RESULTS OF AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF ON THE SITE OF THE PROPOSED MERROW PARK AND RIDE FACILITY, EPSOM ROAD, MERROW, GUILDFORD, SURREY

Summary

An archaeological watching brief undertaken on the controlled strip of the site of the proposed Merrow Park and Ride facility at Epsom Road, Merrow revealed a total of 57 features of archaeological interest including 15 pits, 35 postholes and a handful of stakeholes. Many of the pits were revealed to be of late Bronze Age/early Iron Age date and included one very large pit 4m wide which is thought to have been dug as a chalk pit and a number of very cleanly cut straight-sided pits;many of the postholes were revealed to be of modern date. Despite the small size of the site, an interesting assemblage of finds has been recovered including sherds of pottery of Bronze Age and Iron Age date, numerous pieces of worked flint of Neolithic to late Bronze Age/early Iron Age date and fragments of spindlewhorls and wattle-impressed daub providing evidence for activity of Neolithic to Iron Age date in the vicinity.

Surrey County Archaeological Unit
Surrey History Centre, 130 Goldsworth Road,
Woking, Surrey, GU21 6ND
Tel: 01483 518777 Fax: 01483 518780

email: archaeology.scau@surreycc.gov.uk

Project Manager	Rob Poulton
Authors	Jane Robertson and Nigel Randall
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NGR	TQ 0331 5073 (centred)
Client	Guildford Borough Council

1.0 INTRODUCTION

A controlled archaeological watching brief was undertaken by the Surrey County Archaeological Unit (SCAU) between 29th April and 23rd May 2008 on the site of the proposed Park and Ride facility at Epsom Road, Merrow (fig 1). The archaeological work was recommended as a result of observations made during the archaeological evaluation undertaken by SCAU in May 2007 (Robertson 2007). The evaluation revealed five features of probable prehistoric date within three of the thirteen trenches, including two very large pit features, contexts 104 and 105 which were identified as probable chalk pits, two small pits (109 and 111) and a pit/gully (113). The proposed Park and Ride development entailed the reduction of the site by 0.7m, therefore it was recommended that an archaeological watching brief be undertaken on the controlled strip of the area of high archaeological potential around the three trial trenches (fig 2).

SCAU were commissioned to undertake the archaeological work by Guildford Borough Council.

2.0 THE EXCAVATION

2.1 Methodology

The area of the site recommended for the archaeological watching brief (*c*84m x 42m) was subject to a controlled machine strip using a 360^0 tracked excavator with a toothless ditching bucket. The overburden of 0.25m topsoil and 0.0-0.25m light-mid brown silty loam subsoil (the latter of which was often non-existent at the southern end and across the northern extreme of the site) was removed down to the top of the natural chalk, the level at which the significant surviving archaeology was revealed. Features of potential archaeological interest were excavated by hand.

2.2 Results

A total of 80 features of potential archaeological interest were identified and sampled following the site strip (fig 3). As a result of sampling the features by hand excavation, 57 features were revealed to be of archaeological interest and these included pits, postholes and stakeholes, with the remaining 23 features being designated as of natural or dubious, possible natural, origin. The features are described below; finds recovered from the archaeological features are summarised in tables 1-8.

THE PITS

A total of 15 pits were identified and excavated within the stripped area.

Pit 242 was a sub-circular feature with a saucer-like profile, *c*0.80m wide and 0.15m deep, infilled with mid-brown silty loam with chalk and flint inclusions. Finds recovered from the shallow pit fill included two pieces of struck flint, a fragment of calcined flint and two small fragments of medieval/post-medieval tile. The recovery of the tile fragments suggest that the feature is of medieval or later date; however, the presence of the struck and calcined flint indicate that the pit may be of prehistoric date with the tile fragments having been introduced by ploughing activity.

Pit 251 was a circular feature 1.2m in diameter and 0.25m deep. It had a bowl-shaped profile with a mixed fill of mid-grey/beige loam, with occasional medium and large flint inclusions and chalk fragments. A possible re-cut was evident, but the similarity of the fills made the relationship unclear. No finds were recovered by which to date the infilling of this feature.

Pit 256 was a circular feature, *c*0.80m in diameter and 0.70m deep (figs 4 and 5e). It was cleanly cut into the natural chalk with near-vertical sides and a slightly rounded base, with a single homogeneous fill of mid to light-brown silty loam with moderate inclusions of chalk fragments and occasional medium to large flints. Finds recovered from the pit fill included

two fragments of post-medieval tile, recovered from the very top of the fill, several pieces of struck flint including five tools recovered from the upper to middle fill and a few animal bones from the basal fill. The feature was located towards the southern end of the stripped area. The recovery of the struck flint suggests a prehistoric date for the infilling of this feature; the tile fragments from the top of the fill are probably intrusive. The fill and characteristics of pit 256 are similar to those of pit 271 which lies at the northern end of the stripped area and has been assigned an Iron Age date (see below).

Pit 257 was an oval shaped feature, *c*1.2m wide and 0.45m deep with very steep sides and a flat base (fig 4). It was cleanly cut into the natural chalk and infilled with four distinct layers (257A-D). Upper layer A was a compact layer of brown/beige silty loam, with inclusions of chalk fragments and occasional flints, which did not extend across the whole width of the pit. This overlay B, a thick homogeneous layer of mid-brown silty loam with frequent nodules of flint, which produced several pieces of struck flint and a few fragments of animal bone. This overlay C, a layer of light-brown silty loam with small chalk fragments and occasional flints. Primary fill D, a mid-brown silty loam with frequent chalk fragments, also produced several pieces of struck flint. A small sherd of Bronze Age pottery was recovered from the interface between layers A and B which, in association with the struck flints from layers B and D, provides a prehistoric (probably late Bronze Age) date for the infilling of this feature. The fill and characteristics of pit 257 are similar to those of pit 271.

Pit 258 was a very shallow, sub-circular feature *c*0.95m wide and 0.12m deep infilled with mid-light brown chalky loam with inclusions of small chalk fragments. Two small flecks of charcoal and one small fleck of baked clay were observed within the basal fill of the feature. No finds were recovered by which to date the infilling of this feature.

Pit 259 was an elongated feature *c*0.20m deep, infilled with mid-beige/brown silty loam from which a single struck flint flake was recovered. It was revealed to be the extension of feature 113 which had been identified during the evaluation in 2007 at the eastern end of trial trench 6. Feature 113 had produced three fragments of Bronze Age pottery; the additional recovery of a piece of struck flint from pit 259 confirms the prehistoric date assigned to the feature.

Pit 268 was a small, shallow feature *c*0.12m deep, infilled with mid-brown silty loam which produced a struck flint and a few pieces of calcined flint. The feature lay between pits 270 and 271 at the northern end of the excavation area. The fill type, similar to the adjacent pits, and the recovery of the flint finds, suggests a prehistoric date for the infilling of this feature.

Pit 270 was a very large oval-shaped pit *c*4.0m wide, located at the northern limit of the excavation area (figs 4 and 5a). The feature was half-sectioned and excavated by hand to a depth of 1.4m; the full depth of the feature was not determined as it exceeded the 0.7m depth of excavation required for the construction of the car park. In order to test the depth of the feature, auger testing was undertaken across its base. In its south-west quadrant, the feature continued to a depth in excess of 2.75m, whilst in the north-east quadrant the depth reached was a maximum of 1.75m (the latter indicating that either a more compact fill or a shelf had been encountered at that depth).

Hand excavation of the southern half of the feature revealed, in its upper part, near vertical sides on its western and south-western sides, and a more sloping edge on the eastern side, becoming more vertical with depth. There were signs of undercutting or collapse at the lower limit of the excavated part of the feature. The pit was infilled with five distinct layers, 270A-E. The uppermost layer, E, a medium-brown, chalky loam with occasional flints, capped the feature and may represent the natural infilling of a depression resulting from subsidence of the infilled feature. This overlay A, a layer of mid-brown, chalky loam comprising mostly chalk rubble with some flint nodules. Finds recovered from layer A included five sherds of pottery, of which two were dated to the Bronze Age/early Iron Age and three were of Iron Age date. Also recovered were an abraded struck flint flake, a couple

of fragments of daub, several pieces of calcined flint, a number of animal bones and two small fragments of medieval/post-medieval tile (the latter of which are likely to be intrusive, probably introduced by ploughing or animal burrowing). Layer B was similar to A, but of a less compact nature, and produced one sherd of Iron Age pottery, fragments of daub, calcined flint and an assortment of animal bones (including those of sheep and small mammals). Layer C was a slump of chalk fragments on the western side of the pit. Layer D, a lens of dark brown, humic loam, was observed at the base of the excavated part of the feature, but did not produce any finds.

