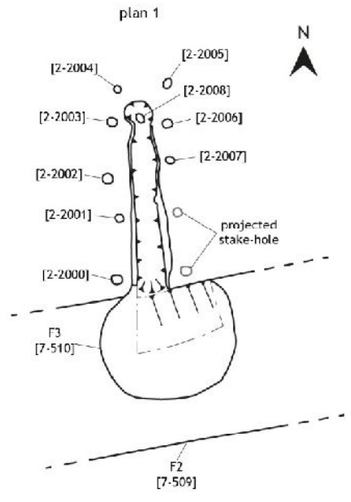
Figure 2. Archaeological features











section key:
- sandstone fragment
- sand
- charcoal

Project
Frogmary Farm, South Petherton, Somerset

Title
Sections 1 - 4 and plan 1

Scale plan 1:50 0 2m
sections 1:20 0 1m

Project code C1/EVA/EXC/17/FSS Figure No. 3

Figure 3. Site setting and trench locations

Plate 1. Profile Tr 8 (facing W; 1m scale)

Plate 2. Profile Tr 10 (facing E; 1m scale)

Plate 3. Ditch F7 pre-excavation (facing E; 0.5m & 1m scales)

Plate 4. Ditch F7 section [7-2003] (facing E; 1m scale)

Plate 5. Ditch F2 with Tr5 (facing WSW; 0.50m & 1m scales)

Plate 6. Ditch F2 (facing E; 2m scale)

Plate 7. Kiln/furnace F3 (facing W; 2m scale)

Plate 8. Kiln/furnace F3 & stake-holes F9 (facing S; 2m scale)

Plate 9. Ditch F5 (facing NW; 0.20 & 1m scales)

Plate 10. Pit F1 (facing N; 0.20m & 0.50m scales)

Plate 11. Pit F6 (facing NE; 0.20m scale)

Plate 12. Deposit F8 (facing S; 1m scale)

Appendix 1: Context summary

CONTEXT NO.	PERIOD	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	EARLIER THAN	CONTEMP. WITH	LATER THAN	LENGTH	WIDTH/ DIAMETER	THICKNESS/ DEPTH (m)
Trench 5 – 30m long x 1.6m wide									
(7-500)	Modern	Layer	Topsoil. 10 YR 4/1 Friable dark grey sandy silty clay with occasional angular stones <0.10m	NA		(7-501)	30m	1.6m	0.40m
(7-501)	Modern	Layer	Subsoil. 10 YR 7/6 Firm yellow sand with occasional rounded sandstone fragments <0.20m and occasional ironstone fragments <0.05m	(7-500)		(7-502)	30m	1.6m	0.60m
(7-502)	Geological	Layer	Natural 10 YR 6/8 Firm brownish yellow sand and clay with occasional rounded sandstone fragments <0.20m and occasional ironstone fragments <0.05m	(7-501)		NA	30m	1.6m	>0.20m
(7-503)	RB	Fill	Ditch fill. 10 YR 4/2 Soft dark greyish brown silty clay with occasional rounded sandstone fragments <0.10m	(7-501)	(7-508)	[7-504]	>7.70m	1.30m	0.38m
[7-504]	RB	Cut	Ditch. Linear cut on a ENE-WSW alignment, with moderate straight sides and sloping/tapering base.	(7-503)	[7-509]	(7-502)	>7.70m	1.30m	0.38m
(7-505)	RB or later	Fill	Hearth/kiln fill. 10 YR 4/4 Firm dark yellowish brown silty clay, with frequent limestone fragments <0.50m	(7-501)		(7-507)	1.30m	0.30m	0.15m
(7-506)	RB or later	Fill	Hearth/kiln fill. 10 4/8 Firm red silty clay. The heat affected boundary of the feature cut with the underlying natural deposits.	(7-507)		[7-510]	1.30m	0.03m	0.04m
(7-507)	RB or later	Fill	Hearth/kiln fill. 7.5 YR 2.5/1 Firm reddish black sandy clay with frequent charcoal	(7-505)		[7-510]	1.30m	0.98m	0.13m
(7-508)	RB	Fill	Ditch fill. 10 YR 4/2 Soft dark greyish brown silty clay with occasional rounded sandstone fragments <0.10m	[7-510]	(7-503)	[7-509]	>7.70m	1.30m	0.55m
[7-509]	RB	Cut	Ditch. Linear cut on a ENE-WSW alignment, with moderate straight sides and sloping/ base.	(7-508)	[7-504]	(7-502)	>7.70m	1.30m	0.55m
[7-510]	RB or later	Cut	Hearth/kiln. Linear cut on a NW-SE alignment with moderate concave sides and flat base	(7-506)		(7-502)	>2.40m	0.98m	0.15m
Trench 7 – 30m long x 1.6m wide									
(7-700)	Modern	Layer	Topsoil. 10 YR 4/1 Friable dark grey sandy silty clay with occasional angular stones <0.10m	NA		(7-701)	30m	1.6m	0.30m
(7-701)	Modern	Layer	Subsoil. 10 YR 7/6 Firm yellow sand with occasional rounded sandstone fragments <0.20m and occasional ironstone fragments <0.05m	(7-700)		(7-702)	30m	1.6m	0.60m
(7-702)	Geological	Layer	Natural. 10 YR 6/8 Firm brownish yellow sand and clay with occasional rounded sandstone fragments <0.20m and occasional ironstone fragments <0.05m	(7-701)		NA	30m	1.6m	>0.30m
Trench 8 – 30m long x 1.6m wide									
(7-800)	Modern	Layer	Topsoil. 10 YR 4/2 Compacted dark greyish brown sandy clay with occasional angular sandstone fragments <0.10m	NA		(7-801)	30m	1.6m	0.40m