Feature 270 was the largest feature identified during the watching brief. It had a regular outline, unlike the irregular outlines of large features 104 and 105 identified during the evaluation of the area in 2007. The finds recovered from feature 270 suggest that it was infilled during the early Iron Age. Its total depth is unknown, and a likely function for the feature is a chalkpit, similar to features 104 and 105 identified in 2007 (Robertson 2007, 5).

Pit 271 was a sub-circular feature lying 3.25m east of large pit 270. It was a straight sided, flat-bottomed pit *c*1.5m wide and 0.84m deep, with five distinct layers of fill, 271A-E (figs 4 and 5c-d). Upper layer A was a mid-brown loam with frequent inclusions of small chalk fragments and occasional flint nodules. Finds recovered from layer A included a sherd of decorated Iron Age pottery, a handful of daub fragments (some with interlaced wattle impressions) and two small fragments of medieval/post-medieval tile, the latter of which are likely to be intrusive. This overlay B, a layer of chalk fragments in a light-brown loam matrix with occasional flint nodules; a sherd of Iron Age pottery, a dozen pieces of daub (some with interlaced wattle impressions), two pieces of struck flint and a number of animal bones were recovered. This overlay C, a layer of dark brown loam with occasional chalk fragments. Upon excavation of this layer, a concentration of charcoal was observed in the centre of the pit in association with sherds of Iron Age pottery, fragments of burnt flint, baked clay (possible spindlewhorl fragments) and daub (some with wattle impressions). A total of 12 sherds of Iron Age pottery were recovered from throughout layer C, in addition to 19 pieces of struck flint (including a thumbnail scraper). Layer D was a slump of chalk fragments in a chalky loam matrix overlaying primary layer E, a light-brown chalky loam with frequent chalk fragments and occasional small fragments of charcoal from which a small sherd of Bronze Age pottery was recovered.

The recovery of the Iron Age pottery and the wattle impressed daub fragments (some of which showed signs of burning) from pit 271 provide an Iron Age date for its infilling. The recovery of the numerous fragments of wattle impressed daub provides evidence for possible prehistoric structures in the vicinity.

Pit 272 was a shallow, sub-circular feature 0.45m in diameter and *c*0.10m deep, infilled with mid-brown loam with a few flecks of burnt clay. No finds were recovered by which to date the infilling of the pit, but its fill is similar to other features such as 270 (*c*7m to the north) and 271 which have been assigned an Iron Age date.

Pit 273 was a circular feature 1.1m in diameter and 0.55m deep with near vertical sides and a flat base. The pit was infilled by two layers, A and B. Upper layer A was a mid-brown loam with inclusions of occasional chalk fragments and flint nodules from which three pieces of struck flint and a fragment of calcined flint were recovered. Primary layer B was similar to A, but less compact, with more frequent inclusions of crushed chalk fragments. A mixed assemblage of finds was recovered from layer B including: two sherds of Iron Age pottery, several pieces of struck flint (including two retouched pieces), several fragments of baked clay (one of which is a possible loomweight fragment with diagonal piercing), a possible Lower Greensand quernstone fragment and several pieces of calcined flint. The Iron Age pottery provides a date for the infilling of pit 273.

Pit 275 was a sub-circular feature *c*1.45m wide and 0.42m deep with straight sides and a flat base, with two distinct layers of fill, A and B (fig 5b). Upper layer A was a mid to dark-

brown chalky loam with occasional chalk fragments and flint nodules. Finds recovered from layer A included six sherds of pottery of Bronze Age/early Iron Age date, forty-three pieces of struck flint (including eight tools), a possible Lower Greensand quernstone fragment (similar to that recovered from pit 273), a few fragments of burnt clay and a large number of calcined flints. Primary layer B was a light-grey chalky loam which produced eight pieces of struck flint, a handful of burnt flint and a fragment of burnt clay (possibly daub). The pottery recovered from pit 275 suggests a late Bronze Age/early Iron date for its infilling. Pit 275 was cut on its south-western side by small pit 276.

Pit 276 was a small feature 0.45m wide and 0.20m deep, with steep sides and a flat base; it cut the south-western side of pit 275, therefore post-dating it (fig 5b). The fill of pit 276 was a dark-brown chalky loam which produced one piece of struck flint and a handful of calcined flints. The fill of pit 276 was similar to the upper fill (A) of pit 275, but clearly cut its basal layer 275B. The similarity of the upper fills of both pits and the recovery of the struck and calcined flint from pit 276 indicate that it is also of late Bronze Age/early Iron Age date.

Pit 279 (on the north-eastern edge of the stripped area) was revealed to be a modern feature as it was observed to cut through from the topsoil.

Pit 280 was a small sub-circular pit with a bowl-shaped profile 0.55m wide and 0.15m deep, infilled with pale grey/beige silty loam, which produced a couple of fragments of burnt flint. The pit appeared to be a lobe extending out from the edge of feature 105, a large feature which was revealed and sampled during the evaluation in 2007 within trial trench 6; upon excavation pit 280 was revealed to be a separate feature. Feature 105 was assigned a prehistoric (possibly Iron Age) date and therefore, due to their close association and similarity of fills, provides a possible date for the infilling of pit 280.

POSTHOLES

Postholes 203, 205-235, 237 and 239 - A curlinear alignment of 33 postholes, assigned an overall group context number 204, was revealed in the south-east quadrant of the stripped area (fig 3). The postholes had been clearly visible during the stripping of the overburden, leading to the conclusion that they were of modern date/recent origin. A total of eight of the postholes (205-6, 212-3, 215-6, 223 and 239) were sampled and were observed to be 0.04-016m deep and 0.15m-0.62m wide cut into the natural chalk; all had a single homogeneous fill of mid-brown silty loam and represented the very base of either stake or postholes. Two of the excavated postholes, 215 and 223, contained large flints which may have been placed as post packing; this, together with their size and depth, suggests they are cut post holes rather than driven stake holes. The only find recovered from the sampled postholes was a small sherd of pottery of prehistoric date recovered from posthole 216, but it is most likely to be residual.

The function of this alignment of postholes is unknown. Their size, orientation and adjacent position suggests they may have formed part of a enclosure boundary. An examination of the 1839 tithe map for Merrow parish reveals that the posts do not correspond with any marked field boundaries of that or subsequent date. The spacing of the postholes is consistently between 0.41m and 0.52m suggesting that the material used to infill between the posts was of an organic nature, such as woven hazel rods or brushwood, rather than wire, for which much wider spacing would be appropriate. Its curvilinear form is suggestive of a prehistoric enclosure, but the fact that the postholes were observed to cut the subsoil strongly suggests a much later, probably modern, date.

Feature 243 was identified as a possible posthole, infilled with mid-brown/beige silty loam, but was devoid of finds.

Feature 244 was identified as a possible posthole, 3m north of feature 243. It was also infilled with mid-brown/beige silty loam and devoid of finds.

STAKEHOLES

Stakehole cluster 246 - A T-shaped cluster of four small, circular stakeholes (grouped as context 246) was sampled. All four stakeholes were infilled with mid-brown silty loam and were 0.07-0.12m deep. No finds were recovered by which to date them.

Stakehole 247 was a small round slot-like feature 0.16m deep, infilled with mid-brown silty loam, adjacent to similar feature 248. No finds were recovered by which to date the infilling of this feature.

Stakehole 248 was a small, round feature 0.16m deep, located 1m south-east of similar feature 247. Feature 248 was also infilled with mid-brown silty loam which was devoid of finds.

OTHER FEATURES

A total of 23 other features identified during the site strip were sampled in order to confirm whether or not they were of archaeological interest. Upon sampling, 16 of the 23 features (contexts 202, 236, 238, 241, 245, 249, 260-263, 265-267, 269, 274 and 277) were confirmed to be of natural origin (due to their amorphous shape and the character of their fill); several of these features were identified as probable tree throws. A few of these naturally occurring features produced the occasional struck flint, but this does not give any reliable indication of date. The remaining features, described below, were designated as being of dubious, possible natural, origin.

Feature 240 was an irregular shaped feature which tapered off to the north. The southern part was infilled with mid/dark silty loam and the northern part with mid-beige/brown silty loam. No finds were recovered. The shape and fill of the feature suggest a dubious, possible natural origin.

Feature 250 was a shallow feature with an uneven base. The northern part of the feature was infilled with a compact mid-brown silty loam, the southern half was filled by a compact chalky loam with frequent chalk fragments/lumps. No finds were recovered from the feature which appeared to be of natural origin, a possible tree throw.

Feature 252 was a shallow possible pit, infilled with pale to mid-grey/beige silty loam with inclusions of chalk fragments and flint from which two pieces of struck flint were recovered. The slightly irregular shape and the fill of feature 252 suggested that it may be of natural origin, possibly a tree throw; the flints were likely to have been introduced during the natural silting up of the hollow.

Feature 253 was a dish-shaped feature infilled with pale-grey/beige silty loam with much crumbled chalk and a moderate number of natural flint inclusions. No finds were recovered from this feature; the character and fill of feature 253 suggest that it may be of natural origin, possibly a tree throw, similar to adjacent feature 254 *c*2m to the south-east.

Feature 254 was another dish-shaped feature with an undulating base, infilled with pale to mid-beige/brown silty loam with chalk and flint inclusions from which thirteen pieces of struck flint were recovered. This feature has similar characteristics and fill to features 252-3, and is possibly of natural origin (a possible tree throw). Two possibilities for the derivation of the flintwork recovered from the fill are that either the hollow was utilised during the prehistoric period, or the flintwork was washed into the hollow from the adjacent land surface during its natural infilling.

Feature 255 was sampled by the excavation of a 1m wide segment through its centre. It was revealed to have an irregular outline and uneven base, infilled with an outer arc of brown silty

loam and an inner fill of off-white silty loam mixed with chalk fragments. No finds were recovered. The character and fill of feature 255 suggest that it is of natural origin and is probably a tree throw.

Feature 264 was a small hollow infilled with a mid-orange/brown clayey loam from which two sherds of pottery were recovered: one medieval whiteware sherd and one green-glazed sherd of 15th/early 16th century date. The characteristics and fill of feature 264 suggest that it is of natural origin, therefore the finds are likely to be intrusive possibly introduced by animal activity.

3.0 THE FLINTWORK by Nick Marples

3.1 Quantification

A total of 160 worked flints weighing 3866g were recovered by manual excavation from 22 flint-bearing contexts across the site (table 3). Sixteen of the recorded features (20%) contained one or more lithic artefacts and a single struck flint was recovered in the course of machining. The flintwork was excavated from four feature groups. These included 10 pits which together produced 145 lithic artefacts or 91% of the total, four tree-throw hollows which yielded 12 artefacts (8%), and one large pit and a pit or posthole, from each of which single struck flints were recovered, comprising 1% of the overall total. Most finds were collected from feature 254 and pit 256 towards the southern end of the site (38 flints or 24% of the site total), pit 271 close to the northern edge (24 flints or 15%), and pits 275 and 257 located *c*20m further south (64 flints or 40%). For six features with distinguishable fills, the majority of lithic artefacts (56 altogether, or 52%) were recovered from the upper fill (A). See table 3 for further details regarding the composition of the hand excavated flint assemblage.

A further 287 struck flints (including 200 chips) weighing 63g were retrieved from five bulk soil sample residues taken from pits 256, 257 and 271 (see table 4). Two of the bulk samples produced as many flakes, blades and fragments as had been recovered by hand excavation, and debitage totals (excluding chips) were more than doubled in the remaining three. Chip counts were generally quite high throughout, ranging from 24 to 88 per sample (61.9% and 84.1% of the processed samples), with the exception of context 271C which produced only five chips. These proportions would normally be regarded as indicative of knapping activity.

3.2 Raw material And condition

All of the material with surviving cortex is chalk derived. Cortex is white to off-white, usually thick and with slightly 'powdery' or coarse surfaces, and appears identical to the flint observed during recent excavations at the nearby Merrow Golf Course site, *c*500m to the south-east, where it occurred mainly as nodules within the local chalk deposits.

81% of the flintwork (130 pieces) is re-corticated white to pale blue, a characteristic feature of much prehistoric lithic material recovered from this section of the North Downs. The remainder (19% of the total or 30 pieces) is generally pale grey to black, with some mottling. Most of the finds from pit 271 are semi-translucent. Both the re-corticated and unmodified flints display similar technological characteristics, although some of the flakes which have not undergone re-cortication are smaller, and there are also a few similarly unmodified retouched or utilized pieces which have been produced on irregular blanks, including frost fractured flakes. In general, there is little differentiation in the distribution of those pieces which have, and have not, undergone re-cortication, with the exception of pit 271 which contained similar numbers of both types in fill C.

The lesser proportions of re-corticated flints recovered from the manually excavated and bulk sampled lower fills of pits 257 and 271 (ranging from 23.4% to 48.4% for the bulk samples) may be due, in part, to depositional rather than chronological factors, as the relative depth of deposition within features has been identified elsewhere as a determining factor in the re-cortication of flintwork (Humphrey 2005).

The flintwork varies considerably in condition across the site, and often within the same feature, although all of the flints in feature 254 are in pristine condition. The surfaces on

many of the flints are rather dull, and there are indications of patination on a few pieces in, for example, pits 271 and 272.

Iron staining of the type often found on surface recovered (ploughsoil) material, is evident on several finds. Calcium carbonate concretions, which clearly derive from the natural chalk deposits, are also present on many pieces. Most of the flints recovered are undamaged. Some nicks and a few more extensive areas of modification may be accidental, or due to post-depositional processes such as ploughing or trampling. A total of 16 flakes are broken, but only two struck flints have been burnt.

3.3 Cores and debitage

Almost all of the flintwork recovered is likely to be the product of flake-based technologies. At least three of the classified blades could be incidental, and only four bear the scars of earlier blade removals suggesting their deliberate manufacture. Flakes, which comprise nearly 53% of the assemblage, tend to be square shaped or 'proportional', i.e. often as broad as they are long, although there are a few squat flakes more typical of later prehistoric (i.e. middle to late Bronze Age) flintwork. Flake butts are almost invariably plain, with evidence of hard hammer percussion in the form of pronounced bulbs. The flintwork from feature 254, however, may have been produced using a soft stone hammer, since the bulbs are rather more diffuse, and there is some lipping between butt and bulb on a few pieces. Incipient cones of percussion, indicative of hard hammer miss-hits, are apparent on all three complete cores, as well as a few irregular waste pieces. Core reduction seems to have been rather unintensive, with only a few flake removals from most cores. There is no evidence of platform preparation in the form of edge abrasion or faceting, and core rejuvenation flakes are absent.

Most of the debitage consists of secondary flakes (with between 0 and 100% dorsal cortex), which constitute 78% of the flake and blade total. There are only four primary flakes (with 100% dorsal cortex) and 16 tertiary pieces (with no dorsal cortex), again suggesting short knapping sequences focussed on the production of serviceable flakes. Hinged distal terminations, which result from a lack of knapping control, are common on flakes (16 examples or 18% of all complete flakes and blades) and cores alike. They are a distinguishing feature of many later prehistoric flint assemblages. Later Bronze Age/Iron Age flintworking is also indicated by the large number of irregular waste pieces present (23 in all, or 14.4% of the total flint collection), including two re-fitting chunks from context 275 B.

3.4 Retouched and modified pieces

Two flakes and four notches exhibit modification on one or more lateral edges, which may be of accidental or post-depositional origin, rather than being use-related. Retouch on three pieces clearly truncates their re-corticated surfaces, and although in two instances this may be accidental, one piece with scraper-type retouch from pit 275 could have been recycled. Most of the formal tool types identified are poorly characterized, with perfunctory retouch, often limited in extent. These include four scrapers, one of which could be classed as a 'thumbnail' type of likely early Bronze Age date, two piercers and two awls. A small area of retouch truncating the re-corticated surface on one lateral edge of the thumbnail scraper suggests that this piece may also have been recycled. Two coarsely retouched thermal blanks, a possible core tool, and a notched piece worked on an irregular fragment from contexts 273B, 271 and 275, bear close affinities to similar artefacts of middle Bronze Age date recovered at Hengrove Farm in Staines and the Painesfield Allotments site in Chertsey (Marples (a) and (b) forthcoming).