(7-801)	Modern	Layer	Subsoil. 10 YR 4/6 Firm dark yellowish brown sandy silty clay with frequent angular sandstone fragments <0.20m	(7-800)		(7-802)	30m	1.6m	0.60m
(7-802)	Geological	Layer	Natural. 10 YR 6/6 Firm brownish yellow sandy silt with frequent angular sandstone fragments <0.20m	(7-801)		NA	30m	1.6m	>0.20m
(7-803)	Undated	Fill	Ditch fill. 10 YR 4/2 Soft dark greyish brown silty clay with occasional rounded sandstone fragments <0.10m	(7-801)		[7-804]	>1.65m	1.0m	0.30m
[7-804]	Undated	Cut	Ditch. Linear cut on a WNW-ESE alignment with moderate straight-slightly concave sides and concave base	(7-803)		(7-802)	>1.65m	1.0m	0.30m
Trench 9 – 30m long x 1.6m wide									
(7-900)	Modern	Layer	Topsoil. 10 YR 4/1 Friable dark grey sandy silty clay with occasional angular stones <0.10m	NA		(7-901)	30m	1.6m	0.50m
(7-901)	Modern	Layer	Subsoil. 10 YR 7/6 Firm yellow sand with occasional rounded sandstone fragments <0.20m and occasional ironstone fragments <0.05m. Slight tip lines visible from both sides - slow silting	(7-900)		(7-902)	30m	1.6m	0.40m
(7-902)	Geological	Layer	Natural. 10 YR 6/8 Firm brownish yellow sand and clay with occasional rounded sandstone fragments <0.20m and occasional ironstone fragments <0.05m	(7-901)		NA	30m	1.6m	>0.30m
(7-903)	Undated	Fill	Pit fill. 10YR 4/6 Soft dark yellowish brown sandy silt with occasional rounded sandstone fragments <0.05m, frequent charcoal lumps and flecks. Single depositional event	(7-901)		[7-904]	0.95m	0.49m	0.51m
[7-904]	Undated	Cut	Pit. Sub-circular cut on a NE-SW alignment, with steep straight sides and curving base	(7-903)		(7-902)	0.95m	0.49m	0.51m
(7-905)	Undated	Fill	Pit fill. 10YR 4/6 Soft dark yellowish brown sandy silt with occasional rounded sandstone fragments <0.05m, frequent charcoal lumps and flecks. Single depositional event	[7-906]		(7-901)	0.46m	0.26m	0.12m
[7-906]	Undated	Cut	Pit. Sub-circular cut on a NE-SW alignment, with steep straight sides and concave base	(7-905)		(7-902)	0.46m	0.26m	0.12m
Trench 10 – 30m long x 1.6m wide									
(7-1000)	Modern	Layer	Topsoil. 10 YR 4/1 Friable dark grey sandy silty clay with occasional angular stones <0.10m	NA		(7-1001)	30m	1.6m	0.30m
(7-1001)	Modern	Layer	Subsoil. 10 YR 7/6 Firm yellow sand with occasional rounded sandstone fragments <0.20m and occasional ironstone fragments <0.05m	(7-1000)		(7-1002)	30m	1.6m	0.60m
(7-1002)	Geological	Layer	Natural. 10 YR 6/8 Firm brownish yellow sand and clay with occasional rounded sandstone fragments <0.20m and occasional ironstone fragments <0.05m	(7-1001)		NA	30m	1.6m	>0.30m
Trench 11 – 30m long x 1.6m wide									
(7-1100)	Modern	Layer	Topsoil. 10 YR 4/1 Friable dark grey sandy silty clay with occasional angular stones <0.10m	NA		(7-1101)	30m	1.6m	0.40m
(7-1101)	Modern	Layer	Subsoil. 10 YR 7/6 Firm yellow sand with occasional rounded sandstone fragments <0.20m and occasional ironstone fragments <0.05m	(7-1100)		(7-1102)	30m	1.6m	0.60m
(7-1102)	Geological	Layer	Natural. 10 YR 6/8 Firm brownish yellow sand and clay with occasional rounded sandstone fragments <0.20m and occasional ironstone fragments <0.05m	(7-1101)		NA	30m	1.6m	>0.20m
Trench 12 – 30m long x 1.6m wide									