3.5 Discussion

The rather limited range of tools present at the Merrow Park and Ride site is typical of Late Neolithic and subsequent flint industries. Taken in conjunction with the technological aspects of the cores and debitage, which conform to the well-attested characteristics of later prehistoric flintworking as summarized in e.g. Bradley 2004, 52 and Young and Humphrey 1999, and bearing in mind the variable condition of artefacts and the extent of re-cortication on the recovered flintwork, it is possible to suggest two different periods of flintworking at

the site, notwithstanding the remarks made above with regard to the differential cortication of artefacts recovered from varying depositional contexts. Of probable late Neolithic or early Bronze Age date are the majority of the lithic artefacts recovered, which are re-corticated pale blue/white. These are of variable condition but most, if not all, are likely to be residual. Many pieces are not fresh, and some show signs of weathering in the form of surface gloss, dull surfaces, or iron staining. All of the lithics from feature 254, however, are in pristine condition and, if not coeval with the feature itself, must surely derive from a former feature or layer in the vicinity. A number of tools manufactured on regular flake blanks are representative of this industry, including a few end scrapers, piercers and awls, four of which were recovered from nearby pit 256. The material as a whole is comparable to finds of similar date recovered from the nearby flint working site at Merrow Golf Course (Robertson 2007), albeit containing a much higher proportion of tool forms. There are a number of broadly contemporary scatters located on the North Downs or its fringes at East Horsley (Wood 1952), Polesden Lacey (Marples 2006, 34), and its immediate vicinity (Currie 1996), all probably related to flint procurement (Lambert 2006, 5).

A small number of flakes and irregular waste products are likely to date to the later Bronze Age and/or, perhaps more plausibly, given the presence of associated finds in pit 271, to the Iron Age. Characteristic tool forms of this later industry include expedient scrapers and notches manufactured on thermal flakes, irregular blanks and, in one instance, on a recycled flake. The condition of this material is notably fresher than the bulk of late Neolithic/early Bronze Age flintwork, and may well relate to contemporary activity. It must surely be significant that the lowest proportion of re-corticated flintwork from the site, and one of the highest flint counts, were identified within the lower fill of pit 271, which also produced large quantities of fired clay, burnt flint and Iron Age pottery, in an area which seems to have served as a focus for the deliberate, possibly structured deposition, of different artefact types. It is possible that the higher than expected quantities of microdebitage recovered from bulk samples may provide a more accurate reflection of the nature and intensity of flintworking than the generally low lithic totals recovered by hand excavation. The number of small flakes and fragments above chip size (with maximum linear dimensions greater than 10 mm) recovered from a very small number of bulk samples, would also tend to suggest that the excavated sample is not truly representative. Time constraints, difficulties in identifying very small artefacts occasioned by the chalky nature of feature infills, and the similarity in colour of many worked flints to the natural chalk deposits present, as well as the wholesale loss of artefactual material incurred by the machine stripping of overburden deposits, are all factors which may have contributed to an underrepresentation of lithic totals from the site. To offset such losses in the future, it is recommended that archaeological written schemes of investigation (WSI) should include provision for sampling topsoil and subsoil deposits by means of a controlled programme of fieldwalking and/or test pit shovelling and sieving.

4.0 THE OTHER FINDS *by Phil Jones*

4.1 Introduction

Most finds were of pottery and baked clay from walling, with nearly all from five Iron Age pits: 257, 270, 271, 273 and 275. Stone fragments from two of those probably belonged to querns, and four medieval and post-medieval pottery sherds were recovered from relatively modern features and the top/subsoil.

4.2 The Early Iron Age pits

(Details of the pottery fabrics are provided at the end of this report)

257: The feature contained only a small pottery sherd of CALC 1 fabric and no other finds.

270: Six pot sherds were recovered, including five from 270A and one of SAND 2 from 270B. Those from 270A include two of CALC 4 and single examples of SAND 3 and SHELL 1, the last of which has an externally burnished surface. Finds of baked clay include two tiny

fragments from 270A and four from 270B that are characterised by inclusions of comminuted chalk. Both types are likely to be of prepared walling daub.

271: The feature yielded fifteen pot sherds, including single examples from 271A (a SHELL 1 body sherd with part of a decorative scheme of burnished latticework), 271B (a SAND 2 body sherd from the shoulder of a jar) and 271E (a CALC 2 body sherd). Twelve sherds from 271C include seven of SAND 4, amongst which is the rim of a shouldered jar and a body sherd decorated with parts of two curvilinear burnished lines; three of SHELL 1 including an everted rim of a small jar, a base angle, and a body sherd with a series of horizontal burnished lines; and single sherds of SAND 3 and IRON 1, the former of which is burnished.

There is also nearly a kilogram of baked clay debris from the feature (106 fragments; 0.87kg), of which the greater quantity is of daub walling material that bears the internal impressions of interlaced wattles. All of it includes chalk inclusions, and there are roughly equal quantities of orange/brown pieces and those that are darker brown in colour.

Two small fragments (4g) of burnt clay without inclusions, however, may have belonged to an object, such as a spindlewhorl.

273: Two pottery body sherds were recovered; of SAND 1 from 273A/B and SAND 8 from 273B that is burnished both sides. The only other finds are a fragment of Lower Greensand with part of a smooth, concave surface that may be from a quern, and six fragments of baked clay from a single object that includes part of a diagonal piercing. This is likely to have belonged to a loomweight of triangular form.

275: Amongst six sherds of pottery, all from 275A, four are of CALC 3 and two of SHELL 1 that include the upright rim of a large jar. There is also a fragment of Lower Greensand with part of a smoothed surface that might be from a quern and four tiny fragments of baked clay. A much larger piece of baked clay (101g) from 275B includes part of a large convex surface on one side and is probably a fragment of daub walling.

4.3 Other early finds

A single tiny fragment of Bronze Age or Early Iron Age fabric CALC 1 was recovered from posthole 216 that is presumed to have been of relatively modern date.

4.4 Later finds

Two pottery sherds of medieval types include one of fine whiteware fabric WW2 from hollow 264 that is green-glazed and includes part of a brown slip stripe, and one of grey sandy fabric Q2 that is also green-glazed from tree-throw 265. The former is likely to be of late 15th or early 16th century date, whereas the latter is earlier and of 12th to 14th century date.

Two sherds of post-medieval redware pottery sherds from the topsoil are probably of 17th to 19th century date.

It is to be noted that medieval or post-medieval tile fragments were recovered as intrusive finds in Iron Age pits 270 (2 pieces; 11g) and 271 (2 pieces; 32g).

4.5 Prehistoric pottery fabric types

CALC 1: calcined flint only;
CALC 2: as above, but with almost as many quartz sand inclusions; one sherd
CALC 3: as CALC 1, but with almost as many iron mineral inclusions
CALC 4: as CALC 1, but with sparse amounts of quartz sand and organic inclusions
SAND 1: predominantly tempered with quartz sand, but with moderate amounts of calcitic inclusions
SAND 2: predominantly tempered with quartz sand, but with sparse organic inclusions
SAND 3: as SAND 2, but with sparse quantities of shell as well
SAND 4: as SAND 3, but with sparse quantities of calcined flint as well. This is the second-most common fabric represented in the Iron Age pits, with 8 examples (45g)

IRON 1: predominantly tempered with iron mineral inclusions, and with sparse amounts of quartz sand.
SHELL 1: predominantly tempered with coarse shell inclusions, and with sparse amounts of quartz sand. This is the most common fabric in the Early Iron Age pits, with 9 sherds (91g).

5.0 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

A total of 57 features of archaeological interest including pits, postholes and stakeholes, were identified during the watching brief on the controlled strip of the site of the proposed Park and Ride facility at Epsom Road, Merrow. Finds recovered included pottery of Bronze Age and Iron Age date which provided a date for the infilling of a number of the features. A large number of worked flints of late Neolithic/early Bronze Age date and late Bronze Age/early Iron Age date were recovered. Context 254 produced the only flintwork of the earlier period that can definitely be suggested as contemporary with the feature it was found in. This is a tree throw, and this opens the possibility of a phase of tree clearance on the Downs at this date. Although other tree throws could not be clearly dated, the pronounced scatter of flintwork of this date, found largely as residual material in later contexts, indicates signigicant activity. This might, as suggested above, relate to flint procurement, but a phase of woodland clearance is also a possibility. The material of late Bronze Age/early Iron Age date is more usually directly associated with the features (and the other finds therein) from which it was recovered. In addition to the pottery and worked flints, the recovery of calcined flint, animal bone, fragments of daub with wattle impressions, spindlewhorl and loomweight fragments and quernstone fragments provide evidence for late Bronze Age/early Iron Age occupation and industrial activity in the vicinity. Loomweight fragments had previously been recovered from large pit 105 (a possible chalk pit) during the 2007 evaluation of the site; large pit 270 has also been identified as a possible chalk pit and may be associated with pits 104 and 105 identified in 2007. The recovery of the numerous fragments of wattle impressed daub provides evidence for possible prehistoric structures in the vicinity. The dispersed character of the features makes it difficult to characterise, but it may not be of much greater extent than the sampled area, given that it seems to tail off towards the site edges, and its absence from trial trenches to the west and north (fig 2).

Pits of similar character and fill, which also produced finds of Bronze Age and Iron Age date, were identified during the 2007 evaluation of the Park and Ride site (Robertson 2007). In addition, the recent evaluation of holes 1-10 of the proposed Merrow Golf course to the south and east of the Park and Ride scheme has produced a number of features, in particular a number of potential Bronze Age, Iron Age and Roman features, and potential evidence for Neolithic flintmining which could be of national significance (Robertson 2008 and Entwhistle 2008).

6.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

The archaeological work at Merrow Park and Ride has revealed material of archaeological importance for the local area. It will acquire additional importance for the prehistoric period when considered more fully in relation to the results from the work undertaken on the adjacent Golf course currently (October 2008) under construction (note: as the golf course ar much the greater in quantity and scope, such fuller consideration should form part of the report on that work). It is therefore important that the results of the present investigations should be published either in the Surrey Archaeological Collections (SyAC), or in the SpoilHeap Publications monograph series (a joint venture of Surrey County Archaeological Unit and Archaeology South-East). The final report can broadly follow the structure of the present report, but will need to be adapted and revised as the editors of the publishing vehicle require. The table below summarises the further work required and gives a timetable for its completion. The only further work needed prior to submission for publication is the preparation of the pottery drawing noted.

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FIGURE LIST

		Prehistoric										Medieval		Post Med	
Context	Other	CALC	CALC/ Iron	CALC/ quartz	CALC/ quartz/org	QUARTZ/ Calc	QUARTZ/ org	QUARTZ/ org/shell	QUARTZ/ shell/org/calc	IRON/ quartz	SHELL/ quartz	Q2	WW2	RW	*Total*
201	A	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	*2*
216		1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*1*
257	A/B	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*1*
264		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	*1*
265		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	*1*
270	A	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	*5*
270	B	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*1*
271	A	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	*1*
271	B	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	*1*
271	C	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	7	1	3	-	-	-	*12*
271	E			1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*1*
273	A/B	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*1*
273	B	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	*1*
275	A	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	*6*
	TOTAL	*2*	*4*	*1*	*2*	*1*	*1*	*2*	*8*	*1*	*9*	*1*	*1*	*2*	*35*

Table 1 Merrow Park and Ride 2008: pottery count

		Prehistoric										Medieval		Post Med	
Context	Other	CALC	CALC/ iron	CALC/ quartz	CALC/ quartz/org	QUARTZ/ calc	QUARTZ/ org	QUARTZ/ org/shell	QUARTZ/ shell/org/calc	IRON/ quartz	SHELL/ quartz	Q2	WW2	RW	*Total (g)*
201	A	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	*7*
216		1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*1*
257	A/B	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*2*
264		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	*10*
265		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	*5*
270	A	-	-	-	2	-	-	8	-	-	6	-	-	-	*16*
270	B	-	-	-	-	-	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*19*
271	A	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16	-	-	-	*16*
271	B	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	42	-	-	-	*42*
271	C	-	-	-	-	-	-	36	43	1	17	-	-	-	*97*
271	E	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*3*
273	A/B	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*3*
273	B	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	*2*
275	A	-	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	*26*
	TOTAL (g)	*3*	*16*	*3*	*2*	*3*	*19*	*44*	*45*	*1*	*91*	*5*	*10*	*7*	*249*

Table 2 Merrow Park and Ride 2008: pottery weight

Merrow Park and Ride 2008

		Cores and Debitage						Tools and Tool Waste									Comments				
Context	Other	Blade	Chip	Core	Flake	Flake Fragment	Irregular Waste	Awl	Combination Tool	Core Tool	Edge Modified	Notch	Misc Retouch	Piercer	Scraper	**Totals**	of which Burnt	of which Patinated	Hinged Terminations	Cond. (Gd, Fair, Poor)	Weight (g)
200		-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**1**	-	1	-	P	7
242		-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**2**	-	1	-	F	4
252		-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**2**	-	1	-	G	4
254		3	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**13**	-	13	5	G	73
256		-	-	-	14	4	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	2	1	**25**	-	24	1	F	190
257	B	-	-	1	1	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**6**	-	4	-	F	697
257	D	-	-	1	4	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**7**	-	6	1	F	609
259		-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**1**	-	1	-	F	4
261		-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**1**	-	1	-	F	44
263		2	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**4**	-	2	1	F/G	17
265		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	**1**	-	0	-	G	6
268		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	**1**	-	1	-	F	22
269	A	2	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**6**	-	4	-	F	30
270	A	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**1**	-	1	-	P	13
271	A	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	**3**	-	3	-	P/F	85
271	B	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**2**	-	2	1	F	49
271	C	-	1	-	11	-	4	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	**19**	1	9	1	F/G	120
273	A	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**3**	-	2	-	F	17
273	B	-	-	2	4	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	**10**	-	7	1	F	485
275	A	-	-	1	23	7	4	1	-	-	1	2	2	-	2	**43**	1	41	5	F	1079
275	B	-	-	-	4	-	3	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	**8**	-	5	-	G	281
276		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	**1**	-	1	-	G	30
Total		**7**	**1**	**6**	**84**	**15**	**23**	**2**	**1**	**1**	**2**	**5**	**7**	**2**	**4**	**160**	**2**	**130**	**16**		**3866**
Percentage		4.38%	0.63%	3.75%	52.50%	9.38%	14.38%	1.25%	0.63%	0.63%	1.25%	3.13%	4.38%	1.25%	2.50%	100.00%	1.25%	81.25%	17.60%		

Table 3 Merrow Park & Ride 2008: hand excavated struck flint

Merrow Park and Ride 2008

		Cores and Debitage						Tools and Tool Waste									Comments				
Context	Other	Blade/Blade Frag	Chip	Core	Flake	Flake Fragment	Irregular Waste	Awl	Combination Tool	Core Tool	Edge Modified	Notch/Notch spall	Misc Retouch	Piercer	Scraper	**Totals**	of which Burnt	of which Patinated	Hinged Terminations	Cond. (Gd, Fair, Poor)	Weight (g)
256 A/B	BS 1	3	57	-	8	17	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	**86**	-	45	1	F/G	17
257 A/B	BS 2A	-	26	-	10	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**41**	-	33	2	F/G	26
257 C/D	BS 2B	1	88	-	7	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**105**	-	25	3	F/G	8
271 C	BS 3	3	5	-	11	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**24**	-	8	1	F/G	8
271 E	BS 4	1	24	-	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**31**	-	15	1	G	4
Total		**8**	**200**	**-**	**41**	**37**	**-**	**-**	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	**287**	**-**	**126**	**8**	**-**	**63**
Percentage		2.79%	69.69%	-	14.29%	12.89%	-	-	-	-	-	0.35%	-	-	-	100.00%	-	43.90%	16.30%	-	

Table 4 Merrow Park & Ride 2008: struck flint from bulk samples

Context	Other	No	Weight (g)	Daub	Spindlewhorl?	Loomweight?	Notes
270	A	2	2	x			
270	B	4	56	x			Much chalk lumps
271	A	5	121	x			Incl. interlaced wattle impressed pieces, with chalk lumps
271	B	14	104	x			Incl. interlaced wattle impressed pieces, with chalk lumps
271	C	2	4		x		Poss spindlewhorl fragments
271	C	50	520	x			Includes frags with interlaced wattle impressions
271	C	40	249	x			Darker brown daub with wattle impressions
273	A/B	7	78			x	Baked clay w/diag. piercing, poss' Δ loomweight frags
275	A	4	4				Burnt clay
275	B	1	101	x			Prob daub, large convex surface on 1 side
	Total	*129*	*1239*				