(7-1200)	Modern	Layer	Topsoil. 10 YR 4/1 Friable dark grey sandy silty clay with occasional angular stones <0.10m	NA		(7-1201)	30m	1.6m	0.30m
(7-1201)	Modern	Layer	Subsoil. 10 YR 7/6 Firm yellow sand with occasional rounded sandstone fragments <0.20m and occasional ironstone fragments <0.05m	(7-1200)		(7-1202)	30m	1.6m	0.60m
(7-1202)	Geological	Layer	Natural. 10 YR 6/8 Firm brownish yellow sand and clay with occasional rounded sandstone fragments <0.20m and occasional ironstone fragments <0.05m	(7-1201)		NA	30m	1.6m	>0.30m
Trench 13– 30m long x 1.6m wide									
(7-1300)	Modern	Layer	Topsoil. 10 YR 4/1 Friable dark grey sandy silty clay with occasional angular stones <0.10m	NA		(7-1301)	30m	1.6m	0.30m
(7-1301)	Modern	Layer	Subsoil. 10 YR 5/6 Firm yellowish brown sandy silt with moderate angular sandstone fragments <0.10m	(7-1300)		(7-1302)	30m	1.6m	0.80m
(7-1302)	Geological	Layer	Natural. 10 YR 5/6 Firm yellowish brown sandy silt with moderate flat sandstone	(7-1301)		NA	30m	1.6m	>0.10m
Trench 16– 30m long x 1.6m wide									
(7-1600)	Modern	Layer	Topsoil. 10 YR 4/1 Friable dark grey sandy silty clay with occasional angular stones <0.10m	NA		(7-1601)	25m	1.6m	0.30m
(7-1601)	Modern	Layer	Subsoil. 10 YR 5/6 Firm yellowish brown sandy silt with frequent angular sandstone fragments <0.20m	(7-1600)		(7-1602)	25m	1.6m	0.50m
(7-1602)	Geological	Layer	Natural. 10 YR 5/6 Firm yellowish brown sandy silt with moderate angular sandstone fragments <0.20m	(7-1601)		NA	25m	1.6m	>0.20m
Trench 17– 30m long x 1.6m wide									
(7-1700)	Modern	Layer	Topsoil. 10 YR 4/1 Friable dark grey sandy silty clay with occasional angular stones <0.10m	NA		(7-1701)	30m	1.6m	0.30m
(7-1701)	Modern	Layer	Subsoil. 10 YR 5/6 Firm yellowish brown sandy silt with moderate angular sandstone fragments <0.15m	(7-1700)		(7-1702)	30m	1.6m	0.50m
(7-1702)	Geological	Layer	Natural. 10 YR 5/6 Firm yellowish brown sandy silt with occasional angular sandstone fragments <0.20m	(7-1701)		NA	30m	1.6m	>0.20m
Trench 19– 30m long x 1.6m wide									
(7-1900)	Modern	Layer	Topsoil. 10 YR 4/1 Friable dark grey sandy silty clay with occasional angular stones <0.10m	NA		(7-1901)	30m	1.6m	0.40m
(7-1901)	Modern	Layer	Subsoil. 10 YR 7/6 Firm yellow sand with occasional rounded sandstone fragments <0.20m and occasional ironstone fragments <0.05m	(7-1900)		(7-1902)	30m	1.6m	0.50m
(7-1902)	Geological	Layer	Natural. 10 YR 6/8 Firm brownish yellow sand and clay with occasional rounded sandstone fragments <0.20m	(7-1901)		NA	30m	1.6m	>0.20m
Excavation									
(7-2001)	Modern	Layer	Subsoil. As evaluation	NA					
(7-2002)	Modern	Layer	Natural. As evaluation	(7-2002)					
[3-2103]	Prehistoric	Cut	Ditch. Linear cut on an E-W alignment with steep undulating sides (sloping at c. 30 degrees on southern edge) and flat base	(3-2104)		(7-2002)	>1.0m	1.81m	1.05m