Table 5 Merrow Park & Ride 2008: baked clay and daub

Context	Other	Date	No	Weight (g)	Notes
201	A	Med/post-med	1	17	W/ round peghole
240		Med/post-med	1	4	
242		Med/post-med	1	3	
256		Med/post-med	2	6	
270	A	Med/post-med	2	11	
271	A	Med/post-med	2	32	
Total			*9*	*73*	

Table 6 Merrow Park & Ride 2008: tile

Context	Other	No	Weight (g)	Notes
242		1	12	
252		3	22	
256		5	167	
257	D	7	373	
268		3	80	
270	A	17	780	
270	B	3	219	
271	A	14	672	1 gravel pebble
271	B	7	386	
271	C	83	1908	
273	A	1	132	
273	B	10	363	
275	A	49	1712	1 gravel pebble, 1 very iron stained
275	B	6	211	
276		9	595	
	Total	*218*	*7632*	

Table 7 Merrow Park and Ride 2008: calcined flint

Context	Description	No	Condition
240	Fragment	1	Degraded
256	Small mammal bone	1	Good
257B	Cow size mandible fragments	4	Degraded
257B	Fragments	2	Degraded
257D	Cow size scapula fragment	1	Degraded
257D	Cow size ?skull fragment	1	Degraded
257D	Fragment	1	Degraded
270A	Cow-sized long bone fragments	8	Degraded
270A	Fragments	60	Degraded
270A	?Small mammal bones	10	Good
270B	Assorted rodent-sized bones	150	Good
270B	Sheep mandible (immature)	1	Degraded
270B	Sheep tooth	1	Degraded
270B	Sheep sized fragments	3	Degraded
270B	Assorted small mammal bones incl.canid	200	Good
271A	Small mammal bones	2	Good
271A	Bos mandible	1	Degraded
271A	Fragments	6	Degraded
271B	Cattle teeth	3	Degraded
	Total	*456*	

Table 8 Merrow Park and Ride 2008: animal bone

Context	Other	Date	No	Weight (g)	Notes
256		BA	4	58	Bargate stone
257	D	BA	4	3476	Upper Greensand
270	A	LBA/EIA	6	49	Bargate stone
271	C	LBA/EIA	2	75	Chalk
273	A	IA	1	80	Upper Greensand
273	B	IA	1	26	Lower G'sand - poss quernstone frag (smooth concave surface)
275	A	LBA/EIA	1	24	Lower G'sand - poss quernstone frag (smooth concave surface)
275	D	LBA/EIA	1	780	Upper Greensand
Total			*20*	*4568*	

Table 9 Merrow Park & Ride 2008: stone

Context	Area	Date	DESCRIPTION	Part of
200	1	-	Unstratified surface finds from machining	
201	1	-	Topsoil and Subsoil	
202	1	Nat	Cut of large irregular feature	
203	1	?Mod	Posthole	204
204	1	?Mod	Curvilinear Posthole alignment	
205	1	?Mod	Posthole	204
206	1	?Mod	Posthole	204
207	1	?Mod	Posthole	204
208	1	?Mod	Posthole	204
209	1	?Mod	Posthole	204
210	1	?Mod	Posthole	204
211	1	?Mod	Posthole, elongated	204
212	1	?Mod	Posthole, elongated	204
213	1	?Mod	Posthole	204
214	1	?Mod	Posthole	204
215	1	?Mod	Posthole	204
216	1	?Mod	Posthole	204
217	1	?Mod	Posthole	204
218	1	?Mod	Posthole	204
219	1	?Mod	Posthole	204
220	1	?Mod	Posthole	204
221	1	?Mod	Posthole	204
222	1	?Mod	Posthole	204
223	1	?Mod	Posthole	204
224	1	?Mod	Posthole	204
225	1	?Mod	Posthole	204
226	1	?Mod	Posthole	204
227	1	?Mod	Posthole	204
228	1	?Mod	Posthole	204
229	1	?Mod	Posthole	204
230	1	?Mod	Posthole	204
231	1	?Mod	Posthole	204
232	1	?Mod	Posthole	204
233	1	?Mod	Posthole	204
234	1	?Mod	Posthole	204
235	1	?Mod	Posthole	204
236	1	Nat	Tree throw, sub-circular	
237	1	?Mod	Posthole, lost during machining	204
238	1	Nat	Tree throw	
239	1	?Mod	Posthole	204
240	1	?Nat	Pit or tree throw, north of 236 and 238	
241	1	Nat	Elongate cigar-shaped pit	
242	1	Preh	Squarish pit west of 241	
243	1	-	Posthole, part of possible line of three	
244	1	-	Posthole - dubious - north of 243	
245	1	Nat	Amorphous spread - hollow	
246	1	-	Stake holes - cluster of four	
247	1	-	Stakehole, slot-like	
248	1	-	Stake hole southeast of 247	
249	1	Nat	Natural hollow	
250	1	?Nat	Shallow pit / spread - tree throw	
251	1	-	Round substantial pit	
252	1	?Nat	Shallow round ?pit/natural hollow towards south end of site	
253	1	?Nat	Large sub-circular pit/tree throw, north west of 252	
254	1	?Nat	Moderate oval pit, north west of 253	
255	1	?Nat	Circular spread with arc of brown soil - tree throw	
256	1	BA/IA	Deep round pit south end of the site	
257	1	BA	Oval moderately deep pit north west of 251	

Appendix 1 Merrow Park and Ride, Open Area Excavation 2008: Context list

258	1	-	Shallow sub-circular pit or tree throw	
259	1	BA	Longitudinal segment of pit - Feature 113 from 2007 evaluation	113
260	1	Nat	Tree throw	
261	1	Nat	Amorphous spread - tree throw	
262	1	Nat	Amorphous spread - tree throw	
263	1	Nat	Amorphous spread - tree throw	
264	1	?Nat	Hollow	
265	1	Nat	Lopsided roughly per-shaped feature - tree throw	
266	1	Nat	Sub-circular shallow feature - hollow	
267	1	Nat	Spread - tree trow	
268	1	Preh	Shallow pit	
269	1	Nat	Circular shallow feature - tree throw	
270	1	IA	Large pit - chalk pit	
271	1	IA	Large ovoid pit	
272	1	IA	Shallow amorphous pit	
273	1	IA	Round deep pit	
274	1	Nat	Shallow amorphous pit	
275	1	BA/IA	Deep sub-rectangular pit	
276	1	BA/IA	Small shallow pit, cutting 275	
277	1	Nat	Shallow amorphus pit / spread	
278	1	Mod	Modern machine-cut trench	
279	1	Mod	Modern pit in east baulk	
280	1	IA	Small oval pit south west of large pit cluster	