(3-2104)	Prehistoric	Fill	Ditch fill (primary). 2.5 YR 5/4 Friable light olive brown sandy silt.	(3-2105)		[3-2103]	>1.0m	0.52m	0.04m
(3-2105)	Prehistoric	Fill	Ditch fill (secondary). 10 YR 5/6 Friable yellowish brown sandy silt.	(3-2107)		(3-2104)	>1.0m	0.71m	0.31m
(3-2106)	Prehistoric	Fill	Ditch fill (secondary). 10 YR 6/4 Friable brownish yellow silty sand (along northern edge - collapse?)	(3-2107)		[3-2103]	>1.0m	0.1m	0.54m
(3-2107)	Prehistoric	Fill	Ditch fill. 10 YR 6/6 Friable brownish yellow silty sand, few visible laminations - rapid deposit.	(7-2001)		(3-2105), (3-2106)	>1.0m	1.64m	0.72m
[7-2003]	Prehistoric	Cut	Ditch. Linear cut on a E-W alignment with steep straight sides and flat base	(7-2004)		(7-2002)	>1.10m	1.90m	1.25m
(7-2004)	Prehistoric	Fill	Ditch fill (primary). 10 YR 4/6 Firm dark yellowish brown sandy silt with occasional sub-rounded quartz fragments <0.01m	(7-2005)		[7-2003]	>1.10m	0.90m	0.35m
(7-2005)	Prehistoric	Fill	Ditch fill (secondary). 10 YR 4/6 Firm dark yellowish brown sandy silt with occasional sub-rounded quartz fragments <0.005m	(7-2006)		(7-2004)	>1.10m	1.35m	0.40m
(7-2006)	Prehistoric	Fill	Ditch fill. 10 YR 4/6 Firm dark yellowish brown sandy silt with occasional sub-rounded quartz fragments <0.02m	(7-2001)		(7-2005)	>1.10m	0.90m	0.35m
[7-2007]	RB	Cut	Ditch. Linear cut on a E-W alignment with steep straight sides and flat base	(7-2009		(7-2002)	>1.5m	1.6m	0.27m
(7-2008)	RB	Fill	Ditch fill. 10 YR 4/2 Soft dark greyish brown sandy silt with occasional quartz fragments <0.01m and charcoal	(7-2001)		(7-2009)	>1.5m	1.51m	0.27m
(7-2009)	RB	Fill	Ditch fill. 10 YR 4/6 Friable dark yellowish brown sandy silt with occasional sandstone fragments <0.005m, slight tip line from the south side.	(7-2008)		[7-2007]	>1.5m	1.10m	0.30m
[7-2010]	RB	Cut	Ditch. Linear cut on a E-W alignment with steep straight sides and flat base	(7-2011)		(7-2002)	>0.70	1.25m	0.40m
(7-2011)	RB	Fill	Ditch fill. 10 YR 5/4 Soft yellowish brown sandy silt with occasional sandstone fragments of <0.01m	(7-2001)		[7-2010]	>0.70	1.25m	0.40m
[7-2012]	RB	Cut	Ditch. Linear cut on a NE-SW alignment with moderate concave sides and sloping base	(7-2013)		(7-2002)	>1.0m	0.42m	0.40m
(7-2013)	RB	Fill	Ditch fill. 10 YR 5/4 Soft yellowish brown sandy silt (no coarse components)	(7-2001)		[7-2012]	>1.0m	0.42m	0.40m
(7-2014)	?Modern	Deposit	Deposit. 10 YR 6/8 Firm yellowish brown silty sand with occasional angular & rounded sandstone fragments. Area of waterlogged ground not fully excavated due to unknown contamination	(7-2001)		(7-2002)	>10m	>10m	>0.40m
[2-2000]	RB or later	Cut	Stake-hole. West side, deep vertical stake-hole.	(2-2009)		(7-2002)	NA	0.07-0.05m	0.02-0.16m
[2-2001]	RB or later	Cut	Stake-hole. West side, deep vertical stake-hole, angled at bottom towards flue.	(2-2010)		(7-2002)	NA	0.07-0.05m	0.02-0.16m
[2-2002]	RB or later	Cut	Stake-hole. West side, deep vertical stake-hole.	(2-2011)		(7-2002)	NA	0.07-0.05m	0.02-0.16m
[2-2003]	RB or later	Cut	Stake-hole. West side, deep vertical stake-hole.	(2-2012)		(7-2002)	NA	0.07-0.05m	0.02-0.16m