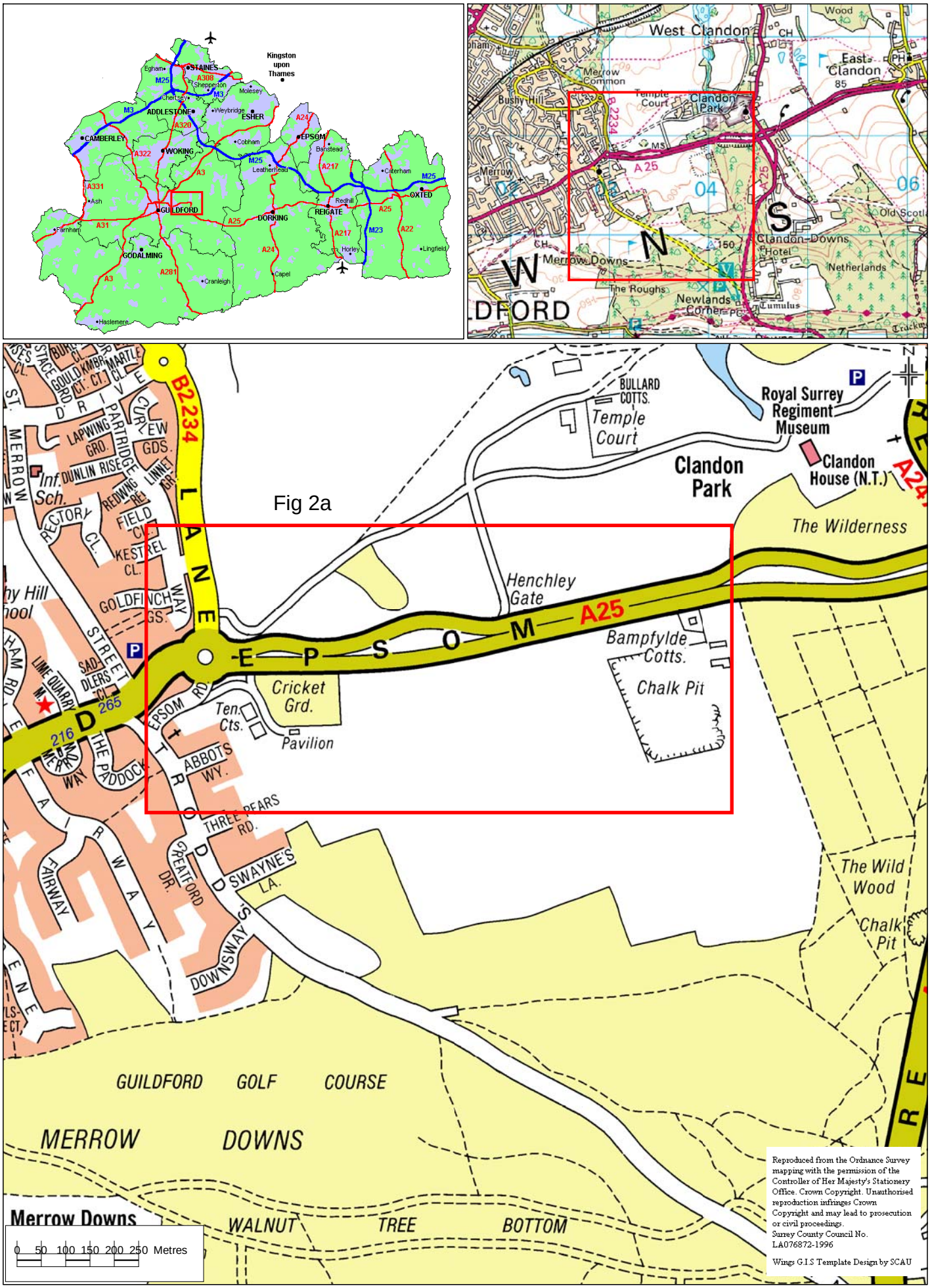

Figure 1 Merrow Park and Ride Development: site location

Fig 2 **Merrow Park and Ride 2008:** location of evaluation trial trenches, showing the area of the controlled strip

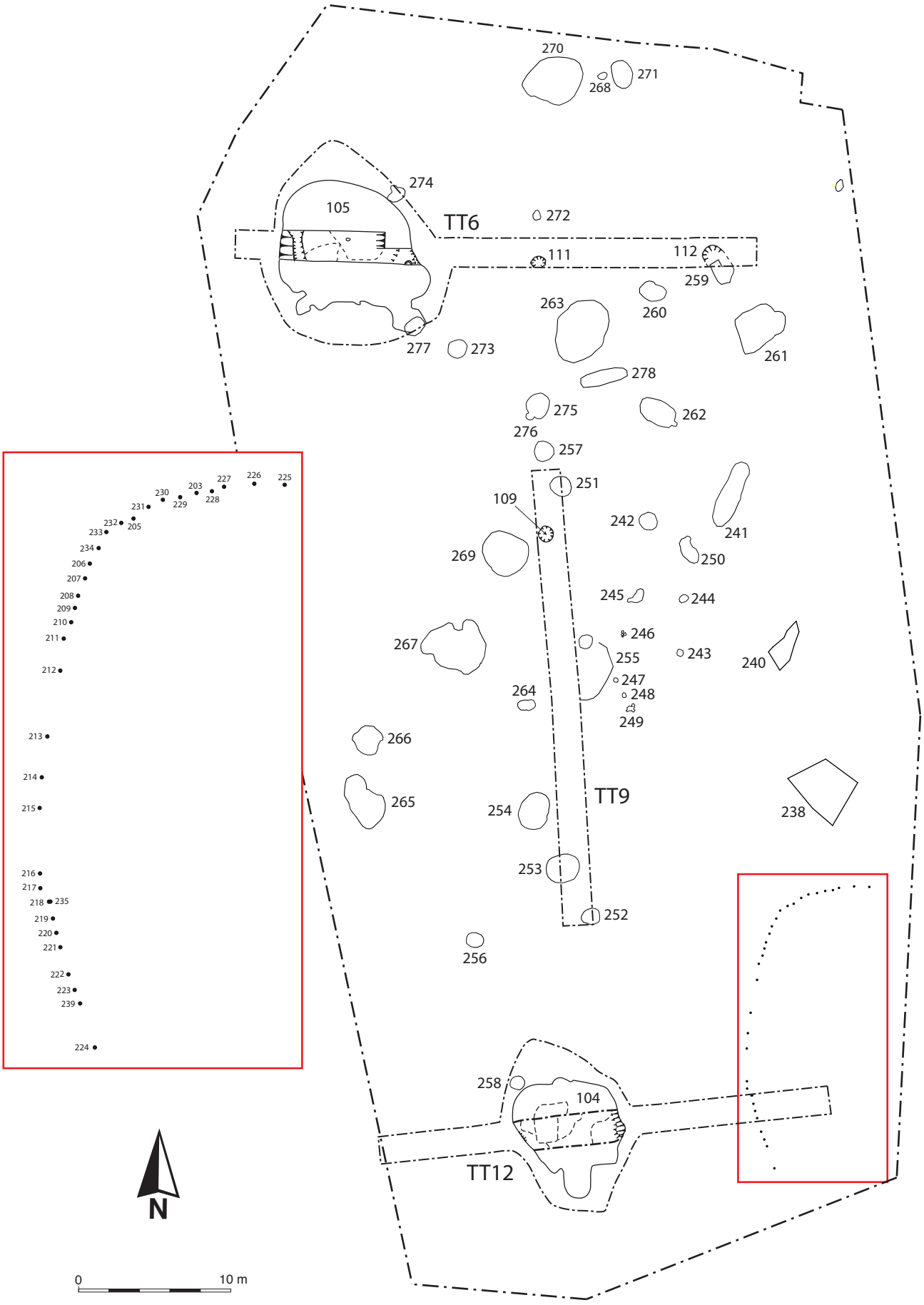

Fig 3 **Merrow Park and Ride 2008:** plan of the features within the area of the controlled strip

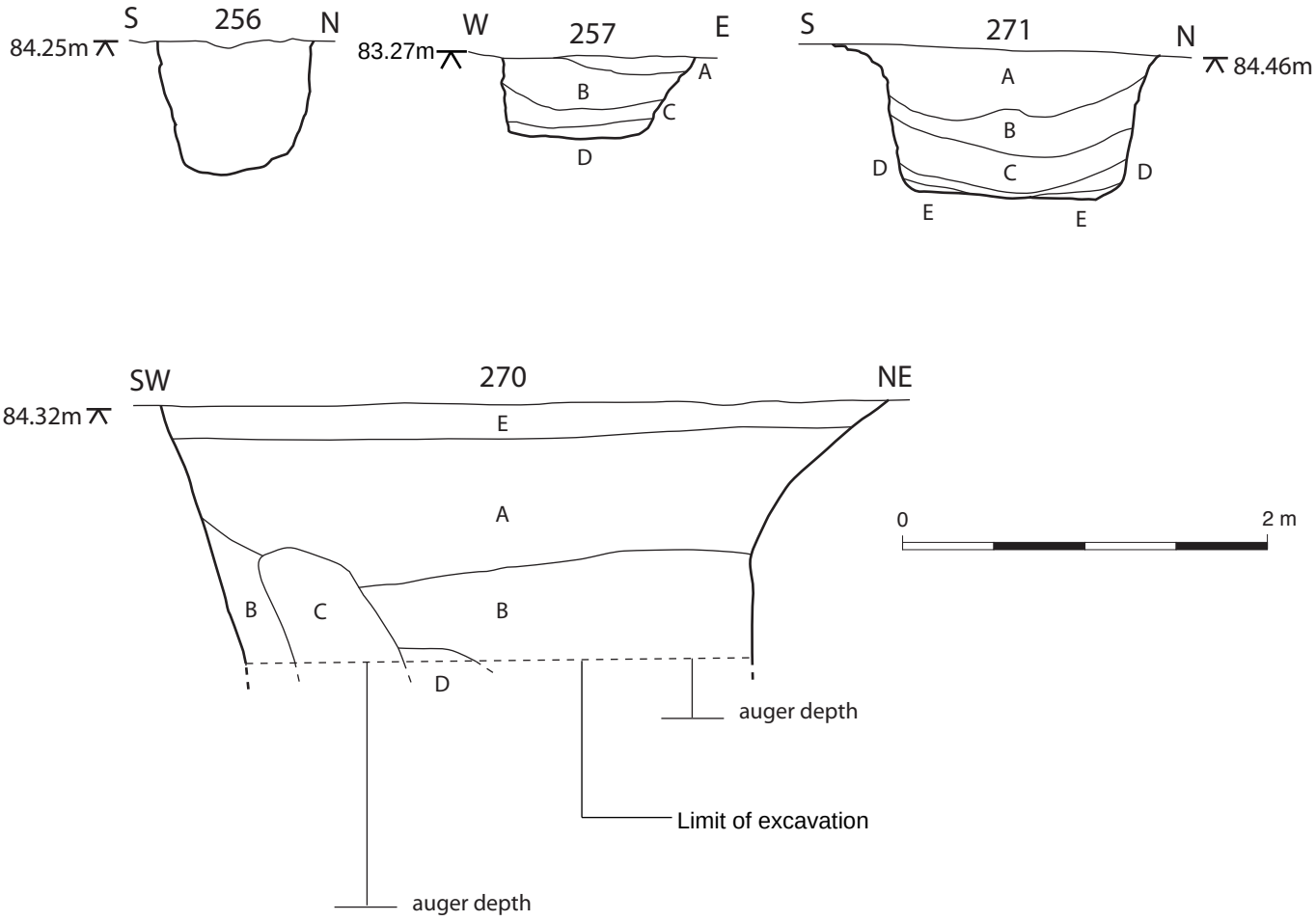

Fig 4 Merrow Park and Ride 2008: sections of excavated features

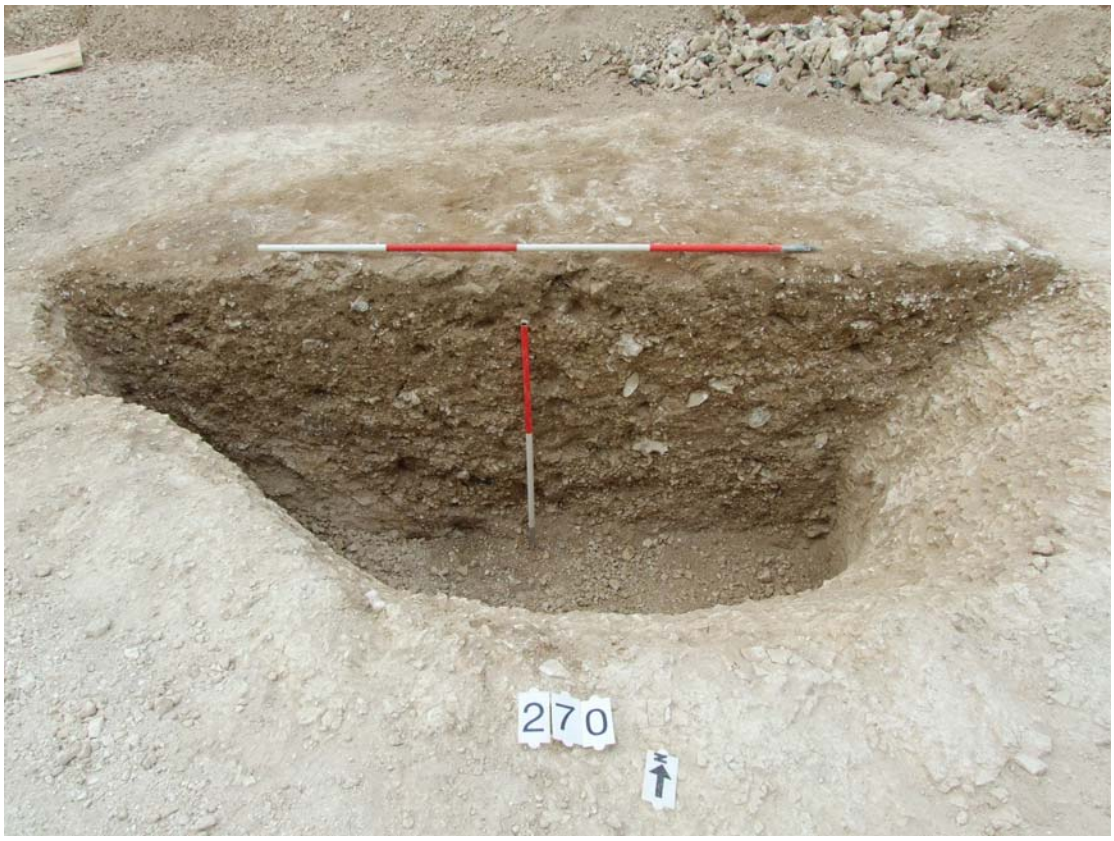

Fig 5a Merrow Park and Ride 2008: feature 270

Fig 5b Merrow Park and Ride 2008: intercutting features 275 and 276

Fig 5c Merrow Park and Ride 2008: pit 271 (half-section)

Fig 5d Merrow Park and Ride 2008: pit 271 fully excavated

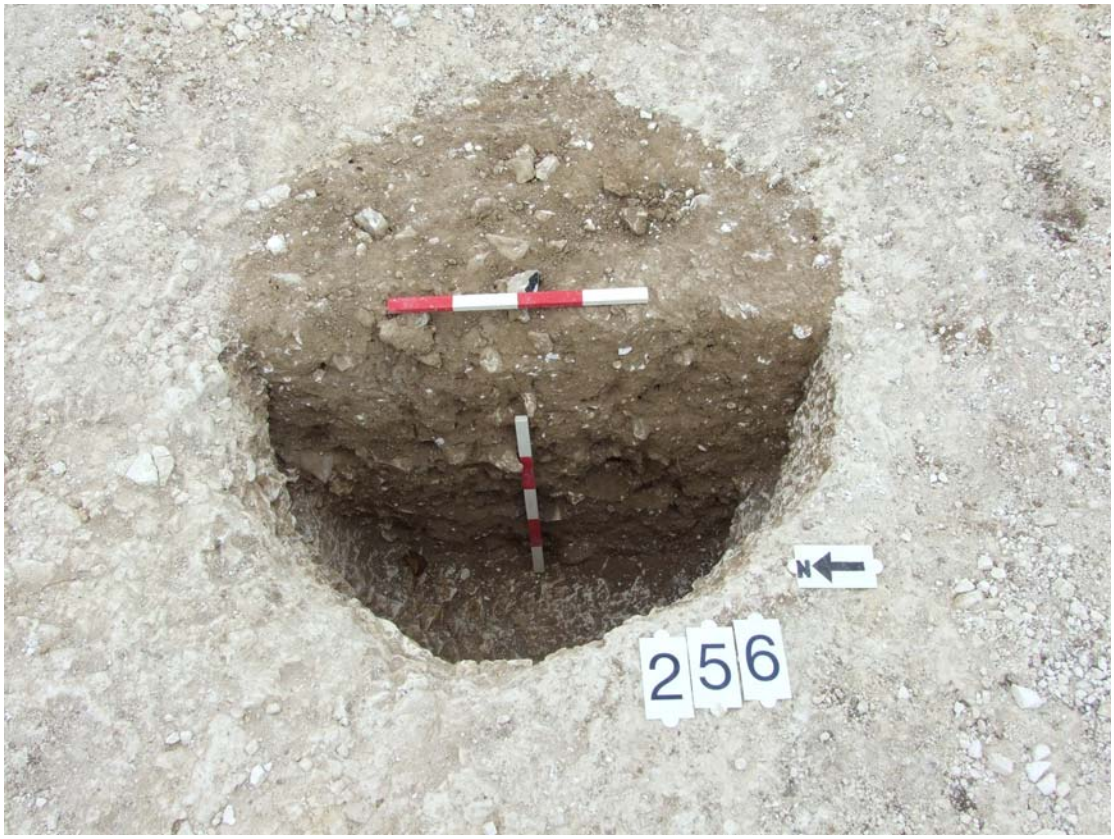

Fig 5e Merrow Park and Ride 2008: pit 256

Fig 5f Merrow Park and Ride 2008: pit 273