[2-2004]	RB or later	Cut	Stake-hole. North side, moderately deep vertical stake-hole	(2-2013)		(7-2002)	NA	0.07-0.05m	0.02-0.16m
[2-2005]	RB or later	Cut	Stake-hole. North side, moderately deep vertical stake-hole	(2-2014)		(7-2002)	NA	0.07-0.05m	0.02-0.16m
[2-2006]	RB or later	Cut	Stake-hole. East side, shallow stake-hole	(2-2015)		(7-2002)	NA	0.07-0.05m	0.02-0.16m
[2-2007]	RB or later	Cut	Stake-hole. East side, shallow stake-hole	(2-2016)		(7-2002)	NA	0.07-0.05m	0.02-0.16m
[2-2008]	RB or later	Cut	Stake-hole. Within flue base at west end, moderately deep vertical stake-hole	(2-2017)		(7-2002)	NA	0.07-0.05m	0.02-0.16m
(2-2009)	RB or later	Fill	Stake-hole fill. 10 YR 5/4 Firm Light olive brown sandy silt with charcoal flecks	(7-2001)		(2-2009)	NA	0.07-0.05m	0.02-0.16m
(2-2010)	RB or later	Fill	Stake-hole fill. 10 YR 5/4 Firm Light olive brown sandy silt with charcoal flecks	(7-2001)		(2-2010)	NA	0.07-0.05m	0.02-0.16m
(2-2011)	RB or later	Fill	Stake-hole fill. 10 YR 5/4 Firm Light olive brown sandy silt with charcoal flecks	(7-2001)		(2-2011)	NA	0.07-0.05m	0.02-0.16m
(2-2012)	RB or later	Fill	Stake-hole fill. 10 YR 5/4 Firm Light olive brown sandy silt with charcoal flecks	(7-2001)		(2-2012)	NA	0.07-0.05m	0.02-0.16m
(2-2013)	RB or later	Fill	Stake-hole fill. 10 YR 5/4 Firm Light olive brown sandy silt with charcoal flecks	(7-2001)		(2-2013)	NA	0.07-0.05m	0.02-0.16m
(2-2014)	RB or later	Fill	Stake-hole fill. 10 YR 5/4 Firm Light olive brown sandy silt with charcoal flecks	(7-2001)		(2-2014)	NA	0.07-0.05m	0.02-0.16m
(2-2015)	RB or later	Fill	Stake-hole fill. 10 YR 5/4 Firm Light olive brown sandy silt with charcoal flecks	(7-2001)		(2-2015)	NA	0.07-0.05m	0.02-0.16m
(2-2016)	RB or later	Fill	Stake-hole fill. 10 YR 5/4 Firm Light olive brown sandy silt with charcoal flecks	(7-2001)		(2-2016)	NA	0.07-0.05m	0.02-0.16m
(2-2017)	RB or later	Fill	Stake-hole fill. 10 YR 5/4 Firm Light olive brown sandy silt with charcoal flecks	(7-2001)		(2-2017)	NA	0.07-0.05m	0.02-0.16m

Appendix 2: Plant remains

		SAMPLE	7-1	7-2	7-3	7-4	7-6	7-5	7-7	7-8	7-9
		CONTEXT	7-503	7-903	7-905	7-507	7-507	7-505	7-2008	3-107	7-2005
		CUT	7-504	7-904	7-906	7-510	7-510	7-510	7-2008		
		FEATURE	Linear	Pit	Pit	Hearth	Hearth	Hearth	Linear	Linear	Linear
		PHASE	F2	F1	F6	F3	F3	F3	F2	F7	F7
		PERIOD	RB			RB	RB	RB	RB	BA	BA
		CHARCOAL	O	A	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
		SAMPLE VOL. (L)	20	20	20	20			60	40	40
		FLOT VOL. (ML)	5	35	7	12	105	25	35	5	5
TAXA	**ITEM**	**COMMON NAME**									
Chenopodium album	seed	Fat hen				4	1				
Chenopodium sp.	seed	Goosefoot							1		
Atriplex sp.	seed	Orache					1				
Chenopodiaceae indet.	kernal	Goosefoot family				3	2				
cf. Chenopdiaceae sp.	seed	Goosefoot family		1							
Persicaria sp.	seed	Small waterpepper				2	15		2		
Fallopia convolvulus	seed	Black bindweed				1	2		7		
Polygonaceae indet.	seed	Knotgrass family					2				
Rumex cf. acetosella	seed	Sheep's Sorrel					1				
Raphanus raphanistrum	seed	Wild radish					1				
Raphanus raphanistrum	capsule	Wild radish					1				
Prunus spinosa	stone	Sloe							1		
Prunus cf. *spinosa*	stone	Sloe							1		

Vicia / Lathyrus sp.	seed	Vetch / pea					1				
cf. Vicia / Lathyrus sp.	seed	Vetch / pea		2							
cf. Plantago sp.	seed	Plantain		1							
Galium sp.	seed	Bedstraw							6		
Poaceae indet.	grain	Grain indet	1	2	6	5	2	1			
Avena sp.	seed	Oat					1				
Hordeum sp.	grain	Barley				63	450	165			2
cf. *Hordeum* sp.	grain	cf. Barley				26					
Hordeum / Triticum sp.	grain	Barley / wheat				23					
Hordeum distichon	internode	cf. 6-row barley				1					
Hordeum sp.	internode	Barley					1				
Secale cereale	seed	Rye		1							
Secale cf. *cereale*	seed	Rye		1							
Triticum sp.	grain	Wheat			1					3	
cf. Triticum sp.	grain	Wheat								1	
Triticum spelta	spikelet	Spelt wheat								1	
Triticum spelta	glume base	Spelt wheat				1		1			
Triticum spelta	glume	Spelt wheat							1		
Triticum sp.	glume	Wheat						1	1		
Cereale indet.	embryo					1					

context one
HERITAGE & ARCHAEOLOGY

Brickfield Offices : Maperton : Wincanton : Somerset : BA9 8EG
1 Emperor Way : Exeter Business Park : Exeter : Devon : EX1 3QS
T: 01963 824696 : E: mail@contextone.co.uk
Registered in England Number 6005800 : VAT Registered Number 834 1916 29

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